



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1993

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
AGRICULTURAL CARNIVAL BEGINS TODAY	1
MONG KOK TO LAUNCH DISTRICT FESTIVAL	3
LUCKY CAR REGISTRATION MARKS SALE BY AUCTION	3
PROVISIONAL GOVERNING COUNCIL'S FIRST OPEN FORUM WITH COLLEGE STAFF	4
MUSIC OFFICE RECRUITS PART-TIME INSTRUCTORS	6
NO EVENING CLINIC SERVICE ON WINTER SOLSTICE	6
HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS ..	7

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1993

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AGENCY ANNOUNCES PERFORMANCE PLEDGE	8
15 EX-CHINA VIETNAMESE RETURN TO YUNNAN	8
EARLY WELFARE PAYMENT	9
FRESH WATER CUT IN SAN PO KONG	9

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1993

- 1 -

AGRICULTURAL CARNIVAL BEGINS TODAY

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LOCAL RESIDENTS AND FOREIGN VISITORS WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO GET A FEEL OF THE FARMING INDUSTRY IN HONG KONG AT THE "1993 AGRICULTURAL CARNIVAL" WHICH OPENS TODAY (SATURDAY).

THE CARNIVAL, WITH A PRICE TAG OF ABOUT \$7 MILLION, IS THE LARGEST OF ITS KIND BEING ORGANISED IN MORE THAN 20 YEARS. IT WILL LAST UNTIL JANUARY 2.

THE LAST AGRICULTURAL SHOW WAS HELD AT SHEK KONG IN 1972.

THE EVENT IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT (AFD), REGIONAL COUNCIL (RC), VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION AND THE JOINT FEDERATION OF HONG KONG AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERIES PRODUCTION AND MARKETING SOCIETIES (JFHKAFPMS).

THE CARNIVAL WAS OFFICIALLY OPENED THIS (SATURDAY) MORNING BY A PARTY OF OFFICIATING GUESTS LED BY THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE; AND RC'S CHAIRMAN, MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, DR LEE SAID THE CARNIVAL WAS VERY MEANINGFUL TO THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL AGRICULTURE AND THE FARMING COMMUNITY.

HE HOPES THAT THROUGH VARIOUS TECHNICAL DISPLAYS, THE PUBLIC COULD KNOW MORE ABOUT THE CHARACTERISTICS OF LOCAL AGRICULTURE, ITS CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE SOCIETY AND ITS FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.

DR LEE SAID THE DEMAND ON LOCAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE SUCH AS FRESH VEGETABLES, LIVE PIGS AND POULTRY, IN THE POPULATION WAS VERY HIGH.

THESE PRODUCE HELPS TO REGULATE AND STABILISE THE SUPPLY AND PRICES OF THE FRESH FOODSTUFFS REQUIRED LOCALLY.

HOWEVER, DR LEE ADDED, THE TERRITORY'S AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT WAS FACING KEEN COMPETITION FROM IMPORTED PRODUCE AND RISING PUBLIC CONCERN ABOUT PROTECTION OF RURAL ENVIRONMENT.

HE SAID THE LIMITATION OF LAND SUPPLY ALSO RESTRICTED GROWTH.

TO HELP THE INDUSTRY MEET THESE CHALLENGES, AFD HAD IN RECENT YEARS INTRODUCED VARIOUS OVERSEAS HIGH-QUALITY BREEDS AND VARIETIES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE. THESE INCLUDE SUPERIOR BREEDING PIGS AND CHICKENS, SUPERSWEET CORN AND BUTTER LETTUCE AND SO ON.

ON THE PROMOTION OF NEW AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY, DR LEE SAID: "AFD HAD EXPLORED AND DEVELOPED MANY HIGHLY EFFICIENT, ENVIRONMENTAL-FRIENDLY AND INTENSIVE FARMING TECHNIQUES SUCH AS THE PIG-ON-LITTER PIG-RAISING METHOD, SOILLESS CULTURE AND ORGANIC FARMING METHOD FOR PROMOTION TO THE INDUSTRY."

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IT WAS HOPED THAT LOCAL FARMERS COULD MAKE FULL USE OF ALL THESE NEW CONCEPTS AND TECHNOLOGIES TO FURTHER DEVELOP THE INDUSTRY TO COINCIDE WITH THE VERY SPIRIT OF THE CARNIVAL, THAT IS, PROMOTION OF MODERN TECHNOLOGY TO INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY AND CONTRIBUTION TO THE BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE AND RURAL ENVIRONMENT.

