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8B 13 JUL 1993

DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 842 8777

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FOREIGN SECRETARY SPEAKS TO MEDIA

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THE FOLLOWING IS A TRANSCRIPT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS, THE RT HON DOUGLAS HURD, SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER AN EXCO MEETING THIS EVENING (FRIDAY):

I AM GLAD TO BE HERE ON THE FIRST BIRTHDAY OF THE GOVERNOR'S GOVERNORSHIP AND WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE HIM ON THAT.

I AM ALSO GLAD TO BE HERE FOR OTHER REASONS. I HAVE BEEN IN PEKING TODAY AND YESTERDAY, NOT TO NEGOTIATE BUT TO TRY AND FOCUS ATTENTION ON WHAT SEEMS TO US ESSENTIAL IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. THERE ARE THREE SETS OF DISCUSSIONS GOING ON, AS YOU ALL KNOW. THERE ARE THE CONSTITUTIONAL DISCUSSIONS GOING ON IN PEKING, THERE IS THE WORK OF THE AIRPORT GROUP AND THERE IS THE WORK OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP. AND IN MY TALKS THIS MORNING, WITH MR QIAN QICHEN, WITH THE CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER, I COVERED ALL THREE AND I HAVE JUST BEEN REPORTING TO EXCO ON ALL THREE.

THE MAIN ESSENTIALS AS REGARDS THE CONSTITUTIONAL TALKS ARE THESE: THAT THERE SHOULD BE OPEN AND FAIR ELECTION ARRANGEMENTS ACCEPTABLE TO PEOPLE HERE AND THAT WE NEED NEGOTIATIONS TO CONCENTRATE ON THREE THINGS: THE FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES, THE ELECTION COMMITTEE AND THE THROUGH TRAIN. THAT IS TO SAY, THE NEED FOR CLEAR OBJECTIVE CRITERIA SO THAT ANYBODY STANDING FOR ELECTION HERE IN 1995 KNOWS WHAT HE OR SHE HAS TO DO IN ORDER TO STAY ON THE THROUGH TRAIN, IN ORDER TO CONTINUE ON THE THROUGH TRAIN UNTIL 1999. I STRESSED THE NEED TO GET ON WITH THIS. I DID NOT MENTION ANY DEADLINES. I HAVEN'T MENTIONED THEM AND NOR HAS THE GOVERNOR, EITHER IN PRIVATE OR IN PUBLIC, FOR REASONS WHICH THE GOVERNOR EXPLAINED IN LONDON. BUT THE CLOCK IS TICKING ON. OBVIOUSLY A TIME COMES WHEN PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS HAVE TO BE MADE FOR THESE ELECTIONS. SO TIME IS NOT INFINITE AND THERE IS A NEED TO MAKE FURTHER PROGRESS. THAT WAS ACCEPTED BY THE CHINESE SIDE.

THESE TALKS HAVE BEEN VERY SLOW IN GETTING OFF THE GROUND SINCE APRIL 1ST WHEN THEY BEGAN BUT THE GROUNDWORK HAS NOW BEEN DONE, SOME CONTROVERSIAL MATTER ABOUT THE PAST HAS BEEN CLEARED OUT OF THE WAY AND BOTH SIDES ARE NOW TALKING ABOUT THE FUTURE - ALL THREE OF THE HEADINGS WHICH I HAVE MENTIONED.

ON THE AIRPORT, A SIMILAR STORY IN AS MUCH AS I SAID: DELAY IS EXPENSIVE, DELAY IS DAMAGING TO HONG KONG, THEREFORE DELAY IS DAMAGING TO CHINA. THERE IS STILL NO AGREEMENT ON THE FINANCING PROPOSALS THOUGH THE BRITISH SIDE ARE SHOWING THEMSELVES VERY FLEXIBLE, AND THERE ARE OTHER MATTERS WHICH ARE HELD UP.

I RAISED, IN PARTICULAR, THE CENTRAL WANCHAI RECLAMATION SCHEME AND THE CHINESE AT ONCE AGREED THAT THE FIRST PHASE OF THAT SHOULD GO AHEAD. SO THAT IS PROGRESS BUT OF COURSE THERE IS MUCH MORE WORK STILL TO BE DONE. WE AGREED THAT THAT WORK SHOULD BE ACCELERATED.

/SIMILARLY ON

SIMILARLY ON THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP, THERE IS A HUGE AGENDA, IT'S PILED UP. SOME OF IT IS DIFFICULT, LIKE DEFENCE LANDS; SOME OF IT LONGSTANDING, LIKE AIR SERVICES AGREEMENTS; SOME OF IT VERY TECHNICAL, LABORIOUS, NOT VERY CONTROVERSIAL, SO AS TO MAKE SURE THAT THERE IS NOT A VOID IN THE LAWS OF HONG KONG WHEN SOVEREIGNTY PASSES. THERE IS A NEED, AND I URGED IT AGAIN, TO SPEED UP THE WORK OF THE JLG AND WE DID AGREE DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS IN SEPTEMBER IN PEKING, AND IN DECEMBER AGAIN IN LONDON.

SO THAT IS, IN SUM, WHAT WE DISCUSSED. DESIGNED, AS I SAY, NOT TO NEGOTIATE BUT TO SPEED UP NEGOTIATIONS ON ALL THREE OF THE FRONTS WHICH I HAVE MENTIONED. THE ATMOSPHERE WAS GOOD, THE RESPONSE WAS POSITIVE, BUT OF COURSE AS IN ALL THESE THINGS THE PROOF OF WHETHER A VISIT IS WORTHWHILE OR NOT COMES LATER IN WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENS ON THE GROUND IN THE PRACTICAL WORLD; THE PROOF COMES LATER. WE ARE ALL ENGAGED IN A BIG EFFORT ON THESE FRONTS, A BIG EFFORT PREPARING FOR THE TRANSFER OF SOVEREIGNTY. BRITAIN HAS NO HIDDEN AGENDA ON THIS. I MADE THIS CLEAR TO THE CHINESE. WE HAVE NO THOUGHTS OR ASPIRATIONS OR WISHES TO INTERFERE IN HOW CHINA GOVERNS ITSELF, THAT IS NOT OUR BUSINESS. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT THE AGREEMENTS ABOUT HONG KONG SHOULD BE FULLY CARRIED THROUGH, THAT THE PHRASE "TWO SYSTEMS IN ONE COUNTRY", REPEATED TO ME BOTH BY MR QIAN QICHEN AND BY PRESIDENT JIANG ZEMIN TODAY, THAT THAT CHINESE PHRASE SHOULD BE CONVERTED INTO REALITY. I HOPE - I HOPE THAT EVENTS WILL PROVE THAT THE VISIT I HAVE MADE AT THE GOVERNOR'S SUGGESTION TO PEKING WILL BE A WORTHWHILE MILESTONE ON THAT LONG ROAD. THANK YOU.

QUESTION: SIR, YOU MENTIONED CLEARING UP ... WERE THOSE THE SEVEN LETTERS, THE EXCHANGES ...?

MR HURD: THE TALKS IN PEKING BEGAN, AS YOU KNOW, WITH THOSE KIND OF BACKWARD LOOKING ARGUMENTS BUT THERE WAS NO MENTION OF ANY OF THAT TODAY ON EITHER SIDE. THERE WAS NO MENTION OF THE PAST, THE ACCENT WAS ON THE FUTURE.

