



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

THURSDAY, MAY 19, 1977

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GOVERNMENT TO INTRODUCE NEW 50-CENT COIN
IN AUGUST
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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE PRESENT CUPRO-NICKEL 50-CENT COIN WILL BEGIN TO DISAPPEAR FROM USE AS FROM AUGUST WHEN A NEW SMALLER AND LIGHTER COIN WILL BE ISSUED TO REPLACE IT.

THE NEW COIN, WHICH IS CIRCULAR, IS BEING MINTED IN NICKEL-BRASS.

THE DESIGN AND DIMENSIONS OF THE NEW COIN WERE ADOPTED ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 1973 COINAGE REVIEW COMMITTEE FOLLOWING THE ADVICE OF THE ROYAL MINT IN LONDON - ONE OF THE WORLD'S FOREMOST AUTHORITIES ON THE DESIGN OF COINAGE SYSTEMS.

COMPARATIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE NEW AND EXISTING 50-CENT COINS ARE:

	<u>NEW</u>	<u>EXISTING</u>
DIAMETER	22.5 MM	23.6 MM
THICKNESS	1.72 MM	1.78 MM
WEIGHT	4.92 GRMS	5.83 GRMS
EDGE	MILLED	MILLED
ALLOY	NICKEL-BRASS	CUPRO-NICKEL

THE PORTRAIT OF THE QUEEN ON THE OBVERSE OF THE COIN WILL BE IDENTICAL TO THAT ON THE NEW \$5, \$2 AND 20-CENT COINS INTRODUCED IN 1975 AND 1976. THIS IS DISTINCTLY DIFFERENT FROM THOSE APPEARING ON 10-CENT AND FIVE-CENT COINS AT PRESENT IN CIRCULATION AND WILL ASSIST IDENTIFICATION.

NEXT YEAR A NEW \$1 COIN WILL BE ISSUED. IT WILL BE CIRCULAR, SMALLER AND LIGHTER THAN THE COIN AT PRESENT IN CIRCULATION AND WILL BEAR THE NEW PORTRAIT OF THE QUEEN BUT OTHERWISE WILL BE SIMILAR IN APPEARANCE TO THE PRESENT COIN.

REDESIGN AND REPLACEMENT OF THE PRESENT 10-CENT COIN IS CURRENTLY UNDER ACTIVE CONSIDERATION BUT NO DATE HAS YET BEEN SET FOR ITS INTRODUCTION.

THE COINAGE REVIEW COMMITTEE WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1973 TO EXAMINE HONG KONG'S COINAGE, NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF INCREASING DEMAND FOR COINS AND RISING MINTING AND STORAGE COSTS BUT ALSO BECAUSE OF MOUNTING CRITICISM THAT COINS IN USE WERE TOO HEAVY AND CUMBERSOME.

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LITTER SQUADS IN ACTION
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THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS TAKEN NEW MEASURES TO ENFORCE EXISTING LITTER LAWS IN A FURTHER BID TO ENCOURAGE THE PUBLIC TO KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN.

SINCE MID-MARCH, USD STAFF HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN A SERIES OF +BLITZ+ OPERATIONS.

SPECIAL SQUADS, EACH COMPRISING TWO OR THREE MEMBERS, HAVE BEEN SENT TO BLACKSPOTS THROUGHOUT HONG KONG IN AN EFFORT TO CRACK DOWN ON OFFENDERS.

UNLIKE PREVIOUS ANTI-LITTER DRIVES, MORE THAN ONE SQUAD IS TAKING PART IN ANY ONE OF THE BLITZ OPERATIONS IN ORDER TO RAM HOME THEIR PRESENCE TO THE PUBLIC.

THE UNIFORMED LITTER WARDENS ARE EQUIPPED WITH WALKIE-TALKIE RADIOS TO ENABLE THEM TO REACH BLACKSPOTS QUICKLY.

SUMMONSES ARE BEING ISSUED TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND NOTICES ARE BEING SERVED ON SHOP OWNERS IF THEY ARE FOUND LITTERING THE STREETS.

