



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1987

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
HONG KONG HAS RECORD OF RESILIENCE AND ADAPTABILITY	1
CENTRAL REFERRAL SYSTEM FOR DISABLED CHILDREN	2
CAREERS EXHIBITION MOVES TO SHA TIN	4
VARIED PROGRAMME FOR EASTERN DISTRICT FESTIVAL	5
CIVIC EDUCATION PROGRAMMED FOR YOUNG CITIZENS	6
CENTRAL, WESTERN SPORT FESTIVAL TO BEGIN	7
SAI KUNG FESTIVAL FOR ELDERLY BEGINS TOMORROW	7
SHAM SHUI PO DB STUDY TOUR OFF TO LONDON	8
TELE-MATCH FUN DAY FOR KWUN TONG WORKERS	9
HELPLINES INSTALLED IN KWAI TSING	9
MA ON SHAN SUB-OFFICE OPENS ON MONDAY	10
PRESS CONFERENCE ON KWUN TONG SPORTS FESTIVAL	10
SUPPLEMENTARY HOVERFERRY SAILINGS FOR OUTLYING ISLANDS	11
GOVERNMENT PROPERTY TO LET	11
THREE PROJECTS TO IMPROVE FRESH, SALT WATER SUPPLY	12

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1987

- 1 -

HONG KONG HAS RECORD OF RESILIENCE AND ADAPTABILITY

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HONG KONG'S SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE IN THE UNITED STATES, BILL DORWARD, ON WEDNESDAY (OCTOBER 28) SAID THAT HONG KONG HAS SUCCESSFULLY ADAPTED TO DRAMATICALLY CHANGING AND OFTEN VERY ADVERSE CIRCUMSTANCES THROUGHOUT ITS 150 YEARS OF EXISTENCE.

SPEAKING BEFORE A FULL-HOUSE MEETING OF THE COMMONWEALTH CLUB IN SAN FRANCISCO, MR DORWARD SAID THAT HONG KONG HAS MADE A VIRTUE OF ADVERSITY THROUGHOUT ITS HISTORY, WHETHER THE PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN POLITICAL, ECONOMIC OR SOCIAL, TO BECOME ONE OF THE MOST REMARKABLY SUCCESSFUL ECONOMIC ENTITIES IN THE WORLD.

HE TRACED THE MANY PROBLEMS, MAINLY CAUSED BY EXTERNAL INFLUENCES, THAT HONG KONG HAS HAD TO SURVIVE, INCLUDING THE INFLUX OF REFUGEES, THE WATER SHORTAGES, THE TURBULENT MONTHS OF 1967, WORLD RECESSION AND MORE RECENTLY THE PROTECTIONIST PRESSURES FROM THE WEST.

YET DESPITE THESE PROVOCATIONS HONG KONG HAS CONTINUED TO BUILD ON ITS TRADITIONAL ENTREPOT ROLE FOR WHICH IT WAS CREATED AND TRADE WITH CHINA HAS BEEN NO EXCEPTION.

"HONG KONG BECAME A HIGHLY EFFECTIVE INTERFACE BETWEEN CHINA AND ITS BURGEONING CONTACTS WITH THE TRADING WORLD," MR DORWARD SAID.

"TODAY, HONG KONG HAS JUST REPLACED JAPAN AS CHINA'S LARGEST TRADING PARTNER. AT LEAST 60 PER CENT OF THE EXTERNAL INVESTMENT IN CHINA COMES FROM HONG KONG. A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF CHINA'S FOREIGN EXCHANGE, PERHAPS AS MUCH AS ONE THIRD, IS EARNED IN AND THROUGH HONG KONG," MR DORWARD ACKNOWLEDGED.

HE ADDED THAT HONG KONG'S ENTREPOT TRADE NOW STANDS AT US\$15 BILLION PER YEAR AND SINCE 1978 HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA HAVE GROWN AT AN AVERAGE ANNUAL RATE JUST SHORT OF 100 PER CENT.

TURNING TO RECENT MEDIA REPORTS OF A BRAIN DRAIN AND A CAPITAL OUTFLOW FROM HONG KONG, MR DORWARD POINTED OUT THAT ALTHOUGH THERE MIGHT BE AN OUTFLOW, THERE IS ALSO A BIG INFLOW.