QUESTION: MR HURD, YOU'VE SAID THAT THE TWO SIDES HAVE REACHED... ON THE TALKS BUT ACTUALLY WHAT IS THE MAIN OBSTACLE IN THE PAST SEVEN ROUNDS OF TALKS?

MR HURD: I'M SORRY, WHAT? THE MAIN OBSTACLE ON THE THROUGH TRAIN?

MR HURD: ON THE TALKS?

QUESTION: YES.

MR HURD: WELL, THERE ARE THESE THREE MAIN ITEMS ON WHICH SUBSTANTIAL DISCUSSIONS HAVE BEGUN BUT NOT YET CONCLUDED: THE NATURE OF THE FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES, THE NATURE OF THE ELECTION COMMITTEE AND THE CRITERIA FOR THE THROUGH TRAIN.

QUESTION: ON THE THROUGH TRAIN QUESTION: HOW ARE YOU GOING TO GET ROUND THIS PROBLEM THAT IN THE BASIC LAW ACTUALLY STIPULATES THAT THERE IS JUST THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE MIGHT LET THESE LEGISLATORS WHO HAVE SWORN AN OATH TO CARRY ON AFTER 1997? HOW ARE YOU GOING TO GET ROUND THAT PROBLEM?

MR HURD: WELL, WE NEED CLEAR AND OBJECTIVE CRITERIA. THERE IS NOTHING IN THE BASIC LAW TO PREVENT THAT, THAT IS A MATTER FOR DISCUSSION AND NEGOTIATION AND THAT IS WHY I SET OUT VERY CLEARLY TODAY WHAT WE THINK IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE THROUGH TRAIN. THE CHINESE SIDE ACCEPTS THE NEED FOR SMOOTH TRANSITION. AND THE SMOOTH TRANSITION INCLUDES ARRANGEMENTS OF THIS KIND. OBVIOUSLY THEY HAVE NOT COME FORWARD WITH SPECIFIC IDEAS - I HOPE THEY WILL DO SO - BUT THEY ARE CERTAINLY INTERESTED IN AND SEE THE POINT OF, THE NEED FOR, A SMOOTH TRANSITION.

QUESTION: MR HURD, ... MORE IMPORTANT THAT BOTH SIDES COME TO REALISE THAT ... PUTTING THE IDEA OF "ONE COUNTRY TWO SYSTEMS" INTO PRACTICE..... VERY DIFFICULT ...

MR HURD: WELL, "TWO SYSTEMS IN ONE COUNTRY" IS DIFFICULT, YOU ARE PERFECTLY RIGHT, AND THE TWO SYSTEMS HAVE SUCH DIFFERENT ROOTS AND ORIGINS. YOU ARE PERFECTLY CORRECT. THAT IS WHY I SAID IT IS A LONG ROAD, AND PROVING FROM TIME TO TIME A ROUGH ROAD. BUT IT IS A NECESSARY ROAD - IT'S A NECESSARY ROAD - IT IS NECESSARY FROM THE CHINESE POINT OF VIEW AND FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW BUT ABOVE ALL, FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG. SO IT IS A ROAD WE HAVE TO TREAD. IT HAS THESE THREE PIECES OF WORK, THESE THREE WAYS IN WHICH THE ROAD IS BEING FOLLOWED, AND WE MUST, AND WE CERTAINLY INTEND - FROM THE BRITISH SIDE AND THE GOVERNOR'S SIDE - WE CERTAINLY INTEND TO DO WHAT WE CAN TO FOLLOW THROUGH BECAUSE IT IS DIFFICULT BUT IT IS NECESSARY. THAT IS THE PHRASE I ACTUALLY USED WITH QIAN QICHEN: ALL THIS IS DIFFICULT BUT IT IS NECESSARY.

QUESTION: ... BOSNIA, YOU'VE MADE SOME VERY DEPRESSING REMARKS...?

MR HURD: THE ROLE IS WHAT IT HAS BEEN. THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SHOWS NO INCLINATION AND HAS NO POWER TO IMPOSE A SOLUTION ON BOSNIA. WHAT IT CAN DO IS OFFER NEGOTIATIONS, OFFER IDEAS FOR A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT, THAT IS DAVID OWEN IT CAN PRESS THOSE FIGHTING, THROUGH SANCTIONS AND THROUGH SAYING, "YOU ARE NOT GOING TO ACHIEVE WHAT YOU WANT BY FIGHTING". AND IT CAN SAVE LIVES BY THE HUMANITARIAN EFFORT AND THAT IS WHY WE HAVE 2,500 TROOPS IN THE MIDDLE OF BOSNIA.

QUESTION: MR LU PING INDICATED TODAY THAT IT'S POSSIBLE TO SET UP OBJECTIVE CRITERIA FOR THE THROUGH TRAIN BY THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE NPC BEFORE 1995. DO YOU THINK IT IS A SIGN OF CHANGE FROM THE CHINESE SIDE?

MR HURD: I LEARNED A LONG TIME AGO, BUT PARTICULARLY IN HONG KONG, NEVER TO COMMENT ON REMARKS ATTRIBUTED TO PEOPLE WHICH I HAVE NOT SEEN. SO I'M SORRY, BUT WOULD YOU LIKE TO ASK ANOTHER QUESTION? BECAUSE I'VE RULED OUT ONE QUESTION, I THINK IT IS ONLY FAIR.

GOVERNOR: ABSOLUTELY! THAT IS FAIR AND OPEN AND ACCEPTABLE TO THE MEDIA OF HONG KONG.

QUESTION: DID THIS MORNING'S MEETING NARROW DOWN THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES ON THE ON THE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS? IF IT HAS NOT NARROWED DOWN THE DIFFERENCES, HOW TO SPEED UP THE NEGOTIATIONS?

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MR HURD: WELL, I THINK SOMETIMES IS THAT NEGOTIATIONS HAVE COVERED A VERY WIDE FRONT AND THERE IS A LOT OF, OCCASIONALLY, DIFFERENT INTERPRETATIONS OF THEM. IT IS IMPORTANT TO NARROW THAT DOWN AND TO FOCUS IT, AND THAT IS WHAT I HAVE BEEN TRYING TO DO TODAY ON THOSE THREE MATTERS. THEY HAVE REACHED THE STAGE WHERE SUBSTANTIAL IDEAS ARE NOW COMING FORWARD AND I HOPE THIS PROCESS OF FOCUSING WHICH BOTH MR QIAN QICHEN AND I CARRIED THROUGH TODAY, WILL HELP TO MAKE PROGRESS POSSIBLE, TO FACILITATE PROGRESS ON ALL THOSE THREE.

QUESTION: WHAT IS THE POINT IN HAVING OBJECTIVE CRITERIA FOR THE THROUGH TRAIN IF THEY ARE NOT SUBJECT TO JUDICIAL REVIEW?

MR HURD: WELL, LET US SEE WHAT THE CHINESE PRODUCE ON THAT FRONT. WE WANTED TO SET OUT WHAT WE THOUGHT WAS ESSENTIAL, NEITHER MORE NOR LESS. WE'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT INDIVIDUALS, WE'RE TALKING ABOUT CLEAR OBJECTIVE CRITERIA SO THAT INDIVIDUALS CAN MAKE THEIR PLANS. OF COURSE THESE CRITERIA HAVE TO BE RELIABLE, THEY HAVE TO BE BACKABLE, THEY HAVE TO BE SUSTAINABLE, THEY HAVE TO BE REAL REASONS BUT THAT IS, I THINK, CLEAR.

