



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1986

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
WORK TO BE DONE ON ENDORSEMENT -- GOVERNOR	1
GOVT COMMITTED TO IMPROVE EDUCATION, SAYS GOVERNOR	2
PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR DECEMBER	3
CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES FOR DECEMBER	5
NEW TOWN SUCCESS REFLECTED IN TUEN MUN	7
MORE POWER TO ARTS CENTRE PROPOSED	9
POPULATION BY-CENSUS TO BE CONDUCTED	11
FIRE PREVENTION IN SQUATTER AREAS PROMOTED	11
OPEN GOVERNMENT PROMOTES CIVIC EDUCATION	12
FIREMEN TOLD TO BE PATIENT	14
FIRE PREVENTION DISPLAY FOR SHAM SHUI PO	15
JOINT EFFORTS TO PROMOTE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY	15
PREHISTORIC KILN UNCOVERED AT YUNG LONG	16
MORE NEW ROADS PROPOSED FOR TAI PO	17
CUSTOMS THANKED FOR COUNTERFEIT FIGHT	18
MUSIC TO SPREAD CRIME PREVENTION MESSAGE	19
BIG DEMAND FOR LOGO DESIGN ENTRY FORMS	19
FESTIVE WEEKEND FOR WAN CHAI RESIDENTS	20
BOARD MEMBERS COMPETE WITH GOVT MEN	21
CHAMBER EXPRESSES VIEWS ON ANIMAL WASTE POLLUTION	22
CHEUNG SHA WAN SITE OFFERED FOR SALE	22
CAS TO HOLD FIRST-AID COMPETITION	23
FRIENDS OF POLICE TO RECEIVE PRIZES	23
FORUM ON HAWKER AND MARKET POLICIES FOR SUNDAY	24
MEMBERS TO TALK ON DB WORK	24
PUBLIC LIGHT BUS STANDS SET UP	25
WATER CUT IN TWO AREAS	26
KORNHILL FLYOVERS OPENING	26

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1986

WORK TO BE DONE ON ENDORSEMENT -- GOVERNOR

* * * * *

THERE WAS SOME PRACTICAL WORK TO BE DONE REGARDING AN ENDORSEMENT IN THE NEW BN(O) PASSPORT STATING THAT ENTRY VISAS WOULD NOT BE REQUIRED BY BONA FIDE VISITORS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, AND THE GOVERNMENT WOULD BE GETTING ON WITH THAT, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE NEW CAMPUS OF THE SHUE YAN COLLEGE IN BRAEMAR HILL, SIR EDWARD SAID THERE WOULD BE FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH THE UK GOVERNMENT ON THE FORMULA FOR THE ENDORSEMENT.

ASKED WHETHER HE SAW THE POSSIBILITY OF FINDING A SATISFACTORY ENDORSEMENT, THE GOVERNOR SAID THE JOB NOW WAS TO GO AND CONTINUE THE DISCUSSIONS AND LOOK FOR ONE.

+AND IF I DIDN'T THINK WE WOULD FIND ONE, I WOULDN'T BE TALKING TO THEM ABOUT IT,+ HE SAID.

+I THINK IF PEOPLE ARE KEEN TO FIND A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION, THEN A SOLUTION OUGHT TO BE AVAILABLE.+

SIR EDWARD POINTED OUT THAT THERE WAS QUITE A LOT OF POSITIVE THINGS IN THE STATEMENT ISSUED THIS MORNING BY MR TIMOTHY RENTON, MINISTER OF STATE AT THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE.

+THEY HAVE SAID THAT PROVIDING THE SATISFACTORY FORMULA CAN BE FOUND, THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WILL AGREE TO THE POSITION BEING MADE PLAIN IN THE PASSPORT, AND THEY HAVE AGREED THAT THIS TEAM SHALL GO.

+SO I THINK THAT THERE WAS QUITE A LOT OF POSITIVE THINGS HE SAID, AND HE ALSO SPOKE QUITE POSITIVELY THIS MORNING ABOUT THE DETERMINATION OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO IMPLEMENT THE JOINT DECLARATION.

+AND WHEN THE TEAM IS READY -- IT WILL BE A WORKING LEVEL TEAM -- WE WILL SEND IT OFF TO LONDON TO, AS MR RENTON PUT IT, ESTABLISH MORE OF THE FACTS,+ HE SAID.

ASKED WHETHER THE PASSAGE OF THE DRAFT HONG KONG (BRITISH NATIONALITY) ORDER WOULD BE DELAYED AS THERE WERE ONLY TWO-AND-A-HALF MONTHS NOW BEFORE IT WOULD BE HEARD AGAIN IN PARLIAMENT, SIR EDWARD SAID HE DOUBTED IF THERE WOULD BE A DELAY BECAUSE THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAD SAID THEY WANTED TO GET IT THROUGH IN ONE YEAR.

+AND THAT MEANS IT WOULD HAVE TO GO THROUGH IN SPRING,+ HE SAID.

/SIR EDWARD

- 2 -

SIR EDWARD SAID HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT THE PLAN IN THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WOULD BE NOW. +THEY'VE ONLY JUST HAD THE DEBATE, BUT THEY WOULD NOW HAVE TO LOOK AGAIN AT THE ORDER IN THE LIGHT OF THE DEBATE,+ HE SAID.

ON MR RENTON'S VISIT TO HONG KONG, SIR EDWARD SAID IT WAS A VERY USEFUL ONE.

+IT GAVE HIM THE OPPORTUNITY TO TELL US ABOUT HIS VISIT TO PEKING, AND OF COURSE TO LISTEN TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, AND TELL THE HONG KONG PRESS ALL ABOUT IT THIS MORNING,+ HE SAID.

ASKED WHETHER THE 1987 REVIEW WOULD ONLY FOCUS ON DEVELOPMENTS IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS, SIR EDWARD SAID THE AGENDA FOR THE 1987 REVIEW WAS IN THE WHITE PAPER.

+WHEN WE PUBLISHED THE WHITE PAPER WE SAID THERE WERE A NUMBER OF THINGS WHICH WOULD BE COVERED AT THAT TIME AND THERE THE AGENDA IS, AND THE AGENDA STILL STANDS,+ HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

GOVT COMMITTED TO IMPROVE EDUCATION, SAYS GOVERNOR
* * * * *

THE GOVERNMENT REMAINS COMMITTED TO CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT BOTH IN EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND IN THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE NEW CAMPUS OF SHUE YAN COLLEGE, SIR EDWARD SAID THE DEMAND FOR POST-SECONDARY PLACES WAS LIKELY TO GROW AS WE MOVED TOWARDS THE 1990'S.

+THE GOVERNMENT HAS ALREADY ACCEPTED THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE EDUCATION COMMISSION THAT THE PROVISION OF SUBSIDIZED POST-FORM-THREE EDUCATION PLACES SHOULD BE EXPANDED.

+THIS EXPANSION WILL RESULT IN MORE WELL QUALIFIED CANDIDATES SEEKING SIXTH-FORM PLACES AND THIS, IN TURN, WILL INCREASE THE DEMAND FOR POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION,+ HE SAID.

SIR EDWARD SAID POST-SECONDARY COLLEGES PLAYED AN IMPORTANT PART IN THE TERTIARY EDUCATION IN HONG KONG AND THE RESPECT AND PRESTIGE WHICH SHUE YAN COLLEGE ENJOYED IN OUR COMMUNITY WAS REFLECTED IN THE FACT THAT NO LESS THAN 4 785 YOUNG PEOPLE APPLIED FOR ADMISSION FOR THE CURRENT ACADEMIC YEAR.

+ 'SHUE YAN' MEANS THE CULTIVATION AND NURTURING OF THE VIRTUES OF MAN. THIS IS THE IDEAL OF SHUE YAN COLLEGE.

+OUR FUTURE DEPENDS VERY MUCH ON OUR YOUNG PEOPLE AND, AS OUR SOCIETY GROWS IN SIZE AND COMPLEXITY, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT OUR YOUNG PEOPLE ARE WELL TRAINED AND EDUCATED SO THAT THEY WILL BE ABLE TO FACE UP TO THE MANY CHALLENGES THAT LIE AHEAD,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR DECEMBER

* * *

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN DECEMBER 1985, AT \$12 326 MILLION, GREW BY 3.8 PER CENT OR \$453 MILLION COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1984, WHILE THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS GREW BY 4.9 PER CENT OR \$445 MILLION TO \$9 465 MILLION, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES PUBLISHED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

TAKING DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TOGETHER, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS GREW BY 4.3 PER CENT OR \$898 MILLION TO \$21 791 MILLION IN DECEMBER 1985. MEANWHILE, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS GREW BY 6.0 PER CENT OR \$1 250 MILLION TO \$22 180 MILLION.

IN CONSEQUENCE, A VISIBLE TRADE GAP (THAT IS, THE PROPORTION OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS NOT COVERED BY THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS) OF 1.8 PER CENT WAS RECORDED IN DECEMBER 1985, COMPARED WITH 0.2 PER CENT IN DECEMBER 1984.

FOR 1985 AS A WHOLE, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS WAS \$235 153 MILLION, MADE UP OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF \$129 882 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS OF \$105 271 MILLION.

COMPARED WITH 1984, THE VALUES OF TOTAL EXPORTS AND OF RE-EXPORTS GREW BY 6.2 PER CENT AND 26.1 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, WHILE THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS FELL BY 5.8 PER CENT. OVER THIS PERIOD, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS GREW BY 3.6 PER CENT TO \$231 420 MILLION.

AS A RESULT, A VISIBLE TRADE SURPLUS OF \$3 733 MILLION, WHICH WAS EQUIVALENT TO 1.6 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED IN 1985. THIS WAS IN CONTRAST TO 1984 WHEN THE VISIBLE TRADE ACCOUNT RECORDED A DEFICIT OF \$1 929 MILLION, REPRESENTING A TRADE GAP OF 0.9 PER CENT.

COMMENTING ON THESE FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT AFTER HAVING DECLINED FOR NINE CONSECUTIVE MONTHS IN TERMS OF YEAR-ON-YEAR COMPARISONS, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED AGAIN IN DECEMBER 1985, SUGGESTING THAT THE DECLINE IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS MIGHT HAVE BOTTOMED OUT.

MEANWHILE, THE GROWTH RATE OF RE-EXPORTS REMAINED RELATIVELY LOW IN DECEMBER, REFLECTING THE EFFECT OF THE MEASURES IMPOSED BY CHINA DURING 1985 TO CONTROL ITS FOREIGN EXCHANGE SPENDING.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE PRESENTS THE PROVISIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FIGURES FOR DECEMBER 1985 -

MERCHANDISE:	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	:	\$12 326 MILLION
	RE-EXPORTS	:	\$ 9 465 MILLION
	TOTAL EXPORTS	:	\$21 791 MILLION
	IMPORTS	:	\$22 180 MILLION
	TRADE BALANCE	:	\$ 389 MILLION (IN DEFICIT)

/COMPARATIVE FIGURES

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

<u>LATEST 3 MONTHS</u>	OCT.-DEC. 1985	OCT.-DEC. 1984	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	34 939	36 048	- 1 109	- 3.1
RE-EXPORTS	26 623	24 922	+ 1 701	+ 6.8
TOTAL EXPORTS	61 562	60 970	+ 592	+ 1.0
IMPORTS	62 463	60 299	+ 2 164	+ 3.6
TRADE BALANCE	- 901	+ 671	- 1 572	
<u>SAME MONTH LAST YEAR</u>	DECEMBER 1985	DECEMBER 1984	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	12 326 (56.6%)	11 873 (56.8%)	+ 453	+ 3.8
RE-EXPORTS	9 465	9 020	+ 445	+ 4.9
TOTAL EXPORTS	21 791	20 893	+ 989	+ 4.3
IMPORTS	22 180	20 930	+ 1 250	+ 6.0
TRADE BALANCE	- 389	- 37	- 352	
<u>LAST MONTH</u>	DECEMBER 1985	NOVEMBER 1985	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	12 326 (56.6%)	11 450 (56.8%)	+ 876	+ 7.7
RE-EXPORTS	9 465	8 724	+ 741	+ 8.5
TOTAL EXPORTS	21 791	20 174	+ 1 617	+ 8.0
IMPORTS	22 180	20 317	+ 1 863	+ 9.2
TRADE BALANCE	- 389	- 143	- 246	

LAST 12 MONTHS	JAN.-DEC. 1985	JAN.-DEC. 1984	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	129 882 (55.2%)	137 937 (62.3%)	- 8 055	- 5.8
RE-EXPORTS	105 271	83 504	+21 767	+26.1
TOTAL EXPORTS	235 153	221 441	+13 712	+ 6.2
IMPORTS	231 420	223 370	+ 8 050	+ 3.6
TRADE BALANCE	+ 3 733	- 1 929	+ 5 662	

- - - - 0 - - - -

CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES FOR DECEMBER * * * *

THE AVERAGE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) AND AVERAGE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) FOR THE WHOLE YEAR OF 1985, AT 159.8 AND 160.1 RESPECTIVELY, WERE 3.2 PER CENT AND 3.5 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY HIGHER THAN THE AVERAGES FOR 1984, ACCORDING TO FIGURES PUBLISHED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE CPI (A) AND CPI (B) FOR DECEMBER 1985 WERE 160.8 AND 161.7 RESPECTIVELY. COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1984, CPI (A) ROSE BY 2.7 PER CENT AND CPI (B), BY 3 PER CENT COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1985 AND BEARING IN MIND THAT THIS COMPARISON MAY BE AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS, BOTH CPI (A) AND CPI (B) INCREASED BY 0.1 PER CENT.

DURING THE THREE-MONTH PERIOD ENDED DECEMBER 1985, THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED CPI (A) INCREASED AT AN AVERAGE RATE OF 0.1 PER CENT PER MONTH AND THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED CPI (B), AT 0.2 PER CENT PER MONTH.

DURING DECEMBER, RETAIL PRICES OF FRESH SEA PRODUCTS, ELECTRICAL CONSUMER GOODS, TELEVISION SETS AND SOUND EQUIPMENT, AND CHARGES FOR MEALS IN RESTAURANTS AND OTHER EATING PLACES WERE HIGHER.

CHARGES FOR PACKAGE TOURS AND ADMISSION TO NIGHT CLUBS AND DISCOTHEQUES AROUND THE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS ALSO WENT UP. ON THE OTHER HAND, RETAIL PRICES OF FRESH VEGETABLES, CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR WERE LOWER.

