



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1982

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
IMPORTANCE OF TRADE WITH AMERICA STRESSED	1
BUILDING PLANS APPROVED FOR JULY	3
SAFETY PLEA TO TSUEN WAN EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES	4
WARNING ABOUT FALSE AD SEEKERS	5
MANUAL ON HOTEL JOBS	6
LECTURES ON HOW TO KEEP HEART HEALTHY	7
FISHERMEN VISIT KOREA	8
METRICATION FLOAT TAKES TO THE ROAD	9
TRAM SERVICES CURTAILED ON SATURDAY	9
SWIMMING CONTEST FOR YAU MA TEI AND MONG KOK	10
URBAN CLEARWAY IN QUARRY BAY	10

IMPORTANCE OF TRADE WITH AMERICA STRESSED
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HONG KONG'S TRADE WAS SMALL IN UNITED STATES TERMS, WITH LITTLE IMPACT ON THE U.S. ECONOMY, BUT THE U.S., ON THE OTHER HAND WAS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO HONG KONG, TAKING 36 PER CENT OF HONG KONG'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN 1981.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR JOHN BREMRIDGE, IN A JOINT TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AND HONG KONG TOURIST ASSOCIATION LUNCHEON TALK IN NEW YORK TODAY (SEPTEMBER 2).

MR BREMRIDGE POINTED OUT THAT IN OVERALL U.S. TRADE TERMS, HONG KONG SUPPLIED ONLY TWO PER CENT OF TOTAL U.S. IMPORTS AND TOOK 1.2 PER CENT OF AMERICAN EXPORTS TO THE WORLD.

+ALTHOUGH HONG KONG IS SOMETIMES REPRESENTED AS BEING A SIGNIFICANT SUPPLIER TO THE U.S. MARKET OF PARTICULAR PRODUCTS, SUCH CLAIMS NEED TO BE SEEN IN THEIR PROPER PERSPECTIVE,+ MR BREMRIDGE EXPLAINED.

HE SAID THAT HONG KONG EXPORTS TO THE COUNTRY HAD BEEN HELPED IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR BY THE PATTERN OF AMERICAN CONSUMER SPENDING, WHICH HAD FALLEN OFF IN LARGER ITEMS SUCH AS MOTOR CARS AND HOUSING WHERE CREDIT WOULD BE AFFECTED BY HIGH INTEREST RATES, BUT HAD APPARENTLY NOT BEEN MUCH REDUCED ON SMALLER ITEMS WHICH ARE HONG KONG'S MAIN EXPORTS TO THE U.S.: GARMENTS, TOYS, OFFICE MACHINES, WATCHES AND CLOCKS AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS.

EXCHANGE RATES ALSO HAD A BEARING IN ENABLING HONG KONG PRODUCTS TO REMAIN COST COMPETITIVE IN THE U.S., PARTICULARLY IN A SITUATION WHERE THE HONG KONG DOLLAR HAD BEEN WEAKENING AGAINST THE U.S. DOLLAR, WHILE HOLDING ITS GROUND AGAINST THE CURRENCIES OF THE COUNTRIES WHICH SUPPLY THE RAW MATERIALS FOR HONG KONG EXPORTS.

MR BREMRIDGE SAID THAT DESPITE ADVERSE ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, HONG KONG HAD SO FAR MANAGED TO SUSTAIN A REASONABLE PERFORMANCE IN THE AMERICAN MARKET IN 1982, WITH OVERALL GROWTH OF 11.2 PER CENT BY VALUE IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS COMPARED WITH THE FIRST HALF OF 1981.

MR BREMRIDGE ALSO SAID THAT HONG KONG'S +DOORS ARE ALWAYS OPEN NOT ONLY TO THE UNRESTRICTED TARIFF-FREE IMPORT OF GOODS BUT ALSO TO INVESTMENT, EXPERTISE AND NEW TECHNOLOGY.+

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1982

- 2 -

THE U.S. WAS THE THIRD LARGEST SOURCE OF HONG KONG IMPORTS, BUT WITH ONLY A 10 PER CENT SHARE AND ONE THAT HAD NOT BEEN INCREASING IN RECENT YEARS.

+IF AMERICAN EXPORTERS HAVE BEEN A LITTLE SLOW TO EXPAND INTO THE HONG KONG MARKET, THE SAME CANNOT BE SAID FOR AMERICAN CONCERNS SEEKING TO INVEST AND PARTICIPATE IN HONG KONG INDUSTRY.

