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GOVERNOR OPENS WORLD'S BIGGEST DESALTING PLANT AT LOK ON PAI

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, TODAY OFFICIALLY OPENED THE LOK ON PAI DESALTER IN THE NEW TERRITORIES AND SAID THE PLANT REPRESENTED ANOTHER LANDMARK IN HONG KONG'S ENGINEERING HISTORY.

+THE SCALE AND COST OF THE PLANT,+ HE SAID, +IS AN INDICATION OF THE DETERMINATION OF YOUR GOVERNMENT TO MAINTAIN AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF WATER FOR THE WELL-BEING OF HONG KONG'S PEOPLE, AND FOR THE INDUSTRY ON WHICH WE DEPEND.+

SIR MURRAY NOTED THAT THE $480 MILLION DESALTING PLANT WAS THE BIGGEST AND MOST SOPHISTICATED IN THE WORLD, AND HE WAS DELIGHTED THAT THIS 'FIRST' SHOULD FALL TO THE HONG KONG WATERWORKS WHOSE ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENTS MAKE A PROUD STORY.

AT FULL CAPACITY, THE SIX UNITS OF THE PLANT WILL BE CAPABLE OF PRODUCING FORTY MILLION GALLONS OF FRESH WATER A DAY BY A PROCESS OF BOILING, EVAPORATION AND DISTILLATION OF SEAWATER.

ONE OF THE SIX UNITS HAS NOW SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED ITS TRIAL RUNS, AND WORK ON THE REMAINING UNITS WILL BE COMPLETED BY EARLY NEXT YEAR.

ALL KEY OPERATIONS FOR THE ENTIRE COMPLEX PROCESS, FROM THE PUMPING IN THE SEAWATER TO THE DELIVERY OF POTABLE FRESH WATER TO THE TAI LAM CHUNG RESERVOIR A MILE AWAY, CAN BE OPERATED FROM A CENTRAL CONTROL ROOM IN WHICH ALL FUNCTIONS OF THE PLANT WILL BE MONITORED BY COMPUTER.

THE GOVERNOR SAID IT WAS AN IMMENSE RELIEF TO HAVE THIS NEW SOURCE OF SUPPLY, EQUAL TO ABOUT ONE FIFTH OF FULL DAILY CONSUMPTION, WHICH IS INDEPENDENT OF RAINFALL.

THIS ENGINEERING FEAT, HE SAID, WAS TYPICAL OF HONG KONG, +BOTH IN ITS VITALITY AND DETERMINATION TO OVERCOME NATURAL DIFFICULTIES, AND IN THE OPPORTUNITIES IT OFFERS MEN OF ENTERPRISE FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD TO HELP US TO BUILD BRAVELY FOR OUR FUTURE.+

CONTRIBUTING TO THE PLANT HAD BEEN THE RESOURCES OF JAPANESE HEAVY INDUSTRY, SKILLED LABOUR FROM SOUTH KOREA, EQUIPMENT AND PLANT FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM, AUSTRALIA AND WEST GERMANY, TECHNOLOGY FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM AND AMERICA, FINANCE FROM THE ASIA DEVELOPMENT BANK -- THE WHOLE BASED ON HONG KONG'S LOCAL CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.

SIR MURRAY ALSO THANKED THE KWANGTUNG WATER CONSERVANCY AND HYDRO-ELECTRIC BUREAU FOR SUPPLYING WATER TO HONG KONG WITH SUCH UNWAVERING DEPENDABILITY OVER THE PAST 15 YEARS. +THE INCREASING SUPPLIES HONG KONG HAS RECEIVED FROM THIS MAGNIFICENTLY ENGINEERED SYSTEM HAVE BEEN, AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE, INVALUABLE,+ HE SAID.

/THE GOVERNOR .....

THE GOVERNOR SAID THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL HORIZONS OF HONG KONG HAD BEEN STEADILY WIDENED BY GREAT ENGINEERING PROJECTS. HE MENTIONED THE AIRPORT, THE LION ROCK TUNNEL, PLOVER COVE, THE NEW CITIES NOW GROWING WHERE ONCE THERE WAS SEA OR MUD, THE SKYSCRAPERS, THE HARBOUR TUNNEL AND THE CONTAINER TERMINAL.

