



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GOVERNOR PRAISES WORK OF ROAD SAFETY PATROLS

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THE ROAD SAFETY PATROL SCHEME HAS MADE A GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPORTANT TASK OF PROMOTING ROAD SAFETY SINCE IT BEGAN IN 1963, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE ROAD SAFETY PATROLS, SIR DAVID SAID BOTH PEDESTRIANS AND DRIVERS HAD BENEFITTED FROM THE WORK OF THE PATROL TEAMS - THROUGH THEIR ASSISTANCE AT BUSY ROAD CROSSINGS AS WELL AS THROUGH ROAD SAFETY PUBLICITY CAMPAIGNS.

"THE SUCCESS OF THE SCHEME IS SHOWN BY THE FACT THAT MEMBERSHIP HAS GROWN FROM 48 WHEN IT STARTED TO OVER 12,000 TODAY," SIR DAVID SAID, ADDING THAT THERE WERE, AT PRESENT, OVER 200 ROAD PATROLS ACTIVE EVERYDAY HELPING PEOPLE TO LEAD SAFER LIVES.

TURNING TO THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS, THE GOVERNOR NOTED THAT SOME 20,000 PEOPLE WERE INJURED ON OUR ROADS EACH YEAR AND THAT SOME 300 OF THESE DIED.

THIS WAS OVER TWICE THE NUMBER WHO DIED EACH YEAR FROM CRIME OF VIOLENCE, SHOWING HOW SERIOUS THE IMPACT OF TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS WAS ON THE COMMUNITY.

"THERE IS A HEAVY FINANCIAL COST TOO WHICH SOCIETY HAS TO BEAR. THE AVERAGE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INJURY COSTS SOCIETY SOME \$42,000," SIR DAVID SAID.

"YET TOO MANY PEOPLE SEEM TO TREAT TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS AS THOUGH THEY WERE AN INEVITABLE AND UNREMARKABLE PART OF DAILY LIFE," HE ADDED.

SIR DAVID STRESSED THAT THE GOVERNMENT PAID GREAT ATTENTION TO THE IMPORTANCE OF ROAD SAFETY.

"WHEN A ROAD PROJECT IS BEING PLANNED, GREAT CARE IS TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT THE DESIGN INCORPORATE THE LATEST SAFETY FEATURES.

"WHEREVER POSSIBLE, FOOTBRIDGES AND WALKWAYS ARE PROVIDED TO SEGREGATE PEDESTRIANS FROM VEHICULAR TRAFFIC.

"WE ARE CONSTANTLY REVIEWING OUR LEGISLATION TO ENSURE THAT VEHICLES ON THE ROADS ARE SAFE, AND THAT THE BEHAVIOUR OF ROAD USERS IS SUITABLY REGULATED," HE EXPLAINED.

A COMPREHENSIVE ROAD SAFETY GUIDE FOR MOTORISTS AND PEDESTRIANS, THE ROAD USERS' CODE, HAD RECENTLY BEEN PRODUCED. SO FAR, 340,000 COPIES OF THE CODE HAD BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO THE PUBLIC.

"OUR MAIN AIM, HOWEVER, MUST BE TO IMPROVE THE BEHAVIOUR OF ROAD USERS.

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"THIS THE GOVERNMENT HAS ATTEMPTED TO DO BY ANNUAL ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGNS," SIR DAVID SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THERE WAS ALSO A CONSTANT EFFORT TO PUBLICISE AND PROMOTE IDEAS OF ROAD SAFETY THROUGH TELEVISION AND RADIO, THE PRESS, POSTERS, CAMPAIGNS AND PROGRAMMES ORGANISED BY DISTRICT OFFICES.

"NONE OF THESE MEASURES CAN SUCCEED WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY AND THE HELP OF VOLUNTARY GROUPS SUCH AS THE ROAD SAFETY PATROLS.

"WHAT HAS BEEN DONE BY THE ROAD SAFETY ASSOCIATION, ITS PATROL OFFICIALS AND PATROL MEMBERS OVER *HE PAST 25 YEARS DESERVES THE HIGHEST PRAISE.

"NONE OF THIS COULD HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED WITHOUT THE HELP OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE, WHICH TRAINS THE PATROL MEMBERS, THE CO-OPERATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF SCHOOLS, AND THE GENEROUS DONATIONS MADE BY SPONSORING ORGANISATIONS," THE GOVERNOR SAID.

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DISTRICT OFFICER URGES RESIDENTS TO VOTE

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THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ALLAN CHOW, TODAY (SUNDAY) URGED RESIDENTS TO SHOW SUPPORT FOR THE DISTRICT BOARD AND CAST THEIR VOTES ON MARCH 10.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF A CARNIVAL ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE TO PUBLICISE THE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS, MR CHOW SAID THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD HAD MADE MANY USEFUL SUGGESTIONS ON MATTERS AFFECTING THE DISTRICT AS WELL AS ON TERRITORY-WIDE ISSUES.