THE CPI (A) AND CPI (B) ARE BASED ON THE EXPENDITURE PATTERNS OF 50 PER CENT AND 30 PER CENT, RESPECTIVELY, OF URBAN HOUSEHOLDS IN HONG KONG, WHICH WERE DERIVED FROM THE 1979/80 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY. THE CPI (A) REFERS TO HOUSEHOLDS SPENDING BETWEEN \$1 000 AND \$3 499 A MONTH AT THAT TIME, AND THE CPI (B), BETWEEN \$3 500 AND \$6 499 A MONTH.

CHANGES IN THE INDEXES FOR DECEMBER 1985 IN RESPECT OF THE NINE COMMODITY-SERVICE SECTIONS IN THE TWO CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES, AS COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1985 AND DECEMBER 1984, ARE GIVEN BELOW.

(OCTOBER 1979 TO SEPTEMBER 1980 AVERAGE = 100)

SECTION	CPI(A)			CPI(B)		
	INDEX FOR DEC 85	% CHANGE OVER NOV 85	% CHANGE OVER DEC 84	INDEX FOR DEC 85	% CHANGE OVER NOV 85	% CHANGE OVER DEC 84
FOODSTUFFS	154.6	+0.0*	+0.4	155.9	+0.1	+0.8
HOUSING	157.1	+0.1	+2.9	156.1	-	+2.6
FUEL AND LIGHT	145.4	-0.1	-1.0	145.7	-	-0.7
ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO (FOR HOME CONSUMPTION)	234.2	-	+12.4	224.8	+0.0*	+12.0
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	173.8	-0.6	+5.1	176.5	-0.9	+5.5
DURABLE GOODS	125.6	+1.3	+1.2	130.3	+0.9	+1.4
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS	151.8	-0.1	+1.0	149.7	-	+2.0
TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES	184.5	-0.0*	+6.9	185.2	-0.0*	+5.8
SERVICES	192.8	+0.3	+7.9	187.0	+0.5	+7.0
ALL ITEMS	160.8	+0.1	+2.7	161.7	+0.1	+3.0

* LESS THAN 0.05 PER CENT

COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1985, THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS WAS LITTLE CHANGED IN BOTH CPI (A) AND CPI (B). THE INCREASES IN THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF FRESH SEA PRODUCTS AND IN THE AVERAGE CHARGES FOR MEALS IN RESTAURANTS AND OTHER EATING PLACES WERE LARGELY OFFSET BY THE DECREASE IN THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF FRESH VEGETABLES.

THE EFFECT OF MOVEMENTS IN THE RETAIL PRICES OF OTHER FOOD ITEMS ON THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS WAS INSIGNIFICANT.

THE INDEX FOR CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR DECREASED BY 0.6 PER CENT IN CPI (A) AND 0.9 PER CENT IN CPI (B) BECAUSE OF LOWER PRICES OF MEN'S AND WOMEN'S OUTERCLOTHING.

THE INDEX FOR DURABLE GOODS ROSE BY 1.3 PER CENT IN CPI (A) AND 0.9 PER CENT IN CPI (B) MAINLY DUE TO HIGHER PRICES OF ELECTRICAL CONSUMER GOODS, TELEVISION SETS AND SOUND EQUIPMENT IMPORTED FROM JAPAN.

THE INDEX FOR SERVICES INCREASED BY 0.3 PER CENT IN CPI (A) AND 0.5 PER CENT IN CPI (B) AS A RESULT OF HIGHER CHARGES FOR PACKAGE TOURS AND ADMISSION TO NIGHT CLUBS AND DISCOTHEQUES AROUND THE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS.

PRICE MOVEMENTS IN OTHER SECTIONS WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

(FIGURES HERIN REFER TO CPI SERIES NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED. ALL PERCENTAGE CHANGES ARE DERIVED FROM CPI FIGURES TO 2 DECIMAL PLACES.)

MORE DETAILS ARE GIVEN IN THE +CONSUMER PRICE INDEX REPORT+ FOR DECEMBER 1985, WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT \$3 PER COPY FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, HONG KONG; OR FROM THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, ROOM 1904, KAI TAK COMMERCIAL BUILDING, 317 DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG; OR FROM THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT, BASKERVILLE HOUSE, DUDELL STREET, HONG KONG FOR LOCAL AND OVERSEAS MAILINGS.

FOR ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE INDEXES, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AT 3-7216512.

- - - - 0 - - - -

NEW TOWN SUCCESS REFLECTED IN TUEN MUN
* * * *

THE SUCCESS OF THE STRATEGY OF DEVELOPING NEW TOWNS BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR IS CLEARLY VISIBLE IN TUEN MUN, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SIR JOHN BREMRIDGE, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE +TUEN MUN - A NEW CITY FOR NEW PEOPLE+ EXHIBITION AT THE TSIM SHA TSUI CENTRE, SIR JOHN SAID TUEN MUN REPRESENTED A MAJOR INVESTMENT ON THE PART OF THE GOVERNMENT.

THE COMMITMENT FOR FORMING AND BUILDING THE NEW TOWN INFRASTRUCTURE AND SUPPLYING ESSENTIAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES SUCH AS SCHOOLS AND THE HOSPITAL WAS ABOUT \$5.8 BILLION AND THE INVESTMENT THROUGH THE HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR RENTAL HOUSING AND HOME OWNERSHIP ESTATES WAS ABOUT \$2.3 BILLION, HE SAID.

AS REGARDS THE PRIVATE SECTOR, SIR JOHN SAID A LARGE NUMBER OF RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL UNITS HAD BEEN BUILT OR WAS BEING BUILT BY PRIVATE DEVELOPERS.

SIR JOHN NOTED THAT 1986 WOULD BE A LANDMARK YEAR FOR TUEN MUN.

+THE NEW TOWN HALL WILL OPEN, THERE WILL BE A SHARP INCREASE IN POPULATION INTAKE WITH THE OPENING OF SHAN KING ESTATE AND THREE NEW ROAD INTERCHANGES WILL OPEN TO ALLOW THE AREAS TO THE EAST AND WEST OF THE TUEN MUN RIVER TO BECOME A SINGLE ENTITY FOR THE FIRST TIME,+ SIR JOHN SAID.

+THE KCRC HAS STARTED WORK ON THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM, WHICH, IN 1989, WILL MAKE TUEN MUN THE ONLY AREA IN HONG KONG WITH AN INTERNAL TRANSPORT SYSTEM SPECIFICALLY PLANNED AROUND THE USE OF TRAMS,+ HE ADDED.

SIR JOHN SAID THE CAPITAL INVESTMENT WAS ONE THING, OVERCOMING PEOPLE'S LONG-HELD PREJUDICES ABOUT LIVING AND WORKING OUTSIDE THE URBAN AREA WAS ANOTHER.

+TUEN MUN STILL HAS SOME WAY TO GO IN WOOLING PEOPLE AWAY FROM THEIR FONDLY-HELD BELIEF THAT IT IS ABOUT AS ACCESSIBLE AS SHENZHEN,+ HE SAID.

SIR JOHN SAID MANY WHO LIVED IN TUEN MUN WOULD ALSO LIKE IT TO BE THE PLACE THEY WORKED IN.

+IT IS IMPORTANT AT THIS STAGE IN THE TOWN'S DEVELOPMENT FOR INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT TO KEEP PACE,+ HE SAID.

+AT THE MOMENT IT IS LAGGING BEHIND WITH THE RESULT THAT TOO MANY OF THE WORKFORCE HAVE TO SPEND TIME AND MONEY REACHING JOBS IN TSUEN WAN AND KOWLOON,+ SIR JOHN SAID.

HE ENCOURAGED INDUSTRIAL OPERATORS TO LOOK AT THE EXHIBITION WITH AN OPEN MIND AND WEIGH UP THE ADVANTAGES IN TERMS OF LOWER COSTS OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY AND THE RELATIVELY YOUNG, EDUCATED WORKFORCE THAT TUEN MUN HAD TO OFFER WHEN PLANNING THEIR NEW INVESTMENT.

FOLLOWING THE OPENING, SIR JOHN TOURED THE EXHIBITION WHICH HIGHLIGHTED VARIOUS MAJOR ASPECTS OF TUEN MUN, INCLUDING HOUSING, INDUSTRY, TRANSPORT, AND ITS FUTURE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

ON DISPLAY WERE MODELS, GRAPHICS, AND PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT, TUEN MUN HOSPITAL, TUEN MUN INSTITUTE, AND THE TOWN CENTRE COMPLEX, WHICH ARE CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN THE DISTRICT. THE FINDINGS OF A RECENTLY CONDUCTED INDUSTRIAL SURVEY WERE ALSO SHOWN ON A COMPUTER.

THE +TUEN MUN -- A NEW CITY FOR NEW PEOPLE+ EXHIBITION IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE AND SINO LAND COMPANY LIMITED, SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD AND VARIOUS COMMERCIAL ORGANISATIONS AND PUBLIC UTILITY COMPANIES, WITH THE AIM OF BOOSTING THE IMAGE OF TUEN MUN AND ATTRACTING MORE INVESTMENT TO THE NEW TOWN.

THE EXHIBITION, NOW ON DISPLAY ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF TSIM SHA TSUI CENTRE, WILL LAST UNTIL FEBRUARY 2, AND BE OPEN DAILY FROM 10 AM TO 9 PM. ADMISSION IS FREE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

MORE POWER TO ARTS CENTRE PROPOSED
* * * * *

A BILL WHICH SEEKS TO REPLACE THE EXISTING HONG KONG ARTS CENTRE ORDINANCE AND TO PROVIDE FOR AN IMPROVED ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE FOR THE ARTS CENTRE WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE HONG KONG ARTS CENTRE BILL 1986 WOULD ALSO SPELL OUT MORE CLEARLY THE OBJECTS AND POWERS OF THE ARTS CENTRE.

+IT ALSO PROVIDES THAT THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS WILL BE THE SOLE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CENTRE AND WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EFFICIENT FUNCTIONING AND OPERATION OF THE CENTRE,+ HE ADDED.

WHILE THE OBJECTIVES OF THE ARTS CENTRE AS SET OUT IN THE BILL ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE IN THE PRESENT ORDINANCE, THEY ARE EXPANDED AND CLARIFIED.

THERE IS A NEW PROVISION UNDER THE BILL CLARIFYING ITS POWERS TO INITIATE, SUPPORT AND SPONSOR THE CREATION, COMPOSITION AND PRODUCTION OF ARTISTIC ENDEAVOURS, THEREBY UNDERLINING ITS POSITIVE ROLE IN FOSTERING AND DEVELOPING LOCAL ARTISTS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION WOULD ENABLE THE CENTRE TO ACT MORE ACTIVELY AND INDEPENDENTLY IN PROMOTING THE ARTS.

+THE BILL MAKES EXPLICIT THE POWER OF THE CENTRE TO SET ITS OWN FEES, AND TO SPECIFY CONDITIONS FOR THE USE OF THE CENTRE'S FACILITIES, RECEIVE AND SOLICIT GIFTS, PRINT, REPRODUCE OR PUBLISH ANY MATERIAL IT WISHES, AND TO COMMISSION NEW WORKS.

+THESE EXTENDED POWERS WILL ALLOW THE CENTRE TO OPERATE EFFICIENTLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS OBJECTS, BOTH AS A COMMERCIALY-SOUND ORGANISATION IN ITS OWN RIGHT AND AS A FULLY-FLEDGED PROMOTER OF THE ARTS,+ HE SAID.

AS FOR THE MEMBERSHIP AND STRUCTURE OF THE BOARD, THE BILL PROVIDES FOR A LARGER BOARD OF GOVERNORS COMPRISING UP TO 15 MEMBERS AS OPPOSED TO THE PRESENT NINE.

+THREE OF THE BOARD MEMBERS ARE TO BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR. TWO ARE TO BE ELECTED BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF THE CENTRE, AND ANOTHER TWO BY ORGANISATION MEMBERS. THERE WILL ALSO BE ONE MEMBER EACH TO BE APPOINTED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL AND THE REGIONAL COUNCIL. THE CHAIRMAN WILL BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR,+ HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE BOARD WOULD, IN ADDITION, BE EMPOWERED TO CO-OPT AT LEAST TWO BUT NOT MORE THAN FIVE OTHER MEMBERS, BEING PERSONS INTERESTED IN VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE ARTS.

+THIS ARRANGEMENT WILL PROVIDE A BALANCE OF PERSPECTIVES AMONG THE DIFFERENT INTERESTS OF THE VARIOUS BODIES INVOLVED IN THE ARTS CENTRE.+

+THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE, WHO WILL BE CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MANAGEMENT, ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATION OF THE CENTRE, WILL BE APPOINTED BY RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THIS POST WOULD BE FILLED BY THE EXISTING GENERAL MANAGER OF THE ARTS CENTRE UNTIL THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE WAS SO APPOINTED BY THE BOARD.

THE ARTS CENTRE COMMITTEE, PREVIOUSLY THE EXECUTIVE ARM OF THE CENTRE, WILL BE DISBANDED ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BILL.

+THE BOARD IS, HOWEVER, EMPOWERED TO FORM WHATEVER COMMITTEES IT WISHES FOR THE PURPOSE OF PERFORMING OTHER FUNCTIONS WHICH MAY ARISE AND THE BOARD MAY ALSO DELEGATE ITS AUTHORITY AS NECESSARY TO SUCH COMMITTEES.+

OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE BILL DEAL WITH THE PROCEDURES BY WHICH INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF ORGANISATION MEMBERS MAY BE ELECTED TO THE BOARD, THE FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF THE BOARD'S RESPONSIBILITIES AND MATTERS RELATED TO THE RUNNING OF THE CENTRE.

THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT THE BILL HAD BEEN DRAWN UP IN CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH THE ARTS CENTRE BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND ITS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WHO FOUND THE PROVISIONS ACCEPTABLE.

