



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SIR GEOFFREY HOWE ARRIVES FOR THREE-DAY VISIT
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THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS, SIR GEOFFREY HOWE, ARRIVED FROM MANILA TONIGHT (SUNDAY) FOR A THREE-DAY VISIT TO HONG KONG.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AT THE AIRPORT, SIR GEOFFREY SAID HIS VISIT WAS THREE-FOLD:

"FIRST, TO UNDERLINE WITH ALL THE EMPHASIS AT MY COMMAND, THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S UNDIMINISHED COMMITMENT TO HONG KONG AND TO THE FULL AND FAITHFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JOINT DECLARATION.

"SECOND, TO ENCOURAGE HONG KONG PEOPLE TO TAKE CONFIDENCE.

"CONFIDENCE FROM THEIR OWN STRIKING ECONOMIC ACHIEVEMENTS AND FROM THE SUSTAINED AND DETERMINED SUPPORT FOR THEIR LONG-TERM INTERESTS BY THE BRITISH AND HONG KONG GOVERNMENTS.

"THIRD, TO REVIEW ALL DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING HONG KONG'S WELL BEING WITH A BROAD CROSS-SECTION OF OPINION WITH LEGCO, WITH EXCO, WITH THE MANY OTHER PEOPLE AND ORGANISATIONS WITH WHOM I SHALL COME INTO CONTACT, AND OF COURSE WITH THE GOVERNOR."

"BY THE END OF MY VISIT I HOPE TO HAVE AS FULL AND AS ACCURATE AN INSIGHT AS POSSIBLE INTO HONG KONG'S CONCERNS AND ASPIRATIONS, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO SHARING MY IMPRESSIONS WITH YOU AT MY PRESS CONFERENCE," SIR GEOFFREY SAID.

SIR GEOFFREY AND LADY HOWE WERE MET ON ARRIVAL BY THE GOVERNOR AND LADY WILSON; THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD; THE SENIOR MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, SIR S.Y. CHUNG; THE SENIOR MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MISS LYDIA DUNN, AND THE ACTING SENIOR BRITISH TRADE COMMISSIONER, MR CHRISTOPHER HAYWARD.

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BOAT PARADE PROMOTES WATER SPORTS SAFETY
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BOATS OF DIFFERENT SHAPES AND SIZES TOOK PART IN A SPECTACULAR PARADE OFF THE TSIM SHA TSUI PROMENADE THIS (SUNDAY) AFTERNOON.

THE COLOURFUL PAGEANT OF FIRE BOATS, RESCUE AND PATROL CRAFT, SAILING AND SPEED BOATS, CANOES, LAUNCHES, CRUISERS AND WINDSURFERS WAS ONE OF THE ATTRACTIONS OF THE WATER SPORTS SAFETY DAY ORGANISED BY THE COMMITTEE ON SAFETY IN OUTDOOR PURSUITS TO PROMOTE THE "PLAY SAFE" MESSAGE.

/THE EVENT

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THE EVENT ALSO FEATURED AIR-SEA RESCUES INVOLVING HELICOPTERS, SAFETY DEMONSTRATIONS, AN EXHIBITION AND FILM SHOWS.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, CHAIRMAN OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL, MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG, SAID THE NUMBER OF ACCIDENT IN CONNECTION WITH WATER SPORTS WOULD TEND TO INCREASE AS MORE PEOPLE PARTICIPATED IN THESE ACTIVITIES.

"BUT MANY ACCIDENTS COULD BE AVOIDED IF THE BASIC SAFETY RULES OF RECREATION AND SPORT ARE FULLY APPRECIATED," HE SAID.

HE APPEALED TO THOSE PRESENT TO HELP SPREAD THE "PLAY SAFE" MESSAGE TO THEIR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS.

ALSO SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, MR H.M.G. FORSGATE, SAID KNOWING HOW TO SWIM OPENED UP MANY LEISURE AND RECREATIONAL PASTIME.

HE URGED PEOPLE TO LEARN TO SWIM PROPERLY, ADVISING THEM THAT THEY SHOULD NOT SWIM ALONE AND SHOULD ONLY SWIM AT PLACES DESIGNATED FOR SWIMMING PURPOSE.

THE LEARN-TO-SWIM CLASSES ORGANISED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL WERE DESIGNED FOR NON-SWIMMERS, HE SAID, ADDING THAT OVER 170,000 PEOPLE HAD COMPLETED THESE SWIMMING COURSES SINCE 1972.

EARLIER IN HIS WELCOMING SPEECH, CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING PARTY ON THE 1988 WATER SPORTS SAFETY CAMPAIGN, MR JOHN FORTUNE, ALSO CALLED ON THE PUBLIC TO OBSERVE THE BASIC SAFETY RULES WHEN TAKING PART IN ANY FORM OF WATER ACTIVITIES AND TO USE THEIR COMMON SENSE.

ORGANISATIONS TAKING PART IN TODAY'S EVENT INCLUDED VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS.

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PUBLIC URGED TO SUPPORT BLOCK-TO-BLOCK CLEAN-UP

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE URGED TO SUPPORT A TERRITORY-WIDE BLOCK-TO-BLOCK CLEAN-UP OPERATION TO BE LAUNCHED BY THE JOINT URBAN COUNCIL/REGIONAL COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE TOMORROW (MONDAY).

