



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, MAY 2, 1992

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CUSTOMS COMMISSIONER TO VISIT SOUTHERN CHINA

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THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE, MR CLIVE OXLEY, WILL VISIT SOUTHERN CHINA TOMORROW (SUNDAY) FOR TWO WEEKS.

DURING THE FIRST WEEK, HE WILL VISIT YUNNAN PROVINCE AND HAINAN ISLAND AS THE GUEST OF CUSTOMS GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF CHINA.

THE COMMISSIONER, ACCOMPANIED BY SENIOR SUPERINTENDENT, MR WONG SAU-PUI, WILL BE HOLDING DISCUSSIONS WITH CHINESE CUSTOMS OFFICIALS ON A WIDE RANGE OF SMUGGLING RELATED ISSUES.

THE COMMISSIONER WILL THEN FLY TO GUANGZHOU. IN ZHUHAI, HE WILL LEAD A DELEGATION FROM THE HONG KONG CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH HIS COUNTERPARTS IN THE GUANGDONG CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATION AT THE ANNUAL REVIEW MEETING.

THE MEETING IS THE 10TH SINCE 1983 WHICH IS HELD ALTERNATIVELY IN GUANGDONG AND HONG KONG. IT WILL COVER A RANGE OF TOPICS INCLUDING NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING, SMUGGLING TO AND FROM CHINA AND TRADE CONTROLS AND RELATED ISSUES.

HONG KONG'S NEW LEGISLATION TO CURB SMUGGLING OF LEFT-HAND DRIVE VEHICLES AND OUTBOARD ENGINES ARE EXPECTED TO BE TOUCHED ON AT THE MEETING.

MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION INCLUDE THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE (INVESTIGATION) MR LI SHU-FAI; SENIOR SUPERINTENDENT TSANG HING-KAM; AND SUPERINTENDENTS MR AU YEE-LEUNG, CHEN WING-PING AND CHOW OI-TUNG.

THE HONG KONG DELEGATION LED BY THE COMMISSIONER WILL RETURN TO HONG KONG BY TRAIN ON MAY 17 (SUNDAY).

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LADY WILSON URGES PARENTS ON IMPORTANCE OF CHILDREN SAFETY

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LADY WILSON TODAY (SATURDAY) APPEALED TO PARENTS TO TAKE GOOD CARE OF THEIR CHILDREN AND THINK AND PLAN WHEN LEAVING CHILDREN AT HOME.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF CHILDREN'S MONTH WHICH CENTRED ON THE THEME OF "CHILDSAFE - IN THE HOME", LADY WILSON SAID CHILDREN'S SAFETY WAS A HUGELY IMPORTANT TOPIC AT THIS TIME WHEN SOME REALLY TRAGIC ACCIDENTS HAPPENED IN HONG KONG.

/SHE SAID

SHE SAID CHILDREN WERE PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE TO ACCIDENTS IN THE HOME AND IT WAS A SOBERING THOUGHT THAT NEARLY ALL SUCH ACCIDENTS COULD BE AVOIDED IF THEY ALL TOOK THE TROUBLE TO THINK AND PLAN WHEN LEAVING CHILDREN AT HOME.

"PARENTS CLEARLY NEED HELP AND SUPPORT FROM GOVERNMENT AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES TO FIND WAYS OF SOLVING THE PROBLEM WHEN THEY HAVE TO BE AWAY FROM HOME," SHE ADDED.

LADY WILSON PRAISED THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND SERVICES IN ORGANISING THE ANNUAL CHILDREN'S MONTH - THE FIFTH OF ITS KIND - FOR HELPING TO EDUCATE PARENTS AND FAMILIES ON THE IMPORTANCE OF HOME SAFETY.

SHE ALSO SAID PROMOTION OF MUTUAL HELP AMONG FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN WAS MOST IMPORTANT AND FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS WERE GREATLY ENCOURAGED TO GROUP TOGETHER TO HELP ONE ANOTHER.

NEVERTHELESS, SHE SAID PARENTS HAD TO FACE UP TO THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PARENTHOOD AND IT WAS VITAL, PARTICULARLY WHEN YOUNG, THAT CHILDREN DEVELOP GOOD SELF ESTEEM.

"MANY PARENTS, NATURALLY FEEL THEY HAVE TO WORK, EVEN WHEN THEY HAVE A FAMILY.

"HAVING A CHILD IS HOWEVER, A HUGE RESPONSIBILITY, WORKING AND MAKING SURE THAT A YOUNG CHILD IS CARED FOR, ARE NOT ALWAYS EASY THINGS TO COMBINE.

"THIS NEEDS THE SUPPORT OF MOTHERS, FATHERS, GRANDPARENTS, WELFARE AGENCIES AND GOVERNMENTS," SHE ADDED.

SHE SAID IT WAS A DILEMMA WHICH THERE WAS YET A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD.

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MORE MULTI-SERVICE COMPLEXES URGED

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THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD CONSIDER BUILDING MORE MULTI-SERVICE COMPLEXES FOR SOCIAL WELFARE, PROFESSOR NELSON CHOW, CHAIRMAN OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SWAC), RECOMMENDED TODAY (SATURDAY).