"TENS OF THOUSANDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE GO ABROAD FOR THEIR HIGHER EDUCATION. THIS IS SCARCELY A NEW PHENOMENON. OTHERS ARE GOING TO ESTABLISH RESIDENCE ABROAD, OBTAIN A NEW NATIONALITY AND THEN IN MANY CASES TO RETURN WITH, AS IT WERE, THEIR 'INSURANCE POLICY' IN THE SHAPE OF A PASSPORT.

"IT IS ALSO A FACT THAT NET IMMIGRATION IN THE LAST FEW YEARS HAS TENDED TO BE BELOW THE AVERAGE FOR EARLIER YEARS," MR DORWARD SAID.

ON THE SUBJECT OF FUNDS GOING ABROAD FOR INVESTMENT, MR DORWARD SUGGESTED THAT THIS IS THE NORMAL COURSE OF EVENTS IN A SUCCESSFUL ECONOMY.

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"THE REAL POINT IS THAT THERE IS NO LACK OF INVESTMENT FUNDS IN HONG KONG ITSELF. INDEED, INVESTMENT IN PLANT AND MACHINERY HAS BEEN AT RECORD LEVELS IN THE LAST THREE YEARS, THERE ARE MASSIVE PRIVATE SECTOR CAPITAL PROJECTS, WITH PAY BACK PERIODS STRETCHING WELL BEYOND 1997, AND THE BANKS ARE VERY LIQUID."

HE ADDED THAT THERE HAS BEEN VERY HEAVY HONG KONG INVESTMENT IN CHINA: "THAT IS SCARCELY THE ACTION OF A BUSINESS COMMUNITY WHICH IS FRIGHTENED BY THE FUTURE TRANSFER OF SOVEREIGNTY."

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE, MR DORWARD SAID THAT THE LONG SERIES OF VICISSITUDES WHICH HAVE BEEN THE LOT OF HONG KONG SINCE, AND EVEN BEFORE, IT WAS FOUNDED GIVE A GOOD IDEA AS TO WHY THOSE WHO KNOW HONG KONG MAINTAIN A STUBBORN CONFIDENCE THAT ITS PROVEN RECORD OF RESILIENCE AND ADAPTABILITY WILL ENABLE IT TO SURVIVE AND PROSPER FOR MANY YEARS TO COME.

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CENTRAL REFERRAL SYSTEM FOR DISABLED CHILDREN
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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT WILL BE COMPUTERISING APPLICATIONS FOR PLACES IN PRE-SCHOOL SERVICES FOR DISABLED CHILDREN. THE COMPUTER WILL ALSO KEEP A RECORD OF VACANCIES IN THESE SERVICES.

THE COMPUTERISATION IS AIMED AT ACHIEVING A BETTER UTILISATION OF THE AVAILABLE FACILITIES AND OBTAINING A MORE ACCURATE PICTURE OF THE DEMAND AND SUPPLY SITUATION.

THIS CO-ORDINATED REFERRAL SYSTEM FOR DISABLED PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN (CRS), THE ESTABLISHMENT OF WHICH HAS BEEN RECOMMENDED BY THE WORKING PARTY ON PRE-SCHOOL CARE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF DISABLED CHILDREN, WILL COME INTO OPERATION ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2.

INTRODUCING THE SYSTEM, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE (YOUTH AND REHABILITATION), MR TONY REYNALDS, SAID ONE OF ITS MAIN FUNCTIONS WAS TO MAINTAIN AND DISSEMINATE TO GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES CONCERNED INFORMATION ON THE LEVEL OF OCCUPANCY AND THE WAITING LISTS OF CENTRES FOR PRE-SCHOOL DISABLED CHILDREN.

THEY INCLUDE THE SPECIAL CHILD CARE CENTRES FOR THE MORE SEVERELY DISABLED CHILDREN; CHILD CARE CENTRES WITH INTEGRATED PROGRAMMES WHERE THOSE AGED TWO TO SIX, WITH MINOR DISABILITIES, ARE INTEGRATED WITH NORMAL CHILDREN AND THE EARLY EDUCATION AND TRAINING CENTRES FOR CHILDREN UNDER TWO.

