



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 5-8428777

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
BUOYANT ECONOMY IS PROOF FREE TRADE WORKS - SIR DAVID	1
GOVERNOR TAKES HK MESSAGE TO WASHINGTON	3
GOVERNOR IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH DEVELOPMENTS IN HK	4
HAMBROS BANK ENGAGED AS GOVERNMENT'S ADVISER	5
BRIEFING FOR HOSPITALS ON AUTHORITY SYSTEM	5
LDC SET TO FACILITATE URBAN RENEWAL	6
BEACH WATER QUALITY GRADING RELEASED	9
HK STUDENTS WIN HIGH HONOURS IN UK	13
YAU TONG ILLEGAL STRUCTURES DEMOLISHED	13
FREE CHECK-UP FOR DIABETES, HYPERTENSION	14
CARE FOR ELDERLY CAMPAIGN	14
RESPONSE TO MINIBUS SELECTION ENCOURAGING	15
COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS TRANSPORT DEVELOPMENT IN YUEN LONG	15
KOWLOON CITY HOLDING SEMINAR ON DISTRICT AFFAIRS	16
VISIT TO DRUG ADDICT REHABILITATION CENTRE	16
WAN CHAI SEMINAR ON RELIGIOUS CULTS	17
DRAWING COMPETITION FOR CHILDREN	18
QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL MORTUARY TO BE EXPANDED	18
IMMIGRATION OFFICERS RECEIVE LONG SERVICE INSIGNIA	19
FACTORY INSPECTORATE MOVES OFFICE	20
TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHUNG YEUNG FESTIVAL	20
TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR CHARITY WALK	24
TAI WAI TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE	25
NORMAL MAIL TO CANADA RESUMED	25

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 1 -

BUOYANT ECONOMY IS PROOF FREE TRADE WORKS - SIR DAVID

* * * * *

HONG KONG TODAY EXUDES AN ECONOMIC CONFIDENCE THAT IS ALMOST TANGIBLE, AND THE BUOYANT ECONOMY ITSELF IS PROOF THAT A FREE TRADE POLICY WORKS, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID IN WASHINGTON ON WEDNESDAY (U.S. TIME).

"WE SHARE COMMON CAUSE WITH THE UNITED STATES IN TRYING TO GET THE FREE TRADE MESSAGE ACROSS TO OTHERS," HE SAID IN AN ADDRESS TO THE NATIONAL PRESS CLUB IN THE U.S. CAPITAL.

THE GOVERNOR EMPHASISED THE STRENGTH OF TIES BETWEEN HONG KONG AND THE U.S.

HE SAID: "THIS COUNTRY IS OF IMMENSE IMPORTANCE TO US, THE UNITED STATES ALSO HAS SUBSTANTIAL INTERESTS IN HONG KONG. AND HONG KONG IS, I BELIEVE, IMPORTANT TO THE UNITED STATES BOTH IN ITSELF AND FOR THE ROLE IT PLAYS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FAST-GROWING ASIA-PACIFIC REGION."

IN HIS WIDE-RANGING ADDRESS, ENTITLED "HONG KONG'S FUTURE AS ASIA'S INTERNATIONAL CITY", SIR DAVID SPOKE ABOUT U.S. INVESTMENT IN THE TERRITORY, THE SOLID PROGRESS MADE SINCE THE SIGNING OF THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION, AND THE IMPORTANCE OF HONG KONG TO CHINA'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

ON TRADE, HE REITERATED HONG KONG'S STRONG COMMITMENT TO FREE TRADE, AND STRESSED THAT THERE WERE NO RESTRICTIONS OR OBSTACLES TO PREVENT AMERICANS OR ANY OTHERS SELLING THEIR PRODUCTS IN THE TERRITORY.

HE POINTED TO THE STRONG SURGE OF INTEREST THAT AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN HAD SHOWN IN RECENT YEARS AND EXPLAINED: "AS WELL AS BEING A GOOD MARKET IN ITS OWN RIGHT, HONG KONG IS IDEALLY PLACED FOR DOING BUSINESS WITH THE REST OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION, AND IS BY FAR THE BEST GATEWAY FOR PENETRATING THE CHINA MARKET. MANY U.S. FIRMS HAVE LOCATED THEIR REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS IN HONG KONG..."

THE UNITED STATES, HE SAID, WAS HONG KONG'S LARGEST MARKET, TAKING ABOUT 40 PER CENT OF ITS DOMESTIC EXPORTS, AND THE SECOND LARGEST TRADING PARTNER AFTER CHINA.

"YOU ARE OUR FOURTH LARGEST SUPPLIER. WE, DESPITE A POPULATION OF ONLY FIVE-AND-HALF-MILLION, ARE YOUR SEVENTEENTH LARGEST MARKET - AHEAD OF MANY COUNTRIES WITH MUCH LARGER POPULATIONS," HE SAID.

IN 1986 EVERY MAN, WOMAN AND CHILD IN HONG KONG BOUGHT THE EQUIVALENT OF US\$521 IN AMERICAN GOODS. WHAT WAS MORE, EXPORTS TO HONG KONG IN THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF THIS YEAR WERE UP BY AN IMPRESSIVE AMOUNT.

/SIR DAVID

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 2 -

SIR DAVID THEN WENT ON TO EXPLAIN THE FUNDAMENTALS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION, WHICH SET OUT CLEARLY THAT HONG KONG AS A SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION OF CHINA WOULD REMAIN A DISTINCT ENTITY, WITH ITS OWN CAPITALIST ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SYSTEM, ITS OWN LAWS AND LEGAL SYSTEM, AND ITS OWN GOVERNMENT, CONSISTING OF LOCAL PEOPLE.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATION OF THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THE SOLID ACHIEVEMENTS MADE SINCE THEN BY THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP HAD BEEN PARALLELED BY AN ECONOMIC RESURGENCE.

DESCRIBING ECONOMIC CONFIDENCE AS BEING ALMOST TANGIBLE, HE WENT ON : "IT IS CERTAINLY VISIBLE TO ANY VISITOR, IN THE SHAPE OF MASSIVE CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY ALL OVER THE TERRITORY. DOZENS OF HIGH-RISE OFFICE BLOCKS AND RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES ARE TAKING SHAPE, INCLUDING WHAT WILL BE THE TALLEST BUILDING IN ASIA."

HE ALSO REFERRED TO MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENTS SUCH AS THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION CENTRE, THE SECOND CROSS-HARBOUR TUNNEL, AND OTHER MAJOR ROAD AND TUNNEL PROJECTS, AS WELL AS A NEW CONTAINER PORT TERMINAL AND POSSIBLE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW AIRPORT.

"THESE ARE VERY BIG INVESTMENTS, REFLECTING LONG-TERM THINKING, WAY BEYOND 1997, BY HONG KONG AND FOREIGN INVESTORS. IT IS THEY, NOT THE GOVERNMENT, WHO FUND MOST OF THIS ACTIVITY."

SIR DAVID SAID HONG KONG'S ECONOMY WAS EXPECTED TO GROW BY OVER 12 PER CENT THIS YEAR, FOLLOWING GROWTH OF 11 PER CENT IN 1986. "PERHAPS MORE IMPORTANT, IN THE THREE YEARS FROM 1984 TO 1986, OVERALL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE ON PLANT AND MACHINERY IN HONG KONG GREW AT AN AVERAGE OF NINE PER CENT PER ANNUM, THE BEST THREE-YEAR RECORD IN OUR HISTORY."

IN ADDITION, THE NUMBER OF FOREIGN COMPANIES OPERATING IN THE TERRITORY WAS INCREASING.

SIR DAVID TOLD THE PRESS CLUB THAT THESE FACTS AND FIGURES WOULD GIVE SOME FEEL FOR THE LEVEL OF BUSINESS CONFIDENCE IN THE TERRITORY, CONTRARY TO THE IMPRESSION OF DECLINE GIVEN BY SOME COMMENTATORS.

HE ALSO POINTED TO THE STRONG CULTURAL AND PERSONAL LINKS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND THE U.S. AND NOTED THAT EMIGRATION FROM THE TERRITORY WAS NOT NEW, AS WAS EVIDENCED BY THE CHINATOWNS OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE.

THERE WAS ALSO AN OUTFLOW OF CAPITAL, HE SAID, BUT THIS WAS NOT UNUSUAL GIVEN THE STRONG ECONOMY. "HONG KONG HAS PRODUCED SOME VERY RICH MEN AND SOME VERY LARGE COMPANIES, AND IT IS NATURAL THEY SHOULD LOOK FOR OVERSEAS ASSETS. THIS IS NOT DISINVESTMENT, BUT SENSIBLE DIVERSIFICATION," HE SAID.

/SIR DAVID

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 3 -

SIR DAVID POINTED OUT THAT IN THIS CONNECTION IT WAS WORTH NOTING THAT A GOOD DEAL OF THE CAPITAL LEAVING HONG KONG WAS GOING INTO CHINA. HE WENT ON TO DESCRIBE THE IMPORTANCE OF HONG KONG TO CHINA'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, SAYING THAT CHINESE INVESTMENT IN THE TERRITORY WAS HUGE AND GROWING FAST.

THE GOVERNOR SAID THAT THERE WAS EVERY SIGN THAT HONG KONG'S UNIQUE ROLE WOULD CONTINUE TO STRENGTHEN.

"WE ARE CONSTANTLY LOOKING FOR WAYS TO ENHANCE OUR USEFULNESS TO THE COUNTRIES OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION - AS A FINANCIAL CENTRE, AN ENTREPOT, A COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE - AND TO THE COUNTRIES OF THE WEST WHO COME TO HONG KONG TO DO BUSINESS WITH THEM," HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

GOVERNOR TAKES HK MESSAGE TO WASHINGTON

* * * * *

AMERICAN LEGISLATORS AND THE ADMINISTRATION HAVE BEEN TOLD THIS WEEK THAT HONG KONG'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES IS VERY IMPORTANT, BOTH POLITICALLY AND ECONOMICALLY, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID IN WASHINGTON, DC ON WEDNESDAY (U.S. TIME).

SPEAKING AT A NEWS CONFERENCE NEAR THE END OF A THREE-DAY VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES CAPITAL, SIR DAVID SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN EMPHASISING HONG KONG'S FREE TRADE POLICIES IN HIS MEETINGS WITH SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN, AT THE WHITE HOUSE AND AT VARIOUS U.S. GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

"THE PARTICULAR POINT WHICH I HAVE BEEN TRYING TO MAKE WITH EVERYBODY I HAVE SEEN IS THAT HONG KONG IS THE SHINING EXAMPLE IN THE WORLD, TOGETHER WITH SINGAPORE, OF A FREE TRADE SYSTEM ACTUALLY AT WORK," SIR DAVID SAID.

"WE'RE DOING EXACTLY THE SORT OF THINGS WHICH THE UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION WOULD LIKE TO SEE OTHER COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES DOING," HE ADDED.

SIR DAVID ALSO SAID HE HOPED THAT IN THE EFFORTS WHICH THE UNITED STATES WAS MAKING TO REDUCE TARIFF AND OTHER BARRIERS, HONG KONG WOULD NOT BE INADVERTANTLY AFFECTED.