+NEARLY 44 PER CENT OF DIRECT OVERSEAS INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES CAME FROM THE U.S.A. IN 1981,+ HE SAID.

MR BREMRIDGE POINTED OUT THAT AMERICAN INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT COVERING ALMOST 110 CONCERNS WAS LARGELY CONCENTRATED IN HONG KONG'S ELECTRONICS, CHEMICAL AND TEXTILE INDUSTRIES, BUT OTHER INVESTMENTS WERE ALSO IN BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, AIRLINES, SHIPPING COMPANIES AND BUYING AGENTS.

OVERSEAS INVESTMENT, PARTICULARLY FROM THE U.S., WAS MOST WELCOME AND THERE WAS NO DISCRIMINATION AGAINST OVERSEAS COMPANIES, HE SAID.

ONLY THROUGH THE EXPANSION OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INVESTMENT WITH EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL WHO WISH TO PARTICIPATE, COULD THE UNDERLYING ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES OF THE WORLD BE OVERCOME, MR BREMRIDGE SAID.

HONG KONG OFFERED EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITIES NOT ONLY AS A MARKET AND INVESTMENT CENTRE IN ITS OWN RIGHT, BUT ALSO AS THE IDEAL BASE FROM WHICH TO DO BUSINESS WITH THE REST OF ASIA AND IN PARTICULAR WITH CHINA, WITH WHOM HONG KONG'S RELATIONS HAD NEVER BEEN BETTER.

+WE OFFER TO THE WORLD AN EXAMPLE OF SELF HELP BASED ON A FREE SOCIETY, LOW TAXES, HARD WORK, FREE TRADE WITH AN EVER OPEN DOOR TO THE U.S.A. IN PARTICULAR,+ MR BREMRIDGE CONCLUDED.

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/3

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1982

- 3 -

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED FOR JULY
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A TOTAL OF 66 NEW BUILDING PLANS WERE APPROVED BY THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IN JULY THIS YEAR, COMPARED WITH 84 IN JULY LAST YEAR.

OF THE NEW PLANS, 19 WERE FOR NEW BUILDINGS ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 15 FOR KOWLOON AND 32 FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THEY INCLUDE A PATHOLOGY BUILDING EXTENSION AT QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL, POKFULAM ROAD, A KINDERGARTEN/CHURCH BUILDING AT MA TAU CHUNG ROAD, A PEDESTRIAN FOOTBRIDGE AT CANTON ROAD, TWO SCHOOLS AT HIP WO STREET, KWUN TONG, AND TIN SUM, SHA TIN, AND A CLUB HOUSE AT BEAS RIVER, SHEUNG SHUI.

THE DECLARED COST OF ALL THE NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED DURING THE MONTH WAS \$532.22 MILLION, COMPARED WITH \$431.82 MILLION IN THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR.

THEIR USABLE FLOOR AREA TOTALLED 185 866.7 SQUARE METRES, COMPRISING 151 348.4 SQUARE METRES OF NON-DOMESTIC AND 34 518.3 SQUARE METRES OF DOMESTIC FLOOR SPACE.

IN THE SAME MONTH, THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE ALSO GAVE CONSENT FOR WORK TO START ON 57 PROJECTS, INCLUDING A SCHOOL AT PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD, A TEMPLE IN THE NORTH OF LUNG CHEUNG ROAD, A HOSPITAL IN YUEN LONG AND A BUS DEPOT IN TUEN MUN.

ALTOGETHER, 48 NEWLY-COMPLETED BUILDINGS WERE CERTIFIED FOR OCCUPATION IN JULY, INCLUDING A CLUB HOUSE AT TUNG LO WAN ROAD, A SCHOOL IN CHI FU FA YUEN, POKFULAM ROAD, A HOSPITAL EXTENSION AT WATERLOO ROAD AND A PETROL FILLING STATION AT CHIK CHUEN STREET, TAI WAI.

THE OFFICE ALSO GAVE PERMISSION FOR 98 BUILDINGS TO BE DEMOLISHED.

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1982

- 4 -

SAFETY PLEA TO TSUEN WAN EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES

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EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES IN TSUEN WAN WERE URGED TODAY (THURSDAY) TO PLAY A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN PROMOTING INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND ACCIDENT PREVENTION.