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AT PRESENT, REFERRALS ARE MADE DIRECTLY TO THE CENTRES FROM VARIOUS SOURCES, INCLUDING MEDICAL SOCIAL WORKERS, FAMILY CASE WORKERS, DOCTORS AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES. THESE CENTRES ALSO ACCEPT APPLICATIONS FROM PARENTS. AT THE SAME TIME, MANY OF THEM KEEP THEIR OWN WAITING LISTS WHICH MAY CONTAIN THE NAME OF THE SAME CHILD.

THIS HAS RESULTED IN A LACK OF FLEXIBILITY IN TRANSFERRING A CASE WHERE THERE IS NO VACANCY OR WHEN THERE IS A CHANGE IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES BECAUSE THE REFERRING SOURCE IS NOT IN POSSESSION OF AN OVERALL PICTURE OF THE VACANCY SITUATION.

IT ALSO MEANS THAT THE REFERRING SOURCE OR PARENTS LOOKING FOR PLACEMENT NEED TO CONTACT A LARGE NUMBER OF CENTRES AND AGENCIES.

"THE EXACT DEMAND IS DIFFICULT TO ASSESS BECAUSE A CHILD MAY BE PUT ON THE WAITING LISTS OF SEVERAL CENTRES," MR REYNALDS SAID.

THESE PROBLEMS HOPEFULLY WOULD BE OVERCOME WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF THE CO-ORDINATED REFERRAL SYSTEM, HE ADDED.

"ADDITIONALLY, THE CRS CAN ENSURE THAT THE HIGH PRIORITY AND THE MORE DIFFICULT CASES CAN BE DEALT WITH MORE EFFICIENTLY AS THERE IS A COMPLETE RECORD OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF A CHILD. AS A RESULT, HE CAN BE PLACED IN THE CENTRE THAT BEST SUITS HIS NEEDS.

"IT WILL ALSO ENSURE A SMOOTH TRANSITION AND CONTINUITY FROM ONE TYPE OF SERVICE TO ANOTHER AT THE APPROPRIATE AGE OR STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT AS A CHILD GROWS AND MAKES PROGRESS," HE SAID.

ALL THE SOURCES OF REFERRALS AND AGENCIES CONCERNED HAVE BEEN ASKED TO FEED THE INFORMATION ON THE CHILDREN ENROLLED IN THEIR CENTRES AND THOSE BEING WAIT-LISTED TO THE CRS.

THE CHILDREN WILL THEN BE WAIT-LISTED ACCORDING TO CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER AND THEIR PREFERENCE OF LOCATION OF CENTRES WHICH ARE GROUPED INTO FIVE REGIONS - HONG KONG ISLAND, EAST KOWLOON, WEST KOWLOON, EAST NEW TERRITORIES AND WEST NEW TERRITORIES.

WHEN VACANCIES BECOME AVAILABLE, APPROPRIATE CANDIDATES WILL BE SELETED FROM THE CRS ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF WAIT-LISTING AND REFERRED TO THE CENTRE FOR SERVICE.

THOSE WHO REQUIRE ENROLMENT IN PREPARATORY CLASSES IN SPECIAL SCHOOLS AND INTEGRATED PROGRAMMES IN KINDERGARTENS WILL BE REFERRED TO THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE SERVICES.

MR REYNALDS APPEALED TO PARENTS WHO REQUIRE PLACEMENT FOR THEIR DISABLED CHILDREN TO CONTACT THE NEAREST SWD FAMILY SERVICES CENTRE.

THERE ARE AT PRESENT 455 EARLY EDUCATION AND TRAINING CENTRE PLACES, 660 SPECIAL CHILD CARE CENTRE PLACES AND 544 INTEGRATED CHILD CARE CENTRE PLACES AND THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IS PLANNING TO PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL 560, 732 AND 150 PLACES RESPECTIVELY WITHIN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1987

- 4 -

CAREERS EXHIBITION MOVES TO SHA TIN

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THE ANNUAL CAREERS EXHIBITION WHICH AIMS AT GIVING YOUNG PEOPLE UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON THE WIDE RANGE OF CAREERS AVAILABLE IN HONG KONG, WILL BE HELD FOR THE FIRST TIME IN SHA TIN THIS YEAR.

