



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1988

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
CS STRESSES IMPORTANCE OF CHINA LINKS, CONTINUITY IN HK ...	1
NOMINATIONS FOR DB ELECTIONS CLOSE NEXT WEEK	4
AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH SWITZERLAND	5
MEMBERS TO ASK EIGHT QUESTIONS IN LEGCO	6
FINANCE COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER BLOCK GRANTS	7
DECEMBER PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES PUBLISHED	8
NEW CHARITABLE FUND SET UP	11
ONE MORE AIDS CASE CONFIRMED	12
HONG KONG CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL CUSTOMS DAY	16
M & H STAFF GIVEN REASSURANCE ON STATUS	16
YOUTHS INVITED TO JOIN ACAN VOLUNTEER GROUP	17
EDUCATION BOARD MEMBERS VISIT KINDERGARTEN	18
TWO ADDITIONAL RICE IMPORTERS TO BE SELECTED	19
VARIETY SHOW TO CONCLUDE FIGHT CRIME PROGRAMME	20
COMMITTEE TO REVIEW ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT WORK	20
BOOKLET ON HOUSING POLICY PUBLISHED	21
NEW YEAR POSTERS TO PROMOTE DB ELECTIONS	22
BUILDING MANAGEMENT SEMINAR IN CENTRAL AND WESTERN	22
RECREATION GROUND TO SERVE ABERDEEN RESIDENTS	23
FOUR-DAY OPERATION TO CLEAR BACK LANE STRUCTURES	24
33-HOUR CLOSURE OF PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER	24
TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN NORTH POINT	25

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1988

- 1 -

CS STRESSES IMPORTANCE OF CHINA LINKS, CONTINUITY IN HK

* * * * *

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF STRONG, MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL LINKS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINA WAS HIGHLIGHTED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, WHO NOTED THAT "TIMES HAVE CHANGED DRAMATICALLY SINCE THE SIXTIES AND SEVENTIES," WHEN LINKS WERE FEW.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUCH LINKS WAS COMPARABLE IN IMPORTANCE TO THE JOINT DECLARATION, SIR DAVID SAID IN A SPEECH TO THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG ON THE SUBJECT OF "HONG KONG IN TRANSITION."

THE JOINT DECLARATION HERALDED A MOST IMPORTANT CHANGE--THE CHANGE OF SOVEREIGNTY IN 1997--BUT, HE SAID, THE BULK OF THE DOCUMENT WAS ABOUT CONTINUITY--"CONTINUING OUR PRESENT INSTITUTIONS AND WAY OF LIFE."

"THE PROVISIONS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION REFLECT THE IMPORTANCE TO CHINA AS WELL AS TO HONG KONG THAT THE SEPARATENESS OF THE TWO SHOULD BE MAINTAINED," HE EMPHASISED.

HE SAID THAT "ONE COUNTRY, TWO SYSTEMS" REPRESENTED AN IMPORTANT POLITICAL REALITY. MAINTAINING A HIGH DEGREE OF AUTONOMY FOR HONG KONG WAS CRUCIAL TO THE CONTINUING PROSPERITY OF HONG KONG AND CRUCIAL IN ENSURING THAT HONG KONG COULD PLAY ITS PART IN CONTRIBUTING TO THE GROWING PROSPERITY OF THE MAINLAND.

"THE NEED FOR CONTINUITY HAS BEEN IN THE FOREFRONT OF OUR MINDS SINCE THE SIGNING OF THE JOINT DECLARATION THREE YEARS AGO," SIR DAVID SAID.

"IT IS OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLE FOR THE TRANSITION PERIOD. CONTINUITY MEANS THAT THE ADMINISTRATION OF HONG KONG SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT IN ESSENTIALLY THE SAME WAY AS IT HAS BEEN IN THE PAST.

"IT DOES NOT MEAN THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO CHANGE; INDEED CHANGE IN THE STRUCTURE OF THE LEGISLATURE IS WRITTEN INTO THE JOINT DECLARATION ITSELF. BUT IT DOES MEAN A CONTINUITY OF THE ESSENTIALS OF OUR WAY OF LIFE AND OF THE WAY IN WHICH WE CONDUCT OUR OWN AFFAIRS."

SIR DAVID SAID OPINION POLLS WOULD SUGGEST THAT THE ISSUES THAT REALLY CONCERNED THE MAJORITY OF PEOPLE HAD NOT CHANGED MUCH OVER THE PAST FIVE OR EVEN 10 YEARS. THESE WERE THE ECONOMY, SECURITY, SOCIAL SERVICES--HOUSING, MEDICAL CARE, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE--AND TRAFFIC.

HE SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT THESE WERE THE ISSUES THAT MOST PEOPLE CARED ABOUT, WORRIED ABOUT, AND LOOKED TO THE GOVERNMENT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT. AND IN THESE AREAS HONG KONG COULD LOOK BACK WITH SOME SATISFACTION.

/THE ECONOMY

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1988

- 2 -

THE ECONOMY IN 1987 HAD RECORDED ITS SECOND SUCCESSIVE YEAR OF DOUBLE DIGIT GROWTH AND ALTHOUGH SOME SLOWDOWN WAS EXPECTED THIS YEAR MOST PEOPLE WERE QUIETLY CONFIDENT THAT 1988 WOULD BE QUITE A GOOD YEAR.

"THIS ENCOURAGING ECONOMIC POSITION UNDERPINS GOVERNMENT PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS TO CONTINUE TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR HONG KONG PEOPLE," HE SAID.

"WE MADE SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS IN THE PROVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES IN 1987 AND HAVE ANNOUNCED FORWARD LOOKING PLANS WHICH WILL ENSURE THAT PROGRESS IS MAINTAINED."

SIR DAVID SAID THAT, LOOKING BEYOND 1988, HE BELIEVED THAT THESE SAME CONCERNS AND THE GOVERNMENT'S ABILITY TO MEET THEM WOULD CONTINUE TO PROVIDE THE BACKGROUND AGAINST WHICH HONG KONG PEOPLE WOULD ASSESS THEIR OWN SITUATION, DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD, AND AFTER 1997.

IN EXPANDING ON THE HONG KONG-CHINA RELATIONSHIP, THE CHIEF SECRETARY SAID THAT THOUGH HONG KONG WAS INDISPUTABLY A CHINESE CITY, THE INDISPENSABLE FOUNDATION FOR ITS PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY HAD BEEN THE RULE OF LAW, BASED ON THE BRITISH COMMON LAW SYSTEM.

"THIS HAS GIVEN EVERYONE IN HONG KONG A REASONABLE DEGREE OF CERTAINTY IN THEIR RELATIONS WITH THOSE IN AUTHORITY, AND A CREDIBLE GUARANTEE THAT THEIR RIGHT TO LIFE, LIBERTY AND ENJOYMENT OF THE FRUITS OF THEIR LABOURS WILL NOT BE ARBITRARILY WITHDRAWN," HE SAID.

THE RULE OF LAW WOULD CONTINUE TO BE THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE OF BRITISH ADMINISTRATION. FURTHERMORE, ITS SURVIVAL AFTER 1997 WAS SET OUT CLEARLY IN THE JOINT DECLARATION, THE MAIN THEME OF WHICH WAS THE PRESERVATION OF THOSE AREAS OF LEGAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ORGANISATION THAT DISTINGUISHED HONG KONG FROM CHINA.

SIR DAVID OBSERVED THAT ANOTHER ESSENTIAL FACT OF LIFE FOR HONG KONG HAD LONG BEEN ITS GEOGRAPHICAL AND POLITICAL POSITION IN RELATION TO CHINA.