HE SAID: "IT WOULD BE A TRAGEDY. IT WOULD BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE FOR U.S. POLICIES IF THE TERRITORY WHICH IS PRACTISING FREE TRADE WERE IN ANY WAY PENALISED IN AN EFFORT TO GET OTHER PEOPLE TO ACT MORE LIKE WE ACTUALLY DO."

/SIR DAVID

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 4 -

SIR DAVID ALSO TRIED TO GET ACROSS THE MESSAGE THAT HONG KONG WAS A VERY GOOD MARKET FOR US GOODS, POINTING OUT THAT LAST YEAR HONG KONG BOUGHT MORE THAN HK\$4,000 WORTH OF U.S. GOODS PER CAPITA, FAR MORE THAN JAPAN, EUROPE OR MOST FAR EASTERN COUNTRIES.

"I HOPE THAT I HAD SOME SUCCESS IN REMINDING PEOPLE OF THE NATURE OF THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC SYSTEM AND ITS BEING TOTALLY OPEN," HE NOTED.

SIR DAVID ALSO DISCUSSED WITH U.S. OFFICIALS THE ISSUE OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES, TAKING A TWO-TRACK APPROACH. HE POINTED OUT THAT RESETTLEMENT WAS NEEDED IN THE SHORT TERM, BUT IN THE LONGER TERM REPATRIATION UNDER ACCEPTABLE CIRCUMSTANCES MIGHT BE NECESSARY.

EARLIER ON WEDNESDAY MORNING (U.S. TIME), SIR DAVID MET THE NEWLY INSTALLED SECRETARY OF COMMERCE, MR BILL VERITY. DURING THE MEETING, SIR DAVID EMPHASISED HONG KONG'S FREE TRADE POSITION AND THE ABSENCE OF ANY TARIFFS OR OTHER TRADE BARRIERS IN HONG KONG.

SIR DAVID SAID MR VERITY WAS VERY SUPPORTIVE OF HONG KONG'S FREE TRADE STANCE.

FROM THE COMMERCE DEPARTMENT, SIR DAVID WENT TO MEET THE EDITORIAL BOARD OF THE WASHINGTON POST, THEN ON TO GIVE A LUNCHEON ADDRESS AT THE NATIONAL PRESS CLUB, THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS PLATFORM FROM WHICH A VISITOR TO THE UNITED STATES CAN ADDRESS THE MEDIA.

THERE, SIR DAVID SPOKE BEFORE SOME 200 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES AND INTERNATIONAL MEDIA ON THE SUBJECT OF "HONG KONG'S FUTURE AS ASIA'S INTERNATIONAL CITY". HE ALSO ANSWERED A RANGE OF QUESTIONS AFTER HIS ADDRESS.

IN THE AFTERNOON, SIR DAVID GAVE AN INTERVIEW TO THE BISNET NETWORK, THE TELEVISION SERVICE OF THE U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

GOVERNOR IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH DEVELOPMENTS IN HK

* * * * *

THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, IS KEEPING IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH DEVELOPMENTS IN HONG KONG, INCLUDING THE APPOINTMENT OF HAMBROS TO ADVISE THE GOVERNMENT ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE FUTURES EXCHANGE.

IN A STATEMENT ISSUED IN NEW YORK ON THURSDAY (U.S. TIME) IN RESPONSE TO THE SITUATION REGARDING THE HONG KONG STOCK EXCHANGE AND THE FUTURES EXCHANGE, SIR DAVID SAID HE WAS PLEASED TO HEAR THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE HONG KONG STOCK EXCHANGE HAD DECIDED TO RE-OPEN THE EXCHANGE ON MONDAY (OCTOBER 26).

HE HOPED THAT, DESPITE THE SHOCKS THAT THE HONG KONG MARKETS, LIKE THOSE IN THE REST OF THE WORLD, HAVE SUFFERED IN THE PAST FEW DAYS, AN ORDERLY PATTERN OF TRADING WOULD QUICKLY BE RESUMED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/5

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 5 -

HAMBROS BANK ENGAGED AS GOVERNMENT'S ADVISER

* * * * *

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THIS (THURSDAY) EVENING THAT IN VIEW OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE HONG KONG'S FUTURES MARKET TO HONG KONG AND THE COMPLEXITY OF THE ISSUES INVOLVED, THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT HAD ENGAGED THE HAMBROS BANK LTD, ONE OF THE LEADING LONDON MERCHANT BANKS, TO ACT AS THEIR ADVISER IN THIS MATTER.

- - - - 0 - - - -

BRIEFING FOR HOSPITALS ON AUTHORITY SYSTEM

* * * * *

THE GOVERNMENT IS INVITING THE MANagements OF SUBVENTED HOSPITALS TO A BRIEFING LATER THIS MONTH TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A HOSPITAL AUTHORITY.

THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A SERIES OF MEETINGS WITH INDIVIDUAL SUBVENTED HOSPITALS TO DISCUSS HOW THEY WILL OPERATE UNDER THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY SYSTEM.

THIS WAS DISCLOSED BY THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MR JOHN CHAMBERS, AFTER A VISIT TO BUDDHIST HOSPITAL TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF BUDDHIST HOSPITAL, MR CHOW KWAN-LING, WHO ACCOMPANIED MR CHAMBERS DURING THE VISIT, EXPRESSED AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE WITH THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY CONCEPT.

HE SAID BUDDHIST HOSPITAL WOULD BE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NEW SYSTEM AND HE WELCOMED THE CHANCE FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH THE GOVERNMENT.

COMMENTING ON RECENT CRITICISMS THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD NOT HAVE ANNOUNCED THE SETTING UP OF A HOSPITAL AUTHORITY BEFORE THE DETAILS WERE WORKED OUT, MR CHAMBERS SAID THE DECISION WAS MADE IN PRINCIPLE ONLY, AND IT WAS MADE HAVING REGARD TO THE OVERSEAS CONSULTANTS REPORT, THE VIEWS RECEIVED DURING PUBLIC CONSULTATION, AND THE NEED TO BRING IMPROVEMENTS TO THE EXISTING SYSTEM OF HOSPITAL SERVICE DELIVERY.

"CONSULTATIONS CONDUCTED FROM MARCH TO AUGUST LAST YEAR REVEALED THAT THERE WAS A GENERAL SUPPORT AMONG DISTRICT BOARDS, PROFESSIONAL BODIES AND ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS FOR THE FORMATION OF A HOSPITAL AUTHORITY PROVIDED THAT GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT RELINQUISH ITS RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCING MEDICAL SERVICES.

/"THE SUCCESS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 6 -

"THE SUCCESS OF THIS MAJOR REFORM DEPENDS A LOT ON THE UNDERSTANDING AND CO-OPERATION OF ALL PARTIES CONCERNED, INCLUDING MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS, SUBVENTED ORGANISATIONS AND STAFF. IT IS THEREFORE IMPERATIVE FOR US TO CONSULT THEM BEFORE ANY DETAILED ARRANGEMENT IS INTRODUCED," MR CHAMBERS SAID.

MR CHAMBERS SAID IT WAS ABSOLUTELY UNJUSTIFIED TO SUGGEST THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS TRYING TO "HIVE OFF" ONE OF THE MOST ESSENTIAL SOCIAL SERVICES BY USING THE AUTHORITY AS A BUFFER TO AVOID PUBLIC SCRUTINY.

"THE GOVERNMENT WILL NOT RELINQUISH ITS RESPONSIBILITY IN FUNDING AND FORMULATING POLICY FOR MEDICAL SERVICES FOR THE PEOPLE. MOREOVER, THE AUTHORITY WOULD BE MORE ACCOUNTABLE TO THE PUBLIC BECAUSE OF THE ELEMENT OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOTH THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY AND REGIONAL COMMITTEE LEVELS," HE SAID.

IN REPLY TO QUESTIONS REGARDING BENEFITS FOR INDIVIDUAL PATIENTS UNDER THE PROPOSED CHANGES, MR CHAMBERS SAID THE OVERCROWDING PROBLEM SHOULD BE REDUCED AS A RESULT OF A MORE EVEN UTILISATION OF HOSPITAL BEDS AMONG HOSPITALS.

"PATIENTS WILL THEREFORE BE ABLE TO ENJOY A BETTER ENVIRONMENT WHEN THEY ARE HOSPITALISED, AND THE PATIENTS WILL RECEIVE CARE OF A HIGHER QUALITY BECAUSE THE SYSTEM IS ALSO AIMED AT INDUCING HIGHER STAFF MORALE.

"IN ADDITION, PATIENTS' NEEDS WOULD BE MET MORE FULLY BECAUSE A HIGHER DEGREE OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION WILL RESULT IN GREATER ACCOUNTABILITY," MR CHAMBERS SAID.

HE PRAISED THE MANAGEMENT AND STAFF OF BUDDHIST HOSPITAL FOR THEIR DEDICATION IN SERVING THE PUBLIC AND SAID HE WAS PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THE HOSPITAL'S OCCUPANCY RATE HAD IMPROVED IN RECENT MONTHS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

LDC SET TO FACILITATE URBAN RENEWAL

* * * *

THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A STATUTORY LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION IS AN INDICATION OF GOVERNMENT'S DETERMINATION TO TACKLE THE PROBLEM OF URBAN DECAY AS SHOWN IN THE POOR AND DETERIORATING CONDITION OF BUILDINGS IN SOME AREAS.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, MR MARTIN LEWIS, TODAY (THURSDAY) IN AN ADDRESS TO THE CONFERENCE ON OPPORTUNITIES IN PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT.

/MR LEWIS

MR LEWIS SAID THE CORPORATION WOULD HAVE A VITAL ROLE TO PLAY IN URBAN RENEWAL NOTWITHSTANDING THE EXTENT OF PRIVATE REDEVELOPMENT IN RECENT YEARS, AND THE EFFORTS OF THE HOUSING SOCIETY UNDER ITS URBAN IMPROVEMENT SCHEME, AND URBAN RENEWAL PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN DIRECTLY BY THE GOVERNMENT.

HE SAID THE LDC HAD BEEN GIVEN WIDE-RANGING POWERS TO ACHIEVE ITS OBJECTIVES, FOREMOST OF WHICH WAS TO IMPROVE THE STANDARD OF HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT IN HONG KONG BY UNDERTAKING, ENCOURAGING, PROMOTING AND FACILITATING URBAN RENEWAL.

THE REDEVELOPMENT PROCESS UNDER THE LDC BILL, WHICH WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL NEXT WEEK, CONSISTS OF TWO MAIN STAGES, MR LEWIS NOTED.

HE SAID: "THE FIRST MAIN STAGE CONSISTS OF THE CORPORATION DRAWING UP PROPOSALS FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE REDEVELOPMENT OF SPECIFIC SITES, EITHER ON ITS OWN OR IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PRIVATE DEVELOPERS.

"WHEN THE CORPORATION HAS DRAWN UP A SPECIFIC REDEVELOPMENT SCHEME, IT WILL APPLY FOR APPROVAL OF ITS DEVELOPMENT PLAN BY THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD. IF THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD APPROVES THE PLAN, IT WILL BE PUBLISHED AS A DRAFT PLAN UNDER THE TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE, AND IT WILL THEN GO THROUGH THE SAME PROCEDURES AS ANY OTHER DRAFT TOWN PLAN, INCLUDING GAZETTING TO GIVE THE PUBLIC A RIGHT OF OBJECTION, AND WITH PROVISION FOR ANY OBJECTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL BEFORE A PLAN CAN BE APPROVED, WITH OR WITHOUT AMENDMENT.

