



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1987

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TERMINAL 7 TENDER DETAILS ANNOUNCED

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DETAILS OF THE TENDER TO BUILD AND OPERATE THE SEVENTH TERMINAL OF THE CONTAINER PORT AT KWAI CHUNG WERE ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE NEW TERMINAL WILL BE BUILT NEXT TO TERMINAL 6, NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

IT WOULD MAKE HONG KONG, ALREADY AFTER ROTTERDAM AS THE WORLD'S SECOND LARGEST CONTAINER PORT IN TERMS OF THROUGHPUT, POSSIBLY THE LARGEST.

IT WILL BE CONSTRUCTED ON LAND TO BE RECLAIMED FROM THE SEA AND OCCUPY AN AREA OF 31.5 HECTARES.

A GOVERNMENT LAND AGENT IN THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, MR JIM HUGHES, SAID KEEN LOCAL AND OVERSEAS INTEREST HAD ALREADY BEEN EXPRESSED IN THE PROJECT.

"THERE HAS BEEN A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF ENQUIRIES," HE SAID.

DEVELOPERS HAVE UNTIL JANUARY 29 TO SUBMIT THEIR TENDERS.

"WE ARE ALLOWING FOUR MONTHS AS THIS IS SUCH A MAJOR UNDERTAKING," MR HUGHES SAID.

THE SUCCESSFUL TENDERER WILL BE ANNOUNCED BY APRIL 13, 1988.

THE PURCHASER WILL BE GIVEN 12 MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF SIGNING THE AGREEMENT TO SUBMIT HIS PLANS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE TERMINAL COVERING DETAILS OF ROADS, ANY BUILDINGS, QUAYS OR STRUCTURES TO BE CONSTRUCTED ON THE SITE AND THE TIMING OF DEVELOPMENT WORKS.

THE GOVERNMENT IS TO MAKE AVAILABLE A BORROW AREA ON THE SOUTHWEST OF TSING YI ISLAND FOR THE PURCHASER TO OBTAIN FILL FOR THE RECLAMATION WORKS. HOWEVER, ADDITIONAL TENDERS BASED ON THE USE OF MARINE OR OTHER SOURCES OF FILL MAY BE SUBMITTED IF DEVELOPERS CONSIDER THEM TO BE MORE ECONOMIC.

THE CONDITIONS PROVIDE FOR THE LOT TO BE BROUGHT INTO OPERATION IN PHASES OVER A PERIOD OF 60 MONTHS.

WITHIN 48 MONTHS THE PURCHASER WILL BE REQUIRED TO DEVELOP THE LOT SUFFICIENTLY TO BE ABLE TO OPERATE ONE CONTAINER BERTH AND, AFTER 54 MONTHS, TO BE ABLE TO OPERATE TWO BERTHS.

THE THREE-BERTH TERMINAL WILL BE FULLY OPERATIONAL BY 1993 WHEN IT SHOULD BE CAPABLE OF BERTHING THREE CONTAINER SHIPS SIMULTANEOUSLY AND MAINTAINING A HANDLING CAPACITY OF 750,000 TEUS (TWENTY-FOOT EQUIVALENT UNITS) PER ANNUM.

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STRINGENT ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS WILL BE APPLIED DURING THE CONSTRUCTION PERIOD AND AFTER THE TERMINAL IS OPERATING.

THESE INCLUDE THE PURCHASER ENSURING THAT NUISANCE OR ANNOYANCE TO OWNERS OR OCCUPIERS OF PREMISES IN THE VICINITY OF THE LOT AND BORROW AREAS IS AVOIDED.

IN THE EVENT THAT THE LAND BORROW AREA IS USED THE FILL WILL BE LOADED DIRECTLY ON TO BARGES, THEREBY AVOIDING THE USE OF ROADS ON TSING YI.

DETAILS OF THE TENDER WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

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PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR AUGUST

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THE STRONG GROWTH IN EXTERNAL TRADE CONTINUED IN AUGUST 1987, ALBEIT AT A SLOWER RATE THAN IN JULY, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES PUBLISHED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN AUGUST 1987 WAS \$18,557 MILLION, 25.4 PER CENT OR \$3,759 MILLION HIGHER THAN IN AUGUST 1986, WHILE THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 51.9 PER CENT OR \$5,519 MILLION TO \$16,149 MILLION.

TAKING DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TOGETHER, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS, AT \$34,706 MILLION, WAS 36.5 PER CENT OR \$9,278 MILLION HIGHER THAN IN AUGUST 1986.

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS GREW BY 35.9 PER CENT OR \$8,438 MILLION OVER AUGUST 1986 TO \$31,933 MILLION.

AS THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS IN AUGUST 1987 WAS GREATER THAN THAT OF IMPORTS, A VISIBLE TRADE SURPLUS OF \$2,773 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 8.7 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED.

THIS COMPARES WITH A SURPLUS OF \$1,933 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 8.2 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, RECORDED IN AUGUST 1986.

THIS RELATIVELY HIGH VISIBLE TRADE SURPLUS IN PROPORTIONATE TERMS IS LARGELY SEASONAL, REFLECTING THE TIMING OF EXPORT SHIPMENTS TO MEET THE WINTER SEASON IN HONG KONG'S MAJOR OVERSEAS MARKETS.

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PUTTING THE MONTH'S TRADE FIGURES INTO CONTEXT, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS FOR THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1987 WAS \$235,871 MILLION, MADE UP OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF \$123,296 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS OF \$112,575 MILLION.

COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1986, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS GREW BY \$67,203 MILLION OR 39.8 PER CENT, THAT OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY \$28,854 MILLION OR 30.6 PER CENT, AND THAT OF RE-EXPORTS BY \$38,349 MILLION OR 51.7 PER CENT.

OVER THIS PERIOD, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS GREW BY \$66,396 MILLION OR 38.8 PER CENT, TO \$237,384 MILLION.