MARKING A NEW PHASE IN THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN, THE OPERATION WILL BE CARRIED OUT BY THE CLEANSING STAFF OF THE URBAN AND REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENTS IN DIFFERENT DISTRICTS OF THE TERRITORY THROUGHOUT JUNE.

/A SPOKESMAN

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A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COMMITTEE SAID THE OPERATION WOULD COVER THE CLEANING OF STREETS, LANES, BUILDINGS, SQUATTER AREAS, HAWKER AREAS, MARKETS AND CANOPIES, AND INCLUDE ACTION AGAINST MOSQUITO AND OTHER PEST NUISANCES.

DISTRICT HEALTH INSPECTORS WILL BE DEPLOYED TO INSPECT BUILDINGS, CARRY OUT BLOCK-TO-BLOCK CLEANSING PROGRAMMES, MAKE ANTI-LITTER PATROLS, AND ENFORCE CLEANSING AND HYGIENE LAWS.

THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT WILL ALSO "PITCH IN" BY CONDUCTING INTENSIVE CLEAN-UP OPERATIONS IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

DURING THE OPERATION, ADDITIONAL REFUSE COLLECTION POINTS WILL BE SET UP, AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE URGED TO TAKE THEIR RUBBISH TO THE NEAREST COLLECTION POINT DURING THE HOURS IT IS OPEN.

RESIDENTS OF EACH DISTRICT MAY CONTACT THEIR DISTRICT ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE OFFICE FOR DETAILS OF THE OPERATION, LOCATION AND OPENING HOURS OF THE REFUSE COLLECTION POINTS IN THEIR NEIGHBOURHOOD.

THEY MAY ALSO CALL THE HOTLINES OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT (5-8680000) AND THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT (0-445555) TO FIND OUT THESE DETAILS.

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KEEP CLEAN MESSAGE FOR FILIPINA MAIDS

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FILIPINA MAIDS TAKING A BREAK FROM WORK IN CENTRAL TODAY (SUNDAY) WERE REMINDED TO KEEP THE ENVIRONMENT CLEAN.

AN EXERCISE WAS LAUNCHED TO CONVEY THE "KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN" MESSAGE TO THEM FOLLOWING A CEREMONY TO START OFF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT'S KEEP CLEAN CAMPAIGN AT THE STATUE SQUARE THIS MORNING.

DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS, URBAN COUNCILLORS, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND STUDENTS HANDED OUT HANDBILLS CARRYING THE MESSAGE IN BOTH ENGLISH AND TAGALOG TO HUNDREDS OF FILIPINA MAIDS.

AS PART OF THE CAMPAIGN, BLOCK-TO-BLOCK CLEAN-UP OPERATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED IN THE DISTRICT NEXT MONTH.

/DURING THE

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DURING THE MONTH-LONG CAMPAIGN PERIOD, THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL PROVIDE SPECIAL SERVICES TO HELP RESIDENTS DISPOSE OF BULKY GARBAGE. A NUMBER OF TEMPORARY REFUSE COLLECTION POINTS WILL BE SET UP THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT.

OFFICIATING AT THE CAMPAIGN'S OPENING CEREMONY TODAY, THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR AMBROSE LAU, CALLED ON RESIDENTS TO SUPPORT THE CAMPAIGN, AND STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT TO GOOD HEALTH.

OTHER GUESTS PRESENT AT THE CEREMONY INCLUDED THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER (CENTRAL AND WESTERN), MISS ELIZABETH TSE; AN URBAN COUNCILLOR, MR CHOW WAI-KEUNG; AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (HONG KONG) OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MR CHAN CHI-SUM.

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BOO CHIEF LEAVES AFTER 23 YEARS

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POSITIVE STEPS ARE BEING TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT TO FOCUS MORE RESOURCES SO AS TO BRING ABOUT A BETTER ENVIRONMENT IN THE TERRITORY.

THIS IS ACCORDING TO THE DEPARTING HEAD OF THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE, THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR, MR TONY LAWRENCE, WHO COMPLETED HIS LAST CONTRACT WITH THE GOVERNMENT LAST WEEK AFTER OVER 23 YEARS IN THE SAME DEPARTMENT.

NOW OVER THE BASIC CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT AGE OF 55, MR LAWRENCE CAN LOOK BACK WITH JUSTIFIABLE PRIDE OVER HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO BOO, PARTICULARLY IN THE LAST THREE-AND-A-HALF YEARS AS ITS HEAD.

THIS WAS DUE IN NO SMALL MEASURE TO THE UNIQUE DUAL QUALIFICATIONS HE BROUGHT TO THE JOB - AS A CHARTERED SURVEYOR AND A CIVIL ENGINEER - AND THE POPULARITY AND RESPECT HE ENJOYS AMONG HIS COLLEAGUES AND PEERS.

DESCRIBED BY A SENIOR COLLEAGUE OF 23 YEARS AS AN "EXCELLENT LEADER AND FAST WORKER - YOU CAN NEVER FIND FILES PILED UP ON HIS 'IN' TRAY" - MR LAWRENCE SUMS UP HIS JOB IN HIS USUAL LOW-KEY MANNER AS "ENCOURAGING THE DEVELOPMENT OF POSITIVE AND PROGRESSIVE POLICIES IN BOO, AND EFFECTING THE NECESSARY CHANGES IN ORGANISATION AND FUNCTION TO MEET CHANGING DEMANDS".