"THE SECOND MAIN STAGE CONCERNS RESUMPTION. ONCE A PLAN HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, THE LDC WILL BE REQUIRED TO MAKE OFFERS TO ACQUIRE ALL REMAINING LAND IN THE AREA NOT ALREADY IN ITS OWNERSHIP WITHIN 12 MONTHS, AND TO OFFER REHOUSING TO THE DOMESTIC RESIDENTS. HAVING DONE SO, IT MAY REQUEST THE GOVERNMENT TO RESUME ANY LAND WHICH IT HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO ACQUIRE."

MR LEWIS STRESSED THAT THIS REDEVELOPMENT PROCESS WAS TO PERMIT THE PROCESS OF SITE ASSEMBLY TO BE COMPLETED WITHIN A SPECIFIED TIME LIMIT, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME ENSURING THAT OWNERS AND RESIDENTS OF PROPERTY WITHIN A REDEVELOPMENT AREA WERE ACCORDED FAIR AND EQUITABLE TREATMENT.

HE SAID: "WHILE URBAN RENEWAL IS THE PURPOSE OF THE LEGISLATION, THE GOVERNMENT MUST ALSO ENSURE THAT THE INTERESTS OF PROPERTY OWNERS AND RESIDENTS ARE PROTECTED. THE GOVERNMENT HAS THUS DESIGNED A PROCEDURE WHICH MUST BE COMPLIED WITH BEFORE REDEVELOPMENT CAN TAKE PLACE.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 8 -

"FIRSTLY, BEFORE A REDEVELOPMENT SCHEME WAS APPROVED, THE CORPORATION WOULD HAVE TO SUBMIT NOT ONLY ITS DEVELOPMENT PLAN WHICH WOULD BE PUBLISHED FOR POSSIBLE PUBLIC OBJECTION; IT MUST ALSO SUBMIT ITS PROPOSALS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE SCHEME, INCLUDING ITS PLANS FOR ACQUIRING ON THE OPEN MARKET THE PRIVATE PROPERTY INVOLVED, AND FOR COMPENSATING AND REHOUSING THE TENANTS AND RESIDENTS WHOM REDEVELOPMENT MAY DISPLACE. ONLY IF SATISFIED ON ALL THESE MATTERS WOULD THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL APPROVE A SCHEME.

"SECONDLY, FOLLOWING APPROVAL OF A REDEVELOPMENT SCHEME, THE CORPORATION MUST WITHIN 12 MONTHS MAKE OFFERS TO ACQUIRE ALL THE PRIVATE PROPERTY AFFECTED. ONLY IF SATISFIED THAT IT HAS DONE SO, AND THAT IT HAS OFFERED A FAIR AND REASONABLE PRICE FOR THE PROPERTY WOULD THE GOVERNMENT BE PREPARED TO RECOMMEND THAT PROPERTY BE RESUMED. THE GOVERNMENT MAY FOR THIS PURPOSE APPOINT AN INDEPENDENT ASSESSOR TO ADVISE WHETHER THE OFFERS MADE BY THE CORPORATION WERE FAIR AND REASONABLE.

"THIRDLY, WHEN PROPERTY IS RESUMED, OWNERS WILL ULTIMATELY HAVE RESOURCE TO THE LAND TRIBUNAL TO DETERMINE THE OPEN MARKET VALUE OF THEIR PROPERTY IF THEY ARE NOT SATISFIED WITH THE OFFER MADE," HE ADDED.

MR LEWIS ALSO SAID THAT JOINT VENTURES WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR WOULD BE THE RULE RATHER THAN THE EXCEPTION IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REDEVELOPMENT SCHEMES.

"CO-OPERATION, RATHER THAN COMPETITION, IS ENVISAGED. FOR SPECIFIED REDEVELOPMENT SCHEMES, THERE IS CONSIDERABLE SCOPE FOR CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE CORPORATION AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND EACH HAS MUCH TO OFFER THE OTHER IN A JOINT VENTURE DEVELOPMENT.

"MANY PRIVATE DEVELOPERS HAVE BUILT UP SUBSTANTIAL PROPERTY OWNINGS WITHIN THE AREAS WHICH THE LDC WILL WISH TO REDEVELOP; JOINT VENTURES IN SUCH CASES WILL MAKE THE CORPORATIONS'S JOB OF SITE ASSEMBLY MUCH EASIER AND QUICKER.

"THE LDC WILL NEED TO OBTAIN FINANCE FOR ITS REDEVELOPMENT SCHEMES - IT ONLY HAS A \$100 MILLION LOAN AT PRESENT, THOUGH IT HAS POWER TO BORROW, AND HERE AGAIN PRIVATE DEVELOPERS WILL BE ABLE TO ASSIST," MR LEWIS SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/9

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 9 -

BEACH WATER QUALITY GRADING RELEASED

* * * * *

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

THIS IS THE LAST ANNOUNCEMENT MADE ON BEACH WATER QUALITY GRADINGS THIS YEAR AS THE BATHING SEASON COMES TO AN END BY LATE OCTOBER.

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 MIGHT FLUCTUATE. THIS REPRESENTED A NATURAL FLUCTUATION IN THE BACTERIAL QUALITY OF THE BEACHES, AS RAIN AND TIDES BROUGHT MORE OR LESS POLLUTION TO THE SWIMMING AREAS.

NEVERTHELESS THE GRADES GAVE 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, HE SAID.

THE SYSTEM FOR GRADING BEACH WATER QUALITY IS AS FOLLOW:

"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.

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT THE DECISION TO CLOSE A BEACH TO SWIMMERS WAS BASED ON A JUDGEMENT OF WHAT DEGREE OF POLLUTION WAS ACCEPTABLE.

NORMALLY, A RECOMMENDATION ON CLOSURE WOULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED BY THE URBAN 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

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 10 -

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

BEACH -----	LAST GRADING ----- AS AT OCT. 7	PRESENT GRADING ----- AS AT OCT. 22
HONG KONG SOUTH -----		
BIG WAVE BAY	A	A
CHUNG HOM KOK	B	A
DEEP WATER BAY	A	A
HAIRPIN	A	A
MIDDLE BAY	B	B
REPULSE BAY	B	B
SHEK O	B	B
SOUTH BAY	A	A
ST. STEPHEN'S	A	A
TURTLE COVE	B	B
STANLEY MAIN	B	B
ROCKY BAY, SHEK O	C	B
TO TEI WAN*	A	A
ISLANDS DISTRICT -----		
CHEUNG SHA UPPER	A	A
CHEUNG SHA LOWER	A	A
DISCOVERY BAY*	A	A
HUNG SHING YEH	A	A

/KWUN YAM WAN

KWUN YAM WAN	A	A
TONG FUK	A	A
LO SÓ SHING	A	A
PUI O	A	A
SILVERMINE BAY	C	C
TUNG WAN, CHEUNG CHAU	A	A
TUNG O*	A	A

* NON-GAZETTED BEACHES

SAI KUNG DISTRICT

CAMPERS	A	A
CLEAR WATER BAY 1ST BEACH	B	B
CLEAR WATER BAY 2ND BEACH	A	A
HAP MUN BAY	A	A
KIU TSUI	A	A
PAK SHA CHAU	A	A
SILVERSTRAND	B	B
TRIO (HEBE HAVEN)	A	A

TSUEN WAN DISTRICT

ANGLERS'	C	C
APPROACH	C	C
CASAM	B	B
GEMINI	A	A

- 12 -

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	B
CASTLE PEAK	C	C
KADOORIE BEACH	B	B
BUTTERFLY	B	B

COMMENTING ON THE CHANGE IN GRADING, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE ROCKY BAY, WHICH WAS CHANGED FROM "C" TO "B", WAS POLLUTED BY A DRAIN AT THE SOUTHERN END OF THE BEACH WHICH RECEIVED DOMESTIC SEWAGE FROM THE NEARBY SHEK O VILLAGE. THE CHANGE FROM "C" TO "B" OR VICE VERSA WAS CONSIDERED TO BE WITHIN NORMAL RANGE OF FLUCTUATION OF THE BACTERIAL QUALITY OF THE BEACH, HE SAID.

ON CHUNG HOM KOK WHICH WAS CHANGED FROM "B" TO "A", THE SPOKESMAN SAID THIS BEACH HAD BEEN SPORADICALLY AFFECTED BY A STREAM RUNNING INTO THE BEACH. ALTHOUGH THE NORMAL GRADING FOR THE BEACH HAD BEEN "B" IN THIS SWIMMING SEASON, THE RANGE OF FLUCTUATION OF ITS WATER QUALITY WAS FROM "A" TO "C".

THE SPOKESMAN SAID AN ANNUAL REVIEW ON THE WATER QUALITY OF VARIOUS BATHING BEACHES IN THE BATHING SEASON OF 1987 WOULD BE PREPARED BY EPD BY THE END OF THIS YEAR. THE REPORT WOULD ALSO GIVE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE ACCEPTABILITY OF VARIOUS BEACHES FOR SWIMMING PURPOSES IN THE BATHING SEASON OF 1988, HE SAID.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

FURTHER ENQUIRIES CAN BE DIRECTED TO MR PAUL HOLMES, PRINCIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICER (WATER POLICY) OF EPD, ON 3-7211044.

----- 0 -----

/13

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 13 -

HK STUDENTS WIN HIGH HONOURS IN UK

* * * * *

FIVE STUDENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL HAVE WON HIGH HONOURS IN THE LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIES (LCC & I) EXAMINATIONS CONDUCTED LAST YEAR.

IN THE LCC & I'S WORLD AGGREGATE EXAMINATION RESULTS RELEASED RECENTLY, TWO STUDENTS FROM THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, MS HUNG PANG-CHING AND MISS CHAN SIU-LO, WERE PLACED TOP AND SECOND RESPECTIVELY IN THE INTERMEDIATE STRUCTURE OF COMMERCE EXAMINATION FOR SUMMER 1986.

ON REGIONAL GRADING BASIS, THE FIRST PLACE OF THE HONG KONG CENTRE'S SCORE LIST IN THE INTERMEDIATE BUSINESS ARITHMETIC EXAMINATION FOR SUMMER 1986 WENT TO MR LAI CHI-KIN FROM THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE AND AFTER HIM IN SECOND PLACE IN THE SAME EXAMINATION WAS MISS FONG LAI-NGO FROM THE KWAI CHUNG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.

ANOTHER STUDENT, MISS YUNG MEI-YUNG OF MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE ALSO TOPPED THE HONG KONG CENTRE LIST IN THE INTERMEDIATE BUSINESS STATISTICS EXAMINATION FOR SPRING 1986.