AND COMING IN FUTURE, A HIGHWAY TO TUEN MUN, A TUNNEL TO ABERDEEN, A MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY, AND PERHAPS A BRIDGE TO LANTAU.

+THESE THINGS ARE OF VALUE TO US NOT AS EXAMPLES OF THE ENGINEERING ART, BUT BECAUSE THEY IMPROVE THE LIFE OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG AND THEIR CHILDREN, OR ADD TO THEIR CAPACITY TO EARN A LIVING OR INCREASE THEIR WEALTH,+ SIR MURRAY SAID.

EARLIER, THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, MR. WILLIAM BELL, WELCOMED THE NEW DESALTER AS THE LATEST WEAPON IN HONG KONG'S UNENDING BATTLE AGAINST WATER SHORTAGE.

+IT IS NOT SUGGESTED THAT THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PLANT ELIMINATES THE RISK OF FUTURE RESTRICTIONS,+ HE SAID. THIS STILL DEPENDS UPON THE CAPRICIOUSNESS OF HONG KONG'S WEATHER.

+BUT THE RISKS WILL BE APPRECIABLY REDUCED.+

MR. BELL SAID THE HISTORY OF THE HONG KONG WATERWORKS SHOWED THAT ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION IN THE PAST AMITIOUS SCHEMES HAD BEEN UNDERTAKEN, BUT UNEXPECTEDLY RAPID POPULATION GROWTH OR SEVERE DROUGHTS HAD MEANT THAT BY THE TIME THEY WERE COMPLETED, THE PROJECTS WERE ALREADY INADEQUATE.

IN 1957, THE TAI LAM CHUNG SCHEME HAD DOUBLED HONG KONG'S WATER STORAGE CAPACITY. STRAIGHT AFTER ITS COMPLETION, WORK BEGAN ON THE LAST SUITABLE SITE FOR A LARGE CONVENTIONAL RESERVOIR IN HONG KONG -- SHEK PIK ON LANTAU ISLAND.

BUT 1963, THE YEAR OF ITS COMPLETION, SAW THE WORST DROUGHT IN HONG KONG'S HISTORY, AND DESPITE INCREASED SUPPLIES FROM CHINA, THE MOST SEVERE WATER RESTRICTIONS EVER HAD TO BE IMPOSED.

HOWEVER, BY THAT TIME WORK WAS ALREADY UNDER WAY ON THE UNIQUE PLOVER COVE SCHEME, WHEREBY A SEA INLET WAS SEALED OFF, DRAINED, AND FILLED WITH FRESH WATER SUPPLIED THROUGH A VAST NETWORK OF TUNNELS AND INTAKES.

MR. BELL SAID THIS SCHEME HAD MEANT THAT FOR THE PAST EIGHT YEARS HONG KONG HAD ENJOYED A WELL-NIGH UNINTERRUPTED WATER SUPPLY.

THE CAPACITY OF PLOVER COVE HAD ALREADY BEEN INCREASED BY MAKING THE DAMS HIGHER AND INSTALLING MORE PUMPING AND WATER TREATMENT PLANT.

/BUT TO MEET .....

BUT TO MEET THE STILL APPARENTLY INSATIABLE DEMAND OF HONG KONG'S PEOPLE AND INDUSTRY FOR WATER, THE MAMMOTH HIGH ISLAND SCHEME ON THE SAI KUNG PENINSULA -- SIMILAR IN CONCEPT TO THE PLOVER COVE SCHEME, BUT ON A MUCH BIGGER SCALE -- WAS BEGUN IN 1970.

EVEN THEN IT WAS REALISED THAT BECAUSE THE HIGH ISLAND SCHEME WOULD NOT BE FINISHED UNTIL THE END OF THE SEVENTIES, AND SOARING DEMAND WOULD MEAN THAT EVEN IT WOULD BE INADEQUATE BY THE EARLY 1980'S , ANY PERIODS OF ABNORMALLY LOW RAINFALL WOULD STILL MEAN WATER SHORTAGES.