/ONE OF

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ONE OF THE MORE RECENT CHANGES WAS THE ESTABLISHMENT IN NOVEMBER 1986 OF A SMALL TASK FORCE TO DEAL MORE EFFECTIVELY WITH INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION.

THE DRAINAGE UNIT WAS FORMED TO DEAL WITH MAJOR DRAINAGE PROBLEMS IN EXISTING BUILDINGS, WITH THE INTENTION OF REMOVING OR ALLEVIATING POLLUTION IN WATERCOURSES CAUSED BY THE UNAUTHORISED DISCHARGE OF EFFLUENTS AND WASTE FROM INDUSTRIAL PREMISES.

THIS HAS THE DIRECT EFFECT OF MAKING A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO IMPROVING THE ENVIRONMENT, A SUBJECT THAT HAS BEEN OF PARTICULAR INTEREST AND CONCERN TO MR LAWRENCE, WHO IN HIS YOUNGER DAYS AS A DISTRICT ENGINEER IN UGANDA, EAST AFRICA, WAS IN CHARGE OF BUILDING WATER SUPPLY AND SEWAGE TREATMENT SYSTEMS.

MR LAWRENCE SAID SOME OF THE WORST POLLUTERS OF OUR WATERCOURSES ARE INDUSTRIES SET UP IN BUILDINGS DESIGNED WITHOUT SUITABLE WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANTS.

"ALTHOUGH THE UNIT'S AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY COVERS INVESTIGATION, AND THE SERVICE AND ENFORCEMENT OF ORDERS, IT PREFERS TO CARRY OUT ITS TASK BY PERSUASION RATHER THAN BY PROSECUTION," HE SAID.

"AS A RESULT OF THIS, AND WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, MANY LARGE WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANTS FOR OFFENDING INDUSTRIES, INCLUDING DYEING FACTORIES, ARE NOW BEING INSTALLED.

"THESE PLANTS, SOME COSTING OVER \$1 MILLION, WILL ENABLE THE FACTORIES TO TREAT THEIR LIQUID EFFLUENTS TO THE CORRECT TEMPERATURE, ACIDITY AND ALKALINITY LEVEL BEFORE DISPOSAL THROUGH GOVERNMENT FOUL SEWERS."

SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT, THE UNIT HAS MADE A TOTAL OF 2,500 INSPECTIONS, AND ISSUED 350 WARNING LETTERS TO ESTABLISHMENTS FOUND TO BE DISCHARGING DANGEROUS LIQUID EFFLUENT ILLEGALLY, USUALLY VIA IMPROPER CONNECTIONS INTO STORM WATER DRAINS.

ANOTHER SPECIALIST TASK FORCE SET UP BY MR LAWRENCE IS THE DANGEROUS SIGNS UNIT, WHICH HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH REMOVING DANGEROUS AND POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS SIGNS TO ENSURE THAT THEY DO NOT COLLAPSE AND CAUSE DAMAGE OR INJURY.

IN THE FIRST 12 MONTHS OF OPERATION, ACTION BY THE UNIT RESULTED IN THE REMOVAL OR REPAIR OF 2,181 SIGNS. IT HAS COMPLETED SURVEYS IN 19 URBAN LOCATIONS TO SEEK OUT AND REMOVE DANGEROUS SIGNS, AND SIMILAR SURVEYS IN 20 MORE URBAN LOCATIONS WILL BE CARRIED OUT THIS YEAR.

/ "SOME OF

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"SOME OF THESE SIGNS WERE FOUND DANGLING PRECARIOUSLY ON WORN AND RUSTY SUPPORTS. THEY NOT ONLY POSED A SERIOUS THREAT TO LIFE AND LIMB, BUT THEY WERE ALSO AN EYESORE - A VISUAL POLLUTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT," MR LAWRENCE NOTED.

STILL ON HIS FAVOURITE SUBJECT, MR LAWRENCE SAID: "THE ECONOMY NOW HAS THE WHEREWITHAL TO PAY FOR THE NECESSARY MEASURES TO STEM AND REVERSE THE TIDE OF WORSENING POLLUTION, AND TO RECRUIT SUFFICIENT MANPOWER FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF MORE EFFECTIVE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION MEASURES.

"WE ONLY HAVE ONE ENVIRONMENT, AND WE MUST PROTECT IT."

ANOTHER ENVIRONMENTAL AREA OF CONCERN TO MR LAWRENCE IS THE PROBLEM OF UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS (UBW).

ACKNOWLEDGING THAT IT IS NOT EASY TO FIND A SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEMS POSED BY THE PROLIFERATION OF ILLEGAL BUILDING WORKS IN A CITY THAT HAS SOME OF THE WORLD'S HIGHEST POPULATION DENSITIES, AND PREMIUM LAND PRICES, MR LAWRENCE HAS NOW FORMED A PRIORITY UNIT TO TACKLE THE OLD PROBLEM IN A NEW WAY.

SINCE IT WAS SET UP IN NOVEMBER 1987, THE PRIORITY UNIT HAS DEALT WITH SOME 540 COMPLAINTS ON URGENT "WORKS-IN-PROGRESS" CASES, AND CARRIED OUT 1,200 INSPECTIONS.

THE UNIT HAS BEEN ABLE TO RESPOND TO ALL THESE COMPLAINTS IN A MATTER OF DAYS.