THE PLEA WAS MADE BY THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, DR J.W. HAYES, AT THE OPENING OF +SAFETY EXTRAVAGANZA+ - AN AUDIO-VISUAL PRESENTATION ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY - AND AN INDUSTRIAL SAFETY EQUIPMENT EXHIBITION HELD BY THE DEPARTMENT AT TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL.

THE +SAFETY EXTRAVAGANZA+ AND THE EXHIBITION, WHICH FORM PART OF THE DEPARTMENT'S PUBLICITY PROGRAMME TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ON THE IMPORTANCE OF INDUSTRIAL SAFETY, ARE CO-SPONSORED BY THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD INDUSTRIAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

DR HAYES, WHO WAS FORMERLY TSUEN WAN TOWN MANAGER, SAID TSUEN WAN HAD A PROUD RECORD OF ACHIEVING TREMENDOUS GROWTH IN INDUSTRY WHICH, HOWEVER, HAD ALSO BROUGHT ABOUT AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

HE CALLED FOR A +CONCERTED EFFORT+ BY THE GOVERNMENT, THE EMPLOYERS AND THE EMPLOYEES TO REDUCE THESE ACCIDENTS.

+FOR OUR PART,+ HE SAID, +WE WILL ENDEAVOUR TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION BY ENFORCING LEGISLATION, PROVIDING MORE TRAINING AND ADVICE ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND INTENSIFYING PUBLICITY CAMPAIGNS ON THIS IMPORTANT SUBJECT.+

DR HAYES' PLEA WAS ECHOED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD INDUSTRIAL SUB-COMMITTEE, MR LAM KIN-MING, WHO POINTED OUT THAT MORE THAN 180 000 PEOPLE OF THE 610 000 POPULATION IN TSUEN WAN WORKED IN FACTORIES AND IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND TRANSPORT INDUSTRIES.

HE HOPED THAT EVERY EMPLOYER WOULD PAY MORE ATTENTION TO THE WORK SAFETY OF HIS EMPLOYEES AND THAT EVERY WORKER WOULD ATTACH MORE IMPORTANCE TO SAFETY EQUIPMENT AND PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES.

MRS SUSAN TANG, CHAIRMAN OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE FOR THE +SAFETY EXTRAVAGANZA+, LATER DECLARED THE SHOW OPEN BY PERFORMING A SWITCHING-ON CEREMONY.

THE +SAFETY EXTRAVAGANZA+ AND THE EXHIBITION WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FROM 11 AM TO 8.30 PM DAILY FROM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) UNTIL NEXT WEDNESDAY.

THE EXHIBITION FEATURES A WIDE RANGE OF SAFETY EQUIPMENT DISPLAYED BY EIGHT LOCAL FIRMS.

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1982

- 5 -

WARNING ABOUT FALSE AD SEEKERS
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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WERE WARNED TODAY (THURSDAY) AGAINST FRAUDULENT REQUESTS FOR PLACEMENT OF ADVERTISEMENTS IN PUBLICATIONS PURPORTING TO BE PRODUCED BY CIVIL SERVANTS UNIONS.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THERE WERE INSTANCES OF FRAUDULENCE RECENTLY IN WHICH PEOPLE WERE CANVASSING FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE NAME OF SOME CIVIL SERVANTS UNIONS.

HE STATED THAT NO CIVIL SERVANTS UNIONS MIGHT PRODUCE ANY PUBLICATIONS WITH PAID ADVERTISEMENTS WITHOUT APPROVAL FROM THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE.

CONDITIONS FOR APPROVAL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- * REQUESTS FOR ADVERTISEMENTS MUST BE BY LETTER ONLY.
- * THE UNION CONCERNED MUST ENSURE THAT THE METHODS OF CANVASSING FOR ADVERTISEMENTS WILL NOT BRING THE PUBLIC SERVICE INTO DISREPUTE.
- * ADVERTISERS SHOULD BE ASKED TO MAKE PAYMENT BY CROSSED CHEQUE MADE OUT TO THE UNION AND SENT BY MAIL TO ITS REGISTERED ADDRESS.

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT AGREEMENT OR REFUSAL TO PLACE SUCH ADVERTISEMENTS WOULD IN NO WAY AFFECT DEALINGS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OR CIVIL SERVANTS.