"OTHER THAN CONTRIBUTING VALUABLE IDEAS ON SUBJECTS SUCH AS TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT, THE BOARD HAS ALSO PROVIDED MANY FREE RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL PROGRAMMES FOR RESIDENTS.

"THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE BOARD ARE FOR ALL TO SEE," HE STRESSED.

THE CARNIVAL FEATURED PERFORMANCES BY POPULAR SINGERS AND BANDS, AS WELL AS DRAMA AND GAMESTALLS.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE CARNIVAL WERE POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR MICHAEL PREW, AND DISTRICT LANDS OFFICER (HONG KONG WEST), MR THOMAS HO.

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DB CANDIDATES' FORUM IN STANLEY, SHEK O AND BAYS AREA

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SOUTHERN DISTRICT RESIDENTS LIVING IN THE STANLEY, SHEK O AND BAYS AREA ARE INVITED TO ATTEND A PUBLIC FORUM TOMORROW (MONDAY) TO MEET CANDIDATES RUNNING FOR THE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS IN THEIR CONSTITUENCY.

THE FORUM WILL START AT 8 PM AT THE ST STEPHEN'S COLLEGE, TUNG TAU WAN ROAD, STANLEY.

"THE FORUM IS A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR ELECTORS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CANDIDATES SO THAT THEY COULD SELECT THE ONES WHO BEST REPRESENT THEIR VIEWS," A DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"FREE TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED TO TAKE RESIDENTS TO AND FROM THE FORUM VENUE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

A COACH WILL LEAVE THE SHEK O BEACH CAR PARK AT 7.10 PM AND WILL PICK UP RESIDENTS ON ITS WAY TO STANLEY. THERE WILL ALSO BE A SHUTTLE VAN SERVICE TO AND FROM STANLEY NEW STREET FROM 7.10 PM.

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GROWING CHALLENGES FOR POLICE IN BORDER DISTRICT

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LIKE PAINTING THE FORTH BRIDGE IN SCOTLAND, REPAIRING HOLES CUT IN THE 18 MILES OF FENCE AT THE HONG KONG-CHINA BORDER IS A CONTINUOUS JOB. EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR REPAIR TEAMS TRAVEL ALONG THE FENCE IN AN EFFORT TO KEEP OUT THE STEADY TIDE OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS EQUIPPED WITH WIRE CUTTERS.

ABOUT 200 HOLES APPEAR IN THE BORDER FENCE EVERY MONTH, CUT BY WOULD-BE IMMIGRANTS TO HONG KONG.

AS FAST AS THE HOLES APPEAR THEY ARE REPAIRED - AS QUICKLY AS THE ILLEGALS ARE ROUNDED UP AND SENT BACK TO CHINA EVERY DAY.

FOR YEARS POLICING THE FRONTIER HAS BEEN SYNONYMOUS WITH ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION. BUT TODAY THERE ARE PRESSURES OTHER THAN CHASING ILLEGALS FACING THE POLICE FRONTIER DISTRICT.

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE FENCE THE VIEW OF SHENZHEN SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE BECOMES DAILY MORE LIKE A VIEW OF URBAN HONG KONG. THE GROWING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINA IS EASING THE MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE BETWEEN THE TWO TERRITORIES.

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A HUGE BUILD UP IN TRADE AND TRAFFIC IS BRINGING NEW ROADS, MORE POLICE PROBLEMS TO THE COUNTRYSIDE. CATCHING ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS AND STOPPING CRIME IS BECOMING MORE COMPLEX. THE RESULT WILL BE MORE WORK FOR THE POLICE, BOTH IN ANTI-CRIME OPERATIONS AND AT THE BORDER.

"PEOPLE STILL THINK OF THE FRONTIER AS RATHER A BACKWATER," SAID THE POLICE FRONTIER DISTRICT COMMANDER MR GWYN LLOYD. "BUT THEN THE ECONOMIC ZONE CAME WITH A RUSH AND SEVERAL BIG PROJECTS WERE PUSHED THROUGH VERY QUICKLY.

"THE BORDER CHANGED ALMOST OVERNIGHT."

BORDER DEVELOPMENTS INCLUDED A NEW CROSSING POINT AT SHA TAU KOK, A NEW LO WU BRIDGE, A CROSSING POINT AT MAN KAM TO. NOW A NEW POLICE POST HAS BEEN OPENED THIS MONTH AT SHA TAU KOK.