A HIGH COMPLIANCE RATE HAD BEEN ACHIEVED THROUGH PERSUASION OF THE PROPERTY OWNERS AND THE SERVICE OF REMOVAL ORDERS. A TOTAL OF 124 ORDERS HAVE BEEN SERVED DURING THIS PERIOD, MORE THAN 50 PER CENT OF WHICH HAVE SO FAR BEEN COMPLIED WITH VOLUNTARILY.

ASKED TO COMPARE THE MAIN DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE WORK OF BOO WHEN HE FIRST JOINED IN 1965 AND AT PRESENT, MR LAWRENCE REMINISCED: "WE HAD AT THE TIME ONLY ABOUT 28 BUILDING SURVEYORS, AND NEARLY ALL OF THEM WERE ENGAGED IN PROCESSING BUILDING PLANS.

"NOW WE HAVE 104 BUILDING SURVEYORS, WITH LESS THAN HALF INVOLVED IN SUCH DUTIES BUT NOW HANDLING A VERY MUCH GREATER VOLUME OF WORK. NEW BUILDINGS ARE NOW MUCH MORE SOPHISTICATED THAN THEY WERE IN 1965.

"FOR MANY YEARS MOST OF OUR EXPERTISE WENT INTO WORK INVOLVING THE CONTROL OF NEW DEVELOPMENT, BUT FROM TIME TO TIME WE HAD TO ESTABLISH NEW SPECIALIST UNITS TO DEAL WITH NEW PROBLEMS.

/ "IN FACT,

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"IN FACT, I AM HOPING THAT NEXT YEAR WE CAN SET UP ANOTHER NEW TASK FORCE, TO FOCUS ON THE MAINTENANCE OF HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS. SOME OF THE OLDER ONES ARE NOW STARTING TO CAUSE CONCERN.

"TO GIVE A ROUGH INDICATION OF THE TYPE OF WORK WE HANDLE, LAST YEAR THE BOO PROCESSED A TOTAL OF 9,486 BUILDING PLANS, ISSUED 445 DRAINAGE REPAIR ORDERS, 746 BUILDING REPAIR ORDERS, 49 BUILDING DEMOLITION ORDERS, AND OBTAINED 69 BUILDING CLOSURE ORDERS.

"WE ALSO SPENT A LOT OF TIME ON LEGISLATIVE AND LITIGATION WORK, WHICH IS DIFFICULT TO QUANTIFY," HE SAID.

STILL A BACHELOR, BUT DESCRIBED ONLY HALF-JOKINGLY BY A LONG-TIME COLLEAGUE AS "BEING MARRIED TO HIS JOB", CONSIDERING THE DEDICATION HE GAVE TO IT, MR LAWRENCE MAINTAINED THAT HE IS FAR FROM BEING READY TO RETIRE, ALTHOUGH HE IS KEENLY INTERESTED IN LEISURE ACTIVITIES SUCH AS GOLF, CONTRACT BRIDGE, BIRDWATCHING, AND HORSE RACING AND RIDING.

"AFTER A SHORT LEAVE AND 'SANITATION' PERIOD, I SHALL BE RETURNING TO HONG KONG IN AUGUST TO SET UP A CONSULTANCY PRACTICE IN VARIOUS ASPECTS OF BUILDING DEVELOPMENT.

"I LIKE HONG KONG AND HOPE THAT I CAN STILL CONTINUE TO PLAY A USEFUL ROLE IN ITS FURTHER DEVELOPMENT."

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GOVERNMENT COMMITTED TO SERVING THE BLIND

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THE GOVERNMENT PAYS CLOSE ATTENTION TO THE NEEDS OF THE 13,000 PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR HAVE LOW VISION AND WILL STRIVE TO GIVE THEM THE NECESSARY SERVICES, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

MRS WONG WAS SPEAKING AT THE DEDICATION OF THE SHEK KIP MEI LUTHERAN CENTRE FOR THE BLIND OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - HONG KONG SYNOD, IN SHAM SHUI PO.

BLIND PEOPLE COULD HAVE A CHANCE TO TAKE PART IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS THROUGH THE SOCIAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND TRAINING PROVIDED BY THE CENTRE, SHE SAID.

/ALTHOUGH THE

ALTHOUGH THE DISABLED MIGHT BE AT A DISADVANTAGE IN A FAST-TEMPO SOCIETY, MRS WONG SAID SHE WAS CONVINCED THAT THEY COULD STILL BE SUCCESSFUL AND CONTRIBUTE TO SOCIETY IF THEIR TALENTS AND WISDOM WERE GIVEN FULL PLAY WITH APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE OF THE COMMUNITY.

MRS WONG NOTED THAT BESIDES THE CENTRE THERE WERE ALSO OTHER FACILITIES FOR THE BLIND IN SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT, INCLUDING HOMES FOR THE AGED BLIND, HOSTELS FOR THE MENTALLY-RETARDED BLIND, A REHABILITATION CENTRE AND LIBRARIES FOR THE BLIND.

"BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY, CARE OF THE COMMUNITY AND A CHANCE TO DEVELOP THEMSELVES CAN HELP THE BLIND PEOPLE TO BUILD UP THEIR CONFIDENCE AND I APPEAL TO THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE TO ASSIST THIS GROUP OF PEOPLE IN NEED," SHE SAID.