WHEN IN DOUBT ABOUT THE MATTER, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY CHECK WITH THE CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH STAFF RELATIONS DIVISION AT 5-225409.

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/6

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1982

- 6 -

MANUAL ON HOTEL JOBS

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THE HOTEL, CATERING AND TOURISM TRAINING BOARD OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL HAS PUBLISHED A MANUAL ON PRINCIPAL JOBS IN THE HOTEL INDUSTRY.

THE MANUAL RECOMMENDS STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR 101 JOBS AT MANAGEMENT, SUPERVISORY, CLERICAL, OPERATIVE, TECHNICIAN, CRAFT AND OTHER LEVELS.

IT SPECIFIES THE SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND TRAINING REQUIRED FOR EACH OF THE JOBS AS WELL AS PROVIDES GUIDELINES FOR TESTING COMPETENCY UPON COMPLETION OF TRAINING.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TRAINING BOARD, MR LARRY M.K. TCHOU, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THESE RECOMMENDATIONS, IF FOLLOWED, WOULD UPGRADE MANPOWER TRAINING ESSENTIAL FOR THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY.

HE ALSO EMPHASISED THAT THE MANUAL WOULD BE A USEFUL REFERENCE FOR THE INDUSTRY.

COPIES OF THE MANUAL AT \$42 EACH ARE ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE.

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1982

- 7 -

LECTURES ON HOW TO KEEP HEART HEALTHY

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TWO PUBLIC TALKS ON HEART DISEASES AND ON WAYS OF KEEPING THE HEART HEALTHY WILL BE GIVEN BY MEDICAL EXPERTS ON THE SATURDAYS OF SEPTEMBER 4 AND 11.

THEY WILL BE HELD BETWEEN 3.30 PM AND 4.30 PM IN THE LADY TRENCH AUDITORIUM OF THE DUKE OF WINDSOR SOCIAL SERVICE BUILDING, 15 HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI.

THE LECTURES ARE PART OF A CAMPAIGN JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND THE HONG KONG CARDIOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

THE TALKS THIS SATURDAY WILL FOCUS ON THE CAUSES OF HEART DISEASES AND ON PREVENTIVE MEASURES AND WILL BE CONDUCTED BY DR KONG SIU MING, PRESIDENT OF THE CARDIOLOGICAL SOCIETY AND CONSULTANT PHYSICIAN OF THE DEPARTMENT.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT BECAUSE OF THE GROWING INCIDENCE OF HEART DISEASE, IT IS IMPORTANT TO TAKE PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

LAST YEAR, MORE THAN 7 000 PERSONS DIED OF VARIOUS HEART DISEASES, ACCOUNTING FOR ABOUT 30 PER CENT OF ALL DEATHS IN HONG KONG.

ADMISSION TO THE LECTURES IS FREE.

FURTHER INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE CENTRAL HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT AT 5-720861.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE TALKS TO BE HELD BETWEEN 3.30 PM AND 4.30 PM ON THE SATURDAYS OF SEPTEMBER 4 AND SEPTEMBER 11.

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1982

- 8 -

FISHERMEN VISIT KOREA
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TEN HONG KONG FISHERMEN WILL LEAVE THIS WEEKEND FOR A FAMILIARISATION VISIT TO SOUTH KOREA.

WHILE IN THE COUNTRY, THEY WILL VISIT THE KORMARINE 1982 FISHERIES EXHIBITION AND THE DEEP SEA FISHING TRAINING CENTRE IN PUSAN.

THE GROUP WILL ALSO CALL AT FISH MARKETS AND FISHING PORTS AND INSPECT FISHING VESSELS.

THE HONG KONG FISHERMEN AND THEIR SOUTH KOREAN COUNTERPARTS WILL EXCHANGE VIEWS ON MODERN FISHING EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES.

THE FISHERMEN WILL VISIT OSAKA ON THEIR WAY BACK TO HONG KONG.

THE TOUR IS BEING SPONSORED BY THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION UNDER THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT.

TWO OFFICERS FROM THE ORGANISATION WILL ACCOMPANY THE FISHERMEN DURING THE 11-DAY VISIT.

THIS IS THE SECOND OVERSEAS TOUR BY LOCAL FISHERMEN SPONSORED BY THE ORGANISATION.

