



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS FOR AUGUST RELEASED
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TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE IN JANUARY TO AUGUST 1986, VALUED AT \$339 657 MILLION, INCREASED BY 11 PER CENT COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED BY 12 PER CENT TO \$94 442 MILLION WHILE RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 5 PER CENT TO \$74 227 MILLION, SO THAT FOR TOTAL EXPORTS, THE TRADE VALUE INCREASED BY 9 PER CENT. IMPORTS INCREASED BY 13 PER CENT TO \$170 988 MILLION.

TRADE STATISTICS PRESENTED HERE ARE MEASURED AT CURRENT PRICES AND NO ACCOUNT HAS BEEN TAKEN OF THE CHANGES IN PRICES BETWEEN THE PERIODS OF COMPARISON. A SEPARATE ANALYSIS OF THE PRICE AND VOLUME MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE FOR JANUARY TO AUGUST 1986 WILL BE RELEASED IN EARLY NOVEMBER.

COMPARING THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1986 WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE U.S. INCREASED BY 8 PER CENT. ANALYSED BY COMMODITY, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN CLOTHING (BY \$1 234 MILLION OR 8 PER CENT); MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, INCLUDING MAINLY MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS AND PARTS AND ACCESSORIES THEREOF (BY \$743 MILLION OR 11 PER CENT); AS WELL AS TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$446 MILLION OR 19 PER CENT).

ON THE OTHER HAND, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR CONTAINERS (BY \$86 MILLION OR 18 PER CENT); AS WELL AS ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$85 MILLION OR 2 PER CENT).

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA INCREASED BY 1 PER CENT IN VALUE. INCREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR TEXTILES (BY \$742 MILLION OR 59 PER CENT); MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, INCLUDING MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY \$207 MILLION OR 15 PER CENT); AS WELL AS CLOTHING (BY \$133 MILLION OR 45 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY \$860 MILLION OR 87 PER CENT); AS WELL AS TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$403 MILLION OR 23 PER CENT).

DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY BY 35 PER CENT IN VALUE. INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN CLOTHING (BY \$1 057 MILLION OR 37 PER CENT); OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY \$317 MILLION OR 207 PER CENT); AS WELL AS PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES AND OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$151 MILLION OR 35 PER CENT).

/HOWEVER, DECREASES

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR METALLIFEROUS ORES AND METAL SCRAP (BY \$92 MILLION OR 85 PER CENT); AS WELL AS CRUDE ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE MATERIALS (BY \$2 MILLION OR 44 PER CENT).

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM WAS UP BY 14 PER CENT, WITH INCREASES RECORDED IN CLOTHING (BY \$775 MILLION OR 34 PER CENT); AND PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES AND OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$115 MILLION OR 35 PER CENT).

DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO JAPAN INCREASED BY 21 PER CENT IN VALUE, WITH INCREASES RECORDED IN CLOTHING (BY \$171 MILLION OR 17 PER CENT); AS WELL AS MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, INCLUDING MAINLY JEWELLERY, GOLDSMITHS' AND SILVERSMITHS' WARES AND OTHER ARTICLES OF PRECIOUS OR SEMI-PRECIOUS MATERIALS (BY \$144 MILLION OR 30 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM OF METALLIFEROUS ORES AND METAL SCRAP (BY \$229 MILLION OR 87 PER CENT); AND FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO JAPAN OF ARTIFICIAL RESINS, PLASTIC MATERIALS, CELLULOSE ESTERS AND ETHERS (BY \$34 MILLION OR 45 PER CENT).

THE CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION ARE PRESENTED IN TABLE 2.

THE CHANGES IN IMPORTS FROM THE TEN MAJOR SUPPLIERS ARE SUMMARISED IN TABLE 3.

DEMAND FOR GOODS IMPORTED FROM CHINA INCREASED BY 38 PER CENT IN VALUE IN THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1986 AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR. INCREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR CLOTHING (BY \$3 785 MILLION OR 61 PER CENT); TEXTILES (BY \$3 546 MILLION OR 48 PER CENT); AS WELL AS MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, INCLUDING MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY \$1 236 MILLION OR 48 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR TEXTILE FIBRES (OTHER THAN WOOL TOPS) AND THEIR WASTES (BY \$433 MILLION OR 29 PER CENT); AS WELL AS PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (BY \$304 MILLION OR 23 PER CENT).

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM JAPAN WAS DOWN BY 2 PER CENT. DECREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR ROAD VEHICLES, INCLUDING AIR CUSHION VEHICLES (BY \$1 690 MILLION OR 55 PER CENT); TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$882 MILLION OR 20 PER CENT); AS WELL AS OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY \$838 MILLION OR 42 PER CENT).

ON THE OTHER HAND, INCREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR TEXTILES (BY \$699 MILLION OR 17 PER CENT); AS WELL AS ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$620 MILLION OR 14 PER CENT).

IMPORTS FROM THE U.S. DROPPED BY 2 PER CENT IN VALUE, WITH DECREASES REGISTERED FOR OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY \$380 MILLION OR 21 PER CENT); PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES AND OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$154 MILLION OR 28 PER CENT); AS WELL AS TEXTILE FIBRES (OTHER THAN WOOL TOPS) AND THEIR WASTES (BY \$151 MILLION OR 82 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, INCREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR NON-METALLIC MINERAL MANUFACTURES (BY \$229 MILLION OR 51 PER CENT); AS WELL AS ARTIFICIAL RESINS, PLASTIC MATERIALS, CELLULOSE ESTERS AND ETHERS (BY \$148 MILLION OR 28 PER CENT).

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM TAIWAN WAS UP BY 3 PER CENT. INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN TEXTILES (BY \$762 MILLION OR 16 PER CENT) AS WELL AS ARTIFICIAL RESINS, PLASTIC MATERIALS, CELLULOSE ESTERS AND ETHERS (BY \$157 MILLION OR 43 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, A DECREASE WAS REGISTERED FOR ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$308 MILLION OR 15 PER CENT).

IMPORTS FROM SINGAPORE DROPPED BY 8 PER CENT IN VALUE. DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (BY \$983 MILLION OR 25 PER CENT); AS WELL AS TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$228 MILLION OR 44 PER CENT); BUT AN INCREASE WAS REGISTERED FOR ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$245 MILLION OR 36 PER CENT).

TABLE 4 ILLUSTRATES THE CHANGES IN IMPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION.

THE CHANGES IN RE-EXPORTS TO THE TEN MAJOR MARKETS ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 5.

COMPARING THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1986 WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR, THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA DECREASED BY 24 PER CENT. ANALYSED BY COMMODITY, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$2 472 MILLION OR 61 PER CENT); ROAD VEHICLES, INCLUDING AIR CUSHION VEHICLES (BY \$1 754 MILLION OR 79 PER CENT); AS WELL AS ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$1 675 MILLION OR 52 PER CENT).

/HOWEVER, INCREASES

HOWEVER, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN TEXTILES (BY \$558 MILLION OR 9 PER CENT); AS WELL AS LEATHER, LEATHER MANUFACTURES AND DRESSED FURSKINS (BY \$373 MILLION OR 176 PER CENT).

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, RE-EXPORTS TO THE U.S. INCREASED BY 44 PER CENT IN VALUE. COMMODITIES WITH INCREASES INCLUDED CLOTHING (BY \$2 490 MILLION OR 106 PER CENT); MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, INCLUDING MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY \$820 MILLION OR 37 PER CENT); AS WELL AS TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR CONTAINERS (BY \$161 MILLION OR 20 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES AND OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$74 MILLION OR 21 PER CENT); AS WELL AS MEDICINAL AND PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS (BY \$52 MILLION OR 73 PER CENT).

THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO JAPAN WAS UP BY 7 PER CENT. INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN NON-METALLIC MINERAL MANUFACTURES (BY \$132 MILLION OR 44 PER CENT); MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, INCLUDING MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY \$130 MILLION OR 89 PER CENT); AS WELL AS PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES AND OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$128 MILLION OR 85 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR NON-FERROUS METALS (BY \$279 MILLION OR 80 PER CENT), AS WELL AS TEXTILE FIBRES (OTHER THAN WOOL TOPS) AND THEIR WASTES (BY \$262 MILLION OR 77 PER CENT).

RE-EXPORTS TO TAIWAN RECORDED A 29 PER CENT INCREASE IN VALUE. THERE WERE INCREASES IN ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$475 MILLION OR 63 PER CENT), AS WELL AS DYEING, TANNING AND COLOURING MATERIALS (BY \$73 MILLION OR 53 PER CENT). OVERALL VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA INCREASED BY 53 PER CENT).

INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN TEXTILES (BY \$437 MILLION OR 78 PER CENT); AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$328 MILLION OR 95 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR RE-EXPORTS TO TAIWAN OF FISH, CRUSTACEANS AND MOLLUSCS AND PREPARATIONS THEREOF (BY \$84 MILLION OR 43 PER CENT); AND FOR RE-EXPORTS TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA OF COFFEE, TEA, COCOA, SPICES AND MANUFACTURES THEREOF (BY \$40 MILLION OR 72 PER CENT).

TABLE 6 ILLUSTRATES THE CHANGES IN RE-EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION.

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THE AUGUST 1986 ISSUE OF THE +HONG KONG TRADE STATISTICS - SUMMARY+ WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE AROUND OCTOBER 20 AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT \$5 PER COPY. A MORE COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, +HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE+, WITH A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS IN AUGUST 1986 WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE IN EARLY NOVEMBER AT \$13.50 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES REGARDING REGULAR SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THESE REPORTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT BASKERVILLE HOUSE, HONG KONG, ON 5-214375 AND ENQUIRIES ON TRADE STATISTICS TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 5-444436.

/Table 1:

Table 1: Domestic exports by ten major markets

Major Market	Jan-Aug 1986 (HKD Mn.)	Jan-Aug 1985 (HKD Mn.)	Increase (HKD Mn.)	Percentage Increase (%)
U.S.A.	39,999	36,915	3,084	8
China	10,514	10,416	97	1
F.R. of Germany	6,752	4,994	1,759	35
U.K.	6,180	5,401	779	14
Japan	3,501	2,903	598	21
Canada	3,210	2,807	403	14
Australia	2,099	2,209	-110	-5
Singapore	1,750	1,465	284	19
Netherlands	1,677	1,345	333	25
France	1,602	1,109	493	44

Table 2: Domestic exports by major commodity division

Commodity division	Jan-Aug 1986 (HKD Mn.)	Jan-Aug 1985 (HKD Mn.)	Increase (HKD Mn.)	Percentage Increase (%)
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	32,229	28,220	4,010	14
Miscellaneous manufactured articles (mainly baby carriages, toys, games and sporting goods)	15,643	13,645	1,997	15
Photographic apparatus, equipment and supplies, optical goods, watches and clocks	8,005	6,595	1,410	21
Electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances, and electrical parts thereof	6,962	6,826	135	2
Telecommunications and sound recording and reproducing apparatus and equipment	6,664	5,998	666	11
Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles and related products	6,398	4,888	1,510	31

/Table 3:

Table 3: Imports from ten major suppliers

Major Supplier	Jan-Aug 1986 (HKD Mn.)	Jan-Aug 1985 (HKD Mn.)	Increase (HKD Mn.)	Percentage Increase (%)
China	49,263	35,687	13,576	38
Japan	35,501	36,110	-610	-2
U.S.A.	14,609	14,909	-300	-2
Taiwan	14,495	14,078	417	3
Singapore	6,950	7,580	-630	-8
Republic of Korea	6,595	5,791	804	14
U.K.	6,005	5,407	598	11
F.R. of Germany	5,106	4,360	746	17
Switzerland	3,366	2,148	1,218	57
Italy	2,805	2,291	514	22

Table 4: Imports by major commodity division

Commodity division	Jan-Aug 1986 (HKD Mn.)	Jan-Aug 1985 (HKD Mn.)	Increase (HKD Mn.)	Percentage Increase (%)
Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles and related products	26,610	20,912	5,698	27
Electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances, and electrical parts thereof	14,548	13,238	1,310	10
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	11,855	7,701	4,154	54
Photographic apparatus, equipment and supplies, optical goods, watches and clocks	10,249	8,225	2,024	25
Miscellaneous manufactured articles (mainly baby carriages, toys, games and sporting goods)	8,842	7,115	1,727	24
Telecommunications and sound recording and reproducing apparatus and equipment	7,972	8,571	-598	-7

Table 5: Re-exports by ten major markets

Major Market	Jan-Aug 1986 (HKD Mn.)	Jan-Aug 1985 (HKD Mn.)	Increase (HKD Mn.)	Percentage Increase (%)
China	24,428	32,326	-7,899	-24
U.S.A.	13,416	9,349	4,067	44
Japan	3,817	3,564	253	7
Taiwan	3,755	2,900	855	29
Republic of Korea	3,646	2,384	1,261	53
Singapore	3,410	2,731	679	25
Macau	1,695	1,808	-113	-8
Indonesia	1,573	1,681	-108	-6
F.R. of Germany	1,548	849	700	82
U.K.	1,324	712	611	86

Table 6: Re-exports by major commodity division

Commodity division	Jan-Aug 1986 (HKD Mn.)	Jan-Aug 1985 (HKD Mn.)	Increase (HKD Mn.)	Percentage Increase (%)
Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles and related products	12,108	10,172	1,937	19
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	8,116	4,754	3,362	71
Miscellaneous manufactured articles (mainly baby carriages, toys, games and sporting goods)	6,023	4,641	1,382	30
Electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances, and electrical parts thereof	5,902	6,484	-582	-9
Telecommunications and sound recording and reproducing apparatus and equipment	3,616	5,233	-1,617	-31
Photographic apparatus, equipment and supplies, optical goods, watches and clocks	3,517	3,732	-214	-6

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NEW VETTING GUIDELINES FOR DB FUNDS
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COMMUNITY AND RESIDENT ORGANISATIONS IN EASTERN DISTRICT ARE URGED TO NOTE A PACKAGE OF REVISED VETTING GUIDELINES IN APPLYING FOR DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS FOR COMMUNITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES.