SHE COMMENDED THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - HONG KONG SYNOD FOR PROVIDING A WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES FOR THE COMMUNITY, INCLUDING YOUTH AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES, CARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES FOR THE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES, CARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY, REHABILITATION FOR THE DISABLED, CHILD CARE AND SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK SERVICES, SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT IN 1977.

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1ST QUARTER EXPORTS STATISTICS BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN PUBLISHED

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THE SIX MOST IMPORTANT INDUSTRY GROUPS IN TERMS OF THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1988 WERE: ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS; WEARING APPAREL; TEXTILES; PROFESSIONAL AND OPTICAL EQUIPMENT; PLASTIC PRODUCTS; AND BASIC METALS AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS.

TOGETHER, THEY ACCOUNTED FOR 82 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL VALUE OF MERCHANDISE DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR.

THESE DEVELOPMENTS ARE SHOWN IN THE FIRST QUARTER 1988 EXPORT STATISTICS BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN RELEASED TODAY (SUNDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES WITH THE LARGEST INCREASES IN THE ABSOLUTE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OVER THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1987 WERE: ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS (+\$1,641 MILLION); PROFESSIONAL AND OPTICAL EQUIPMENT (+\$1,020 MILLION); WEARING APPAREL (+\$810 MILLION); BASIC METALS AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS (+\$527 MILLION); NON-ELECTRICAL MACHINERY (+\$501 MILLION); AND TEXTILES (+\$321 MILLION).

/IN PERCENTAGE

IN PERCENTAGE TERMS, INDUSTRIES WITH THE LARGEST INCREASES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OVER THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1987 WERE: LEATHER AND LEATHER PRODUCTS (+75 PER CENT); CHEMICALS AND CHEMICAL PRODUCTS (+63 PER CENT); AND NON-ELECTRICAL MACHINERY (+63 PER CENT).

ON THE OTHER HAND, MODERATE DECREASES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE RECORDED IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1988 OVER THE SAME QUARTER OF 1987 IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY (-\$159 MILLION OR -6 PER CENT) AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT INDUSTRY (-\$1 MILLION OR -4 PER CENT).

OUTSIDE THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, DOMESTIC EXPORTS ORIGINATING FROM OCEAN AND COASTAL FISHING ROSE SIGNIFICANTLY (+21 PER CENT) WHEN COMPARED WITH THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1987, WHILE DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF ELECTRICITY RECORDED A SIGNIFICANT DECREASE (-26 PER CENT).

THE ABOVE STATISTICS ON DOMESTIC EXPORTS ANALYSED BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN ARE DERIVED BY RE-GROUPING ALL SIX-DIGIT MERCHANDISE EXPORT ITEMS UNDER THE PRESENT EXTERNAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM ACCORDING TO THE INDUSTRIES IN WHICH THESE MERCHANDISE ITEMS ARE NORMALLY PRODUCED. TRANSACTIONS IN GOLD AND SPECIE ARE EXCLUDED.

THE CLASSIFICATION OF MERCHANDISE EXPORT ITEMS BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN IS STRUCTURED UPON THE UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL STANDARD INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION OF ALL ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES (ISIC), AS DISTINCT FROM THE UNITED NATIONS STANDARD INTERNATIONAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION (SITC) WHICH IS ADOPTED IN THE REGULAR TRADE STATISTICS REPORTS.

CAUTION MUST BE TAKEN WHEN REFERRING TO THESE RE-CLASSIFIED STATISTICS. CERTAIN MERCHANDISE EXPORT ITEMS MAY REQUIRE SEVERAL INTERMEDIATE PROCESSING STAGES FOR THEIR PRODUCTION. IN SUCH CASES, THE INDUSTRY IN WHICH AN ITEM IS FINALLY PRODUCED IS NOT THE SOLE CONTRIBUTOR TO THE EXPORT VALUE OF THAT ITEM. HOWEVER, THE OVERALL VALUE OF THE ITEM HAS WHOLLY BEEN ALLOCATED TO THAT INDUSTRY IN THIS RE-CLASSIFICATION.

BESIDES, THE CLASSIFICATION OF A MERCHANDISE EXPORT ITEM TO A PARTICULAR INDUSTRY DOES NOT IMPLY THAT THE ENTIRE VALUE OF THE ITEM IS PRODUCED BY THE ESTABLISHMENTS OF THAT INDUSTRY, SINCE PART OF THE VALUE MAY BE DUE TO SECONDARY PRODUCTS PRODUCED BY ESTABLISHMENTS CLASSIFIED UNDER OTHER INDUSTRIES.

A TABLE GIVING FURTHER DETAILS OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS STATISTICS FOR MERCHANDISE RECLASSIFIED BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. 5-8234832).

A TABLE SHOWING MORE DETAILED BREAKDOWNS OF SIMILAR STATISTICS FOR SELECTED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IS ALSO INCLUDED IN THE REPORT "HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE, MARCH 1988".