"PUTTING VARIOUS SOCIAL SERVICES UNDER ONE ROOF WOULD ENABLE SERVICES RECIPIENTS TO OBTAIN DIFFERENT SERVICES THEY REQUIRED WITHOUT THE NEED OF TRAVELLING FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER," PROF CHOW SAID DURING A VISIT TO A SOCIAL SERVICES BUILDING IN TUEN MUN.

ACCOMPANIED BY DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ROSE GOODSTADT, PROF CHOW AND SWAC MEMBERS VISITED SOME WELFARE FACILITIES IN WESTERN NEW TERRITORIES.

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APART FROM THE TAI TUNG PUI SOCIAL SERVICES BUILDING IN TUEN MUN, THE PARTY VISITED A PRIVATE HOME FOR THE ELDERLY IN KAM TIN.

THE TAI TUNG PUI MULTI-SERVICE COMPLEX IS RUN BY TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS. THE 11-STOREY BUILDING PROVIDES REHABILITATION SERVICE AS WELL AS SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY, CHILDREN AND YOUTH.

SWAC MEMBERS WERE TOLD THAT THIS WAS THE FIRST MULTI-SERVICE COMPLEX FOR SOCIAL WELFARE BUILT IN HONG KONG. SEVERAL SIMILAR PROJECTS ARE ALSO IN THE PIPELINE.

THE COMPLEX RUNS A DAY-CARE CENTRE AND A CARE-AND-ATTENTION HOME FOR THE ELDERLY.

MRS GOODSTADT TOLD THE MEMBERS THAT THE UNIQUE FEATURE OF THE CARE-AND-ATTENTION HOME WAS A BLIND SECTION TO PROVIDE SERVICE TO THE AGED BLIND.

OTHER SERVICES AVAILABLE IN THE BUILDING INCLUDE A CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRE, A DAY ACTIVITY CENTRE CUM HOSTEL FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED ADULTS.

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WATCH OUT FOR NEW SMUGGLING TRENDS: CUSTOMS OFFICERS WERE TOLD

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THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR J.J. SWAINE, TODAY (SATURDAY) SAID CUSTOMS OFFICERS SHOULD ALWAYS ON THE ALERT FOR CHANGE ON NEW TRENDS IN SMUGGLING BY LAND, BY SEA AND BY AIR.

SPEAKING AT A PASSING-OUT PARADE OF 34 CUSTOMS INSPECTORS AND OFFICERS AT THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE TRAINING SCHOOL IN TAI LAM CHUNG, MR SWAINE SAID THE LIFE OF A MODERN CUSTOMS OFFICER WAS NOT, AS IT ONCE WAS, CONCERNED PURELY WITH THE GOOD OF HIS PARENT ADMINISTRATION.

"AN OFFICER NOW HAS TO BE READY NOT ONLY TO ENFORCE THE LAWS OF HIS OR HER OWN TERRITORY BUT, SOMETIMES AT SHORT NOTICE, TO ASSIST IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UN SANCTIONS, TO EXCHANGE KNOWLEDGE WITH OPPOSITE NUMBERS FROM OVERSEAS AND, ON OCCASIONS, TO TAKE PART IN OPERATIONS DESIGNED PRIMARILY TO HELP OTHER ADMINISTRATIONS," HE SAID.

MR SWAINE TOLD THE OFFICERS THAT THEIR GRADUATION WAS NOT THE END OF THE LEARNING PROCESS.

"NOT ONLY WILL YOU HAVE TO LEARN FROM YOUR SENIOR AND MORE EXPERIENCED COLLEAGUES THE PRACTICAL APPLICATION IN THE FIELD OF THE TECHNIQUES YOU HAVE STUDIED HERE, BUT THE TECHNIQUES THEMSELVES WILL HAVE TO BE CONSTANTLY REVIEWED IN THE LIGHT OF IMPROVED RISK MANAGEMENT, CHANGING TRADE PRACTICES AND NEW INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL SITUATIONS," HE SAID.

/MR SWAINE

MR SWAINE SAID THE HONG KONG CUSTOMS HAD A HIGH REPUTATION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, BOTH AMONG THE CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATIONS OF DEVELOPING NATIONS AND AMONG THOSE OF THE MORE ADVANCED SUCH AS AUSTRALIA, EUROPE AND THE USA.

"THIS REPUTATION STEMS, IN PARTICULAR, FROM THE SUCCESSFUL SUPPRESSION OF DRUG TRAFFICKING AND FROM THE EFFECTIVE PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY RIGHTS.

"THE LATTER ESPECIALLY HAS BEEN WIDELY RECOGNISED NOT ONLY BY OVERSEAS CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATIONS BUT ALSO BY INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL ORGANISATIONS OPERATING IN THE FIELD," HE SAID.

"THERE IS, THEREFORE, A BINDING OBLIGATION ON YOU BOTH TO MAINTAIN THE HIGH STANDARDS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED IN THE PAST AND TO RETAIN SUFFICIENT FLEXIBILITY TO REACT TO NEW CHALLENGES IN THE FUTURE," HE ADDED.

THE GRADUATING OFFICERS COMPRISED NINE CUSTOMS INSPECTORS AND 25 CUSTOMS OFFICERS.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	DATE	\$ MILLION
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CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	1.5.92	1,488
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	2.5.92	-500 *
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		NEUTRAL

* O/N ASSISTANCE TO BE REVERSED

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