THE NEW SET OF GUIDELINES WILL AFFECT MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, OWNERS' INCORPORATIONS, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, KAIFONG ASSOCIATIONS AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE VETTING COMMITTEE, MR LAM TAK-ON, SAID THE NEW GUIDELINES ARE REQUIRED IN ORDER TO MAKE BETTER USE OF DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS.

UNDER THE REVISED GUIDELINES, DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR SUBSIDISING LOCAL ORGANISATIONS IN HOLDING LAUNCH PICNICS AND BANQUETS.

SUBSIDIES FOR OUTINGS OR PICNICS ORGANISED BY LOCAL BODIES SUCH AS MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES OR AREA COMMITTEES WILL BE LIMITED TO \$500 PER APPLICATION.

APPROVAL WILL BE GIVEN TO NO MORE THAN TWO APPLICATIONS PER YEAR FROM LOCAL BODIES SEEKING SUBSIDIES IN HOLDING AN OUTING OR PICNIC. THIS APPLIES TO LOCAL BODIES IN EACH OF THE 12 AREAS.

LOCAL BODIES THAT RECEIVED A SUBSIDY ONE YEAR WILL GET LOW PRIORITY THE NEXT YEAR.

WHEN MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES OR OWNERS' INCORPORATIONS MAKE APPLICATIONS FOR SUBSIDIES IN HOLDING AN OUTING OR PICNIC FOR THE ELDERLY THE ACTIVITY WILL HAVE TO BE CO-ORGANISED BY A FUNCTIONAL INSTITUTION SUCH AS A CENTRE FOR THE ELDERLY OR A VOLUNTARY AGENCY.

/FURTHERMORE, &c

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FURTHERMORE, 80 PER CENT OF THOSE TAKING PART IN SUCH AN ACTIVITY FOR THE ELDERLY SHOULD BE AGED 60 OR OVER.

THE AMOUNT OF SUBSIDY FOR CARNIVALS AND VARIETY SHOWS WILL BE CONSIDERED INDIVIDUALLY, AND DEPEND ON THE PURPOSE OF THE FUNCTION AND ITS NATURE, AND THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE TAKING PART.

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THREE HOTEL PROJECTS APPROVED IN AUGUST
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TWO HOTELS IN GLOUCESTER ROAD ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND ONE IN CANTON ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI, WERE AMONG 42 PLANS APPROVED BY THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE (BOO) IN AUGUST.

A 30-STOREY HOTEL OF 198 ROOMS PLUS COMMERCIAL FACILITIES WILL BE BUILT AT 67-76 GLOUCESTER ROAD FOR THE YIN NIN SAVINGS MORTGAGE LOAN AND FUND INVESTMENT COMPANY LIMITED.

THE OTHER WILL BE BUILT AT 100-108 GLOUCESTER ROAD AND 145-149 JAFFE ROAD. IT WILL BE 24 STOREYS HIGH OVER TWO BASEMENTS AND WILL HAVE 306 ROOMS.

THE APPLICANT IS WEE ON INVESTMENT COMPANY LIMITED.

THE HOTEL PROJECT IN KOWLOON, WHICH WILL INCLUDE SHOPS AND OFFICES, WILL HAVE 502 ROOMS IN TWO BLOCKS OF 17 AND 16 STOREYS.

ALSO ON THE ISLAND, FOUR APARTMENT BLOCKS ARE TO BE BUILT AT 109 REPULSE BAY ROAD FOR HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI HOTELS LIMITED.

THEY RANGE FROM 24 TO 38 STOREYS AND THERE WILL ALSO BE A SIX-LEVEL CARPARK OVER A BASEMENT.

OF THE APPROVALS 19 WERE APARTMENT OR APARTMENT-COMMERCIAL PROJECTS AND FIVE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS WERE ALSO GIVEN THE GO-AHEAD.

APPROVED DURING THE MONTH WERE A PETROL-FILLING STATION FOR SHELL IN PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD AND AN AMENITIES AND A SPORT BLOCK FOR THE CITY POLYTECHNIC AT TAT CHEE AVENUE, KOWLOON.

THE BOO GAVE CONSENT FOR WORK TO START ON 44 PROJECTS IN AUGUST, INCLUDING FOUR HOTELS.

/A TOTAL

A TOTAL OF 38 COMPLETED BUILDINGS WERE GIVEN OCCUPATION PERMITS, OF WHICH 15 WERE ON HONG KONG ISLAND, SIX IN KOWLOON AND 17 IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE COST OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED DURING THE MONTH CAME TO ABOUT \$278 MILLION, BRINGING THE TOTAL SO FAR THIS YEAR TO ABOUT \$11.103 BILLION.

CONSENT FOR 16 BUILDING DEVELOPMENTS TO BE DEMOLISHED WAS ALSO GIVEN IN AUGUST.

THE CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT DIVISION RECEIVED 476 COMPLAINTS ABOUT ILLEGAL STRUCTURES OR ILLEGAL BUILDING WORKS AND CARRIED OUT 888 INSPECTIONS.

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WOODWORKERS GIVEN REMINDER ON SAFETY MEASURES
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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAS URGED CONTRACTORS AND WORKERS TO TAKE ADEQUATE SAFETY MEASURES TO PREVENT ACCIDENTS WHEN OPERATING WOODWORKING MACHINERY.

THE APPEAL FOLLOWS A COURT CASE WHICH AROSE FROM AN ACCIDENT IN WHICH A CARPENTER SUSTAINED SERIOUS FINGER INJURIES WHILE OPERATING A BENCH-MOUNTED CIRCULAR SAW. THE ACCIDENT HAPPENED AT A CONSTRUCTION SITE IN TUEN MUN EARLIER THIS YEAR.

IN THE COURT CASE, A TSUEN WAN MAGISTRATE FINED THE CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBLE A TOTAL OF \$20 000 FOR FAILING TO COVER THE TOP OF A BENCH-MOUNTED CIRCULAR SAW WITH AN ADJUSTABLE GUARD AND TO KEEP A SUITABLE PUSH-STICK AVAILABLE FOR USE AT THE BENCH.

A LABOUR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS (WOODWORKING MACHINERY) REGULATIONS LAY DOWN STANDARDS OF FENCING FOR SUCH MACHINERY AND IMPOSE DUTIES ON THE EMPLOYER TO PROTECT THE SAFETY OF OPERATORS.

A PERSON WHO CONTRAVENES ANY OF THE REGULATIONS IS LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$30 000.

IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS THIS YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT TOOK OUT 34 PROSECUTIONS FOR BREACHES OF THE REGULATIONS, RESULTING IN FINES TOTALLING OVER \$67 000.

/MOST OF

MOST OF THE OFFENCES INVOLVED OPERATION OF UNFENCED CIRCULAR SAWS AND UNGUARDED SPINDLE MOULDING MACHINES.

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED EMPLOYERS AND OPERATORS OF THESE MACHINES TO COMPLY WITH THE FOLLOWING SAFETY MEASURES:

- * WOODWORKING MACHINES MUST NOT BE USED BY ANY PERSON WHO HAS NOT RECEIVED TRAINING OR INSTRUCTION;
- * NO PERSONS UNDER 16 YEARS OF AGE MAY BE EMPLOYED ON ANY WOODWORKING MACHINE EXCEPT WITH THE WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR;
- * WOODWORKING MACHINES MUST BE MAINTAINED IN GOOD CONDITION, WITH REGULAR CLEANING, EXAMINATION AND REPAIRS;
- * THE WORKSHOP MUST BE KEPT CLEAN, PASSAGES MUST BE CLEARED OF OBSTRUCTION AND A SUITABLE PLACE MUST BE PROVIDED FOR STORING WOOD AND FINISHED PRODUCTS; AND
- * FAILURE TO USE THE SAFETY DEVICES PROVIDED WOULD JEOPARDISE THE USER AND OTHER WORKERS AND IS ALSO A CONTRAVENTION OF FACTORY LEGISLATION.

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TYPHOON WAYNE GOES INTO THE RECORD BOOKS
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TYPHOON WAYNE WHICH ORIGINATED OVER THE SOUTH CHINA SEA ON AUGUST 18 AND RETURNED TO AFFECT HONG KONG FOR THE THIRD TIME BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 4 AND 5, WAS THE ONLY TROPICAL CYCLONE ON RECORD WHICH NECESSITATED THE HOISTING OF WARNING SIGNALS ON THREE SEPARATE OCCASIONS, THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY REPORTED TODAY (SUNDAY).

HOWEVER, APART FROM WAYNE'S PRESENCE, SEPTEMBER WAS A NORMAL MONTH EXCEPT FOR BEING SLIGHTLY DRIER THAN USUAL.

THE MONTH BEGAN WITH THREE VERY HOT DAYS DURING WHICH THE INTENSE AFTERNOON HEAT GAVE RISE TO SQUALLY THUNDERSTORMS IN THE EVENING AND OVERNIGHT.

THE MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE OF THE MONTH, 33.8 DEGREES CELSIUS, WAS RECORDED IN THE AFTERNOON OF SEPTEMBER 2.

/ON SEPTEMBER 4,

ON SEPTEMBER 4, TYPHOON WAYNE MOVED WEST-NORTHWESTWARDS ACROSS THE NORTHERN PART OF THE SOUTH CHINA SEA, BRINGING FREQUENT SQUALLY SHOWERS AND STRONG EASTERLY WINDS TO THE TERRITORY.

WINDS REMAINED STRONG UNTIL THE MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 5, AND AT TIMES REACHED GALE FORCE OFFSHORE. STRONG WINDS SUBSIDED IN THE AFTERNOON WHEN WAYNE ACCELERATED WESTWARDS ACROSS BEIBU WAN AND MOVED FARTHER AWAY FROM HONG KONG.

HOWEVER, SHOWERS WHICH WERE OCCASIONALLY HEAVY PERSISTED UNTIL SEPTEMBER 7 WITH SOME THUNDERSTORMS OCCURRING IN THE EVENING OF SEPTEMBER 6.

THE WEATHER IMPROVED WITH PLENTY OF SUNSHINE ON SEPTEMBER 8 AND 9 WHEN A RIDGE OF HIGH PRESSURE PREVAILED OVER SOUTH CHINA. SUNNY AND HOT CONDITIONS CONTINUED FOR THE NEXT SIX DAYS.

THERE WAS A DETERIORATION IN THE AFTERNOON OF SEPTEMBER 16 WHEN HEAVY AND THUNDERY SHOWERS AFFECTED THE TERRITORY. RAINFALL OF 72.0 MM WAS RECORDED AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY BETWEEN 2 PM AND 8 PM. ELEVEN CASES OF FLOODING WERE REPORTED IN KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES. IN TSZ WAN SHAN, FIVE PEOPLE WERE INJURED IN FLOODING ON SHA TIN PASS ROAD.

DRY CONTINENTAL AIR FROM AN ANTICYCLONE OVER NORTH CHINA REACHED HONG KONG IN THE EVENING OF SEPTEMBER 16. WINDS TURNED NORTHERLY AND THE WEATHER BECAME FINE THE NEXT DAY.

UNDER THE COMBINED EFFECT OF THE ANTICYCLONE OVER CHINA AND TYPHOON ABBY WHICH WAS NEAR TAIWAN ON SEPTEMBER 18, NORTHERLY WINDS STRENGTHENED OVER HONG KONG DURING THE NIGHT. ONE MAN WAS DROWNED AFTER HIS ROWING-BOAT CAPSIZED IN STRONG WINDS IN TSUEN WAN.

FRESH TO STRONG WINDS PREVAILED UNTIL THE MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 20, BRINGING COOLER, FINE AND VERY DRY WEATHER TO THE TERRITORY. THE TEMPERATURE ON SEPTEMBER 20 DROPPED TO 23.6 DEGREES CELSIUS, THE LOWEST OF THE MONTH.

WINDS MODERATED ON SEPTEMBER 21 AND GRADUALLY VEERED TO THE EAST. FINE AND SUNNY WEATHER CONTINUED UNTIL SEPTEMBER 27 EXCEPT FOR SOME CLOUDY PERIODS AND ISOLATED SHOWERS ON SEPTEMBER 25.