GOVERNOR: THANK YOU VERY MUCH INDEED.

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HK COMES FIRST IN DIGITAL TELEPHONE NETWORK
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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, TODAY (FRIDAY) SAID HONG KONG SHOULD BE PROUD TO BE THE FIRST MAJOR CITY IN THE WORLD TO HAVE A COMPLETELY DIGITAL TELEPHONE NETWORK.

THE REMARK WAS MADE AT THE CEREMONY MARKING THE DIGITALISATION OF THE HONG KONG TELEPHONE NETWORK.

IT WILL MEAN A MORE "INTELLIGENT" NETWORK, ONE THAT IS ABLE TO ACCOMMODATE MORE SUBSCRIBERS AND MORE CALLS, ONE THAT OFFERS ACCESS TO A WIDE RANGE OF FLEXIBLE SERVICES.

"IF HONG KONG IS TO MAINTAIN ITS EXCELLENCE AS A REGIONAL CENTRE, WE MUST ENSURE THAT OUR ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE IS NOT JUST GOOD, BUT ON A PAR WITH THE VERY BEST."

"THIS REQUIRES A CONTINUING COMMITMENT TO INVESTMENT IN STATE-OF-THE-ART COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS, BE THEY BY AIR, LAND, SEA OR BY DIGITAL NETWORKS," HE SAID.

THIS IS WHY THE GOVERNMENT IS BUILDING A NEW AIRPORT, EXPANDING THE PORT AND INVESTING IN NEW ROAD AND RAILWAY SYSTEMS, THE GOVERNOR SAID.

/IN ADDITION

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IN ADDITION TO DIGITALISATION OF THE TELEPHONE NETWORK, HONG KONG ALSO BOASTS THE HIGHEST RATE OF MOBILE PHONE USE IN THE WORLD OUTSIDE SCANDINAVIA.

IT ALSO HAS THE GREATEST NUMBER OF PAGING SUBSCRIBERS PER HEAD OF POPULATION, THE HIGHEST RATE OF INTERNATIONAL TELECOMS USE, AND MORE FAX MACHINES PER HEAD OF POPULATION THAN ANYWHERE ELSE APART FROM JAPAN.

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TWO GOVT LOTS SOLD FOR \$866 MILLION

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TWO PIECES OF GOVERNMENT LOTS WERE SOLD FOR A TOTAL OF \$866 MILLION AT A PUBLIC AUCTION BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON.

THE FIRST LOT IS LOCATED AT TOWN PARK ROAD SOUTH, YUEN LONG, NEW TERRITORIES. IT WAS SOLD TO MOUNT CITY LIMITED AT \$600 MILLION, BIDDING OPENED AT \$330 MILLION.

THE LOT, WITH AN AREA OF ABOUT 10,320 SQUARE METRES, IS INTENDED FOR PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES.

ACCORDING TO THE BUILDING COVENANT, THE DEVELOPER HAS TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR OF NOT LESS THAN 18,576 SQUARE METRES ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 1997.

THE SECOND LOT IS LOCATED IN AREA 10B, TUEN MUN, NEW TERRITORIES. IT WAS BOUGHT BY FAR GAIN LIMITED AT \$266 MILLION. BIDDING OPENED AT \$160 MILLION.

THE LOT HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 2,783 SQUARE METRES AND IS INTENDED FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL (EXCLUDING GODOWN) PURPOSES.

THE DEVELOPERS HAS TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 11,000 SQUARE METRES ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 1996.

THE AUCTION WAS CONDUCTED BY GOVERNMENT LAND AGENT, MR TIMOTHY MILLS, IN THE CITY HALL THEATRE.

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FOUR TO CONTEST LEGCO SEAT

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A TOTAL OF FOUR CANDIDATES WILL STAND FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BY-ELECTION IN RESPECT OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCY SCHEDULED FOR JULY 28.

TWO OF THEM, MR LAU KONG-WAH AND MR YEUNG FUK-KWONG, WERE NOMINATED TODAY (FRIDAY) WHEN THE NOMINATION PERIOD ENDED.

PERSONAL DETAILS OF THE FOUR CANDIDATES ARE:

NAME -----	AGE ---	OCCUPATION -----	TELEPHONE -----
MR TSO SHIU-WAI	41	COMPANY DIRECTOR	459 7667
MR CHOW YICK-HAY	35	UNIVERSITY STAFF	785 7979
MR LAU KONG-WAH	36	LECTURER	694 8333
MR YEUNG FUK-KWONG	40	SOLICITOR	411 2228

THE BY-ELECTION WILL BE HELD TO FILL THE VACANCY LEFT BY MR GILBERT LEUNG KAM-HO.

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STATEMENT ON TAXI POLICY

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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (FRIDAY) DENIED A REPORT IN A CHINESE NEWSPAPER THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD MADE A DECISION ON THE ISSUE OF A NEW TYPE OF TAXI LICENCE OF NON-TRANSFERRABLE NATURE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE PRESENT POSITION WAS THAT A WORKING GROUP OF THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) WAS STILL CONSIDERING A LARGE NUMBER OF OPTIONS IN THE REVIEW OF THE TAXI POLICY IN THE LIGHT OF PUBLIC VIEWS COLLECTED DURING THE CONSULTATION EXERCISE.

A TOTAL OF 177 WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS AND 313 TELEPHONE CALLS WERE RECEIVED DURING THE EXERCISE.

"IT IS STILL SOME WAY OFF BEFORE THE ADMINISTRATION WILL TAKE A VIEW ON WHETHER THE PRESENT TAXI POLICY INCLUDING THE TAXI LICENSING SYSTEM SHOULD BE CHANGED."

"THE WAY AHEAD IS THAT THE WORKING GROUP, UNDER ITS TERMS OF REFERENCE, WILL MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE FUTURE DIRECTION OF THE TAXI POLICY TO THE TAC, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT VIEWS COLLECTED IN THE CONSULTATION."

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"THE GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO TAKE A VIEW ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS UNTIL THEY ARE THOROUGHLY DELIBERATED AT THE FULL TAC."

THE SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED THAT IT WAS TOTALLY UNFOUNDED AT THIS STAGE TO SUGGEST EITHER THE TAC OR THE ADMINISTRATION HAD FORMULATED A VIEW IN THE CURRENT REVIEW OF THE TAXI POLICY.

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FOREIGN CORPORATIONS BILL GAZETTED

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THE FOREIGN CORPORATIONS BILL WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID CONCERN HAD BEEN EXPRESSED BY THE LEGAL PROFESSION IN HONG KONG OVER THE UNCERTAINTY WITH THE STATUS OF CORPORATIONS INCORPORATED IN TERRITORIES NOT RECOGNISED BY THE UK.

"SIMILAR PROBLEMS WERE ENCOUNTERED IN THE UK WHICH RESULTED IN THE ENACTMENT IN 1991 OF THE FOREIGN CORPORATIONS ACT TO ENABLE THE LEGAL CAPACITY OF FOREIGN CORPORATIONS INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF UNRECOGNISED STATES TO BE ACCEPTED IN THE UK," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE EFFECT OF THE ACT IS TO PUT IT BEYOND DOUBT THAT OBLIGATIONS FLOWING FROM CONTRACTS ENTERED INTO BY THOSE CORPORATIONS ARE ENFORCEABLE," HE SAID.