THE EVENT HAS BEEN HELD IN THE CITY HALL FOR THE PAST 15 YEARS ATTRACTING AN AVERAGE OF 100,000 VISITORS ANNUALLY.

A LABOUR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT THE PURPOSE OF CHOOSING A NEW VENUE WAS TO ATTRACT MORE VISITORS FROM THE FAST DEVELOPING NEW TOWNS, AND TO GIVE THE EVENT A FRESH LOOK.

ORGANISED JOINTLY BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND THE REGIONAL COUNCIL, THE EXHIBITION WILL BE OFFICIALLY OPENED BY THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE, MR HARNAM GREWAL, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL, MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG, AND THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR TONY HAMMOND ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 6) AT SHATIN TOWN HALL.

THIS YEAR, 22 EXHIBITORS FROM COMMERCE, INDUSTRY, PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS AND THE GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE PART IN THE EVENT WHICH WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FROM 9.30 AM TO 6.30 PM DAILY UNTIL NOVEMBER 16.

"AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS, THE EXHIBITORS WILL USE GRAPHS, PHOTOGRAPHS, MODELS AND OTHER AUDIO-VISUAL AIDS TO ILLUSTRATE THE NATURE OF THE JOB, ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS, CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING, PROMOTIONAL PROSPECTS AND OTHER RELATED INFORMATION IN ITS OWN SPHERE OF WORK," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

INFORMATION PAMPHLETS WILL ALSO BE DISTRIBUTED FREE TO VISITORS.

AS PART OF THE EXHIBITION PROGRAMME, CAREER TALKS AND VIDEO SHOWS ON TRAINING AND CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES WILL BE ORGANISED BY DIFFERENT TRADE AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS FOR FORM 3 TO 7 STUDENTS.

A SERIES OF LIVE SHOWS FEATURING WORK DEMONSTRATION WILL ALSO BE STAGED AT THE OPEN SPACE BETWEEN SHATIN TOWN HALL AND THE NEW TOWN PLAZA.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1987

- 5 -

VARIED PROGRAMME FOR EASTERN DISTRICT FESTIVAL

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THE TWO-WEEK EASTERN DISTRICT FESTIVAL, WHICH WILL FEATURE MORE THAN 30 CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND TWO SPECIAL PROGRAMMES FOR THE ELDERLY AND THE DISABLED, WILL BEGIN ON NOVEMBER 15.

THE MAIN THEME OF THE FESTIVAL IS "PARTICIPATE IN YOUR DISTRICT'S DEVELOPMENT".

IN ORDER TO HIGHLIGHT THIS THEME, THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE OF THE FESTIVAL HAS OBTAINED SPONSORSHIP OF AROUND \$500,000 FROM SEVERAL COMMERCIAL ORGANISATIONS TO PRODUCE A VIDEO FILM ON THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE OF EASTERN DISTRICT.

THE VIDEO FILM, DISPLAYED ON A HUGE "VIDEO WALL", WILL BE PRESENTED AT A NUMBER OF VENUES DURING THE FESTIVAL.

THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE HOPES THAT ALL RESIDENTS OF EASTERN, IRRESPECTIVE OF AGE, FINANCIAL MEANS, TYPE OF INTERESTS AND TIME CONSTRAINTS, WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE FESTIVAL.

SOME OF THE MAJOR EVENTS ARE LISTED BELOW:-

- * AN OPENING CEREMONY AT VICTORIA PARK ON NOVEMBER 15, INVOLVING A SPECTACULAR VIDEO WALL DISPLAY AND A CARNIVAL.
- * FESTIVAL CONCERT AT CITY HALL ON NOVEMBER 16 FEATURING WELL-KNOWN CLASSICAL PERFORMERS.
- * CHINESE DANCE NIGHT AT THE HONG KONG ARTS CENTRE ON NOVEMBER 17.
- * ELITE DANCING PERFORMANCE AT SHUE YAN COLLEGE ON NOVEMBER 21; SHUTTLE BUS SERVICES WILL BE PROVIDED AT TIN HAU MTR STATION AND CHAI WAN COMMUNITY CENTRE.
- * SPORTS AND ARTS GALA AT VICTORIA PARK ON NOVEMBER 22.
- * CLOSING CEREMONY AT QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM ON NOVEMBER 28, FEATURING POP STARS.