ON SEPTEMBER 28, THUNDERSTORMS WHICH HAD DEVELOPED OVER GUANGDONG MOVED SOUTHWARDS TO AFFECT HONG KONG IN THE AFTERNOON. CLOUDY AND RAINY CONDITIONS CONTINUED INTO THE NIGHT BUT THE WEATHER IMPROVED WITH SUNNY PERIODS THE NEXT DAY.

A WEAK SURGE OF WINTER MONSOON ARRIVED ON SEPTEMBER 30 AND THE WEATHER BECAME COOLER AND DRIER.

/IN ADDITION

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IN ADDITION TO TYPHOON WAYNE, THREE OTHER TROPICAL CYCLONES OCCURRED OVER THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC DURING THE MONTH.

NO AIRCRAFT WAS DIVERTED FROM HONG KONG IN SEPTEMBER DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER.

THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS WERE ISSUED ON SEPTEMBER 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 16 AND 28. A FLOOD WARNING WAS ISSUED ON SEPTEMBER 16.

THE RED FIRE DANGER WARNING WAS IN EFFECT FROM SEPTEMBER 19 TO 21. THE YELLOW FIRE DANGER WARNING WAS IN EFFECT FROM SEPTEMBER 18 TO 19.

SIGNALS HOISTED DURING THE MONTH WERE AS FOLLOWS:-

WEATHER SYSTEM	SIGNAL	DATE AND TIME OF HOISTING	DATE AND TIME OF LOWERING
TYPHOON WAYNE	1	SEPT 4 1.30 AM	SEPT 4 3 PM
	3	SEPT 4 3 PM	SEPT 5 2.10 PM
WINTER MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	SEPT 19 3 AM	SEPT 20 5 AM

THE MONTH'S FIGURES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL WERE:

SUNSHINE	217.5 HOURS = 29.0 HOURS ABOVE NORMAL
RAINFALL	264.7 MM = 55.7 MM BELOW NORMAL
CLOUDINESS	54 % = 8 % LESS THAN NORMAL
RELATIVE HUMIDITY	74 % = 5 % LOWER THAN NORMAL
MEAN MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE	30.4 DEGREES CELSIUS = 0.1 DEGREES CELSIUS BELOW NORMAL
MEAN TEMPERATURE	27.8 DEGREES CELSIUS = 0.3 DEGREES CELSIUS ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN MINIMUM TEMPERATURE	25.8 DEGREES CELSIUS = 0.6 DEGREES CELSIUS ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DEW POINT	22.3 DEGREES CELSIUS = 0.9 DEGREES CELSIUS BELOW NORMAL
TOTAL EVAPORATION	158.5 MM = 1.5 MM ABOVE NORMAL

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CHANGES TO PLANS FOR SHEUNG WAN FOOTBRIDGES
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PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO PLANS FOR BUILDING TWO FOOTBRIDGES AT SHEUNG WAN ON HONG KONG ISLAND HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST GAZETTE.

THE AMENDMENTS INVOLVE RELOCATING ONE FOOTBRIDGE, AT MORRISON STREET, AND RELOCATING THE SOUTHERNMOST STAIRCASE OF THE OTHER, AT TUNG HING LANE.

IT IS INTENDED TO MOVE THE MORRISON STREET FOOTBRIDGE ABOUT FOUR METRES WESTWARD TO PLACE IT IN LINE WITH ON TAI STREET. THE FOOTBRIDGE WILL ALSO BE EXTENDED BY ABOUT 14 METRES SOUTHWARD INTO ON TAI STREET, AND THE TEMPORARY STEEL STAIRCASE SOUTH OF THE FOOTBRIDGE WILL BE RELOCATED.

UNDER THE ORIGINAL PLAN, THE FOOTBRIDGE WAS TO RUN DIRECTLY INTO WESTERN MARKET. BUT THIS WOULD NOT BE COMPATIBLE WITH THE MARKET BUILDING, BOTH STRUCTURALLY AND IN APPEARANCE, UNLESS THE MARKET WERE TO BE REDEVELOPED.

IN VIEW OF THE PROPOSAL TO PRESERVE WESTERN MARKET, IT HAS BECOME NECESSARY TO RELOCATE THE FOOTBRIDGE TO KEEP IT CLEAR OF THE MARKET FACADE.

THE CHANGED PLAN FOR THE TUNG HING LANE FOOTBRIDGE INVOLVES RELOCATING THE SOUTHERNMOST STAIRCASE TO THE FOOTBRIDGE'S EAST SIDE TO PROVIDE DIRECT PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO THE EASTBOUND TRAMSTOP.

OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSALS SHOULD BE SENT TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT BY NOVEMBER 7.

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SLOGAN CONTEST TO PROMOTE CRIME PREVENTION

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APPLICATIONS ARE BEING INVITED FOR THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME SLOGAN DESIGN COMPETITION.

ORGANISED BY THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT POLICE, THE COMPETITION IS AIMED AT MAKING PEOPLE MORE AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF CRIME PREVENTION AS WELL AS DEVELOPING THEIR CREATIVE SKILLS.

THE COMPETITION IS DIVIDED INTO THREE SECTIONS -- PRIMARY SCHOOL, SECONDARY SCHOOL, AND OPEN.

THE SLOGANS, IN CHINESE ONLY, SHOULD FOCUS ON THE THEMES OF +FIGHT AGAINST CRIME+ AND +CRIME PREVENTION+.

/EACH PARTICIPANT

EACH PARTICIPANT IS LIMITED TO ONE ENTRY AND THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS NOVEMBER 14.

THERE WILL BE FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD PRIZE WINNERS IN EACH SECTION AND PRIZES WILL ALSO BE AWARDED TO FIVE OTHER OUTSTANDING ENTRIES IN EACH SECTION. THE WINNING SLOGANS IN EACH SECTION WILL BE USED FOR PUBLICITY PRINTING MATERIAL IN THE 1986-87 KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME CAMPAIGN.

APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE AT KAU PUI LUNG ROAD, AND ITS HUNG HOM SUB-OFFICE AT BULKELEY STREET AND HO MAN TIN SUB-OFFICE AT HO MAN TIN ESTATE.

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TUEN MUN DB TO DISCUSS ARTIFICIAL LAGOON
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THE PULVERISED FUEL ASH LAGOON IN TSANG TSUI WILL BE DISCUSSED BY THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD AT ITS MEETING ON TUESDAY (OCTOBER 14).

THE BOARD WILL ALSO CONSIDER THE CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT ON THE REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES. THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AND ELECTORAL AFFAIRS, MR G.F. WOODHEAD, WILL BE PRESENT TO EXPLAIN THE DOCUMENT.

IN ADDITION, THE BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE SECOND REPORT OF THE EDUCATION COMMISSION, AND THE PROVISION OF SCHOOL PLACES FOR MENTALLY HANDICAPPED PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICT.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE THE REVISED LAYOUT PLAN FOR AREA 18, AND REPORTS BY THE DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND THE BOARD'S VARIOUS COMMITTEES.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING BEGINNING AT 9.30 AM ON TUESDAY IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT ON THE THIRD FLOOR, TUEN MUN GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 1 TUEN HI ROAD, TUEN MUN.

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SPORTS FESTIVAL BEGINS FOR YAU MA TEI WORKERS
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ABOUT 2 000 WORKERS IN YAU MA TEI DISTRICT ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE PART IN THE DISTRICT'S SPORTS FESTIVAL FOR PEOPLE IN EMPLOYMENT WHICH BEGAN TODAY (SUNDAY).

THE FESTIVAL IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT OFFICE, YAU MA TEI AND TSIM SHA TSUI RECREATION AND SPORTS ASSOCIATION AND THE URBAN COUNCIL.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, HELD AT THE KOWLOON PARK, THE DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR KEVIN MAK, SAID THE TWO-WEEK FESTIVAL WOULD PROVIDE HEALTHY LEISURE ACTIVITIES FOR THE DISTRICT'S WORKERS.

THE PROGRAMME INCLUDES SEA AND LAND EXCURSIONS, A FUN DAY AT WONG NAI CHUNG RESERVOIR PARK, A DISCO NIGHT, CAMPING, BOWLING AND TENNIS AND MINI-SOCCER COMPETITIONS.

+BESIDES ENJOYING THE ACTIVITIES, PARTICIPANTS CAN ALSO BUILD UP RELATIONSHIPS WHICH SHOULD STRENGTHEN THE PEOPLE'S TIES,+

HE NOTED THAT 11 COMMERCIAL ORGANISATIONS WERE INVOLVED IN ORGANISING THE SPORTS FESTIVAL AS WELL AS PARTICIPATING IN THE EVENTS.

HE ADDED THAT MORE ACTIVITIES CALLING FOR PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION SHOULD BE ORGANISED SO AS TO BOOST THE RESIDENTS' SENSE OF IDENTITY WITH THE DISTRICT AND TO FULLY IMPLEMENT THE SPIRIT OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WERE THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR AUGUSTINE CHENG= THE DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR YIP WAH= URBAN COUNCILLOR, MR KWAN LIM-HO, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS.

AFTER THE CEREMONY, MORE THAN 400 STAFF FROM 12 COMMERCIAL ORGANISATIONS COMPETED IN A TELEMATCH WHICH WAS THE FIRST EVENT IN THE FESTIVAL PROGRAMME.

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FOLK MUSIC COMPETITION FINALS TOMORROW
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YOUNG FOLK SINGERS AND MUSICIANS WILL COMPETE IN THE +KOWLOON CITY FOLK MUSIC FROM THE COMMUNITY+ FINALS AT THE KO SHAN THEATRE TOMORROW (MONDAY) NIGHT.

THE COMPETITION, DIVIDED INTO SOLOIST AND GROUP SECTIONS, HAD ATTRACTED MORE THAN 80 PARTICIPANTS IN THE FIRST ROUND. SIXTEEN HAVE BEEN SELECTED TO ENTER THE FINALS.

THE BEST FOUR SOLOISTS AND GROUPS WILL BE AWARDED WITH PRIZES AND SOUVENIRS. IN ADDITION, THEY WILL BE INVITED TO PERFORM IN THREE OUTDOOR CONCERTS IN OI MAN ESTATE OPEN SPACE, HUNG HOM FERRY PIER AND MA TAU WAI ROAD RECREATION GROUND ON THREE SUNDAYS NEXT MONTH.

THE FOLK MUSIC COMPETITION AND OUTDOOR CONCERTS ARE SPONSORED BY THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD AND JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT'S ARTS AND CULTURE COUNCIL, URBAN COUNCIL, MUSIC OFFICE AND THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

THE CONTEST IS ORGANISED TO PROMOTE RESIDENTS' INTEREST IN FOLK MUSIC AND TO IDENTIFY AND DEVELOP YOUNG MUSIC TALENTS IN THE DISTRICT.

OFFICIATING AT TOMORROW'S OPENING CEREMONY INCLUDE THE ASSISTANT KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS DIANA TONG, URBAN COUNCILLOR, MR PETER C.K. CHAN, DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER, MR LAU CHI-SUM, SENIOR MUSIC OFFICER, MR SAMSON CHEUNG, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT ARTS AND CULTURE COUNCIL, MR WU WING-KI.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT FOLK MUSIC FROM THE COMMUNITY FINALS AT 8 PM TOMORROW AT THE KO SHAN THEATRE, KO SHAN ROAD, TO KWA WAN.

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HOME VISITS TO SPREAD CIVIC EDUCATION MESSAGE
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THE CIVIC EDUCATION TEAM UNDER THE TIN WAN AND SHEK PAI WAN AREA COMMITTEE OF SOUTHERN DISTRICT WILL VISIT HOMES IN THE AREA LATER THIS MONTH TO AROUSE RESIDENTS' AWARENESS OF THEIR CIVIC RESPONSIBILITIES.

THE VISITS ARE PART OF PROGRAMMES ORGANISED IN THE AREA IN SUPPORT OF THE DISTRICT'S CIVIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN.

ACCOMPANIED BY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE STAFF, THE TEAMS WILL VISIT HOUSEHOLDS IN TIN WAN ESTATE IN THE EVENINGS OF OCTOBER 20 AND 21, SHEK PAI WAN ESTATE ON OCTOBER 23 AND 24, AND YUE KWONG CHUEN ON OCTOBER 30 AND 31.

TEAM MEMBERS WILL EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH RESIDENTS ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF GOOD CITIZENSHIP, PARTICULARLY ON CIVIC-MINDEDNESS, ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE AND KEEPING PUBLIC PLACES CLEAN.

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THE THREE CLEANEST HOUSING BLOCKS IN EACH OF THE THREE HOUSING ESTATES WILL BE NAMED IN NOVEMBER AND AN ELECTION TO CHOOSE THE MOST COURTEOUS HOUSING STAFF WILL BE HELD IN DECEMBER.

EARLIER THIS MONTH, 30 ELDERLY PEOPLE FROM THE TIN WAN CARITAS SOCIAL CENTRE AND THE ABERDEEN KAIFONG WELFARE ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CENTRE VISITED THE DISTRICT OFFICE TO LEARN ABOUT THE WORK OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE DISTRICT BOARD.