TURNING TO THE CARNIVAL, THE DIRECTOR NOTED THAT ITS DISPLAY ITEMS WERE VERY INTERESTING AND INFORMATIVE.

ALSO SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG SAID RC HAD ALSO PLAYED A PART IN PRESERVING AND PROMOTING THE TRADITIONAL CULTURAL ACTIVITIES OF THE NEW TERRITORIES.

MR CHEUNG SAID: "WITH THE FULL SUPPORT OF LOCAL, CHINESE AND OVERSEAS AGRICULTURAL BODIES, WE HAVE A GREAT VARIETY OF ITEMS ON DISPLAY IN THIS CARNIVAL AND EACH OF THEM HAS ITS OWN CHARACTERISTICS. THIS IS IN LINE WITH THE ESTABLISHED OBJECTIVE OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL OF SERVING THE PUBLIC."

A MAJOR ATTRACTION OF THE CARNIVAL IS THE "INTEGRATED FARMING VILLAGE" WHERE A WIDE SPECTRUM OF TECHNICAL DISPLAYS AND DEMONSTRATIONS SUCH AS PIG-ON-LITTER PIG-RAISING METHOD, CHICKEN HATCHING, HYDROPONICS, VARIETIES OF FRESH MUSHROOMS, A CORN FIELD AND A PLANT NURSERY, AND SO ON, ARE STAGED BY AFD.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS INCLUDE GIANT TOMATO ARCHWAYS, HUGE HEXAGON ASSORTED VEGETABLE AND FLOWER ARRANGEMENT, A MINI BEE REARING FARM AND A FLOWER BAZAAR.

THERE ARE ALSO MORE THAN 70 COMMERCIAL STALLS SELLING AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD PRODUCTS FROM HONG KONG AND OVERSEAS COUNTRIES SUCH AS AUSTRALIA AND THE NETHERLANDS.

TO ADD COLOUR TO THE CARNIVAL, THERE ARE ALSO STAGE PERFORMANCES AND GAMES SUCH AS NINTENDO STREET FIGHTER TV GAMES, PHOTO CORNER AND MILK POWDER MACHINERY MODEL DISPLAY.

ON SELECTED DAYS, THERE WILL BE DOG SHOWS, HORSE RIDING, PIG RACING AND OTHER INTERESTING ACTIVITIES.

THE CARNIVAL OPENS DAILY FROM 10 AM TO 8 PM AND TO 10 PM ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

ADMISSION TO THE CARNIVAL IS \$10 A PERSON.

TICKETS ARE ON SALE AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE CARNIVAL AT THE KWAI CHUNG SPORTS GROUND NEXT TO THE KWAI FONG MTR STATION.

THE VENUE IS EASILY ACCESSIBLE BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT ITS PROMOTER, TREASURE MARK DEVELOPMENT LTD ON TEL 367 5778.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WERE THE CHAIRMAN OF JFHKAFPMS, MR CHAN KWOK-WAI; AND DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL SERVICES, MR ADOLF HSU.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1993

- 3 -

MONG KOK TO LAUNCH DISTRICT FESTIVAL

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MONG KOK DISTRICT FESTIVAL WILL BE LAUNCHED AT CHRISTMAS TO BRING FESTIVE JOY TO THE RESIDENTS.

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TO ANNOUNCE DETAILS THIS (SATURDAY) AFTERNOON, MR CHOW CHUN-FAI, THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN WHO IS ALSO THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, SAID THE AIMS OF THE FESTIVAL WERE TO ENHANCE THE IMAGE OF DISTRICT BOARD AND TO FOSTER A SENSE OF BELONGING AMONG THE RESIDENTS.

MORE THAN 20 ACTIVITIES WOULD BE HELD UNTIL FEBRUARY 20.

THESE INCLUDE CHRISTMAS EVE BALL AND NEW YEAR BALL, FESTIVE LIGHTINGS, CONCERTS, VISITS, A PHOTO CONTEST, A FIGHT CRIME DAY AND A CIVIC EDUCATION SEMINAR.

THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE FESTIVAL WILL BE A GRAND OPENING, FOLLOWED BY A VARIETY SHOW AT THE MACPHERSON PLAYGROUND, SAI YEE STREET ON THE CHRISTMAS DAY.