THEY WILL BE AWARDED MEDALLIONS AND CERTIFICATES NEXT TUESDAY FOR THEIR EXCELLENT PERFORMANCE IN A CEREMONY TO BE ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AUTHORITY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

YAU TONG ILLEGAL STRUCTURES DEMOLISHED

* * * * *

TEN ILLEGAL STRUCTURES IN THE SIDE AND REAR LANES OF NO. 2 SHUNG SHUN STREET, YAU TONG WERE CLEARED TODAY (THURSDAY) AS PART OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME.

IT WAS INITIATED BY THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND JOINTLY CARRIED OUT BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE, BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, HOUSING DEPARTMENT AND THE POLICE.

ALL OF THE ILLEGAL STRUCTURES WERE FOR COMMERCIAL AND STORAGE PURPOSES AND EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES TOTTALLING \$44,640 WERE GRANTED TO ELIGIBLE SHOP OPERATORS AFFECTED BY THE CLEARANCE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/14

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 14 -

FREE CHECK-UP FOR DIABETES, HYPERTENSION

* * * * *

A FREE CHECK-UP FOR DIABETES AND HYPERTENSION WILL BE PROVIDED FOR RESIDENTS OF WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT ON SATURDAY (OCTOBER 24) AND SUNDAY (OCTOBER 25).

TWELVE BOOTHS WILL BE SET UP AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN EACH OF THE SUB-DISTRICTS OF WONG TAI SIN FROM 10 AM TO 12.30 PM AND FROM 1.30 PM TO 4.30 PM.

THE SERVICE IS ORGANISED BY THE WONG TAI SIN COMMUNITY HEALTH PROMOTION ASSOCIATION AND THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD.

A DISTRICT BOARD SPOKESMAN SAID INFORMATION LEAFLETS ABOUT DIABETES AND HYPERTENSION WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AT THE BOOTHS.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO TEST FOR DIABETES ARE REQUIRED TO SUPPLY A URINE SPECIMEN, HE SAID.

LOCATIONS OF THE BOOTHS ARE: WONG TAI SIN COMMUNITY CENTRE, HOUSING DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM AT UPPER WONG TAI SIN ESTATE, HO LAP COLLEGE, TZE WAN SHAN (EAST) ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE, TSZ WAN SHAN (SOUTH) ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE, CHUK YUEN ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE, KAM WAH HOUSE IN CHOI HUNG ESTATE, NGAU CHI WAN RURAL COMMITTEE, CHOI WAN ESTATE PHASE II B COMMERCIAL COMPLEX, MU KUANG PRIMARY SCHOOL, LOK FU CENTRE G1, BLOCK 14 TUNG TAU ESTATE (OPEN ON OCTOBER 24 ONLY), AND PO YAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL (OPEN ON OCTOBER 25 ONLY).

- - - - 0 - - - -

CARE FOR ELDERLY CAMPAIGN

* * * * *

SENIOR RESIDENTS IN WAN CHAI DISTRICT WILL BE TREATED TO A SERIES OF ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMMES DURING THE 'CARE FOR THE ELDERLY' CAMPAIGN HELD FROM THE MIDDLE OF NEXT MONTH TO JANUARY NEXT YEAR.

THE CAMPAIGN, AIMED AT ENCOURAGING THE COMMUNITY TO RESPECT AND SHOW CONCERN TO THE ELDERLY, WILL FEATURE PROGRAMMES SUCH AS CANTONESE OPERA, LUNCHTIME OPERATIC SONG CONCERTS, VISITS TO HOSTEL FOR THE ELDERLY AND FEAST.

RESIDENTS AGED 65 OR ABOVE ARE ELIGIBLE TO TAKE PART AND SHOULD FIRST REGISTER AT THE HENNESSY ROAD GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL ON THOMSON ROAD FROM 9 AM TO 3 PM THIS SUNDAY (OCTOBER 25).

THE PROJECT IS ORGANISED BY WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD'S CARE FOR THE ELDERLY CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/15

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 15 -

RESPONSE TO MINIBUS SELECTION ENCOURAGING

* * * * *

ABOUT 450 APPLICATION FORMS FOR RUNNING 18 NEW GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES IN THE TERRITORY HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED SINCE OCTOBER 9, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

NOTING THAT THE RESPONSE HAD BEEN ENCOURAGING, THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED INTERESTED PARTIES THAT THE APPLICATION WILL CLOSE ON NOVEMBER 6.

A SELECTION BOARD COMPRISING NON-GOVERNMENT MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND OFFICIALS FROM THE TRANSPORT AND OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS WILL SELECT THE APPLICANTS ACCORDING TO THE CRITERIA LAID DOWN BY THE BOARD.

"THESE CRITERIA INCLUDE EXPERIENCE OF THE APPLICANT IN TRANSPORT SERVICE; FINANCIAL RESOURCES; MANAGEMENT RIGHT OVER THE VEHICLES; THE MAINTENANCE RECORD OF THE VEHICLES AS WELL AS THE QUALITY OF HIS VEHICLES TO BE DEPLOYED INCLUDING THE AVAILABILITY OF AIR-CONDITIONING," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

IF THE APPLICANT WANTED TO PARTNER ONE OR MORE PERSONS IN OPERATING THE GREEN MINIBUS SERVICES, IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT A COMPANY BE FORMED UNDER THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE AND THE APPLICATION BE MADE IN THE NAME OF THE COMPANY, HE NOTED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS TRANSPORT DEVELOPMENT IN YUEN LONG

* * * * *

THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE WILL MEET TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO DISCUSS THE 1988-89 PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR YUEN LONG.

MEMBERS' VIEWS WILL BE SOUGHT ON PROPOSED NEW BUS ROUTES; FEEDER BUS SERVICES LINKING THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT NETWORK; DEVELOPMENT OF GREEN MINIBUS AND THE PRESENT TRANSPORT FACILITIES IN THE DISTRICT.

THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO DISCUSS A CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT ON TAXI POLICY REVIEW SUBMITTED BY THE REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE UNDER THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING AT 10 AM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD, 13TH FLOOR, TAI KIU GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 2 KIU LOK SQUARE, YUEN LONG.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/16

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 16 -

KOWLOON CITY HOLDING SEMINAR ON DISTRICT AFFAIRS

* * * * *

A SEMINAR ON DISTRICT AFFAIRS FOR PARTICIPANTS IN THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT GOOD CITIZEN TRAINING SCHEME WILL BE HELD AT 3 PM ON SATURDAY (OCTOBER 24) AT THE MARTHA BOSS COMMUNITY CENTRE, HO MAN TIN.

AN OMELCO MEMBER, DR DANIEL TSE, AND URBAN COUNCILLOR MR PAO PING-WING WILL TALK ON THE "HOW THE PUBLIC CAN PARTICIPATE IN DISTRICT AFFAIRS".

THIS IS THE SECOND SEMINAR ORGANISED FOR 27 PARTICIPANTS IN THE GOOD CITIZEN TRAINING SCHEME.

OTHER ACTIVITIES INCLUDE VISITS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, AND ATTENDING DISTRICT BOARD MEETINGS.

THE SCHEME IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT CIVIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN ORGANISING COMMITTEE AND THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND SPONSORED BY THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CIVIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN SUB-COMMITTEE, MR FONG PUI-SHEUNG, WILL PRESENT CERTIFICATES TO THE PARTICIPANTS AFTER THE SEMINAR.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SEMINAR AT THE MARTHA BOSS COMMUNITY CENTRE, CHUNG HAU STREET, HO MAN TIN.

----- 0 -----

VISIT TO DRUG ADDICT REHABILITATION CENTRE

* * * * *

MEMBERS OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE DISTRICT'S MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND OWNERS CORPORATIONS WILL VISIT A DRUG ADDICT REHABILITATION CENTRE ON DAWN ISLAND IN SAI KUNG TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE VISIT IS TO ENHANCE MEMBERS' UNDERSTANDING OF THE SERVICES AND FACILITIES OF THE CENTRE AND TO PROMOTE THE ANTI-DRUG MESSAGE IN THE DISTRICT.

/THE VISIT

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 17 -

THE VISIT IS ONE OF THE MANY ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY A WORKING GROUP UNDER THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE. OTHER ACTIVITIES INCLUDE SEMINARS, NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME, GOOD CITIZEN AWARD SCHEME, AND A VARIETY SHOW.

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE VISIT TO THE DRUG ADDICT REHABILITATION CENTRE ON DAWN ISLAND TOMORROW (FRIDAY). TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WHO SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE SEA FRONT OUTSIDE SAN SHUI RESTAURANT, SAI KUNG TOWN, AT 10 AM SHARP.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WAN CHAI SEMINAR ON RELIGIOUS CULTS

* * * * *

RESIDENTS OF WAN CHAI DISTRICT ARE BEING INVITED TO ATTEND A SEMINAR ON SATURDAY (OCTOBER 24) ON THE ACTIVITIES OF RELIGIOUS CULTS IN WAN CHAI.

THE SEMINAR IS AIMED AT PROMOTING PUBLIC AWARENESS AND A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF SUCH ACTIVITIES.

ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD'S CONCERN FOR YOUTH ACTIVITIES WORKING GROUP, THE SEMINAR WILL START AT 10 AM AT THE CONFERENCE ROOM, ROOM 103, DUKE OF WINDSOR SOCIAL SERVICES BUILDING, HENNESSY ROAD.

SPEAKERS AT THE SEMINAR WILL INCLUDE LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR LEE YU-TAI; DR STEPHEN LAU OF LINGNAN COLLEGE; MRS MARY LEUNG, DIRECTOR OF BAPTIST OI KWAN SOCIAL SERVICES; AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD'S CONCERN FOR YOUTH ACTIVITIES WORKING GROUP, MR STEPHEN WONG.

PARTICIPANTS WILL ALSO WATCH A TV DRAMA ABOUT A YOUTH WHO IS ASSOCIATED WITH NON-TRADITIONAL RELIGIOUS SECTS.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 5-742281.

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SEMINAR ON RELIGIOUS CULTS IN WAN CHAI STARTING AT 10 AM THIS SATURDAY (OCTOBER 24) AT THE CONFERENCE ROOM, ROOM 103, DUKE OF WINDSOR SOCIAL SERVICES BUILDING, HENNESSY ROAD.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/18

DRAWING COMPETITION FOR CHILDREN

* * * *

ABOUT 300 YOUNGSTERS WILL TAKE PART IN THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT CHILDREN DRAWING COMPETITION TO BE HELD IN THE HONG KONG ZOOLOGICAL AND BOTANICAL GARDENS ON NOVEMBER 1 (SUNDAY).

PARTICIPANTS ARE REQUIRED TO DEPICT THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT OF THE GARDENS AND WINNERS WILL BE ABLE TO TAKE PART IN THE '88 INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S DRAWING COMPETITION' TO BE HELD IN JAPAN NEXT MARCH.

CHILDREN LIVING OR STUDYING IN THE DISTRICT ARE INVITED TO ENROL ON OR BEFORE NEXT MONDAY (OCTOBER 26). THERE WILL BE TWO SECTIONS. THE JUNIOR SECTION IS CATERED FOR CHILDREN BETWEEN FOUR AND NINE YEARS WHILE THE SENIOR SECTION IS FOR CHILDREN BETWEEN 10 AND 15 YEARS.

WINNERS, FIRST AND SECOND RUNNERS-UP OF EACH SECTION WILL BE AWARDED BOOK COUPONS AS WELL AS TROPHIES.