THE ONLY SOLUTION WAS SEEN TO LIE IN THE DESALTING OF SEAWATER -- A POSSIBILITY WHICH HAD BEEN INVESTIGATED AS FAR BACK AS THE 1920'S, DECADES BEFORE TECHNOLOGY HAD ADVANCED TO THE STAGE WHERE DESALTING FOR PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY HAD BECOME A PRACTICAL PROPOSITION. SITE WORK ON THE LOK ON PAI PLANT BEGAN IN 1972, AND ERECTION OF THE PLANT ITSELF BEGAN THE NEXT YEAR.

DESPITE DISRUPTIONS TO PRODUCTION CAUSED BY THE OIL CRISIS, THE FIRST UNIT OF THE PLANT HAD BEEN RUNNING BY EARLY THIS YEAR.

MR. BELL SAID: +I THINK IT IS TO THE CONSIDERABLE CREDIT OF THOSE ENGAGED IN THE DESIGN, MANUFACTURE AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE PLANT THAT SUCH REMARKABLE PROGRESS HAD TAKEN PLACE IN SO SHORT A TIME, AND IN THE FACE OF NUMEROUS DIFFICULTIES.+

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INDUSTRIAL ESTATES: STEERING GROUP STRENGTHENED

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THE GOVERNMENT'S WORKING GROUP ON INDUSTRIAL ESTATES IS TO BE STRENGTHENED TO GIVE GREATER IMPETUS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS NEW VENTURE AIMED AT ACCELERATING THE GROWTH OF NEW INDUSTRIES IN HONG KONG.

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED THE APPOINTMENT OF THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, MR. MICHAEL SANDBERG, AS CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING GROUP WHICH HAS BEEN RENAMED THE STEERING GROUP ON INDUSTRIAL ESTATES.

THE PRESENT CHAIRMAN, THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MR. DEREK JONES, WILL BECOME DEPUTY CHAIRMAN.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY IT WAS FELT THAT THE APPOINTMENT OF A CHAIRMAN FROM OUTSIDE THE GOVERNMENT WITH A WIDE KNOWLEDGE OF BUSINESS CONDITIONS IN HONG KONG WOULD BROADEN THE OUTLOOK OF THE GROUP'S DELIBERATIONS AND WOULD GIVE IT A GREATER AUTHORITY AND IMPETUS IN CO-ORDINATING THE WORK TO BE DONE.

MR. SANDBERG HAS ALREADY DISPLAYED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN INDUSTRIAL ESTATES THROUGH HIS MEMBERSHIP OF THE TRADE AND INDUSTRY ADVISORY BOARD.

IN ADDITION, A GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL, MR. PETER JOHNSON, HAS BEEN APPOINTED AS CO-ORDINATOR OF ALL WORK CONNECTED WITH INDUSTRIAL ESTATES, IN PARTICULAR THE TAI PO ESTATE, THE CONSTRUCTION OF WHICH WILL SHORTLY COMMENCE. HE WILL ALSO ACT AS SECRETARY OF THE STEERING GROUP AND BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PLANNING AND NEGOTIATING LAND SALES AND LEASINGS WITHIN THE ESTATE.

MR. JOHNSON HAS ALSO BEEN APPOINTED SECRETARY OF THE RECENTLY FORMED STEERING COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT PROMOTION, OF WHICH MR. JONES IS CHAIRMAN. THE PURPOSE OF THIS COMMITTEE IS TO CO-ORDINATE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT, THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AND THE HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN SEEKING OVERSEAS INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG. ONE OF THE MAIN SELLING POINTS OF SUCH PROMOTION WILL BE THE FUTURE AVAILABILITY OF LAND IN INDUSTRIAL ESTATES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THESE DEVELOPMENTS ARE NEEDED IN VIEW OF THE BENEFIT TO THE ECONOMY THAT COULD ARISE FROM INVESTMENT IN NEW INDUSTRIES THAT ARE VIABLE AND COMPETITIVE IN EXPORT MARKETS.