THE BILL WOULD BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON FEBRUARY 5, 1986, HE SAID.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO COMMENT ON THE BILL CAN WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR MUNICIPAL SERVICES, AT HARBOUR CENTRE, 10TH FLOOR, HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, OR TO UMELCO AT 8 JACKSON ROAD, CENTRAL.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1986

- 11 -

POPULATION BY-CENSUS TO BE CONDUCTED

* * * *

A POPULATION BY-CENSUS IS TO BE CONDUCTED IN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS TO UPDATE INFORMATION ON THE DEMOGRAPHIC, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

DETAILS OF THE BY-CENSUS ARE CONTAINED IN THE THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS (1986 POPULATION CENSUS)(MARINE) ORDER 1986 AND THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS (1986 POPULATION CENSUS)(LAND) ORDER 1986 PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THERE WOULD IN FACT BE TWO BY-CENSUSES, NAMELY, THE 1986 POPULATION BY-CENSUS (MARINE) TO BE CARRIED OUT FROM FEBRUARY 4 TO 8 WHEN VIRTUALLY ALL VESSELS RETURN TO PORT FOR THE LUNAR NEW YEAR, AND THE 1986 POPULATION BY-CENSUS (LAND) TO BE CARRIED OUT FROM MARCH 7 TO 16.

+UNLIKE A FULL CENSUS, A BY-CENSUS INVOLVES ONLY A SAMPLE OF THE POPULATION. THE 1986 BY-CENSUS WILL COVER A ONE-IN-SEVEN SAMPLE OF THE POPULATION, THAT IS, ABOUT 210 000 HOUSEHOLDS, OF WHICH ABOUT 1 000 WILL BE MARINE,+ HE SAID.

HE REMINDED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO CHECK THE IDENTITY OF THE CENSUS ENUMERATORS BEFORE ADMITTING THEM TO THEIR PREMISES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

FIRE PREVENTION IN SQUATTER AREAS PROMOTED

* * * * *

FIRE PREVENTION IN SQUATTER AREAS WILL BE THE THEME OF A +KWUN TONG FIRE PREVENTION DAY+ TO BE HELD IN TSUI PING ROAD PLAYGROUND TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

OFFICERS FROM THE KWUN TONG FIRE STATION WILL BE ON HAND TO DEMONSTRATE HOW TO PUT OUT A FIRE ON A MAKE-SHIFT SQUATTER HUT BUILT IN THE PLAYGROUND.

THE CHINA LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY WILL ALSO SET UP COUNTERS TO SHOW VARIOUS METHODS IN WHICH ELECTRICITY IS ILLEGALLY TAPPED AND HOW SUCH ACTIVITIES MAY CAUSE FIRES IN SQUATTER AREAS.

KWUN TONG FIRE STATION STAFF WILL ALSO BE THERE TO ANSWER ENQUIRIES ABOUT FIRE PREVENTION.

OTHER ACTIVITIES INCLUDE GAMES STALLS, A VARIETY SHOW, CHINESE LION DANCES AND MARTIAL ART PERFORMANCE.

/RESIDENTS ARE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1986

- 12 -

RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE FIRE PREVENTION DAY HELD AT 2 PM. ADMISSION IS FREE.

THE EVENT, WHICH FORMS PART OF THE KWUN TONG FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN, IS ORGANISED BY THE CAMPAIGN'S ORGANISING COMMITTEE AND SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD.

THIS YEAR'S CAMPAIGN IS AIMED AT PROMOTING FIRE PREVENTION IN SQUATTER AREAS, PLACING EMPHASIS ON ILLEGAL ELECTRICITY TAPPING.

TOMORROW'S EVENT WILL BE OFFICIATED BY THE SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE, MR ERNEST HUNG; DISTRICT COMMANDER (KOWLOON EAST) OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MR PAUL CHAN; DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR LAM HANG-FAI; AND CHINA LIGHT'S CHIEF ENGINEER (TRANSMISSION AND DEVELOPMENT), MR A.D. LONGMORE.

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KWUN TONG FIRE PREVENTION DAY AT 2 PM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) IN THE TSUI PING ROAD PLAYGROUND.

- - - - - 0 - - - - -

OPEN GOVERNMENT PROMOTES CIVIC EDUCATION

* * * * *

THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SYSTEM OF OPEN GOVERNMENT IN HONG KONG HAS HELPED TO PROMOTE CIVIC EDUCATION IN THE TERRITORY, REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR BARRIE WIGGHAM SAID TODAY.

SPEAKING AT A LUNCH MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG ISLAND WEST, MR WIGGHAM SAID CIVIC EDUCATION WAS AN ON-GOING PROCESS OF LEARNING TO PREPARE INDIVIDUALS TO BE RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS.

+IT HAS TO DO WITH DEVELOPING IN THE INDIVIDUAL A PROPER SENSE OF PERSONAL AND SOCIAL VALUES, AS WELL AS A PROPER AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE COMMUNITY IN WHICH HE LIVES, ITS SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT AND HIS OWN RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS AS A MEMBER OF THAT COMMUNITY,+ HE SAID.

+THE OPEN MEETINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, ITS FINANCE AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEES, THE DISTRICT BOARDS AND THE REGIONAL AND URBAN COUNCILS HAVE GIVEN MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THE OPPORTUNITY TO OBSERVE, AT FIRST HAND, THE FUNCTIONING OF THE VARIOUS LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT,+ HE ADDED.

/+ALTHOUGH EXECUTIVE

+ALTHOUGH EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETINGS TAKE PLACE BEHIND CLOSED DOORS, DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL ARE PUBLICISED ON A REGULAR AND SYSTEMATIC BASIS,+ HE SAID.

MR WIGGHAM SAID WIDE PRESS COVERAGE WAS OFTEN GIVEN TO MATTERS OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE WHICH HAD ENABLED THE PUBLIC TO BECOME AWARE OF AND UNDERSTAND BETTER HOW THE SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT WORKED.

+THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION'S EFFORTS IN THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION HAVE BEEN CONCENTRATED ON PUBLICISING THE WORK OF DISTRICT BOARDS AND THE PART PLAYED BY DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION IN HONG KONG'S SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT,+ HE SAID.

+IN ADDITION TO SUCH PUBLICITY ACTIVITIES, CAMPAIGNS TO ENCOURAGE VOTER REGISTRATION, THE NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES AND VOTER TURNOUT AT DISTRICT BOARD AND OTHER ELECTIONS ALSO PLAY AN IMPORTANT PART IN FOSTERING A SENSE OF CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY AMONG MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, THUS HELPING TO MEET THE OBJECTIVES OF CIVIC EDUCATION,+ HE ADDED.

MR WIGGHAM SAID CIVIC EDUCATION COULD ALSO BE PROMOTED THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS AND ACTIVITIES.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN UNDERTAKING DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE CIVIC EDUCATION FOR MANY YEARS, AND WOULD CONTINUE TO UPDATE THESE ACTIVITIES IN RESPONSE TO THE DEMANDS OF CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES.

THE ROLE OF THE GOVERNMENT IN THIS FIELD IS MAINLY ONE OF DISSEMINATING INFORMATION ON THE STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT MACHINERY AND ANY CHANGES IN THE LAW OR POLICIES, THE ORGANISATION OF PUBLICITY CAMPAIGNS ON SPECIFIC SUBJECTS WHICH PROMOTE AN AWARENESS OF CIVIC AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES, AND THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF MORE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN THE ORGANISATION OF CIVIC EDUCATION ACTIVITIES.

+SUCH ACTIVITIES ARE MORE EFFECTIVE WHEN ORGANISED NOT BY THE GOVERNMENT BUT VOLUNTARILY BY PUBLIC AND NON-GOVERNMENT BODIES AND ORGANISATIONS,+ HE SAID.

MR WIGGHAM SAID AN INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE WAS SET UP LATE LAST YEAR TO MONITOR AND CO-ORDINATE GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF CIVIC EDUCATION OUTSIDE SCHOOLS, AND A MAJOR TERRITORY PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN ON CIVIC EDUCATION WOULD BE MOUNTED IN 1986-87.

HE SAID THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN PROMOTING CIVIC EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS FOR MANY YEARS THROUGH COURSES ON SOCIAL STUDIES AND ON ECONOMIC AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ISSUED A SET OF +GUIDELINES FOR CIVIC EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS+ LAST AUGUST, AND A CIVIC EDUCATION CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE HAS BEEN FORMED IN EACH COLLEGE OF EDUCATION TO ENSURE THAT FUTURE TEACHERS ARE TRAINED TO IMPLEMENT THE GUIDELINES.

+SINCE THE PUBLICATION OF THE GUIDELINES, MORE THAN 1 500 IN-SERVICE TEACHERS AND HEADS OF SCHOOLS HAVE ATTENDED SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO INTEGRATE CIVIC EDUCATION INTO THE SCHOOL PROGRAMME,+ MR WIGGHAM SAID.

HE SAID THAT AMONG THE MANY RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF A CITIZEN WERE THE RIGHT TO STAND FOR ELECTION AND THE RIGHT TO VOTE.

HE REMINDED THE GATHERING THAT THE NOMINATION PERIOD FOR CANDIDATES IN THE FORTHCOMING URBAN COUNCIL AND REGIONAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS WOULD CLOSE ON JANUARY 31.

+THE RESPONSE HAS BEEN SATISFACTORY SO FAR BUT I STILL HOPE THAT MORE CANDIDATES WILL BE NOMINATED IN THE FEW REMAINING DAYS OF THE NOMINATION PERIOD,+ HE SAID.

MR WIGGHAM ALSO URGED ALL REGISTERED VOTERS TO TURN OUT ON MARCH 6 TO CAST THEIR VOTES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

FIREMEN TOLD TO BE PATIENT
* * * * *

FIREMEN SHOULD SHOW PATIENCE AND COMPASSION EVEN THOUGH THEY MIGHT RECEIVE BRICKBAT INSTEAD OF BOUQUET FOR THEIR GOOD WORK, THE CIVIL SECRETARY FOR THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MR PETER WALKER, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT A PASSING-OUT CEREMONY FOR 37 RECRUITS AT THE DEPARTMENT'S TRAINING SCHOOL IN PAT HEUNG, MR WALKER SAID:
+SOMETIMES THE PUBLIC YOU SERVE MAY BE CRITICAL BUT THAT IS BECAUSE THEY ARE UNDER STRESS DUE TO FIRE, CALAMITY OR BEREAVEMENT.+

+WHEN IT HAPPENS BE PATIENT AND COMPASSIONATE,+ HE ADDED.

MR WALKER SAID THE FIREMEN'S FUNCTION WAS TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY, USUALLY IN DIFFICULT AND DANGEROUS CIRCUMSTANCES. THIS DEMANDED GREAT COMMITMENT AND DEDICATION AS WELL AS COURAGE.

+TO HELP YOU TO DO THIS, YOU HAVE SOMETHING THAT ORDINARY CIVILIAN JOBS CANNOT PROVIDE - AND THAT IS COMRADESHIP. THAT WILL SUSTAIN YOU IN TIMES OF DANGER; YOU WILL NOT BE ALONE BUT WILL HAVE YOUR COMRADES TO RELY ON - AND WHO WILL RELY ON YOU,+ HE ADDED.

MR WALKER LATER REVIEWED A PARADE BY THE GRADUATES AND A CONTINGENT OF 67 RECRUITS UNDER TRAINING AND PRESENTED THE BEST RECRUIT AWARD TO MR LEUNG KING-CHEUNG.

- - - - 0 - - - -

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1986

- 15 -

FIRE PREVENTION DISPLAY FOR SHAM SHUI PO

THE MINI FIRE PREVENTION EXHIBITION ORGANISED BY THE FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN PUBLICITY WORKING GROUP TO REMIND RESIDENTS OF THE PREVAILING HIGH FIRE RISK WILL MOVE TO SHAM SHUI PO ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 26).

THE DISPLAY WILL BE STAGED AT THE MAPLE STREET PLAYGROUND FROM NOON TO 3 PM.

VISITORS WILL SEE PANELS OF PHOTOGRAPHS PREPARED BY THE FIRE SERVICES AND AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENTS HIGHLIGHTING THIS YEAR'S FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN THEME THAT CARELESSNESS CAUSES FIRE. THERE WILL ALSO BE FIRE FIGHTING APPLIANCES ON SHOW.

A BOOKLET ON FIRE PREVENTION IN THE HOME AS WELL AS BOOKMARKS AND CALENDAR CARDS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO VISITORS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

JOINT EFFORTS TO PROMOTE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY

THE AIMS OF PROMOTING INDUSTRIAL SAFETY WILL BE ACHIEVED THROUGH THE CONTINUING CONCERTED EFFORTS OF THE GOVERNMENT, EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS IN VARIOUS TRADES, AND THROUGH THE POSITIVE PARTICIPATION BY PEOPLE FROM DIFFERENT SECTORS.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY TV VARIETY SHOW AT A.C. HALL THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING, A LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBER, DR HO KAM-FAI, SAID HE FIRMLY BELIEVED THAT THIS TARGET COULD BE REACHED.

DR HO SAID INDUSTRIAL SAFETY WAS SOMETHING THAT EVERYBODY SHOULD BE CONCERNED ABOUT.

OVER THE YEARS, HE SAID, THE GOVERNMENT HAD DONE A LOT OF WORK IN ENFORCING SAFETY LAWS AND IN PUBLICISING SAFETY MESSAGES THROUGH PUBLICITY EFFORTS.

MANY SUCCESSFUL INDUSTRIALISTS AND RESPONSIBLE WORKERS HAD ALSO DONE A GREAT JOB IN PROMOTING INDUSTRIAL SAFETY, HE ADDED.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WERE THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR RON BRIDGE, AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF BROADCASTING, MR SIMON LUN.

THE VARIETY SHOW, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG, WAS RECORDED FOR SCREENING AT 10.30 PM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) ON TVB'S JADE NETWORK.

/THE SHOW

THE SHOW IS ONE OF A SERIES OF PUBLICITY ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TO PROMOTE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY.

THESE INCLUDED A SEVEN-MONTH RADIO SERIES ON RTHK'S RADIO 1, AN +INDUSTRIAL SAFETY WEEK+ ON TVB'S +ENJOY YOURSELF TONIGHT+ SHOW, A TV DOCUMENTARY ON RTHK'S COMMON SENSE PROGRAMME, VARIOUS QUIZZES, SLOGAN AND POSTER DESIGN COMPETITIONS, TV AND RADIO API'S (ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLIC INTEREST), AND THE DISPLAY OF POSTERS.

DISPLAY MATERIALS AT THE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY TRAINING CENTRE WHICH HAS MOVED TO THE DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS IN HARBOUR BUILDING HAVE BEEN UPDATED.