THIS, TOGETHER WITH THE FACT OF THE 1997 LEASE, HAD MEANT THAT THERE HAD ALWAYS BEEN A LIMIT TO CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

"IT HAS MEANT, FOR INSTANCE, THAT TO MOVE TOWARDS INDEPENDENCE HAS NEVER BEEN AN OPTION FOR HONG KONG. THAT IS A VERY IMPORTANT LIMITATION; IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN WELL UNDERSTOOD BY THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG."

BUT HE SAID AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE CONSTRAINTS IMPOSED BY GEOGRAPHICAL AND POLITICAL POSITION HAD NOT INVOLVED ANY SERIOUS RESTRICTIONS ON FREEDOM IN HONG KONG.

/"WE HAVE

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1988

- 3 -

"WE HAVE UNDERSTOOD THAT INDEPENDENCE IS NOT AN OPTION BUT WE HAVE BEEN FREE TO DEVELOP OUR OWN SOCIETY AND ADMINISTER IT AS OUR OWN," HE STRESSED.

DESCRIBING HOW HONG KONG'S RELATIONSHIP WITH CHINA WAS NOW MUCH CLOSER THAN IT WAS, SAY, 10 YEARS AGO, SIR DAVID POINTED TO THE ENORMOUS GROWTH IN THE VOLUME OF BUSINESS, INCLUDING A FIFTY-FOLD INCREASE IN TRAVELLERS CROSSING THE BORDER.

HE REFERRED TO "A VAST INCREASE IN TRADE, SO THAT WE ARE NOW EACH OTHER'S LARGEST TRADING PARTNER, ACCOUNTING FOR 25 PER CENT OF EACH OTHER'S TOTAL INTERNATIONAL TRADE. A MASSIVE GROWTH OF INVESTMENT, BY HONG KONG IN CHINA, AND BY CHINA IN HONG KONG."

SIR DAVID STRESSED THAT THE JOINT DECLARATION PROVIDED FOR HONG KONG TO CONTINUE TO BE AUTONOMOUS IN ALL THE AREAS WHERE IT WAS NOW AUTONOMOUS.

"IN SOME IMPORTANT AREAS, INDEED, THE DEGREE OF AUTONOMY IS TO BE EVEN GREATER THAN IT WAS IN THE PAST," HE NOTED. "IT WOULD BE PERVERSE IF, IN THE PERIOD BETWEEN 1984 AND 1997 WE WERE TO COMPROMISE THAT AUTONOMY."

HE ADDED: "THE JOINT DECLARATION DOES NOT MEAN THAT WE NOW CONSULT THE CHINESE ON MATTERS OF ADMINISTRATION WHERE PREVIOUSLY HONG KONG WAS AUTONOMOUS. IT DOES NOT MEAN THAT CHINESE INTERESTS ARE NOW MORE IMPORTANT THAN HONG KONG INTERESTS IN THE DETERMINATION OF POLICY."

THE ISSUES ON WHICH CHINA WAS CONSULTED WERE THOSE THAT CONCERNED THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THOSE AREAS WHICH WOULD BE AFFECTED BY THE CHANGE OF SOVEREIGNTY IN 1997.

THIS WAS DONE IN THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP WHICH, AS ITS TERMS OF REFERENCE MADE CLEAR, PLAYED NO PART IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF HONG KONG AND HAD NO SUPERVISORY ROLE OVER THE ADMINISTRATION.

SIR DAVID ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP INVOLVED A DIALOGUE OF EQUALS, STATING THAT "THE BRITISH TEAM HAS ALWAYS BASED ITS POSITION FIRMLY ON THE NEEDS AND INTERESTS OF HONG KONG AND HAS ALWAYS BEEN ABLE TO SATISFY THEM."

"NEITHER THE WORK OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP NOR OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHINA GENERALLY HAS RESULTED IN ANY LESSENING OF THE DEGREE OF AUTONOMY WHICH HONG KONG HAS ENJOYED FOR MANY YEARS."

DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD, THE CHIEF SECRETARY EMPHASISED, THE ADMINISTRATION WOULD CONTINUE, AS PART OF ITS DUTY, TO PROVIDE THE FRAMEWORK AND SUPPORT FOR THE ECONOMY WHICH GAVE REAL AND TANGIBLE EXPRESSION TO THE FREEDOMS WHICH HONG KONG PEOPLE ENJOYED, AND WHOSE CONTINUANCE WAS PROVIDED FOR IN THE JOINT DECLARATION.

/"THE VERY

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1988

- 4 -

"THE VERY REAL ACHIEVEMENTS MADE IN THIS AREA ARE FREQUENTLY OVERLOOKED. THESE ISSUES HAVE MUCH LESS MEDIA APPEAL THAN POLITICAL DISPUTES, BUT MUCH MORE BEARING ON THE WELL-BEING OF HONG KONG'S POPULATION," HE SAID.

HE POINTED TO THE STEPS THAT HAD BEEN TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT VARIOUS FREEDOMS -- FOR EXAMPLE IN ECONOMIC MATTERS, IN EDUCATION AND IN TRAVEL -- WERE MAINTAINED.

SIR DAVID CONCLUDED BY SAYING HE HAD SOUGHT TO SHOW THAT THERE WAS MUCH MORE TO THE TRANSITION PERIOD THAN THE DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT, IMPORTANT THOUGH THAT ISSUE CERTAINLY WAS, AND HE EMPHASISED AGAIN THAT THE ADMINISTRATION TOOK SERIOUSLY ITS DUTY TO MAINTAIN AND DEVELOP HONG KONG.

- - - - 0 - - - -

NOMINATIONS FOR DB ELECTIONS CLOSE NEXT WEEK

* * * * *

NOMINATIONS OF CANDIDATES FOR THE 1988 DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS WILL CLOSE MONDAY (FEBRUARY 1) AND SO FAR 416 CANDIDATES HAVE ALREADY SENT IN THEIR NOMINATION PAPERS, THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DONALD LIAO, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

MR LIAO REMINDED CIVIC-MINDED PEOPLE WHO WISH TO STAND FOR THE ELECTIONS TO SUBMIT THEIR NOMINATION PAPERS EARLY AS THERE WAS ONLY FOUR MORE WORKING DAYS BEFORE THE END OF THE NOMINATION PERIOD.

"I HOPE TO SEE MORE PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE TO STAND FOR THE ELECTIONS," HE SAID.

"OUR INITIAL ANALYSIS INDICATES THAT THOSE WHO HAVE REGISTERED AS CANDIDATES SO FAR COME FROM A WIDE CROSS-SECTION OF THE COMMUNITY.

"ABOUT HALF OF THEM ARE EXECUTIVES AND BUSINESSMEN. THE OTHER HALF RANGES FROM PROFESSIONALS, SOCIAL WORKERS, EDUCATIONISTS TO FACTORY WORKERS, TECHNICIANS AND HOUSEWIVES."

MR LIAO NOTED THAT OVER THE PAST YEARS, THE 19 DISTRICT BOARDS HAD MADE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO IMPROVING THE GENERAL LIVING ENVIRONMENT AND CULTIVATING COMMUNITY SPIRIT IN THE DISTRICTS.

"THEY HAVE PROVED TO BE EFFECTIVE CHANNELS IN REFLECTING TO THE GOVERNMENT THE VIEWS OF RESIDENTS ON DISTRICT MATTERS AS WELL AS MAJOR TERRITORY-WIDE ISSUES.

/I HAVE

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1988

- 5 -

"I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT PEOPLE WHO ARE DEVOTED TO SERVING THE COMMUNITY WILL NOT MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE PART IN THE WORK OF THE DISTRICT BOARDS," HE SAID.