THE COMPETITION IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, MID-LEVELS (CENTRAL) AREA COMMITTEE, DISTRICT ASSOCIATION FOR CULTURE AND ARTS (CENTRAL AND WESTERN) AND Y.W.C.A. AND IS SPONSORED BY THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD AND PENTEL (HONG KONG) LTD.

ENROLMENT FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, G/F, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD OR ITS SUB-OFFICES IN CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, AND KENNEDY TOWN. ENQUIRIES CONCERNING THE COMPETITION CAN BE MADE ON 5-8523499 OR 5-8523489.

- - - - 0 - - - -

QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL MORTUARY TO BE EXPANDED

* * * * *

THE MORTUARY AT QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL WILL BE EXPANDED AND IMPROVED UNDER A WORKS CONTRACT, TENDERS FOR WHICH ARE NOW BEING INVITED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THE PROJECT ARCHITECT, MR WILSON LEE, SAID THE CONTRACT, WHICH CONSTITUTED PART OF QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL EXTENSIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS, STAGE III, WOULD INVOLVE MAINLY INTERNAL REFURBISHMENT AND SERVICES UPGRADING OF THE EXISTING MORTUARY AND THE ADDITION OF A THREE-STORY PLANT ROOM EXTENSION.

THE CONTRACT WORKS ARE SCHEDULED TO START IN DECEMBER AND BE COMPLETED BY OCTOBER 1988.

/THE DEADLINE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 19 -

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDERS IS 12 NOON ON NOVEMBER 6.

THE HOSPITAL IS UNDERGOING A MAJOR EXTENSION PROGRAMME WHICH BEGAN IN 1982.

IN APRIL THIS YEAR, A \$389 MILLION EXTENSION TO THE HOSPITAL WAS TOPPED OUT. ON COMPLETION OF THE STAGE II OF THE PROGRAMME IN MID-1989, 844 BEDS WILL BE ADDED TO THE HOSPITAL, BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER TO OVER 2,100.

- - - - 0 - - - -

IMMIGRATION OFFICERS RECEIVE LONG SERVICE INSIGNIA

* * * * *

A TOTAL OF 29 IMMIGRATION OFFICERS WERE AWARDED THE LONG SERVICE INSIGNIA BY THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION, MR LAURENCE LEUNG, AT THE IMMIGRATION HEADQUARTERS TODAY (THURSDAY).

FIRST CLASPS, SIGNIFYING 25 YEARS OF SERVICE, WERE PRESENTED TO PRINCIPAL IMMIGRATION OFFICER, LAM YAN-KWONG AND SEVEN OTHER OFFICERS.

ANOTHER 21 OFFICERS, INCLUDING ONE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL IMMIGRATION OFFICER, FOUR CHIEF IMMIGRATION OFFICERS, 15 SENIOR IMMIGRATION OFFICERS AND ONE ASSISTANT IMMIGRATION OFFICER, RECEIVED THE HONG KONG DISCIPLINED SERVICES MEDAL.

AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY, MR LEUNG SAID THE AWARD OF THE HONG KONG DISCIPLINED SERVICES MEDAL WAS TO HONOUR THOSE WHO HAD RENDERED LONG AND MERITORIOUS SERVICE AS MEMBERS OF THE IMMIGRATION SERVICE IN HONG KONG. HE ALSO CONGRATULATED ALL RECIPIENTS AND THANKED THEM FOR THEIR LOYALTY AND DEDICATION TO THE IMMIGRATION SERVICE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 20 -

FACTORY INSPECTORATE MOVES OFFICE

* * * * *

THE DIVISIONAL OFFICE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S FACTORY INSPECTORATE DIVISION IN KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN, HAS BEEN MOVED TO THE 9TH FLOOR OF TO KWA WAN MARKET AND GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 165 MA TAU WAI ROAD KOWLOON.

ENQUIRIES ON BUILDING AND ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION CAN BE MADE ON TELEPHONE NUMBER 3-7607258.

CONTRACTORS OR WORKERS WHO WISH TO SEEK ADVICE ON CONSTRUCTION SITES IN REGARD OF SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE CAN CONTACT THE DIVISIONAL FACTORY INSPECTOR ON 3-7607559.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHUNG YEUNG FESTIVAL

* * * * *

SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED ON HONG KONG ISLAND FOR THE CHUNG YEUNG FESTIVAL WHICH FALLS ON OCTOBER 31 (SATURDAY) THIS YEAR.

CHAI WAN AREA

THE FOLLOWING TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM ON OCTOBER 31 AND NOVEMBER 1. THE SAME ARRANGEMENTS MAY ALSO BE IMPLEMENTED ON OCTOBER 24, 25, NOVEMBER 7 AND 8 DEPENDING ON TRAFFIC CONDITIONS.

ROAD CLOSURES

THE FOLLOWING ROADS WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC:

- * CAPE COLLINSON ROAD EAST OF LIN SHING ROAD EXCEPT FOR ACCESS;
- * THE SLIP ROAD LEADING TO THE GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE AND CREMATORIUM FROM CAPE COLLINSON ROAD EXCEPT HEARSE AND VEHICLES CARRYING PASSENGERS TO SERVICES AT THE CREMATORIUM;
- * THE SLIP ROAD LEADING TO CHAI WAN CHINESE PERMANENT CEMETERY; AND,
- * CAPE COLLINSON ROAD AND LIN SHING ROAD MAY BE CLOSED DEPENDING ON THE TRAFFIC CONDITIONS.

/RE-ROUTING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 21 -

RE-ROUTING

THE FOLLOWING ROADS WILL RE-ROUTED:

- * CAPE COLLINSON ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY WESTBOUND FROM LIN SHING ROAD TO SHEK O ROAD;
- * LIN SHING ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND FROM WAN TSUI ROAD TO CAPE COLLINSON ROAD; AND
- * THE EASTERN SECTION OF WAN TSUI ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY FROM CHAI WAN ROAD TO FEI TSUI ROAD.

PARKING

BETWEEN 7 AM AND 9 PM ON OCTOBER 24, 25, 31, NOVEMBER 1, 7 AND 8, NO PARKING WILL BE PERMITTED ALONG CAPE COLLINSON ROAD, LIN SHING ROAD, WAH HA STREET AND SHEK O ROAD BETWEEN CAPE COLLINSON TRAINING CENTRE AND TAI TAM ROAD.

BUS SERVICES

SPECIAL SERVICES

ON OCTOBER 31 AND NOVEMBER 1, ROUTE NO. 89 FROM SHAU KEI WAN BUS TERMINUS TO CHAI WAN CEMETERY (CIRCULAR) VIA CHAI WAN MTR STATION WILL OPERATE BETWEEN 7 AM AND 6 PM AT A FREQUENCY OF FIVE TO TEN MINUTES.

BUS STOP

FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM ON THE SAME DAYS, THE FIRST BUS STOP ON WAN TSUI ROAD SOUTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH CHAI WAN ROAD (NEAR WAN TSUI ESTATE) WILL BE SUSPENDED EXCEPT FOR ROUTE NO. 89 BUSES. A TEMPORARY STOP WILL BE PROVIDED ON CHAI WAN ROAD EAST OF HONG MAN STREET FOR ALL EASTBOUND BUSES OF THE AFFECTED ROUTES.

BUS RE-ROUTING

ALSO FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM ON THE SAME DAYS, THE FOLLOWING BUS DIVERSIONS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED:

CMB ROUTES NO. 80, 82, 83, 84, 780 AND CROSS HARBOUR ROUTE NO. 106, WHICH NORMALLY TRAVEL IN AN ANTI-CLOCKWISE DIRECTION ON WAN TSUI ROAD ON THEIR JOURNEYS TO CHAI WAN, WILL BE RE-ROUTED TO OPERATE ALONG CHAI WAN ROAD OMITTING WAN TSUI ROAD.

/CMB ROUTES

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 22 -

CMB ROUTES NO. 81 AND 81M, AFTER LEAVING THEIR TERMINAL POINTS AT HING WAH ESTATE, WILL BE RE-ROUTED VIA THE WESTERN SECTION (INSTEAD OF EASTERN SECTION) OF WAN TSUI ROAD BETWEEN FEI TSUI ROAD AND CHAI WAN ROAD ONTO CHAI WAN ROAD.

CMB ROUTES NO. 81 AND 81M ON THEIR JOURNEYS TO HING WAH ESTATE WILL BE DIVERTED VIA CHAI WAN ROAD AND THE WESTERN SECTION OF WAN TSUI ROAD.

GREEN MINIBUS SERVICES

AT THE SAME TIME, THE FOLLOWING GREEN MINIBUS SERVICES WILL BE DIVERTED:

- * ROUTE NO. 16M ON ITS JOURNEYS TO THE CHAI WAN MTR STATION WILL BE RE-ROUTED TO OPERATE ALONG TAI TAM ROAD AND CHAI WAN ROAD OMITTING SHEK O ROAD, CAPE COLLINSON ROAD, LIN SHING ROAD AND WAN TSUI ROAD.
- * ROUTE NO. 18M ON ITS JOURNEYS TO THE CHAI WAN MTR STATION WILL BE RE-ROUTED VIA CAPE COLLINSON ROAD, SHEK O ROAD, TAI TAM ROAD AND CHAI WAN ROAD OMITTING LIN SHING ROAD AND WAN TSUI ROAD.

POK FU LAM AREA

RE-ROUTING

FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM ON OCTOBER 31 AND NOVEMBER 1, CONSORT RISE WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND FROM VICTORIA ROAD TO BISNEY ROAD.

SPECIAL BUS SERVICES

ON OCTOBER 31, ROUTE NO. 57 FROM CENTRAL (EXCHANGE SQUARE) TO CHINESE CHRISTIAN CEMETERY (CIRCULAR) WILL OPERATE BETWEEN 7 AM AND 5.52 PM AT A FREQUENCY OF SEVEN TO EIGHT MINUTES.

ABERDEEN AREA

ROAD CLOSURE

FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM ON OCTOBER 31 AND NOVEMBER 1, THE FOLLOWING ROADS WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC:

- * PEEL RISE IN THE VICINITY OF ABERDEEN CHINESE CEMETERY; AND
- * THE SLIP ROAD FROM SHEK PAI WAN ROAD LEADING TO ABERDEEN CHINESE CEMETERY.

//PEAK AREA -----

PEAK AREA

THE FOLLOWING TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM ON OCTOBER 31 AND NOVEMBER 1:

ROAD CLOSURE

MT. AUSTIN ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC EXCEPT VEHICLES FOR ACCESS TO PREMISES ON THIS ROAD.

RE-ROUTING

THE SECTION OF PEAK ROAD OUTSIDE THE UPPER PEAK TRAM TERMINUS CAR PARK AND THE ACCESS ROAD WITHIN THE CAR PARK WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY IN A CLOCKWISE DIRECTION.

PARKING

-
- * ALL PARKING SPACES AT PEAK GARDEN WILL BE SUSPENDED;
 - * ALL PARKING FACILITIES EXCEPT THE DESIGNATED SPACES FOR FRANCHISED OMNIBUSES, GREEN MINIBUSES AND TAXIS AT THE UPPER PEAK TRAM TERMINUS WILL BE SUSPENDED; AND
 - * ALL METERED PARKING SPACES IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO THE UPPER PEAK TRAM TERMINUS WILL BE SUSPENDED.