A CUMULATIVE VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT OF \$1,513 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 0.6 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED IN THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1987.

THIS COMPARES WITH A DEFICIT OF \$2,320 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 1.4 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, RECORDED IN THE SAME PERIOD IN 1986.

COMMENTING ON THESE FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN RECENT MONTHS WAS MAINLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO SUSTAINED DEMAND FOR HONG KONG'S PRODUCTS IN OVERSEAS MARKETS, AND TO THE STIMULATION CAUSED BY THE DEPRECIATION OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR, IN LINE WITH THAT OF THE U.S. DOLLAR, AGAINST MOST OTHER MAJOR CURRENCIES DURING THE COURSE OF 1986 AND IN THE EARLY MONTHS OF 1987.

THE EVEN MORE RAPID GROWTH IN RE-EXPORTS WAS MAINLY DUE TO THE FLOURISHING ENTREPOT TRADE WITH CHINA, WHICH FEATURED PROMINENTLY BOTH AS A SOURCE AND AS A MARKET FOR HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE STRONG GROWTH IN IMPORTS WAS PARTLY A REFLECTION OF THE BUOYANT DOMESTIC DEMAND, BUT ALSO SUGGESTED THAT EXPORT PERFORMANCE WAS LIKELY TO REMAIN GOOD IN THE COMING MONTHS.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE PRESENTS THE PROVISIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FIGURES FOR AUGUST 1987.

/TRADE FIGURES

TRADE FIGURES FOR AUGUST, 1987

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAS RELEASED THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FIGURES FOR AUGUST:-

MERCHANDISE:	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	:	\$18,557 MILLION	
	RE-EXPORTS	:	\$16,149 MILLION	
	TOTAL EXPORTS	:	\$34,706 MILLION	
	IMPORTS	:	\$31,933 MILLION	
	TRADE BALANCE	:	\$ 2,773 MILLION	[IN SURPLUS]

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

LATEST 3 MONTHS	JUN 87	JUN 86	INCREASE	
	TO AUG 87 HK\$ MN.	TO AUG 86 HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	53,793	41,614	12,179	29.3
RE-EXPORTS	47,145	30,792	16,353	53.1
TOTAL EXPORTS	100,938	72,406	28,532	39.4
IMPORTS	97,355	70,490	26,865	38.1
TRADE BALANCE	3,583	1,916	1,667	

SAME MONTH LAST YEAR	AUGUST	AUGUST	INCREASE	
	1987 HK\$ MN.	1986 HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	18,557 (53.5%)	14,798 (58.2%)	3,759	25.4
RE-EXPORTS	16,149	10,630	5,519	51.9
TOTAL EXPORTS	34,706	25,428	9,278	36.5
IMPORTS	31,933	23,495	8,438	35.9
TRADE BALANCE	2,773	1,933	840	

/LAST MONTH

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LAST MONTH	AUGUST 1987	JULY 1987	INCREASE	
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	18,557 (53.5%)	18,948 (53.8%)	-391	-2.1
RE-EXPORTS	16,149	16,298	-149	-0.9
TOTAL EXPORTS	34,706	35,246	-540	-1.5
IMPORTS	31,933	33,298	-1,365	-4.1
TRADE BALANCE	2,773	1,948	825	

CALENDAR YEAR TO-DATE	JAN-AUG 1987	JAN-AUG 1986	INCREASE	
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	123,296 (52.3%)	94,442 (56.0%)	28,854	30.6
RE-EXPORTS	112,575	74,226	38,349	51.7
TOTAL EXPORTS	235,871	168,668	67,203	39.8
IMPORTS	237,384	170,988	66,396	38.8
TRADE BALANCE	-1,513	-2,320	807	

LAST 12 MONTHS	SEP 86 TO AUG 87	SEP 85 TO AUG 86	INCREASE	
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	182,838	140,358	42,480	30.3
RE-EXPORTS	160,894	109,135	51,759	47.4
TOTAL EXPORTS	343,732	249,493	94,239	37.8
IMPORTS	342,350	251,660	90,690	36.0
TRADE BALANCE	1,382	-2,167	3,549	

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PLANNING BASED ON STABILITY AND PROSPERITY, SLW

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THE GOVERNMENT'S STRATEGIC PLANNING MUST BE BASED ON THE FIRM OBJECTIVES OF STABILITY AND PROSPERITY AS SET OUT IN THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION, THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, MR GRAHAM BARNES, HAS SAID IN BRUSSELS.

SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE BELGIUM-HONG KONG SOCIETY ON WEDNESDAY, MR BARNES SAID THAT, IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THESE OBJECTIVES, HONG KONG MUST ENSURE ITS COMMERCIAL PROSPERITY, IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF ALL ITS PEOPLE AND ENSURE THAT THE TERRITORY WILL BE VALUED AND RESPECTED BY THE FUTURE SOVEREIGN STATE OF CHINA WHEN HONG KONG BECOMES A SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION (SAR) OF CHINA.

AFTER GIVING A THUMB-NAIL SKETCH OF HONG KONG'S POST-WAR DEVELOPMENT, WITH PARTICULAR STRESS ON THE NEW TOWN CONSTRUCTION, MR BARNES OUTLINED THE MAJOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR PROJECTS UNDER CONSIDERATION AT PRESENT.

REFERRING TO THE CONTAINER PORT EXTENSIONS AND THE PLANS FOR OTHER DEEP-SEA BERTHS, MR BARNES SAID THAT, UP TILL RECENTLY, FAR THE GREATEST PROPORTION OF CARGOES CROSSING THE WHARF WERE EXPORTS FROM AND IMPORTS INTO HONG KONG ITSELF BUT CHINA'S MODERNISATION PLANS HAVE CHANGED THE BALANCE.