TO DATE, THE MOST HOTLY CONTESTED SEATS ARE IN THE YUEN LONG TOWN WEST CONSTITUENCY IN WHICH SEVEN CANDIDATES ARE VYING FOR TWO PLACES.

NOMINATIONS WILL FORMALLY CLOSE AT 5.15 PM ON FEBRUARY 1.

PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES ARE URGED TO SUBMIT THEIR NOMINATION PAPERS EARLY SO THAT THEIR NOMINATION CAN BE PROCESSED AND VALIDATED BEFORE THE NOMINATION PERIOD CLOSES. THEY ARE ALSO REMINDED TO PROVIDE COMPLETE AND ACCURATE INFORMATION IN THEIR NOMINATION PAPERS SO AS TO FACILITATE THE VALIDATION.

ALL REGISTERED ELECTORS WHO HAVE RESIDED IN HONG KONG FOR 10 YEARS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE DATE OF THEIR NOMINATION ARE ELIGIBLE FOR CANDIDATURE AND CAN STAND IN ANY OF THE 157 CONSTITUENCIES.

A CANDIDATE WILL NEED TO BE NOMINATED BY 10 ELECTORS, INCLUDING A PROPOSER AND A SECONDER, IN THE CONSTITUENCY IN WHICH HE SEEKS ELECTION. NOMINATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE 19 DISTRICT OFFICES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH SWITZERLAND

* * * * *

AN AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT (ASA) BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF HONG KONG AND THE SWISS FEDERAL COUNCIL WAS SIGNED IN HONG KONG TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MRS ANSON CHAN, SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF HONG KONG UNDER THE AUTHORISATION OF THE UK GOVERNMENT AND MINISTER DR ERNST AEBI, HEAD OF THE AIR TRANSPORT AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS DIVISION OF THE FEDERAL OFFICE FOR CIVIL AVIATION, SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE SWISS FEDERAL COUNCIL.

THE SIGNING OF THE ASA FOLLOWS DISCUSSION WHICH BEGAN DURING THE SECOND HALF OF 1986 BETWEEN UK AND SWISS DELEGATIONS AT WHICH PROVISIONAL AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON THE TEXT. HONG KONG REPRESENTATIVES WERE INCLUDED IN THE UK DELEGAION AT THOSE TALKS.

/FOLLOWING THE

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1988

- 6 -

FOLLOWING THE SIGNING OF THE HONG KONG/NETHERLANDS ASA IN THE HAGUE ON SEPTEMBER 17, 1986, AND ITS ENTRY INTO FORCE ON JUNE 26, 1987, THE HONG KONG/SWITZERLAND ASA IS THE SECOND IN A SERIES INTENDED TO PROVIDE SEPARATE HONG KONG ASA'S DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION IN MIND. THIS ASA IS THE FIRST TO BE SIGNED IN HONG KONG.

WHEN THE ASA COMES INTO FORCE, PROBABLY IN LATE 1989, IT WILL PROVIDE FOR SCHEDULED SERVICES BY THE DESIGNATED AIRLINES OF THE TWO SIDES. UNTIL THEN, SERVICES BETWEEN HONG KONG AND SWITZERLAND BY THE AIRLINES OF EITHER SIDE WILL CONTINUE TO BE OPERATED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE UK/SWITZERLAND ASA.

- - - - 0 - - - -

MEMBERS TO ASK EIGHT QUESTIONS IN LEGCO

* * * * *

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS WILL ASK A TOTAL OF EIGHT QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER FOUR BILLS AT THEIR MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

OF THE FOUR BILLS, THE ELECTORAL PROVISIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988, THE DISTRICT BOARDS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988, AND THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT (POWERS OF ARREST) BILL 1988 WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READING, WHILE DEBATE ON THE MARINE FISH (MARKETING) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1987 WILL BE RESUMED.

THE MARINE FISH (MARKETING) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1987 WILL ALSO GO THROUGH THE COMMITTEE STAGE AND THIRD READING.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/7

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1988

- 7 -

FINANCE COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER BLOCK GRANTS

* * * * *

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL BE ASKED TO ACCEPT THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF BLOCK GRANTS TOTALLING \$6,584.4 MILLION TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AND EARMARKED GRANTS OF \$265.1 MILLION FOR RECURRENT GRANTS TO THE TWO UNIVERSITIES, THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, THE CITY POLYTECHNIC AND THE BAPTIST COLLEGE FOR THE 1988-91 TRIENNIUM.

RECOMMENDED BY THE UNIVERSITY AND POLYTECHNIC GRANTS COMMITTEE (UPGC), THE PROPOSED BLOCK GRANTS INCLUDE INDICATED GRANTS OF \$19.2 MILLION FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF A DEGREE COURSE IN SPEECH THERAPY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, \$416 MILLION FOR THE MEDICAL FACULTY AND \$62.1 MILLION FOR THE PART-TIME DEGREE PROGRAMME AT THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

THE EARMARKED GRANT FOR RESEARCH WILL BE DISBURSED ON AN ANNUAL BASIS BY THE UPGC ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF ITS RESEARCH SUB-COMMITTEE IN RESPONSE TO COMPETITIVE BIDS FROM THE INSTITUTIONS.

OTHER ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED AT TOMORROW'S MEETING INCLUDE:

- * APPROVAL OF A SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION OF \$18.7 MILLION TO MEET EXPENDITURE IN CONNECTION WITH THE LEGAL AID SCHEME;
- * APPROVAL OF AN INCREASE IN COMMITMENT FROM \$6,456,000 BY \$9,195,000 TO \$15,651,000 TO ASSIST THE KOCHOW AND LUICHOW RESIDENTS (HONG KONG) ASSOCIATION LTD. TOWARDS BUILDING AND EQUIPPING A 24-CLASSROOM AIDED SECONDARY SCHOOL IN SAU MAU PING;
- * APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF PROFESSIONAL FEES REASONABLY INCURRED BY OWNERS WHO VOLUNTARILY SURRENDER THEIR LAND TO THE GOVERNMENT IN ADVANCE OF RESUMPTION OF THE LAND;
- * SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS FOR THE POST OFFICE INCLUDING \$42.1 MILLION FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF MAILS AND \$72.5 MILLION FOR DUES TO OTHER POSTAL ADMINISTRATIONS;
- * APPROVAL OF A SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION OF \$3.3 MILLION TO MEET EXPENDITURE ON DIESEL AND LUBRICATING OIL FOR THE PUMPING STATIONS OF THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT; AND
- * APPROVAL OF A SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION OF \$29 MILLION TO MEET ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE ON QUARTERING FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT SUB-COMMITTEE AND THE PUBLIC WORKS SUB-COMMITTEE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1988

- 8 -

DECEMBER PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES PUBLISHED

* * * * *

HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE GREW STRONGLY IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR, AT RATES GENERALLY FASTER THAN IN THE PREVIOUS MONTH, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES PUBLISHED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN DECEMBER 1987 WAS \$18,850 MILLION, 22.7 PER CENT OR \$3,482 MILLION HIGHER THAN IN DECEMBER 1986, WHILE THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 50.9 PER CENT OR \$6,428 MILLION TO \$19,055 MILLION.

THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS (DOMESTIC EXPORTS PLUS RE-EXPORTS), AT \$37,905 MILLION, WAS 35.4 PER CENT OR \$9,910 MILLION HIGHER THAN IN DECEMBER 1986. THE VALUE OF IMPORTS GREW BY 41.3 PER CENT OR \$11,351 MILLION OVER DECEMBER 1986 TO \$38,818 MILLION.