THERE IS ALSO A NEED, HE SAID, TO PROCEED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF STAGE I OF THE TAI PO ESTATE IN ORDER TO TEST, IN PRACTICE, WHETHER SUCH INDUSTRIES CAN BE ATTRACTED TO HONG KONG, GIVEN THE INTEREST ALREADY SHOWN BY A NUMBER OF OVERSEAS FIRMS AS WELL AS LOCAL INDUSTRIALISTS.

THE FIRST STAGE OF THE DEVELOPMENT AT TAI PO INVOLVES THE FORMATION OF ABOUT 60 ACRES OF LAND WITH THE NECESSARY FACILITIES, INCLUDING A SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT AND THE PROVISION OF A WATER SUPPLY. FINANCE COMMITTEE HAS APPROVED A LOAN OF $60 MILLION FROM THE DEVELOPMENT LOAN FUND FOR THE PROJECT.

/WITH REGARD .....

WITH REGARD TO PROGRESS MADE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ESTATE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT WORK WAS NOW MOVING RAPIDLY ON THE LAYOUT PLAN, THE CLEARING OF BORROW AREAS, THE PREPARATION OF CONTRACT DOCUMENTS AND OTHER WORK CONNECTED WITH THE PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE ESTATE.

INITIALLY, ACCESS TO THE ESTATE WILL BE BY TING KOK ROAD, WHICH WILL BE IMPROVED TO TAKE THE ADDITIONAL TRAFFIC. AT A LATER STAGE ACCESS WILL BE BY A ROAD LEADING ACROSS A NEW RECLAMATION TO THE SOUTH OF THE ESTATE.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT A NUMBER OF PROJECTS FOR IMPROVING TAI PO ROAD FROM LION ROCK TUNNEL TO TAI PO ARE CURRENTLY UNDER VARIOUS STAGES OF COMPLETION OR PLANNING AND CONSIDERATION, AND EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO COMPLETE THE WORKS BEFORE ANY SIGNIFICANT VOLUME OF TRAFFIC IS GENERATED BY THE TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE.

THE SPOKESMAN RECALLED THAT THE GOVERNOR IN HIS ANNUAL SPEECH TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL LAST WEEK, SAID HE HOPED THAT THE FIRST STAGE OF THE ESTATE WILL BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF 1977. THE GOVERNOR ADDED THAT INVESTIGATIONS ARE ALSO BEING CARRIED OUT INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF SIMILAR ESTATES NEAR YUEN LONG AND ELSEWHERE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

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HONG KONG TO WOO U.S. INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENTS

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THE JOINT-MISSION TO THE UNITED STATES, BY THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT AND THE HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO ATTRACT INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT TO HONG KONG, WILL MEET THE HEADS OF ABOUT 50 AMERICAN FIRMS IN NEW YORK, CHICAGO, LOS ANGELES AND SAN FRANCISCO.

THE LEADER OF THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT MISSION, MR. ROY PORTER, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT, SAID TODAY THESE FIRMS WERE CONCERNED WITH THE PRODUCTION OF ELECTRONIC, HIGH-PRECISION, AND METAL PRODUCTS -- THE KIND OF HIGHER TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRIES HONG KONG WAS AT PRESENT ANXIOUS TO ATTRACT.

MR. PORTER NOTED THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS STILL EXPERIENCING A DIFFICULT TIME, ECONOMICALLY, AND THAT THE MAJORITY OF COMPANIES WERE NOT WILLING TO TAKE IMMEDIATE DECISION TO INVEST. BUT HE WAS HOPEFUL OF GOOD RESULTS OVER THE NEXT 12 MONTHS OR SO.

THE LEADER OF THE OTHER MISSION IS MR. PETER FOXON, CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, WHO WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY MR. JIMMY MCGREGOR, DIRECTOR OF THE CHAMBER, AND MR. HERBERT MINICH, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WHO HAS DONE MUCH LIAISING BETWEEN HONG KONG AND AMERICAN FIRMS FOR THIS MISSION.

AMERICAN BANKS HERE WITH HEADQUARTERS OR BRANCH OFFICES IN THE UNITED STATES HAVE ALSO HELPED GREATLY IN THE ORGANISATION OF THE MISSIONS.