HONG KONG EXPORTS HAVE INCREASED BOTH IN TECHNOLOGICAL AND VALUE TERMS RATHER THAN IN BULK BUT THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO AND FROM CHINA THROUGH HONG KONG HAS INCREASED FROM HK\$13,036 MILLION IN 1980 TO HK\$92,491 MILLION LAST YEAR.

CHINA'S USE OF THE CONTAINER TERMINALS HAS INCREASED BY 27 PER CENT EACH YEAR AND THE RATE OF INCREASE IN CHINA'S TRADE WILL INVOLVE AN EARLY EXPANSION OF OUR CONTAINER PORT FACILITIES, HE SAID.

MR BARNES ALSO SPOKE OF THE PLANS FOR A NEW AIRPORT AND THE EXTENSIVE INFRASTRUCTURE WHICH WILL BE REQUIRED. HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO EMBARK ON A MAJOR DEVELOPMENT STUDY TO WORK OUT THE OPTIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF BOTH AIRPORT AND PORT AS AN ECONOMIC PROPOSITION.

ON URBAN REDEVELOPMENT, MR BARNES SAID THIS IS ANOTHER OF HONG KONG'S MAJOR PRIORITIES THE AIM BEING TO BRING LIVING CONDITIONS NEARER OT THE STANDARD OF THAT IN THE NEW TOWNS.

"A MASTER DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE URBAN AREAS IS BEING PREPARED AND A LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OWNED BY THE GOVERNMENT BUT OPERATING COMMERCIALY IS BEING CREATED TO FOSTER REDEVELOPMENT SCHEMES IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR."

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"GREEN LIGHT" FOR DRUG COUNSELLING CENTRE

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THE HONG KONG CHRISTIAN SERVICE (HKCS) HAS BEEN GIVEN THE "GREEN LIGHT" BY THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS (ACAN) TO RUN A COUNSELLING CENTRE FOR PSYCHOTROPIC DRUG ABUSERS.

AT THE 65TH MEETING OF ACAN TODAY (THURSDAY), MEMBERS DISCUSSED AT LENGTH AND ACCEPTED RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE HONG KONG CHRISTIAN SERVICE TO TAKE ON THE THREE-YEAR PILOT PROJECT AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF \$3.1 MILLION.

THE CENTRE IS AIMED AT POTENTIAL, OCCASIONAL AND REGULAR PSYCHOTROPIC DRUG ABUSERS. DEPENDING ON THE TYPES OF CLIENT AND THE DEGREE OF ABUSE, IT WILL PROVIDE DRUG INFORMATION, COUNSELLING, CRISIS INTERVENTION, EARLY MEDICAL DIAGNOSIS, CRISIS MONITORING AND MEDICAL REFERRAL SERVICES.

THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT'S PSYCHIATRIC OUT-PATIENT FACILITIES WILL PROVIDE SUPPORTING SERVICES FOR MORE SEVERE CASES.

AN APPLICATION FOR A GRANT FROM THE LOTTERIES FUND OR THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB WILL NOW BE MADE BY THE HKCS.

IF THE APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL, THE PROJECT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED TOWARDS THE END OF THE YEAR.

THE MEETING WAS TOLD THAT THREE LOCAL VOLUNTARY AGENCIES WERE INTERESTED IN THE PROJECT. THE HKCS WAS RECOMMENDED BECAUSE OF ITS GOOD TRACK RECORD IN PROVIDING SOCIAL SERVICES AND ITS EXPERIENCE IN COUNSELLING YOUNG PEOPLE. THE HKCS HAS ITS OWN OUTREACH YOUTH TEAM IN SOUTH KOWLOON.

HOWEVER, THE SOCIETY FOR THE AID AND REHABILITATION OF DRUG ABUSERS HAD CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE CREATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE ORIGINAL CONCEPT.

THE HKCS HAS ALSO THE ADVANTAGE OF BEING ABLE TO USE ITS EXISTING PREMISES CENTRALLY LOCATED IN GRANVILLE ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI WITH READILY AVAILABLE MEDICAL SUPPORT IN THE SAME BUILDING.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR GARETH MULLOY, EXPLAINED THAT ACCESS TO THE CENTRE WOULD BE VIA THE SAME DOOR TO OTHER FACILITIES OF THE CENTRE.

"THIS SHOULD REMOVE THE DANGER OF EMBARRASSMENT WHICH WILL ARISE IF THEY HAD TO USE A SEPARATE ENTRANCE," HE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT EXPERIENCED STAFF WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DAY-TO-DAY RUNNING OF THE CENTRE, LEADING THERAPEUTIC GROUPS AND CONDUCTING IN-DEPTH COUNSELLING WHERE NECESSARY.

/"THE PILOT

"THE PILOT PROJECT WILL BE EVALUATED 18 MONTHS AFTER ITS OPERATION AND THE TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION SUB-COMMITTEE OF ACAN WILL BE CLOSELY MONITORING THE PROGRESS," MR MULLOY SAID.

REVIEWING THE DRUG SITUATION, MR MULLOY INFORMED THE MEETING THAT THE DOWNWARD TREND IN THE NUMBER OF PERSONS NEWLY REPORTED TO THE CENTRAL REGISTRY OF DRUG ABUSE WHICH BEGAN IN 1983 CONTINUED IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1987.

THE NUMBER OF PERSONS OF ALL AGES NEWLY REPORTED DECREASED BY 10.5 PER CENT, FROM 1,442 TO 1,290, AS COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD IN 1986.

THE NUMBER OF NEWLY REPORTED YOUNG PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF 21 HOWEVER INCREASED BY NINE PER CENT FROM 387 TO 422.

"THIS INCREASE IS A REFLECTION OF THE INCREASE IN REPORTS BY YOUTH OUTREACHING SOCIAL WORK TEAMS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1987.