AS THE VALUE OF IMPORTS IN DECEMBER 1987 WAS HIGHER THAN THAT OF TOTAL EXPORTS, THE VISIBLE TRADE BALANCE IN DECEMBER 1987 RECORDED A DEFICIT OF \$913 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 2.4 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS.

THIS DIFFERS FROM THE SITUATION IN DECEMBER 1986, WHEN A SURPLUS OF \$528 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 1.9 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS IN THAT MONTH, WAS RECORDED.

PUTTING THE MONTH'S TRADE FIGURES INTO CONTEXT, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS FOR 1987 AS A WHOLE WAS \$378,034 MILLION, MADE UP OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF \$195,254 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS OF \$182,780 MILLION.

COMPARED WITH 1986, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS GREW BY \$101,504 MILLION OR 36.7 PER CENT, THAT OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY \$41,270 MILLION OR 26.8 PER CENT, AND THAT OF RE-EXPORTS BY \$60,234 MILLION OR 49.2 PER CENT. OVER THIS PERIOD, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS GREW BY \$101,993 MILLION OR 37 PER CENT, TO \$377,948 MILLION.

WITH A SURPLUS OF ONLY \$86 MILLION, THE VISIBLE TRADE ACCOUNT FOR 1987 AS A WHOLE WAS VIRTUALLY IN BALANCE. THIS COMPARES WITH A SMALL SURPLUS OF \$575 MILLION IN 1986, EQUIVALENT TO 0.2 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS IN THAT YEAR.

COMMENTING ON THESE FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE BUOYANCY OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN 1987 WAS ATTRIBUTABLE TO SUSTAINED DEMAND FOR IMPORTS IN HONG KONG'S OVERSEAS MARKETS AND TO THE CONTINUED COMPETITIVENESS OF HONG KONG'S PRODUCTS.

/THE STRONG

- 9 -

THE STRONG GROWTH IN IMPORTS WAS MAINLY DUE TO THE FLOURISHING RE-EXPORT TRADE, BUT ALSO REFLECTED THE HIGH LEVEL OF DOMESTIC DEMAND IN 1987, HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN CAUTIONED AGAINST READING TOO MUCH INTO A SINGLE MONTH'S FIGURES. NEVERTHELESS, THE FASTER GROWTH RATE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN DECEMBER 1987, COUPLED WITH THE SUSTAINED GROWTH IN IMPORTS, SUGGESTED THAT EXPORT PERFORMANCE WAS LIKELY TO REMAIN SATISFACTORY IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF MONTHS, ALTHOUGH THE SITUATION BEYOND THAT WAS MORE UNCERTAIN.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE PRESENTS THE PROVISIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FIGURES FOR DECEMBER 1987.

TRADE FIGURES FOR DECEMBER, 1987

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAS RELEASED THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FIGURES FOR DECEMBER:-

MERCHANDISE:	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	:	\$18,850	MILLION	
	RE-EXPORTS	:	\$19,055	MILLION	
	TOTAL EXPORTS	:	\$37,905	MILLION	
	IMPORTS	:	\$38,818	MILLION	
	TRADE BALANCE	:	\$ 913	MILLION	[IN DEFICIT]

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

LATEST 3 MONTHS	OCT 87	OCT 86	INCREASE	
	TO	TO	HK\$ MN.	%
DEC 87	DEC 86			
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.		
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	54,115	45,597	8,518	18.7
RE-EXPORTS	53,704	37,194	16,510	44.4
TOTAL EXPORTS	107,819	82,791	25,028	30.2
IMPORTS	107,798	81,518	26,280	32.2
TRADE BALANCE	21	1,273	-1,252	

/SAME MONTH

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1988

- 10 -

SAME MONTH LAST YEAR	DECEMBER	DECEMBER	INCREASE	
	1987	1986	HK\$ MN.	%
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.		
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	18,850 (49.7%)	15,368 (54.9%)	3,482	22.7
RE-EXPORTS	19,055	12,627	6,428	50.9
TOTAL EXPORTS	37,905	27,995	9,910	35.4
IMPORTS	38,818	27,467	11,351	41.3
TRADE BALANCE	-913	528	-1,441	

LAST MONTH	DECEMBER	NOVEMBER	INCREASE	
	1987	1987	HK\$ MN.	%
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.		
DOMESTIC EXPORTS. (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	18,850 (49.7%)	17,077 (49.3%)	1,773	10.4
RE-EXPORTS	19,055	17,567	1,488	8.5
TOTAL EXPORTS	37,905	34,644	3,261	9.4
IMPORTS	38,818	34,270	4,548	13.3
TRADE BALANCE	-913	374	-1,287	

LAST 12 MONTHS	JAN-DEC	JAN-DEC	INCREASE	
	1987	1986	HK\$ MN.	%
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.		
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	195,254 (51.6%)	153,984 (55.7%)	41,270	26.8
RE-EXPORTS	182,780	122,546	60,234	49.2
TOTAL EXPORTS	378,034	276,530	101,504	36.7
IMPORTS	377,948	275,955	101,993	37.0
TRADE BALANCE	86	575	-489	

- - - - 0 - - - -

/11

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1988

- 11 -

NEW CHARITABLE FUND SET UP
* * *

A CEREMONY WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY (JANUARY 28) TO MARK THE INAUGURATION OF A NEW CHARITABLE FUND.

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, WILL BE PRESENTED WITH A DONATION OF \$2 MILLION FROM MRS MARIA LEE TSENG CHIU-KWAN AND MRS KATIE YANG LEUNG YIN-FONG FOR THE SETTING UP OF THE "KWAN FONG CHARITABLE FOUNDATION - KWAN FONG TRUST FUND FOR THE NEEDY".

GRANTS FROM THE FUND WILL BE FOR PROVIDING RELIEF TO DISTRESS CASES WHERE NO ADEQUATE ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE FROM OTHER SOURCES.

THE FUND WILL BE MANAGED BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE INCORPORATED ON THE ADVICE OF AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE WHICH WILL ADVISE ON THE CATEGORIES OF GRANTS, THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND OTHER OPERATIONAL DETAILS.

THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE COMPRISES MRS LEE AND MRS YANG AS CO-CHAIRMEN AND FOUR OTHER MEMBERS - MRS PEGGY LAM, MRS FUNG LAU SHUN-KWUN, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THE "KWAN FONG CHARITABLE FOUNDATION - KWAN FONG TRUST FUND FOR THE NEEDY" TO BE HELD AT THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S CONFERENCE ROOM, 22ND FLOOR, WORLD TRADE CENTRE, 280 GLOUCESTER ROAD, HONG KONG, AT 3 PM ON THURSDAY (JANUARY 28).

----- 0 -----

/12

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1988

- 12 -

ONE MORE AIDS CASE CONFIRMED
* * * *

THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) CONFIRMED ONE MORE CASE OF AIDS (ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME).

THE PATIENT, A NON-CHINESE MAN, DIED LAST WEEK. HE WAS A NEW ARRIVAL IN HONG KONG AND HAD SEXUALLY ACQUIRED THE DISEASE.

THE MAN WAS THE NINTH PERSON TO DIE IN HONG KONG FROM AIDS.

ANOTHER PERSON IS STILL UNDER TREATMENT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT NOTED THAT THE FIRST AIDS CASE IN THE TERRITORY WAS REPORTED IN FEBRUARY 1985 AND TWO MORE CASES WERE CONFIRMED THAT YEAR.

OF THOSE THREE PATIENTS, TWO WERE CHINESE AND ONE WAS NON-CHINESE, AND ALL DIED BEFORE THE YEAR ENDED.