EVENTS ARE LISTED IN A PROGRAMME LEAFLET WHICH CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS SUB-OFFICES, EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE (RECREATION, AMENITIES AND SPORTS), EASTERN DISTRICT RECREATION AND SPORTS ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATION AND EASTERN DISTRICT ARTS COUNCIL.

FREE ADMISSION TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS. TICKETS FOR THE CLOSING CEREMONY WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL NOVEMBER 16.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1987

- 6 -

CIVIC EDUCATION PROGRAMMED FOR YOUNG CITIZENS

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MORE AND MORE COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS ARE ALERT TO THE IMPORTANCE OF CONSOLIDATING CIVIC EDUCATION AND THIS IS A POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT IN BUILDING A BETTER COMMUNITY.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION, MRS RITA FAN, MADE THIS OBSERVATION AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF A "CIVIC EDUCATION FOR YOUNG CITIZEN" PROJECT HELD AT THE SHA TIN CITY PLAZA TODAY (SATURDAY).

IT FORMED ONE OF 23 PROJECTS ORGANISED UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF THE COMMITTEE'S COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION SUB-COMMITTEE.

THE PROJECT ORGANISER, MR LAU KWOK-KUEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH SOCIAL SERVICES - HONG KONG, SAID THE PROJECT WAS AIMED AT INSTILLING A SENSE OF CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY AMONG TEENAGERS.

MRS FAN SAID THAT INCULCATION AS SUCH SHOULD GO BEYOND THE MEANS OF SHEER AWARENESS, ENCOURAGING YOUNSTERS TO PUT INTO PRACTICE WHAT THEY HAD LEARNT ABOUT CIVIC EDUCATION.

THIS YEAR, A TOTAL OF \$500,000 HAS BEEN EARMARKED FOR THE FINANCING OF CIVIC EDUCATION-ORIENTED PROGRAMMES, IN WHICH THE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION SCHEME CONSTITUTES A PART OF THIS GOVERNMENT ATTEMPT TO BOOST CIVIC TRAINING IN THE TERRITORY.

IN ORDER THAT CIVIC EDUCATION RELATED MESSAGES CAN BE DRIVEN HOME TO INDIVIDUAL HOUSEHOLDS, THE COMMITTEE WILL BE PRODUCING TWO NEW TELEVISION ANNOUNCEMENTS IN PUBLIC INTEREST (API).

IN ADDITION, THREE EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION EPISODES, PRODUCED IN CONJUNCTION WITH RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG, WILL BE SCREENED EARLY NEXT YEAR.

BY THE END OF THIS YEAR, A CIVIC EDUCATION NEWSLETTER WILL BE PRODUCED. THE PUBLICATION IS TO BE ISSUED ON A QUARTERLY BASIS, CARRYING UPDATES ON RELATED ACTIVITIES AND REPORTING THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN CIVIC EDUCATION.

THE QUARTERLY PROVIDES A PLATFORM WHEREBY PEOPLE CAN AIR AND EXCHANGE THEIR VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT.

MEANWHILE, PREPARATIONS ARE IN HAND FOR A ONE-DAY SEMINAR ON CIVIC EDUCATION SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER. INTERESTED PARTIES WILL BE MEETING TO DISCUSS WAYS BY WHICH THE LEVEL OF CIVIC AWARENESS AND PARTICIPATION CAN BE ENHANCED.

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17

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1987

- 7 -

CENTRAL, WESTERN SPORT FESTIVAL TO BEGIN

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THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT SPORT FESTIVAL WILL GET UNDERWAY WITH TWO HOURS OF ENTERTAINING PROGRAMMES ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, AT THE CHATER ROAD PEDESTRIAN PRECINCT.

A NUMBER OF EVENTS, INCLUDING A LION DANCE, TAI-CHI DEMONSTRATIONS, DANCING GAMES FOR FAMILIES AND CELEBRITIES AND A "TREASURE HUNT", WILL BE HELD FROM 3 PM TO 5 PM.

EARLIER IN THE DAY, THERE WILL BE A WALKATHON ON THE CENTRAL ELEVATED WALKWAY.

THE THREE-WEEK FESTIVAL IS AIMED AT PROMOTING A HEALTHIER MODE OF LIVING BY ENCOURAGING RESIDENTS TO TAKE UP RECREATION AND SPORT.