THE USD HAS BEEN VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE LITTER PROBLEM AND IT IS HOPED THAT THE INTRODUCTION OF THESE BLITZ TACTICS WILL PRODUCE A STRONGER DETERRENT EFFECT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

A SITE VISIT IN THE HUNG HOM AND TO KWA WAN AREAS TO SEE HOW THESE BLITZ SQUADS OPERATE HAS BEEN ARRANGED FOR TOMORROW (FRIDAY). MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO COVER THE EVENT ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ASSEMBLE AT THE MANDARIN THEATRE AT MA TAU WEI AT 9.30 A.M. USD OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ANSWER ANY INQUIRIES AND GIVE ANY ASSISTANCE WHICH MAY BE REQUIRED.

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ABERDEEN SWIMMING POOL COMPLEX NEARING COMPLETION
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HAS SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETED CONSTRUCTION OF THE ABERDEEN SWIMMING POOL COMPLEX AND IT IS EXPECTED TO BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC SHORTLY.

THE \$11 MILLION COMPLEX WAS BUILT BY THE P.W.D.'S ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE FOR THE URBAN COUNCIL WITH MOST OF THE COST BEING MET BY AN ANONYMOUS DONATION OF \$10 MILLION.

THE COMPLEX HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO OLYMPIC STANDARDS AND WILL BE SUITABLE FOR STAGING INTERNATIONAL SWIMMING COMPETITIONS.

IN ADDITION, SPECIAL FACILITIES HAVE BEEN PROVIDED FOR THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED INCLUDING SLOPING RAMPS TO ENSURE THEIR EASY ACCESS TO THE SWIMMING POOLS.

THE COMPLEX HAS TWO MAIN POOLS, EACH 50 METRES IN LENGTH, TWO SMALLER POOLS OF 12 METRES BY 18 METRES, A DIVING POOL, A TRAINING POOL AND A PADDLING POOL FOR YOUNG CHILDREN.

ANOTHER FEATURE OF THE COMPLEX IS THE HEATING INSTALLED IN ONE OF THE MAIN POOLS TO ALLOW AROUND-THE-YEAR SWIMMING.

A SPECTATOR STAND FOR EIGHT HUNDRED PEOPLE AS WELL AS CHANGING ROOMS AND STAFF QUARTERS HAVE BEEN PROVIDED.

THERE IS ALSO COVERED PARKING SPACE FOR FORTY CARS.

THE P.W.D.'S HIGHWAYS OFFICE HAS CONSTRUCTED A NEW ROAD TO PROVIDE DIRECT ACCESS FROM SHAM WAN ROAD TO THE SWIMMING POOL COMPLEX.

WELFARE ROAD, WHICH IS ADJACENT TO THE COMPLEX, HAS BEEN WIDENED TO FURTHER FACILITATE THE MOVEMENT OF TRAFFIC TO AND FROM THE POOLS.

FOOTPATHS HAVE BEEN PROVIDED ON BOTH SIDES OF THESE ROADS FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF PEDESTRIANS.

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ABERDEEN TUNNEL EARTH BREAKING CEREMONY
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NOTE TO EDITORS:

AN EARTH BREAKING CEREMONY TO MARK THE COMMENCEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION OF THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL WILL BE HELD AT WONG CHUK HANG TOMORROW (MAY 20) AT 11.30 A.M.

THE P.W.D.'S DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT, MR. H.D. STEAD, WILL BREAK A BOTTLE OF CHAMPAGNE TO CELEBRATE THE START OF WORK ON THE \$184 MILLION PROJECT.

PRESS FACILITY WILL BE PROVIDED FOR THOSE WISHING TO COVER THE CEREMONY. TRANSPORT WILL LEAVE THE CAR PARK OF MURRAY BUILDING IN GARDEN ROAD AT 11 A.M. SHARP. THOSE WISHING TO MAKE USE OF THIS FACILITY SHOULD ASSEMBLE IN THE P.W.D.'S CAR PARK NOT LATER THAN 10.45 A.M.

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BUN FESTIVAL PROCESSION ON CHEUNG CHAU
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NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. DAVID AKERS-JONES, WILL BE GUEST OF HONOUR AT AN ANNUAL BUN FESTIVAL PROCESSION TO BE HELD ON CHEUNG CHAU NEXT MONDAY (MAY 23).