THEY WATCHED A FILM, +THE NEW FACES OF SOUTHERN DISTRICT+, WHICH INTRODUCED THE DISTRICT'S DEVELOPMENTS AND THE DISTRICT BOARD'S WORK.

ANOTHER 20 PEOPLE FROM TWO HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY RUN BY THE HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR THE AGED WILL MAKE A SIMILAR VISIT ON OCTOBER 21.

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FREE CHECK-UPS FOR SAI KUNG ELDERLY
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ABOUT 160 SENIOR RESIDENTS OF SAI KUNG WILL BE GIVEN FREE MEDICAL CHECK-UPS DURING A +HEALTH DAY FOR THE ELDERLY+ TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY (OCTOBER 15) AT THE SAI KUNG TOWN HALL.

THE AIMS ARE TO HELP ELDERLY PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF NUTRITION AND HYGIENE AND TO TAKE STEPS TO PROTECT THEIR HEALTH.

THE CHECK-UPS WILL BE GIVEN BETWEEN 9.30 AM AND 11.30 AM. FREE TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED FOR THOSE LIVING IN REMOTE VILLAGES.

AFTERWARDS, DOCTORS FROM THE JUNK BAY MEDICAL RELIEF COUNCIL WILL HOLD A SEMINAR AND A SLIDE SHOW FOR THE PARTICIPANTS, TO EDUCATE THEM ON VARIOUS HEALTH PROBLEMS AFFECTING THE ELDERLY.

THE HEALTH DAY IS ONE OF MANY ACTIVITIES ORGANISED AS PART OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT FESTIVAL FOR THE ELDERLY, WHICH IS INTENDED TO AROUSE RESIDENTS' CONCERN AND RESPECT FOR THE ELDERLY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE +HEALTH DAY FOR THE ELDERLY+ ON WEDNESDAY AT THE SAI KUNG TOWN HALL, NEXT TO THE BUS TERMINUS. THOSE WHO WISH TO COVER BOTH THE MEDICAL CHECK-UPS AND THE SEMINAR SHOULD BE AT THE TOWN HALL BY 11 AM.

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LRT TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM CONTRACT AWARDED.
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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT HAS AWARDED A \$19.9 MILLION CONTRACT TO PLESSEY U.K. LIMITED FOR THE DESIGN, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF A TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM FOR PHASE ONE OF THE TUEN MUN LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM.

THE TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM, OPERATED BY MICRO-PROCESSOR BASED TRAFFIC SIGNAL CONTROLLERS, WILL BE INSTALLED AT VARIOUS SITES AND AT ROAD JUNCTIONS.

IT WILL HELP CONTROL VEHICULAR, PEDESTRIAN AND LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT VEHICLE MOVEMENT EFFICIENTLY AND SAFELY.

INSTALLATION WILL BEGIN NEXT FEBRUARY AND BE COMPLETED IN MID-1988 WHEN PHASE ONE OF THE SYSTEM STARTS TO SERVE THE PUBLIC.

WORK ON PHASE ONE STARTED IN AUGUST LAST YEAR. IT WILL OPERATE BETWEEN MELODY GARDEN IN TUEN MUN AND THE EASTERN PART OF YUEN LONG, COMPRISING ABOUT 23 KILOMETRES OF DOUBLE TRACK.

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ENTRIES INVITED FOR INTERNATIONAL CHILD, YOUTH ART EXHIBITION
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SCHOOL CHILDREN ARE INVITED TO TAKE PART IN THE INTERNATIONAL CHILD AND YOUTH ART EXHIBITION 1987 THAT IS BEING STAGED BY FINLAND.

THE EXHIBITION IS ORGANISED BY THE ART CENTRE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OPERATED BY FINLAND'S MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND THE CITY OF HYVINKAA.

IT WILL BE HELD IN MAY NEXT YEAR IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL CHILD AND YOUTH PICTORIAL ART COMPETITION.

THE EXHIBITION WILL BE OPEN TO ALL PUPILS AGED UNDER 18 BUT THE COMPETITION IS RESTRICTED TO THOSE AGED BETWEEN 10 AND 18.

ENTRIES CAN BE SUBMITTED IN THE FORM OF A DRAWING, PAINTING, PRINTMAKING COLLAGE OR ANY OTHER TWO-DIMENSIONAL WORK WITH THE MAXIMUM SIZE OF A2 (420 X 594 MM) ON ANY OF THE FOLLOWING THEMES:

- * MY COUNTRY'S NATIVE MYTHS, NATIONAL LEGEND AND STORIES.
- * MUSIC, LITERATURE, TALES, IMAGES FROM THE THEATRE, POPULAR ENTERTAINMENTS AND OTHER MEDIA OF MASS COMMUNICATION.

/x MODERN AND

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1986

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* MODERN AND HISTORICAL HEROES AND HEROINES.

MEDALS AND BOOKS WILL BE AWARDED TO THE BEST ENTRIES IN FOUR AGE GROUPS (GROUP 1 FOR AGE UNDER 10, GROUP 2 FOR AGE 10 TO 12, GROUP 3 FOR AGE 13 TO 15 AND GROUP 4 FOR AGE 16 TO 18). AN ILLUSTRATED EXHIBITION CATALOGUE WILL BE GIVEN TO ALL PARTICIPANTS.

ENTRIES SHOULD BE SENT TO THE ART SECTION OF THE ADVISORY INSPECTORATE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT THROUGH SCHOOL HEADS BY DECEMBER 6.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF ON TAI STREET
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THE SECTION OF ON TAI STREET BETWEEN CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST AND NEW MARKET STREET IN WESTERN WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FOR ABOUT A MONTH FROM 10 AM ON TUESDAY (OCTOBER 14). THE MEASURE WILL FACILITATE WATER MAIN DIVERSION WORKS.

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RESTRICTED ZONES IN TSZ WAN SHAN
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A NUMBER OF ROAD SECTIONS IN TSZ WAN SHAN WILL BE DESIGNATED RESTRICTED ZONES FROM 7 AM TO 10 AM AND FROM 4 PM TO 7 PM DAILY FROM 10 AM ON WEDNESDAY (OCTOBER 15).

THE ROAD SECTIONS ARE:

- * YUK WAH STREET FROM A POINT ABOUT 20 METRES EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH TSZ WAN SHAN ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 15 METRES WEST OF THE SAME JUNCTION;
- * TSZ WAN SHAN ROAD BETWEEN PO KONG VILLAGE ROAD AND LOK WAH STREET; AND
- * YAN WAH STREET FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH TSZ WAN SHAN ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 10 METRES WEST OF THE JUNCTION.

NO VEHICLE WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED AREA.

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DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN - SUPPLEMENT

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

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1986

SIR GEOFFREY HOWE MEETS THE HK MEDIA

THE FOLLOWING IS THE TRANSCRIPT OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE BY THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY, THE RT HON SIR GEOFFREY HOWE, THIS (SUNDAY) MORNING:

SIR GEOFFREY: IT IS ALWAYS A PLEASURE TO BE IN HONG KONG. AS I EXPLAINED LAST NIGHT, I AM ON MY WAY TO CHINA TO ACCOMPANY HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN ON HER STATE VISIT. BUT ALTHOUGH TIME WAS FOR THAT REASON UNAVOIDABLY SHORT, I WAS DETERMINED TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT YOU. CONTINUING CONTACT AND CONSULTATION BETWEEN BRITAIN AND HONG KONG IS ESSENTIAL.

I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CONTINUE THE USEFUL DISCUSSIONS THAT I AND OTHER BRITISH MINISTERS HAD WITH THE GOVERNOR AND MEMBERS OF EXCO IN LONDON LAST MONTH. I HAVE ALSO MET LEGCO MEMBERS AND SENIOR HONG KONG OFFICIALS.

THOSE CONTACTS HAVE BROUGHT HOME TO ME YET AGAIN THE EXTRAORDINARY DYNAMISM AND BUOYANCY OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG. FOR MY PART, I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO REAFFIRM BRITAIN'S CONTINUING COMMITMENT TO THE FUTURE WELL-BEING OF HONG KONG AND ALL ITS PEOPLE. THAT COMMITMENT REMAINS THE PIVOT OF BRITISH POLICY TOWARDS HONG KONG.

BEFORE WE GET ON TO QUESTIONS, I'D LIKE TO MAKE FOUR POINTS:

FIRST, IN MY TALKS HERE THE GENERAL CONCLUSION HAS BEEN THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JOINT DECLARATION IS GOING WELL. IT IS CLEAR THAT IN THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP, ALL CONCERNED ARE WORKING HARD AND IN GOOD FAITH. I PARTICULARLY WELCOME THE AGREEMENT REACHED IN RECENT MONTHS ON HONG KONG'S PARTICIPATION IN THE GATT, ON TRAVEL DOCUMENTATION FOR HONG KONG PEOPLE, AND ON AIR SERVICES BETWEEN HONG KONG AND THIRD COUNTRIES. THE LAND COMMISSION, AS WELL, HAS BEEN DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB.

SECOND, I HAVE LISTENED CAREFULLY TO HONG KONG IMPRESSIONS OF PROGRESS SO FAR MADE IN THE DRAFTING OF CHINA'S BASIC LAW. THE DRAFTING IS OF COURSE A MATTER FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF CHINA. BUT IT IS ALSO SOMETHING WHICH BRITAIN IS CLOSELY FOLLOWING. IT IS ENCOURAGING THAT THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT IS TACKLING THIS VITAL TASK IN A THOROUGH AND METHODOLOGICAL WAY.

/THIRD, MY

THIRD, MY DISCUSSIONS HERE HAVE OBVIOUSLY INCLUDED NEXT YEAR'S REVIEW OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT. IT WILL BE A GENUINE REVIEW CONDUCTED, AS IN THE PAST, WITH THOROUGHNESS AND CARE, ALLOWING AMPLE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG TO MAKE THEIR VIEWS KNOWN.

FINALLY, I CAN CONFIRM THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVE TO SECURE INTERNATIONAL ACCEPTANCE OF THE BRITISH NATIONAL (OVERSEAS) PASSPORT IS WELL UNDER WAY. I AM SURE THAT THAT ACCEPTANCE WILL BE FORTHCOMING.

THE KEYS TO THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG ARE CONFIDENCE AND DETERMINATION: CONFIDENCE IN THE PRESERVATION OF ITS WAY OF LIFE, ITS RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS, ITS PROSPERITY AND STABILITY; AND DETERMINATION TO FACE AND OVERCOME EVERY NEW CHALLENGE - A DETERMINATION IN WHICH THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG HAVE ALWAYS SHOWN THEMSELVES SECOND TO NONE.

I'LL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET CHINESE LEADERS IN PEKING DURING THE COURSE OF NEXT WEEK'S STATE VISIT. WE SHALL BE ABLE TO REVIEW PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE JOINT DECLARATION AS WELL AS TO DISCUSS MAJOR INTERNATIONAL ISSUES. IT WILL BE ESPECIALLY VALUABLE THAT I SHALL BE ABLE TO TAKE WITH ME A FIRST-HAND ACCOUNT OF HONG KONG'S CONCERNS AND ASPIRATIONS.

NOW YOUR QUESTIONS, PLEASE.

QUESTION: SIR GEOFFREY, IN VIEW OF THE COLONIAL GOVERNMENT'S BLATANT DISREGARD FOR PUBLIC OPINION ON THE DAYA BAY NUCLEAR POWER PLANT ISSUE, AND ITS OBVIOUS RELUCTANCE TO PLAY AN ACTIVE IF NOT LEADING ROLE IN UPCOMING CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS, HOW DO YOU THINK THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT CAN SALVAGE ITS DISCREDITED IMAGE AND REGAIN THE CONFIDENCE OF THE HONG KONG PEOPLE?

SIR GEOFFREY: I THINK THAT THERE ARE THREE PREMISES TO THAT QUESTION, EACH OF WHICH IS NOT ACCEPTABLE. I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT TO MAKE IT PLAIN THAT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO TAKE FULL ACCOUNT OF THE VIEWS OF THE HONG KONG PEOPLE. THAT HAS BEEN REAFFIRMED AND CONFIRMED IN THE STATEMENT ISSUED AFTER THE TALKS BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIME MINISTER AND OTHERS IN DOWNING STREET LAST MONTH. THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT ALIKE WILL CONTINUE TO TAKE FULL ACCOUNT OF THE VIEWS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG NOT ONLY WHEN DRAWING CONCLUSIONS FROM THE REVIEW BUT IN OTHER MATTERS AS WELL.

QUESTION: IS IT TRUE THAT THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT HAS EXPRESSED TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT THROUGH VARIOUS CHANNELS THAT THEY WOULDN'T WANT TO SEE DIRECT ELECTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED INTO HONG KONG IN 1988?

/SIR GEOFFREY:

SIR GEOFFREY: AGAIN, AS YOU KNOW, I DON'T, NOR CAN ANYONE ELSE, COMMENT ON THE VIEWS ATTRIBUTED TO OTHER PEOPLE IN THE NEWSPAPERS. THE REVIEW WHICH WILL BE COMPLETED NEXT YEAR IS TAKING PLACE, AS I SAID IN MY STATEMENT, FULLY, GENUINELY AND GIVING AN OPPORTUNITY FOR FULL ACCOUNT TO BE TAKEN OF THE VIEWS OF PEOPLE IN HONG KONG AND IT IS AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE REVIEW THAT WE SHALL REACH THE TIME FOR TAKING DECISIONS ABOUT IT.