ACTIVITIES ORGANISED INCLUDE AN EXPEDITION FOR THE ELDERLY, A "DANCING AT SEA" CRUISE FOR YOUTH, RECREATION CAMP FOR AREA COMMITTEES, A WALKATHON ON THE PEAK, BASKETBALL AND FOOTBALL COMPETITIONS, AN ATHLETICS MEET, AND ORIENTEERING.

THE FESTIVAL IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE, URBAN COUNCIL AND CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT RECREATION AND SPORT ASSOCIATION. THE DISTRICT BOARD AND WESTERN DISTRICT JUNIOR POLICE CALL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE HAVE GRANTED MORE THAN \$110,000 TO SPONSOR THE EVENT.

ENROLMENT FORMS FOR VARIOUS ACTIVITIES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, AND ITS SUB-OFFICES IN THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICE AND KENNEDY TOWN OR AT CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT RECREATION, AMENITIES AND SPORTS OFFICE OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT ON THE TOP FLOOR, CENTRAL MARKET.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 5-416405.

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SAI KUNG FESTIVAL FOR ELDERLY BEGINS TOMORROW

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A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES HAS BEEN PLANNED FOR THIS YEAR'S SAI KUNG DISTRICT FESTIVAL FOR THE EDLERLY WHICH WILL BE LAUNCHED TOMORROW (SUNDAY) AND CONTINUE UNTIL THE END OF THE MONTH.

THE FESTIVAL, ONE OF THE LARGEST ANNUAL EVENTS IN THE DISTRICT, AIMS AT AROUSING RESIDENTS' CONCERN AND RESPECT TOWARDS ELDERLY PEOPLE.

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IT ALSO AIMS AT ENCOURAGING SENIOR RESIDENTS TO TAKE PART IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS AND DEVELOP A SENSE OF BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.

ELDERLY PEOPLE WILL BE ABLE TO ENJOY A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES SUCH AS VISITS, TOURS, PICNICS, CONCERTS, FILM SHOWS, AND SPORTS COMPETITIONS. IN ADDITION, MEDICAL CHECK-UPS WILL BE GIVEN.

ON NOVEMBER 21, FOUR TEAMS OF ELDERLY PEOPLE WILL TAKE PART IN A "GATE BALL" COMPETITION WHICH IS A NEW TYPE OF BALL GAME FOR THE AGED AND IS INCLUDED IN THE FESTIVAL'S ACTIVITIES FOR THE FIRST TIME.

THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE FESTIVAL IS A "THOUSAND-YEAR-FEAST" AND CLOSING CEREMONY IN WHICH MORE THAN 1,000 ELDERLY PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICT WILL BE INVITED TO TAKE PART.

THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT FESTIVAL FOR THE ELDERLY IS ORGANISED BY A PREPARATORY COMMITTEE WHICH COMPRISES DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS, AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM LOCAL ORGANISATIONS AND VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

THE COST OF THE FESTIVAL IS AROUND \$150,000 WHICH IS SPONSORED BY THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD AND LOCAL LEADERS.

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SHAM SHUI PO DB STUDY TOUR OFF TO LONDON

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A STUDY TOUR ORGANISED BY THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD WILL LEAVE FOR LONDON TONIGHT (SATURDAY) FOR A 10-DAY VISIT SPONSORED BY THE UK GOVERNMENT.

ACCOMPANIED BY SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MR GREGORY LEUNG, AND THE DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARY, MR ALBERT CHAN, THE GROUP WILL LOOK AT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CENTRAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND HOUSING STRATEGY IN ENGLAND.

THEY WILL ALSO VISIT PARLIAMENT, THE CENTRAL OFFICE OF INFORMATION, THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICE IN LONDON, AND THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE.

THE GROUP, LED BY DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER, MR TAI TUNG-NGOK, COMPOSED OF SEVEN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS, AN AREA COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, TWO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, AND A SECRETARY TO THE GROUP LEADER.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1987

- 9 -

TELE-MATCH FUN DAY FOR KWUN TONG WORKERS
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PEOPLE WORKING IN KWUN TONG ARE BEING INVITED TO TEAM UP FOR THE INTER-FACTORY TELE-MATCH FUN DAY TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 15.