THE FESTIVAL - ALWAYS HELD ON THE SIXTH DAY OF THE FOURTH MOON OF THE CHINESE CALENDAR - IS BEING ORGANISED BY THE CHEUNG CHAU RURAL COMMITTEE TO PLACATE THE SPIRITS OF THOSE KILLED BY PIRATES IN THE PREVIOUS CENTURIES.

THE +TA CHIU+ PROCESSION, AS IT IS KNOWN, WILL START AT 2 P.M. FEATURING LION DANCES, SHRINES AND FLOATS.

ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FESTIVAL WILL BE A MAD SCRAMBLE FOR BUNS FIXED TO HIGH TOWERS, WHICH WILL BEGIN AT MIDNIGHT ON MONDAY NIGHT.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT. SPECIAL BADGES FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION FROM THE NEWS ROOM AT THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

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WIDENING OF TIN LOK LANE AND MORRISON HILL ROAD

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TRAFFIC CONDITIONS IN THE CONGESTED WAN CHAI AREA ARE EXPECTED TO BE GREATLY IMPROVED AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THE WORK ON THE WIDENING OF TIN LOK LANE AND MORRISON HILL ROAD.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE ROAD WIDENING WAS PART OF A COMPREHENSIVE ROAD IMPROVEMENT SCHEME IN THE AREA WHICH INCLUDED THE RECONSTRUCTION OF QUEEN'S ROAD EAST AND IMPROVEMENT TO THE STUBBS ROAD/QUEEN'S ROAD EAST JUNCTION.

HE POINTED OUT THAT TIN LOK LANE AND MORRISON HILL ROAD WERE AT PRESENT IMPORTANT ROAD LINKS FOR TRAFFIC PROCEEDING TOWARDS THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL FROM THE WAN CHAI AREA.

+THE ROADS ARE NOW HEAVILY USED AND BECAUSE OF THE LOCATION OF THE TRAM TRACKS ALONG MORRISON HILL ROAD AND TIN LOK LANE, ONLY TWO TRAFFIC LANES ARE AVAILABLE FOR BUSES AND OTHER CARS.

+THE AIM IS TO WIDEN THE EXISTING CARRIAGEWAYS SO AS TO PROVIDE TWO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC LANES IN EACH DIRECTION IN ADDITION TO THE TRAM TRACK,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

IN ADDITION, HE ADDED, A SIGNAL CONTROLLED PEDESTRIAN CROSSING WOULD ALSO BE PROVIDED AT THE JUNCTION OF TIN LOK LANE AND WAN CHAI ROAD TO CATER FOR PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC.

TO MAKE WAY FOR THE ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, TWO BLOCKS OF BUILDINGS AT NOS. 370-372, HENNESSY ROAD AND NOS. 2-4, TIN LOK LANE ARE REQUIRED TO BE DEMOLISHED. THE BUILDINGS HAVE ALREADY BEEN ACQUIRED BY THE GOVERNMENT THROUGH PROPER RESUMPTION PROCEEDINGS IN FEBRUARY THIS YEAR.

OWNERS OF THE BUILDINGS ARE COMPENSATED AT THE CURRENT MARKET VALUE OF THEIR PROPERTIES WHILE ALL OCCUPIERS HAVE BEEN OFFERED COMPENSATION, ABOUT \$20 PER SQUARE FOOT OF LIVING SPACE AND \$40 PER SQUARE FOOT OF BUSINESS ACCOMMODATION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ADVANCE PAYMENT SCHEME.

UNDER THE SCHEME, THE OCCUPIERS WILL BE PAID HALF THE AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION UPON SIGNING THE UNDERTAKING TO LEAVE THE PREMISES AND THE OTHER HALF WILL BE GIVEN TO THEM AFTER THEY HAVE LEFT THE PREMISES.