"MOST OF THE CASES ARE OF THE KIND WITH WHICH THE COUNSELLING CENTRE WILL DEAL," HE SAID.

MEANWHILE, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS PROSECUTED FOR ALL DRUG OFFENCES DROPPED BY 10.6 PER CENT FROM 6,288 TO 5,621 AND PROSECUTIONS OF YOUNG PERSONS UNDER 21 ALSO DECREASED FROM 519 TO 412, REPRESENTING A DROP OF 20.6 PER CENT.

"NEVERTHELESS, THE NUMBER OF PERSONS PROSECUTED FOR MAJOR DRUG OFFENCES SLIGHTLY INCREASED BY 5.9 PER CENT FROM 2,641 TO 2,798," HE ADDED.

DURING THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1987 POLICE AND CUSTOMS OFFICERS SEIZED A TOTAL OF 222 KILOGRAMS OF ILLICIT OPIATES, MAINLY NO. 3 HEROIN.

IN ADDITION, A TOTAL OF 317 KILOGRAMS OF CANNABIS WERE SEIZED DURING THIS PERIOD. THIS WAS SIX-FOLD THE TOTAL QUANTITY FOUND IN THE WHOLE YEAR OF 1986.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE NUMBER OF MANDRAX TABLETS SEIZED IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1987 CAME DOWN SIGNIFICANTLY TO 39,669 TABLETS COMPARED WITH A TOTAL OF 273,745 TABLETS LAST YEAR.

MR MULLOY NOTED THAT ANTI-NARCOTICS PREVENTIVE EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN CONTINUED UNABATED THROUGH THE MEDIA, POSTERS AND OTHER MEANS AND THROUGH DISTRICT CAMPAIGNS AND SCHOOL TALKS.

"ONE NEW DEPARTURE WAS THE NARCOTICS DIVISION'S COOPERATION WITH THE CHUNG YING THEATRE COMPANY IN THE PRODUCTION OF A PLAY ON THE THEME OF ANTI-DRUG ABUSE," HE SAID.

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"I SAW THE PLAY EARLIER THIS WEEK AND IT WAS VERY APPARENT TO ME THAT THE DANGERS OF PSYCHOTROPIC DRUG ABUSE WERE BEING PUT STRONGLY AND EFFECTIVELY TO THE 150 OR SO YOUNGSTERS PRESENT IN THE LANGUAGE WHICH THEY UNDERSTOOD," HE SAID.

THE PLAY "A DANGEROUS GAME" WILL CONTINUE ITS RUN OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS AT DIFFERENT VENUES.

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HALF-WAY HOUSE AN IMPORTANT STEP TO RE-INTEGRATION

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A HALF-WAY HOUSE SERVES AS A 'BUFFER STATE' BETWEEN A DISCHARGED MENTAL PATIENT AND HIS FAMILY AS WELL AS THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE, DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, SAID THIS (THURSDAY) EVENING.

"IT IS A MOST VALUABLE PROVISION FOR THE REHABILITATION OF THESE PATIENTS," SHE SAID WHILE ADDRESSING THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NEW LIFE PSYCHIATRIC REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION.

MRS WONG EXPLAINED THAT AFTER A PROLONGED PERIOD IN A MENTAL HOSPITAL SOME CLIENTS MIGHT NEED A HALF-WAY HOUSE TO REGAIN BASIC DAILY LIVING AND SOCIAL SKILLS BEFORE THEY COULD BE INTEGRATED INTO THE COMMUNITY.

A PATIENT'S FAMILY MEMBERS, SHE SAID, MIGHT ALSO NEED TIME AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO READJUST THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PATIENT WHO HAD BEEN AWAY FROM HOME FOR A LONG PERIOD AND WHOSE BEHAVIOUR IN THE PAST MIGHT HAVE SHATTERED THEIR TRUST IN HIM.

SHE NOTED THAT WITH THE UNTIRING EFFORTS OF THE MASS MEDIA, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND THE GOVERNMENT, THE RESISTANCE TO HALF-WAY HOUSES HAD SUBSIDED GRADUALLY.

HOWEVER, THE PROVISION OF REHABILITATION FOR THOSE PATIENTS WITH A RECORD OF "VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR" HAD STILL TO BE RESOLVED, SHE SAID.

"ANY PERSON MAY HAVE A RECORD OF VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR BUT THIS SHOULD INDEED NOT BE A REASON TO EXILE HIM FROM OUR MIDST FOR LIFE," SHE SAID.

/ARGUING AGAINST

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ARGUING AGAINST SUCH ATTITUDE, SHE ASKED: "EVEN IF SOME CLIENTS MAY HAVE VIOLENT PROPENSITIES, WOULD IT NOT BE BETTER TO SET UP A HALF-WAY HOUSE AS A SAFETY VALVE FOR BOTH THE CLIENTS AND THE COMMUNITY THAN TO DISCHARGE THEM DIRECTLY FROM HOSPITALS TO THE COMMUNITY?"

"NOW THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT REQUESTS ALL REFERRING DOCTORS TO CLEARLY STATE THE HISTORY OF CLIENTS' VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR, IF ANY, AND TO RECORD THE DEFINITE PERIOD DURING WHICH THE CLIENTS HAVE BEEN FREE FROM SUCH BEHAVIOUR IN THEIR REFERRALS TO HALF-WAY HOUSES.

"WITH DETAILED RECORDS, AGENCIES CONCERNED ARE NOW IN A POSITION TO DECIDE WHO ARE THE ONES THAT MAY CONFIDENTLY BE REHABILITATED IN THEIR HALF-WAY HOUSES," MRS WONG SAID.

FOR DISCHARGED MENTAL PATIENTS NEEDING MORE INTENSIVE CARE, SHE SAID THAT THEY WOULD BE CARED FOR UNDER A DISPERSAL MODEL IN WHICH ONLY A GROUP OF NOT MORE THAN 10 OF SUCH CLIENTS WOULD BE REHABILITATED IN A PURPOSE-BUILT HALF-WAY HOUSE OF 40 PLACES.