THE TWO DELEGATIONS WILL INITIALLY TRAVEL IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS: MR. FOXON, MR. MCGREGOR AND MR. MINICH FOR NEW YORK; MR. ROY PORTER AND MR. PETER LO, OF THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT, TO CHICAGO AND LOS ANGELES.

THE TWO TEAMS WILL JOIN UP IN SAN FRANCISCO.

MR. PORTER SAID THE PROPOSITION TO 'SET UP 'SHOP' IN HONG KONG WAS VERY ATTRACTIVE FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS, NOT LEAST OF WHICH WAS THAT IT CREATES JOBS IN AMERICA BY PROVIDING AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CERTAIN INDUSTRIES THERE TO INCREASE THEIR PRODUCTION OF LOW-COST COMPONENTS AND END-PRODUCTS, BOOSTING AN EXPORT RANGE.

MACHINE PARTS, ACCESSORIES AND OTHER SUCH PRODUCTS WERE ALSO AMONG SOME OF THE COMPLEMENTARY ITEMS AMERICAN FACTORIES COULD PRODUCE PROFITABLY IN HONG KONG RATHER THAN BUY FROM OTHER COUNTRIES OR TO PRODUCE THEM AT HIGH COST AT HOME.

/MR. PORTER .....

MR. PORTER EXPLAINED THAT INTERESTED COMPANIES MAY SET UP FACTORY HERE EITHER BY THEMSELVES OR IN PARTNERSHIP WITH HONG KONG INDUSTRIALISTS.

MANUFACTURING IN HONG KONG MAKES GOOD ECONOMIC SENSE NOT ONLY FOR THE U.S. MARKET BUT FOR THE COUNTRY'S EXPORT MARKETS AS WELL.

MR. PORTER SAID THAT FROM HONG KONG, AMERICAN MANUFACTURERS COULD PRODUCE AND EXPORT QUALITY GOODS AT A LOWER COST AND STILL OBTAIN A VERY HIGH RETURN ON THEIR INVESTMENT.

THERE ARE MANY OTHER GOOD REASONS ABOUT WHICH THE TWO DELEGATIONS WILL TELL AMERICAN INDUSTRIALISTS WHEN THEY MEET THEM.

THE MISSION WILL ALSO BE ABLE TO TELL THEIR HOSTS ABOUT HONG KONG'S PROPOSED INDUSTRIAL ESTATES AND ABOUT INDUSTRIAL SITES WHICH ARE SUITABLE FOR THEIR PARTICULAR TYPE OF INDUSTRY.

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RURAL ANTI-CRIME COMMITTEES TO BE STRENGTHENED

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THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID TODAY HE INTENDED TO STRENGTHEN THE WORK OF THE FIGHT VIOLENT CRIME AREA COMMITTEES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WITH A VIEW TO IMPROVING LAW AND ORDER IN THE RURAL AREAS.

HE SAID THIS AFTER A MEETING WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HEUNG YEE KUK, MR. CHAN YAT-SUN, AND THE DISTRICT POLICE COMMANDER (NEW TERRITORIES), MR. MIKE ILLINGWORTH. THE MEETING WAS ALSO ATTENDED BY MEMBERS OF THE KUK'S SECURITY COMMITTEE.

MR. AKERS-JONES SAID HE WOULD ALSO EXAMINE THE AREA COMMITTEES' PRESENT COMPOSITION AND CHANGE IT IF NECESSARY TO ENSURE +IT IS TRULY REPRESENTATIVE+.

HE ADDED THAT HE WOULD ASK THE SECURITY COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE THE LOCAL SITUATION AND THE ORGANISATIONAL STRENGTH OF THE AREA COMMITTEES, AND TO MAKE CONCRETE PROPOSALS TO STRENGTHEN THE FIGHT AGAINST VIOLENT CRIME IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

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THIRD MANPOWER SURVEY ON CLOTHING INDUSTRY

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A MANPOWER SURVEY OF HONG KONG'S CLOTHING INDUSTRY WILL BE CARRIED OUT BETWEEN NOVEMBER 3 AND NOVEMBER 26 TO COLLECT UP-TO-DATE DATA ON TRAINING NEEDS.