Value of domestic exports for merchandise,
reclassified by industrial origin for the first quarter of 1988

(HK\$ '000)

Industrial origin of the commodities exported	Merchandise domestic exports			
	1988 1st qtr.	1987 1st. qtr.	Value change	% change
<u>Agricultural, Forestry and Fishing</u>				
Agricultural, livestock and poultry production	1,780	1,589	+191	+12
Ocean and coastal fishing	158,921	131,110	+27,811	+21
<u>Mining and Quarrying</u>	1,471	1,499	-28	-2
<u>Manufacturing</u>				
Food	303,127	301,070	+2,057	+1
Beverages	66,125	51,011	+15,114	+30
Tobacco	454,880	344,803	+110,077	+32
Textiles (including knitting)	7,919,721	7,598,615	+321,106	+4
Wearing apparel, except footwear and knitwear	9,176,990	8,367,282	+809,708	+10
Leather and leather products	197,324	112,578	+84,746	+75
Footwear	264,417	222,413	+42,004	+19
Wood and cork products, furniture and fixtures	194,888	185,565	+9,323	+5
Paper and paper products, printing and publishing	944,332	760,429	+183,903	+24
Chemicals and chemical products	680,357	417,564	+262,793	+63
Products of petroleum and coal	971	-	971	-
Rubber products	51,966	41,333	+10,633	+26
Plastic products	2,457,559	2,616,353	-158,794	-6
Non-metallic mineral products	161,191	161,941	-750	-
Basic metals and fabricated metal products	2,114,382	1,586,976	+527,406	+33
Machinery, except electrical	1,291,048	790,065	+500,983	+63
Electrical and electronic products	10,450,782	8,810,228	+1,640,554	+19
Transport equipment	33,886	35,152	-1,266	-4
Professional and optical equipment	4,128,471	3,108,454	+1,020,017	+33
Other manufacturing industries	2,987,993	2,722,083	+265,910	+10
<u>Electricity</u>	109,080	146,842	-37,762	-26
<u>Miscellaneous items</u> (e.g. developed photographic plates and film, antiques, and works of art)	17,632	12,812	+4,820	+38
Total	44,169,293	38,527,765	+5,641,528	+15

Individual entries of a column may not add up exactly to the corresponding total due to rounding.

* less than 0.5%

SUNDAY, MAY 29, 1988

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LEK YUEN BRIDGE OPENS THIS WEEK

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THE LEK YUEN BRIDGE, THE DESIGN OF WHICH IS BASED ON THAT OF THE 17-ARCH FOOTBRIDGE IN THE SUMMER PALACE IN PEKING, HAS BEEN COMPLETED. IT WILL BE OPENED ON FRIDAY (JUNE 3).

THE 11-ARCH FOOTBRIDGE, BUILT AT A COST OF \$10 MILLION, WILL BECOME AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE SHA TIN CENTRAL AREA.

THE BRIDGE IS 170 METRES LONG. IT SPANS THE SHING MUN RIVER AND PROVIDES A CONVENIENT LINK BETWEEN THE EAST AND WEST BANKS.

APART FROM THIS FUNCTIONAL ROLE, THE TRADITIONAL STYLE FOOTBRIDGE IS ALSO PLEASING VISUALLY.

AMONG ITS SPECIAL FEATURES ARE RAIN WATER DRAIN OUTLETS WHICH ARE DECORATED BY STONE CARVINGS IN THE SHAPE OF A DRAGON HEAD; RAIN WATER WOULD DRIP THROUGH THE DRAGON MOUTHS.

OTHER FEATURES ARE 14 PAIRS OF ORNATE LAMP POSTS SPECIALLY ORDERED FROM THE UNITED STATES.

MATERIAL USED IN CONSTRUCTING THE BRIDGE INCLUDED 2,909 TONNES OF CONCRETE, 236 TONNES OF STEEL REINFORCEMENT AND 5,250 KILOGRAMS OF FINISHING MATERIAL. CONSTRUCTION TIME WAS 22 MONTHS.

THE BRIDGE, BUILT BY THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, WILL BE OPENED BY THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, MR GRAHAM BARNES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE LEK YUEN BRIDGE OPENING CEREMONY (OFF THE SHA TIN TOWN HALL) ON FRIDAY (JUNE 3).

TRANSPORT WILL BE AVAILABLE AND THOSE WHO WISH TO USE IT SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE CARPARK, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, CENTRAL, AT 9 AM. THE COACH WILL RETURN TO THE CARPARK AFTER THE CEREMONY.

THE CEREMONY WILL START AT 11 AM.

ALSO PRESENT WILL BE THE DIRECTOR OF TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT, MR KENNETH KWOK, AND OTHER GUESTS.

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BLOCK-TO-BLOCK CLEAN-UP IN SOUTHERN

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A BLOCK-TO-BLOCK CLEAN-UP EXERCISE WILL BE LAUNCHED IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT TOMORROW (MONDAY) TO ENCOURAGE RESIDENTS TO BE MINDFUL OF HYGIENE AND TO KEEP THEIR ENVIRONMENT CLEAN.

THE EXERCISE IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD AND THE URBAN COUNCIL IN SUPPORT OF THE 1988-89 KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN.

A STARTING CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT 10 AM AT THE ABERDEEN CENTRE SQUARE.

OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE, MR CHAN YAU-YUE; ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, SOUTHERN, MISS OLIVIA NIP; URBAN COUNCILLOR, MR JOSEPH CHAN YUEK-SUT; AND AN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MR C.S. CHAN.

THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A CLEAN-UP OPERATION TO BE CARRIED OUT IN BACK LANES IN WU NAM STREET AND TUNG SHING STREET.