QUESTION: HOW CAN WE BE ASSURED THAT THE PUBLIC OPINION YOU COLLECT THROUGH THE GREEN PAPER ON POLITICAL REFORM IS GENUINE?

SIR GEOFFREY: BECAUSE THE ASSESSMENT OF THAT PUBLIC OPINION WILL TAKE ACCOUNT OF ALL THE MANY WAYS IN WHICH IT IS EXPRESSED, INCLUDING THE EXPRESSIONS OF OPINION BY MEMBERS OF LEGCO AND THAT HAS BEEN THE POSITION IN THE PAST AND IT IS IMPORTANT THAT IT REMAINS SO IN THE FUTURE.

QUESTION: I WOULD LIKE TO ASK MY QUESTION IN CHINESE. APART FROM RELYING ON OMELCO MEMBERS SITTING ON THE BASIC LAW DRAFTING COMMITTEE ARE THERE ANY OTHER WAYS TO ENSURE CONVERGENCE? AND SECONDLY, OMELCO MEMBERS HAVE VISITED BRITAIN TO DISCUSS ON THE POLITICAL REVIEW QUESTION. IN YOUR OPINION WHAT IS THE VIEWPOINT OF THE HONG KONG PEOPLE ON THE POLITICAL REVIEW? AND THE THIRD POINT IS THE QUESTION OF CONVERGENCE IS BEING STRESSED? UP TO THE PRESENT MOMENT THE BASIC LAW DRAFTING COMMITTEE HAS NOT REVIEWED THE ROLE OF EXCO.

SIR GEOFFREY: WELL THERE ARE THREE QUESTIONS THERE, I THINK. THE LAST ONE SOUNDED TO ME LIKE A STATEMENT ON WHICH I CAN'T COMMENT. IT WAS A STATEMENT OF FACT AND THERE IS NOTHING FOR ME TO SAY ABOUT THAT. THE SECOND ONE WAS WHAT IS OUR VIEW OF THE VIEWS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG ON THE QUESTION OF CONVERGENCE AND REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT. THAT AGAIN IS A QUESTION ON WHICH IT IS NOT RIGHT TO EXPRESS A VIEW AT THIS STAGE. THE DISCUSSIONS ARE STILL TAKING PLACE, THERE IS OBVIOUSLY STILL A WIDE RANGE OF OPINION IN HONG KONG ABOUT THESE AND OTHER MATTERS. AND THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION IS TAKING PLACE IN ORDER FOR THAT TO BECOME CLEAR. ON THE GENERAL QUESTION OF CONVERGENCE I THINK IT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THAT IS ABOUT AND WHY IT IS IMPORTANT. WHAT WE ARE ALL CONCERNED TO ACHIEVE IS THE OBJECTIVE DESCRIBED IN THE JOINT DECLARATION, NAMELY A SMOOTH TRANSFER OF POWER IN 1997. IT IS THEREFORE IMPORTANT THAT EVERY AVAILABLE MEANS SHOULD BE USED TO ACHIEVE THAT. THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP IS ONE OF THE AGENCIES AVAILABLE TO HELP THAT; THE DISCUSSION THAT ARE TAKING PLACE, INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES FROM HONG KONG, IN THE BASIC LAW DRAFTING COMMITTEE IS ANOTHER WAY OF ACHIEVING THAT; CONTINUING CONTACTS OF A FORMAL AND INFORMAL KIND BEYOND THAT, INCLUDING CONTACTS BETWEEN MYSELF AND MY OPPOSITE NUMBER IN THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT IS AN ADDITIONAL WAY OF HELPING TO ACHIEVE THAT. I THINK AS THE GOVERNOR SAID IN HIS SPEECH LAST WEEK BOTH HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ALIVE AT ALL TIMES TO THE CONCERNS AND VIEWS OF THE OTHER AS WELL AS TO THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG. AND I ECHO HIS WORDS: +THIS IS THE BEST FORMULA FOR MAINTAINING CONFIDENCE AND ENSURING A SMOOTH TRANSFER OF GOVERNMENT IN 1997.+

QUESTION: ACCORDING

QUESTION: ACCORDING TO WHAT SIR GEOFFREY JUST SAID ON THE POINT OF CONVERGENCE IN HONG KONG, SO HOW CAN YOU ENSURE THAT CONVERGENCE CAN BE ACHIEVED? DO YOU SAY THERE IS ENOUGH LIAISON BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS ON CONVERGENCE?

SIR GEOFFREY: WELL, I HAVE ALREADY ANSWERED THAT, DIDN'T I? I WILL COME BACK TO MAKE THE SAME POINT. CONVERGENCE IS ONLY ONE OF MANY WORDS IN WHICH YOU CAN EXPRESS PART OF THE PROCESS DESIGNED TO ACHIEVE A SMOOTH TRANSFER OF GOVERNMENT IN 1997, AND MANY PEOPLE ARE WORKING IN THE DIFFERENT WAYS I'VE DESCRIBED TO ENSURE THAT THAT IS ACHIEVED THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP; THE BASIC LAW DRAFTING COMMITTEE; CONTACTS BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS, AT DIFFERENT TIMES AND AT DIFFERENT LEVELS - ALL THESE WAYS ARE IMPORTANT.

QUESTION: BUT MY QUESTION IS WHETHER THE LIAISON BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES ARE ENOUGH AT THIS STAGE NOW?

SIR GEOFFREY: I AM SURE THAT THERE IS VERY CLOSE, CONTINUING AND SUBSTANTIAL LIAISON TAKING PLACE IN THE WAYS THAT I'VE DESCRIBED. I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT THAT SHOULD CONTINUE. THAT IS THE IMPRESSION THAT ONE HAS FORMED FROM THE AGREEMENT SO FAR REACHED WHICH I REFERRED TO IN MY STATEMENT. THAT DOES SUGGEST THAT LIAISON IS PROVING USEFUL AND IMPORTANT.

QUESTION: SIR GEOFFREY, IS IT THE VIEW, THE POSITION OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT THAT SHOULD THERE BE PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR DIRECT ELECTIONS IN 1988 THAT HONG KONG CAN HAVE DIRECT ELECTION, AND IS THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT PREPARED FOR THE EVENTUALITY THAT PUBLIC OPINION AND PEKING'S WISHES MAY NOT CONVERGE ON THE MATTER OF DIRECT ELECTION IN 1988?

SIR GEOFFREY: WELL, WE SHALL HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE THE OUTCOME OF THE CONSULTATION THAT IS TAKING PLACE AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTS WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE DURING THAT TIME. THERE IS A WHOLE RANGE OF CONTACTS AND CONSULTATION TAKING PLACE. AS I SAY, IT IS IMPORTANT FOR HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT TO BE ALIVE AT ALL TIMES, NOT ONLY TO THE CONCERNS AND VIEWS OF EACH OTHER, BUT ALSO TO THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

QUESTION: TO DEVIATE FROM THE QUESTION OF HONG KONG JUST FOR A SHORT SPELL, THE QUESTION I WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS TO YOU, SIR, IS THAT WHETHER YOU WOULD CONSULT WITH THE PEKING LEADERSHIP ON THE CONSIDERED NUCLEAR POLICY WHICH I THINK IS RATHER DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD?

SIR GEOFFREY: YOU'RE TALKING NOW ABOUT..

QUESTION: THE CONSERVATIVES HAVE REAFFIRMED THEIR COMMITMENT TO A NUCLEAR BRITAIN WHICH IS RATHER DIFFERENT FROM THE LABOUR STAND WHICH IS UNILATERAL DISARMAMENT.

SIR GEOFFREY: YES I DON'T THINK THAT PARTICULAR TOPIC IS LIKELY TO FEATURE VERY PROMINENTLY IN ANY DISCUSSIONS I HAVE IN PEKING BECAUSE THE VIEW OF HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT ON DEFENCE POLICY AND ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NUCLEAR DETERRENT AS A COMPONENT IN THAT IS WELL KNOWN. SO IS THE POSITION OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT, AND I DON'T THINK THAT WE SHALL BE DISCUSSING THAT PARTICULAR MATTER.

QUESTION: STILL ON THE POINT OF CONVERGENCE. YOU JUST MENTIONED THERE ARE LOTS OF LIAISON CHANNELS SUCH AS JLG AND INFORMAL CONTACT BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS. BUT ALL THESE CHANNELS ARE NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. HOW CAN WE ENSURE THAT OUR VIEWS ARE REALLY REFLECTED BY THE BRITISH AND HONG KONG GOVERNMENTS?

SIR GEOFFREY: I THINK THE BEST ASSURANCE YOU CAN HAVE IS THE EXTENT TO WHICH BOTH THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAVE THROUGHOUT PAID THE CLOSEST ATTENTION TO THE VIEWS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, AND THE FACT THAT THOSE VIEWS HAVE BEEN FIRMLY, FAITHFULLY AND FULLY EXPRESSED BY MEMBERS OF EXCO AS WELL AS MEMBERS OF LEGCO. IT'S PART OF THEIR JOB AND IT IS A PART WHICH THEY PERFORM VERY WELL.

QUESTION: I WOULD LIKE TO ASK WHETHER THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED ON THE WAYS TO ASSESS PUBLIC OPINIONS AFTER THE 1987 REVIEW IS PUBLISHED?

SIR GEOFFREY: THAT REVIEW IS ESSENTIALLY A REVIEW BEING UNDERTAKEN BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT IN HONG KONG AND, IN THE COURSE OF IT, EVERYWAY IN WHICH OPINION IS EXPRESSED IS BEING TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. IT'S NOT FOR ME TO ANTICIPATE THE WAY IN WHICH THAT REVIEW WILL BE BROUGHT TO A CONCLUSION.

QUESTION: JUST NOW, SIR GEOFFREY SAID THAT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT WOULD PAY ATTENTION TO HONG KONG PEOPLE'S VIEW AND WOULD LISTEN TO THE VIEWS OF EXCO AND LEGCO, AND EARLIER THE EXCO MEMBERS VISITED BRITAIN, AND FROM WHAT THEY SAID, DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT IS THE VIEW OF HONG KONG PEOPLE ON DIRECT ELECTION?

SIR GEOFFREY: WHAT I THINK IS CLEAR IS THAT, ON THE QUESTION OF DIRECT ELECTION -- WHETHER, WHEN, TO WHAT EXTENT, ALL THE MANY ASPECTS OF IT -- THERE IS A WIDE VARIETY OF VIEWS BEING EXPRESSED IN HONG KONG, FROM EVERY POINT OF THE SPECTRUM AND IT WOULD BE QUITE WRONG FOR ME NOW TO ATTEMPT TO REACH A CONCLUSION ON THE SUBJECT WHICH IS THE VERY SUBJECT OF THAT REVIEW.

QUESTION: FOLLOWING UP ON THE QUESTION ON THE LIAISON MATTER. SIR GEOFFREY, YOU MENTIONED THAT THERE ARE MANY CHANNELS THROUGH WHICH, FOR EXAMPLE, THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, THROUGH WHICH YOU UNDERSTAND YOU CAN TAKE HONG KONG PEOPLE'S OPINION INTO ACCOUNT. OUR CONCERN IS - SINCE THESE ARE CLOSE DOOR MEETINGS - HOW CAN WE BE ASSURED THAT THE VIEWS REFLECTED ARE INDEED THE VIEWS OF HONG KONG PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY WHERE THE HONG KONG PEOPLE'S OPINION MAY NOT CONVERGE WITH PEKING'S WISHES?

/SIR GEOFFREY:

SIR GEOFFREY: THE ASSESSMENT OF THE OPINION OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, LIKE THE ASSESSMENT OF OPINION ON SO MANY QUESTIONS, IS SOMETHING WHICH TAKES PLACE NOT ONLY THROUGH DIFFERENT LIAISON CHANNELS BUT IN PART IN PUBLIC AND IN PART IN THE CONFIDENTIAL DELIBERATIONS, THAT IS A NECESSARY PART OF THE WORKING OF ANY BODY LIKE EXCO. BUT THE DISCUSSION OF IT IN LEGCO, FOR EXAMPLE, IS NOT BEHIND CLOSE DOORS. DISCUSSIONS OF IT IN THE HONG KONG PRESS IS ANYTHING BUT BEHIND CLOSE DOORS. ALL THOSE MANIFESTATIONS OF HONG KONG OPINIONS ARE FULLY TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT, BOTH BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT HERE AND OF COURSE BY HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT AS WELL. I CAN'T DO MORE THAN EXPLAIN THE PROCESS, BUT I CAN ASSURE YOU THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO THAT PROCESS.

QUESTION: ARE YOU SAYING THAT IN THE POLITICAL REVIEW TO BE CONDUCTED NEXT YEAR THE POWER OF THE GOVERNOR AND ALSO THE EXCO AND LEGCO WILL BE REVIEWED AND WHAT ARE YOUR VIEWS ON SUCH CHANGES OF POWER?