IN ADDITION, ALL DOMESTIC TENANTS HAVE ALSO BEEN OFFERED ALTERNATIVE ACCOMMODATION IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

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OF THE 28 FAMILIES LIVING IN THE BUILDINGS, 26 OF THEM HAVE ACCEPTED THE OFFER OF COMPENSATION AND ALTERNATIVE ACCOMMODATION MADE BY THE GOVERNMENT AND HAVE ALREADY MOVED OUT. IT IS HOPED THAT AN AGREEMENT COULD BE REACHED WITH THE REMAINING TWO FAMILIES IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

OF THE SIX COMMERCIAL SHOPS AND TWO WORKSHOPS IN THE BUILDINGS, THE OPERATORS ARE ALSO URGED TO ACCEPT THE OFFER MADE BY THE GOVERNMENT AND TO MOVE OUT OF THE PREMISES WITHOUT DELAY.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT IF THEY WERE NOT SATISFIED WITH THE AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION OFFERED TO THEM, THEY WERE ENTITLED TO PUT UP THEIR CLAIMS UNDER THE CROWN LANDS RESUMPTION ORDINANCE.

+ACCEPTING THE OFFER OF COMPENSATION MADE BY THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT PROHIBIT OR PREJUDICE THEIR RIGHT UNDER THE CROWN LANDS RESUMPTION ORDINANCE TO CLAIM FOR ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION, EVEN AFTER THEY HAVE VACATED THE PREMISES.

+THIS CLAIM FOR ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION WILL BE CONSIDERED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND IF THE AMOUNT CANNOT BE AGREED BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES, THE MATTER WILL BE REFERRED TO THE LANDS TRIBUNAL WHICH IS AN INDEPENDENT BODY, FOR DETERMINATION OF FINAL COMPENSATION,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE CLEARANCE OF THE BUILDINGS, SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE ON MAY 18 HAD BEEN POSTPONED TO AUGUST 24 TO GIVE THE OCCUPIERS A FURTHER GRACE PERIOD OF THREE MONTHS TO MAKE THEIR REMOVAL ARRANGEMENT, EXCEPT FOR THE BUILDING AT NO. 370, HENNESSY ROAD, WHICH WAS IMMEDIATELY REQUIRED FOR CARRYING OUT PERMANENT STRUCTURAL SUPPORTS TO STABILISE THE ADJACENT BUILDING.

BY EXTENDING THE DEADLINE OF THE CLEARANCE TO AUGUST 24, THE OCCUPIERS WOULD HAVE ENJOYED A FREE RENT PERIOD OF MORE THAN SIX MONTHS, HE ADDED.

HE SAID THAT THE WIDENING OF THE TIN LOK LANE AND MORRISON HILL ROAD WAS AN IMPORTANT ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT WHICH MUST BE CARRIED OUT ACCORDING TO THE WORKING SCHEDULE. ANY FURTHER DELAY IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT WOULD NOT BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE PUBLIC AS A WHOLE, HE CONCLUDED.

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PUBLIC FILM CENSORSHIP ADVISORY GROUP
SUPPORTS CURRENT FILM CENSORSHIP DECISIONS
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THE MAJORITY OF THE PUBLIC MEMBERS OF THE FILM CENSORSHIP ADVISORY GROUP WHO HAVE BEEN SITTING WITH THE PANEL OF FILM CENSORS FOR THE PAST THREE MONTHS SUPPORTS THE DECISIONS OF THE PANEL.

STATING THIS TODAY, THE COMMISSIONER FOR TELEVISION AND FILMS SAID THAT THIS WAS A PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT BASED ON A STUDY OF THE ADVICE RECEIVED BY HIM FROM MEMBERS OF THE GROUP DURING THAT PERIOD.

HE SAID THAT AFTER THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF THE ADVISORY GROUP'S WORK, ONLY THIS MOST GENERAL CONCLUSION COULD BE DRAWN. HOWEVER, QUARTERLY CHECKS WOULD CONTINUE TO BE CARRIED OUT AND POSSIBLY BY THE END OF THE FIRST YEAR'S OPERATION, MORE SPECIFIC TRENDS MIGHT BE APPARENT AS A RESULT OF THE PUBLIC ADVICE BEING GIVEN.

THE FILM CENSORSHIP ADVISORY GROUP STARTED WORK ON FEBRUARY 1 THIS YEAR, AFTER 96 PERSONS HAD BEEN ENROLLED AS VOLUNTEERS TO TAKE PART IN THIS EXPERIMENTAL ADVISORY SERVICE. WITH THE HELP OF THE TEN CITY DISTRICT OFFICES THROUGHOUT HONG KONG, THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE GROUP WAS MADE AS REPRESENTATIVE AS POSSIBLE AND MEMBERS INCLUDED BOTH MEN AND WOMEN, DRAWN FROM A WIDE VARIETY OF DISTRICTS, BACKGROUNDS AND OCCUPATIONS.