"THE BILL IS MODELLED ON THE UK ACT AND IS STRICTLY A SOLUTION TO A COMMERCIAL PROBLEM. IT HAS NO BEARING ON RECOGNITION OF STATES," HE SAID.

THE BILL IS SCHEDULED FOR INTRODUCTION INTO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON JULY 21.

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CERTAIN WORLD TRADE CENTRE GROUP SHARES FROZEN

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IN RESPONSE TO A RECOMMENDATION MADE BY THE INSPECTOR APPOINTED TO INVESTIGATE CERTAIN SHAREHOLDING OF THE WORLD TRADE CENTRE GROUP LIMITED (WTCG), THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY MADE AN ORDER YESTERDAY (JULY 8) WHICH RESTRICTS THE TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF SOME OF THE SHARES OF THE COMPANY, THE SECRETARY FOR FINANCIAL SERVICES, MR MICHAEL CARTLAND, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

MR JOHN ROBERT LEES WAS APPOINTED AS INSPECTOR BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY ON JUNE 2 THIS YEAR UNDER SECTION 33 OF THE SECURITIES (DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS) ORDINANCE TO INVESTIGATE AND REPORT ON THE MEMBERSHIP OF WTCG.

THE INSPECTOR COMPLETED HIS REPORT ON JULY 1 THIS YEAR.

IN THE COURSE OF HIS INVESTIGATION, THE INSPECTOR HAS APPROACHED THREE COMPANIES INVOLVED IN A PLACEMENT ISSUE IN JULY 1990 AND RELATED PERSONS AS WELL AS THE NOMINEE COMPANIES CONCERNED TO ASCERTAIN THE BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SOME 179 MILLION SHARES OF WTCG.

LETTERS WERE SENT TO THE PARTIES INVOLVED SEEKING INFORMATION REGARDING THEIR PAST AND PRESENT INTERESTS IN WTCG SHARES.

SOME OF THE PERSONS CONNECTED WITH TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING THE SHARES IN QUESTION HAVE BEEN INTERVIEWED.

WHILE SOME RESPONDENTS REFUSED TO PROVIDE THE RELEVANT INFORMATION, OTHERS FAILED TO PRESENT THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTATION TO ESTABLISH THEIR INTERESTS IN THE SHARES.

"THE INSPECTOR THEREFORE CONCLUDED THAT THERE IS DIFFICULTIES IN FINDING OUT THE RELEVANT FACTS ABOUT THESE SHARES. AS A RESULT, THE INSPECTOR RECOMMENDED THAT THOSE SHARES BE SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS UNDER PART V OF THE SECURITIES (DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS) ORDINANCE," MR CARTLAND SAID.

PART V RESTRICTIONS ARE MAINLY TO LIMIT THE TRANSFERRABILITY OF SHARES. THIS PROVISION CAN BE INVOKED IF IT APPEARS TO THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY THAT THERE ARE DIFFICULTIES IN FINDING OUT THE RELEVANT FACTS ABOUT ANY SHARES, WHICH IS THE CASE ON THIS OCCASION, HE SAID.

"THE ORDINANCE PROVIDES THAT AN ORDER APPLYING PART V RESTRICTIONS MAY BE DISAPPLIED BY A SUBSEQUENT ORDER.

"SHOULD THE RELEVANT FACTS ABOUT PARTICULAR SHAREHOLDINGS BE DISCLOSED AND REVEAL THAT NO UNFAIR ADVANTAGE HAD ACCRUED TO ANY PERSON AS A RESULT OF THE EARLIER FAILURE TO MAKE A DISCLOSURE, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY WOULD CONSIDER TO DISAPPLY THE RESTRICTIONS," MR CARTLAND SAID.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS ISSUED LETTERS TO THE PARTIES CONCERNED AS WELL AS THE WTCG AND THE STOCK EXCHANGE OF HONG KONG LTD TO INFORM THEM OF THE IMPOSITION OF RESTRICTIONS ON THE SHARES IN QUESTION AND A NOTICE HAS BEEN PLACED IN TOMORROW'S (SATURDAY) NEWSPAPERS.

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YUEN LONG HIGHWAY FORMS VITAL
PART OF NORTHWEST NT ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE
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THE SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION OF THE YUEN LONG HIGHWAY BETWEEN YUEN LONG AND THE NORTHERN PART OF TUEN MUN FORMS A VITAL PART OF THE ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDED TO SUPPORT THE CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT OF THE NORTHWEST NEW TERRITORIES, THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, MR YEUNG KAI-YIN, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE SIX-KILOMETRE HIGHWAY TO THE EAST OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD, MR YEUNG SAID THE HIGH-CAPACITY ROUTE OF EXPRESSWAY STANDARD LINKED THE THREE NEW TOWNS OF YUEN LONG, TIN SHUI WAI AND TUEN MUN.

"THE NEW ROAD WILL REDUCE THE AVERAGE JOURNEY TIME BETWEEN YUEN LONG AND TUEN MUN FROM OVER 20 MINUTES TO ABOUT SEVEN MINUTES, AND WILL RELIEVE THE LONG-STANDING CONGESTION PROBLEM IN THE PARALLEL SECTION OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD," HE SAID.

JOINTLY OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR ZACHARY WONG. THE DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS, MR KWEI SEE-KAN, WAS ALSO PRESENT.

THE \$850 MILLION PROJECT HAS BEEN DESIGNED AND SUPERVISED BY HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT AND IS THE LARGEST ROAD PROJECT EVER UNDERTAKEN BY THE IN-HOUSE STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT.

THE GOOD PROGRESS ACHIEVED BY THE CONTRACTORS HAS ENABLED THE PROJECT TO BE COMPLETED SOME TWO MONTHS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE.

THE MAIN WORKS HAVE TAKEN THREE YEARS TO COMPLETE AND HAVE INVOLVED THE CONSTRUCTION OF A DUAL TWO-LANE CARRIAGEWAY, THREE INTERCHANGES, 18 BRIDGES AND NINE PEDESTRIAN SUBWAYS.

MR YEUNG POINTED OUT THAT SPECIAL ATTENTION WAS GIVEN TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF DRAINAGE FACILITIES AND MEETING ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS.

WORK ON THE YUEN LONG SOUTHERN BYPASS IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY OCTOBER 1994.

THE YUEN LONG SOUTHERN BYPASS WILL EXTEND THE YUEN LONG HIGHWAY NORTHWARDS TO CONNECT WITH CASTLE PEAK ROAD NEAR THE POK OI HOSPITAL, THUS ALLOWING THROUGH TRAFFIC TO BYPASS THE YUEN LONG TOWN CENTRE, HE SAID.

LOOKING AHEAD, MR YEUNG SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD FURTHER PLANS TO IMPROVE ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE NORTHWEST NEW TERRITORIES, BY PROVIDING CLIMBING LANES IN THE TUEN MUN HIGHWAY AND ARRANGING CONSTRUCTION OF THE COUNTRY PARK SECTION OF ROUTE 3 FROM TSING YI TO YUEN LONG.

"WITH THE NEW RAIL LINK WHICH IS ALSO BEING CONSIDERED TO CONNECT WITH THE URBAN AREA, THIS WILL SERVE THE TRANSPORT NEEDS OF THE NORTHWEST NEW TERRITORIES WELL INTO THE NEXT CENTURY," HE ADDED.