SIR GEOFFREY: WELL, AGAIN, THE WHOLE RANGE OF QUESTIONS IS OPEN FOR CONSIDERATION AND REPRESENTATION BY THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG DURING THE TIME BEFORE THE COMPLETION OF THE REVIEW, BUT ON THAT TOPIC, AS ON ANY OTHER, I CAN'T ANTICIPATE, AND IT WOULDN'T BE WISE FOR ME TO ANTICIPATE, WHAT THE OUTCOME WILL BE. I AM NOT HERE TO EXPRESS THE VIEWS OF THE HONG KONG PEOPLE; I AM HERE TO SAY THAT WE ARE READY TO LISTEN TO THEM.

QUESTION (WRITTEN): WHAT IS THE CURRENT POSITION ABOUT THE SALE OF HIGH TECHNOLOGY TO CHINA? EXCLUDING NUCLEAR WEAPONS, ARE WE (BRITAIN) WILLING TO SELL ANYTHING WE PRODUCE OURSELVES? DO WE STILL REFER TO COCOM IN PARIS?

SIR GEOFFREY: THE ARRANGEMENTS UNDER WHICH BRITAIN AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS IN COCOM DETERMINE WHAT CAN OR CAN'T BE SOLD, THAT'S WELL UNDERSTOOD, AND WE TAKE AN IMPORTANT PART IN ENSURING THAT THE WORKING OF COCOM IN RELATION TO CHINA AND OTHER COUNTRIES IS NO MORE RESTRICTIVE THAN IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY BUT IT CAN'T BE SWEEPED AWAY.

QUESTION: DO YOU EXPECT YOUR TALKS IN PEKING WILL TOUCH ON THE SUMMIT MEETING THIS WEEKEND IN REYKJAVIK, IN PARTICULAR AS IT AFFECTS THE CHANGING BIG POWER ATTITUDE TOWARDS BRITISH MISSILES AND TO CHINESE CONCERN ABOUT ANY NUCLEAR ARMS DEAL LEADING TO MORE INTERMEDIATE RANGE MISSILES BEING MOVED TO THIS PART OF THE WORLD?

SIR GEOFFREY: WELL, I'M SURE THAT THE OUTCOME OF THE REYKJAVIK MEETING WILL BE ONE OF THE FEATURES WE TAKE INTO ACCOUNT IF OUR MEETINGS ARE TAKING PLACE AT THE CONCLUSION OF THAT, AND OBVIOUSLY THE PROSPECTS FOR ARMS CONTROL - FOR AGREEMENT ON ARMS CONTROL - WILL BE ANOTHER OF THE TOPICS WE SHALL BE DISCUSSING AS WE HAVE DONE IN THE PAST, AND IN SUCH DISCUSSIONS THE IMPORTANCE OF BRITISH AND CHINESE POSSESSION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS WILL ALSO BE A FEATURE. OUR POSITION HAS BEEN STATED VERY MANY TIMES - YOU'RE FAMILIAR WITH THE LOCUS CLASSICUS IN MY 1983 SPEECH TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. YOU'RE ALSO RIGHT TO EMPHASISE THAT ANY DISCUSSION ABOUT POSSIBLE ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS IN RELATION TO INTERMEDIATE RANGE NUCLEAR WEAPONS MUST OF COURSE TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE POSITION IN ASIA AS WELL AS IN THE REST OF THE WORLD.

/QUESTION: WE

QUESTION: WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE NEW CHINESE FIGHTER, THE F-8, IS BASED ON BRITISH ENGINEERING DESIGN INCLUDING THE ROLLS ROYCE SPACE ENGINE AND WE ALL KNOW THAT SOVIET AEROTECHNOLOGY IS ALSO BASED ON BRITISH ROLLS ROYCE ENGINES. SO IN YOUR TALKS WITH THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES WOULD YOU BE PERHAPS STRESSING ON FURTHER ARMS SALES TO THE CHINESE, SUCH AS SOPHISTICATED MOTORS AND ENGINES WHICH THE CHINESE DEARLY NEED AND REQUIRE?

SIR GEOFFREY: WELL, I DON'T DICUSS ARMS SALES AT PRESS CONFERENCES, IN FACT.

QUESTION: WHAT ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES WILL THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT PLAY DURING THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD?

SIR GEOFFREY: THE ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT DURING THE TIME BETWEEN THE SIGNING OF THE JOINT DECLARATION AND 1997 IS SET OUT IN THE JOINT DECLARATION ITSELF. WE RETAIN FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF HONG KONG UNTIL 1997 AND OF COURSE ARE PLAYING A FULL PART IN THE VARIOUS AGENCIES AND CONTACTS I'VE DESCRIBED, TO DISCUSS AND PROVIDE FOR THE TRANSFER OF GOVERNMENT IN 1997.

QUESTION: AS WE KNOW, THE BASIC LAW IS DUE TO BE PROMULGATED IN 1990'S AND WILL SHAPE OUR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT. SO WILL THE ROLE PLAYED BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT DIMINISH IN THE RUN-UP TO 1997 AND WHAT WILL BE THE MAJOR TASK OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT BY THEN?

SIR GEOFFREY: WELL, YOU'RE QUITE RIGHT THAT THE PROCESS THAT IS TAKING PLACE BETWEEN NOW AND 1997, FOLLOWING ON THE AGREEMENT CONTAINED IN THE JOINT DECLARATION, DOES INCLUDE THE VERY IMPORTANT WORK OF THE BASIC LAW DRAFTING COMMITTEE. IT INCLUDES THE CONTINUING WORK OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP UP TO 1997 AND THEREAFTER TO THE YEAR 2000. IT INCLUDES THE CONTINUED RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT FOR ADMINISTRATION IN HONG KONG UNTIL 1997. WE SHALL BE CONTINUING TO PLAY OUR FULL PART AND DISCHARGE OUR FULL RESPONSIBILITY IN ALL THOSE WAYS.

QUESTION: I'D LIKE TO COME BACK TO THE QUESTION ASKED ABOUT DIRECT ELECTIONS. YOU ANSWERED BY SAYING YOU WEREN'T PREPARED TO COMMENT ON ANY ARTICLES APPEARING IN THE PRESS. THE QUESTIONER ASKED IF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT HAD MADE IT CLEAR TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT THAT THEY DIDN'T WANT DIRECT ELECTIONS IN HONG KONG. SHE ASKED IF THAT WAS MADE CLEAR TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT BY ANY MEANS. CAN YOU ANSWER THAT QUESTION PLEASE?

SIR GEOFFREY: AGAIN, IT'S FOR THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT TO MAKE THEIR OWN POSITION CLEAR. WE HAVE MADE ABSOLUTELY CLEAR - IT WAS REAFFIRMED IN LONDON - THE COMMITMENT OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO THE 1987 REVIEW. WE'VE CONFIRMED THAT FULL ACCOUNT WOULD BE TAKEN OF THE VIEWS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WHEN DRAWING CONCLUSIONS FROM THAT REVIEW AND WE SHALL HAVE TO

/AWAIT THE

AWAIT THE OUTCOME BEFORE ONE TAKES THE MATTER ANY FURTHER. BUT I COME BACK, IF I MAY, TO THE LUCID AND IMPORTANT WAY IN WHICH THE GOVERNOR EXPRESSED THE RIGHT APPROACH TO THIS. BOTH HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ALIVE AT ALL TIMES TO THE CONCERNS AND VIEWS OF THE OTHER AS WELL AS TO THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, AND THAT IS THE WAY IN WHICH IT WILL BE APPROACHED.

QUESTION: THE QUESTION WAS, HAS THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT MADE IT CLEAR TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT THAT THEY DISAPPROVE OF DIRECT ELECTIONS.

SIR GEOFFREY: IT'S NOT FOR ME TO COMMENT ON THE VIEWS OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT AND IT WOULD NOT BE RIGHT TO DRAW THE CONCLUSION IMPLIED IN YOUR QUESTION.

REPORTER: (QUESTION UNCLEAR)

SIR GEOFFREY: I'VE SAID IT WOULD NOT BE RIGHT FOR ANYONE TO DRAW THE CONCLUSIONS IMPLIED IN THE QUESTION. WE SHALL HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE THE OUTCOME OF THE REVIEW AND THE DECISIONS TAKEN AT THAT TIME IN LIGHT OF THE PRINCIPLES I'VE ENUNCIATED.

QUESTION: THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT CAN VETO DIRECT ELECTIONS THROUGH THE BASIC LAW. HAS THE UK GOVERNMENT GOT THE OPPORTUNITY TO VETO DIRECT ELECTIONS EVEN THOUGH THE HONG KONG PEOPLE MAY SAY THEY WANT THEM?

SIR GEOFFREY: THERE ARE TWO PROCESSES TAKING PLACE CURRENTLY - ONE THE CONDUCT OF THE 1987 REVIEW, THE OTHER THE PREPARATION WITHIN THE AMBIT OF THE BASIC LAW DRAFTING COMMITTEE OF THE BASIC LAW. THAT INCIDENTALLY, OF COURSE IS CONCERNED WITH A RATHER LONGER TIME SCALE BECAUSE THE BASIC LAW COMES INTO EFFECT IN 1997. IN BOTH THOSE PROCESSES, AS I'VE SAID SEVERAL TIMES, IT IS OBVIOUSLY RIGHT AND SENSIBLE FOR HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT TO BE ALIVE TO THE CONCERNS AND VIEWS OF EACH OTHER; EQUALLY SENSIBLE FOR THEM TO BE ALIVE TO THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

QUESTION: BUT HAVE YOU GOT THE POWER OF VETO.

SIR GEOFFREY: IT'S NOT A MATTER WHERE A POWER OF VETO ARISES. THE PREPARATION OF THE BASIC LAW HAS ALWAYS BEEN FORESEEN AS A MATTER FOR THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT ON THE BASIS OF AND IN THE LIGHT OF THE JOINT DECLARATION AND OBVIOUSLY WE ARE CONCERNED, AS ARE THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT, THAT THE PREPARATION OF THE BASIC LAW SHOULD BE ALONG THE LINES FORESHADOWED BY THE JOINT DECLARATION.

QUESTION: FROM THE MEETINGS OF THE BASIC LAW DRAFTING COMMITTEE IN THE LAST YEAR, THE HONG KONG PEOPLE HAVE LEARNED THAT THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE THE RIGHT TO INTERPRET AND TO AMEND THE BASIC LAW AND THE RIGHT TO APPOINT THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE WHO WILL IN TURN NOMINATE PRINCIPAL OFFICIALS, AND

THE HONG KONG PEOPLE HAVE ALSO LEARNED THAT ALTHOUGH THE FINAL COURT OF APPEAL WILL BE SET UP IN HONG KONG THE NPC WILL HAVE THE RIGHT TO RE-INTERPRET THE COURT'S RULINGS AND THE RIGHT TO VET LEGISLATION ENACTED BY THE HONG KONG LEGISLATURE. SO UNDER THESE SITUATIONS DO YOU THINK THE HONG KONG S.A.R. GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE A HIGH DEGREE OF AUTONOMY AS PROMISED IN THE JOINT DECLARATION.

SIR GEOFFREY: THE PRECISE OUTCOME OF THE SHAPING OF THE BASIC LAW IS ONE OF THE MATTERS THAT IS STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE BASIC LAW DRAFTING COMMITTEE. THE BASIC LAW DRAFTING COMMITTEE IS SEEKING TO ACHIEVE CONCLUSIONS ABOUT THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION, PRECISELY TO ACHIEVE, FOR EXAMPLE, A HIGH DEGREE OF AUTONOMY AS SET OUT IN THE JOINT DECLARATION, PRECISELY TO ACHIEVE THE POSITION PRESCRIBED FOR THE COURTS OF THE HONG KONG S.A.R. IN THAT JOINT DECLARATION. I THINK THAT IN LIGHT OF THE WAY IN WHICH WORK HAS PROCEEDED SO FAR BETWEEN THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT ONE SHOULD HAVE CONFIDENCE THAT THE OBJECTIVES OF THE JOINT DECLARATION WILL BE FULFILLED. PEOPLE DO ATTACH VERY GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THAT.

QUESTION: ARE YOU NOT ALARMED AT THE WAY THAT THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT SEEMS TO BE GRABBING BACK ALL THESE THINGS THAT WE THOUGHT THEY HAD PROMISED US IN THE JOINT DECLARATION.