ALSO FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE LARGE NUMBER OF VISITORS AND PEOPLE ATTENDING SAFETY COURSES AT THE CENTRE IS THE ADDITION OF MODERN AUDIO-VISUAL EQUIPMENT.

NEXT MONTH, THE DEPARTMENT WILL STAGE A LARGE-SCALE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND HEALTH EXHIBITION AT THE NEW WORLD PLAZA IN TSIM SHA TSUI.

- - - - 0 - - - -

PREHISTORIC KILN UNCOVERED AT YUNG LONG
* * * *

THE GOVERNMENT-COMMISSIONED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TEAM WHICH HAS BEEN INVESTIGATING REMAINS AT YUNG LONG ON THE COAST OF DEEP BAY SINCE EARLY DECEMBER, IS NOW ENTERING A CRITICAL STAGE OF ITS EXCAVATION AS IT IS WORKING ROUND WHAT IS BELIEVED TO BE A PREHISTORIC KILN.

THE PRESENT EXCAVATION APPEARS TO CONFIRM THE EARLIER EVALUATION THERE WAS AN UNDISTURBED STRATUM APPARENTLY DATING TO THE LATE NEOLITHIC PERIOD CONTAINING TRACES OF A KILN AND ASSOCIATED KILN FURNITURE OF THAT TIME.

AS THE PRESENT EXCAVATION PROCEEDS, MORE AND MORE IS BEING REVEALED OF THE ANCIENT KILN STRUCTURE AND THE ARTEFACTS WHICH ARE ASSOCIATED WITH IT.

THE DIRECTOR OF THE EXCAVATION, MR BRIAN PEACOCK SAID: +KILN DEBRIS AND FURNITURE VERY SIMILAR TO THAT FROM YUNG LONG HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM OTHER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES IN HONG KONG, BUT UP TO NOW, NO STRUCTURES SIMILAR TO THIS ONE HAVE BEEN RECOGNISED.+

MR PEACOCK SAID THAT THE TEAM WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF THE FINDS FROM THE EXCAVATION SHOULD PERMIT A PARTICULARLY ACCURATE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE KILN AND THE TECHNOLOGICAL PROCESSES IN WHICH IT WAS INVOLVED.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE AT YUNG LONG WAS FIRST REPORTED BY THE HONG KONG ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY. ITS PROBABLE IMPORTANCE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY REVEALED IN THE COURSE OF WORK CONDUCTED BY THE GOVERNMENT-COMMISSIONED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

THE SITE WHICH APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN LEFT UNDISTURBED FOR SEVERAL THOUSAND YEARS IS NOW BEING THREATENED BY LARGE-SCALE CONSTRUCTION WORKS IN THE AREA AND ITS MEDIUM AND LONG-TERM SECURITY IS IN DOUBT BECAUSE OF THE DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR THE LOCALITY.

BECAUSE OF THIS THREAT AND THE EXTREME VULNERABILITY TO DAMAGE OF THIS ANCIENT SITE, THE GOVERNMENT DECIDED TO COMMISSION THE EXCAVATION WHICH IS EXPECTED TO UNCOVER ABOUT 20 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL SITE.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL TEAM CONSISTS OF MR YIP CHO-HONG, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY (ANTIQUITIES AND MONUMENTS OFFICE) OF THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH AND A GRADUATE OF THE INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON, AND MISS TARYN NIXON AND MISS SARAH JANE WILCOCK, BOTH OF WHOM ARE GRADUATES OF THE INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY.

MR PEACOCK HIMSELF IS A PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGIST AND FORMER CURATOR OF THE MUSEUM OF HISTORY. HE WAS THE CONSULTANT ARCHAEOLOGIST WHO CONDUCTED THE GOVERNMENT'S ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL TEAM IS ASSISTED BY A DEDICATED GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS, MANY OF WHOM ARE EXPERIENCED IN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION IN HONG KONG AND ELSEWHERE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH SAID EXCAVATION WORK WOULD CONTINUE FOR SEVERAL MORE WEEKS, AND ANYONE INTERESTED IN TAKING PART ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS COULD CONTACT THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY (ANTIQUITIES AND MONUMENTS OFFICE), TELEPHONE 3-7216283.

- - - - 0 - - - -

MORE NEW ROADS PROPOSED FOR TAI PO

* * * * *

THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS PROPOSING THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW ROADS IN TAI PO TO PROVIDE VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO EXISTING AND PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS TO THE EAST OF KWONG FUK AND FU SHIN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

THE WORKS INVOLVE CONSTRUCTING TWO DISTRIBUTOR ROADS TOTALLING ABOUT 1.8 KILOMETRES IN LENGTH, A ROAD BRIDGE, A PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLIST BRIDGE, FOUR PEDESTRIAN-CYCLIST SUBWAYS, A FOOTPATH AND CYCLETRACKS, A STORMWATER CULVERT AND ASSOCIATED STORMWATER DRAINAGE SYSTEMS.

LAND FORMATION AND CONSTRUCTION OF RIVER WALLS AND SEA WALLS WILL ALSO BE INCLUDED.

PERMANENT ALTERNATIVE ACCESS WILL BE PROVIDED TO CATER FOR EXISTING ACCESSSES THAT HAVE TO BE CLOSED.

TEMPORARY ROADS AND FOOTPATHS WILL BE MAINTAINED DURING THE CONSTRUCTION PERIOD TO MINIMISE INCONVENIENCE TO THE PUBLIC.

A NOTICE CONCERNING THE PROPOSED WORKS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE GAZETTE.

ANYONE WHO WANTS TO OBJECT TO THE PROPOSAL SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS BY MARCH 25.

- - - - 0 - - - -

CUSTOMS THANKED FOR COUNTERFEIT FIGHT
* * * * *

THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE, MR HARNAM GREWAL, TODAY (FRIDAY) RECEIVED TWO PLAQUES FROM THE AGENT OF +LACOSTÉ+ AND +CROCODILE+ FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S EFFORTS AGAINST THE MARKETING OF FALSELY-MARKED PRODUCTS.

SPEAKING AT A PRESENTATION CEREMONY AT THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE SENIOR OFFICERS' MESS, MR GREWAL SAID THAT THE FIGHT AGAINST COUNTERFEITING AND COPYRIGHT VIOLATIONS WOULD BE MUCH MORE EFFECTIVE IF GOVERNMENT AND OWNERS OF TRADE MARKS AND COPYRIGHT JOINED FORCES AND COOPERATED TO THE FULL.

HE SAID THE CUSTOMS WOULD CONTINUE TO TAKE VIGOROUS ACTION AGAINST TRADERS DEALING IN COUNTERFEIT PRODUCTS.

+WITH CONTINUING SUPPORT AND CO-OPERATION FROM TRADE MARK OWNERS, WE SHALL BE ABLE TO CONTAIN THE COUNTERFEITING PROBLEM AND THEREBY REDUCE THE DAMAGE TO LEGITIMATE TRADERS AND PROTECT CONSUMERS FROM THE FRAUD WHICH COUNTERFEIT PRODUCTS REPRESENT.+

DURING 1985, THE DEPARTMENT CARRIED OUT A TOTAL OF 1 295 OPERATIONS AGAINST TRADERS IN COUNTERFEIT GOODS WHICH RESULTED IN GOODS VALUED AT \$30.6 MILLION BEING SEIZED AND 571 ARRESTS; 774 TRADERS WERE PROSECUTED AND FINES TOTALLING \$3.4 MILLION WERE IMPOSED; AND 29 PERSONS WERE GIVEN EITHER IMMEDIATE OR SUSPENDED CUSTODIAL SENTENCES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1986

- 19 -

MUSIC TO SPREAD CRIME PREVENTION MESSAGE

* * * * *

THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE WILL STAGE AN ELABORATE MUSICAL SHOW ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 26) AFTERNOON IN YUEN LONG ESTATE TO ENHANCE AWARENESS AMONG LOCAL RESIDENTS OF THE NEED TO PREVENT CRIME DURING THE LUNAR NEW YEAR PERIOD.

THE SHOW, TO BE HELD NEAR THE YUEN LONG ESTATE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, WILL FEATURE AN ON-THE-SPOT +SONG DEDICATION+ BY WELL-KNOWN DISC JOCKEYS FROM RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG AND LIVE PERFORMANCES BY PROFESSIONAL SINGERS.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A QUIZ ON CRIME PREVENTION FOR AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION.

MEANWHILE, AS PART OF THE YEAR-END FIGHT CRIME DRIVE, THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO ORGANISE A SEMINAR IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE YUEN LONG POLICE STATION AT THE YUEN LONG TOWN HALL ON MONDAY (JANUARY 27) EVENING.

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE FIGHT CRIME SHOW AND SEMINAR, TO BE HELD AT 3 PM ON SUNDAY AND AT 8 PM ON MONDAY.

- - - - - 0 - - - - -

BIG DEMAND FOR LOGO DESIGN ENTRY FORMS

* * * * *

ENTRY FORMS FOR THE REGIONAL COUNCIL LOGO DESIGN COMPETITION WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR ONLY ONE MORE WEEK.

A REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THERE HAD BEEN A BIG DEMAND FOR THE FORMS SINCE THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE COMPETITION EARLY THIS MONTH.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID ENTRY FORMS WERE OBTAINABLE AT ALL DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS MARCH 1. THE PANEL OF JUDGES WILL INCLUDE LEADING PROFESSIONAL DESIGNERS MR ALAN CHAN, MR CHEUNG SHU-SUN AND MR BASIL PAO.

/THE COMPETITION

- 20 -

THE COMPETITION OFFERS A CASH PRIZE OF \$30 000 AND A TROPHY FOR THE WINNER. TROPHIES WILL ALSO BE AWARDED TO THE TWO RUNNERS-UP.

ORGANISED BY THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL, THE COMPETITION IS AIMED AT ACQUIRING A LOGO FOR THE REGIONAL COUNCIL WHICH WILL COME INTO BEING ON APRIL 1.

- - - - - 0 - - - - -

FESTIVE WEEKEND FOR WAN CHAI RESIDENTS
* * * * *

THE WAN CHAI FESTIVAL WILL PRESENT A VARIETY OF EVENTS FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS DURING THE WEEKEND.

A DRAWING COMPETITION WITH THE THEME +WAN CHAI AND ME+ WILL BE HELD FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN AT THE MORRISON HILL ROAD TEMPORARY PLEASURE GROUND AT 10 AM TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

TWO FREE CONCERTS HAVE ALSO BEEN ORGANISED TOMORROW FOR RESIDENTS AT THE SOUTHRN PLAYGROUND FROM 3 PM TO 5 PM AND 8 PM TO 10 PM. THE CONCERTS WILL FEATURE WESTERN AND CHINESE ORCHESTRAL PERFORMANCES.

ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 26), A CHILDREN'S DAY WILL BE HELD AT THE SOUTHRN PLAYGROUND FROM 2 PM TO 5 PM. THE FAIR WILL FEATURE VARIOUS GAMES STALLS.

IN ADDITION, A +MUSIC BUS+ FEATURING THE HONG KONG BRASS BAND PERFORMING ON AN OPEN-DECK BUS WILL TOUR THE DISTRICT STOPPING AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS. THE BUS WILL START FROM THE SOUTHRN PLAYGROUND AT 2 PM.

THAT EVENING, AN INTER-SCHOOL MUSIC NIGHT WILL BE HELD AT 7 PM IN THE LADY HO-TUNG TECHNICAL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AT KA NING PATH, CAUSEWAY BAY. SCHOOL CHOIRS, FOLK SONG AND DANCE GROUPS, ORCHESTRAS, PIPE BANDS FROM 15 SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE EVENT.

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

- - - - - 0 - - - - -

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1986

- 21 -

BOARD MEMBERS COMPETE WITH GOVT MEN
* * * *

DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL COMPETE AGAINST GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE IN THE THIRD SOUTHERN DISTRICT TELEMATCH ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 26) AT THE ABERDEEN SPORTS GROUND IN WONG CHUK HANG.

THE TELEMATCH IS THE LAST EVENT OF THE DISTRICT'S YEAR-LONG INTER-FIRM-AND-FACTORY CHAMPIONSHIP CUP AND INTER-AREA CHAMPIONSHIP CUP COMPETITIONS, BOTH OF WHICH ARE SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD AND JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL AND THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT SPORTS AND RECREATION COUNCIL.

TEAMS FROM THE DISTRICT'S SIX AREA COMMITTEES AND ABOUT 16 FIRMS AND FACTORIES HAD TAKEN PART IN RECENT COMPETITIONS OF SOCCER, BASKETBALL, SWIMMING, COLOURED BOAT, 4 BY 100 RELAY RACES AND TELEGAMES.

+THE AIM OF THESE ACTIVITIES IS TO PROMOTE SPORTS PARTICIPATION AMONG PEOPLE OF ALL AGES AND ALL WALKS OF LIFE,+ A SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID.

FOUR TEAMS -- TWO FROM THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD AND ONE EACH FROM THE DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND THE SPORTS AND RECREATION COUNCIL -- WILL PARTICIPATE IN SUNDAY'S INVITATION TELEMATCH FEATURING THE RESCUE OF A PRINCESS FROM A CASTLE.

MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT BOARD TEAMS ARE MR KAN MAN-LEE, MR CHAN YAU-YUE, MR POON SHUN-KWOK, MR MAN HON-MING, MR KO TAM-KAN, MR CHU YIU-WAH, MR CHAN YUEK-SUT AND MR KWOK WAI-MING.

THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE TEAM, LED BY DISTRICT OFFICER, MR EDDY CHAN, INCLUDES MR D. DEPTFORD OF THE POLICE FORCE, MR LEE KA-MO OF THE MARINE DEPARTMENT AND MR LEE WANG-ON OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THE EVENT WILL BE FOLLOWED BY THE PRESENTATION OF AWARDS FOR THE INTER-AREA AND INTER-FIRM-AND-FACTORY CHAMPIONSHIPS, THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT ATHLETES FITNESS DEVELOPMENT MOTIVATION SCHEME, AND THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR OUTSTANDING ATHLETE.

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

EVENTS OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT TELEMATCH WILL START AT 9 AM, WHILE THE INVITATION MATCH FOLLOWED BY THE PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WILL START AT 11 AM ON SUNDAY. YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT TO BE HELD AT THE ABERDEEN SPORTS GROUND, WONG CHUK HANG ROAD.

