



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 1984

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 1984

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SIR PHILIP VISITS TV AUTHORITY
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THE ACTING GOVERNOR, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE TODAY (THURSDAY) VISITED THE TELEVISION AND ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING AUTHORITY AT CARRIAN CENTRE IN WAN CHAI.

SIR PHILIP WAS MET BY THE COMMISSIONER, MR ROBERT SUN, WHO BRIEFED HIM ON THE WORK OF THE AUTHORITY.

THE PERCENTAGE OF FILMS AND TV COMMERCIALS PASSED BY THE AUTHORITY LAST YEAR WAS HIGH, MR SUN REVEALED.

OF THE 675 FILMS SUBMITTED IN 1983, 490 WERE PASSED WITHOUT CUTS. ONLY 19 WERE BANNED FROM PUBLIC SHOWING AND THE REMAINING WERE PASSED WITH CUTS, SAID THE COMMISSIONER.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF TV COMMERCIALS SUBMITTED DURING THE SAME PERIOD WAS 6 342 AND SOME 80 PER CENT OF THESE, OR 5 064, WERE APPROVED. ONLY 37 OR LESS THAN 0.6 PER CENT WERE REJECTED.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE AUTHORITY ISSUED 147 LICENCES TO OPERATE AMUSEMENT GAMES CENTRES OUT OF THE 276 APPLICATIONS RECEIVED, HE ADDED.

THE ACTING GOVERNOR ALSO MET A NUMBER OF STAFF MEMBERS OF THE AUTHORITY AND SAW VARIOUS FACILITIES, INCLUDING THE TV AND RADIO MONITOR ROOMS, THE FILM PROJECTION STUDIOS AND THE CUTTING ROOM.

SIR PHILIP SHOWED KEEN INTEREST IN THE LICENSING REGISTRY AND THE TV COMMERCIAL CONTROLLING UNIT.

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CIVIL SERVICE PAY EXPLAINED
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THE CIVIL SERVICE DOES NOT DECIDE ITS OWN PAY, AND CERTAINLY DOES NOT DECIDE HOW ITS PAY SHOULD BE INCREASED, THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE, MR MICHAEL SZE SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG NORTH, MR SZE SAID THE DECISION OF CIVIL SERVICE PAY RISE IS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

+BUT BEFORE A DECISION IS MADE, CERTAIN STEPS WILL HAVE TO BE TAKEN,+ HE SAID.

/MR SZE

MR SZE OUTLINED THE PROCEDURE:

IN DECEMBER EACH YEAR, A PAY TREND SURVEY IS COMMISSIONED.

THE CONTROLLER, PAY SURVEY AND RESEARCH UNIT, WHO REPORTS TO THE STANDING COMMISSION ON CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE, THEN COLLECTS MOVEMENTS IN PAY IN THE SURVEY COMPANIES FROM FEBRUARY 1 OF THE CURRENT YEAR TO JANUARY 31 OF THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY ARE ANALYSED AND ACCEPTED BY THE PAY TREND SURVEY COMMITTEE WHICH IS CHAIRED BY A COMMISSIONER OF THE STANDING COMMISSION IN MID-FEBRUARY.

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE FINDINGS OF THE SURVEY AND OTHER RELEVANT INDICATORS SUCH AS ECONOMIC AND BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS, THE ADMINISTRATION THEN TAKES A VIEW AS TO WHAT PROPOSALS SHOULD BE PUT TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

THIS IS THEN FOLLOWED BY DISCUSSIONS WITH THE STAFF SIDES OF THE THREE CONSULTATIVE COUNCILS, NAMELY THE SENIOR CIVIL SERVICE COUNCIL, THE MODEL SCALE 1 STAFF CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL AND THE POLICE FORCE COUNCIL.

IF DISCUSSIONS ARE SUCCESSFUL AND ARE WITHIN THE GUIDELINES AGREED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, THE PROPOSED PAY AWARD IS THEN SUBMITTED TO FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR THE VOTING OF THE NECESSARY FUNDS.

AN ANNOUNCEMENT IS MADE TOWARDS THE END OF MARCH OR EARLY APRIL WITH REVISED SALARY INCLUDED IN THE APRIL PAY PACKET.

MR SZE COMMENTED THAT THE PROCESS WAS NO EASY TASK.

+THE TIMING IS VERY TIGHT - THERE IS ONLY SIX WEEKS - FROM THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE PAY TREND SURVEY RESULTS TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF A POSSIBLE PAY AWARD.

+THE PROCESS REQUIRES THE AGREEMENT OF DIFFERENT PARTIES WITH DIFFERENT ASPIRATION AND VIEWPOINTS,+ HE SAID.

HE ALSO NOTED THAT THE COMMISSIONING OF PAY TREND SURVEY WAS THE AGREEMENT OF THE PARTIES CONCERNED TO A FACT-FINDING EXERCISE.

+IT DOES NOT COMMIT THE GOVERNMENT TO A PAY AWARD, WHICH MUST BE DETERMINED HAVING REGARD TO THE ECONOMIC AND BUDGETARY SITUATION, IN OTHER WORDS CAN GOVERNMENT PAY AND SHOULD IT PAY THAT MUCH,+ HE SAID.

NEW EDUCATION APPROACH DISCUSSED

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TODAY'S EDUCATION IS NO LONGER AN AFFAIR SIMPLY OF THE CLASSROOM IN WHICH FACTS ARE KNOCKED INTO EMPTY HEADS, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR COLVYN HAYE, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE 34TH SPEECH DAY OF YUEN LONG PUBLIC MIDDLE SCHOOL, MR HAYE SAID TEACHERS SHOULD BE FULLY AWARE OF THE MENTAL AND PHYSICAL GROWTH OF CHILDREN NOT AS PASSIVE RECIPIENTS OF IMPARTED KNOWLEDGE BUT AS ACTIVE AND EAGER DEVELOPING MINDS.