TO SUPPORT THIS YEAR'S KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN, THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HAS FORMED A WORKING GROUP TO ORGANISE A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE STARTING CEREMONY OF THE BLOCK-TO-BLOCK CLEAN-UP EXERCISE IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT. THE CEREMONY WILL START AT 10 AM TOMORROW (MONDAY) AT THE ABERDEEN CENTRE SQUARE.

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DB COMMITTEE TO STUDY AGRICULTURAL PRIORITY AREA PILOT SCHEME

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THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD'S INDUSTRY, COMMERCE AND AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE WILL STUDY THE GOVERNMENT'S AGRICULTURAL PRIORITY AREA PILOT SCHEME AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (MONDAY).

THE DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL OFFICER (WEST), MR W.K. LAI, WILL BE PRESENT TO EXPLAIN DETAILS OF THE SCHEME.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD'S INDUSTRY, COMMERCE AND AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE TOMORROW (MONDAY) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, 13TH FLOOR, TAL. KIU GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 2 KIU LOK SQUARE, YUEN LONG. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 10 AM.

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DB FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR PROJECTS IN NORTH DISTRICT

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COMMUNITY AND VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS IN NORTH DISTRICT CAN NOW APPLY FOR FUNDS FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD FOR ORGANISING COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES AND MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS.

"A TOTAL OF \$1,890,000 HAS BEEN ALLOCATED TO THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD FOR THIS FINANCIAL YEAR, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF ABOUT 10 PER CENT OVER LAST YEAR," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE SAID.

"FUNDS ARE SET ASIDE FOR DISTRICT-BASED CULTURAL, RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES, AS WELL AS EXHIBITIONS AND SURVEYS WHICH ARE AIMED AT ENHANCING COMMUNITY SPIRIT AND SOCIAL COHESION."

THESE NON-PROFIT-MAKING ACTIVITIES SHOULD ALSO PROMOTE THE WELL-BEING OF PEOPLE LIVING, WORKING OR STUDYING IN THE DISTRICT.

MEANWHILE, FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE FOR MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT WORKS AIMED AT PROVIDING A PROMPT REMEDY TO SUCH MATTERS AS THE REMOVAL OF EYESORES AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF TEMPORARY VACANT LAND FOR COMMUNITY USE.

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"IT IS INTENDED THAT PROJECTS OF THIS KIND SHOULD FALL OUTSIDE THE SCOPE OF NORMAL GOVERNMENT WORKS PROGRAMMES, OR PROVIDE INTERIM SOLUTIONS TO MINOR PROBLEMS WHICH ARE ACCORDED A LOWER PRIORITY UNDER THE NORMAL DEPARTMENTAL PROGRAMMES," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

LOCAL ORGANISATIONS INCLUDING MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, OWNERS' CORPORATIONS AND VILLAGE COUNCILS SHOULD SUBMIT APPLICATIONS FOR BOARD FUNDS TO THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT BY JUNE 20.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 0-908041.

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GATHERING FOR SAI KUNG'S NEW AREA COMMITTEES
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MEMBERS OF THE NEWLY FORMED SAI KUNG CENTRAL AND HANG HAU AREA COMMITTEES WILL ASSEMBLE AT THE SAI KUNG JOCKEY CLUB TOWN HALL TOMORROW (MONDAY) TO ATTEND A BRIEFING ORGANISED BY THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE.

THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS BETTY CHING, WILL BRIEF THEM ON THE WORK AND FUNCTIONS OF AN AREA COMMITTEE. THERE WILL BE GROUP DISCUSSIONS AND A TEA GATHERING AFTERWARDS.

THE PARTICIPANTS WILL EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS ON THE WORK OF AREA COMMITTEES AND ON VARIOUS DISTRICT MATTERS.

SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR CHRISTOPHER MUNN, WILL ALSO ATTEND THE GATHERING.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE'S BRIEFING FOR THE SAI KUNG CENTRAL AND HANG HAU AREA COMMITTEES TOMORROW (MONDAY) AT THE SAI KUNG JOCKEY CLUB TOWN HALL, PO TUNG ROAD, SAI KUNG TOWN. IT WILL START AT 3 PM.

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HK DELEGATES TO ATTEND ILO CONFERENCE
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A TRIPARTITE HONG KONG DELEGATION WILL ATTEND THE 75TH SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE IN GENEVA DUE TO OPEN ON WEDNESDAY (JUNE 1).

MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION INCLUDE THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR YIU YAN-NANG; DR LUI MING-WAH; AND MR WONG WAI-HUNG.

BOTH DR LUI AND MR WONG ARE MEMBERS OF THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD AND ARE REPRESENTING EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES RESPECTIVELY.

DURING THE CONFERENCE PERIOD WHICH WILL LAST FOR ABOUT THREE WEEKS, THE HONG KONG DELEGATION WILL ACT AS ADVISERS TO THE BRITISH DELEGATION.

AMONG THE TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED ARE INFORMATION AND REPORTS ON THE APPLICATION OF CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS, EMPLOYMENT PROMOTION AND SOCIAL SECURITY, AND SAFETY AND HEALTH IN CONSTRUCTION.

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YOUNG VIOLIST SELECTED FOR U.S. MUSIC CAMP
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A TALENTED 15-YEAR-OLD VIOLIST, MISS MONICA LING, HAS BEEN SELECTED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE TO JOIN A NATIONAL MUSIC CAMP IN THE UNITED STATES.