SIR GEOFFREY: I DON'T THINK THAT THAT SENSE OF ALARM IS AS WIDELY SHARED, BY ANY MEANS, AS YOUR QUESTION IMPLIES. I THINK THAT IF ONE LOOKS AT THE SPECIFIC AREAS TO WHICH I'VE REFERRED FOR EXAMPLE -- THE AREAS IN WHICH AGREEMENTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN REACHED, WHETHER ON THE POSITION UNDER THE GATT, OR IN RELATION TO AIR SERVICE AGREEMENTS AND THE OTHER TOPICS WHICH HAVE BEEN UNDER DISCUSSION IN THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP -- I THINK THAT PEOPLE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO TAKE SOME ENCOURAGEMENT FROM THE WAY IN WHICH THE WORK IS GOING AHEAD. OF COURSE I UNDERSTAND ANXIETY, ONE UNDERSTANDS CONCERN, BECAUSE WHAT IS TAKING PLACE IN FULFILMENT OF THE JOINT DECLARATION IS SOMETHING WITHOUT PRECEDENT IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. BUT THE FACT THAT THE TWO GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED HAVE BEEN ABLE TO REACH AN AGREEMENT AS FAR REACHING AND AS FUNDAMENTAL AND AS COMPREHENSIVE AS THE JOINT DECLARATION, THE FACT THAT DURING THE TIME THAT HAS PASSED SINCE IT WAS SIGNED IN DECEMBER 1984 SO MUCH PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN IMPLEMENTING IT, IS SOMETHING FROM WHICH I THINK PEOPLE SHOULD TAKE ENCOURAGEMENT RATHER THAN ALARM. IT'S RIGHT TO REMAIN WATCHFUL AND CONCERNED, OF COURSE, BUT I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT NOT TO ALLOW THAT TO GET OUT OF PERSPECTIVE.

QUESTION: IF WE DO TAKE ENCOURAGEMENT FROM THE WORK THAT'S BEEN DONE AND IF WE DO HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THE JOINT DECLARATION, IN AN IDEAL SITUATION HOW MUCH IN THE WAY OF OPERATING DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE THERE BE IN HONG KONG, SAY IN 1994, 1995.

/SIR GEOFFREY:

SIR GEOFFREY: WELL, IT'S NOT FOR ME TO SPECULATE ABOUT THE OUTCOME OF THE REVIEW WHICH IS ADDRESSING ITSELF IN PART TO THAT QUESTION IN 1987, NOR IS IT FOR ME TO AMPLIFY OR SPECULATE ABOUT THE CONTENTS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION. THAT MAKES PROVISION FOR ELECTION AS PRESCRIBED IN THE JOINT DECLARATION AND IT MAKES PROVISION FOR A HIGH DEGREE OF AUTONOMY ON THE PART OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND I THINK THOSE ARE THE OBJECTIVES ON WHICH AGREEMENT WAS REACHED AND I WOULD WISH TO SEE FULFILMENT OF THOSE OBJECTIVES.

QUESTION: CAN YOU BE ANY MORE SPECIFIC ABOUT WHAT KIND OF OPERATING DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS APART FROM ELECTIONS.

SIR GEOFFREY: NO, IT WOULD BE QUITE WRONG FOR ME TO ANTICIPATE OR AMPLIFY OR FILL OUT THE MEANING OF THOSE WORDS ON WHICH THERE WAS AGREEMENT AND WITHIN WHICH DEVELOPMENTS WILL BE TAKING PLACE BETWEEN NOW AND 1997. HERE WE ARE, 1997 IS AS DEFINED IN THE JOINT DECLARATION. AN IMPORTANT EVENT BETWEEN NOW AND THEN WILL BE THE OUTCOME OF THE 1987 REVIEW AND WE MUST AWAIT THE OUTCOME OF THAT.

QUESTION: I WOULD LIKE TO STRESS THAT GATT MATTERS AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN HONG KONG ARE SEPARATE MATTERS. CAN YOU EXPLAIN TO US WHY YOU ARE SO CONFIDENT THAT THE REFORM AND THE BASIC LAW MUST BE ABLE TO CONVERGE. AND WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WHEN THE PUBLIC FEELINGS HERE OVERWHELMINGLY (UNCLEAR) FOR DIRECT ELECTIONS WHILE THE BASIC LAW RECOMMENDS NOT.

SIR GEOFFREY: THERE ARE A NUMBER OF ASSUMPTIONS THERE WHICH ONE CAN'T MAKE AT THIS STAGE OR PERHAPS AT ALL. YOU OFFER THE PROPOSITION THAT PUBLIC OPINION HERE OVERWHELMINGLY ASKS FOR THIS OR THAT.

QUESTION: THE QUESTION IS CAN YOU EXPLAIN TO US WHY ARE YOU SO CONFIDENT THAT THE TWO MUST BE ABLE TO CONVERGE.

SIR GEOFFREY: WHY I'M CONFIDENT THAT THE CONVERGENCE IS IMPORTANT IS SURELY SELF EVIDENT. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THERE SHOULD BE THE CLOSEST POSSIBLE UNDERSTANDING OF VIEWS, THE CLOSEST POSSIBLE TAKING ACCOUNT OF VIEWS IN THE DRAFTING OF THE BASIC LAW AND IN THE OTHER POINTS OF CONTACT IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THE SMOOTH TRANSFER OF GOVERNMENT THAT IS NECESSARY. I THINK THAT THE EXTENT TO WHICH THAT HAS PROVED POSSIBLE SO FAR GIVES ONE SOME ENCOURAGEMENT. I THINK THAT WE SHOULD ALL HAVE TO GO ON WORKING AT IT CONTINUOUSLY TO MAKE SURE THAT THE INITIAL STEPS IN IMPLEMENTING THE JOINT DECLARATION ARE FULFILLED RIGHT THE WAY THROUGH. I BELIEVE THAT IF WE GO ON WITH THE SAME KIND OF APPROACH THAT HAS BEEN MANIFESTED SO FAR THEN THERE ARE GOOD GROUNDS FOR BELIEVING THAT WE SHALL ACHIEVE THE SMOOTH TRANSFER OF GOVERNMENT THAT IS NECESSARY.

QUESTION: AT THE END OF NEXT YEAR, THERE WILL BE A REPORT ON THE REVIEW OF THE POLITICAL SYSTEM AND THE GREEN PAPER WILL BE ISSUED AT THE END OF NEXT YEAR. DOES IT MEAN THAT THAT WOULD ENSURE A SORT OF CONVERGENCE AND ALSO IF THE REPORT DOES NOT AGREE WITH DIRECT ELECTIONS HOW ARE WE GOING SOLVE THE PROBLEM IN HONG KONG, HOW ARE WE GOING TO ENSURE CONVERGENCE IN HONG KONG.

/SIR GEOFFREY:

SIR GEOFFREY: I HAVE TO KEEP ON SAYING THE SAME THINGS IN RELATION TO QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS. A GREEN PAPER WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE FIRST HALF OF NEXT YEAR. THAT WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A WHITE PAPER AT THE END OF NEXT YEAR. THOSE ARE TWO STAGES IN THE COURSE OF WHICH ACCOUNT WILL BE TAKEN OF THE VIEWS BEING EXPRESSED WITHIN HONG KONG. WE CAN'T YET ANTICIPATE WHAT THE OUTCOME OF THOSE VIEWS IS GOING TO BE. IT'S MANIFEST AT THE MOMENT THAT THERE'S A WIDE VARIETY OF OPINION AND THERE MAY OR MAY NOT BE A COMING TOGETHER OF OPINIONS IN ONE DIRECTION OR ANOTHER. THERE MAY REMAIN A WIDE VARIETY OF OPINIONS. ONE CAN'T ANTICIPATE WHAT THE OUTCOME WILL BE. WHAT IS EQUALLY CLEAR IS THAT IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THAT PROCESS, WITH ALL THE OTHER PROCESSES WHICH ARE TAKING PLACE, TO BE HANDLED IN A FASHION THAT WILL HELP US TO ACHIEVE A SMOOTH TRANSFER OF GOVERNMENT IN 1997. THAT'S WHAT WE ARE ABOUT, IN 1997, THAT'S WHAT WE'RE ABOUT. THE WORD CONVERGENCE IS ONE WAY OF DESCRIBING THAT PROCESS; THERE ARE PLENTY OF OTHER WAYS OF DESCRIBING IT. THE IMPORTANT THING TO UNDERSTAND IS THAT DIVERGENCE, INCREASING DIFFERENCES OF VIEW, WOULD NOT BE HELPFUL TO THE SMOOTH TRANSFER OF GOVERNMENT. THAT'S WHY IT IS SO IMPORTANT, AS THE GOVERNOR HAS SAID, FOR HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT AT ALL TIMES TO BE ALIVE TO THE CONCERNS AND THE VIEWS OF THE OTHER AS WELL AS TO THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG. THAT COMES BACK TO THE SAME FRAMEWORK OF APPROACH.

QUESTION: I WANT TO RAISE MY QUESTION IN ENGLISH, SORRY IN CHINESE. SIR GEOFFREY, CAN YOU SAY MORE DEFINITELY HOW IS THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT GOING TO ASSESS THE PUBLIC OPINION IN HONG KONG, AND IF THERE ARE DIVERGENT VIEWPOINTS, HOW ARE WE GOING TO FIND THE MUTUAL POINT? SECONDLY, IN MAKING DECISIONS, WILL HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT BE INFLUENCED BY THE VIEWPOINT EXPRESSED BY THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT?

SIR GEOFFREY: I THINK THAT WE HAVE REACHED THE POINT WHEN IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO ADD ANYTHING FRESH TO WHAT HAS BEEN SAID ALREADY. THE EXPRESSIONS OF OPINION BY THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WILL BE MADE AND REFLECTED, AS I HAVE DESCRIBED, THROUGH THE PRESS, THROUGH THE MEMBERS OF EXCO, THROUGH MEMBERS OF LEGCO. THEY WILL BE ASSESSED BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AT THE END ... IN THE TWO STAGES I'VE DESCRIBED -- THE GREEN PAPER AND THEN THE WHITE PAPER. IN THAT AS IN OTHER RESPECTS, HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ALIVE TO THE CONCERNS AND VIEWS OF THE OTHER -- IT WOULD BE QUITE FOOLISH IF WE WERE NOT -- BUT ALSO TO THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

QUESTION: SIR GEOFFREY, ACCORDING TO YOUR UNDERSTANDING ABOUT HONG KONG, DO YOU THINK HONG KONG IS SUITABLE TO HAVE DIRECT ELECTION?

SIR GEOFFREY: I DIDN'T GET THE QUESTION I'M AFRAID.

QUESTION: YES,

QUESTION: YES, I WILL REPEAT IT ACCORDING TO YOUR UNDERSTANDING ABOUT HONG KONG, DO YOU THINK THAT IT IS SUITABLE FOR HONG KONG TO HAVE DIRECT ELECTION?

SIR GEOFFREY: WELL, THAT IS ONE OF THE QUESTIONS WHICH IS UNDER CONSIDERATION IN THE REVIEW. AND I'M NOT GOING AT THIS STAGE TO INJECT MY OPINION INTO THE DISCUSSION ABOUT WHICH SUCH WIDELY DIFFERING VIEWS ARE HELD IN HONG KONG.

QUESTION: I LIKE TO ASK IN CHINESE. I WOULD LIKE TO ASK ABOUT WHAT YOU SAID JUST NOW, AND THAT IS THERE ARE DIVERGENT VIEWS ON DIRECT ELECTIONS IN HONG KONG AND YOU HEAR ALL THESE VIEWS. WOULD YOU THEN TAKE THE MAJORITY VIEW OR WOULD YOU ONLY ADOPT THE IMPORTANT VIEWS?

SIR GEOFFREY: I DON'T THINK ANYONE CAN BEGIN TO OFFER OPINIONS AS TO WHICH VIEW IS IMPORTANT, WHOSE VIEW IS IMPORTANT. I THINK ONE HAS TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF ALL THE VIEWS. WHAT IS CLEAR AT THE MOMENT IS THAT THERE IS A WIDE DIVERSITY OF OPINION. IT IS NOT CLEAR, I THINK, HOW OPINION WILL MOVE AS THAT DEBATE CONTINUES IN THE MONTHS AHEAD. IT WOULD BE INFLUENCED BY MANY FACTORS, AND IT IS NOT FOR ME NOW TO SAY HOW THE OUTCOME WILL BE DETERMINED. THAT IS FOR THOSE CONDUCTING THE REVIEW.

DIS: I THINK WE HAVE TO COME TO THE LAST THREE QUESTIONS BECAUSE SIR GEOFFREY HAS A FLIGHT TO CATCH.

QUESTION: SIR GEOFFREY, I WOULD LIKE TO RAISE MY QUESTION IN CHINESE. SIR GEOFFREY, NOW THAT HONG KONG IS IN THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD, AND THERE IS THE DAYA BAY INCIDENT, HOW CAN YOU ASSESS THE IMPACT OF THIS INCIDENT ON HONG KONG? DO YOU THINK THIS INCIDENT IS A BLOW TO PUBLIC OPINION IN HONG KONG? AND THE SECOND QUESTION IS, DO YOU THINK THIS INCIDENT WOULD AFFECT THE BRITISH OR THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT'S STAND ON THE PACE IN INTRODUCING DIRECT ELECTION BECAUSE MANY LEGCO COUNCILLORS THINK THAT LEGCO WAS UNABLE TO REFLECT PUBLIC OPINION AND THEY THEREFORE ASKED THAT THERE SHOULD BE DIRECT ELECTION IN HONG KONG. BUT OTHERS SAY THAT THE INDIRECTLY ELECTED LEGCO MEMBERS HAD SAID TOO MUCH AND THERE SHOULD BE A SLOWER PACE AS FAR AS DIRECT ELECTION IS CONCERNED. WHAT ARE YOUR VIEWS ON THIS ISSUE?