HE NOTED THAT TEACHERS OF YESTERDAY WERE PRIMARILY INTERESTED IN PRESENTING THEIR LESSONS AND ENSURING THE ASSIMILATION OF KNOWLEDGE BY PUPILS.

+TEACHERS TODAY THINK MORE OF HOW TO MOTIVATE PUPILS AND SPUR THEM ON TO THE SPIRIT OF ENQUIRY WHICH IS THE ESSENCE OF LEARNING,+ HE SAID.

NOTING THAT FORMAL LESSONS HAD GIVEN WAY TO PUPIL-CENTRED PARTICIPATION IN THE EXCITING QUEST FOR KNOWLEDGE, MR HAYE SAID LEARNING BY DOING HAD BECOME A COMMONPLACE AND THE PRESENT GENERATION OF CHILDREN COULD ATTEST TO ITS VALUE.

NEVERTHELESS, HE ADDED: +I AM SORRY TO SAY THAT THERE ARE STILL A FEW CLASSROOMS IN WHICH CHALK AND TALK PREDOMINATE, BUT I AM HAPPY TO SAY THAT THERE ARE ONLY A FEW OF THESE OLD-FASHIONED PLACES. TOMORROW I HOPE THERE WILL BE NONE.+

MR HAYE SAID THAT THIS REVOLUTION IN EDUCATION HAD TRANSFORMED RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN TEACHER AND PUPIL.

+WHILE THE AUTHORITY OF THE TEACHER IS STILL A VITAL FACTOR IN THE LEARNING PROCESS, THE TEACHER IS NOW A FRIEND AND A GUIDE WHERE ONCE HE WAS A FIGURE OF FEAR. THE MODERN TEACHER HAS DISCOVERED THAT HIS PUPILS LEARN MORE FROM HIS EXAMPLE AND INSPIRATION THAN FROM THE CANE,+ HE ADDED.

HE POINTED OUT THAT NEW THINKING IN EDUCATION HAD BROUGHT A NEW CONCEPT IN THE CHARACTER TRAINING OF PUPILS.

+CHILDREN OF TODAY ARE THE CITIZENS OF TOMORROW, AND EVIDENCE OF THIS CAN BE FOUND IN MOST OF OUR SCHOOLS IN THE MANNER IN WHICH CHILDREN HAVE BECOME ACCUSTOMED TO A SPIRIT OF SERVICE WITH A STRONG SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY TO THE COMMUNITY.

+IN ALMOST EVERY SCHOOL THERE IS A MULTIPLICITY OF COMMUNITY SERVICE CLUBS AND INTERESTS WHICH ASTONISH VISITORS ACCUSTOMED TO REGARDING SCHOOLS IN HONG KONG AS PREDOMINANTLY INTERESTED IN ACADEMIC STUDIES,+ HE SAID.

/+IN FACT

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+IN FACT ONE OF THE MOST DRAMATIC DEVELOPMENTS IN EDUCATION IN THE LAST 10 YEARS MUST BE THE MANNER IN WHICH OUR CHILDREN HAVE TURNED FROM THEIR BOOKS TO INTERESTS OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM TO BECOME WELL-ROUNDED PERSONALITIES FIT AND ABLE TO TAKE THEIR PLACE IN THE COMMUNITY,+ HE SAID.

MR HAYE ALSO STRESSED THE IMPORTANT ROLE PARENTS COULD PLAY IN EDUCATION.

+SO THE MODERN TEACHER MUST ESTABLISH CLOSE LINKS WITH PARENTS AND THEY ARE ENCOURAGED TO VISIT PARENTS IF AND WHEN THERE ARE PROBLEMS THAT MUST BE DISCUSSED. IT IS VITAL THAT TEACHERS AND PARENTS JOIN HANDS IN EDUCATING CHILDREN AT SCHOOL AND IN THE HOME,+ HE SAID.

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TEXTILES NEGOTIATIONS WITH NORWAY COMPLETED
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AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN NORWAY AND HONG KONG REGARDING HONG KONG'S TEXTILE EXPORTS TO NORWAY WAS INITIALLED BY THE HEADS OF THE TWO DELEGATIONS IN OSLO YESTERDAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE INITIALLING TOOK PLACE AT THE END OF FOUR ROUNDS OF NEGOTIATIONS.

THE AGREEMENT IS SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE GOVERNMENTS OF NORWAY AND HONG KONG.

THE AGREEMENT, IF APPROVED BY BOTH GOVERNMENTS, WILL BE VALID FROM JULY 1, 1984 UNTIL JUNE 30, 1987.

NORWAY HAS EARLIER INITIALLED BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH SIX OTHER COUNTRIES.

THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE ITS FINAL POSITION ON MFA MEMBERSHIP ON THE BASIS OF ALL THESE AGREEMENTS.

WHEN APPROVED, THE AGREEMENTS WOULD PAVE THE WAY FOR NORWAY'S ENTRY INTO THE MFA AS OF JULY 1, 1984, AND BRING THAT COUNTRY'S GLOBAL QUOTA SYSTEM TO AN END.