- - - - - 0 - - - - -

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1986

- 22 -

CHAMBER EXPRESSES VIEWS ON ANIMAL WASTE POLLUTION
* * *

THE NEW TERRITORIES GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HAS EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT MEASURES SHOULD BE TAKEN TO CONTROL POLLUTION CAUSED BY ANIMAL WASTE, BUT THAT GOVERNMENT SHOULD SHOW CONCERN TO THOSE WHO MAY BE AFFECTED BY THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION.

THIS VIEW WAS EXPRESSED AT A MEETING HELD YESTERDAY (THURSDAY) BETWEEN THE CHAMBER AND OFFICIALS OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION TO DISCUSS THE CONSULTATIVE PAPER ON POLLUTION CONTROLS ON ANIMAL WASTE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR CNTA SAID THE MAJORITY OF CHAMBER MEMBERS FELT THAT THE PROBLEM OF POLLUTION IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WAS A MATTER FOR SERIOUS CONCERN.

+THEY EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD PROVIDE SOME ASSISTANCE TO THOSE WHO MAY BE AFFECTED TO COPE WITH RE-LOCATION AND OTHER MATTERS,+ HE ADDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

CHEUNG SHA WAN SITE OFFERED FOR SALE
* * * * *

THE LANDS DEPARTMENT IS PUTTING UP FOR SALE BY TENDER A MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK AND BUS TERMINUS SITE AT CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

THE 6 675-SQUARE-METRE SITE, KNOWN AS NEW KOWLOON INLAND LOT NO. 5955, IS ALSO PERMITTED TO BE USED FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL, BUT EXCLUDING RESIDENTIAL, PETROL-FILLING STATION, HOTEL AND GODOWN PURPOSES.

UNDER THE BUILDING COVENANT, THE DEVELOPER HAS TO COMPLETE AT LEAST 43 700 SQUARE METRES OF GROSS FLOOR AREA ON THE SITE BEFORE JUNE 30, 1990.

TENDERS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY FEBRUARY 28.

- - - - 0 - - - -

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1986

- 23 -

CAS TO HOLD FIRST-AID COMPETITION

* * * *

THE CIVIL AID SERVICES WILL HOLD AN INTER-UNIT FIRST AID AND CASUALTY HANDLING COMPETITION AT THE CAS CADET TRAINING CENTRE IN CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD, KOWLOON FROM 9 AM TO 12 NOON ON SUNDAY.

A TOTAL OF 17 TEAMS WILL COMPETE IN THE EVENT AND THE KOWLOON REGIONAL COMMANDER, MR LEE HOK-SEE, WILL PRESENT A TROPHY TO THE WINNING TEAM AND SOUVENIR PENNANTS TO OTHER TEAMS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT WHICH WILL BE HELD FROM 9 AM TO 12 NOON ON SUNDAY AT THE CAS CADET TRAINING CENTRE, 325 CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

----- 0 -----

FRIENDS OF POLICE TO RECEIVE PRIZES

* * * *

A TOTAL OF 23 PEOPLE WHO HAD HELPED THE POLICE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME IN THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT WILL BE GIVEN AWARDS AT A CEREMONY ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 26).

THE AWARDEES -- 22 MEN AND A WOMAN - AGED BETWEEN 15 AND 68, WILL RECEIVE SOUVENIRS AND PRIZES DONATED BY THE LIONS AND LIONESSE CLUB OF LION ROCK WHICH SPONSOR THE FRIENDS OF THE POLICE AND CITIZENS' AWARD.

PRIZES WILL ALSO BE PRESENTED TO THE WINNERS OF THE FIGHT CRIME BOOKMARK DESIGN COMPETITION.

OFFICIATING AT THE PRESENTATION WILL BE THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR GORDON JONES; KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT POLICE COMMANDER, MR BENNY NG; CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT'S FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, MR CHENG WOO-YICK; PRESIDENT OF LIONS CLUB OF LION ROCK, MR SIU YUK-SHING AND PRESIDENT OF LIONESSE CLUB OF LION ROCK, MISS CATHERINE LO.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE FRIENDS OF POLICE AND CITIZENS' AWARD PRESENTATION AT 10 AM ON SUNDAY IN THE RECREATION ROOM, FIFTH FLOOR OF HO MAN TIN POLICE STATION, PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD.

----- 0 -----

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1986

- 24 -

FORUM ON HAWKER AND MARKET POLICIES FOR SUNDAY
* * * * *

HAWKERS, TRADERS AND RESIDENTS OF CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT WILL BE ABLE TO AIR VIEWS ON THE CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT ON HAWKERS AND MARKET POLICIES AT AN OPEN FORUM ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 26).

THE FORUM, TO BE HELD AT THE WESTERN DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE, IS ORGANISED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD.

GUEST SPEAKERS AT THE FORUM INCLUDE URBAN COUNCILLOR, MR STEPHEN M.L. LAU; STAFF OFFICER (HAWKER LICENSING) OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MR YU HON-PING; PRESIDENT OF THE HONG KONG AND KOWLOON MERCHANTS AND HAWKERS ASSOCIATION, MR WUT CHIU; AND CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG VEGETABLE, FOOD, GROCERY HAWKERS' WELFARE FRATERNITY ASSOCIATION LIMITED AND THE HONG KONG, KOWLOON AND N.T. JOINT HAWKERS RESEARCH LIMITED, MR LO WAI-MAN.

RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE FORUM WHICH WILL START AT 8 PM. ADMISSION IS FREE.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE FORUM AT 8 PM ON SUNDAY AT THE WESTERN DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE, 36A WESTERN STREET, SAI YING PUN.

----- 0 -----

MEMBERS TO TALK ON DB WORK
* * * * *

MEMBERS OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD WILL TALK ON THE WORK OF THE BOARD AND ITS COMMITTEES TO SOME 50 YOUTHS TAKING PART IN A CIVIC EDUCATION PROGRAMME AT A CONSULTATIVE CONFERENCE ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 26).

THIS IS THE CONCLUDING ACTIVITY OF A THREE-WEEK PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION PROGRAMME ORGANISED BY THE BOARD'S SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE AND SOCIAL SERVICES BODIES IN THE DISTRICT.

/TSUEN WAN

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1986

- 25 -

TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ANGUS MIU, WILL BE ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE AT 4 PM AT THE SHEK WAI KOK COMMUNITY HALL, SHEK WAI KOK ESTATE, TSUEN WAN.

----- 0 -----

PUBLIC LIGHT BUS STANDS SET UP
* * * * *

A SERIES OF MEASURES WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN MONG KOK AND WONG TAI SIN FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (JANUARY 27) TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW IN THE AREAS:

THESE ARE:

- * A NEW PUBLIC LIGHT BUS (PLB) STAND WITH SIX SPACES WILL BE SET UP IN FIFE STREET BETWEEN TUNG CHOI STREET AND FA YUEN STREET, MONG KOK;
- * A NEW PLB STAND WITH 14 SPACES WILL BE SET UP IN SHEUNG TAK STREET, WONG TAI SIN, NEAR THE EXISTING GREEN MINIBUS TERMINUS;
- * A NEW PLB STAND WITH THREE SPACES WILL BE SET UP IN WAI WAH STREET, TSZ WAN SHAN, 30 METRES WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH TSZ WAN SHAN ROAD;
- * THE EXISTING PLB STAND IN WAI WAH STREET 50 METRES EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH WAN WAH STREET WILL BE EXTENDED TO PROVIDE FOUR ADDITIONAL SPACES;
- * RAILINGS WILL BE INSTALLED ALONG THE EASTERN KERBSIDE OF FA YUEN STREET BETWEEN MONG KOK ROAD AND ARGYLE STREET; AND
- * SEVEN METERED PARKING SPACES IN FIFE STREET BETWEEN TUNG CHOI STREET AND FA YUEN STREET WILL BE CANCELLED.

----- 0 -----

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1986

- 26 -

WATER CUT IN TWO AREAS
* * * * *

FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN KOWLOON CITY AND THE NORTH DISTRICT WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR SEVERAL HOURS BETWEEN MONDAY (JANUARY 27) AND THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR MAINS WORK.

IN KOWLOON CITY, SUPPLY TO PREMISES BOUNDED BY JUNCTION ROAD, TUNG TAU TSUEN ROAD AND NGA TSIN LONG ROAD, INCLUDING NGA TSIN WAI ROAD, DUMBARTON ROAD, FUK LO TSUEN ROAD, HAU WONG ROAD AND LION ROCK ROAD WILL BE STOPPED FROM 11 PM ON MONDAY TO 6 AM THE NEXT DAY.

IN NORTH DISTRICT, SUPPLY TO ALL PREMISES ALONG JOCKEY CLUB ROAD FROM SAN FUNG AVENUE TO HUNG KIU AND MAN KAM TO ROAD FROM HUNG KIU TO MUK WU INCLUDING SHEUNG SHUI TSUEN, SHEUNG SHUI WA SHAN, HUNG KIU SAN TSUEN, FU TEI AU ROAD, LO WU TSUEN, LIU POK TSUEN, SAN UK LING TSUEN, MUK WU TSUEN AND SHA LING TSUEN WILL BE SUSPENDED BETWEEN 9 AM AND 5 PM ON MONDAY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

KORNHILL FLYOVERS OPENING
* * * * *

THE FLYOVERS LINKING THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR WITH ROAD B IN KORNHILL WILL BE OPENED TO TRAFFIC FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (JANUARY 27).

- - - - 0 - - - -



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN - SUPPLEMENT

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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1986

STATEMENT BY MR TIMOTHY RENTON, MINISTER OF STATE
AT THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE, AT PRESS CONFERENCE
IN HONG KONG ON JANUARY 24, 1986

I AM DELIGHTED TO MEET YOU ALL AGAIN, ALTHOUGH SORRY ONCE AGAIN TO GET YOU ALL UP SO EARLY IN THE MORNING. AS YOU KNOW, THE PRIME PURPOSE OF MY VISIT THIS TIME IS TO TAKE UP THE PLAN RICHARD LUCE HAD BEFORE HE BECAME MINISTER OF THE ARTS TO VISIT CHINA AND THE FAR EAST. I AM PARTICULARLY PLEASED THAT THIS GIVES ME THE CHANCE OF A FURTHER SHORT VISIT TO HONG KONG, LESS THAN THREE MONTHS AFTER I LAST LEFT. I CAME AS YOU KNOW FROM CHINA WHERE I HAVE JUST SPENT FIVE DAYS. THIS WAS MY FIRST VISIT AND IT PRESENTED AN INVALUABLE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE CHINA AT FIRST HAND. THIS INCLUDED VISITS TO SHANGHAI, CANTON AND SHENZHEN, WHERE I WAS ABLE TO SEE DEVELOPMENTS MANY OF WHICH WILL BE OF CONSIDERABLE FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL INTEREST TO HONG KONG.

I AM SURE IT IS RIGHT THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF A BROADER AND DEEPER ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BRITAIN AND CHINA, AND THE INCREASE IN CONTACT AND UNDERSTANDING WHICH WILL GO WITH IT, CAN ONLY BE GOOD FOR HONG KONG. THIS WILL CONSOLIDATE CHINA'S OPEN-DOOR POLICY, AND ENHANCE HONG KONG'S IMPORTANCE AS A UNIQUELY CONVENIENT PLACE FROM WHICH BUSINESS CAN BE DONE IN CHINA.

IN PEKING, I HAD A SERIES OF USEFUL TALKS WITH CHINESE LEADERS, PRIMARILY WITH VICE MINISTER ZHOU NAN BUT ALSO WITH FOREIGN MINISTER WU XUEQIAN AND STATE COUNCILLOR JI PENGFEI, THE HEAD OF THE HONG KONG AND MACAU AFFAIRS OFFICE OF THE STATE COUNCIL, WHO WAS OF COURSE THE GOVERNOR'S GUEST HERE IN HONG KONG RECENTLY, AND WITH XU ZHEN OF THE STATE ECONOMIC COMMISSION. THE ATMOSPHERE AND THE TONE OF THE MEETINGS WERE VERY SATISFACTORY. IT HARDLY NEEDS SAYING THAT THE BETTER MINISTERS ON EACH SIDE KNOW EACH OTHER, THE MORE LIKELY THERE IS TO BE TRUST AND UNDERSTANDING.

/SINCE MY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1986

- 2 -

SINCE MY ARRIVAL YESTERDAY AFTERNOON, I HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO BRIEF THE GOVERNOR ON MY TALKS AND HAVE HAD USEFUL AND -- I THINK IT IS FAIR TO SAY -- STIMULATING MEETINGS WITH EXCO AND THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. I HAVE LISTENED CAREFULLY TO WHAT I HAVE HEARD AND WILL OF COURSE BE CONVEYING THE VIEWS EXPRESSED TO ME TO MY COLLEAGUES BACK IN LONDON.

YOU WILL NOT BE SURPRISED TO HEAR THAT THE MAIN SUBJECT OF YESTERDAY'S DISCUSSIONS WAS NATIONALITY. I APPRECIATE THAT THIS IS A MATTER OF DEEPLY FELT CONCERN IN HONG KONG, AND, PERHAPS, BEFORE INVITING YOUR QUESTIONS, I CAN JUST SAY A FEW WORDS ON THAT SUBJECT. YOU WILL BE AWARE THAT I ATTENDED THE DEBATE IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ON THE DRAFT (AND I EMPHASISE THE WORD DRAFT) ORDER-IN-COUNCIL. THE DEBATES IN PARLIAMENT WERE PRELIMINARY ONES BEFORE THE ORDER IS FORMALLY SUBMITTED, PROBABLY SOME TIME IN MARCH. I HAVE ALSO FOLLOWED AT A DISTANCE THE DEBATE IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS ON MONDAY WHICH TOOK PLACE WHILE I WAS IN CHINA. NEEDLESS TO SAY, I HAVE ALSO BEEN FOLLOWING THE DEBATE IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND IN THE PRESS HERE. AS I TOLD THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS LAST NIGHT, I SHOULD LIKE TO MAKE CLEAR THAT, AS REGARDS AN ENDORSEMENT IN THE BN(O) PASSPORT, PROVIDING A SATISFACTORY FORMULA CAN BE FOUND, HMG WILL AGREE TO THE POSITION BEING MADE CLEAR IN THE PASSPORTS. AS REGARDS THE ETHNIC MINORITIES AND THE EX-SERVICEMEN, IT WAS RIGHT THAT MINISTERS SHOULD MAKE CLEAR TO PARLIAMENT THE DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED IN THE PROPOSALS WHICH HAVE BEEN MADE TO THEM. BUT, AS THEY ALSO MADE CLEAR, THEIR MINDS ARE NOT CLOSED ON THESE ISSUES AND, HAVING ENSURED THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO MISUNDERSTANDING OF THE DIFFICULTIES, THEY ARE READY TO EXAMINE THESE MATTERS FURTHER. THEY HAVE AGREED WITH THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT THAT A TEAM OF OFFICIALS SHOULD VISIT LONDON TO PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE MINORITIES AND THE STATUS OF THE EX-SERVICEMEN CONCERNED. IN CONCLUSION, I SHOULD LIKE TO EMPHASISE THAT THE PURPOSE OF THIS VISIT IS PRIMARILY TO ESTABLISH MORE OF THE FACTS. THE DIFFICULTIES ARE REAL ONES; I DO NOT WISH TO RAISE HOPES TOO HIGH.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS :

MR IVOR ROBERTS: YES, SIR.