SPECIAL SERVICES

-
- * ROUTE NO. 15B BETWEEN CAUSEWAY BAY AND THE PEAK WILL OPERATE BETWEEN 8 AM AND 7.40 PM ON OCTOBER 31 AT A FREQUENCY OF 20 MINUTES.
 - * ROUTE NO. 15 M BETWEEN ADMIRALTY MTR STATION (EAST) AND THE PEAK WILL OPERATE BETWEEN 8 AM AND 7.12 PM AT A PEAK FREQUENCY OF 12 MINUTES.

HAPPY VALLEY AREA

BUS STOP

FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM ON OCTOBER 31 AND NOVEMBER 1, THE BUS STOP ON WONG NAI CHUNG ROAD OPPOSITE THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB MAIN ENTRANCE WILL BE RESITED TO QUEEN'S ROAD EAST WEST OF WONG NAI CHUNG ROAD.

TRAM STOP

MEANWHILE, THE TRAM STOP ON WONG NAI CHUNG ROAD OPPOSITE THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB WILL BE RESITED NORTHWARDS FOR ABOUT 30 METRES.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 24 -

TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR CHARITY WALK

* * * * *

SPECIAL TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED ON SUNDAY (OCTOBER 25) FOR THE YUEN LONG AND TUEN MUN JOINT DISTRICTS COMMUNITY CHEST WALK.

THE FOLLOWING ROADS WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC AT THE TIME SPECIFIED BELOW:

- * TAI YUK ROAD SOUTH OF KAU YUK ROAD; MA TIN ROAD BETWEEN TAI YUK ROAD AND UNNAMED NULLAH-BUND ROAD TO MA TIN TSUEN; AND THE UNNAMED NULLAH-BUND ROAD BETWEEN MA TIN ROAD AND MA TIN TSUEN WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN 8.45 AM AND 10.30 AM.
- * THE UNNAMED NULLAH-BUND ROAD BETWEEN MA TIN TSUEN AND TAI TONG (KIU HING ROAD) WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN 8.45 AM AND 12 NOON.
- * TAI LAM CHUNG ROAD WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN 11.30 AM AND 5 PM EXCEPT FOR FRANCHISED BUSES.

FROM 8.45 AM TO 10.30 AM, GREEN MINIBUS NO. 39 WILL ONLY OPERATE BETWEEN KUNG OM AND LUNG TIN TSUEN ALONG THE UNNAMED NULLAH-BUND ROAD. A TEMPORARY STOP WILL BE PROVIDED AT LUNG TIN TSUEN.

IN ADDITION, FROM 8.45 AM TO 12 NOON, KMB ROUTE NO. 56 WILL ONLY OPERATE BETWEEN YUEN LONG (WEST) AND TAI TONG ROUNDABOUT (OUTSIDE LUEN KWONG SCHOOL). A TEMPORARY TERMINUS WILL BE PROVIDED OUTSIDE LUEN KWONG SCHOOL.

ALL PARKING SPACES OUTSIDE YUEN LONG STADIUM WILL BE SUSPENDED BETWEEN 7 AM AND 12 NOON, WHILE THOSE ON TAI YUK ROAD SOUTH OF KAU YUK ROAD, AND ON MA TIN ROAD BETWEEN TAI YUK ROAD AND UNNAMED NULLAH-BUND ROAD TO MA TIN TSUEN WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 8.45 AM TO 10.30 AM.

TWO SPECIAL BUS SERVICES WILL OPERATE BETWEEN 12.15 PM AND 3.15 PM AT A FREQUENCY OF 10 TO 12 MINUTES.

ROUTE 52S WILL RUN FROM TAI LAM CHUNG TO TUEN MUN TOWN CENTRE WHILE ROUTE 50S WILL RUN FROM TAI LAM CHUNG TO YUEN LONG. THEIR FARES WILL BE \$2.5 AND \$3.5 RESPECTIVELY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 25 -

TAI WAI TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE

* * * *

LOWER SHING MUN ROAD IN TAI WAI BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH TAI PO ROAD AND FU SHAN CREMATORIUM WILL BE CLOSED FROM 7 AM TO 4 PM DAILY ON OCTOBER 25, 31, NOVEMBER 1 AND 8 FOR THE CHUNG YEUNG FESTIVAL.

DURING THESE PERIODS, NO VEHICLE EXCEPT EMERGENCY VEHICLES, HEARSEs, AND NEW TERRITORIES GREEN MINIBUS ROUTE NO. 64K WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THIS SECTION OF LOWER SHING MUN ROAD.

AT THE SAME TIME, VEHICLES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO STOP ON TAI PO ROAD NEAR ITS JUNCTION WITH LOWER SHING MUN ROAD. VISITORS TO FU SHAN CREMATORIUM ARE ADVISED TO USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT.

- - - - 0 - - - -

NORMAL MAIL TO CANADA RESUMED

* * * *

THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT MAIL SERVICES BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CANADA HAVE RETURNED TO NORMAL AS THE INDUSTRIAL ACTION IN THE CANADIAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION HAS ENDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 5-8428777

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

(SUPPLEMENT)

THE GOVERNOR AT NATIONAL
PRESS CLUB, WASHINGTON:
QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 1 -

THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, ANSWERED A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS FOLLOWING HIS ADDRESS TO THE NATIONAL PRESS CLUB IN WASHINGTON ON WEDNESDAY (U.S. TIME).

THE QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WAS CHAIRED BY THE CLUB PRESIDENT, MR ANDY MOLLISON, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT FOR COX NEWSPAPERS.

A TRANSCRIPT OF THE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOLLOWS:

MR MOLLISON: THE FIRST COUPLE OF QUESTIONS THAT WE'VE GOT CONCERN WHAT LED TO HONG KONG'S DECISION TO CLOSE ITS EXCHANGE FOR THE WEEK, AND THIS QUESTIONER SUGGESTS THAT THE CLOSING COULD LEAD TO A PANIC WHEN THE MARKET REOPENS. AND ANOTHER QUESTIONER WANTS TO KNOW, "WOULD YOU KNOW WHEN THE HONG KONG EXCHANGE WOULD REOPEN?"

SIR DAVID: THE FIRST THING I'D LIKE TO SAY IS THE HONG KONG STOCK EXCHANGE IS PRIVATELY MANAGED. LIKE MANY THINGS IN HONG KONG, IT IS NOT UNDER GOVERNMENT CONTROL. THE DECISION TO CLOSE THE MARKET WAS TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE, AND IT'S TOTALLY WITHIN ITS POWER TO DO IT.

IT HAS SAID, AT THE MOMENT, THAT THE MARKET WILL REMAIN CLOSED FOR THE REST OF THE WEEK. THE REASON FOR CLOSE IS THAT THEY GOT OVERWHELMED WITH PAPERWORK, WHICH WAS GOING IN TWO DIRECTIONS. LAST WEEK'S PAPERWORK WAS A MASSIVE BULL MARKET. MONDAY WAS A MASSIVE BEAR MARKET.

THE EXCHANGE IN HONG KONG, IN ITS PRESENT FORM, THAT IS, A UNIFIED EXCHANGE, MADE UP OUT OF FOUR PREVIOUS EXCHANGES, HAS ONLY BEEN GOING IN ITS PRESENT FORM FOR A YEAR. IT HAS CLEARLY BEEN HAVING TROUBLE WITH SOME OF ITS PAPERWORK ON SETTLEMENT. THAT IS OBVIOUSLY SOMETHING WHICH IS GOING TO HAVE TO BE REMEDIED. I KNOW THAT THAT IS SOMETHING WHICH THE STOCK EXCHANGE HAS ALREADY BEEN LOOKING INTO.

I CANNOT PREDICT ON BEHALF OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE PRECISELY WHEN IT WILL REOPEN, BECAUSE THAT'S ENTIRELY WITHIN THEIR HANDS. I KNOW THAT THEIR COMMITTEE IS MEETING TOMORROW, AND I KNOW ALSO THAT THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY OF HONG KONG IS KEEPING IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH THE EXCHANGE ABOUT ITS PLANS.

MR MOLLISON: DURING THIS TRIP YOU HAVE BEEN MEETING WITH CONGRESSIONAL MEMBERS INVOLVED IN THE HOUSE-SENATE TRADE BILL CONFERENCE. THAT NARROWS THE FIELD TO 197. DO YOU SENSE FROM THESE MEETINGS THAT THESE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A HONG KONG WHICH IS FREE OF UNFAIR TRADE BARRIERS, AND OTHER COUNTRIES SUCH AS JAPAN, WHO DENY MARKET ACCESS TO FOREIGN GOODS?

SIR DAVID: I'VE BEEN MEETING A LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE ON THE HILL AND MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATION, AND WE'VE BEEN TALKING ABOUT THESE ISSUES, AMONGST OTHERS.

/I CALLED

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 2 -

I CALLED THIS MORNING ON THE NEW SECRETARY OF COMMERCE AND I WAS INTERESTED TO SEE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE HAS AS ITS SEAL THE LOWER PART OF A LIGHTHOUSE, AND AS I POINTED OUT TO THE SECRETARY, THAT LIGHTHOUSE IS HONG KONG, SHINING AS A BEACON FOR FREE TRADE, TOGETHER WITH SINGAPORE AND THE FAR EAST.

I DO BELIEVE THAT HONG KONG'S POSITION AS THE CLASSIC EXAMPLE, TOGETHER WITH SINGAPORE, OF A GENUINE FREE TRADING SOCIETY, IS WIDELY UNDERSTOOD BY THOSE WHO FOLLOW THESE MATTERS CLOSELY.

OUR CONCERN, IN A PLACE LIKE HONG KONG, WHERE WE ARE ACTUALLY DOING ALL THOSE THINGS WHICH THE UNITED STATES WOULD WANT A LOT OF OTHER MARKETS TO DO, IS THAT IN THE WASH OF ATTEMPTS TO OPEN UP OTHER MARKETS, WE, A FREE TRADING SOCIETY, MIGHT INADVERTENTLY SUFFER. I THINK THAT IS -- THOSE PROBLEMS ARE WELL UNDERSTOOD BY THOSE WHO KNOW THE DETAIL OF THE SUBJECT. I WOULD LIKE TO HOPE THAT THE MESSAGE WILL GET ACROSS WIDELY IN THE COMMUNITY AS WELL.

MR MOLLISON: DID YOU DISCUSS EXCHANGE RATES WITH U.S. OFFICIALS? IF SO, WHAT WAS THE OUTCOME? DO YOU ENVISION A MORE IMPORTANT ROLE FOR THE HONG KONG DOLLAR, IN INTERNATIONAL FINANCE?

SIR DAVID: THE QUESTION OF EXCHANGE RATES AND THE PEGGING OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR TO THE U.S. DOLLAR CAME UP IN THE MEETINGS OF THE IMF WHEN MR BAKER (U.S. TREASURY SECRETARY) REFERRED TO IT PUBLICLY IN A SPEECH, AND THAT SUBJECT HAS BEEN TOUCHED ON DURING MY MEETINGS. I'VE EXPLAINED THAT WE PEGGED IN 1983, WHEN WE WERE SUFFERING A VERY SHARP ECONOMIC DOWNTURN, POLITICAL UNCERTAINTY ABOUT THE FUTURE, AND OUR CURRENCY WAS GOING WILD.