/THE EXPRESSWAY,

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THE EXPRESSWAY, WITH A DESIGN SPEED OF 100 KILOMETRE AN HOUR, IS PROVIDED WITH TRAFFIC AIDS DESIGNED TO THE LATEST STANDARDS TO ENSURE ROAD SAFETY.

REFLECTIVE ROAD STUDS HAVE BEEN USED FOR IMPROVED VISIBILITY AT NIGHT AND IN FOUL WEATHER. TRAFFIC SIGN FACES ARE MADE OF REFLECTIVE MATERIALS FOR IMPROVED VISIBILITY.

THE DRAINAGE SYSTEM IN THE FORM OF BOX CULVERTS ACROSS THE ROAD AND CHANNELS ALONG THE ROAD SIDES WILL HELP REDUCE FLOODING RISK.

TO IMPROVE SKID RESISTANCE, A 30 MILLIMETRE THICK POROUS BITUMINOUS FRICTION COURSE HAS BEEN PROVIDED.

EMERGENCY TELEPHONES HAVE BEEN INSTALLED AT REGULAR INTERVALS TO FACILITATE FAST RESPONSE TO VEHICLE BREAKDOWNS AND TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS.

POLICE OBSERVATION PLATFORMS ARE PROVIDED AT STRATEGIC LOCATIONS FOR USE BY THE TRAFFIC POLICE.

THE YUEN LONG HIGHWAY WILL BE OPENED TO TRAFFIC AT 10 AM TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

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AIRPORT IS A GOOD NEIGHBOUR

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THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN APPLYING A SERIES OF MEASURES UNDER THE AIRCRAFT NOISE ORDINANCE TO MINIMISE NOISE DISTURBANCE AT NIGHT TO THE RESIDENTIAL AREAS SURROUNDING THE AIRPORT, THE DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION, MR PETER LOK KUNG-NAM, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

MR LOK TOLD A GROUP OF VISITING KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS TO THE AIRPORT THAT THE NOISE ABATEMENT MEASURES INCLUDE THE CONTROL OF HIGH POWER ENGINE RUN BY AIRCRAFT AT CERTAIN PARTS OF THE APRON AREA AND THE TOTAL BAN ON ENGINE RUN FROM 7 PM TO 7 AM AT CERTAIN AIRCRAFT PARKING BAYS.

DURING THE OVERNIGHT PERIOD, AIRCRAFT REQUIRING TO CONDUCT IDLE ENGINE RUN WOULD BE REPOSITIONED AWAY FROM RESIDENTIAL AREAS AS FAR AS POSSIBLE.

NEARBY RESIDENTS ARE ALSO CONCERNED WITH THE OPERATION OF AUXILIARY POWER UNITS (APU).

THE DEPARTMENT HAS THEREFORE IMPOSED LIMITATIONS ON SUCH OPERATIONS BETWEEN MIDNIGHT AND 6 AM WITHIN THE APU RESTRICTED AREA.

MR LOK EXPLAINED THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN ENDEAVOURING TO BE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR.

/HE SAID

HE SAID THE USE OF PARKING BAYS ON THE EAST APRON EXTENSION FOR TURNING ROUND AIRCRAFT DURING THE DAY AND BETWEEN 11 PM AND 6 AM WOULD BE MINIMISED. IT IS INTENDED THAT THESE BAYS WOULD MAINLY BE USED FOR INACTIVE AIRCRAFT PARKING.

LED BY THE BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR WONG HANG-FAI, THE GROUP OF 30 DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS TOURED THE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL CENTRE AND TOWER AS WELL AS THE AIR PASSENGER TERMINAL BUILDING TO UNDERSTAND THE CAPACITY OF THE AIRPORT IN HANDLING BOTH PASSENGER AND AIR CARGO TRAFFIC.

AT THE SAME TIME, THEY WERE BRIEFED ON THE WORK OF THE SAFETY REGULATIONS DIVISION WHICH DEALT WITH FLIGHT OPERATION STANDARDS AND AIRWORTHINESS OF AIRCRAFT AND THE TECHNICAL AND PLANNING DIVISION WHICH HANDLED EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION AND THE CALIBRATION OF INSTRUMENT GUIDING SYSTEMS.

THEY WERE ALSO TOLD THAT LANDING RIGHTS WERE HANDLED BY THE AIR SERVICES DIVISION AND THE WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN STEADILY INCREASING AS THE FLEET OF REGISTERED AIRCRAFT OWNED BY HONG KONG AIRLINES HAD GROWN TO 35 BOEING 747S, 19 TRISTARS AND FIVE AIRBUS 320S.

THE MEMBERS SUPPORTED THE IDEA FOR FURTHER EXPANDING AIRPORT FACILITIES TO INCREASE TRAFFIC FLOW, TO MAINTAIN HONG KONG'S VITAL ECONOMIC POSITION.

THEY WERE ALSO TAKEN AROUND THE AIRPORT FIRE STATION BY THE SENIOR DIVISIONAL OFFICER (AIRPORT), MR CHUNG KUN-YEUNG AND WERE BRIEFED ON THE OPERATION OF THE AIRPORT FIRE CONTINGENT WHICH RANGED FROM ATTENDING TO AIRCRAFT GROUND INCIDENTS AND FUEL SPILLAGES ON THE PARKING APRON TO HANDLING AMBULANCE CALLS.

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SHIPPING AND CARGO STATISTICS OF OCEAN-GOING VESSELS FOR 1992

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IN 1992, 26,052 SHIPS WITH A TOTAL CAPACITY OF 134.7 MILLION NET REGISTERED TONS (NRT) ARRIVED HONG KONG, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 4,874 (OR 23%) IN NUMBER AND OF 15.6 MILLION NRT (OR 13%) IN CAPACITY OVER 1991.

THIS INFORMATION IS CONTAINED IN THE "HONG KONG SHIPPING STATISTICS REPORT, 1992" PUBLISHED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

IN 1992, THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CARGO DISCHARGED IN HONG KONG FROM INCOMING SHIPS WAS 58.4 MILLION TONNES, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 10% OVER 1991.

ANALYSING INCOMING SHIPS BY SHIP TYPE, MAJOR INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE NUMBER OF CONTAINER VESSELS (+1,599), SEMI-CONTAINER VESSELS (+993) AND OIL TANKERS (+546); WHILE A MAJOR DECREASE WAS RECORDED IN THE NUMBER OF LOG/TIMBER CARRIER (-73).

/ANALYSING INCOMING

ANALYSING INCOMING SHIPS BY FLAG, MAJOR INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE NUMBER OF SHIPS REGISTERED IN CHINA (+1,659), PANAMA (+1,129), LIBERIA (+321) AND TAIWAN (+202); WHILE A MAJOR DECREASE WAS RECORDED IN THE NUMBER OF SHIPS REGISTERED IN GERMANY (-77).

THE NUMBER OF INCOMING SHIPS WITH A CAPACITY OF LESS THAN 10,000 DEADWEIGHT TONS INCREASED BY 3,485 WHILST THE NUMBER OF THOSE WITH A LARGER CAPACITY INCREASED BY 1,389.

IN 1992, THERE WERE 25,939 OUTGOING SHIPS WITH A TOTAL CAPACITY OF 134.5 MILLION NRT, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 4,722 (OR 22%) IN NUMBER AND OF 15.2 MILLION NRT (OR 13%) IN CAPACITY OVER 1991.

THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CARGO LOADED ONTO OUTGOING SHIPS WAS 25.8 MILLION TONNES, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 10%.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, CHANGES IN THE NUMBER OF OUTGOING SHIPS BY SHIP TYPE, FLAG, AND CAPACITY WERE ABOUT THE SAME AS THOSE RECORDED FOR INCOMING SHIPS, AS ABOUT 72% OF THE OUTGOING SHIPS STAYED IN HONG KONG FOR LESS THAN 2 DAYS.

OF THE CARGO DISCHARGED FROM INCOMING SHIPS, 86% IN TERMS OF TONNAGE WERE SEABORNE IMPORTS AND 14% WERE SEABORNE TRANSHIPMENT CARGO.

OF THE CARGO LOADED ONTO OUTGOING SHIPS, 66% WERE SEABORNE EXPORTS (INCLUDING DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS) AND 34% WERE SEABORNE TRANSHIPMENT CARGO.

THE MAJOR COUNTRIES OF LOADING FOR SEABORNE IMPORTS WERE SINGAPORE (WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR 16% IN TONNAGE TERMS), JAPAN (15%), TAIWAN (10%), CHINA (9%), AUSTRALIA (8%), THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (7%), THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA (7%) AND THE USA (7%); WHILE THE MAJOR COUNTRIES OF DISCHARGE FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS WERE THE USA (WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR 22% IN TONNAGE TERMS), CHINA (19%), TAIWAN (12%), JAPAN (5%), THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (4%), SINGAPORE (4%), THE NETHERLANDS (3%) AND THE UNITED KINGDOM (3%).

SEABORNE TRANSHIPMENT CARGO WAS MAINLY LOADED IN CHINA (31%), TAIWAN (13%) AND THE USA (13%), AND WAS MAINLY DISCHARGED IN CHINA (20%) AND THE USA (15%).

COMPARING 1992 WITH 1991, MAJOR INCREASES IN TONNAGE WERE NOTED FOR SEABORNE IMPORTS FROM THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+50%), INDONESIA (+50%), THE NETHERLANDS (+44%), THE PHILIPPINES (+36%), THE UNITED KINGDOM (+18%) AND SINGAPORE (+16%); WHILE A MAJOR DECREASE IN TONNAGE WAS NOTED FOR SEABORNE IMPORTS FROM MALAYSIA (-17%).

AS A WHOLE, THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF SEABORNE IMPORTS ROSE BY 11%.

AMONG THE PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES IMPORTED BY SEA, MAJOR INCREASES IN TONNAGE WERE RECORDED FOR MACHINERY (+39%), OTHER CHEMICALS AND RELATED PRODUCTS (+31%), ARTIFICIAL RESINS AND PLASTIC MATERIALS (+22%), PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (+22%), PAPER, PAPERBOARD AND ARTICLES THEREOF (+14%) AND COAL, COKE AND BRIQUETTES (+8%).

COMPARING 1992 WITH 1991, THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF SEABORNE EXPORTS (DOMESTIC EXPORTS PLUS RE-EXPORTS) INCREASED BY 13%.

MAJOR INCREASES IN TONNAGE WERE RECORDED FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS TO THE NETHERLANDS (+36%), CHINA (+29%), VIETNAM (+28%), THE USA (+24%), MACAU (+18%) AND THE UNITED KINGDOM (+14%); WHILE MAJOR DECREASES WERE RECORDED FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (-26%) AND INDONESIA (-14%).

AMONG THE PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES EXPORTED BY SEA, MAJOR INCREASES IN TONNAGE WERE NOTED FOR FOOTWEAR (+30%), TOYS (+27%), PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (+23%), MACHINERY (+19%), OTHER MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (+19%) AND ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES (+17%).

OF THE CARGO DISCHARGED FROM INCOMING SHIPS, INCLUDING SEABORNE IMPORTS AND SEABORNE INWARD TRANSHIPMENT, 44% IN TERMS OF TONNAGE WERE CONTAINERIZED CARGO.

OF THOSE LOADED ONTO OUTGOING SHIPS, INCLUDING SEABORNE EXPORTS AND SEABORNE OUTWARD TRANSHIPMENT, 81% WERE CONTAINERISED CARGO.

THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CONTAINERIZED SEABORNE IMPORTS IN 1992 ROSE BY 18% OVER 1991.

IN TERMS OF TONNAGE, CONTAINERISED CARGO ACCOUNTED FOR 36% OF SEABORNE IMPORTS.

IN PARTICULAR, CONTAINERISED CARGO ACCOUNTED FOR A LARGE PROPORTION OF SEABORNE IMPORTS FROM ITALY (99%), THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (90%), TAIWAN (83%), THE UNITED KINGDOM (82%), THE NETHERLANDS (81%) AND THE USA (80%).

AMONG THE PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES IMPORTED BY SEA, CONTAINERIZED CARGO ACCOUNTED FOR, IN TONNAGE TERMS, 99% OF SEABORNE IMPORTS OF ARTIFICIAL RESINS AND PLASTIC MATERIALS, 96% OF OTHER MANUFACTURED ARTICLES AND PAPER, PAPERBOARD AND ARTICLES THEREOF, AND 94% OF TEXTILE FIBRES AND THEIR WASTES.

THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CONTAINERIZED SEABORNE EXPORTS IN 1992 ROSE BY 15% OVER 1991.

FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS, CONTAINERISED CARGO ACCOUNTED FOR 73% IN TERMS OF TONNAGE. IN PARTICULAR, CONTAINERIZED CARGO ACCOUNTED FOR ALL SEABORNE EXPORTS TO AUSTRALIA, CANADA AND ITALY; AND ALMOST ALL TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, SPAIN AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY.

SEABORNE EXPORTS OF SOME PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES WERE ALL OR NEARLY ALL CONTAINERISED.

THESE INCLUDED TOYS; FOOTWEAR; ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES; TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR CONTAINERS; PLASTIC MANUFACTURES AND OTHER MANUFACTURED ARTICLES.

SHIPPING STATISTICS OF OCEAN-GOING VESSELS ARE COMPILED PRIMARILY FROM GENERAL DECLARATIONS SUBMITTED TO THE PORT FORMALITIES OFFICE OF THE MARINE DEPARTMENT BY SHIP MASTERS OR AUTHORIZED SHIPPING AGENTS AND COVER ALL OCEAN-GOING VESSELS ENTERING AND LEAVING HONG KONG, EXCLUDING YACHTS AND PLEASURE CRAFT.

CARGO STATISTICS OF OCEAN-GOING VESSELS ARE COMPILED FROM A SAMPLE OF CONSIGNMENTS LISTED IN THE OCEAN CARGO MANIFESTS SUPPLIED BY SHIPPING COMPANIES OR AGENTS TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT. THE SAMPLING METHOD IS DESCRIBED IN THE EXPLANATORY NOTES OF THE REPORT.

MORE DETAILS ON SHIPPING AND CARGO STATISTICS OF OCEAN-GOING VESSELS FOR 1992 ARE CONTAINED IN THE "HONG KONG SHIPPING STATISTICS REPORT, 1992".

THIS REPORT IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL; AND THE PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 19TH FLOOR, WAN CHAI TOWER, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI AT \$65 A COPY.