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GOOD INVESTMENT ADVANTAGES IN TUEN MUN
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THE GOVERNMENT'S AIM IN TUEN MUN IS TO CREATE ENOUGH WORK FOR PEOPLE WHO MOVE TO THE NEW TOWN FROM OTHER PARTS OF HONG KONG SO THAT THEY HAVE BOTH THEIR HOMES AND PLACES OF WORK IN THE DISTRICT, THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

HE POINTED OUT THAT THERE ARE OVER 1 400 INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS IN TUEN MUN PROVIDING MORE THAN 22 000 JOBS, AND THE MAJORITY OF THE WORK FORCE LIVE IN TUEN MUN OR THE NEIGHBOURHOOD.

DESPITE THE DIFFICULT WORLD ECONOMIC SITUATION DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS, TUEN MUN HAS CONTINUED TO GROW IN TERMS OF POPULATION, FROM 108 000 IN JANUARY 1981 TO THE PRESENT 247 000.

SPEAKING AT THE GROUND-BREAKING CEREMONY OF YKK'S SECOND FACTORY BUILDING IN TUEN MUN, MR AKERS-JONES DISPELLED A MISCONCEPTION THAT TUEN MUN IS IN A REMOTE CORNER OF HONG KONG AND IS UNSUITABLE FOR INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT.

+THIS IS FAR FROM THE TRUTH,+ HE SAID.

+TUEN MUN IS ONLY A LITTLE OVER HALF AN HOUR'S DIRECT DRIVE FROM KWAI CHUNG CONTAINER TERMINAL, AND IS NO FURTHER AWAY THAN KWUN TONG.

+THERE ARE MANY ADVANTAGES IN SETTING UP INDUSTRIAL OPERATIONS IN TUEN MUN AND I CONGRATULATE YKK FOR ITS FORESIGHT AND CONFIDENCE IN TUEN MUN BY EXPANDING ITS OPERATIONS HERE.+

YKK'S FIRST FACTORY BUILDING WAS OPENED IN 1978 WHEN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW TOWN WAS JUST BEGINNING.

+YKK WAS ONE OF THE FIRST LARGE-SCALE INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRIAL CONCERNS TO SEE THE POTENTIAL OF THE NEW TOWN AND TO ESTABLISH ONE OF ITS MANY BRANCH FACTORIES HERE.+

MR AKERS-JONES EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT OTHER INDUSTRIAL CONCERNS WOULD FOLLOW YKK'S EXAMPLE IN INVESTING IN TUEN MUN.

+TUEN MUN IS A NEW TOWN AND A NEW COMMUNITY, BUT IN A YEAR OR TWO'S TIME IT WILL HAVE AN ENVIRONMENT OF WHICH ITS RESIDENTS WILL BE PROUD, WITH PARKS, SWIMMING POOLS, A TOWN HALL AND A TOWN CENTRE, AND WITH INCOMPARABLE VIEWS OF THE MOUNTAINS AND SEA,+ HE ADDED.

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CONSULTANTS DUE FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE
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THE PRINCIPAL CONSULTANTS IN CHARGE OF THE FOUR OVERSEAS INDUSTRIAL PROMOTION OFFICES OF THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT WILL RETURN TO HONG KONG FOR THEIR WEEK-LONG ANNUAL LIAISON CONFERENCE, STARTING NEXT MONDAY (JANUARY 16).

THIS IS THE SECOND ANNUAL MEETING BETWEEN THE OVERSEAS CONSULTANTS AND THEIR HEADQUARTERS COLLEAGUES SINCE THE ESTABLISHMENT IN 1982 OF THE OVERSEAS OFFICES IN TOKYO, LONDON, STUTTGART AND SAN FRANCISCO.

AT THE MEETING TO BE CHAIRED BY THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR JOHN YAXLEY, ON MONDAY THE OVERSEAS CONSULTANTS WILL REPORT ON THE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SITUATION IN THEIR AREAS FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT PROMOTION.

THERE WILL ALSO BE DISCUSSION OF THEIR PROGRESS SO FAR, THE PROSPECTS IN THEIR AREAS, AND OTHER ASPECTS OF THE DEPARTMENT'S INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT PROMOTION WORK.

DURING THEIR STAY, THE OFFICERS WILL MEET OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO UPDATE THEIR KNOWLEDGE ABOUT HONG KONG.

THEY WILL ALSO VISIT FACTORIES, AND HOLD BRIEFING SESSIONS FOR MEMBERS OF VARIOUS INDUSTRIAL AND TRADE ORGANISATIONS, INCLUDING THE HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION AND THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES.

THE FOUR OVERSEAS CONSULTANTS ARE: MR MICHAEL KIKUCHI (JAPAN), MR DONALD FLETCHER (UK AND NORDICS), MR JOHN WHITE (CONTINENTAL EUROPE) AND MR ROBERT ASHWORTH (NORTH AMERICA).

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MATINEES FOR KOWLOON CITY
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STUDENTS IN KOWLOON CITY WILL STAGE CHINESE AND WESTERN FOLK SONGS IN A SERIES OF FOUR SATURDAY MATINEES BEGINNING THIS WEEKEND (JANUARY 14).

TWELVE FOLK GROUPS, TOGETHER WITH A NUMBER OF AMATEUR GUITARISTS, WILL TAKE TURNS TO PERFORM IN VARIOUS PUBLIC PLACES, INCLUDING PROMENADES, GARDENS AND PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

THE MATINEES ARE PART OF THE +FOLK MUSIC FROM CLASSROOM+ PROJECT, WHICH ALSO INCLUDE AUDITIONS AND A CONCERT IN THE KO SHAN THEATRE LAST MONTH, INITIATED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT ARTS AND CULTURE COUNCIL.