"THESE HALF-WAY HOUSES ARE CUSTOM-BUILT WITH SPECIAL FACILITIES AND ADDITIONAL MANPOWER TO MINIMISE THE POSSIBILITY OF RELAPSE," SHE SAID.

THE DEPARTMENT IS PLANNING 11 SUCH HALF-WAY HOUSES OF WHICH THE NEW LIFE PSYCHIATRIC REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION IS GOING TO OPERATE THREE IN KOWLOON.

BETWEEN 1986 AND THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1987, SEVEN NEW HALF-WAY HOUSES HAVE COME INTO EXISTENCE OF WHICH FOUR ARE RUN BY THE SAME ASSOCIATION.

MRS WONG PAID TRIBUTE TO THE ASSOCIATION FOR ITS UNTIRING EFFORTS SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT IN 1959 TO PIONEER A WIDE SPECTRUM OF SERVICES FOR THE DISCHARGED MENTAL PATIENTS, ITS ACTIVE ROLE BOTH IN THE FORMULATION OF POLICY AND IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS IN RELATION TO WELFARE PROVISIONS TO DISCHARGED MENTAL PATIENTS SUCH AS SHELTERED EMPLOYMENT, DAILY TRAINING, HOUSING OR LONG TERM INSTITUTIONAL CARE.

THE ASSOCIATION IS PLANNING TO SET UP ADDITIONALLY TWO HOSTELS, FIVE HALF-WAY HOUSES, TWO SHELTERED WORKSHOPS, AN ACTIVITY CENTRE FOR DISCHARGED MENTAL PATIENTS AND TWO LONG STAY CARE HOMES IN THE COMING THREE TO FOUR YEARS.

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NEW DISTRICT OFFICER LEARNS ABOUT HIS DISTRICT

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WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ALLAN CHOW, TODAY (THURSDAY) VISITED THE METHODIST CENTRE IN HENNESSY ROAD AS PART OF HIS FAMILIARISATION TOUR OF THE DISTRICT.

MR CHOW, WHO TOOK UP THE POST EARLIER THIS MONTH, SAID AFTER THE VISIT THAT FAMILIARISATION TOURS WERE HELPFUL TO HIS WORK AS THEY GAVE HIM THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN, AT FIRST-HAND, THE MANY ASPECTS AND PROBLEMS OF THE DISTRICT.

MR CHOW EXPRESSED DELIGHT AT BECOMING THE DISTRICT OFFICER OF ONE OF THE FASTEST DEVELOPING DISTRICTS AND ADDED : "I AM PARTICULARLY HAPPY TO BE INVOLVED IN THE RUNNING OF WAN CHAI AT A TIME WHEN IT IS EVOLVING FROM AN OLD URBAN AREA TO A BUSTLING COMMERCIAL DISTRICT FULL OF ACTIVITIES."

MR CHOW NOTED THAT WAN CHAI, LIKE MANY OTHER DISTRICTS, HAD ITS FAIR SHARE OF PROBLEMS SUCH AS TRAFFIC CONGESTION, ENVIRONMENTAL AND BUILDING MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS, AND THE PRESENCE OF STREET SLEEPERS AND ILLEGAL HAWKERS.

"ALTHOUGH THERE MAY NOT BE QUICK SOLUTIONS TO THESE DIFFICULTIES, THE DISTRICT OFFICE HAS, AND WILL CONTINUE TO STRIVE TO BRING ABOUT IMPROVEMENT," SAID MR CHOW.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE ARRIVAL LATER THIS YEAR OF A BUILDING MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATION TEAM WOULD DEFINITELY HELP FACILITATE BETTER MANAGEMENT OF PRIVATE BUILDINGS IN THE DISTRICT.

TURNING TO THE PEOPLE OF WAN CHAI, THE NEW DISTRICT OFFICER SAID HE WAS VERY IMPRESSED BY THE CONCERN AND DEVOTION TO DISTRICT AFFAIRS SHOWN BY MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT BOARD AND AREA COMMITTEES DURING HIS MEETINGS WITH THEM, AND HE LOOKED FORWARD TO WORKING CLOSELY WITH THEM.

AT PRESENT, THE DISTRICT OFFICE WAS CONCENTRATING ITS EFFORTS ON THE VOTER REGISTRATION CAMPAIGN AND THE RESPONSE SO FAR WAS FAVOURABLE WITH MORE THAN 5,000 NEW ELECTORS HAVING RETURNED THEIR VOTER REGISTRATION FORMS TO THE DISTRICT OFFICE SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE CAMPAIGN IN MID-AUGUST, MR CHOW SAID.

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ENROLMENT FOR 1987 JOURNALISM SYMPOSIUM BEGINS

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JOURNALISTS ARE INVITED TO ENROL IN THE 1987 JOURNALISM SYMPOSIUM TO BE ORGANISED BY THE JOURNALISM TRAINING BOARD OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL FROM OCTOBER 19 TO NOVEMBER 6.

THE THREE-WEEK SYMPOSIUM IS ARRANGED ON A MODULE BASIS SO THAT PARTICIPANTS COULD TAKE PART IN ONE OR MORE MODULES AS THEY WISH.

A TOTAL OF 13 MODULES ARE OFFERED WHICH INCLUDE A THREE-DAY INTENSIVE COURSE ON PUTONGHUA, ONE-DAY COURSES ON NEWS TRANSLATION, INTERVIEWING TECHNIQUES, BUSINESS NEWS REPORTING AND EDITING, PRESS LAW, CHINESE OR ENGLISH EDITING, NEWSROOM MANAGEMENT, LEGAL CONSTRAINTS ON REPORTING AND OTHERS.