FOLLOWING THAT PEGGING, THE HONG KONG DOLLAR WENT UP WITH THE U.S. DOLLAR. SO WE TOOK ALL THOSE DISADVANTAGES. WE DID NOT PEG IN ORDER TO GET ANY FOREIGN TRADE ADVANTAGE. WE HAVE COME DOWN WITH THE U.S. DOLLAR AND, TO AN EXTENT, BY THAT TOKEN, WE HAVE GAINED SOME BENEFIT. BUT, WE HAVE NOT BUILT UP ANY TRADE SURPLUS AS A RESULT. BEING A TOTALLY FREE AND OPEN MARKET, IT BALANCES ITSELF OUT. INDEED, THIS YEAR WE EXPECT TO HAVE A SLIGHT DEFICIT ON OUR OVERALL FOREIGN TRADE.

I'VE EXPLAINED THAT, GIVEN THESE REASONS, AND THE IMPORTANCE OF THE STABILITY OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR, WE DID NOT INTEND TO MOVE FROM OUR PRESENT PEGGING.

THE SECOND PART OF THE QUESTION, MR CHAIRMAN, DO WE EXPECT THE HONG KONG DOLLAR ITSELF TO PLAY A LARGER ROLE IN FOREIGN TRADE, NO, I WOULDN'T HAVE THOUGHT SO, AND WE PEGGED TO THE U.S. DOLLAR BECAUSE THAT IS OUR MAIN TRADING CURRENCY, AS IT IS FOR MANY OTHER PEOPLE.

/MR MOLLISON:

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 3 -

MR MOLLISON: YOU HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING THE RESETTLEMENT OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES FROM HONG KONG. ARE YOU OR WILL YOU BE HOLDING DISCUSSIONS THAT COULD LEAD TO REPATRIATION, PERHAPS WITH EITHER AMERICAN OR BRITISH INVOLVEMENT?

SIR DAVID: VIETNAMESE REFUGEES AND THAT PROBLEM IS, INDEED, ONE OF THE TOPICS THAT I'VE BEEN DISCUSSING. IT IS A GROWING PROBLEM FOR US IN HONG KONG. WITHOUT CONTINUING THE BARRAGE OF STATISTICS, LET ME JUST SAY THAT THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE ARRIVING IN HONG KONG FROM VIETNAM THIS YEAR WAS UP BY OVER 50 PER CENT ON LAST YEAR. THE NUMBER OF RESETTLEMENT PLACES AVAILABLE WAS DOWN BY JUST UNDER 50 PER CENT. THOSE TWO STATISTICS, I THINK, WILL GIVE YOU SOME FLAVOUR OF THE PROBLEM.

BUT I MUST ADD ONE OTHER STATISTIC, AND THAT IS WE FACE CONSTANT PRESSURE OF IMMIGRATION FROM THE MAINLAND OF CHINA, FROM PEOPLE WHO HAVE CLOSE CONNECTIONS WITH HONG KONG, AND WE HAVE TO TURN THEM BACK. WE TURN THEM BACK AT A RATE, AT THE MOMENT, OF SOME 70 A DAY. I HOPE THAT GIVES SOME FLAVOUR OF THE POLITICAL PROBLEM THAT WE FACE, WITH DIMINISHING RESETTLEMENT OPPORTUNITIES AROUND THE WORLD.

WE ARE LOOKING, IN HONG KONG, AS I'M SURE OTHER PLACES OF FIRST ASYLUM ARE, FOR TWO PARTS TO A SOLUTION. ONE IS CONTINUING RESETTLEMENT, A CONTINUATION OF THAT ENORMOUS GENEROSITY WHICH THE UNITED STATES, ABOVE ALL, HAS SHOWN. THE UNITED STATES HAS SETTLED SOME 63,000 VIETNAMESE FROM HONG KONG. WE ARE LOOKING FOR THE SECOND PART OF THIS, AND THAT IS A LONG-TIME SOLUTION. HOW DO YOU DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM OF PEOPLE WHO ARE NOW, MANY OF THEM, NOT POLITICAL REFUGEES, BUT PEOPLE WHO ARE MOVING FOR ECONOMIC REASONS?

SOME 70 PER CENT OF THE PEOPLE WE HAVE ARRIVING AT THE MOMENT COME FROM NORTH VIETNAM AND ARE ETHNIC VIETNAMESE. THEY DO NOT QUALIFY UNDER THE UNITED STATES RESETTLEMENT PROGRAMME. WHAT DO YOU DO WITH THIS CONTINUING PROBLEM? IS IT NOT POSSIBLE, OVER TIME, AND WITH ADEQUATE SAFEGUARDS, TO WORK OUT AN ARRANGEMENT BY WHICH THOSE PEOPLE ARE SENT BACK TO VIETNAM IN THE SAME WAY AS EQUIVALENT PEOPLE WOULD BE SENT BACK TO THEIR OTHER PLACES OF ORIGIN?

SO, I HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING THIS PROBLEM HERE, AS WE HAVE DISCUSSED IT ELSEWHERE, LIKE IN LONDON, AND AS A NUMBER OF THE COUNTRIES INVOLVED EITHER IN RESETTLEMENT OR AS PLACES OF FIRST ASYLUM, HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING IT OVER THE LAST FEW MONTHS.

MR MOLLISON: WE HAVE SEVERAL QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE TRANSITION PERIOD, AND ONE OF THEM HERE IS, "THE SINO-BRITISH ACCORD PROVIDES THAT THE INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COVENANTS WILL CONTINUE TO APPLY TO HONG KONG AFTER 1997. HOW? WILL CHINA RATIFY THESE TREATIES? WILL HONG KONG RESIDENTS BE ABLE TO CHALLENGE LAWS BEFORE THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE?"

/SIR DAVID:

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 4 -

SIR DAVID: THOSE COVENANTS ARE, INDEED, WRITTEN INTO THE JOINT DECLARATION, THAT THE PROVISIONS SHOULD CONTINUE IN THE WAY THAT THEY ARE APPLIED TO HONG KONG AT THE MOMENT.

I CAN'T ANSWER WHETHER CHINA WILL RATIFY THOSE, BUT THE PROVISIONS REMAIN AS IN THE JOINT DECLARATION, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER CHINA DOES RATIFY OR NOT. IT MEANS THAT WITHIN THE HONG KONG LEGAL SYSTEM THAT THERE IS PROVISION FOR THOSE SORT OF RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS.

MR MOLLISON: HONG KONG HAS A NEW RESTRICTIVE PRESS LAW THAT HAS BEEN CONDEMNED IN MANY QUARTERS. ARE THERE ANY PLANS TO REPEAL IT?

SIR DAVID: THE FIRST ANSWER, MR CHAIRMAN, IS NO, SIR, WE DO NOT HAVE A NEW, RESTRICTIVE PRESS LAW. WE HAVE REVISED A PREVIOUS RESTRICTIVE PRESS LAW WHICH HAS BEEN ON THE BOOKS FOR A VERY LONG TIME. WE HAVE TAKEN OUT SIX OF THE RESTRICTIVE PROVISIONS. WE HAVE LEFT IN ONE. AND THAT IS A PROVISION WHICH IS CALLED THE "FALSE NEWS PROVISION".

WE HAVE SAID THAT WE WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE APPLICATION OF THAT LAW. WE WILL DO SO.

I AM BOUND TO SAY THAT IN THE PAST I HAVE SEEN NO IMPACT ON THE FREEDOM OF THE HONG KONG PRESS. DURING THIS YEAR SINCE THAT NEW ORDINANCE WAS PASSED I HAVE SEEN NO IMPACT ON FREEDOM OR THE ACTIVITY OF THE HONG KONG PRESS. I DON'T EXPECT TO SEE ANY.

MR MOLLISON: WILL THERE BE DIRECT ELECTIONS IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF YEARS, IF CHINA OBJECTS?

SIR DAVID: I LIKE THAT "SIMPLE" QUESTION, SIR.

(LAUGHTER)

SIR DAVID: THAT IS A MATTER OF ENORMOUS DEBATE IN HONG KONG AT THE MOMENT. JUST TO FILL IN SOME OF THE BACKGROUND, FIRST OF ALL, AS I MENTIONED WHEN I WAS SPEAKING, THE JOINT DECLARATION LAYS DOWN THAT THE HONG KONG LEGISLATURE, AFTER 1997, WILL BE ELECTED. IT DOESN'T LAY DOWN HOW IT WILL BE ELECTED. NOW THAT MEANS THAT IT WILL HAVE TO CHANGE SIGNIFICANTLY FROM THE PRESENT SITUATION, WHERE PART OF IT IS INDIRECTLY ELECTED, BUT PART OF IT IS STILL APPOINTED BY MYSELF, THAT'S APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR.

A SECOND PIECE OF BACKGROUND: WE HAVE BEEN CONDUCTING THIS YEAR A REVIEW OF THE SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT IN HONG KONG, IN WHICH ONE OF THE ISSUES, AND THE ONE WHICH HAS ATTRACTED MOST ATTENTION, IS SHOULD THERE BE A DIRECTLY ELECTED ELEMENT TO THE LEGISLATURE? IF SO, WHEN SHOULD THAT HAPPEN?

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 5 -

THE SURVEY OFFICE, WHICH WAS COLLECTING OPINIONS ON THIS, CLOSED AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER. THE REPORT IS BEING PREPARED NOW. IT WILL BE MADE PUBLIC ON THE FOURTH OF NOVEMBER. I EXPECT TO SEE IT SHORTLY BEFORE THAT, BUT PRECISELY THE SAME REPORT AS I RECEIVE WILL BE MADE PUBLIC IN THE LEGISLATURE.

I CAN'T, THEREFORE, AT THE MOMENT, GUESS OR ESTIMATE WHAT THAT SURVEY WILL SHOW. BUT I THINK IT'S CLEAR ALREADY THAT THERE IS GREAT INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT OF A DIRECTLY ELECTED ELEMENT TO THE LEGISLATURE. IT IS CLEAR, IN GENERAL, THAT THE COMMUNITY HAS DIVIDED VIEWS ABOUT WHEN THAT SHOULD BE FIRST BROUGHT IN.

WHAT IS NOT CLEAR, AND WHAT IS CLEARLY, WHAT IS OBVIOUSLY AN IMPORTANT POLITICAL FACTOR FOR US, IS JUST HOW DO THOSE VIEWS BREAK DOWN. WE WILL ONLY KNOW THAT AND WE WILL, THEREFORE, ONLY KNOW THE PARAMETERS WITHIN WHICH WE MUST TAKE OUR DECISIONS, WHEN WE GET THE SURVEY OFFICE REPORT LATER THIS MONTH, AND WHEN IT'S MADE PUBLIC, EARLY NEXT MONTH.

MR MOLLISON: DOES THAT MEAN THAT YOU'RE TAKING THE VIEWS OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA INTO ACCOUNT?