SIR GEOFFREY: ON THE LAST QUESTION, AGAIN IT'S NOT FOR ME TO EXPRESS MY VIEW. YOU VERY INTERESTINGLY SUMMARISED THE TWO VIEWS THAT ARE EXPRESSED IN HONG KONG - SOME PEOPLE SAYING THAT THE PARTICULAR LESSONS WHICH MAY OR MAY NOT BE DRAWN FROM THE DAYA BAY PROJECT POINT IN THE DIRECTION OF MOVING MORE AND MORE QUICKLY IN THE DIRECTION OF DIRECT ELECTION AND OTHER PEOPLE SAYING EXACTLY THE OPPOSITE. THAT MERELY UNDERLINES THE POINT THAT I'VE BEEN MAKING, THAT THERE IS A TODAY DIVERGENCE OF VIEWS ABOUT IT. I THINK THAT THE HANDLING OF THE DAYA BAY PROJECT ITSELF DOES DEMONSTRATE THE EXTENT TO WHICH NOT ONLY THE HONGKONG GOVERNMENT BUT MEMBERS OF BOTH EXCO AND LEGCO HAVE TAKEN VERY SERIOUS NOTICE

OF THE CONCERN EXPRESSED IN HONG KONG ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF SAFETY ASPECTS OF THE DAYA BAY PROJECT. IT'S QUITE RIGHT THAT THOSE CONCERNS SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT AND EXPRESSED VERY PLAINLY. THEY WERE EXPRESSED VERY PLAINLY TO US IN LONDON BY MEMBERS OF EXCO WHEN THEY CAME THERE. AND THE PRIME MINISTER WAS ABLE TO ASSURE MEMBERS OF EXCO THAT WE WERE FULLY AWARE OF OUR RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE WELFARE AND WELLBEING OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, THAT WE HAVE EXPRESSED OUR CONCERN TO THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION AND THAT WE WERE CONFIDENT, IN LIGHT OF THOSE REPRESENTATIONS, THAT EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO ENSURE THAT THE CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION, AND MANAGEMENT OF THE DAYA BAY PLANT WILL BE CARRIED OUT TO THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE SAFETY STANDARDS. SO I THINK THE LESSONS TO BE LEARNED FROM THE HANDLING OF DAYA BAY, ARE THAT THE EXISTING MACHINERY HAS BEEN FULLY AND RIGHTLY USED TO EXPRESS AND TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG ON THAT SUBJECT.

QUESTION: SIR GEOFFREY, I DON'T THINK YOU HAVE ANSWERED MY QUESTION CONCERNING WHETHER YOU THINK THAT THIS INCIDENT IS A SETBACK ON THE EXPRESSION OF PUBLIC OPINION IN HONG KONG. AND I HAD ALSO SUMMARISED THE DIVERGENT VIEWS ON DIRECT ELECTIONS. IN CONSIDERING ELECTION, AND IN CONDUCTING THE REVIEW IN 1987 WOULD YOU ALSO CONSIDER THE EXPERIENCE YOU HAVE GAINED FROM THE DAYA BAY INCIDENT?

SIR GEOFFREY: WELL I THINK I'VE ANSWERED THAT QUESTION.

QUESTION: SIR GEOFFREY, VERY SORRY TO STAND UP FOR A THIRD TIME. BUT I FIND THE EXPRESSION +TAKING OUR OPINION INTO CONSIDERATION+ RATHER ALARMING. I CAN HARDLY IMAGINE THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WILL NOT TAKE OUR VIEWS INTO CONSIDERATION, BUT MERELY TAKING A VIEW INTO CONSIDERATION MAY MEAN - AND I'M ASKING YOU, CHECKING YOUR OPINION - WHETHER I AM RIGHT TO SAY THAT EVEN IF THERE IS CLEAR PUBLIC OPINION IN HONG KONG FOR DIRECT ELECTION IN 1988, WE MAY NOT BE ALLOWED TO HAVE DIRECT ELECTION IN 1988 IF PEKING OBJECTS.

SIR GEOFFREY: I THINK THAT THE ANSWER TO THAT IS TO BE FOUND - IF I MERELY RE-READ TO YOU AGAIN THE SENTENCE SUMMING UP THE MEETING IN LONDON BETWEEN THE PRIME MINISTER AND OTHERS AND EXCO LAST MONTH: +THE PRIME MINISTER REAFFIRMED THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO THE 1987 REVIEW AND CONFIRMED THAT FULL ACCOUNT WILL BE TAKEN OF THE VIEWS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WHEN DRAWING CONCLUSIONS FROM THE REVIEW.+ THAT'S WHAT HAS BEEN STATED ON THE RECORD BY THE GOVERNMENT, AND THAT REMAINS THE POSITION.

QUESTION: SINCE YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO ANSWER WHETHER YOU THINK DIRECT ELECTIONS IS SUITABLE FOR HONG KONG, WOULD YOU ANSWER A VERY GENERAL QUESTION AS TO WHETHER YOU THINK THAT DIRECT ELECTIONS WILL LEAD TO PARTY POLITICS AND DO YOU THINK PARTY POLITICS IS DETRIMENTAL TO HONG KONG?

/SIR GEOFFREY:

SIR GEOFFREY: AGAIN, THAT'S ONE OF THE FEATURES THAT WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT NO DOUBT BY THOSE MAKING REPRESENTATIONS ABOUT THIS QUESTION AND REACHING CONCLUSIONS ABOUT THEM. I KNOW THAT THE VIEW HAS BEEN EXPRESSED THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR HONG KONG TO MOVE TO A SYSTEM BASED UPON PARTISAN POLITICS OF THE TRADITIONAL KIND. AND I CAN UNDERSTAND WHY THAT VIEW IS EXPRESSED. AND THAT'S CERTAINLY ONE OF THE FEATURES TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

QUESTION: YOU JUST MENTIONED THAT THE CHINESE AND THE BRITISH GOVERNMENTS WILL, THROUGH THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP, EXCHANGE VIEWS TO ENSURE CONVERGENCE OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM. CAN YOU QUOTE CASES TO ILLUSTRATE THAT YOU EXCHANGED VIEWS ON VARIOUS ISSUES? AND ON WHAT ISSUES? AND SECONDLY HAS THERE BEEN DIVERGENCE OF VIEWS ON BOTH PARTIES AND WHAT IS THE DIVERGENCE ACTUALLY?

SIR GEOFFREY: I'M NOT QUITE SURE I FOLLOW THE QUESTION. I THINK THAT THE TOPICS THAT HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED ARE ILLUSTRATED BY SOME OF THE OUTCOMES TO WHICH I HAVE REFERRED. I COULDN'T BEGIN TO GIVE YOU AN EXHAUSTIVE LIST OF ALL THE MATTERS THAT HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED. BUT THE FACT THAT AGREEMENTS HAVE BEEN REACHED, FOR EXAMPLE ON THE HANDLING OF AIR SERVICES AGREEMENTS, FOR EXAMPLE ON THE FUTURE POSITION OF HONG KONG IN GATT, SHOWS THE WAY IN WHICH AGREEMENTS CAN BE REACHED. AND ON SOME OF THOSE ISSUES THE STARTING POSITIONS WERE INITIALLY DIVERGENT, SO IT SHOWS THAT IT IS POSSIBLE..... SORRY? AH, THAT'S NOT BEEN A TOPIC UNDER DISCUSSION IN THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP, AS FAR AS I UNDERSTAND IT, NO.

QUESTION: FROM WHAT WE'VE SEEN SO FAR OF THE BASIC LAW DRAFTING, IT APPEARS THAT THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT IS WHITTLING AWAY THE PROMISE OF A HIGH DEGREE OF AUTONOMY CONTAINED IN THE JOINT DECLARATION. IS THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT PREPARED TO JEOPARDISE ITS GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT TO INSIST THAT ON THE LETTER AND SPIRIT OF THE JOINT DECLARATION BEING FULLY ENFORCED.

SIR GEOFFREY: I THINK THAT IT'S MUCH TOO EARLY YET TO JUDGE THE OUTCOME OF THE BASIC LAW DRAFTING PROCESS, WHICH IS STILL AT AN EARLY STAGE. I SAID IN MY STATEMENT THAT WE COULD TAKE SOME ENCOURAGEMENT FROM THE SERIOUS WAY IN WHICH IT IS BEING HANDLED BY THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT AND ON THE WAY IN WHICH PROVISION HAS BEEN MADE FOR AN INPUT FROM THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG. CERTAINLY HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT DOES ATTACH IMPORTANCE TO THE TERMS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION BEING FULLY AND FAITHFULLY IMPLEMENTED AND THE PREPARATION OF THE BASIC LAW IS ONE OF THE WAYS IN WHICH IMPLEMENTATION WILL TAKE PLACE, AND WE SHALL CERTAINLY BE TAKING A CONSISTENT, CLOSE INTEREST, IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THE OUTCOME THAT WILL BE CONSISTENT WITH THE JOINT DECLARATION. IT'S A MATTER THAT WE REGARD AS VERY IMPORTANT.

QUESTION: CAN YOU SAY WHAT YOU MEAN BY +ATTACH IMPORTANCE TO+. HOW MUCH IMPORTANCE?

/SIR GEOFFREY:

SIR GEOFFREY: IF A JOINT DECLARATION HAS BEEN MADE SETTING OUT THE TERMS ON WHICH THE TWO PARTIES TO THE JOINT DECLARATION ARE AGREED, THEN IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE TERMS OF THAT JOINT DECLARATION SHOULD BE FULFILLED. AND THERE ARE VARIOUS WAYS IN WHICH THAT FULFILMENT COMES ABOUT. THE DRAFTING OF THE BASIC LAW IS ONE, THAT IS AN IMPORTANT WAY.

QUESTION: HOW DOES THE FOREIGN OFFICE PLAN TO LIMIT THE DAMAGE DONE TO ANGLO-SAUDI RELATIONS BY SIR JAMES CRAIG'S (UNCLEAR) INFELICITOUS REMARKS PUBLISHED IN SCOTLAND YESTERDAY, NOT IN ENGLAND BECAUSE OF COURSE THE INJUNCTION THE FOREIGN OFFICE TOOK OUT AGAINST THESE REMARKS BEING PUBLISHED IN ENGLAND AND IN PARTICULAR THE POSSIBLE DAMAGE TO THE VISIT BY THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES TO SAUDI ARABIA NEXT MONTH.

SIR GEOFFREY: AS I SAID I THINK IN ANSWER TO A VERY SIMILAR QUESTION IN BOURNEMOUTH ON FRIDAY, IT IS IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND THAT VIEWS CONTAINED IN A DOCUMENT OF THE KIND IN QUESTION ARE THE VIEWS OF THE AUTHOR OF THAT DOCUMENT AND NOT OF HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT. IT IS IMPORTANT ALSO TO UNDERSTAND THE STRENGTH ON WHICH GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND SAUDI ARABIA HAVE BEEN BUILT, AND NOT TO COME TO ANY UNDULY PESSIMISTIC CONCLUSIONS AS TO THE IMPACT ON THOSE LONGSTANDING GOOD RELATIONS OF THE PUBLICATION IN THE WAY YOU DESCRIBED OF A DOCUMENT OF THIS KIND. WE DO ATTACH IMPORTANCE TO THOSE RELATIONS; SO DO THE GOVERNMENT OF SAUDI ARABIA. AND I HAVE NOTHING MORE TO SAY THAN THAT.

Royal Visit.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1986

ROYAL GARDEN PARTY AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE * * * * *

THERE WILL BE A GLITTERING OCCASION AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE ON THE AFTERNOON OF OCTOBER 22 WHEN THE QUEEN ATTENDS A RECEPTION FOR 600 PEOPLE.

HER MAJESTY WILL CHAT TO SOME OF THE GUESTS GATHERED ON THE LAWN. THEY WILL INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES OF VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE COMMUNITY INCLUDING COMMONWEALTH COMMISSIONS, CONSULAR OFFICES, CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS, COMMUNITY LEADERS AND NEWS MEDIA EXECUTIVES.

MEANWHILE, PRINCE PHILIP WILL BE VISITING THE NEWLY-COMPLETED DUKE OF EDINBURGH TRAINING CAMP AT LAM TSUEN IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

HE WILL BE GREETED ON ARRIVAL BY THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DONALD LIAO, WHO WILL PRESENT THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD COUNCIL, MR J.P. LEE, AND THE GROUP CHAIRMAN OF THE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE, MR PATRICK WU.

PRINCE PHILIP WILL UNVEIL A COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE AND WILL MINGLE WITH YOUNG PEOPLE USING THE PHYSICAL TRAINING FACILITIES IN THE CENTRAL HALL. HE WILL SEE AN EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHS IN THE RECREATION ROOM AND LOOK IN ON A TRAINING COURSE UNDERWAY IN THE LECTURE ROOM.

HE WILL ALSO VISIT THE OUTDOOR TRAINING AREA BEFORE LEAVING BY HELICOPTER FOR HMS TAMAR.