COURSE FEE FOR THE THREE-WEEK SYMPOSIUM IS \$150 AS A RESULT OF A \$20,000 SUBSIDY FROM THE COUNCIL. THE FEE WILL BE \$10 PER DAY FOR THOSE WHO ATTEND ANY OF THE MODULES.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATION IS OCTOBER 5. FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES, CONTACT SECRETARY OF THE TRAINING BOARD AT 5-8932341 EXT. 283 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

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NEW ROAD MARKINGS ON VICTORIA PARK ROAD

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MOTORISTS FROM NORTH POINT HEADING FOR KOWLOON VIA THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR (IEC) WILL HAVE TO WATCH OUT FOR GANTRY SIGNS AND CHOOSE THE CORRECT LANE AS SOON AS THEY DRIVE PAST CITY GARDENS.

THIS IS BECAUSE FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (SEPTEMBER 28), A NEW "SOLID-CUM-BROKEN WHITE LINE" (I.E. A CONTINUOUS WHITE LINE ALONGSIDE A BROKEN WHITE LINE) SEPARATING CENTRAL-BOUND AND KOWLOON-BOUND TRAFFIC WILL BE INTRODUCED ALONG VICTORIA PARK ROAD STRETCHING ALL THE WAY FROM THE WESTERN EXIT OF THE IEC NEAR WATSON ROAD TO THE PETROL STATION OUTSIDE EXCELSIOR HOTEL.

"AS A RESULT, VEHICLES BOUND FOR CENTRAL ON THE OUTERMOST WESTBOUND LANE OF VICTORIA PARK ROAD WILL NO LONGER BE ABLE TO CUT INTO THE QUEUE OF KOWLOON-BOUND VEHICLES ON THE MIDDLE LANE. THE PURPOSE OF THE MEASURE IS TO ENSURE A SMOOTH TRAFFIC FLOW FOR CENTRAL-BOUND VEHICLES," SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT.

/"NEW GANTRY

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"NEW GANTRY SIGNS HAVE BEEN ERECTED ON THE IEC NEAR OIL STREET AND WATSON ROAD TO HELP MOTORISTS SELECT THE APPROPRIATE LANE IN GOOD TIME. LANE SELECTION SHOULD HAVE BEEN COMPLETED WELL BEFORE MOTORISTS COME NEAR WATSON ESTATE," HE CONTINUED.

FOR WESTBOUND MOTORISTS COMING FROM TSING FUNG STREET FLYOVER OR HING FAT STREET, THEY WERE URGED TO WATCH OUT FOR A SHORT DOUBLE WHITE LINE NEAR THE MERGING POINT OF VICTORIA PARK ROAD WITH THE IEC WESTBOUND APPROACH.

"THIS MEANS THAT THEY CANNOT WEAVE INTO THE CENTRAL-BOUND OUTERMOST LANE OF VICTORIA PARK ROAD IMMEDIATELY AFTER PASSING THROUGH THE MERGING POINT," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"HAVING COME ON TO VICTORIA PARK ROAD, MOTORISTS SHOULD THEN LOOK OUT FOR NEW ROADSIDE DIRECTIONAL SIGNS NEAR THE GLOUCESTER ROAD FLYOVER AND CHOOSE THE CORRECT LANE FOR THEMSELVES, DEPENDING ON WHETHER THEY WISH TO GO TO CENTRAL OR CROSS THE HARBOUR.

"LANE DESTINATION MARKINGS ARE PROVIDED NEAR THE GLOUCESTER ROAD FLYOVER AND NEAR THE PETROL STATION TO GIVE MOTORISTS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION," HE ADDED.

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GRADING OF BEACH WATER QUALITY

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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) TODAY (THURSDAY) ANNOUNCED THE LATEST BACTERIAL WATER QUALITY GRADES FOR ALL BATHING BEACHES IN HONG KONG.

THE GRADING IS BASED ON THE E.COLI DATA OBTAINED BY EPD IN ITS ROUTINE BEACH WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAMME. THE E.COLI DATA USED FOR GRADING ARE BASED ON THE MEDIAN VALUES OF THE MOST RECENT FIVE RESULTS, OBTAINED OVER A TWO-AND-A-HALF-MONTH PERIOD ACCORDING TO THE USUAL SAMPLING FREQUENCY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR EPD SAID THE GRADES FOR SOME BEACHES MAY FLUCTUATE. THIS REPRESENTS A NATURAL FLUCTUATION IN THE BACTERIAL QUALITY OF THE BEACHES, AS RAIN AND TIDES BRING MORE OR LESS POLLUTION TO THE SWIMMING AREAS. NEVERTHELESS THE GRADES GIVE A GOOD GENERAL PICTURE OF THE BACTERIAL WATER QUALITY OF THE BEACHES AND FORM THE BEST AVAILABLE FORECAST OF THE BEACH WATER QUALITY IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

/THE SYSTEM

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THE SYSTEM FOR GRADING BEACH WATER QUALITY IS AS BELOW:

A GRADE INDICATES THE MEDIAN E.COLI COUNT IS BETWEEN 0-99 PER 100 MILLILITRES, AND THE WATER QUALITY IS GOOD.

B GRADE INDICATES THE MEDIAN E.COLI COUNT IS BETWEEN 100-999 PER 100 MILLILITRES, AND THE WATER QUALITY IS ACCEPTABLE.

C GRADE INDICATES THE MEDIAN E.COLI COUNT IS 1000 OR MORE PER 100 MILLILITRES, AND THE WATER QUALITY IS POOR.