ENQUIRIES ON STATISTICS CONTAINED IN THE REPORT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE SHIPPING AND CARGO STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL 582 4887.

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IMPROVEMENT TO TUEN MUN ROAD

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THE GOVERNMENT IS PROPOSING TO IMPROVE TUEN MUN ROAD UNDER A "DESIGN AND BUILD" CONTRACT IN ORDER TO PROVIDE RELIEF TO THE ROAD CONGESTION AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT SAID TRAFFIC CONGESTION WAS EXPERIENCED IN THE MORNING RUSH HOUR AT FOUR HILLY SECTIONS OF THE TSUEN WAN BOUND CARRIAGEWAY.

THE SITUATION WOULD CONTINUE TO WORSEN UNTIL THE COMPLETION OF THE COUNTRY PARK SECTION OF ROUTE 3 IN 1998/99.

A SPECIAL ALLOCATION OF \$1,000 MILLION FOR URGENT IMPROVEMENT TO TUEN MUN ROAD WAS ANNOUNCED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY IN HIS BUDGET SPEECH EARLIER THIS YEAR.

THE "DESIGN AND BUILD" CONTRACT WILL INCLUDE WIDENING THE ROAD AT FOUR HILLY SECTIONS OF THE TSUEN WAN BOUND CARRIAGEWAY TO PROVIDE ONE ADDITIONAL LANE FOR SLOW MOVING HEAVY VEHICLES TOGETHER WITH A FULL LANE-WIDTH HARD SHOULDER AND A VERGE FOR STREET LIGHTING, TRAFFIC SIGNS AND EMERGENCY TELEPHONES.

THE FOUR SECTIONS ARE AT SAM SHING HUI, SO KWUN WAT, TAI LAM AND TING KAU.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CLIMBING LANES WILL BRING THE CAPACITY OF THE HILLY SECTIONS UP TO THE SAME CAPACITY AS THE LEVEL SECTIONS THEREBY INCREASING THE OVERALL CAPACITY OF THE ROAD BY 15 PER CENT.

A NOTICE CONCERNING THE PROPOSED WORKS WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

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PLANS SHOWING THE EXTENT OF THE PROPOSED WORKS TOGETHER WITH A SCHEME DESCRIPTION CAN BE SEEN AT THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT OFFICES:

- * THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE,
PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR,
HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG;
- * DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, TUEN MUN,
SIXTH AND SEVENTH FLOOR, TUEN MUN GOVERNMENT OFFICES,
1, TUEN HI ROAD, TUEN MUN, NEW TERRITORIES;
- * TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE,
SECOND FLOOR, TUEN MUN GOVERNMENT OFFICES,
1, TUEN HI ROAD, TUEN MUN, NEW TERRITORIES;
- * DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, TSUEN WAN,
10TH FLOOR, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING,
174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN, NEW TERRITORIES;
- * TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE,
FIRST FLOOR, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING,
174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN, NEW TERRITORIES

ANY PERSON WHO WISHES TO OBJECT TO THE WORKS OR THE USE, OR BOTH IS REQUIRED TO ADDRESS HIS OBJECTION IN WRITNG TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 7.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR INFIRMARY SITE FORMATION WORK

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THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR SITE FORMATION, FOUNDATION AND SUBSTRUCTURE WORKS OF A CONVALESCENT AND INFIRMARY HOSPITAL IN TAI PO.

LOCATED AT CHUEN ON ROAD, THE HOSPITAL WILL PROVIDE A TOTAL OF 1,020 BEDS UPON COMPLETION.

WORKS UNDER THIS CONTRACT ARE EXPECTED TO START IN OCTOBER FOR COMPLETION IN AUGUST NEXT YEAR.

TENDER NOTICE OF THE PROJECT IS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

FORMS OF TENDER AND FURTHER PARTICULARS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, 34TH FLOOR, QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 66 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG.

TENDER OFFERS WILL CLOSE AT NOON ON AUGUST 6.

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FRIDAY, JULY 9, 1993

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NEW PSC MEMBER APPOINTED

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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THE APPOINTMENT OF MR CHRISTOPHER CHENG WAI-CHEE AS A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION WITH EFFECT FROM JULY 15.

MR CHENG IS THE CHAIRMAN OF WING TAI GARMENT INTERNATIONAL LTD.

HE IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE, THE GOVERNOR'S BUSINESS COUNCIL, THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AND THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE LINGNAN COLLEGE.

OTHER MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

CHAIRMAN MR A K CHUI
MEMBERS DR VICTOR FUNG KWOK-KING
 MR PHILIP K H WONG
 MR P J THOMPSON
 MRS ELEANER LING CHING-MAN
 MR D G JEAFFRESON

DR FUNG WILL LEAVE THE COMMISSION ON JULY 15 AFTER SERVING AS A MEMBER FOR THE PAST 13 YEARS.

ANOTHER MEMBER, MR JAMES P C TIEN, RESIGNED FROM THE COMMISSION RECENTLY AFTER HIS ELECTION AS A MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

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WEST KOWLOON DRAINAGE WORKS

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THE SECOND PACKAGE OF IMPROVEMENT WORKS FOR THE DRAINAGE SYSTEM IN THE HINTERLAND OF WEST KOWLOON WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN OCTOBER THIS YEAR.

THE PROJECT FORMS PART OF THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME OF THE WEST KOWLOON RECLAMATION.

IN A NOTICE GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY), THE URBAN AREA DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT INVITED TENDERS FOR THE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT WORKS.

/THE WORKS

THE WORKS MAINLY INVOLVE THE RE-CONSTRUCTION OF THE DRAINAGE SYSTEM IN THE WEST KOWLOON HINTERLAND, WHICH COVERS TAI KOK TSUI AND THE AREA BETWEEN ARGYLE STREET IN THE NORTH AND JORDAN ROAD IN THE SOUTH.

THE WORKS WILL IMPROVE THE CAPACITY OF THE DRAINS TO REDUCE RISK OF FLOODING IN THE AREA POSSIBLY BROUGHT ABOUT BY MAJOR DRAINAGE EXTENSION WORKS ACROSS THE WEST KOWLOON RECLAMATION.

UNDER THE CONTRACT, SEWERS AND DRY WEATHER FLOW INTERCEPTORS WILL ALSO BE CONSTRUCTED TO INTERCEPT THE POLLUTED STORMWATER IN THE DRAINAGE SYSTEM FOR IMPROVING THE WATER QUALITY IN THE HARBOUR OFF WEST KOWLOON.

THE WORKS WILL BE COMPLETED IN MID-1996.

CLOSING DATE FOR SENDING IN TENDERS IS NOON ON AUGUST 6.

FORMS OF TENDER AND FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE OFFICE OF MOTT MACDONALD HONG KONG LIMITED, 12TH FLOOR, SUN HUNG KAI CENTRE, 30 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

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ROAD AND SEWER WORKS FOR CHEUNG CHAU PROPOSED

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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT HAS PROPOSED TO CARRY OUT ROAD AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT WORKS IN SAI WAN, CHEUNG CHAU AS PART OF THE CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT ON THE ISLAND.

THE WORKS INVOLVE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A REVETMENT FROM ROUND TABLE FIRST VILLAGE TO SAI WAN, ROADS AND A PROMENADE ON THE REVETMENT, AND THE WIDENING OF THE PART OF SAI WAN ROAD, PEAK ROAD AND TSAN TUEN ROAD IN SAI WAN.