NEXT YEAR A NEW BORDER CROSSING POINT AT LOK MA CHAU WILL EVENTUALLY LINK THE AREA TO A NEW SUPER HIGHWAY TO GUANGDONG.

"ALL THESE THINGS HAVE HAPPENED IN THE LAST SEVEN YEARS," MR LLOYD SAID.

THE CHANGES TO THE AREA CAUSED BY THE HONG KONG-CHINA DEVELOPMENT HAS COINCIDED WITH GROWTH IN THE INDIGENOUS POPULATION.

IN SHEUNG SHUI DIVISION THE POPULATION HAS RISEN BY 30 PER CENT IN FOUR YEARS, MANY OF THE NEWCOMERS HAVING MOVED TO THE NEW TERRITORIES FROM URBAN KOWLOON.

THEIR ARRIVAL HAS NOT BROUGHT WITH IT AN INCREASE IN CRIME.

"CRIME HAS ACTUALLY GONE DOWN," SAID MR LLOYD. "THIS IS PARTLY BECAUSE OF OUR EFFICIENCY BUT A BIG FACTOR IS THAT THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THE PEOPLE ARE NOW LIVING ARE VERY GOOD.

"FORTY PER CENT OF THE NEW ARRIVALS COME FROM TEMPORARY HOUSING AREAS IN KOWLOON WHERE IT WAS VERY DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO LEAD DECENT LIVES. THEY'VE RESPONDED TO THE IMPROVEMENT.

"AT SHA TAU KOK THE POLICE WILL BE IN AT THE BEGINNING, THREE MONTHS BEFORE MORE PEOPLE ARE REHOUSED IN JUNE."

SOME 18,000 FRONTIER RESIDENTS LIVE IN THE RESTRICTED AREA ADJACENT TO THE BORDER, WHERE A CURFEW IS IMPOSED BETWEEN MIDNIGHT AND 4 AM DAILY.

"THERE'S NOT MUCH DEVELOPMENT THERE. IT'S MAINLY FARMLAND. BUT THERE IS SOME PRESSURE ON US TO REVIEW THE RESTRICTIONS TO SEE IF SOME CONCESSIONS CAN BE MADE, TO SHRINK THE AREA OR MAKE IT LESS RESTRICTIVE.

/"UNFORTUNATELY ILLEGAL

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"UNFORTUNATELY ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION IS STILL RISING AND IT'S EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO DO MUCH TO THE PRESENT SYSTEM - WE MUST HAVE A BUFFER ZONE."

THE PICTURE IS DIFFERENT AT SHA TAU KOK WHERE CROSSING IS PERMITTED AT THE BORDER ACROSS CHUNG YING STREET, FROM SHENZHEN STRAIGHT INTO HONG KONG.

"IT'S GETTING MORE DIFFICULT TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN RESIDENTS AND VISITORS. WITH SHENZHEN GETTING MORE LIKE A MINI-HONG KONG THE DRESS OF THE PEOPLE IS VERY SIMILAR. BUT IT'S EASIER FOR POLICE TO SPOT STRANGERS THAN THE ARMY BECAUSE THE CONSTABLES CAN RECOGNISE THE DIFFERENT DIALECT."

"I DON'T THINK ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION WILL REDUCE. I CAN ONLY SEE IT INCREASING."

A TOTAL OF 27,000 ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS WERE RETURNED TO CHINA LAST YEAR AND REPATRIATIONS TAKE PLACE AT 3 PM EVERY AFTERNOON.

"WE LIKE TO THINK THAT WE CATCH 75 PER CENT BUT IT'S DIFFICULT TO FIGURE IT OUT. THOSE WHO CLIMB THE FENCE FIND IT QUITE AN OBSTACLE, BUT IT CAN BE DONE IN 14 SECONDS. WE'RE GETTING STRONGER WIRE AND MORE TECHNICAL AIDS."

ABOUT 5,000 SHOPPERS THROG INTO SHA TAU KOK LEGALLY DAILY AND SOME OF THEM TOO ATTEMPT TO STAY.

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION AND SMUGGLING ARE TWO MAJOR QUESTIONS IN THE GROWING FRIENDLY CONTACTS BETWEEN FRONTIER DISTRICT AND AUTHORITIES ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE BORDER. THE TWO SIDES ARE IN REGULAR CONTACT OVER MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST.

"THERE WERE 22 MILLION CROSSINGS AT LO WU LAST YEAR AND 9,500 LORRIES EITHER GOING INTO OR OUT OF CHINA EVERY DAY. OBVIOUSLY IT'S DIFFICULT TO CHECK ON THEM ALL."