Q. I'M FROM WHAT INVESTMENT, BUT I SPEAK ALSO AS A CONSTITUENT OF MR RENTON BACK IN HIS OWN CONSTITUENCY. I HAVE TOO MANY QUESTIONS FOR A NEWS CONFERENCE. I WILL PUT THEM IN WRITING. FIRST OF ALL, DOES MR RENTON NOT AGREE THAT THE SINO-BRITISH AGREEMENT IS IN FACT AN UNEQUAL TREATY FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE PEOPLE OF BRITAIN AND HK? AND SECONDLY, DOES HE RECOGNISE THAT THERE ARE VERY DEEP FEARS FELT BY THE CATHOLIC AND OTHER CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES HERE ABOUT THEIR RIGHTS OF RELIGION AFTER 1997?

/MR RENTON :

MR RENTON : I KNOW MR BURKE OF OLD. HE'S A CONSTITUENT OF MINE AND HAS IN THE PAST BEEN A POLITICAL OPPONENT OF MINE. I WELCOME HIM HERE IN HK. ON HIS QUESTION OF THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION BEING AN UNEQUAL AGREEMENT, NO, SIR. I THINK FROM THE RECEPTION GIVEN TO THAT AGREEMENT WHEN IT WAS ANNOUNCED, FROM THE OVERWHELMING VIEWS OF THE ASSESSMENT OFFICE HERE IN HK, THIS AGREEMENT WAS WIDELY WELCOMED. IT WAS A UNIQUE ACHIEVEMENT AND OUR AIM NOW, AND I WISH TO STRESS THIS RIGHT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE QUESTIONS, IS TO SEE THAT THE PRINCIPLES OF THAT AGREEMENT ARE ENUNCIATED, ARE IMPLEMENTED IN FULL IN THE YEARS AHEAD. WE STAND FOUR SQUARE BEHIND THAT AGREEMENT. ON YOUR QUESTION OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOMS, THESE ARE GUARANTEED IN THE JOINT DECLARATION, AND WE WISH TO SEE, AS I'VE SAID, THAT THE JOINT DECLARATION IS IMPLEMENTED TO THE FULL.

Q. EMILY LAU, FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW : MR RENTON, IN PEKING YOU STATED THE IMPORTANCE OF CONVERGENCE BETWEEN POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT IN HK AND THE DRAFTING OF THE BASIC LAW WITHOUT SAYING HOW THAT CAN BE DONE. SOME PEOPLE IN HK ARE SUGGESTING THAT THE FIRST DRAFT OF THE BASIC LAW, DEALING WITH THE POLITICAL SYSTEM, SHOULD BE RELEASED IN 1987 TO COINCIDE WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S REVIEW, OR MAYBE EVEN TO PRE-EMPT IT AS A WAY OF HELPING CONVERGENCE. HOW DO YOU FEEL ON THIS?

MR RENTON : THANK YOU VERY MUCH. THREE POINTS QUICKLY. FIRST, I THINK FAR TOO MUCH PLAY, IF I MAY SAY SO, HAS BEEN MADE ABOUT THE WORD CONVERGENCE. IT IS A TECHNICAL TERM. WHAT IT MEANS IS A QUESTION OF TWO SIDES COMING TOGETHER, IF YOU LIKE, TWO RAILWAY TRACKS MEETING, AT A CROSSING AT A GIVEN POINT IN TIME AND SEEING THAT THE RAILWAY STATION ... THE RAILWAY TRAIN THEN GOES OVER SMOOTHLY FROM ONE SET OF TRACK TO THE OTHER. IT'S NOTHING MORE THAN THAT AND I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD SPEND TOO MUCH TIME ON THE SEMANTICS OF THE WORD CONVERGENCE. THE QUESTION OF HOW THIS COMING TOGETHER IS WORKED OUT IN THE YEARS AND MONTHS AHEAD BETWEEN THE REVIEW HERE IN 1987 FOR EXAMPLE AND THE ELECTIONS OF 1988 AND THE BASIC LAW, THAT OF COURSE IS OBVIOUSLY WHAT THE DISCUSSIONS AND THE DETAILED WORK IS GOING TO BE ABOUT IN THE MONTHS AHEAD, AND I DON'T WISH TO ANTICIPATE THE RESULTS OF THAT. IT IS OBVIOUSLY QUITE CLEAR TO ME THAT IF THERE IS TO BE THE SUCCESS THAT WE WANT TO SEE OF THE JOINT DECLARATION, THAT COMING TOGETHER HAS TO HAPPEN SO THAT THERE IS A SMOOTH TRANSITION AND CONTINUING STABILITY AND PROSPERITY THROUGHOUT THE 1990'S.

EMILY LAU : WHAT ABOUT THE QUESTION OF THE BASIC LAW BEING RELEASED IN 1987?

MR RENTON : OH, YES. YOUR THIRD POINT. I'M SORRY. I HAVEN'T ANY PRE-VIEW ON THAT. IT IS OF COURSE UP TO THE CHINESE, THE QUESTION OF THE DRAFTING OF THE BASIC LAW. I UNDERSTAND THAT MEMBERS OF BOTH THE BASIC LAW DRAFTING COMMITTEE AND THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE HAVE ALREADY BEEN APPOINTED, AND PRESUMABLY THERE ARE, I KNOW, MANY HONGKONGERS REPRESENTED ON BOTH OF THOSE COMMITTEES. IF THEY THINK IT IS APPROPRIATE THAT A DRAFT SHOULD BE RELEASED EARLY ON, THEY WILL BE MAKING THAT POINT KNOWN TO THE CHINESE SIDE THROUGH THE COMMITTEES.

Q. NICK BEACROFT FROM RTHK. ON OUR PROGRAMME LAST NIGHT WE HAD AN UNOFFICIAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR MR DESMOND LEE SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF A NUMBER OF UNOFFICIAL COUNCILLORS, SAYING THAT THEY MAY PASS A MOTION DENOUNCING THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT OVER THE NATIONALITY ISSUE. I'D LIKE YOUR REACTION TO THAT. I KNOW YOU'VE GIVEN US SOME COMMENTS ABOUT WHAT YOU ARE GOING TO DO ABOUT THE NATIONALITY ISSUE, BUT I'D LIKE YOUR COMMENTS ABOUT HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT NOW THAT LEGCO MAY ACTUALLY DENOUNCE THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THAT?

MR RENTON : WELL, THEY'RE PARLIAMENTARIANS ON LEGCO, THEY'RE REPRESENTING ALL VIEWS OF HK AS ARE PARLIAMENTARIANS IN WESTMINSTER REPRESENTING ALL VIEWS AND IT'S UP TO THEM, INDIVIDUAL PARLIAMENTARIANS, TO EXPRESS THE OPINIONS THAT THEY WANT TO, THAT AFTER ALL BE IT IN HK, BE IT IN WESTMINSTER, IS THE BENEFIT OF THE FREE SOCIETY IN WHICH WE ALL LIVE. I MUST CONFESS THOUGH THAT FROM THE ATMOSPHERE THAT I FOUND IN LEGCO YESTERDAY WITH THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS I WOULD BE VERY SURPRISED IF THIS HAPPENED. I FOUND A ... OBVIOUSLY INTERESTED RECEPTION, A CONCERNED RECEPTION, THAT LISTENED VERY CAREFULLY TO WHAT I HAD TO SAY AND THE STATEMENT THAT I HAVE JUST GIVEN YOU, AND MY OWN VIEW IS THAT IT SHOWS WHAT WE'VE SAID ALL ALONG, THAT MINISTERS IN LONDON DO NOT HAVE CLOSED MINDS ON THESE ISSUES. WE ARE LISTENING AND I WOULD HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THE STATEMENT OF MINE WAS MUCH WELCOMED BY THE UNOFFICIALS AND THAT THEY WILL NOW BE WAITING TO SEE, FOR EXAMPLE, WHAT COMES OUT OF THE TEAM OF OFFICIALS GOING TO LONDON WHO ARE GOING TO TALK MORE, OBVIOUSLY, ABOUT THE WORDING OF THE ENDORSEMENT, ALL OF THESE THINGS LIE AHEAD OF US. I FOUND A VERY INTERESTED AND DARE I SAY FRIENDLY RECEPTION FROM UNOFFICIALS LAST NIGHT.

NICK BEACROFT : IS THERE A DANGER THOUGH THAT AN ANTI-BRITISH FEELING IS BUILDING UP IN HK?

MR RENTON : WELL, YOU'RE THE HONGKONGERS. YOU CAN TELL ME BETTER ... (INTERJECTION FROM N. BEACROFT) ... I WOULD JUST MAKE THE POINT THAT I DON'T SEE IT MYSELF AT ALL.

Q. I HAVE A QUESTION IN CHINESE. (TRANSLATOR) : I'M FROM COMMERCIAL RADIO. WHEN YOU LAST VISITED HK YOU SAID THAT BRITAIN WILL IN FUTURE PLAY AN ADVISORY ROLE IN POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN HK. IS THIS STILL THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S STAND AND IS THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT ... WHAT IS THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S VIEW ON THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF H.E.'S POSITION AND THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IN HK?

MR RENTON : I'M VERY SORRY. I DIDN'T CATCH MOST OF THAT IN TRANSLATION. WOULD SOMEONE LIKE TO GIVE IT TO ME IN ENGLISH? I DO APOLOGISE. I DON'T THINK THIS ONE IS WORKING. WOULD SOMEONE LIKE TO GIVE ME THAT QUESTION ... YES.

COMMERCIAL RADIO ENGLISH : WE WERE ASKING THAT LAST TIME, DURING YOUR VISIT HERE, YOU SAID THAT BRITAIN WILL NOT REALLY TAKE THE ACTIVE ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF HK, PARTICULARLY THE DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT. IS THE BRITISH STAND STILL THE SAME NOW?

/MR RENTON :

MR RENTON : I THINK THE POSITION ON THIS IS QUITE CLEAR AND I HOPE THAT IS AN ACCURATE TRANSLATION, THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR GIVING IT TO ME. THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF HK UP UNTIL THE YEAR 1997 LIES FIRMLY AND SQUARELY WITH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, AND THERE'S NO QUALIFICATION TO THAT. THAT IS AN ABSOLUTE STATEMENT. BUT I HAVE NO DOUBT, AND I HOPE THAT I MADE THIS CLEAR WHEN I WAS LAST HERE ON MY VERY INTERESTING VISIT IN OCTOBER, THAT WHAT WE ALL WISH TO DO IS TO DEVELOP AN ELECTORAL SYSTEM, A GOVERNMENTAL SYSTEM, A CONSTITUTIONAL SYSTEM, WHATEVER YOU THINK IS THE MOST APPROPRIATE WORD, IN HK THAT IS APPROPRIATE TO THE UNIQUE NEEDS AND SYSTEM OF HK. NOW I'VE NO DOUBT THAT THROUGH LEGCO, WITH THE HELP OF LEGCO, THE ADMINISTRATION, THE GOVERNMENT HERE IN HK WILL BE CONSIDERING HOW BEST TO TAP OPINION IN HK OVER THE MONTHS AHEAD PRIOR TO THE 87 REVIEW. THAT IS AFTER ALL THEIR JOB, SOMETHING THAT WAS DONE, FOR EXAMPLE, IN RELATION TO THE ASSESSMENT OFFICE OR BEFORE THE GREEN PAPER A FEW YEARS AGO THAT LED ON TO THE WHITE PAPER OF 84. FROM THAT OF COURSE THE HK GOVERNMENT WILL BE GIVING VIEWS TO US IN LONDON AS TO WHAT SHOULD GO INTO THE ELECTORAL REVIEW OF 87. BUT THIS IS A MATTER IN WHICH THE VIEWS IN HK, BECAUSE IT IS A UNIQUE SITUATION, ARE OBVIOUSLY OF VERY SUBSTANTIAL IMPORTANCE. THIS IS A SYSTEM TO BE DEVELOPED THAT WILL SUIT THE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE IN HK. BUT IN SAYING THAT I'M NOT BACKING OUT IN ANY SENSE FROM THE OVERRIDING RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF HK THAT RESTS WITH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IN LONDON.

Q. I'M FROM THE AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION. PATRICIA PENN. THERE DOES SEEM TO BE A MASSIVE CONTRADICTION BETWEEN WHAT YOU SAID IN NOVEMBER AND WHAT YOU SAID IN PEKING BECAUSE THE TERM CONVERGENCE WAS USED BY YOURSELF ABOUT EIGHT TIMES IN PEKING I THINK. NOW, IN NOVEMBER YOU EMPHASISED THAT IT WOULD BE UP TO HONGKONGERS TO DEVISE A SYSTEM THAT WOULD BE SUITABLE TO HK AND IT WOULD NOT BE FOR BRITAIN. NOW THE MESSAGE WE'RE GETTING IS THAT CHINA AND BRITAIN ARE TOGETHER GOING TO STEER HK TOWARDS SOMETHING THAT IS SUITABLE TO FUTURE GOVERNMENT.