IT WILL FEATURE PERFORMANCES BY POPULAR SINGERS.

PAMPHLETS ON DETAILS OF THE FESTIVAL ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS BRANCH OFFICES.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL 787 0775.

THE FESTIVAL IS ORGANISED BY THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD.

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LUCKY CAR REGISTRATION MARKS SALE BY AUCTION

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FIFTY CAR REGISTRATION MARKS WERE PUT UP FOR AUCTION THIS (SATURDAY) MORNING FOR A TOTAL OF \$2,090,000 WHICH WILL GO TO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND FOR CHARITY PURPOSES AFTER DEDUCTION OF EXPENSES INCURRED.

THE AUCTION, HELD AT THE RECITAL HALL OF THE CITY HALL, SAW THE REGISTRATION MARK DL333 FETCH THE HIGHEST PRICE OF \$220,000.

ANOTHER REGISTRATION MARK FS38, FT888 WAS SOLD AT THE SECOND HIGHEST PRICE OF \$210,000 WHILE THE LOWEST PRICE WAS \$2,000 EACH FOR CY4606 AND FW8358.

/FOLLOWING ARE

- 4 -

FOLLOWING ARE THE RESULTS OF TODAY'S AUCTION:

	\$		\$		\$		\$
FL6888	40,000	FM168	150,000	FM3188	8,000	FM6368	4,000
FM968	30,000	FL388	58,000	AP105	12,000	EA921	4,000
*FK23	26,000	FS3	210,000	*3393	205,000	FT888	210,000
AA2808	17,000	FM1633	10,000	FM112	24,000	FM1392	4,000
FM3336	10,000	AA336	56,000	BM399	57,000	AA3353	12,000
BB166	21,000	FM1618	21,000	FM2228	27,000	FM806	9,000
FM162	12,000	FM332	15,000	FM628	32,000	FM8616	4,000
*1990	90,000	*DK28	150,000	*DL333	220,000	AD39	80,000
FM238	32,000	FM320	22,000	FM839	8,000	FM1891	10,000
FM3133	6,000	FM908	8,000	FM3363	18,000	FM317	5,000
FM815	4,000	AT129	20,000	#CC95	52,000	FM2628	22,000
AP6318	10,000	FM1680	20,000	CY4606	2,000	*FT24	20,000
FM8358	2,000	FM435	WITHDRAWN				

*SPECIAL CAR REGISTRATION MARK (NOT TRANSFERABLE)

SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS ARE REQUIRED TO PAY BY CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BIDDING.

THE CAR REGISTRATION MARKS AUCTIONED WILL BE ASSIGNED ONLY TO CARS REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WITH 12 MONTHS OF THE DATE OF AUCTION.

TODAY'S SALE, THE 208TH ORGANISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SINCE MAY 1973, BROUGHT THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF MONEY REALISED SO FAR TO \$227,733,905.

THERE WAS NO BIDDER FOR FM435. THIS CAR REGISTRATION MARK WILL BE ASSIGNED TO THE ORIGINAL APPLICANT.

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PROVISIONAL GOVERNING COUNCIL'S
FIRST OPEN FORUM WITH COLLEGE STAFF

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THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNING COUNCIL (PGC) OF THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION (HKIED), MR SIMON IP, AND THE INSTITUTE'S DIRECTOR-DESIGNATE, PROFESSOR LEUNG CHI-KEUNG, MET STAFF OF THE FOUR COLLEGES OF EDUCATION AND THE INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION AT AN OPEN FORUM THIS (SATURDAY) MORNING.

THE FIRST-EVER-HELD FORUM WAS AIMED AT PROVIDING COUNCIL MEMBERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAINTAIN AN EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE MEANS OF COMMUNICATION WITH COLLEGE STAFF AS WELL AS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH THEM ON PLANS FOR THE HKIED.

THE EVENT, WHICH TOOK PLACE AT THE ANNEXE OF SIR ROBERT BLACK COLLEGE OF EDUCATION IN SHA TIN, WAS ALSO ATTENDED BY CHAIRMEN OF THE COUNCIL'S VARIOUS WORKING GROUPS.

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THEY INCLUDED CHAIRMAN OF THE ADMINISTRATION, ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT AND CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUPS, PROFESSOR LEE NGOK; CHAIRMAN OF THE FINANCE WORKING GROUP, MR PETER LEE; CHAIRMAN OF THE STAFF MATTERS WORKING GROUP, DR THOMAS LEUNG; AND SENIOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR LUCAS CHAN.