TOLERATED BORDER CROSSERS, FARMERS WITH HOMES IN CHINA AND FIELDS IN HONG KONG, ARE A POTENTIAL SOURCE OF PROBLEMS AS SOME HAVE CEASED TO BE FARMERS AND ARE NOW "SHOPPERS" OR AGENTS. OTHERS CROSS THE BORDER TO FARM OTHER PEOPLE'S LAND.

THE CHIEF BORDER LIAISON OFFICER IN THE BORDER LIAISON GROUP OF POLICE, CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION OFFICERS CONDUCTING REGULAR MEETINGS WITH CHINESE AUTHORITIES IS A POLICE OFFICER.

"INITIALLY IT WAS RATHER A STIFF RELATIONSHIP, BUT IT HAS RELAXED AND CO-OPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING HAVE GROWN INTO A CORDIAL WORKING RELATIONSHIP," SAID MR LLOYD.

"THERE IS A LOT OF RESPECT FOR THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE BORDER. THEY WILL ACCEPT OUR WORD AND WE ACCEPT THEIRS."

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ACTIVITIES TO CELEBRATE 1988 WORLD METEOROLOGICAL DAY

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THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL DAY ON MARCH 23 (WEDNESDAY) WILL BE CELEBRATED THE WORLD OVER TO COMMEMORATE THE COMING INTO FORCE IN 1950 OF THE CONVENTION OF THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANISATION (WMO), AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTION FOSTERING AND MAINTAINING GLOBAL CO-OPERATION IN METEOROLOGY AND OPERATIONAL HYDROLOGY.

WMO HAS CHOSEN "METEOROLOGY AND THE MEDIA" AS THE THEME OF THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL DAY CELEBRATION THIS YEAR.

THIS IS TO PAY TRIBUTE TO THE MASS MEDIA WHICH HAVE CO-OPERATED WITH METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES ALL OVER THE WORLD IN ENSURING THAT ESSENTIAL WEATHER INFORMATION, WARNINGS AND FORECASTS ARE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE PUBLIC.

TO CELEBRATE THE OCCASION, THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY WILL MOUNT A FIVE-DAY EXHIBITION ON "METEOROLOGY AND THE MEDIA" IN THE HEADQUARTERS' CENTENARY BUILDING. IT WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FROM MARCH 23 TO 27.

THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY WILL ALSO ORGANISE A WORLD METEOROLOGICAL DAY ESSAY COMPETITION WITH A CHINESE LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER.

MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS, MR ALLEN LEE, AND THE SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION, MR PETER TSAO, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE EXHIBITION AT 10.30 AM ON MARCH 23.

THE EXHIBITION WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FROM 1.30 PM TO 5.30 PM ON MARCH 23 AND FROM 9.30 AM TO 5.30 PM BETWEEN MARCH 24 AND 27.

FREE ADMISSION TICKETS FOR THE EXHIBITION ARE OBTAINABLE BEFORE MARCH 16 BY WRITING TO THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY, 134A NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON. THE NUMBER OF TICKETS WILL BE LIMITED TO TWO PER REQUEST ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO OBTAIN THE TICKETS SHOULD MARK "EXHIBITION TICKETS" AND THE PREFERRED DATE OF ATTENDANCE ON THE ENVELOPE CONTAINING THE REQUEST. THEY SHOULD ALSO INCLUDE A STAMPED SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE EXHIBITION AND THE ESSAY COMPETITION MAY BE OBTAINED ON 3-7329200 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

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MORE ACTIVITIES FOR THE ELDERLY NEEDED

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THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, TODAY (SUNDAY) SAID THAT MORE ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE ARRANGED FOR THE ELDERLY SO AS TO ENHANCE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF SERVICES FOR OUR SENIOR CITIZENS.

SHE WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF A CARNIVAL FOR THE ELDERLY ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY, UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG WITH THE SPONSORSHIP OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD AT THE GRANTHAM HOSPITAL.

MRS WONG NOTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT STARTED A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF WELFARE FOR THE ELDERLY IN THE EARLY 70'S WITH THE AIM OF ENCOURAGING THE SENIOR CITIZENS TO CONTINUE LIVING IN THE COMMUNITY THROUGH THE PROVISION OF A WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES.

THE GOVERNMENT AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES WERE CURRENTLY PROVIDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, HEALTH CARE, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SUPPORT, RECREATIONAL AND TRANSPORT SERVICES TO COPE WITH THE DIFFERENT NEEDS OF THE ELDERLY, SHE SAID.

"AT PRESENT, THERE ARE 114 SOCIAL CENTRES FOR THE ELDERLY, 12 MULTI-SERVICES CENTRES FOR THE ELDERLY, 46 HOME HELP TEAMS, FOUR DAY CARE CENTRES, 1,486 ELDERLY HOSTEL PLACES, 595 SHELTERED HOUSING PLACES, 5,492 AGED HOME PLACES AND 1,570 CARE-AND-ATTENTION HOME PLACES FOR THE ELDERLY," SHE SAID.