HE SAID THE DECISION WHETHER OR NOT TO CLOSE A BEACH TO SWIMMERS IS BASED ON A JUDGEMENT OF WHAT DEGREE OF POLLUTION IS ACCEPTABLE. NORMALLY, A RECOMMENDATION ON CLOSURE WOULD ONLY NEED TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL OR REGIONAL COUNCIL IF A "C" GRADING OCCURRED REPEATEDLY. SIMILARLY A RECOMMENDATION TO REOPEN A CLOSED BEACH WOULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED IF A "B" GRADE OR BETTER WERE CONSISTENTLY OBTAINED. THIS IS IN LINE WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION.

THE GRADES ON THE BACTERIAL WATER QUALITY OF VARIOUS BEACHES IN HONG KONG AS AT TODAY AND TWO WEEKS AGO ARE LISTED BELOW:

BEACH -----	LAST GRADING ----- AS AT SEPT. 10	PRESENT GRADING ----- AS AT SEPT. 24
HONG KONG SOUTH -----		
BIG WAVE BAY	A	A
CHUNG HOM KOK	B	B
DEEP WATER BAY	A	A
HAIRPIN	A	A
MIDDLE BAY	B	B
REPULSE BAY	B	B
SHEK O	A	A
SOUTH BAY	A	A
ST. STEPHEN'S	A	A

/TURTLE COVE

TURTLE COVE
 STANLEY MAIN
 ROCKY BAY, SHEK O
 TO TEI WAN*

A	B
B	B
B	B
A	A

ISLANDS DISTRICT

CHEUNG SHA UPPER
 CHEUNG SHA LOWER
 DISCOVERY BAY*
 HUNG SHING YEH
 KWUN YAM WAN
 TONG FUK
 LO SO SHING
 PUI O
 SILVERMINE BAY
 TUNG WAN, CHEUNG CHAU
 TUNG O*

A	A
B	B
A	A
A	A
A	A
B	B
A	A
B	B
C	C
A	A
A	A

* NON-GAZETTED BEACHES

SAI KUNG DISTRICT

CAMPERS
 CLEAR WATER BAY 1ST BEACH
 CLEAR WATER BAY 2ND BEACH
 HAP MUN BAY
 KIU TSUI

A	A
B	B
A	A
A	A
A	A

PAK SHA CHAU	A	A
SILVERSTRAND	B	B
TRIO (HEBEHAVEN)	A	A
TSUEN WAN DISTRICT		

ANGLERS'	C	C
APPROACH	C	C
CASAM	B	B
GEMINI	A	A
HOI MEI WAN	B	B
LIDO	B	B
TING KAU	B	B
TUNG WAN, MA WAN	A	A
TUEN MUN DISTRICT		

OLD CAFETERIA	C	C
NEW CAFETERIA	B	C
CASTLE PEAK	C	C
KADOORIE BEACH	B	B
BUTTERFLY	B	B

COMMENTING ON THE CHANGED GRADING, AN EPD SPOKESMAN SAID NEW CAFETERIA HAD CHANGED FROM "B" TO "C". BEING ADJACENT TO OLD CAFETERIA BEACH, THIS BEACH HAS BEEN SPORADICALLY AFFECTED BY DISCHARGES FROM TUEN MUN NULLAH. THE NORMAL GRADING FOR THE BEACH IN THIS BATHING SEASON WAS "B"; THE RECENT DETERIORATION IS PROBABLY DUE TO THE INCREASED INFLUENCE OF THE NULLAH UNDER THE TIDAL AND WIND CONDITIONS PREVAILING DURING THE MEASUREMENT PERIOD.

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TURTLE COVE HAD CHANGED FROM "A" TO "B". THIS BEACH IS SUSCEPTIBLE TO SLIGHT POLLUTION FROM SMALL STREAMS IN ITS HINTERLAND. THE FLUCTUATION BETWEEN "A" AND "B" GRADES IS WITHIN THE NORMAL RANGE OF VARIATION IN THE BACTERIAL WATER QUALITY OF THIS BEACH.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT DR P.W. LAI, ACTING PRINCIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICER (WATER POLICY) OF EPD, AT 3-7211044.

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LAUNDRY SYSTEM FOR MA PO PING PRISON

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THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS AWARDED A \$963,300 CONTRACT TO JEBSEN AND COMPANY LIMITED FOR THE SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF A LAUNDRY SYSTEM AT MA PO PING PRISON ON LANTAU ISLAND.

A NEW SET OF LAUNDRY EQUIPMENT WILL REPLACE THE OLD ONE, AND THE WORK IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN SIX MONTHS.

WHEN THE NEW LAUNDRY BECOMES OPERATIONAL IN EARLY APRIL NEXT YEAR, IT WILL HANDLE CLOTHING OF MORE THAN 1,000 STAFF AND PRISONERS FROM MA PO PING PRISON AND TONG FUK CENTRE.

PROVIDING A MINIMUM THROUGHPUT OF 27,000 KILOGRAMS DRY WEIGHT A MONTH, THE LAUNDRY IS TO MEET INCREASING REQUIREMENTS OF THE INSTITUTIONS.

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KWUN TONG CHILDREN'S CHORUS ANNUAL CONCERT

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THE KWUN TONG CHILDREN'S CHORUS WILL STAGE THEIR ANNUAL CONCERT AT THE CITY HALL CONCERT HALL ON SUNDAY (SEPTEMBER 27) EVENING.

SOME 200 MEMBERS FROM THE FOUR CHOIRS OF THE CHORUS - THE FOUNDATION, THE JUNIOR, THE INTERMEDIATE AND THE SENIOR - WILL PERFORM MORE THAN 20 SONGS.

PROGRAMMES OF THE EVENING INCLUDE FOLK AND CLASSICAL SONGS FROM EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, CHINESE FOLK SONGS AND SONGS BY LOCAL COMPOSERS AND LYRICISTS.

THE CONCERT WILL BEGIN AT 8 PM. LIMITED TICKETS AT \$10, 15, 20 AND 25 EACH ARE AVAILABLE AT THE CITY HALL BOX OFFICE.