/THE ASSISTANT

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THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ROGER GARCIA, SAID THE PROJECT AIMED AT PROMOTING INTEREST IN FOLK MUSIC, CLASSIC AND CONTEMPORARY, AMONG STUDENTS AND RESIDENTS.

HE SAID THAT THE ORGANISERS WOULD ALSO LIKE TO INTRODUCE TO LOCAL MUSIC TALENTS A SELF-HELP APPROACH TOWARDS PERFORMING ARTS NOW FLOURISHING IN THE TERRITORY.

+THE YOUNG ARTISTS WILL CHOOSE THEIR OWN FAVOURITE NUMBERS, ARRANGE FOR THEIR MUSIC INSTRUMENTS AND ACCOMPANIMENT AND EVEN PLAY THE MASTER OF CEREMONY,+ HE SAID.

+THE IDEA HAS PROVED SUCCESSFUL IN THE PAST AND I AM SURE THAT THE INFORMAL RECITALS WILL ATTRACT RESIDENTS AND PASSERS-BY WHO WISH TO ENJOY A CAREFREE AND LEISURELY AFTERNOON WITH US.+

THE FOUR MATINEES WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 14 AND 21, AND FEBRUARY 11 AND 18 AT THE HUNG HOM FERRY CONCOURSE, THE OPEN SPACE OUTSIDE OI MAN COMMERCIAL COMPLEX, THE PAVILION NEAR THE ICE SKATING RINK IN KOWLOON TSAI PARK AND BLOCK H OF LOK MAN SUN CHUEN, RESPECTIVELY.

BEGINNING AT 3 PM, THE SHOWS WILL EACH LAST FOR ABOUT ONE AND A HALF HOURS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS :

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE FIRST MATINEE TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 14) AT 3 PM AT THE HUNG HOM FERRY CONCOURSE.

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ANTI-DRUG CAMPAIGN IN KWUN TONG
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A TWO-WEEK ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN, FEATURING A DISCO NIGHT, A SPORTS DAY AND A CARNIVAL, WILL BE LAUNCHED IN KWUN TONG ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 15).

ANNOUNCING DETAILS OF THE CAMPAIGN AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (THURSDAY), THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE, DR SIU LEUNG-CHOW WHO IS ALSO A DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER, SAID A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES WOULD BE HELD FROM JANUARY 15 TO 29 TO AROUSE YOUNG PEOPLE'S AWARENESS OF THE EVILS OF DRUGS.

THE TARGET GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 15 AND 24 IN THE DISTRICT TOTALS ABOUT 150 000.

MORE THAN 10 ACTIVITIES WOULD BE ORGANISED TO SUIT THE INTEREST OF THESE YOUTHS, ESPECIALLY STUDENTS, THROUGH WHICH ANTI-DRUG MESSAGES WOULD BE WIDELY SPREAD, HE SAID.

THE CAMPAIGN IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD AND THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS.

/DR SIU

DR SIU SAID AN OPENING CEREMONY-CUM-DISCO NIGHT WOULD BE HELD FOR 700 YOUTHS AT 7.30 PM ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 15) AT THE KAI YIP ESTATE INDOOR GAMES HALL.

THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR BARRIE WIGGHAM, AND THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR G.L. MORTIMER, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CEREMONY.

OTHER EVENTS DURING THE CAMPAIGN PERIOD INCLUDE VISITS TO THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE TRAINING SCHOOL AND THE SHEK KWU CHAU TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION CENTRE, QUIZZES FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS, SLOGAN COMPETITIONS AND CROSS-WORD PUZZLE GAMES.

IN ADDITION, A VARIETY SHOW-CUM-CARNIVAL FOR 4 000 RESIDENTS WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 29 AT YUET WAH STREET RECREATION GROUND WHERE EXHIBITIONS, GAMES STALLS, CHILDREN'S DRAWING COMPETITIONS, MAGIC SHOWS AND SINGING WILL BE STAGED.

THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR KEVIN MAK, WHO WAS ALSO PRESENT AT THE NEWS CONFERENCE, SAID, +ANTI-NARCOTICS WORK IS A LONG-TERM ONE WHICH REQUIRES THE CONTINUOUS EFFORTS OF ALL PARTIES CONCERNED.+

HE POINTED OUT THAT SOME LOCAL YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAD FORMED A GROUP OF ANTI-DRUGS ABUSE PIONEERS AFTER LAST YEAR'S CAMPAIGN HAD ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN ANTI-DRUG PUBLICITY WORK.

+THEY WILL BE AN ENERGETIC FORCE TO HELP PUBLICISING THE CAMPAIGN THIS YEAR,+ HE SAID.

MR MAK SAID HE WAS GLAD TO HAVE THE SUPPORT OF THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED KWUN TONG SCHOOLS LIAISON COMMITTEE.

THE COMMITTEE IS INVOLVED IN THE ORGANISING OF THE CAMPAIGN SO THAT ANTI-DRUG MESSAGES COULD REACH SCHOOL CHILDREN DIRECTLY AND MORE EFFECTIVELY.

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DB TO REVIEW +MEET THE PUBLIC+ SCHEME
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MEMBERS OF THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD WILL REVIEW THE DISTRICT'S ONE-YEAR-OLD +MEET-THE-PUBLIC+ SCHEME AT THEIR MEETING TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THEY WILL ALSO COMMENT ON THE URBAN COUNCIL'S REVISED CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME 1983/84 - 1987/88 AND THE PUBLIC HOUSING PROGRAMME AND POLICY.