"THESE SERVICES WILL BE DEVELOPED AND EXPANDED GRADUALLY IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS, BY WHICH TIME THE DEMAND WILL ALMOST BE FULLY MET.

"MOREOVER, THE GOVERNMENT HAS SET UP A COMMITTEE ON ELDERLY SERVICES IN JULY LAST YEAR, COMPRISING REPRESENTATIVES FROM A NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES TO REVIEW AND DEVELOP SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY SO AS TO ENABLE OUR SENIOR CITIZENS TO ENJOY A HAPPIER OLD AGE WITH BETTER SERVICES," SHE SAID.

SHE NOTED THAT THE CARNIVAL, WHICH COMPRISED TALKS BY PROFESSIONALS ON VARIOUS THEMES, WOULD HELP TO ENHANCE PUBLIC'S AWARENESS OF HEALTH AND CARE FOR THE ELDERLY.

EXPERTS HELP POLICE COMBAT COMMERCIAL CRIME

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FROM THE BACK STREET FRAUD OF A SMALL TIME CONFIDENCE TRICKSTER TO THE ILLEGAL MONEY MANIPULATIONS OF A MULTI-MILLIONAIRE THEIR ACTIVITIES GO UNDER THE SCRUTINY OF OFFICERS OF THE POLICE COMMERCIAL CRIME BUREAU.

AND WITH THE METHODS OF COMMERCIAL CRIMINALS BECOMING INCREASINGLY MORE COMPLICATED AND SOPHISTICATED, CCB STAFF ARE CONSTANTLY UPDATING THEIR EXPERTISE IN DEALING WITH "WHITE COLLAR" CRIME.

WITH THE HELP OF EXPERTS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR THE BUREAU IS CONDUCTING A SERIES OF IN-HOUSE COURSES TO TRAIN STAFF IN THE TECHNIQUES OF BANKING, INSURANCE, ACCOUNTANCY AND COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY.

THE BUREAU ALSO INVITED THE PARTICIPATION OF OFFICERS FROM SELECTED OTHER FORMATIONS, INCLUDING THE CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE BUREAU, SPECIAL BRANCH AND NARCOTICS BUREAU.

SINCE THE TRAINING COURSE WAS INTRODUCED IN 1985, A TOTAL OF 40 INSPECTORATE OFFICERS, 30 OF THEM FROM CCB, HAVE ATTENDED.

TO ENCOURAGE MAXIMUM PARTICIPATION THE 80 HOUR COURSE IS RUN ONE MORNING EACH WEEK FOR FOUR MONTHS.

THE BUREAU ALSO ORGANISES ITS OWN TRAINING SCHEME FOR JUNIOR POLICE OFFICERS, WHO ATTEND FOR 30 HOURS DURING A TWO MONTH PERIOD.

LECTURERS FOR THE INSPECTORATE COURSE ARE ALL EXPERTS IN THE FIELDS OF BUSINESS WHERE COMMERCIAL CRIME OCCURS.

MR KEITH BRAITHWAITE, SENIOR SUPERINTENDENT IN COMMERCIAL CRIME BUREAU, EXPLAINED: "THE LECTURERS ARE NOT JUST ACADEMICS. THEY ARE ALL PRACTICAL PEOPLE, SUCH AS SOLICITORS, BANKERS, ACCOUNTANTS AND INSURANCE AGENTS.

"THE STUDENTS LEARN THE COMPLEXITIES OF THE TERMINOLOGY USED IN BANKING AND INSURANCE. THEY GAIN A BASIC UNDERSTANDING AND INSIGHT INTO THE SOURCES OF COMMERCIAL INFORMATION.

"WE ARE ALSO CONSTANTLY IMPROVING AND EXTENDING THE SCOPE OF THE COURSE TO KEEP ABREAST OF CHANGING TRENDS IN COMMERCIAL CRIME AND NEW LEGISLATION BEING INTRODUCED.

"WE ARE PLANNING TO INTRODUCE A SERIES OF CASE STUDIES FOR DISCUSSION ON THE LESSONS LEARNED FROM THEM.

"WE OWE OUR GRATITUDE TO THE EXPERTS WHO ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE TRAINING COURSES. WE HAVE A LOT OF SUPPORT FROM THE PRIVATE COMMERCIAL SECTOR AND FROM REGULATORY BODIES AND THE COURSE WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT THEIR HELP."

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COMPUTER TRAINING ASPECTS OF THE COURSE ARE CONDUCTED THROUGH THE FORCE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY BRANCH OF MANAGEMENT SERVICES WING.