MR RENTON : I REALLY WOULD SUGGEST, WITH ALL RESPECT, THAT YOU DON'T LOOK TOO MUCH FOR HIDDEN MEANINGS OR SIGNIFICANCES IN THE USE OF THE WORD CONVERGENCE. FIRST, I USED THAT IN PEKING BECAUSE I DON'T KNOW OF A BETTER WORD. I'VE TRIED TO EXPLAIN BRIEFLY WHAT IS IN OUR MIND THE CONCEPT OF TWO RAILWAY TRACKS COMING TOGETHER AT THE CROSSING POINT, BUT IF YOU CAN SUGGEST TO ME, MADAM, A BETTER WORD THAT MEANS THE SAME THING I'LL GLADLY USE IT. I SAID THAT IN PEKING, I'LL SAY THAT NOW. NOW THE QUESTION ABOUT THE FUTURE GOVERNMENT AND LEGISLATURE OF THE HK SPECIAL ADMINISTRATION, IT IS ENSHRINED IN ANNEXE ONE ATTACHED TO THE JOINT DECLARATION THAT ... I'LL READ THE ACTUAL WORDS ... THE GOVERNMENT AND THE LEGISLATURE OF THE HK SPECIAL ADMINISTRATION SHOULD BE COMPOSED OF LOCAL INHABITANTS. THE WORD LOCAL IS THEN USED TWO OR THREE TIMES, AT LEAST TWICE, AGAIN IN THAT PARAGRAPH. SO OBVIOUSLY THIS IS A SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT THAT HAS TO SUIT LOCAL PEOPLE AND THE LOCAL CONDITIONS HERE IN HK. THAT IS ENSHRINED IN, AS I SAY, ANNEXE ONE ATTACHED TO THE JOINT AGREEMENT. BUT IN SAYING THAT I DON'T RUN AWAY FROM THE OVERALL RESPONSIBILITY OF HMG FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF HK, NOR DO I DENY THE CONCEPT THAT THERE IS A NEED FOR A COMING TOGETHER OF WHAT HAPPENS IN 87 WITH THE REVIEW, THE ELECTIONS OF 88, WITH THE BASIC LAW, BECAUSE IF THERE WEREN'T THERE OBVIOUSLY COULD BE A VERY UNPLEASANT JOLT SOME TIME AFTER 97. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THAT'S COMMONSENSE.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1986

- 6 -

Q. SIMON FUNG FROM RTHK. AFTER YOUR MEETING WITH PEKING OFFICIALS YOU MENTIONED SOMETHING AND I QUOTE : THERE WAS CONVERGENCE IN OUR VIEWS ABOUT THE DEVELOPMENT OF CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT IN HK. BUT YOU ALSO SAID THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS NO PRECONCEIVED IDEA ON OUR POLITICAL REFORMS, SO WHY IS THERE A DISCREPANCY THERE?

MR RENTON : I DON'T SEE ANY DISCREPANCY AT ALL. THERE IS CONVERGENCE ABOUT THE .. THERE'S AGREEMENT ON THE NEED TO CONVERGE ON THE PRINCIPLE, THAT IS A PRINCIPLE STATEMENT, IT IS A STATEMENT ABOUT PRINCIPLES, AND IT MUST BE ACCEPTABLE TO ALL OF THOSE ... AND FORGET ABOUT THE WORD CONVERGENCE, GIVE ME A BETTER ONE IF YOU WISH, BUT THAT PRINCIPLE OF THE NEED FOR COMING TOGETHER SO THAT THERE AREN'T SEVERE JOLTS MUST BE ONE THAT THE PEOPLE IN HK, WHO ARE PRAGMATIC PEOPLE, WHO ABOVE ALL WISH TO SEE A CONTINUITY OF THE PROSPERITY AND STABILITY THAT HAS BEEN THE HALLMARK OF HK IN THE 20 YEARS SINCE I FIRST CAME HERE, THAT THEY WANT TO SEE THAT GO ON. THAT'S QUITE CLEAR, BUT AS TO WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENS IN THE 87 REVIEW, THE DETAIL OF THAT, I SAY, AND I REPEAT, WE AS A BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAVE NO PRECONCEIVED IDEAS ABOUT WHAT SHOULD GO INTO THAT REVIEW. WE'RE WAITING TO LISTEN AND TO BE TOLD THROUGH THE HK GOVERNMENT. EQUALLY I HAVE TO SAY I DON'T THINK THAT THE CHINESE AT THIS EARLY STAGE HAVE ANY PRECONCEIVED IDEAS ABOUT WHAT SHOULD GO INTO THE BASIC LAW.

Q. CLAUDIA MO, AFP. SIR, WHY DID YOU FAIL TO MENTION THE WISHES OF HK PEOPLE ALTOGETHER IN YOUR STATEMENTS IN PEKING?

MR RENTON : I'M NOT AWARE THAT I DID AND IN ANY CASE I HAVE JUST MADE IT ABSOLUTELY PLAIN NOW IN MY STATEMENT, IN WHAT I HAVE SAID, AND SO I RE-EMPHASISE THAT OF COURSE THE WISHES OF HK PEOPLE HAVE TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. IF I DIDN'T SAY THAT IN PEKING, PERHAPS I WASN'T ASKED THE RIGHT QUESTION.

Q. HUGH DAVIES, DAILY TELEGRAPH : IF DURING THIS REVIEW THERE'S A MOVE FROM LEGCO FOR DIRECT ELECTIONS, WHAT WOULD BE THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE?

MR RENTON : THAT'S A TOTALLY HYPOTHETICAL QUESTION. I'M NOT PREPARED TO GIVE HYPOTHETICAL ANSWERS TO HYPOTHETICAL QUESTIONS ABOUT SITUATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS THAT DON'T YET EXIST.

Q. HUGH DAVIES : BUT SURELY THIS AGREEMENT IS BASED ON A HYPOTHETICAL CONCEPT THAT CAPITALISM AND COMMUNISM CAN EXIST IN A MARXIST STATE?

/MR RENTON :

MR RENTON : WELL OBVIOUSLY THE AGREEMENT IS BASED ON THE CONCEPT, AS YOU SAY, OF ONE COUNTRY, TWO SYSTEMS. THAT IS A UNIQUE CONCEPT. IT WAS WIDELY HERALDED AND APPLAUDED IN 1984 WHEN THE DECLARATION WAS SIGNED AND WE SHOULD NEVER FORGET HOW WELL RECEIVED THAT DECLARATION AND THE AGREEMENT WAS. NOTHING HAS HAPPENED TO CHANGE THAT, BUT THE WORKING OUT OF THIS IN PRACTICE ... THERE ARE NOT SET TEXTBOOK RULES OBVIOUSLY AND IT IS THAT THAT IS NOW GOING TO CONCERN US ALL IN THE YEARS AHEAD, THAT WE'RE ALL GOING TO BE THINKING ABOUT AND THAT STIMULATES THE QUESTIONS FROM YOU THIS MORNING AND FROM THE UNOFFICIALS IN MANY CASES LAST NIGHT. IT WOULD BE QUITE WRONG FOR ME TO MAKE PRIOR JUDGEMENTS ABOUT DIRECT OR INDIRECT ELECTIONS FOR EXAMPLE WHEN IT IS ALL HYPOTHETICAL, NONE OF THESE PROPOSITIONS HAVE BEEN BROUGHT FORWARD YET. WE'VE GOT TO WAIT AND SEE HOW THE SUGGESTIONS FLOW FORWARD IN THE PERIOD LEADING UP TO THE 87 REVIEW TO WHICH, AS A GOVERNMENT, WE'RE COMMITTED AND WE'RE ALSO COMMITTED TO THE KNOWLEDGE THAT IT MUST BE A SERIOUS REVIEW.

Q. LAI TING-YIU FROM HK ECONOMIC JOURNAL. MR RENTON YOU TOLD THE PRESS IN PEKING THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WOULD GET IN TOUCH WITH THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT IN FUTURE TO AVOID MISUNDERSTANDINGS. I WANT TO KNOW, WERE THERE ANY MISUNDERSTANDINGS BETWEEN THESE TWO SIDES BEFORE YOU WENT TO PEKING. AND WAS IT THIS KIND OF MISUNDERSTANDING THAT CAUSED THE STATEMENT OF MR XU JIATUN, THE DIRECTOR OF XINHUA, SAYING THAT SOMEBODY VIOLATED THE AGREEMENT? WERE THERE ANY MISUNDERSTANDINGS BETWEEN THE BRITISH AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENTS BEFORE YOU WENT TO PEKING?

MR RENTON : THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP HAS NOW MET TWICE, WHICH IS THE MOST REGULAR AND OFFICIAL CONTACT BETWEEN THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT AS YOU WILL KNOW, AND THE PURPOSE OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP MEETINGS, AND THE LAST ONE WAS IN DECEMBER, IS TO HAMMER OUT MISUNDERSTANDINGS, TO IRON THEM OUT AND TO ARRIVE AT SENSIBLE CONCLUSIONS. NOW OBVIOUSLY IN THE YEARS AHEAD THERE ARE GOING AT TIMES TO BE WHAT I WOULD CALL MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS WORKING OUT THE DETAILS OF THE AGREEMENT. BUT THE POINT OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP FIRST OF ALL WILL BE TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT SENSIBLE, PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS ARE ARRIVED AT, AND THIS HAS ALREADY HAPPENED IN THE JLG. I THINK AFTER THE FIRST TWO MEETINGS WE CAN SEE JUST WHAT A SUCCESSFUL BODY IT IS BEING, AND THE AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON THE RIGHT OF ABODE ENDORSEMENT IN THE NEW PASSPORT, THAT IS ONE VERY CONCRETE INSTANCE OF THAT. SO OF COURSE THESE CONTACTS BETWEEN THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE NOT ONLY THROUGH THE JLG BUT ALSO AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL BECAUSE I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT IT IS ONLY BY REGULAR CONTACT AND INCREASED EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AT ALL LEVELS THAT WE CAN AVOID FUTURE MISUNDERSTANDINGS AND IN PRACTICE AND IN A PRAGMATIC WAY WORK OUT THE DETAIL OF THIS REMARKABLE DECLARATION AND AGREEMENT.

Q. MAY CHENG OF ATV. THE HK UMELCO MEMBERS SAID IF BRITAIN INSISTS ON EVADING ITS RESPONSIBILITY ON THE BN(O) PASSPORT, THE NON-CHINESE MINORITY GROUP AND THE EX-SERVICEMEN, THEN THE HK GOVERNMENT WILL BE MADE INTO A LAME DUCK GOVERNMENT. DO YOU SEE THAT AS THE SITUATION OF THE HK GOVERNMENT?

MR RENTON : NO, I CERTAINLY DON'T. I SEE ABSOLUTELY NO SIGN OF THE HK GOVERNMENT BEING A LAME DUCK GOVERNMENT. THE ECONOMY HERE IS STRONG, THE HANG SENG INDEX WAS AT A RECORD HIGH A FEW DAYS AGO, PROPERTY PRICES ARE GOOD, AND FOR EXAMPLE THE LAND COMMISSION WORKING JOINTLY BETWEEN HK OFFICIALS AND THE CHINESE HAS ALREADY REACHED AGREEMENT ON THE HANDLING OF LAND PROPERTY SALES AND ON HOW THE PREMIUM ON THESE SALES SHOULD BE DIVIDED. NOW ALL OF THIS IS A SIGN OF ABSOLUTELY ... AN ABSOLUTELY EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT LIVING UP TO ITS RESPONSIBILITIES, AND THE SAME WITH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT. I MEAN INSOFAR AS WE HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION WE'RE GOING TO LIVE UP TO OUR RESPONSIBILITIES TO IMPLEMENT THE JOINT DECLARATION IN FULL. ON THE ACTUAL QUOTATION, MADAM, WITH WHICH YOU STARTED OF UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS, I WOULD LIKE TO THINK, AND I HAVE STRONG CONFIDENCE THAT THIS WILL BE SO, THAT IN THE LIGHT OF THE STATEMENT THAT I ANNOUNCED LAST NIGHT AND THAT I REPEATED TO YOU THIS MORNING UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS, AS I SAID EARLIER, THEY WILL NOW SEE THAT WE HAVE NOT GOT A CLOSED MIND ON THESE VERY SENSITIVE NATIONALITY ISSUES AND THEY OF COURSE WILL BE RIDING ALONG WITH US TO SEE WHAT WE CAN WORK OUT IN PRACTICAL DETAILS IN THE WEEKS AND MONTHS AHEAD ON THESE ISSUES. BUT LET ME STRESS AGAIN THERE ARE VERY SUBSTANTIAL DIFFICULTIES OF PRINCIPLE ON THE QUESTION OF THE ETHNIC MINORITIES AND THE EX-SERVICEMEN. THESE WERE SPELT OUT IN DETAIL IN BOTH THE HOUSE OF COMMONS AND HOUSE OF LORDS DEBATE BY THE RESPONSIBLE MINISTERS. I DON'T WANT THEREFORE TO GO INTO THEM IN DETAIL AGAIN THIS MORNING UNLESS YOU WISH ME TO, BUT IT WOULD BE QUITE WRONG NOT TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THESE VERY SUBSTANTIAL DIFFICULTIES OF PRINCIPLE EXIST.

Q. MR RENTON, FENELLA SUN FROM RTHK. YOU MENTIONED THAT BRITAIN HAS NO PRECONCEIVED IDEA ABOUT HOW HK IS TO BE RUN, BUT IS IT TRUE THAT BRITAIN AND CHINA HAVE SOME KIND OF AGREEMENT ON THE BASELINE OR THE PRINCIPLES OF HOW HK IS GOING TO BE RUN? IF SO, WHAT ARE THE PRINCIPLES, AND, IF NOT, WHY DON'T YOU RAISE THIS POINT WITH THE CHINESE?