THE WORKS ALSO INCLUDE THE RECLAMATION OF SHUI HANG BAY AND COASTAL AREA FOR FUTURE LAND USES, AS WELL AS THE CONSTRUCTION OF SEWERAGE SYSTEM AND ASSOCIATED STORM DRAINAGE.

A NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED WORKS WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE NOTICE CAN ALSO BE SEEN ON THE NOTICE BOARDS POSTED ON THE SITE.

A PLAN SHOWING THE EXTENT OF THE PROPOSED WORKS TOGETHER WITH THE SCHEME CAN BE SEEN AT

- * THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL;

- * DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, ISLANDS AND THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE 19TH AND 20TH FLOORS OF THE SAME BUILDING; AND
- * ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE, CHEUNG CHAU SUB-OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, 22 SAN HING STREET, CHEUNG CHAU.

ANY PERSON OBJECTING TO THE PROPOSALS SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT AT THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, CENTRAL, BEFORE SEPTEMBER 7.

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AMENDMENTS TO DRAFT KWAI CHUNG OUTLINE ZONING PLAN ANNOUNCED
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THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT KWAI CHUNG OUTLINE ZONING PLAN NO. S/KC/8.

THE AMENDMENTS INCLUDE:

- * REZONING A SITE AT WO YI HOP ROAD FROM "INDUSTRIAL" TO "COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT AREA" TO ALLOW FOR COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENTS WHICH MAY INCLUDE RETAIL FACILITIES, OFFICE AND SERVICE APARTMENTS. THE DEVELOPMENT WILL IMPROVE THE GENERAL ENVIRONMENT OF THE AREA.
- * REZONING THE TSUEN WAN CHINESE PERMANENT CEMETERY AT AREA 26 FROM "CEMETERY" TO "OTHER SPECIFIED USES" ANNOTATED "CEMETERY".

THE ABOVE AMENDMENTS ARE EXHIBITED UNDER SECTION 7 OF THE TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE FOR THREE WEEKS. THEY CAN NOW BE INSPECTED AT:

- * THE DISTRICT OFFICE (KWAI TSING), 10TH FLOOR, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 166-174 HING FONG ROAD, KWAI CHUNG, NEW TERRITORIES;
- * PLANNING DEPARTMENT, 16TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG; AND
- * TSUEN WAN DISTRICT PLANNING OFFICE, 27TH FLOOR, TSUEN WAN GOVERNMENT OFFICE, 38 SAI LAU KOK ROAD, TSUEN WAN, NEW TERRITORIES.

ANY PERSON AFFECTED BY THE AMENDMENTS MAY SUBMIT WRITTEN OBJECTIONS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG BY JULY 30, 1993.

COPIES OF THE AMENDMENT PLAN (PLAN NO. S/KC/9) ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MUARRY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG, OR AT THE KOWLOON MAP SALES SECTION, 382 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

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FRIDAY, JULY 9, 1993

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FILIPINOS CONVICTED OF USING FORGED PASSPORTS

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A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SAID TWO FILIPINOS WERE CONVICTED IN THE WESTERN MAGISTRACY OF OFFENCES RELATING TO POSSESSION OF FORGED TRAVEL DOCUMENTS TODAY (FRIDAY).

ON JULY 5, THE TWO DEFENDANTS ARRIVED IN HONG KONG AS SEAMEN ON BOARD THE SHIP "SEA RAIDER".

AFTER EXAMINING THEIR TRAVEL DOCUMENTS, IMMIGRATION OFFICERS DETECTED THAT THEY WERE PAGE-SUBSTITUTED FORGERIES.

THEY WERE THEN CHARGED FOR POSSESSION OF FORGED TRAVEL DOCUMENTS AND THEY PLEADED GUILTY TO THE RESPECTIVE OFFENCES.

THEY WERE EACH SENTENCED TO SIX MONTHS IN JAIL SUSPENDED FOR ONE YEAR.

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT THE DEPARTMENT WAS DETERMINED TO FIGHT AGAINST THE USE OF FORGED TRAVEL DOCUMENTS.

"WE WILL CONTINUE TO COMMIT CONSIDERABLE RESOURCES TO THE DETECTION, INVESTIGATION, PROSECUTION AND DEPORTATION OF THE USERS AND SUPPLIERS," HE SAID.

OFFENDERS ARE LIABLE TO PROSECUTION AND UPON CONVICTION, TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$50,000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR 14 YEARS. AIDERS AND ABETTORS ARE ALSO LIABLE TO PROSECUTION AND PENALTY.

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ONE MORE NOMINATION FOR RC BY-ELECTION

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ONE MORE NOMINATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED TODAY (FRIDAY) FOR THE REGIONAL COUNCIL BY-ELECTION IN RESPECT OF THE SAI KUNG CONSTITUENCY.

THE CANDIDATE IS MR LAM WING-YIN, AGED 34, AN ACCOUNTS OFFICER. HIS TELEPHONE IS 704 3792.

THIS BRINGS TO FIVE THE TOTAL NUMBER OF NOMINATIONS RECEIVED SINCE THE TWO-WEEK NOMINATION PERIOD BEGAN ON JULY 5.

THE BY-ELECTION WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 8 TO FILL THE VACANCY LEFT BY MR GILBERT LEUNG KAM-HO.

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CAMPAIGN ON FOSTER CARE SERVICE STARTS

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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD A CEREMONY TOMORROW (SATURDAY) IN KWAI CHUNG TO START OFF A SERIES OF PUBLICITY ACTIVITIES ON FOSTER CARE SERVICE FOR THIS YEAR.

THE EVENT IS TO GIVE RECOGNITION TO ORGANISATIONS, DUBBED AS "LOVE AMBASSADOR - FOSTER CARE SERVICE", WHICH HELPS THE CENTRAL FOSTER CARE UNIT TO PROMOTE THE SERVICE.

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS LOUISE WONG, WILL PRESENT FLAGS TO 12 PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS.

A DRAMA DEPICTING THE FOSTER CARE SERVICE WILL BE STAGED DURING THE CEREMONY.

MEANWHILE, A SERIES OF MOBILE EXHIBITIONS ON FOSTER CARE SERVICE WILL BE HELD. THE EXHIBITION CONTAINS EXHIBITION BOARDS, VIDEO SHOW ON FOSTER CARE SERVICE, THREE GAME STALLS, A CARTOON PHOTO COUNTER, DISTRIBUTION OF BALLOONS, SOUVENIRS AND SERVICE LEAFLETS, ON-THE-SPOT BRIEFING ON THE SERVICE.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CEREMONY TO BE HELD AT CRYSTAL ATRIUM, LEVEL III, METROPLAZA, KWAI FONG TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT 2 PM.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	\$ MILLION

OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,765
REVERSAL OF LAF	+1,035
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	2,800
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-525
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,275
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 112.6 *+0.1* 9.7.93

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	3.12 PCT	13 MONTHS	2408	4.375	100.55	3.90
1 MONTH	3.17 PCT	16 MONTHS	2411	4.625	100.81	4.04
3 MONTHS	3.29 PCT	19 MONTHS	2502	4.75	100.94	4.18
6 MONTHS	3.47 PCT	22 MONTHS	2505	3.75	98.96	4.39
12 MONTHS	3.79 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 19,725 MN

CLOSED JULY 9, 1993

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