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION WILL INCLUDE THE CONCORDE FLIGHT TO HONG KONG, MEDICAL FACILITIES AT THE KOWLOON HOSPITAL'S OUT-PATIENT CLINIC AND COMMERCIAL RENT INCREASES IN OI MAN ESTATE.

/THE MEETING

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THE MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE AT 2.15 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE AT 141-143 KAU PUI LUNG ROAD.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING THE MEETING SHOULD CONTACT THE SECRETARY, MR KWAN WAI-HAY, ON 3-7110171.

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NOTE TO EDITORS :

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD MEETING WHICH WILL BE HELD AT 2.15 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE AT 141-143 KAU PUI LUNG ROAD.

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NEW 'KAITO' SERVICE FOR TAI O
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A NEW 'KAITO' SERVICE SERVING TAI O, SHA LO WAN AND TUEN MUN WILL START OPERATING FROM MONDAY (JANUARY 16), FOLLOWING A SUCCESSFUL TRIAL SAILING EARLY THIS WEEK.

THE TRIAL RUN WAS ATTENDED BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE MARINE DEPARTMENT, DISTRICT OFFICE (ISLANDS), PORT WORKS DIVISION, TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT AND TAI O RURAL COMMITTEE.

IT WAS GENERALLY AGREED THAT THE SERVICE WILL INITIALLY RUN FOR A TRIAL PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS, OPERATING ON MONDAYS AND SATURDAYS EXCEPT CHINESE FESTIVALS. IT WILL DEPART FROM TAI O FOR TUEN MUN VIA SHA LO WAN AT 7 AM. ON THE RETURN JOURNEY, IT WILL LEAVE TUEN MUN AT 3.30 PM.

THE FARES WILL BE \$10 FROM TAI O TO TUEN MUN, \$8 FROM SHA LO WAN TO TUEN MUN AND \$4 FROM TAI O TO SHA LO WAN.

WHILE THE TAI O PUBLIC PIER AND SHA LO WAN PUBLIC PIER WILL BE USED FOR BOTH PASSENGERS AND FREIGHT, THE SAM SHING ESTATE LANDING STEPS (SOUTH) IN TUEN MUN WILL BE USED FOR PASSENGERS ONLY. GOODS WILL BE LOADED AND UNLOADED AT THE LANDING STEPS AT AREA 44 NEAR BUTTERFLY ESTATE.

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TUEN MUN SITE OFFERED FOR TENANCY
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THE LANDS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SHORT TERM TENANCY OF A PIECE OF CROWN LAND IN TUEN MUN. THE SITE, MEASURING 2 470 SQUARE METRES, IS FOR GENERAL OPEN STORAGE PURPOSES, INCLUDING MAINTENANCE OF CONTRACTORS' PLANT.

CONCRETE BATCHING, STORAGE AND PACKING OF CONTAINERS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED ON THE SITE.

THE TENANCY WILL BE FOR AN INITIAL PERIOD OF THREE YEARS, RENEWABLE MONTHLY AFTERWARDS.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR TENDERS IS JANUARY 27.

TENDER FORMS, NOTICES AND CONDITIONS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE (TUEN MUN); THE LANDS DEPARTMENT, MURRAY BUILDING, 5TH FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG; AND THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE (KOWLOON WEST), KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 10TH FLOOR, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

THE TENDER PLAN MAY ALSO BE INSPECTED AT THE ABOVE LOCATIONS.

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RESTRICTED ZONES IN NT
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FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 14), THE SERVICE ROAD AT THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE WO HOP SHEK SECTION OF THE NEW TERRITORIES CIRCULAR ROAD WILL BE DESIGNATED A PUBLIC LIGHT BUS RESTRICTED ZONE FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY.

WITHIN THIS RESTRICTED ZONE, WHICH STRETCHES FROM THE HO KA YUEN ACCESS ROAD TO THE MINI-ROUNDBOUT AT WO HOP SHEK CONNECTION, ALL PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM PICKING UP OR SETTING DOWN PASSENGERS.

FROM THE SAME DAY, THE NEW ROAD NETWORK ALONG TAI PO ROAD IN WO HOP SHEK BETWEEN THE ACCESS ROAD TO TONG HANG AND A POINT ABOUT 30 METRES EAST OF THE ACCESS ROAD TO HO KA YUEN WILL BE DESIGNATED URBAN CLEARWAY RESTRICTED ZONES FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY.

THESE ZONES INCLUDE WO HOP SHEK D1 CONNECTION, NORTH-EAST SLIP ROAD, NORTH-WEST LOOP ROAD, SOUTH-WEST LOOP ROAD AND THE NEW TERRITORIES CIRCULAR ROAD (WO HOP SHEK SECTION).

FROM SATURDAY, THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF ROADS IN FANLING AND SHEUNG SHUI WILL BE DESIGNATED URBAN CLEARWAY RESTRICTED ZONES FROM 7 AM TO 10 AM AND FROM 4 PM TO 7 PM DAILY :-

/* THE SECTION

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- * THE SECTION OF JOCKEY CLUB ROAD BETWEEN A POINT ABOUT 80 METRES NORTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH SAN FUNG AVENUE AND THE FANLING ROUNDABOUT.
- * THE SECTION OF TAI PO ROAD BETWEEN A POINT ABOUT 40 METRES WEST OF THE FANLING ROUNDABOUT AND THE ACCESS ROAD TO TONG HANG.
- * THE SECTION OF SHA TAU KOK ROAD FROM FANLING ROUNDABOUT TO A POINT ABOUT 100 METRES EAST OF THE SAME ROUNDABOUT.