NO VICTIMS WERE CLAIMED BY THE DISEASE IN 1986, BUT IN 1987 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF AIDS CASES ROSE BY SIX. ONE OF THE CASES WAS A FEMALE, FOR THE FIRST TIME.

FIVE OF THE PATIENTS DIED WITHIN THE YEAR.

SINCE 1985, THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN OPERATING A SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMME ON AIDS TO MONITOR THE SPREAD OF THE DISEASE IN HONG KONG.

UNDER THIS PROGRAMME, CERTAIN HIGH RISK GROUPS ARE TESTED FOR THE HIV ANTIBODY. THESE INCLUDE HAEMOPHILIACS, INTRAVENOUS DRUG ADDICTS AND SEXUALLY PROMISCUOUS PEOPLE.

ACCORDING TO THE LATEST AIDS STATISTICS RELEASED BY THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, UP TO THE END DECEMBER 1987, A TOTAL OF 76,976 PERSONS WERE TESTED FOR THE AIDS VIRUS AND 106 (EXCLUDING THE 10TH PATIENT) OF THEM SHOWED A POSITIVE RESULT.

DURING THE SAME PERIOD, THE HONG KONG RED CROSS BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE SCREENED 349,287 UNITS OF DONATED BLOOD WITH FIVE UNITS SHOWING A POSITIVE RESULT.

NO NEW CARRIER WAS DETECTED LAST MONTH.

THIS MEANS THAT FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE MONTHS, NO ONE IN HONG KONG WAS FOUND TO BE INFECTED BY THE AIDS VIRUS.

THE NUMBERS OF PERSONS TESTED BY THE VIRUS UNIT OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER WERE 3,335 AND 2,914 RESPECTIVELY.

愛滋病抗體檢驗

AIDS Virus (HIV) Antibody Testing

Table 1

Medical & Health Department

醫務衛生署病毒組
Virus Unit

	April 85 - Nov 87		Dec 87		Total	
	No. tested	No. +ve	No. tested	No. +ve	No. tested	No. +ve
經由政府醫院及診所介紹 Referrals from Govt. hospitals and clinics	4 071	22	227	0	4 298	22
經由私家醫生及私人醫院介紹 Referrals from private practitioners and subvented hospitals	1 421	24	37	0	1 458	24
到社會衛生科求診人數 Attendances at social hygiene clinics	66 126	9	2 517	0	68 643	9
血友病患者 Haemophiliacs	276	51	5	0	281*	51
濫用注射藥物者 IV. drug abusers	1 657	0	104	0	1 761	0
經由家庭計劃指導會介紹 Referrals from Family Planning Association	117	0	4	0	121	0
健康護理人員 Health care personnel	394	0	20	0	414	0
Total 總數	74 062	106	2 914	0	76 976	106

* This indicates the number of specimens and not persons as tests are repeated for certain individuals.

此乃驗血樣本數字,並非人數,因某些個別人士之檢驗及重覆

	April 85 - Nov 87		Dec 87		Total	
	No. tested	No. +ve	No. tested	No. +ve	No. tested	No. +ve
香港紅十字會輸血服務 Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service	337 897	5	11 390	0	349 287	5

/Table 2

Table 2

MHD Report on HIV Surveillance
Analysis of HIV Infected Persons

愛滋病呈陽性反應個案報告之
受感染病人分析

	Apr 85 - Nov 87	Dec 87	Total
1. Source of referral 轉介來源			
Government hospitals/clinics 政府醫院/診所	22	0	22
Private practitioners 私家醫生	24	0	24
Attendance at social hygiene clinics 社會衛生中心	9	0	9
Haemophiliacs 血友病患者	51	0	51
	<u>106</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>106</u>
2. Nationality 國籍			
Chinese 中國	76	0	76
Non-Chinese 非中國	30	0	30
	<u>106</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>106</u>
3. Sex 性別			
Male 男	103	0	103
Female 女	3	0	3
	<u>106</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>106</u>
4. Age 年齡			
Adult 成人	83	0	83
Children 兒童	23	0	23
	<u>106</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>106</u>
5. Risk factor 感染因素			
Homosexual/Bisexual 同性戀/雙性戀者	37	0	37
Heterosexual 性濫交者	6	0	6
Transfusion 接受輸血人士	3	0	3
Haemophiliac 血友病患者	51	0	51
Unknown 不詳	9	0	9
	<u>106</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>106</u>

/Table 3

香港愛滋病個案分析

Table 3 Analysis of AIDS cases in Hong Kong

	as of 31.12.87	as of 26.1.88
1. Total no. of cases 個案總數	9	10
2. Total no. of deaths 總死亡人數	8	9
3. Risk factor 感染因素		
sexually acquired 性接觸	7	8
unknown 不詳	2	2
	—	—
	9	10
4. Sex 性別		
male 男	8	9
female 女	1	1
	—	—
	9	10
5. Age 年齡		
Adult 成人	9	10
6. Nationality 國籍		
Chinese 中國	4	4
Non-Chinese 非中國	5	6
	—	—
	9	10

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1988

- 16 -

HONG KONG CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL CUSTOMS DAY

* * * * *

THE INTERNATIONAL CUSTOMS DAY WAS CELEBRATED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HONG KONG TODAY (TUESDAY), AS IT HAD BEEN CELEBRATED BY MEMBERS OF THE CUSTOMS COOPERATION COUNCIL (CCC) AROUND THE WORLD TO PROMOTE THE IMAGE OF CUSTOMS SERVICES AND MAKE THEIR OBLIGATIONS AND ROLE BETTER KNOWN.

AT A RECEPTION FOR THE OCCASION THIS EVENING, THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE, MR PATRICK WILLIAMSON, SAID HONG KONG NOT ONLY BECAME A CCC MEMBER LAST YEAR, IT WOULD CONTINUE TO BE AN INDEPENDENT MEMBER AFTER 1997 IN THE NAME OF "HONG KONG, CHINA".

THE CCC IS A GROUPING OF MORE THAN 100 CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATIONS, INSTRUMENTAL IN THE PROMOTION OF COOPERATION, HARMONY AND UNIFORMITY AND THE CIRCULATION OF INFORMATION AMONG VARIOUS CUSTOMS SERVICES.

IT ALSO DRAWS UP DRAFT AGREEMENTS TO SIMPLIFY AND STANDARDISE CUSTOMS WORK, AS WELL AS SETTLING CUSTOMS DISPUTES.

AS PART OF ITS CONTRIBUTION AS MEMBER TO THE CCC, HONG KONG HAS RECENTLY ESTABLISHED A REGIONAL LIAISON OFFICE FOR THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND INTELLIGENCE BETWEEN CCC MEMBERS. IT IS THE FIRST IN THE WORLD AND IS SEEN BY MANY AS A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION IN THE BATTLE AGAINST THE DRUG TRADE.

MR WILLIAMSON ADDED THAT THE DEPARTMENT ENJOYED CLOSE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION WITH OTHER CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATIONS WORLD-WIDE AND WAS HELD IN HIGH REGARD BOTH LOCALLY AND OVERSEAS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

M & H STAFF GIVEN REASSURANCE ON STATUS

* * * * *

THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MR ADOLF HSU, TODAY (TUESDAY) REASSURED STAFF OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT THAT WITH THE SETTING UP OF THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY, THEY COULD RETAIN THEIR CIVIL SERVICE STATUS IF THEY SO WISHED.