ORGANISED BY THE INDUSTRIAL AREA BRANCH OF THE KWUN TONG SPORTS PROMOTION ASSOCIATION, THE FUN DAY WILL BE ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE KWUN TONG SPORTS FESTIVAL '87.

THE EVENT IS BEING ORGANISED TO PROVIDE HEALTHY RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR WORKERS AS WELL AS TO STRENGTHEN TIES AMONG LOCAL INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

"THE FUN DAY, WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE NEWLY COMPLETED KOWLOON BAY RECREATION GROUND, WILL FEATURE FIVE ACTION-PACKED GAMES," A KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"EACH TEAM SHOULD CONSIST OF AT LEAST 16 PEOPLE, BUT NO MORE THAN 24, AND EACH TEAM SHOULD HAVE AT LEAST TWO WOMEN PARTICIPANTS IN EACH EVENT," HE ADDED.

APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM ROOM 301 OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE IN TUNG YAN STREET (TEL. : 3-416315, EXT.431).

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS NOVEMBER 10.

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HELPLINES INSTALLED IN KWAI TSING
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KWAI TSING DISTRICT'S FIRST TWO EMERGENCY TELEPHONE HELPLINES HAVE BEEN INSTALLED, ENABLING RESIDENTS TO CALL "999" OR A NEARBY POLICE STATION IN AN EMERGENCY.

ONE HELPLINE IS NEAR THE FOOTBALL PITCH OF TSING YI EAST SERVICE RESERVOIR AND THE OTHER IS AT THE JUNCTION OF KUNG YIP STREET AND WAH SING STREET IN CENTRAL KWAI CHUNG.

EACH HELPLINE IS EQUIPPED WITH A RED BUTTON CONNECTED TO THE "999" SYSTEM AND A GREEN BUTTON CONNECTED TO THE POLICE STATION. IN AN EMERGENCY, A RESIDENT WOULD PRESS THE BUTTON REQUIRED AND SPEAK TO THE POLICE OFFICER ANSWERING THE CALL.

THREE MORE HELPLINES WILL BE INSTALLED IN THE DISTRICT IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

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MA ON SHAN SUB-OFFICE OPENS ON MONDAY

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THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE MA ON SHAN SUB-OFFICE IN HENG ON ESTATE WILL BE OFFICIALLY OPENED BY THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, DR JAMES HAYES, ON MONDAY (NOVEMBER 2).

THE SUB-OFFICE, COMPRISING A PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRE AND AN ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE, WILL BE A BOOST TO COMMUNITY SERVICES IN THE FAST DEVELOPING MA ON SHAN AREA, THE POPULATION OF WHICH WILL GROW TO 200,000 BY 1995.

STAFF AT THE SUB-OFFICE WILL ANSWER PUBLIC ENQUIRIES, RECEIVE COMPLAINTS AND DISPATCH INFORMATION CONCERNING THE GOVERNMENT AND THE COMMUNITY. STATUTORY DECLARATION SERVICES WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED AND RESIDENTS CAN USE THE VARIOUS FACILITIES IN THE COMMUNITY HALL.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE MA ON SHAN SUB-OFFICE IN HENG ON ESTATE WILL BE HELD AT 11 AM ON MONDAY (NOVEMBER 2).

A COACH WILL TAKE MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES TO THE OFFICE AND WILL DEPART AT 10.15 AM SHARP FROM THE KCR HOUSE CARPARK ON GROUND LEVEL NEAR THE TAXI STAND, SHA TIN KCR STATION.

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PRESS CONFERENCE ON KWUN TONG SPORTS FESTIVAL

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THE KWUN TONG SPORTS FESTIVAL '87, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD, URBAN COUNCIL, KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE KWUN TONG SPORTS PROMOTION ASSOCIATION, WILL BE HELD BETWEEN NOVEMBER 8 AND 22.

DETAILS OF THE FESTIVAL WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT A PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE REGAL MERIDIEN AIRPORT HOTEL AT 3.30 PM ON MONDAY (NOVEMBER 2).