SIR DAVID: THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA IS, AT THE MOMENT, DRAFTING THE BASIC LAW. THE BASIC LAW IS THE DOCUMENT WHICH WILL ESTABLISH THE SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT IN HONG KONG AFTER 1997. IT WILL, PRESUMABLY, LAY DOWN SOMETHING ABOUT THE WAY IN WHICH THE LEGISLATURE IS TO BE COMPOSED. WE DON'T KNOW PRECISELY YET HOW IT WILL DO THAT. WE SHOULD GET AN INDICATION WHEN THE FIRST DRAFT OF THAT BASIC LAW COMES OUT EARLY NEXT YEAR.

WE, IN HONG KONG, IN THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, HAVE SAID THAT WE WILL TAKE FULL ACCOUNT OF THE VIEWS EXPRESSED IN THE REVIEW EXERCISE WHICH WE'RE NOW CARRYING OUT, WHEN WE TAKE DECISIONS ON THE QUESTION OF DIRECT ELECTIONS, AND WHEN WE WRITE THOSE DECISIONS INTO A WHITE PAPER WHICH WILL BE PUBLISHED PROBABLY IN THE EARLY PART OF FEBRUARY, NEXT YEAR.

MR MOLLISON: WHEN YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT THE LONG-TERM AGREEMENT, TWO PEOPLE HAVE RAISED FUTURE POSSIBILITIES. ONE OF THEM IS, "ARE THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG FRIGHTENED WHEN THEY SEE A CRACKDOWN BY THE CHINESE IN TIBET? DO THEY SEE PARALLELS THERE?" AND THE OTHER ONE IS, "WHAT GOOD DO YOUR GUARANTEES DO YOU IF THERE'S ANOTHER RED GUARD REVOLUTION OR THE EQUIVALENT, DURING THE PERIOD OF THE ACCORD?"

SIR DAVID: ON THE FIRST QUESTION, I THINK THAT PEOPLE IN HONG KONG WOULD SEE HONG KONG AS BEING VERY DIFFERENT, INDEED, FROM TIBET. HONG KONG HAS THE PROVISIONS FOR THE FUTURE LAID DOWN IN VERY GREAT DETAIL IN THE JOINT DECLARATION. THAT'S ONE KEY FACTOR.

/SECONDLY, AN

SECONDLY, AN IMPORTANT FACTOR, I THINK, IS THAT THERE'S NOBODY IN HONG KONG WHO IS PRESSING FOR INDEPENDENCE OF HONG KONG IN THE WAY THAT, IF I UNDERSTAND THE NEWSPAPER REPORTS RIGHT, THAT SOME PEOPLE IN LHASA HAVE BEEN DOING. SO, PEOPLE IN HONG KONG, I THINK, WOULD SEE A VERY GREAT DISTINCTION BETWEEN HONG KONG AND TIBET.

THE SECOND QUESTION, WHICH IS REALLY "WHAT HAPPENS IF THE POLITICAL SCENE IN PEKING CHANGES?" I HAVE NO DOUBT AT ALL THAT THE LEADERSHIP IN PEKING IS FULLY COMMITTED TO THAT JOINT DECLARATION. THEY'VE PUT AN IMMENSE AMOUNT OF EFFORT BEHIND IT, A GREAT DEAL OF DEVOTION OF DIPLOMATIC EFFORT AND POLITICAL EFFORT, TO A SOLUTION FOR THE HISTORICAL PROBLEM WHICH IS QUITE UNIQUE, AND I HAVE NO DOUBT AT ALL THAT THEY WANT TO SEE IT CARRIED OUT AS IT IS LAID DOWN IN THAT DECLARATION.

THE ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH THAT'S DONE CAN, OF COURSE, BE AFFECTED, TO SOME EXTENT, BY POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN CHINA. BUT EVERY TIME THERE IS SOME SHIFT IN PEKING, LIKE THE DISGRACE OF HU YAOBANG EARLIER THIS YEAR, THE CHINESE LEADERSHIP IS AT GREAT PAINS TO EXPLAIN THAT THERE IS NO CHANGE AND THAT NO CHANGE IS INTENDED TO THE POLICY ON HONG KONG, AND I HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THAT.

MR MOLLISON: DOES THE ANTICIPATED INCREASE IN TRAVEL AMONG THE CHINESE ON TAIWAN AND THE CHINESE ON THE MAINLAND HAVE ANY IMPACT AT ALL ON HONG KONG?

SIR DAVID: YES, SIR. HOTEL TRADE IS GOING TO DO VERY WELL.

(LAUGHTER.)

SIR DAVID: THERE'S BOUND TO BE A GREAT DEAL OF TRAFFIC COMING THROUGH HONG KONG. THERE IS ALREADY A GOOD DEAL OF TRADE THAT GOES THROUGH HONG KONG, AND I WOULD EXPECT THAT TO CONTINUE. BUT THOSE ARE THE ONLY TWO IMPACTS THAT I THINK IT'LL HAVE.

MR MOLLISON: WHAT CONCESSIONS MIGHT HONG KONG BE WILLING TO MAKE TO PROTECTIONIST SENTIMENT IN THE UNITED STATES?

(LAUGHTER.)

SIR DAVID: THAT'S AN EXTRAORDINARY QUESTION, SIR.

(LAUGHTER.)

SIR DAVID: WE ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO MAKE CONCESSIONS OR OTHERWISE. WE RUN A FREE TRADING SYSTEM. WE SET UP NO BARRIERS; WE ARE NOT INTENDING TO SET UP ANY BARRIERS. SO THERE ARE NO CONCESSIONS IN THAT WAY.

/BUT BEHIND

BUT BEHIND ALL THAT THERE IS AN IMPORTANT POINT. WE DO FULLY UNDERSTAND, IN A PLACE LIKE HONG KONG, THE ENORMOUS DIFFICULTIES FOR THE UNITED STATES IN THE FOREIGN TRADE DEFICIT. WE WOULD LIKE HONG KONG TO BE A BETTER, LARGER, MARKET FOR U.S. GOODS.

I MENTIONED, WHEN I WAS SPEAKING, THE INCREASE THAT THERE'S BEEN THIS YEAR. IT IS A VERY IMPRESSIVE INCREASE. WE THINK THAT IT COULD BE A MUCH BIGGER MARKET THAN THAT. LET ME JUST TAKE ONE EXAMPLE. IT'S NOT GENERALLY REALISED THAT IN THE FIELD OF TEXTILES HONG KONG IS NOT JUST AN EXPORTER OF TEXTILES; WE ARE ACTUALLY THE THIRD LARGEST IMPORTER IN THE WORLD OF TEXTILES. BUT OF THAT MARKET, THE UNITED STATES, AT THE MOMENT, HAS LESS THAN ONE PER CENT. IT USED TO HAVE OVER TWO PER CENT.

OTHER TEXTILE PRODUCERS IN THE SAME SORT OF FIELD, THAT IS, HIGH COST, HIGH QUALITY GOODS, LIKE ITALY AND GERMANY, HAVE DONE VERY WELL RECENTLY IN HONG KONG. WE BELIEVE THAT U.S. TEXTILE INTERESTS COULD DO WELL IN HONG KONG. WE HAVE COMMITTED GOVERNMENT MONEY TO A STUDY OF HOW THAT MIGHT BE DONE. WE ARE COOPERATING WITH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE IN RUNNING SEMINARS TO ENCOURAGE THAT SORT OF EXPORT. SO IN THAT SENSE, FIRST, WE ARE CONSCIOUS OF THE ENORMOUS PROBLEMS FOR THE UNITED STATES OF THE TRADE DEFICIT, AND SECONDLY, WE WOULD LIKE TO DO WHATEVER WE CAN TO MAKE SURE THAT HONG KONG'S OPEN MARKET IS FULLY UTILISED BY THE UNITED STATES.

MR MOLLISON: IT HAS BEEN SAID RECENTLY THAT MANUFACTURERS WOULD BE LIKELY TO REMAIN IN HONG KONG AFTER 1997, BUT THAT THE MONEY INTERESTS, BANKERS AND INVESTORS, ET CETERA, WOULD MOVE OUT. DO YOU AGREE?

SIR DAVID: IT'S DIFFICULT TO ANSWER FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR. THEY, OBVIOUSLY, HAVE TO TAKE THEIR OWN DECISIONS.

IF YOU LOOK AT THE TREND AT THE MOMENT, THE ANSWER MUST BE NO, THAT IS NOT THE TREND AT ALL. THERE IS A LARGE GROWTH IN THE BANKING SECTOR AT THE MOMENT, AND THE GENERAL FINANCIAL SERVICES SECTOR IN HONG KONG. HONG KONG IS BECOMING A KEY PART IN THAT GLOBAL FINANCIAL MARKET, SOME OF THE EFFECTS OF WHICH WE'VE SEEN OVER THE LAST FEW DAYS.

SO, I WOULD NOT EXPECT FINANCIAL SERVICES IN HONG KONG TO MOVE OUT. THE TREND AT THE MOMENT IS EXACTLY IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION.

MR MOLLISON: WILL THE PRC'S ONLY CHILD POLICY BE EXTENDED TO HONG KONG?

(LAUGHTER.)

SIR DAVID: NO, SIR. THAT, ODDLY ENOUGH, IS ACTUALLY LAID DOWN IN THE JOINT DECLARATION.

MR MOLLISON:

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1987

- 8 -

MR MOLLISON: ODDLY ENOUGH, I UNDERSTOOD NEITHER THE QUESTION NOR THE ANSWER.

(LAUGHTER.)

MR MOLLISON: I'M SURE IT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO SPECIALISTS IN THE FIELD.

WHEN YOU HAD A REQUEST -- OR HAVE YOU REQUESTED THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO INCREASE ITS QUOTA FOR VIETNAMESE REFUGEES?

SIR DAVID: MR CHAIRMAN, MAY I JUST VERY BRIEFLY ENLIGHTEN YOU ON THE ONE CHILD POLICY? CHINA IS TRYING TO RESTRICT ITS POPULATION GROWTH AND IT HAS, THEREFORE, HAD A POLICY OF TRYING TO LIMIT TO ONE CHILD PER FAMILY. IT IS NOT UNIVERSAL OR TOTAL, BUT THAT'S A SORT OF SIMPLIFIED VERSION OF THE POLICY.

DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG, MANY PEOPLE IN HONG KONG WERE CONCERNED PRECISELY THE POINT THE QUESTIONER PUT, "WOULD THAT POLICY APPLY TO HONG KONG?" IT IS, THEREFORE, WRITTEN INTO THE AGREEMENT THAT FREEDOM TO RAISE THE SORT OF FAMILY, THE SIZE OF FAMILY, YOU WANT, WILL BE PRESERVED.

ON THE SECOND QUESTION, MR CHAIRMAN, I HAVE BEEN SPEAKING ON THE VIETNAMESE REFUGEE ISSUE AND I HAVE BEEN ASKING THAT THE RESETTLEMENT PROGRAMME IN THE UNITED STATES SHOULD CONTINUE AT THE HIGH LEVEL THAT IT WAS FORMERLY, AND I HAVE ASKED THAT THE UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION SHOULD LOOK AT WAYS IN WHICH THE NUMBERS NOW BEING TAKEN FROM HONG KONG MIGHT BE INCREASED.

- - - - 0 - - - -