ALL VEHICLES, EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES, WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM PICKING UP OR SETTING DOWN PASSENGERS AND LOADING OR UNLOADING GOODS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED ZONES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS :

DB TO VISIT BUS COMPANY

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MEMBERS OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE WILL VISIT THE KOWLOON MOTOR BUS COMPANY HEADQUARTERS AT KWAI CHUNG TOMORROW (FRIDAY) MORNING.

THE PROGRAMME WILL BEGIN WITH A BRIEFING AND DISCUSSION SESSION AT THE COMPANY'S BOARD ROOM.

THE PARTY WILL THEN SEE HOW KMB'S PASSENGER ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE WORKS, AND TOUR THE MAINTENANCE AND RESEARCH CENTRE, THE MAJOR UNIT OVERHAUL SECTION AND THE TECHNICAL TRAINING SCHOOL.

MRS CHAN LO YIN-BING, CHAIRMAN OF THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE, AND MR PAUL TANG, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE, WILL LEAD THE GROUP.

MEMBERS OF THE PRESS ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE TOUR TO KMB. THE PARTY WILL DEPART FROM THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE, 6TH FLOOR, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION AT 9.45 AM TOMORROW (FRIDAY). TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED.

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NEW LINK ROAD FOR SHA TAU KOK

WORK HAS STARTED ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE VEHICULAR BORDER LINK AT SHA TAU KOK.

THE \$10-MILLION CONTRACT HAS BEEN AWARDED TO KONG KEE BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LTD.

THE NEW 800-METRE-LONG TWO-LANE CARRIAGEWAY IS BEING BUILT TO LINK SHA TAU KOK ROAD WITH THE NEW SHA TAU KOK BRIDGE.

THE NEW ROAD WILL HAVE TWO-METRE WIDE FOOTPATHS ON EACH SIDE.

ABOUT HALF OF ITS LENGTH WILL BE 7.3 METRES WIDE AND THE REMAINING HALF WILL WIDEN TO 70 METRES TO CATER FOR CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION FACILITIES.

IT WILL BE ENCLOSED BY A 3.5 METRES HIGH SECURITY FENCE.

THE CONTRACT INCLUDES CONSTRUCTION OF TWO PEDESTRIAN SUBWAYS AND ASSOCIATED DRAINAGE AND SITE FORMATION WORK.

WHEN IT IS FINISHED THE NEW ROAD WILL PROVIDE ANOTHER BORDER CROSSING FACILITY IN ADDITION TO THE MAN KAM TO CROSSING.

WORK ON THE PROJECT WILL TAKE ONE YEAR TO COMPLETE.

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ROCK CRUSHING SITE TENDERS INVITED

TENDERS ARE BEING INVITED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF A ROCK CRUSHING SITE AT SIU LAM, TUEN MUN.

THE FIVE-YEAR CONTRACT HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO PRODUCE AGGREGATES FROM SURPLUS ROCK RESULTING FROM EXCAVATION WORKS IN THE TUEN MUN AREA.

IN ADDITION, THE CONTRACTOR WILL BE ALLOWED TO PRODUCE READY MIXED CONCRETE AND BITUMINOUS MATERIAL ON THE SITE.

WASTE MATERIAL FROM THE ROCK CRUSHING SITE WILL BE RETAINED FOR USE AS FILL MATERIAL IN TUEN MUN NEW TOWN RECLAMATION PROJECTS.

TENDERS MUST BE ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN, CENTRAL TENDER BOARD, AND PLACED IN THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT TENDER BOX IN THE LIFT LOBBY ON THE LOWER GROUND FLOOR OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, BEFORE 12 NOON ON JANUARY 27.

/TENDER FORMS

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TENDER FORMS AND FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEER/MATERIALS, 6TH FLOOR, EMPIRE CENTRE, 68 MODY ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI EAST.

ONLY CONTRACTORS ON THE LANDS AND WORKS APPROVED CONTRACTORS LIST I IN GROUPS A, B, OR C FOR SITE FORMATION WORKS OR CONTRACTORS WITH CURRENT CONTRACT QUARRY AGREEMENTS WITH THE GEOTECHNICAL CONTROL OFFICE WILL BE PERMITTED TO TENDER.

A NOTIFICATION OF THE TENDER HAS APPEARED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

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SALT WATER MAINS WORK
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WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN KOWLOON WILL BE CUT OFF FROM 9.30 AM TO 4 PM ON MONDAY (JANUARY 16) FOR MAINS WORK.

THE AFFECTED AREAS ARE BOUNDED BY KWUN TONG, NGAU TAU KOK, NGAU CHI WAN, SAN PO KONG, AND SAU MAU PING, INCLUDING

ESTATES IN NGAU TAU KOK, JORDAN VALLEY, SHUN LEE, SHUN CHI, SHUN ON, KAI YIP, SHUN TIN, LAM TIN, PING SHEK, KWUN TONG (LEI YUE MUN ROAD), CHOI WAN, FU SHAN, CHOI HUNG, SAU MAU PING, WO LOK AND KWUN TONG (TSUI PING ROAD).

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ABERDEEN TRAFFIC RESTRICTION
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FROM 10 AM TOMORROW (JANUARY 13), ABERDEEN OLD MAIN STREET FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH ABERDEEN MAIN ROAD TO A POINT 120 METRES NORTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION WILL BE PROHIBITED TO VEHICLES OVER TWO AND A HALF TONS UNLADEN.

FROM SATURDAY (JANUARY 14), THE NEW EXTENSION OF THE CLEVERLY STREET BUS TERMINUS WILL BE PROHIBITED TO ALL VEHICLES OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES.