THE FRAUD, COUNTERFEIT AND FORGERY CASES INVESTIGATED BY THE BUREAU ARE BECOMING INCREASINGLY COMPLICATED, TIME CONSUMING AND FREQUENTLY INVOLVE OVERSEAS ENQUIRIES, SAID MR BRAITHWAITE.

"ALL IT TAKES TO TRANSFER A LARGE SUM OF MONEY FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER IS TO PRESS A BUTTON. IT CAN BE VERY DIFFICULT TO TRACE MONEY FLOWS."

MR BRAITHWAITE SAID THAT COUNTERFEITING WAS VERY SOPHISTICATED AND FRAUD A CONTINUING PROBLEM.

"THE USE OF POST-DATED CHEQUES IS A VERY SIGNIFICANT FEATURE OF FRAUD CASES IN HONG KONG. IF THAT WERE CURTAILED AND SMALL BUSINESSES IN PARTICULAR MAINTAINED REASONABLE ACCOUNTS IT WOULD CONSIDERABLY EASE OUR INVESTIGATION OF A LARGE NUMBER OF FRAUDS."

SINCE THE RECENT FALL OF THE HONG KONG STOCK MARKET THE BUREAU HAD RECEIVED 77 FILES RELATING TO ALLEGED LOSSES THROUGH FRAUD OF ABOUT \$72 MILLION, ALTHOUGH MANY OF THE CASES WERE CIVIL MATTERS.

ALL OFFICERS SERVING IN CCB ARE VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE TO BE PREPARED TO DEVOTE SEVERAL YEARS TO THE WORK, SAID MR BRAITHWAITE.

"IT'S NOT SUITABLE FOR EVERYBODY. IT INVOLVES A LOT OF WADING THROUGH PAPERS AND TAKING A LOT OF COMPLICATED STATEMENTS. IT'S BY NO MEANS GLAMOROUS OR EXCITING.

IT'S DIFFICULT TO CREATE A CAREER STRUCTURE HERE BUT IT'S BEING LOOKED AT IN FORCE DEVELOPMENT PLANS. WE DON'T WANT TO LOSE TOO MANY PEOPLE ON PROMOTION.

"BUT OUR LOSS IS THE GAIN OF DISTRICTS, WHERE THEY NEED PEOPLE WITH A GENERAL KNOWLEDGE OF COMMERCIAL CRIME. THERE'S NO SHORTAGE OF VOLUNTEERS."

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TRAINING COURSES FOR KINDERGARTEN PRINCIPALS AND TEACHERS

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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL AGAIN ORGANISE A SERIES OF TRAINING COURSES FOR KINDERGARTEN PRINCIPALS AND TEACHERS IN THE 1988/89 SCHOOL YEAR.

SERVING KINDERGARTEN PRINCIPALS AND TEACHERS WHO ARE PROFESSIONALLY UNTRAINED ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE TWO-YEAR PART-TIME DAY RELEASE COURSES, WHICH WILL BE CONDUCTED IN CHINESE OR ENGLISH LANGUAGE, OR THE 12-WEEK PART-TIME DAY OR EVENING COURSES.

/THE TWO-YEAR

THE TWO-YEAR COURSES WILL BE HELD AT THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION. PARTICIPANTS WHO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE COURSES WILL BE AWARDED THE STATUS OF "QUALIFIED KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS" AND WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR ADMISSION TO THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S REGISTER OF TEACHERS.

THE COURSES ARE ALSO OPEN TO GRADUATES OF THE 12-WEEK PART-TIME COURSES PROVIDED THEY MEET THE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS.

SERVING KINDERGARTEN PRINCIPALS WHO HAVE ACQUIRED THE 'QUALIFIED ASSISTANT KINDERGARTEN TEACHER' STATUS THROUGH THE 12-WEEK PART-TIME COURSES WILL BE CONSIDERED APPROPRIATELY QUALIFIED FOR APPROVAL AS PRINCIPALS OF KINDERGARTEN UPON THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE COURSES.

THE 12-WEEK PART-TIME COURSE IN CHINESE WILL BE ORGANIZED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S KINDERGARTEN SECTION OF THE ADVISORY INSPECTORATE TWICE A YEAR, WHILE THE 12-WEEK ENGLISH PART-TIME EVENING COURSE WILL BE OPERATED BY THE GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION.

PARTICIPANTS OF THE COURSES WILL BE REQUIRED TO UNDERGO A SIX-MONTH POST-COURSE SUPERVISED TEACHING.