ATTENDING WILL BE THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR EDDY CHAN; DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR LAM HANG-FAI; CHAIRMAN OF THE FESTIVAL'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, MR RONNIE WONG; AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE KWUN TONG SPORTS FESTIVAL '87 PRESS CONFERENCE WHICH WILL BE HELD AT THE LOTUS ROOM OF REGAL MERIDIEN AIRPORT HOTEL AT 3.30 PM ON MONDAY (NOVEMBER 2). PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CONFERENCE WILL BE CONDUCTED IN CHINESE.

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SUPPLEMENTARY HOVERFERRY SAILINGS FOR OUTLYING ISLANDS

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THE HONG KONG AND YAUMATI FERRY COMPANY WILL INTRODUCE SUPPLEMENTARY HOVERFERRY SAILINGS ON ITS TWO OUTLYING DISTRICT SERVICES FOR A TRIAL PERIOD OF THREE MONTHS FROM MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2.

THESE HOVERFERRY SAILINGS WILL BE OPERATED DURING OFF-PEAK PERIODS FROM MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS EXCEPT PUBLIC HOLIDAYS, WITH FIVE TRIPS FOR THE CENTRAL TO CHEUNG CHAU SERVICE AND FOUR TRIPS FOR THE CENTRAL TO MUI WO VIA PENG CHAU SERVICE IN EACH DIRECTION.

SINGLE JOURNEY FARE WILL BE \$11 WITH NO CONCESSION TO CHILDREN AND HOLDERS OF MONTHLY TICKET OR STUDENT TRAVEL CARD.

THE HOVERFERRY SAILINGS WILL CALL AT THE GOVERNMENT EAST PIER AT PIER ROAD IN CENTRAL.

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GOVERNMENT PROPERTY TO LET

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A GOVERNMENT PROPERTY FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL USES IN A BUILDING AT 356A, RECLAMATION STREET, YAU MA TEI, IS TO BE LET BY TENDER BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT.

IT IS AT THE LEFT AND REAR PORTIONS OF THE GROUND FLOOR AND TWO PORTIONS OF THE COCKLOFT OF THE THREE-STORY PRE-WAR BUILDING, AND MEASURES 65.8 SQUARE METRES.

UNDER THE TENANCY AGREEMENT, THE PROPERTY IS NOT PERMITTED TO BE USED AS A GODOWN.

THE INITIAL TENANCY IS FOR ONE YEAR, RENEWABLE MONTHLY AFTERWARDS.

TENDERS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY NOON ON NOVEMBER 27.

TENDERS FORMS, NOTICES AND CONDITIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT ON THE 10TH FLOOR, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405, NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

THE PROPERTY WILL BE OPENED FOR VIEWING FROM 10.30 AM TO NOON ON NOVEMBER 6 AND 13.

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THREE PROJECTS TO IMPROVE FRESH, SALT WATER SUPPLY
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MAINLAYING WORKS WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN YUEN LONG TO IMPROVE WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM IN THE DEVELOPING AREA.

A TRUCK MAIN WITH A DIAMETER OF 600 MILLIMETRES AND OTHER DISTRIBUTION MAINS WILL BE LAID FROM SAN TIN SAN WAI TO MAI PO IN YUEN LONG TO COPE WITH THE INCREASING DEMAND FROM EXISTING VILLAGES AND RECENT DEVELOPMENTS THERE.

WORK ON LAYING THE 2,500 METRES OF WATER MAINS WILL BEGIN IN JANUARY AND TAKE ABOUT 18 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

IN OTHER PROJECTS, TWO SERVICE RESERVOIRS WILL ALSO BE BUILT ON CHEUNG CHAU AND IN WAN CHAI.

WORK ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CHEUNG CHAU FRESH WATER SERVICE RESERVOIR, WITH A STORAGE CAPACITY OF 3,000 CUBIC METRES, WILL BEGIN IN FEBRUARY AND BE COMPLETED IN MAY, 1989.

THE WAN CHAI SALT WATER SERVICE RESERVOIR, WITH A STORAGE CAPACITY OF 6.4 MILLION LITRES, WILL BE BUILT NEAR BOWEN DRIVE TO FORM PART OF THE FLUSHING SYSTEM IN THE DISTRICT.

WORK WILL START IN FEBRUARY AND BE COMPLETED IN 15 MONTHS.

THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE THREE PROJECTS BY NOVEMBER 20.