SHE WILL RECEIVE TWO MONTHS OF INTENSIVE MUSIC TRAINING AT THE CAMP TO BE HELD THIS SUMMER IN INTERLOCHEN, MICHIGAN.

THE MUSIC CAMP IS A PRESTIGIOUS INTERNATIONAL EVENT HELD EVERY YEAR TO PROMOTE WORLD FRIENDSHIP THROUGH MUSIC. IT IS NOW IN ITS 61ST SEASON AND THIS YEAR WILL BE HELD FROM JUNE 26 TO AUGUST 22.

IT TAKES IN ONLY HIGHLY QUALIFIED YOUNG MUSICIANS AGED BETWEEN 14 AND 18, AND THE HIGHEST HONOUR FOR A PARTICIPANT IS TO BE SELECTED AS A MEMBER OF THE CAMP'S WORLD YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA.

TRAINING WILL INCLUDE MASTERCLASSES AND WORKSHOPS GIVEN BY RENOWNED MUSICIANS.

THE CAMP ALSO OFFERS RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES SUCH AS CANOEING, SAILING, SWIMMING AND "SING-A-LONG" EVENINGS AROUND A CAMP FIRE.

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THE MUSIC OFFICE SELECTED MONICA THROUGH AN OPEN AUDITION. SHE IS A FORM 4 STUDENT OF THE HEEP YUNN SCHOOL AND A JUNIOR STUDENT OF THE HONG KONG ACADEMY FOR PERFORMING ARTS.

SHE BEGAN TO PLAY VIOLA AT THE AGE OF EIGHT AFTER JOINING THE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC TRAINING SCHEME AT THE MUSIC OFFICE. SINCE THEN SHE HAS PARTICIPATED IN MANY MUSIC ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE OFFICE, INCLUDING THE HONG KONG YOUTH MUSIC CAMP, ANNUAL 'TRAINEES' GALA AND THE "MUSIC FOR THE MILLIONS" CONCERT PROGRAMME.

MONICA HAS BEEN A MEMBER OF THE HONG KONG YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA SINCE 1982 AND OPPORTUNITIES WERE MADE AVAILABLE FOR HER TO ADVANCE HER SKILLS.

"I AM VERY HAPPY THAT I HAVE BEEN OFFERED THIS OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN THE NATIONAL MUSIC CAMP AND I BELIEVE I WILL BENEFIT A LOT FROM IT," SHE SAID.

A MUSIC OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID: "MONICA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE MUSIC CAMP IS NOT ONLY A VERY VALUABLE OPPORTUNITY FOR HER MUSICAL DEVELOPMENT BUT IS ALSO AN INCENTIVE TO OTHER LOCAL YOUNG MUSICIANS STRIVING TO ACHIEVE HIGHER STANDARDS.

"IN FACT, YOUNG MUSICIANS FROM HONG KONG TOOK PART IN THE CAMP IN 1982, 1983, 1984 AND 1986 AND THEY ALL AGREED THAT THEIR EXPERIENCES ARE NOT ONLY MEMORABLE BUT ALSO INVALUABLE TO THEIR FUTURE CAREER AS A MUSICIAN."

MONICA WILL LEAVE HONG KONG ON JUNE 24 AND IS EXPECTED TO RETURN ON AUGUST 29.

THE CAMP FEE WILL BE MET BY THE CAMP ORGANISERS WHILE THE ROUND-TRIP AIR PASSAGE WILL BE JOINTLY SPONSORED BY CATHAY PACIFIC AIRWAYS LIMITED AND THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB MUSIC FUND.

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TRAINING COURSE FOR YOUNG FOOTBALLERS IN SHA TIN
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YOUNG FOOTBALLERS IN SHA TIN WHO WISH TO IMPROVE THEIR SKILL THROUGH FORMAL TRAINING CAN NOW APPLY TO JOIN A NINE-MONTH TRAINING SCHEME TO BEGIN IN JULY.

THE YOUTH FOOTBALL TRAINING SCHEME IS ORGANISED BY THE SHA TIN SPORTS ASSOCIATION WITH SPONSORSHIP FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD.

THE COURSE IS OFFERED FREE OF CHARGE TO PARTICIPANTS WHO SHOULD BE 15 TO 18 YEARS OLD AND EITHER LIVE, STUDY OR WORK IN SHA TIN.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE SHA TIN SPORTS ASSOCIATION OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, SHOU CHUEN HOUSE, LEK YUEN ESTATE AND AT THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE ENQUIRY CENTRE, FIRST FLOOR, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS JUNE 10.

A SELECTION TEST WILL BE HELD AT THE SHA TIN SPORTS GROUND IN YUEN WO ROAD AT 9 AM ON JUNE 12. ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 0-6915657.

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RE-ROUTEING OF STEWART ROAD IN WAN CHAI
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STEWART ROAD IN WAN CHAI BETWEEN JAFFE ROAD AND LOCKHART ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM TWO-WAY TO ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND FROM JUNE 1 (WEDNESDAY) TO JUNE 30 FOR SEWER CONSTRUCTION WORK.

VEHICLES ON EASTBOUND LOCKHART ROAD HEADING FOR CENTRAL CAN TRAVEL VIA TONNOCHY ROAD TO JOIN GLOUCESTER ROAD.

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