THEY WILL BE AWARDED THE STATUS OF "QUALIFIED ASSISTANT KINDERGARTEN TEACHER" UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE COURSE AND THE SUPERVISED TEACHING.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS AT LEE GARDENS, THIRD FLOOR, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY; AND ITS SUB-OFFICE AT KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, SIXTH FLOOR, 405 NATHAN ROAD, YAU MA TEI, AND THE GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION ANNEXE AT NINTH FLOOR, ARGYLE CENTRE, PHASE ONE, 688 NATHAN ROAD, MONG KOK, UNTIL MARCH 21.

MEANWHILE, SUPERVISORS AND PRINCIPALS OF KINDERGARTENS ARE REMINDED THAT NO NEW KINDERGARTEN PRINCIPALS WITHOUT THE APPROPRIATE QUALIFICATIONS SHOULD BE APPOINTED FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE 1989/90 SCHOOL YEAR UNDER THE EDUCATION ORDINANCE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION MIGHT EXERCISE HIS AUTHORITY TO WITHDRAW HIS APPROVAL FOR KINDERGARTEN PRINCIPALS WITHOUT THE APPROPRIATE QUALIFICATIONS IN THE BEGINNING OF THE 1994/95 SCHOOL YEAR.

FOR SERVING KINDERGARTEN PRINCIPALS WITHOUT APPROPRIATE QUALIFICATIONS INCLUDING THOSE APPOINTED BEFORE THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE 1989/90 SCHOOL YEAR, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WOULD PROVIDE THEM WITH TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES BETWEEN 1988 AND 1994 TO ENABLE THEM TO OBTAIN THE 'QUALIFIED KINDERGARTEN TEACHER' STATUS.

FOR A KINDERGARTEN PRINCIPAL TO OBTAIN THE NECESSARY QUALIFICATIONS, 1992 WOULD BE THE LAST YEAR TO SEEK ADMISSION TO THE TWO-YEAR COURSE, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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YAU MA TEI DB TO DISCUSS FIRE ESCAPE PROVISION

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QUESTIONS ON REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE PROVISION OF FIRE ESCAPES AND FIRE-FIGHTING EQUIPMENT IN GUEST HOUSES WILL BE RAISED AT THE MEETING OF THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE TOMORROW (MONDAY).

THE BOARD WILL ALSO DISCUSS POSSIBLE WAYS OF STEPPING UP FIRE PREVENTION PUBLICITY IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE THE LOCATIONS FOR PUTTING UP DISTRICT SIGNBOARDS, THE DISTRICT BOARD'S FINANCIAL POSITION, AND A REPORT ON MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN THE DISTRICT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE TOMORROW (MONDAY) IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, 490 NATHAN ROAD. IT WILL START AT 2.30 PM.

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MORE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IN TUEN MUN

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A VARIETY OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IS TO BE BUILT IN TUEN MUN BETWEEN LUNG MUN ROAD AND TUEN MUN NULLAH TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL RECREATION AND SPORTING FACILITIES FOR RESIDENTS OF THE NEW TOWN.

IT WILL OCCUPY AN AREA OF 10.9 HECTARES.

THE WORK WILL INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE OPEN SPACE WITH AN ARTIFICIAL TURF SOCCER PITCH, FOUR BASKETBALL COURTS, CYCLE HIRE AND CYCLING FACILITIES, A PLAY AREA FOR CHILDREN, A ROAD SAFETY TOWN AND A SERVICE BUILDING, ALL IN A 10.9 HECTARE LANDSCAPED PARK SETTING

A NEW CYCLING TRACK WILL ALSO BE CONSTRUCTED ALONG WU SHAN ROAD LINKING THE EXISTING TRACK ON LUNG MUN ROAD.

THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT WHICH IS EXPECTED TO START IN MAY AND BE COMPLETED IN 18 MONTHS.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMITTING TENDERS IS NOON ON MARCH 18.

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SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 1988

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STUDY ROOMS FOR KWUN TONG STUDENTS
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KWUN TONG STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE USE OF THE TEMPORARY STUDY ROOMS FUNDED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD FROM LATER THIS MONTH TO MAY.

THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD HAS ALLOCATED \$30,000 TO SEVEN VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR PROVIDING STUDY ROOM FACILITIES FOR STUDENTS TO PREPARE FOR THEIR EXAMINATIONS.

THE SEVEN STUDY ROOMS ARE PROVIDED BY THE HONG KONG FEDERATION OF YOUTH GROUPS YAU TONG YOUTH CENTRE (3-480339), HONG KONG EVANGELICAL CHURCH KO CHIU ROAD READING CENTRE (3-405489), ZION YOUTH SERVICE CENTRE (3-486031), THE KIN LOK MISSION COVENANT CHURCH (3-7588827), CARITAS SOCIAL CENTRE IN NGAU TAU KOK (3-7502727 EXT. 321), ASSEMBLIES OF GOD WA WAI CHURCH (3-440046) AND THE FRIENDS OF SCOUTING WO LOK CENTRE (3-448013).