IN JUNE LAST YEAR 13 FISHERMEN ATTENDED THE FIRST ASIAN FISHING AND AQUACULTURE EXHIBITION IN SINGAPORE.

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- 9 -

METRICATION FLOAT TAKES TO THE ROAD

KOWLOON WILL BE BRIGHTENED UP TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON WHEN A COLOURFUL METRICATION CARNIVAL FLOAT GOES SWINGING DOWN THE STREETS, BROADCASTING METRICATION SONGS ON THE WAY.

THE FLOAT WILL BE MANNED BY RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG ARTISTES IN THEIR JOINT EFFORT WITH THE METRICATION COMMITTEE TO SPREAD THE METRICATION MESSAGE TO THE PUBLIC.

SCHEDULED STOPS FOR THE FLOAT ARE:

1.00 - 3.00 PM	TSIM SHA TSUI PUBLIC PIER
3.15 - 3.30 PM	JORDAN ROAD (KWUN CHUNG MARKET)
3.45 - 4.00 PM	OI MAN ESTATE BUS TERMINUS
4.15 - 4.30 PM	LOK FU ESTATE (MARKET)

WHERE THE FLOAT STOPS, RTHK MEMBERS WILL TALK TO THE SPECTATORS, ASK THEM QUESTIONS ABOUT METRICATION AND GIVE AWAY PRIZES SUCH AS COFFEE POTS, CARPET SWEEPERS AND CONVERSION SLIDE RULES.

THE EVENT REPRESENTS THE METRICATION COMMITTEE'S FIRST ATTEMPT AT 'WORD OF MOUTH' PROMOTION.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE JOURNEY OF THE METRICATION CARNIVAL FLOAT TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT THE TIMES AND PLACES INDICATED.

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TRAM SERVICES CURTAILED ON SATURDAY

TRAM SERVICES WILL BE CURTAILED THIS SATURDAY (SEPTEMBER 4) TO ALLOW FOR THE REALIGNMENT OF NEW TRAM TRACKS IN SHEUNG WAN.

THE LAST TRAMS WILL DEPART FROM SHAU KEI WAN TO WESTERN MARKET AT 10.50 PM; FROM NORTH POINT TO WHITTY STREET AND WESTERN MARKET AT 11.03 PM; FROM HAPPY VALLEY TO KENNEDY TOWN, WHITTY STREET AND WESTERN MARKET AT 11.10 PM; FROM KENNEDY TOWN TO HAPPY VALLEY AT 11.43 PM; FROM WHITTY STREET TO NORTH POINT AT 11.38 PM; FROM WHITTY STREET TO HAPPY VALLEY AT 11.49 PM; FROM WESTERN MARKET TO SHAU KEI WAN AT 11.30 PM; FROM WESTERN MARKET TO NORTH POINT AT 11.46 PM, AND FROM WESTERN MARKET TO HAPPY VALLEY AT 11.57 PM.

ADDITIONAL TRAM SERVICES WILL BE OPERATED BETWEEN SHAU KEI WAN AND HAPPY VALLEY, AND BETWEEN SHAU KEI WAN AND WAN CHAI (FENWICK STREET) AFTER 10.20 PM.

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1982

- 10 -

SWIMMING CONTEST FOR YAU MA TEI AND MONG KOK
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AN INTER-DISTRICT SWIMMING COMPETITION FOR RESIDENTS IN YAU MA TEI AND MONG KOK WILL BE HELD IN SEPTEMBER AND NEXT MONTH.

THIS IS ONE OF THE MANY SPORT AND CULTURAL COMPETITIONS BEING SPONSORED BY THE YAU MA TEI AND MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARDS TO PROMOTE STRONGER IDENTIFICATION AMONG RESIDENTS WITH THEIR DISTRICTS.

ENROLMENT FORMS FOR THE SWIMMING CONTEST MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICES AND THE RECREATION AND SPORT OFFICES OF THE YAU MA TEI AND MONG KOK DISTRICTS.

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URBAN CLEARWAY IN QUARRY BAY
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THE WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF KING'S ROAD IN QUARRY BAY BETWEEN SAI WAN TERRACE AND ZUNG FU INDUSTRIAL BUILDING WILL BE DESIGNATED AS A 24-HOUR URBAN CLEARWAY FROM 10 AM THIS SATURDAY (SEPTEMBER 4).

WITHIN THE SECTION, VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS.

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