THE SURVEY , THE THIRD IN THE SERIES, WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD OF THE HONG KONG TRAINING COUNCIL, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

QUESTIONNAIRES AND EXPLANATORY LETTERS IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE WERE SENT TO-DAY TO ALL SELECTED ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYERS ARE ASKED FOR INFORMATION ON : THE NUMBER OF WORKERS EMPLOYED= THE NUMBER UNDER TRAINING= EXISTING VACANCIES= AND A FORECAST OF THE NUMBER OF WORKERS REQUIRED BY NOVEMBER 1976.

BECAUSE OF THE SIZE OF THE INDUSTRY, IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO INCLUDE ALL CLOTHING FACTORIES. SO, A RANDOM STRATIFIED SAMPLING METHOD HAS BEEN ADOPTED.

THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR (INDUSTRIAL TRAINING), MR. HORACE KNIGHT, STRESSED THAT ALL INFORMATION COLLECTED WOULD BE HANDLED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND WOULD BE PUBLISHED ONLY IN THE FORM OF STATISTICAL SUMMARIES WITHOUT REFERENCE TO ANY INDIVIDUAL FACTORY.

+AS THE INFORMATION IS VITAL TO THE WORK OF THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD IF IT IS TO DRAW UP MEANINGFUL PLANS TO MEET THE TRAINING NEEDS OF THE INDUSTRY, EMPLOYERS SELECTED FOR THE SURVEY ARE ASKED TO PROVIDE ACCURATE ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONNAIRES SENT TO THEM,+ HE ADDED.

DURING THE SURVEY, ON A DATE TO BE ARRANGED PREVIOUSLY BY APPOINTMENT, A SURVEY INTERVIEWING OFFICER OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WILL VISIT EACH OF THESE FACTORIES. HE WILL, IF REQUIRED, ANSWER QUERIES, ASSIST IN THE COMPLETION OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE, AND WILL COLLECT ONE COPY FOR PROCESSING.

THE SECOND SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED IN NOVEMBER 1972 AND WAS VERY SUCCESSFUL. +IT IS SINCERELY HOPED THAT EMPLOYERS IN THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY WILL CO-OPERATE IN THIS SURVEY AND THUS ASSURE SUCCESS EQUAL TO, IF NOT BETTER THAN, THE SECOND MANPOWER SURVEY,+ MR. KNIGHT SAID.

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WELFARE OF HK RESIDENTS IN BRITAIN

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HONG KONG'S COMMISSIONER IN LONDON, MR. S.T. KIDD, YESTERDAY URGED HONG KONG RESIDENTS IN BRITAIN TO CO-OPERATE WITH THEIR COMMUNITIES RELATIONS OFFICERS IN PROMOTING THE WELFARE OF THE CHINESE IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

HE WAS ADDRESSING MEMBERS OF THE CHINESE ASSOCIATION OF COMMERCE AT THE SWEARING-IN CEREMONY OF OFFICERS IN LONDON.

MR. KIDD SAID THE COMMISSION HAD LOCAL OFFICERS IN ALL THE MAIN CITIES AND TOWNS, AND WAS ALREADY WORKING ALONG-SIDE MEMBERS OF THE CHINESE COMMUNITY IN A SMALL NUMBER OF AREAS IN SETTING UP CHILDREN'S CENTRES AND YOUTH CENTRES WHERE RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES, ENGLISH LESSONS FOR YOUNG AND OLD, AND CHINESE CLASSES WERE BEING ORGANISED.

MR. KIDD TOLD THE GATHERING THAT WHILE THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICE IN LONDON RECOGNISED THE IMPORTANCE OF PRESERVING AND DEVELOPING CHINESE CULTURE AMONG THE CHILDREN OF IMMIGRANTS FROM HONG KONG, IT WAS EQUALLY IMPORTANT FOR THEM TO LEARN ENGLISH.