SET UP IN 1978, THE KWUN TONG CHILDREN'S CHORUS HAS PERFORMED IN VARIOUS ARTS FESTIVALS, CHARITY EVENTS AND VARIETY SHOWS ORGANISED BY DISTRICTS, COMMUNITIES, SCHOOLS AND TV STATIONS.

IN SUPPORTING THE CHILDREN'S CHORUS, THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD HAS BEEN GIVING IT FINANCIAL SPONSORSHIP SINCE 1981.

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EXHIBITION OF SCHOOL STUDENTS CREATIVE WORK

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SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO HAVE A FLAIR FOR CREATIVE WORK WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISPLAY THEIR WORK AT AN EXHIBITION TO BE ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT DURING THE FORTHCOMING LUNAR NEW YEAR SCHOOL HOLIDAYS.

THE 1987/88 EXHIBITION OF SECONDARY STUDENTS CREATIVE WORK WILL BE HELD AT THE CULTURAL CRAFTS CENTRE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT BETWEEN FEBRUARY 22 AND MARCH 5 NEXT YEAR.

THE EXHIBITION WILL BE DIVIDED INTO TWO PARTS - ART AND DESIGN, AND GARMENTS AND NEEDLEWORK. THE ART AND DESIGN DISPLAY IS OPEN TO ALL SECONDARY 1 TO 4 STUDENTS AND THE ONE FOR GARMENTS AND NEEDLEWORK IS FOR SECONDARY 1 TO 5 STUDENTS.

SCHOOL HEADS ARE ADVISED NOT TO SEND IN MORE THAN 10 ENTRIES ON ART AND DESIGN. BUT THERE IS NO RESTRICTION ON THE NUMBER OF GARMENTS AND NEEDLEWORK PROJECTS SUBMITTED BY EACH SCHOOL.

SCHOOLS WISHING TO TAKE PART IN THE EXHIBITION ARE REQUESTED TO SUBMIT THE ENTRY FORM TO THE CULTURAL CRAFTS CENTRE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AT 4 PAK FUK ROAD, NORTH POINT BEFORE NOVEMBER 4. ALL ENTRIES SHOULD REACH THE CENTRE DURING JANUARY 18 AND 22 NEXT YEAR.

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RTHK RADIO 5 PROGRAMME RESHUFFLE OUTDOOR SHOW

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AN OPENING CEREMONY OF 'RTHK RADIO 5 PROGRAMME RESHUFFLE OUTDOOR SHOW' WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY (SEPTEMBER 26) AT 1 PM AT THE EDINBURGH PLACE, CENTRAL.

THE OFFICIATING GUEST IS LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG, AND HE WILL PRESENT BOARDING PASSES TO 24 ELDERLY PEOPLE WHO WILL MAKE A HELICOPTER TOUR AROUND THE ISLAND.

THE TOUR IS NOT ONLY DESIGNED TO MARK RADIO 5 PROGRAMME RESHUFFLE BUT IT IS ALSO AN OCCASION FOR RTHK TO SHOW RESPECT TO THE ELDERLY.

A VARIETY SHOW HOSTED BY LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR DESMOND LEE YU TAI, AND RADIO 5 PRESENTER, ANNETTE KONG, WILL BE STAGED AT THE EDINBURGH PLACE.

SINGERS TERENCE CHOI, AGNES CHIANG AND FAMOUS CANTONESE OPERA ARTISTS WILL PERFORM DURING THE SHOW.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE EVENT.

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REGIMENT TO HOLD WEEKEND EXERCISE

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THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT (THE VOLUNTEERS) WILL HOLD A REGIMENTAL EXERCISE THIS WEEKEND.

THE EXERCISE WILL TAKE PLACE AT SHAM TSENG AND TAI LAM COUNTRY PARK FROM NOON ON SATURDAY (SEPTEMBER 26) TO NOON THE FOLLOWING DAY.

ASSAULT BOAT LANDINGS ON THE BEACH AT SHAM TSENG WILL BE INCLUDED AS PART OF THE EXERCISE.

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SPEEDPOST SERVICE TO SAUDI ARABIA EXTENDED

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THE SPEEDPOST SERVICE TO SAUDI ARABIA WHICH IS PRESENTLY AVAILABLE TO 24 CITIES WILL BE EXTENDED TO THREE MORE CITIES, NAMELY AHSSA, GIZAN AND SAKAKA, FROM MONDAY (SEPTEMBER 28), THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE 27 CITIES IN SAUDI ARABIA TO WHICH SPEEDPOST SERVICE WILL THEN BE AVAILABLE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

ABHA	JUBAIL
AHSSA	JUBAIL SINAIYA
AL BIKEIRIYA	KHOBAR
AL KHARJ	KHAMIS - MUSHAYT
AL MEDHNAB	MAKKAH
ALBAHA	MEDINA
ARRAS	RIYADH
BALGURASHI	SAKAKA
BUREIDA	TABOUK
DAMMAM	TAIF
DHAHRAN	UNIEZA
GIZAN	YANBU
HAIL	YANBU SINAIYA
JEDDAH	

THE SPEEDPOST SERVICE IS A FAST AND RELIABLE MEANS FOR FORWARDING BUSINESS DOCUMENTS, SAMPLES AND MERCHANDISE OVERSEAS AND A FREE PICK-UP SERVICE IS AVAILABLE.

CUSTOMERS REQUIRING MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE SERVICE CAN CONTACT THE POSTAL SERVICES REPRESENTATIVES ON 5-8471108.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF EDINBURGH PLACE

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EDINBURGH PLACE NORTH BETWEEN QUEEN'S PIER AND HMS TAMAR WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC EXCEPT EMERGENCY VEHICLES FROM 10 AM TO 5 PM ON SATURDAY (SEPTEMBER 26) FOR THE HOLDING OF THE FESTIVAL IN HONOUR OF SENIOR CITIZENS.

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