DURING THE HOUR-LONG FORUM, STAFF OF THE COLLEGES EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR CIVIL SERVANTS WORKING IN THE COLLEGES AND THEIR INTEGRATION INTO THE NEW INSTITUTION.

IN RESPONSE, MR IP SAID PGC WAS COMMITTED TO UPGRADING TEACHER EDUCATION WITH THE MINIMUM DISRUPTION TO EXISTING ACTIVITIES.

"PGC WELCOMES ALL SERVING COLLEGE STAFF TO APPLY FOR POSITIONS IN THE HKIED," HE SAID.

"TO FACILITATE THE INTEGRATION OF EXISTING STAFF INTO HKIED, PGC WILL BE LAUNCHING STAFF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES TO ASSIST THOSE WHO ARE CONSIDERED TO BE SUITABLE IN ALL RESPECTS EXCEPT FOR THE NECESSARY ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS TO ACQUIRE THESE QUALIFICATIONS," HE ADDED.

ON PERSONNEL ISSUES, MR IP SAID THE FIRST BATCH OF KEY ADMINISTRATIVE AND ACADEMIC POSTS OF HKIED WAS ADVERTISED EARLY THIS MONTH.

"SELECTION WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN JANUARY/FEBRUARY NEXT YEAR," HE SAID.

MR IP ALSO ANNOUNCED THE COUNCIL'S PLAN TO DEVELOP A NEW CAMPUS FOR HKIED IN TAI PO.

A 12.5-HECTARE SITE AT TAI PO AREA 34 (TING KOK ROAD) HAS BEEN DESIGNATED FOR THE PURPOSE AND THE PROJECT IS SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION IN 1998.

ON THE ACADEMIC SIDE, PROFESSOR LEUNG TOLD THE GATHERING THAT A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE CURRICULUM WAS BEING CONDUCTED SO THAT HKIED CURRICULUM COULD BE DESIGNED TO MEET THE PRESENT-DAY NEEDS OF SCHOOLS AS FULLY AND EFFECTIVELY AS POSSIBLE.

HE SAID PGC HAD COMMISSIONED THE HONG KONG COUNCIL FOR ACADEMIC ACCREDITATION TO CONDUCT A CONSULTANCY STUDY ON THE DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL OF THE EXISTING COLLEGES.

HKIED WILL BE AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION TO BE FORMED IN SEPTEMBER NEXT YEAR BY MERGING EXISTING COLLEGES OF EDUCATION.

THE OVERALL MISSION OF HKIED IS TO BECOME THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN TEACHER EDUCATION AND IN CONTINUOUS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF TEACHERS IN HONG KONG.

THE INSTITUTE WILL INITIALLY FOCUS ON THE UPGRADING OF COURSES AT THE PRE-DEGREE LEVEL WHILE PREPARING TO OFFER DEGREE COURSES IN SOME AREAS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1993

- 6 -

MUSIC OFFICE RECRUITS PART-TIME INSTRUCTORS

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LOCAL MUSICIANS ARE NOW OFFERED OPPORTUNITIES TO WORK FOR THE MUSIC OFFICE OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH AS PART-TIME INSTRUCTORS OR PIANO ACCOMPANISTS.

APPLICANTS FOR THE POSTS OF PART-TIME INSTRUCTORS (FOR AURAL, THEORY AND CHORAL) AND PIANO ACCOMPANISTS SHOULD EITHER BE HOLDERS OF A DIPLOMA IN MUSIC FROM THE HONG KONG ACADEMY FOR PERFORMING ARTS OR HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE; OR POSSESS LRSM, LRAM, ARCM, LGSM, LTCL, FTCL, DRSAM, PPRNCM OR EQUIVALENT; OR HAVE A DEGREE IN MUSIC FROM A RECOGNISED UNIVERSITY, OR A DIPLOMA OF GRADUATE STATUS, LIKE GRSM, GRNCM, GTCL, GGSM OR EQUIVALENT.

APPLICATION FORMS (G.F. 340) ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM ALL DISTRICT OFFICES.

COMPLETED FORMS TOGETHER WITH COPIES OF RELEVANT DOCUMENTS AND DIPLOMAS SHOULD REACH THE MUSIC OFFICE, RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH, 25TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 14.