STUDENTS CAN CONTACT THE RESPECTIVE AGENCIES CONCERNING THE OPENING DAYS AND HOURS.

THE TEMPORARY STUDY ROOM PROJECT HAS BEEN FUNDED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD SINCE 1983.

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BRIDGE TO BE BUILT SOON TO CARRY LIGHT RAIL VEHICLES
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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT WILL BUILD AN 800-METRE-LONG BRIDGE IN TUEN MUN TO CARRY LIGHT RAIL VEHICLES.

THE BRIDGE WILL BE BUILT BETWEEN PRIME VIEW GARDEN AND SIU HONG COURT, ACROSS CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND THE NULLAH.

IT WILL FORM PART OF THE TOWN CENTRE TO TUEN MUN (NORTH-EAST) REGIONAL LINK OF THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM.

ASSOCIATED WITH THE BRIDGEWORKS, THE EASTERN SPAN OF AN EXISTING FOOTBRIDGE NEARBY WILL BE MODIFIED TO CONNECT IT TO THE FUTURE LRT STOP ON THE LRT BRIDGE.

WORK IS SCHEDULED TO COMMENCE IN MAY AND TAKE ABOUT TWO YEARS TO COMPLETE.

THE DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS WHICH SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY NOON ON MARCH 31.

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SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 1988

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NEW IDENTITY CARDS FOR MEN BORN IN 1957-58
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MEN BORN IN 1957 AND 1958 ARE REQUIRED TO APPLY FOR NEW IDENTITY CARDS FROM MARCH 7 TO APRIL 23.

THEY SHOULD CALL AT ANY ONE OF THE EIGHT NEW IDENTITY CARD ISSUE OFFICES DURING THIS PERIOD.

"THESE OFFICES ARE OPEN FROM 8 AM TO 9.30 PM DAILY, EXCEPT SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SAID.

"AS THE OFFICES ARE VERY CROWDED IN THE EVENINGS, APPLICANTS ARE ADVISED TO GO IN THE MORNINGS AND AFTERNOONS TO AVOID THE QUEUES."

APPLICANTS MAY ALSO MAKE USE OF THE PHONE-IN SERVICE TO ARRANGE FOR AN APPOINTMENT BY CALLING THE OFFICE OF THEIR CHOICE.

THE ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF THE ISSUE OFFICES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- HONG KONG : BASEMENT, 151 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI.
TEL. NO. 5-747070
- EAST KOWLOON : AMOY PLAZA, SECOND FLOOR, 77 NGAU TAU KOK ROAD.
TEL. NO. 3-7553679
- WEST KOWLOON : CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, SECOND FLOOR, 393 CANTON ROAD, YAU MA TEI.
TEL. NO. 3-7232424
- TSUEN WAN : EAST ASIA COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, 29-37 TSUEN FU STREET.
TEL. NO. 0-4981259
- SHA TIN : SHA TIN CENTRE, PODIUM FLOOR, 2-16 WANG POK STREET.
TEL. NO. 0-6059108
- YUEN LONG : HOP YICK CENTRE, SECOND FLOOR, 31 HOP YICK ROAD.
TEL. NO. 0-793291
- TUEN MUN : CHI LOK COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, CHI LOK FA YUEN.
TEL. NO. 0-4580862
- SHEUNG SHUI : TSUEN WO TAI LAU, GROUND FLOOR, 82-84 SAN FUNG AVENUE, SHEK WU HUI.
TEL. NO. 0-927155

THE SPOKESMAN REITERATED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 1988

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SERVICE RESERVOIR TO BE BUILT AT AU TAU

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A SERVICE RESERVOIR WILL BE BUILT AT AU TAU TO HELP MEET THE INCREASING DEMAND FOR POTABLE WATER IN THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT.

IT WILL BE LOCATED ON THE HILLSIDE ABOUT 650 METRES SOUTH-EAST OF THE AU TAU PUMPING STATION.

HAVING A STORAGE CAPACITY OF 30,000 CUBIC METRES, THE NEW SERVICE RESERVOIR IS REQUIRED FOR THE STORAGE OF TREATED WATER FROM THE PROPOSED AU TAU WATER TREATMENT WORKS TO BE BUILT ADJACENT TO AND SOUTH-EAST OF THE PUMPING STATION.

ALSO INCLUDED IN THE PROJECT WILL BE THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ACCESS ROAD OF ABOUT 990 METRES LONG AND LAYING OF TREATED WATER MAINS.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN MAY AND TAKE ABOUT 21 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THIS PROJECT AND TENDERS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED ON OR BEFORE NOON ON MARCH 31.

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