AT EACH FILM VIEWING SESSION ORGANISED BY THE PANEL OF FILM CENSORS, THE COMMISSIONER INVITES THREE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP TO ATTEND - INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS ATTENDING FILM SHOWS ABOUT TWICE A MONTH - AFTER WHICH THE MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO RECORD THEIR GENERAL COMMENTS IN WRITING AS TO WHETHER THE FILM SHOULD BE PASSED, PASSED WITH CUTS, OR BANNED, AND WHETHER IT IS SUITABLE OR UNSUITABLE FOR CHILDREN. THIS ADVICE IS GIVEN BY GROUP MEMBERS PRIOR TO THEIR BECOMING AWARE OF THE PANEL'S OWN DECISION.

DURING THE THREE MONTHS, FEBRUARY TO APRIL, 135 FILMS WERE SCREENED BY THE PANEL AND A TOTAL OF 244 REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY GROUP WERE RECEIVED IN RESPECT OF THESE FILMS.

OF THE 135 FILMS SCREENED, 92 WERE CONSIDERED BY THE PANEL TO BE UNSUITABLE FOR CHILDREN AND WERE PASSED BY THE PANEL ON CONDITION THAT THEY WERE SO ADVERTISED. EIGHTY PER CENT OF THE PUBLIC MEMBERS PRESENT AT THE SCREENINGS AGREED WITH THE PANEL'S VIEWS. FORTY THREE FILMS WERE CONSIDERED SUITABLE FOR GENERAL AUDIENCES AND NINETY SIX PER CENT OF THE PUBLIC MEMBERS PRESENT SUPPORTED THIS DECISION.

SIXTY SEVEN OF THE FILMS PASSED DURING THE PERIOD WERE PASSED WITH CUTS AND MORE THAN HALF OF THE PUBLIC MEMBERS PRESENT ON THESE VIEWINGS SHARED THE GENERAL VIEWS OF THE PANEL IN RESPECT OF THE NEED FOR SUCH CUTS.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE LEFT TURN FOR SOUTHBOUND TRAFFIC FROM TONG SHUI ROAD INTO JAVA ROAD WOULD BE BANNED FROM 10 A.M. TOMORROW (FRIDAY) FOR ABOUT EIGHT WEEKS.

SOUTHBOUND MOTORISTS IN TONG SHUI ROAD WHO WISH TO TURN INTO JAVA ROAD ARE ADVISED TO PROCEED VIA KING'S ROAD AND SHU KUK STREET.

THE ARRANGEMENTS AIM TO FACILITATE THE RECONSTRUCTION OF JAVA ROAD.

ALSO FROM 10 A.M. TOMORROW, THE EASTBOUND LANES OF THE DUAL CARRIAGEWAY SECTION OF CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD WILL BE CLOSED.

TRAFFIC USING THESE LANES AT PRESENT WILL BE DIVERTED ONTO THE OLD CARRIAGEWAY OF CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD WHICH WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY EASTBOUND.

WESTBOUND TRAFFIC WILL PROCEED AS AT PRESENT.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE POSTED TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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WATER CUT

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WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PARTS OF YUEN LONG WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR FIVE HOURS FROM 1 A.M. ON SATURDAY (MAY 21) TO ALLOW THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT TO CARRY OUT NIGHT LEAKAGE TESTS THERE.

THE AREA TO BE AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY ON NING ROAD, KUK TING STREET, YUEN LONG MAIN ROAD, INCLUDING YUEN LONG OLD TOWN, TUNG TAU TSUEN, TAI WAI, YING LUNG WAI, SAI PIN WAI AND SHAN PUI.

ALSO AFFECTED WILL BE THOSE PREMISES IN CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND TAN KWAI TSUEN ROAD, INCLUDING HUNG UK TSUEN, TAN KWAI TSUEN, SHEK PO TSUEN, LEI UK TSUEN, SAI SHAN TSUEN, SAN UK TSUEN, LO UK TSUEN, SIK KONG TSUEN, SIK KONG WAI AND TSEUNG KONG WAI.

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