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DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN – SUPPLEMENT

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 1984

SPEECH BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE,
TO THE COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS IN NEW YORK,
ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 1984

Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am very grateful for the opportunity to address this gathering today. From my own eight years in the United States, four of them in New York and four in Washington, I am conscious of the importance and influence of the Council on Foreign Relations. On your side many of you will know Hong Kong, some well and most of you will at least have visited it. There could be no better basis for an occasion of this kind.

Over the past eighteen months you have probably read and heard more about Hong Kong than at any previous time in its history. Almost overnight the future of the territory has become an international topic. It is not surprising that the Hong Kong press should be fixed on this issue - but the interest has spread far more widely to the informed international press; and even in provincial European and Australian newspapers speculating, often fancifully, about our future has become a new pastime. Fame has indeed been thrust upon us.

Some of that comment gives the impression that Hong Kong is a star about to fall. One U.S. report which I recently read started with the words "The fall of Hong Kong seems to have begun." There is no lack of Jeremiahs predicting our demise. I hope to convince you today that while we have our difficulties and there is understandable anxiety in Hong Kong about the future, Hong Kong is very much a going concern and there is no reason why it should not remain so.

But first to our problems. After a decade of expansion punctuated by a period of recession in 1975/76, 1982 was a difficult year. The reasons were many. There is no place in the world more exposed to world trade trends - for trade is equivalent to 147% of our gross domestic product - and it was in 1982 that the effects of the world recession began to show. The growth in our exports declined from 13 per cent per annum to minus 2 per cent.

At the same time the effects of the substantial fall in property prices became apparent. There are those who will tell you that the collapse of those prices began in the autumn of 1982 with the commencement of the talks in Peking. It did not.

/The fall

The fall from the peak started in early 1981 and its main cause was oversupply and highly inflated prices. The boom was bound to bust, as it had done in so many other places in the world when property prices had outrun the market. I will hazard a guess that in 1982 the international banking community had become generally more cautious as a result of concern about the degree of exposure to overseas risks. Then came the new element - the realisation in Hong Kong that 1997 was only just 15 years away; and that an ever increasing number of decisions, both business and personal, would need to take that fact into account.

1983 began, oddly enough in a calmer atmosphere but the second half of the year brought new problems. In the adjustment process some well known companies had got into difficulties. There were rumours of trouble among some of the financial institutions. Above all the exchange value of the Hong Kong dollar declined substantially not only against the U.S. dollar but against the basket of currencies used for our trade weighted index. Some of that decline was attributable to the strength of the U.S. dollar itself and some no doubt to the decline in the rate of growth of our trade. But a great deal was attributable to political nervousness about the state of the talks in Peking. I do not have to tell this audience that foreign exchange markets are sensitive creatures. In Hong Kong the omission of two words from a communique on the September round of the talks led to a substantial fall in the rate. If the fall had been due to economic factors alone we should have left the economy to make its own adjustment. But the causes were not economic and it had become apparent that the adverse effects on the Hong Kong economy, and on our trade and financial reputation, when added to the likely consequential increase in the domestic rate of inflation, out-weighed by a substantial margin the risks of changing the system which had served Hong Kong so well in the previous decade. We therefore linked the rate of the currency to the U.S. dollar via the note issuing mechanism and left it to interest rates and arbitrage to keep the open market rate close to it.

Nevertheless the depreciation of the Hong Kong dollar had been substantial. It is now being reflected in price levels and will continue to show for a while. In consequence the rate of inflation in 1983 is likely to be about 10 per cent, roughly the same as 1982.

/So much,

So much, gentlemen for the gloom. But though the difficulties have been and are real, relatively the picture is nothing like as bleak. There are many places in the world which have had as difficult if not more difficult times than Hong Kong has had : and there are few which have the innate strengths of the community of Hong Kong with which to confront them.

Let me remind you of some of those strengths.

If anyone needed evidence of the resilience of the Hong Kong economy he has only to look at its record of versatility and power of adaptation. It used to be said that the Governor of Hong Kong needed ~~no~~ economic adviser. If he wanted to know the state of the economy he would stand on his terrace looking over the harbour and count the ships. Hong Kong was then just a trading port. Now he stands on the terrace and the only thing he can count is banks and business houses because they have surrounded Government House with skyscrapers and the present governor can scarcely see the harbour at all. But it is still there and its activity is growing. The Hong Kong container terminal has the third largest throughput in the world and it is about to expand further.

After the last war in the fifties and sixties a major light manufacturing centre grew up, first for textiles and then for toys, watches, electronics, electrical goods and many other products. Manufacturing for a time came to account for as much as a third of our gross domestic product and still employs about 40% of our labour force. Our manufacturers have over the years constantly upgraded the quality of their product and the speed of their reaction to changes in market demand.

In recent years Hong Kong has added a new string to its bow in the shape of a financial centre of world standing third after London and New York in the value of business conducted. The loss of the view from Government House is perhaps a small price to pay for the addition of such a major new asset.

I recall this history, not because it will be new to you but as a reminder of the conditions which have contributed to Hong Kong's success in the past and to emphasize that they are still there. The skill and determination of the Hong Kong businessmen and financiers,

.....
/their adaptability

their adaptability and speed in diversifying their activities, their concern to provide what the market demands at a fair price, the assiduity of the Hong Kong worker and his willingness to adapt to new skills and new opportunities, the prime position of the harbour and the aviation centre and the merchanting and related services which go with them, the commitment of the government and the community to the free enterprise system, the consistency of government policy in providing essential services and basic infrastructure but intervening in the economy only where prudent regulation and the good name of Hong Kong requires, sound management of the public finances - none of these has changed.