+FORMERLY, WHEN MEN MADE UP THE BULK OF THE CHINESE COMMUNITY IN THIS COUNTRY, THEY PREFERRED TO KEEP VERY MUCH TO THEMSELVES AND CONSIDERED THAT THEIR PRESENCE HERE WAS ONLY TEMPORARY. THE SITUATION HAS CHANGED IN THE LAST FEW YEARS,+ HE SAID.

+MANY DEPENDENTS, BOTH WIVES AND CHILDREN, HAVE COME TO JOIN THE HEADS OF THEIR FAMILIES. CHILDREN ARE GOING TO SCHOOL WHEREVER THEY LIVE THROUGHOUT BRITAIN.

+THEY ARE THUS DIRECTLY EXPOSED TO THE WAY OF LIFE AND CUSTOMS OF THE INDIGENOUS POPULATION, INDIRECTLY THEIR PARENTS ARE SIMILARLY EXPOSED. THE EDUCATION AUTHORITIES ARE THEREFORE VERY CONCERNED WITH THE INADEQUATE COMMAND OF ENGLISH OF THESE CHINESE CHILDREN AND THEY ARE TRYING TO FIND WAYS AND MEANS OF REMEDYING THIS DEFICIENCY,+ MR. KIDD SAID.

IN HIS ADDRESS, THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHINESE ASSOCIATION OF COMMERCE, MR. CHAN SAU-ON SAID: +WE MUST TRY HARD TO PRESERVE AND TO FURTHER DEVELOP OUR CULTURE WHICH IS A VERY VALUABLE INHERITANCE WE HAVE FROM OUR FOREFATHERS AND WHICH IS RECOGNISED THE WORLD OVER AS THE MOST VALUABLE ASSET OF MANKIND.

+OUR CHINESE CLASSES HAVE EXISTED FOR SEVEN YEARS IN WHICH WE HAVE SEEN THEIR ENROLMENT RISE FROM JUST OVER TEN CHILDREN TO THE PRESENT 200 PLUS. OUR WISH IS THAT THERE MAY ONE DAY BE A PROPER SCHOOL WITH BOARDING FACILITIES TO PREPARE BOTH CHINESE AND FOREIGN PUPILS TO SIT FOR GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATIONS. WE WILL WORK HARD TOWARDS THE GOAL.+

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DR. CHOA TO ATTEND DRUG SEMINAR IN U.S.

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THE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, DR. GERALD CHOA, WILL LEAVE FOR THE UNITED STATES TOMORROW (THURSDAY) TO ATTEND AN INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON NARCOTICS.

DR. CHOA HAS BEEN INVITED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT, THROUGH THE U.S. CONSUL-GENERAL IN HONG KONG, TO TAKE PART IN THE MULTI-REGIONAL DRUG ABUSE REDUCTION SEMINAR TO BE HELD IN WASHINGTON.

HE IS EXPECTED TO SPEND ABOUT A MONTH IN THE UNITED STATES, VISITING VARIOUS DRUG TREATMENT CENTRES IN THE CAPITAL AND OTHER MAJOR CITIES.

HE WILL RETURN ON NOVEMBER 17. WHILE DR. CHOA IS AWAY, DR. K.L. THONG, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, WILL ACT AS DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES.

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WATER CUTS

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A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN KOWLOON CITY AND ABERDEEN WILL BE WITHOUT WATER FOR ABOUT FIVE HOURS STARTING FROM 1 A.M. TOMORROW (THURSDAY) TO FACILITATE LEAKAGE TESTS TO BE CARRIED OUT IN THE AREAS.

IN KOWLOON CITY, THE PREMISES AFFECTED ARE BOUNDED BY JUNCTION ROAD, WANG TAU HOM EAST ROAD, FU MOU STREET, HENG LAM STREET AND LOK FU ESTATE, INCLUDING HONG KONG BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION HOSPITAL AND JUNCTION ROAD RESITE AREA.

IN ABERDEEN, THE BUILDINGS AFFECTED ARE ON HEUNG YIP ROAD FROM ABERDEEN TRADE SCHOOL TO NAM LONG SHAN ROAD.

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