IF THEY OPTED TO REMAIN IN THE CIVIL SERVICE, INSTEAD OF JOINING THE FUTURE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT, THEY COULD KEEP ALL THE BENEFITS ENJOYED BY CIVIL SERVANTS, HE SAID.

MR HSU POINTED OUT THAT SUCH ASSURANCES HAD BEEN GIVEN TO STAFF DURING MEETINGS WITH THEM THROUGH DEPARTMENTAL AND GRADE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES AND SEPARATE MEETINGS BETWEEN THE LEAGUE OF STAFF UNIONS AND THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

/HE EXPLAINED,

HE EXPLAINED, HOWEVER, THAT WHILE HE COULD GIVE THESE ASSURANCES AGAIN, THEIR ACTUAL IMPLICATIONS, FOR EXAMPLE, WHETHER EXISTING CIVIL SERVANTS COULD BE PROMOTED TO SENIOR POSTS IN NEW HOSPITAL AUTHORITY HOSPITALS AND IF SO, WHETHER THEY COULD STILL REMAIN CIVIL SERVANTS, WERE HIGHLY COMPLEX ESTABLISHMENT MATTERS.

DETAILS WERE BEING WORKED OUT, TO OFFER TO STAFF FOR FURTHER CONSULTATION.

MR HSU CLARIFIED THAT THERE WAS NO NECESSITY FOR SUCH QUESTIONS TO BE TOTALLY RESOLVED BY APRIL 1 THIS YEAR, BECAUSE THE PROVISIONAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY WHICH WAS TO BE SET UP AT THAT TIME WOULD ONLY BE A PLANNING COMMITTEE FOR THE FORMATION OF A STATUTORY AUTHORITY IN 1989.

ITS MAIN TASKS WOULD BE TO WORK OUT THE DRAFT LEGISLATION WHICH WOULD DETERMINE THE POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY; FINANCIAL AND OTHER ARRANGEMENTS WHICH WOULD SET DOWN THE AUTHORITY'S RELATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE LATTER'S COMMITMENT TO FINANCE THE PUBLIC HOSPITAL SERVICES; AS WELL AS A PACKAGE OF NEW TERMS AND CONDITIONS WHICH WOULD BE OFFERED TO NEW STAFF.

THE PROVISIONAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY WOULD NOT MAKE ANY UNILATERAL DECISION BECAUSE ITS RECOMMENDATION WOULD BE PUT TO THE STATUTORY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY AND THE GOVERNMENT FOR APPROVAL.

"SO EVEN AFTER THE PROVISIONAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY IS ESTABLISHED, AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, BEFORE IT CAN PRODUCE THE NEW TERMS, NOTHING WILL REALLY CHANGE AS FAR AS STAFFING MATTERS ARE CONCERNED," HE SAID,

MR HSU URGED STAFF TO REMAIN CALM AND PATIENT. "THE CURRENT CONSULTATION IS NOT A ONE-OFF EXERCISE. FURTHER CONSULTATION WILL BE CONDUCTED AFTER MORE DETAILED PROPOSALS ARE WORKED OUT HAVING REGARD TO THE VIEWS EXPRESSED," HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

YOUTHS INVITED TO JOIN ACAN VOLUNTEER GROUP
* * * * *

ENTHUSIASTIC AND RESOURCEFUL YOUNG PEOPLE AGED BETWEEN 18 AND 28 ARE BEING INVITED TO JOIN IN AND HELP FIGHT THE DRUG PROBLEM IN HONG KONG.

LAUNCHING THE RECRUITMENT EXERCISE FOR THE YOUTH VOLUNTEER GROUP OF THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS (ACAN) TODAY (TUESDAY), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NARCOTICS DIVISION OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT SAID THE GROUP'S FUNCTION WAS TO ASSIST IN IMPLEMENTING PREVENTIVE EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY PROJECTS ORGANISED BY ACAN.

/SINCE ITS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1988

- 18 -

SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT IN SEPTEMBER 1981, THE VOLUNTEER GROUP HAS STRENUOUSLY FULFILLED THE OBJECTIVES IN TRAINING AND ENCOURAGING YOUNG PEOPLE TO TAKE MORE ACTIVE AND DIRECT PARTICIPATION IN THE ANTI-NARCOTICS FRONT.

"THROUGH THEIR PARTICIPATION IN ACAN'S COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES AND SELF-INITIATED PROJECTS, MEMBERS OF THE GROUP CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TOWARDS A WORTHY SOCIAL CAUSE IN SPREADING THE ANTI-DRUG MESSAGE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE GROUP IS NOW LOOKING FOR SUITABLE, MUCH MOTIVATED PEOPLE WITH A MINIMUM EDUCATION STANDARD OF FORM 5," HE ADDED.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT ALL DISTRICT OFFICES AND SUB-OFFICES; THE OFFICES OF THE AGENCY FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE ON THE GROND FLOOR OF 10 SAI YUEN LANE, SAI YING PUN, HONG KONG OR AT ROOM 409 OF TUNG PING BUILDING, 157 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD, MONG KOK, KOWLOON; OR THE NARCOTICS DIVISION ON THE 23RD FLOOR OF QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 66 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG.

COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE NARCOTICS DIVISION BY FEBRUARY 20.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS, PLEASE CONTACT THE DIVISION ON 5-8622762.

- - - - 0 - - - -

EDUCATION BOARD MEMBERS VISIT KINDERGARTEN
* * * * *

THE CHAIRMAN AND SIX MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION (BOE) TODAY (TUESDAY) VISITED THE NORTH POINT METHODIST CHURCH KINDERGARTEN TO TAKE A CLOSE LOOK AT THE PROVISION OF KINDERGARTEN SERVICES BY NON-PROFIT-MAKING BODIES.

THE PARTY COMPRISED MRS RITA FAN, MR CHAN YING-LUN, MR ANDREW SO KWOK-WING, MR ERIC LI, PROFESSOR BRIAN COOKE, MR TAM MAN-KWAN AND MR TIMOTHY HA.

ACCOMPANYING THE MEMBERS ON THE VISIT WAS THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (SCHOOLS), MR S.W. WONG.

THE PARTY WAS BRIEFED BY THE HEADMISTRESS, MRS ANGELA LUK CHIU KWAN-HUNG, ON HOW HER KINDERGARTEN HAD ADOPTED THE THEMATIC ACTIVITY APPROACH, A MODERN PRE-PRIMARY TEACHING METHOD BY WHICH KINDERGARTEN ACTIVITIES WERE DESIGNED IN SUCH A WAY TO ENCOURAGE PUPILS TO LEARN BY DOING, PARTICIPATING AND INTERACTING.

/THE VISITORS

THE VISITORS NOTED THAT THIS METHOD OF TEACHING HAD PROVED TO BE VERY SUCCESSFUL BECAUSE THROUGH THESE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES, THE CHILDREN'S IMAGINATION COULD BE STIMULATED AND THEY HAD GOOD INITIATION IN LEARNING.

THE KINDERGARTEN, ESTABLISHED 24 YEARS AGO, HAS EXCELLENT FACILITIES INCLUDING COVERED AND OUTDOOR PLAYGROUNDS, MUSIC, HOME ECONOMICS ROOMS AND CLASSROOMS. IT ACCOMMODATES 488 PUPILS ATTENDING BISESSIONAL CLASSES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TWO ADDITIONAL RICE IMPORTERS TO BE SELECTED

* * * * *

THE TRADE DEPARTMENT IS TO HOLD A BALLOT IN PUBLIC IN THE CITY HALL ON THURSDAY (JANUARY 28) TO ALLOW TWO MORE FIRMS TO IMPORT RICE INTO HONG KONG.

A SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE DEPARTMENT, ON THE ADVICE OF THE RICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE, SOUGHT TO REGISTER TWO ADDITIONAL RICE IMPORTERS AND ALLOCATE EACH WITH NINE UNITS.

"THE BASIC OBJECTIVE OF THE MOVE IS TO EXPAND THE SCOPE FOR COMPETITION IN THE RICE TRADE," HE SAID.

"WHILE THE NUMBER OF UNITS INVOLVED IN THE PRESENT REGISTRATION IS SMALL, IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF IMPORTERS SHOULD BE BENEFICIAL TO THE CONSUMERS IN THE LONG RUN.

"AS THE NUMBER OF QUALIFIED APPLICANTS EXCEEDED TWO, SELECTION HAS TO BE DECIDED BY A BALLOT."

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE CONSUMER COUNCIL, MRS PAMELA CHAN, WILL MAKE THE DRAW. A TOTAL OF 33 APPLICANTS, WITH ALL THE QUALIFICATIONS TO BECOME RICE IMPORTERS, WILL TAKE PART.

HITHERTO, 982 UNITS, EACH REPRESENTING 90 TONNES OF RICE PER QUARTER, ARE ALLOCATED TO 44 RICE IMPORTERS.

THE PRESENT EVENT WILL BRING THE NUMBER OF UNITS ALLOCATED TO 1,000, AND THE NUMBER OF RICE IMPORTERS TO 46.

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT 11 AM ON THURSDAY IN THE CITY HALL'S RECITAL HALL, EIGHTH FLOOR, HIGH BLOCK.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1988

- 20 -

VARIETY SHOW TO CONCLUDE FIGHT CRIME PROGRAMME

* * * * *

A VARIETY SHOW AIMED AT DRIVING HOME THE "FIGHT CRIME" MESSAGE WILL BE HELD AT THE CARITAS COMMUNITY HALL IN CAINE ROAD ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 31).

THE SHOW, FEATURING DRAMA, SINGING AND DANCING, IS THE FINAL EVENT ON THE ANNUAL PROGRAMME OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE. IT WILL BEGIN AT 8 PM.

IN PAST MONTHS, THE COMMITTEE HAS ORGANISED A NUMBER OF MEANINGFUL COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES INCLUDING A SEMINAR ON TRIAD ACTIVITIES, A POSTER COMPETITION, AN ESSAY COMPETITION AND A "FIGHT CRIME" SCHOLARSHIP.

IT ALSO PAID FOR "CRIME PREVENTION" DISPLAY BOARDS TO BE PLACED IN LIFTS.

THE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR WONG CHUNG-YING, SAID THE VARIOUS ACTIVITIES DREW A GOOD RESPONSE FROM RESIDENTS.

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE "FIGHT CRIME VARIETY SHOW" TO BEGIN AT 8 PM ON SUNDAY AT THE CARITAS COMMUNITY HALL, CAINE ROAD.

- - - - 0 - - - -

COMMITTEE TO REVIEW ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT WORK

* * * * *

THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE WILL MEET ON THURSDAY (JANUARY 28) TO REVIEW THE DISTRICT'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITIES IN 1987-88.

A TOTAL OF \$800,060 HAS BEEN ALLOCATED TO THE COMMITTEE TO CARRY OUT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR.

THESE INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF SITTING-OUT AREAS AT VALLEY ROAD, CHUN MAN COURT, GILLIES AVENUE AND HUNG HOM FERRY CONCOURSE; THE PROVISION OF STREET LIGHTING; THE INSTALLATION OF FOUR DISTRICT DIRECTION BOARDS; AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT CLEARANCE AND TIDY-UP EXERCISES.

/OTHER ITEMS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1988

- 21 -

OTHER ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED ARE THE REVISED ESTIMATE FOR THE FOOTPATH IMPROVEMENT WORK AT MODEL VILLAGE AND THE BEAUTIFICATION SCHEME AT WATERLOO ROAD HILL.

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD AT 2.15 PM ON THURSDAY (JANUARY 28) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE, 141 KAU PUI LUNG ROAD, TO KWA WAN.

- - - - 0 - - - -

BOOKLET ON HOUSING POLICY PUBLISHED

* * * * *

THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD'S WORKING GROUP ON HOUSING HAS RECENTLY PUBLISHED A BOOKLET INTRODUCING THE EXISTING PUBLIC HOUSING POLICIES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE WORKING GROUP SAID THE BOOKLET WAS PRODUCED TO FACILITATE MEMBERS OF LOCAL ORGANISATIONS IN THEIR DAILY CONTACTS WITH PUBLIC HOUSING RESIDENTS.

BASED ON INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT, THE 28-PAGE BOOKLET, WRITTEN IN CHINESE, COVERS THE DEPARTMENT'S POLICIES ON MATTERS SUCH AS SQUATTERS, TEMPORARY HOUSING, COTTAGE AREAS, THE LONG-TERM HOUSING STRATEGY, REDEVELOPMENT, ALLOCATION, RENT POLICY AND ESTATE MANAGEMENT.

IT ALSO INCLUDES AN ORGANISATION CHART OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY AND A LIST OF ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF ITS 35 OFFICES IN KWUN TONG.

"THE BOOKLET WILL PROVIDE USEFUL INFORMATION TO HELP MEMBERS OF LOCAL ORGANISATIONS DEAL WITH RESIDENTS' ENQUIRIES CONCERNING EXISTING HOUSING POLICIES AND MEASURES," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HOWEVER, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT AS THESE POLICIES MAY BE CHANGED FROM TIME TO TIME, THE BOOKLET CAN ONLY SERVE AS A HANDY REFERENCE WITH NO LEGAL EFFECT.

COPIES OF THE BOOKLET HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO LOCAL AREA COMMITTEES, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, OWNERS' CORPORATIONS, AND OTHER DISTRICT BOARDS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/22

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1988

- 22 -

NEW YEAR POSTERS TO PROMOTE DB ELECTIONS

* * * * *

NEW YEAR POSTERS AIMED AT PROMOTING THE 1988 DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS HAVE BEEN PRINTED BY THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE AND WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION BY RESIDENTS ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

CARRYING A PICTURE OF THE THREE TRADITIONAL CHINESE LUCKY STARS AND A CHINESE COUPLET PROMOTING THE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS, THE POSTERS WILL ALSO HELP BRING OUT THE LUNAR NEW YEAR ATMOSPHERE.

THE POSTERS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE OFFICES OF THE SAI KUNG AND HANG HAU RURAL COMMITTEES, THE RENNIE'S MILL SERVICE CENTRE AND THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE.

A DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID IT IS HOPED THAT THE PUBLICITY EXERCISE WILL HELP ENCOURAGE RESIDENTS TO EXERCISE THEIR RIGHTS AND CAST THEIR VOTES AT THE ELECTIONS IN MARCH.

OTHER PUBLICITY PROGRAMMES PREPARED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE INCLUDE GOODWILL VISITS, THE MOUNTING OF PUBLICITY SIGNBOARDS AND OPEN FORUMS FOR CANDIDATES.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES WILL BE ORGANISED FOR LEADERS OF LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND OWNERS CORPORATIONS WHO WILL IN TURN HELP PROMOTE THE "SUPPORT DB ELECTIONS" MESSAGE AMONG RESIDENTS.

ALSO, LEAFLETS WITH CANDIDATES' PLATFORMS AND DETAILS OF THE ELECTIONS WILL BE SENT TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS IN THE DISTRICT.