If any evidence were required of the resilience which that combination of factors can generate, it can be found in the items on the credit side of our account for 1983.

Our 1983 exports and re-exports, at about US\$22 billion, are over 25 per cent above the 1982 figure. Of them, nearly one third-US\$7 billion - went to the United States, and imports from this country came to over US\$2.6 billion.

Our unemployment rate has been stable. At its peak it was between 5 and 6 per cent and is now about 4 per cent.

Our new currency stabilisation measures have been successful. We are under no illusion that we are out of the wood. But even with the new surge in the U.S. dollar rate at the end of last year the movement in the exchange value of the Hong Kong dollar was limited to 0.25 per cent. There are not many currencies around the world which can match that. We have considerable reserves and no central government debt. You do not find the name of Hong Kong on the list of those requiring their debts to be rescheduled, or seeking IMF support, nor is there any reason it should appear there in the future.

You have heard much of the troubles of some of our companies. But surely what is remarkable is the number who have survived the storm. Some in the property sector may remain troubled but there has been much to compensate for that. A GDP growth rate of 6 per cent in 1983 is not a sign of a collapsing economy.

/As a

As a government we have remained strongly committed to vigorous and continuing investment in the future of the territory, and our sights are set far ahead. The ambitious new town development programmes which were planned as early as the 1960's and started in the 1970's will be largely completed by the end of the present decade. In the next few months we expect to unfold a new development strategy based on regional planning studies for the New Territories and the harbour area. We shall shortly be making decisions on an overall territorial development strategy to provide for the needs of nearly two million more people. The strategy will extend well into the 1990's and the next century.

Finally let me remind you of what Hong Kong is. To many visitors Hong Kong is the skyscrapers, the shops, the crowded central district and the hotels, and the busy streets and the traces of old China. Many are impressed by the great wealth of the very rich, and banks and business houses. A few note the great beauty and serene grandeur of our coasts and our large country parks. But it is much more than that. It is a community of more than five million hardworking people whose home it is and will remain. Their concerns are the concern of the ordinary man and woman all over the world, their job, their family, the health and well-being of their children. They recognise the defects of the society in which they live, and I should be the first to admit that they are there. But they recognise too what they, as a community have achieved over the last two decades. 43 per cent of the population live in public housing in standards which are constantly being improved. Our housing programmes continue steadily to meet the requirements of those still in need. Although the population has grown five or six times in the last thirty years there is secondary education and reasonable health care for all. Tertiary education is expanding fast. Our people are free to come and go as they will. Life is not easy. Apart from the harbour and its geographical position Hong Kong is not well endowed with nature's bounty. But Hong Kong people work extremely hard because they believe they can, by so doing better themselves and the prospects for their families. Hong Kong is therefore not just a free enterprise economy. It is a community with its own strong sense of identity and purpose.

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/It is

It is also, I venture to suggest a place of great interest to the U.S. It is an open market for U.S. goods with no restrictions, no restraints, no limits on the remittance of profit or controls on funds moving in and out. It is a base for many American investors who manufacture both for the domestic and export market. Indeed the United States continues to be the largest single source of overseas industrial investment accounting for 47 per cent of the total, ahead of Japan with 30 per cent and ahead of the United Kingdom which is traditionally lower at 6 per cent. 17 per cent of our domestic exports are produced by companies with overseas interests. It is an ideal centre for a regional headquarters with excellent connexions, communications, in the midst of the fastest growing area of the world - the Pacific basin - with business and financial services to match. Even the fall in property prices now gives an opportunity to establish in Hong Kong a regional office for East Asia in prime accommodation at modest cost.

I might add that Hong Kong is also a living proof of the message which your government is keen to spread - that developing societies can thrive in a world of open trade.

A stable and cohesive community, a resilient economy, a willingness to face change and adapt to it, these are all strengths on which the Hong Kong community can rely in facing the future, and which continue to make Hong Kong a place worth investing in and deserving of a fair deal in commercial matters.

The future of Hong Kong is now the subject of the Sino-British talks in Peking. The two governments agreed that the content of the talks should remain confidential and it is not for me to reveal it here.

But I will put to you a few thoughts about the talks which may help to put them in perspective.

First of all the general context is a favourable one. The relations between the United Kingdom and China are good, and the relationship is a developing one.

/Secondly Hong

Secondly Hong Kong's own relations with China are close. In total trade terms China is now our second largest trading partner, the largest source of our imports and the fourth largest destination for our domestic exports. Many of China's corporations and banks are active in Hong Kong and we have a close working relationship with the authorities of neighbouring Guangdong on a wide range of practical matters. The newly formed Hong Kong Nuclear Investment Corporation will, with the support of the Hong Kong Government, be closely involved in the new Nuclear Power Station to be built by the Chinese in Guangdong Province close to Hong Kong. This is only one example of the contribution which Hong Kong seeks to make to China's modernisation programme. It is part of the mutually beneficial economic relationship much valued by both sides.

Thirdly, while both sides have important principles to which they attach great weight they are very conscious of the interest and concerns of the people of Hong Kong and they have from the beginning stated their aim of maintaining its stability and prosperity, a phrase which some cynics may call hackneyed but which has real meaning for all those involved in the talks in Peking.

When you add to all that a determination and strong commitment to finding a satisfactory settlement and to making a success of the talks, I trust that you will agree, that the factors I have set out for you today are sound ingredients for hope and confidence in the future of Hong Kong. They scarcely support the picture of Hong Kong as a falling star.