CANDIDATES WHO ARE NOT INVITED FOR AUDITION/INTERVIEW WITHIN FOUR WEEKS FROM THE CLOSING DATE MAY ASSUME THAT THEIR APPLICATIONS ARE UNSUCCESSFUL.

INTERESTED PERSONS MAY CALL THE MUSIC OFFICE ON TEL 582 5340 FOR DETAILS ON DUTIES AND REMUNERATION OF THE POSTS.

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NO EVENING CLINIC SERVICE ON WINTER SOLSTICE

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THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TODAY (SATURDAY) ANNOUNCED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO EVENING GENERAL OUT-PATIENT CLINIC SERVICE ON WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 22), WHICH IS THE WINTER SOLSTICE.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1993

- 7 -

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	\$ MILLION

OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,494
REVERSAL OF LAF	+1,170
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	3,664
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-2,095
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,569
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER TWI 113.8 *+0.0* 18.12.93	

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STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AGENCY ANNOUNCES PERFORMANCE PLEDGE
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THE STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AGENCY TODAY (SUNDAY) ANNOUNCED ITS PERFORMANCE PLEDGE, SETTING OUT THE TARGET TURNROUND TIME FOR APPLICATIONS UNDER VARIOUS SCHEMES.

THE SCHEMES ARE:

- * LOCAL STUDENT FINANCE SCHEME
- * UK/HK GOVERNMENTS JOINT FUNDING SCHEME
- * STUDENT FINANCE ASSISTANCE SCHEME
- * STUDENT TRAVEL SUBSIDY SCHEME
- * SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL FEE REMISSION SCHEME
- * SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS ASSISTANCE SCHEME
- * KINDERGARTEN FEE REMISSION SCHEME

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AGENCY SAID THE DEPARTMENT WAS COMMITTED TO PROVIDING A FAIR, EFFICIENT AND HELPFUL SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC.

"THE CONTROLLER OF THE AGENCY WILL MONITOR THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE TARGETS AND PUBLISH THE RESULTS EVERY YEAR.

"A CUSTOMER LIAISON GROUP WILL SOON BE FORMED TO OBTAIN FEEDBACK ON THE OPERATION OF THE LOCAL STUDENT FINANCE SCHEME," HE SAID.

A LEAFLET ABOUT THE PLEDGE WILL BE AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE TOMORROW (MONDAY) AT ALL PUBLIC ENQUIRY COUNTERS OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION DISTRICT OFFICES.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO GIVE ANY COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS ABOUT THE SERVICES EITHER ON TEL 802 1694 OR IN WRITING TO THE AGENCY ON NINTH FLOOR, NATIONAL MUTUAL CENTRE, 151 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

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15 EX-CHINA VIETNAMESE RETURN TO YUNNAN
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FIFTEEN EX-CHINA VIETNAMESE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS RETURNED TO KUNMING, YUNNAN ON A COMMERCIAL FLIGHT THIS (SUNDAY) AFTERNOON.

THERE WERE SIX MEN, SIX WOMEN, TWO BOYS AND ONE GIRL IN THE GROUP WHO WERE ACCOMPANIED ON BOARD BY FIVE IMMIGRATION OFFICERS.

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1993

- 9 -

EARLY WELFARE PAYMENT

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RECIPIENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE SOCIAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE AND SOCIAL SECURITY ALLOWANCE WHO HOLD CASH ORDER COUPONS WILL BE PAID EARLIER IF THEIR PAYDAY FALLS ON THE COMING CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT TODAY (SUNDAY) SAID PAYMENTS SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 25, 26 AND 27 WOULD BE ADVANCED TO DECEMBER 22, 23 AND 24 RESPECTIVELY.

ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN MADE FOR RECIPIENTS TO COLLECT THEIR PAYMENTS AT DESIGNATED POST OFFICES AND TREASURY SUB-OFFICES, HE SAID.

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FRESH WATER CUT IN SAN PO KONG

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN SAN PO KONG WILL GO OFF FROM 11 PM ON TUESDAY (DECEMBER 21) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY TO FACILITATE WASTE DETECTION WORK ON WATERMAINS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL THE PREMISES AT 690-714 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD EAST, 2-48 SHUNG LING STREET, 2-24 YAN OI STREET, 1-64 YIN HING STREET, 8-114 CHOI HUNG ROAD, 2-27 FOO YUEN STREET, 1-33 KAM WING STREET AND 6-120 TSEUK LUK STREET.

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