- - - - 0 - - - -

BUILDING MANAGEMENT SEMINAR IN CENTRAL AND WESTERN

* * * * *

A SEMINAR TO PROMOTE GENERAL KNOWLEDGE ABOUT BUILDING MANAGEMENT WILL BE HELD AT THE LECTURE ROOM OF THE EXCHANGE CLUB ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF CONNAUGHT GARDENS ON CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST AT 8 PM ON FRIDAY (JANUARY 29).

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, THE MULTI-STOREY BUILDING OWNERS ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL DISTRICT AND THE MULTI-STOREY BUILDING OWNERS ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN DISTRICT, THE SEMINAR WILL BE THE LAST OF SEVEN PLANNED FOR THE DISTRICT IN THIS FINANCIAL YEAR.

/THE THREE

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1988

- 23 -

THE THREE SPEAKERS AT THE SEMINAR WILL BE THE HOUSING MANAGER OF THE DISTRICT'S BUILDING MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATION TEAM, MR LEE CHI-SHING; A LEGAL PROFESSIONAL, MR ANDREW P.C. LAM; AND A SENIOR HEALTH INSPECTOR OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT (CENTRAL DISTRICT OFFICE), MR CHAN CHI-KUEN.

IT WILL COVER TOPICS INCLUDING THE CHOICE OF MANAGEMENT COMPANIES, THE PRIVILEGES AND RIGHTS OF OWNERS AND TENANTS AS WELL AS ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE IN MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS.

RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND. ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 5-8523462.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE BUILDING MANAGEMENT SEMINAR TO BE HELD AT 8 PM ON FRIDAY (JANUARY 29) AT THE LECTURE ROOM OF THE EXCHANGE CLUB ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF CONNAUGHT GARDENS, 153-157 CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST, HONG KONG.

----- 0 -----

RECREATION GROUND TO SERVE ABERDEEN RESIDENTS

* * * * *

MORE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ABERDEEN RESIDENTS WHEN A RECREATION GROUND IS COMPLETED AT THE WATERFRONT NEXT YEAR.

MEASURING ABOUT 9,500 SQUARE METRES, THE RECREATION GROUND WILL CONSIST OF A BASKETBALL COURT, CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND, OBSERVATION TOWER, PAVILIONS, FOUNTAIN AND POOLS.

THE PROJECT ALSO INVOLVES THE CONSTRUCTION OF A KIOSK, TOILETS, PLANT ROOMS, PLANTERS AND SITTING OUT AREAS.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN APRIL AND TAKE ABOUT A YEAR TO COMPLETE.

THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS WHICH SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY NOON ON FEBRUARY 26.

----- 0 -----

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1988

- 24 -

FOUR-DAY OPERATION TO CLEAR BACK LANE STRUCTURES
* * * * *

TWENTY-THREE ILLEGAL STRUCTURES IN THE BACK LANES OF YAU MA TEI WILL BE CLEARED IN A FOUR-DAY OPERATION STARTING TODAY (TUESDAY).

THESE STRUCTURES, LOCATED IN THE BACK LANES OF NOS. 1M-1S WATERLOO ROAD, NOS. 831-831L CANTON ROAD AND IN THE AREA BOUNDED BY WATERLOO ROAD, HAMILTON STREET, SHANGHAI STREET AND RECLAMATION STREET, WERE BEING USED FOR STORAGE, BUSINESS AND DOMESTIC PURPOSES.

EX-GRATIA PAYMENT OF ABOUT \$50,000 HAD BEEN GRANTED TO ALL ELIGIBLE BUSINESS OPERATORS, WHILE FOUR AFFECTED FAMILIES COMPRISING 12 PERSONS WERE OFFERED REHOUSING.

INITIATED BY THE DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, THE OPERATION WAS CO-ORDINATED BY THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT OFFICE AND JOINTLY CARRIED OUT BY THE POLICE AND THE HOUSING, BUILDINGS AND LANDS, AND URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENTS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

33-HOUR CLOSURE OF PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER
* * * * *

THE PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER WILL BE CLOSED CONTINUOUSLY FOR 33 HOURS FROM SATURDAY (JANUARY 30) NIGHT TO FACILITATE RECONSTRUCTION WORK, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE CLOSURE WILL START AT 9 PM ON SATURDAY AND WILL END AT 6 AM ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 1).

AS CONGESTION IS EXPECTED ON WATERLOO ROAD AND PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD SOUTHBOUND DURING THE PERIOD OF CLOSURE, MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED TO AVOID USING THESE TWO ROAD SECTIONS BY DIVERTING TO OTHER ALTERNATE ROUTES.

"IT IS NECESSARY TO CLOSE THE FLYOVER CONTINUOUSLY IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT CONCRETE TO BE PLACED IN A PARTICULARLY COMPLEX SECTION OF THE NEW PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER HAS SUFFICIENT TIME TO GAIN STRENGTH, AND THUS FORMS A PROPER JOINT BETWEEN THE NEW CONCRETE AND A COMPLETED SECTION OF THE NEW FLYOVER," SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT, WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DESIGNING AND SUPERVISING THE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT.

"THE CLOSURE WILL AVOID DAMAGE TO THE NEWLY CONSTRUCTED JOINT WHICH WILL OTHERWISE BE DAMAGED BY THE TRAFFIC-INDUCED VIBRATION OF THE ALREADY COMPLETED SECTION," HE ADDED.

/DURING THE

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1988

- 25 -

DURING THE CLOSURE, VEHICLES ON WATERLOO ROAD SOUTHBOUND HEADING FOR PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD SOUTHBOUND WILL BE DIVERTED VIA GROUND-LEVEL WATERLOO ROAD AND PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD.

AT THE SAME TIME, TWO BUS STOPS LOCATED AT HOUSE NO. 98 AND HOUSE NO. 108 TO 110 OF WATERLOO ROAD SOUTHBOUND WILL BE CANCELLED TEMPORARILY.

THESE TWO BUS STOPS ARE CURRENTLY SERVED RESPECTIVELY BY KMB ROUTE NOS. 3, 7, 10, 70, 72B, 72K, 208 AND 887, AND KMB ROUTE NO. 7B, CROSS-HARBOUR ROUTE NOS. 103, 113 AND 170.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN NORTH POINT

* * * * *

THE FOLLOWING TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN NORTH POINT FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (JANUARY 29) FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS:

- * NORTH VIEW STREET BETWEEN KING'S ROAD AND FORT STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC;
- * CHEUNG HONG STREET BETWEEN KING'S ROAD AND FORT STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED TWO-WAY;
- * CHEUNG HONG STREET BETWEEN FORT STREET AND KIN WAH STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND;
- * KIN WAH STREET BETWEEN CHEUNG HONG STREET AND NORTH VIEW STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY EASTBOUND; AND
- * NORTH VIEW STREET BETWEEN KIN WAH STREET FROM FORT STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND.

AT THE SAME TIME, THREE ROAD SECTIONS WILL BE DESIGNATED AS DAILY RESTRICTED ZONES ROUND THE CLOCK. THEY ARE:

- * THE WESTERN KERBSIDE LANE OF CHEUNG HONG STREET AND ITS JUNCTION WITH KING'S ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 76 METRES SOUTH OF THAT JUNCTION;
- * THE EASTERN KERBSIDE LANE OF CHEUNG HONG STREET BETWEEN KING'S ROAD AND FORT STREET; AND
- * THE NORTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF FORT STREET FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH CHEUNG HONG STREET TO A POINT ABOUT 10 METRES EAST OF THAT JUNCTION.

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED AREAS.

THE ABOVE MEASURES ARE NEEDED TO FACILITATE ROAD WORKS.

- - - - 0 - - - -