MR RENTON : I THINK, MADAM, YOU REALLY ARE ANTICIPATING THE DISCUSSIONS, THE DETAILED DISCUSSIONS AS I SAID EARLIER THAT ARE GOING TO OCCUPY YOU ALL OVER THE WEEKS AND MONTHS AHEAD. I MEAN, QUITE CLEARLY YOU ARE GOING TO HAVE AN INTENSIVE POLITICAL DEBATE IN HK. THAT WAS ABSOLUTELY MADE CLEAR TO ME WHEN I WAS HERE IN OCTOBER. THERE ARE GOING TO BE ALL SORTS OF VIEWS EXPRESSED BY INTERESTED HK PEOPLE, BE THEY PROFESSORS, BE THEY JOURNALISTS, BE THEY PARLIAMENTARIANS, ABOUT THE WAY THE COURSE OF CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE SHOULD HAPPEN. NOW THAT IS YOUR RIGHT, YOUR PRIVILEGE, IN A FREE SOCIETY. I DON'T, AND MY GOVERNMENT DOESN'T HAVE A PRECONCEIVED VIEW ON THE DETAIL, WE DON'T HAVE PRECONCEPTIONS ABOUT THE FORM OF CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE THAT SHOULD HAPPEN BECAUSE WE WANT TO SEE WHAT'S IN THE 87 REVIEW, AS YOU DO. AND THEREFORE WE AREN'T HAVING DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THIS WITH THE CHINESE, THE DETAIL AT THIS STAGE, BECAUSE WE DON'T HAVE, I THINK YOU USED THE PHRASE, A BASELINE OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT, EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT THAT WE STAND FOUR SQUARE BEHIND IMPLEMENTING THIS DOCUMENT, THE DRAFT AGREEMENT. THESE ARE WHERE THE PRINCIPLES ARE, THIS IS WHERE THE BASELINE IS, AND WE ARE WHOLLY COMMITTED TO IMPLEMENTING THIS. SO I HAVE TO TELL YOU, DO I BELIEVE, ARE THE CHINESE.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1986

- 9 -

Q. STEPHEN DAVIES, RTHK : IN YOUR STATEMENT TODAY YOU'VE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF BROADER AND DEEPER ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN BRITAIN AND CHINA. I THINK THAT A LOT OF PEOPLE IN HK SUPPOSE THAT THAT'S ACTUALLY THE BASIS OF BRITAIN'S RELATIONS WITH CHINA OVER THE JOINT DECLARATION, AND WHEN IT COMES DOWN TO IT, THAT IS WHAT INFORMS THE RELATIVELY SUPINE ATTITUDE THAT SEEMS TO COME ACROSS WITH WORDS LIKE CONVERGENCE ETC. OVER THE LAST SIX OR SEVEN MONTHS AND THAT IN FACT IS LOSING THE DIPLOMATIC BATTLE, IF YOU LIKE, FOR THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF HK PEOPLE.

MR RENTON : I DO GET VERY BORED WITH THIS CONCEPT OF SUPINE ATTITUDE. THERE IS NO REALITY TO IT. IT'S SUCH AN EASY THING TO SAY, BUT WHO DOES IT HELP WHEN YOU SAY IT? IF ANYONE WISHES TO SEE GHOSTS IN THE SHADOWS, IF YOU WISH TO SIR, IT'S YOUR PRIVILEGE, BUT IT'S NOT MY JOB TO SEE GHOSTS THAT DON'T EXIST. THERE HAS BEEN NO SUPINE ATTITUDE ON THE PART OF THE BRITISH. THERE HAS BEEN NO SUPINE ATTITUDE IN THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP. AS I SAID EARLIER THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP MEETINGS HAVE ALREADY PRODUCED CONCRETE RESULTS SUCH AS THE AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON THE RIGHT OF ABODE ENDORSEMENT IN THE NEW PASSPORT. TO GO AROUND SAYING, OH BUT THE BRITISH ARE ALL SUPINE, I THINK THAT YOU IN DOING THAT ARE ACTUALLY GOING AGAINST WHAT I'M TRYING TO ACHIEVE, WHICH IS THIS CONTINUANCE OF PROSPERITY AND STABILITY. THAT IS MY JOB, THAT IS THE JOB OF MINISTERS IN LONDON, AND THAT IS WHAT WE WILL CONTINUE TO DO.

STEPHEN DAVIES : THE THRUST OF THE QUESTION WAS YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN BRITAIN AND CHINA.

MR RENTON : I'M COMING ON TO THAT. OF COURSE, OF COURSE. BUT LET ME GIVE YOU THAT BACKGROUND. I DON'T AGREE WITH YOU AT ALL ON THESE WORDS SUPINE OR WHATEVER AND I DON'T THINK IT IS HELPFUL TO WHAT WE ARE TRYING TO ACHIEVE TO USE THEM. I MEAN THEY MAY MAKE GOOD HEADLINES, BUT THEY'RE NOT FACTS. NOW, THE TRADE BETWEEN BRITAIN AND CHINA. OF COURSE, CHINA, WE ALL KNOW, IS IN THE BUSINESS OF A MAJOR CAPITAL EXPANSION PROGRAMME. THE SEVENTH FIVE YEAR PLAN IS ABOUT TO BE ANNOUNCED. WE AS A MAJOR EXPORTING NATION HOPE TO WIN SUBSTANTIAL CONTRACTS THERE, LIKE THE GEC CONTRACT FOR THE TURBINES IN THE DAYA BAY POWER PROJECT. WE BELIEVE THAT THESE CONTRACTS WILL BE OF SUBSTANTIAL HELP TO HK, OFTEN BECAUSE OF HK'S OWN INVESTMENT, COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL INTERESTS IN CHINA. WE CAN RIDE IN MANY CASES ON EACH OTHER'S BACKS. WE SEE THIS HAPPENING. BUT TO SAY ON FROM THAT THAT WE'RE NOT INTERESTED IN TRADE WITH HK IS TO FORGET THAT OUR EXPORTS TO HK TODAY ARE NEARLY THREE TIMES OUR EXPORTS TO CHINA. HK IS A MAJOR TRADING PARTNER FOR BRITAIN, AND I'VE NO INTENTION THAT WE SHOULD LOSE SIGHT OF THAT FACT.

/q. JANE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1986

- 10 -

Q. JANE HUTCHEON FROM ATV NEWS : HAS THE PEKING GOVERNMENT INDICATED ITS DISAPPROVAL (A) FOR THE CONCEPT OF DIRECT ELECTIONS AND (B) FOR THE PRESENT POLITICAL REFORMS?

MR RENTON : THE ANSWER IS NO TO BOTH QUESTIONS.

Q. MICHAEL WONG FROM FINANCIAL DAILY: YOU DID TALK A LOT ON THE WORD CONVERGENCE. COULD I PUT THIS TO YOU : CONVERGENCE, DOES THAT WORD ALSO MEAN THAT THE SYSTEM DEVELOPING BEFORE 1997 SHOULD BE CONVERGED WITH THAT TO BE LAID DOWN BY THE BASIC LAW AND NOT THE OTHER WAY ROUND?

MR RENTON : I THINK YOU CAN READ ... I'M NOT A PROFESSOR OF SEMANTICS, MY NAME IS NOT HENRY HIGGINS. PERHAPS IT SHOULD BE. BUT I SAY AGAIN THAT THE CONCEPT OF CONVERGENCE, AS I SEE IT, IS TO DRAW ONCE AGAIN ON THE RAILWAY TRACK ANALOGY. WE ARE CREATING A SET OF RAILWAY LINES THAT LEAD UP TO 1997, THE CHINESE WILL BE CREATING A SET OF RAILWAY LINES THAT LEAD ON FROM 1997. THE NEED IS TO SEE THAT THOSE TWO RAILWAY LINES MEET TOGETHER AT A CROSSING POINT AT WHICH THERE WON'T BE GREAT JOLTS THAT WILL UPSET EITHER THE CONFIDENCE OF THE PEOPLE OF HK OR THEIR ECONOMIC PROSPERITY THAT IS SO FUNDAMENTAL TO YOU ALL. THAT'S ALL. TO ME CONVERGENCE MEANS TWO OR MORE PEOPLE MOVING IN THE SAME DIRECTION IN ORDER TO ARRIVE IN APPROXIMATELY THE SAME PLACE AT APPROXIMATELY THE SAME TIME. NOW THAT'S NOT A DEFINITION OF CONVERGENCE, BUT THERE'S NOTHING MORE SINISTER TO IT THAN THAT, IT IS NOT ONE BEING INFERIOR TO THE OTHER OR THE OTHER BEING SUPERIOR TO THE FIRST. I SAY AGAIN, SUGGESTIONS FOR A NEW WORD FOR CONVERGENCE PLEASE WILL BE VERY GRATEFULLY RECEIVED, BECAUSE I THINK IT IS A PITY WE SHOULD SPEND SO MUCH TIME ON SEMANTIC POINTS WHEN OF COURSE THERE ARE FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS TO BE DISCUSSED.

Q. WILLIE LAM FROM ASIaweek MAGAZINE. MR RENTON, YOU HAVE SAID THAT CONCERNING POLITICAL REFORM IN HK YOU WOULD ENGAGE IN AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH PEKING AND ALSO CONSULT PUBLIC OPINION IN HK. WHAT IF PEKING WANTS A SLOWER PACE OF REFORM THAN WHAT HK PEOPLE WANT. HOW DO YOU SEE THE GAP BEING BRIDGED?

MR RENTON : I THINK SIR YOU ARE PUTTING WORDS INTO MY MOUTH THAT I DIDN'T EXACTLY SAY, PARTICULARLY IN WHAT YOU SAID AT THE BEGINNING. I WAS TALKING ABOUT EXCHANGE OF VIEWS HERE IN HK ON THE POLITICAL ISSUES, ON THE POLITICAL REFORM. I'M NOT AWARE THAT I TALKED ABOUT EXCHANGE OF VIEWS IN PEKING ABOUT THE POLITICAL REFORMS OF THE MONTHS AND YEARS IMMEDIATELY AHEAD.

Q. DAVID FRASER, REUTERS : MY QUESTION, SIR, CONCERNS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN COLONIES AND THE MOTHER COUNTRY. COULD YOU TELL US, SIR, WHY THE PEOPLE OF HK ARE TREATED DIFFERENTLY BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN GIBRALTAR AND THE FALKLANDS - OR MALVINAS ISLANDS?

/MR RENTON :

MR RENTON : I THINK YOU GIVE ME PART OF THE ANSWER IN YOUR USE OF THE WORDS FALKLANDS OR MALVINAS ISLANDS. THERE IS NO PARALLEL AT ALL BETWEEN THE SITUATION IN HK AND THAT IN THE FALKLANDS. THE BRITISH NATIONALITY ACT (FALKLAND ISLANDS) OF 83 CONFERRED BRITISH CITIZENSHIP ON THE FALKLAND ISLANDS BECAUSE OF THEIR PARTICULAR ROLE IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC HOSTILITIES, AND IT HAS TO BE REMEMBERED THAT ARGENTINA HAS STILL NOT FORMALLY CEASED A DECLARATION OF HOSTILITIES AGAINST THE FALKLAND ISLANDS. IT WAS MADE CLEAR DURING THE PASSAGE OF THAT ACT THAT THIS SITUATION WAS WHOLLY EXCEPTIONAL AND THAT IT DIDN'T PROVIDE A PRECEDENT FOR OTHER DEPENDENT TERRITORIES. THE MAJORITY OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS, I HAVE TO TELL YOU, AND I WAS THERE MYSELF LAST MAY, THEY ARE ALREADY BRITISH CITIZENS EITHER BECAUSE THEY WERE PREVIOUSLY CITIZENS OF THE UK AND COLONIES WITH THE RIGHT OF ABODE IN THE UK THROUGH THEIR PARENTS OR THROUGH THEIR GRANDPARENTS. THERE IS THEREFORE NO PARALLEL WHATSOEVER WITH THE POSITION, THE SENSITIVE POSITION, OF NON-ETHNIC CHINESE MINORITIES IN HK. ON THE QUESTION OF GIBRALTAR ... I'M SORRY TO TAKE A LITTLE LONG ANSWERING THIS QUESTION, BUT IT IS IMPORTANT AND THERE'S IMPORTANT DETAIL IN IT, THERE IS NO PARALLEL EITHER. BRITISH CITIZENSHIP HAS NOT BEEN CONFERRED ON THE GIBRALTARIANS IN THE WAY THAT IT IS SUGGESTED THAT WE SHOULD CONFER IT ON THE NON-ETHNIC MINORITIES IN HK. PEOPLE CLOSELY CONNECTED WITH GIBRALTAR, AND I STRESS THE WORDS CLOSELY CONNECTED, BECAUSE THIS IS OF COURSE AN ESSENTIAL CONCEPT OF OUR CITIZENSHIP THESE DAYS, THEY ARE ALREADY BRITISH DEPENDENT TERRITORIES CITIZENS. THEY HAVE AN UNCONDITIONAL ENTITLEMENT TO REGISTRATION AS BRITISH CITIZENS BECAUSE THEY NOW FALL TO BE TREATED AS UK NATIONALS FOR EUROPEAN COMMUNITY PURPOSES. THIS IS THEREFORE THE TWO REASONS ABOUT OR WHY IT'S QUITE INAPPROPRIATE TO DRAW A PARALLEL WITH EITHER FALKLANDS OR WITH GIBRALTAR.

Q. BETTY LIU, TVB NEWS. THIS IS A QUESTION ON NATIONALITY. UMEICO STATED LAST WEEK THAT UNLESS THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT ACCEPTS THE UNOFFICIAL'S STAND ON IT, THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IS NOT DISCHARGING ITS MORAL RESPONSIBILITY TOWARDS THE PEOPLE OF HK, THE COMMITMENT MRS THATCHER MADE THREE YEARS AGO. DOES THIS COMMITMENT STILL STAND?

MR RENTON : FIRST OF ALL CAN I SAY THAT AS FAR AS THE POSITION OF THE UNOFFICIALS, I WOULD ASSUME THAT, THAT WHAT I'VE ALREADY SAID, THAT THE STATEMENT I ANNOUNCED LAST NIGHT AND REPEATED TO YOU ALL THIS MORNING, THAT THIS WILL HAVE AN IMPORTANT IMPACT ON THE MINDS OF UNOFFICIALS. I HOPE IT DOES BECAUSE THEY'RE FAIR-MINDED PEOPLE AND THEY WILL SEE NOW THAN OUR MINDS ARE, AS WE'VE SAID ALL ALONG, NOT CLOSED, THAT THE POINT OF HAVING A PRELIMINARY DEBATE ON THE DRAFT OF A DRAFT ORDER WAS THAT WE SHOULD HEAR ABOUT OBJECTIONS AND THEN CONSIDER WHETHER AMENDMENTS ARE POSSIBLE. THAT IS EXACTLY THE COURSE WE'RE FOLLOWING. ON THE QUESTION OF MORAL RESPONSIBILITY I DO HAVE TO SAY THIS: OUR RESPONSIBILITY IS AS I HAVE SAID EARLIER, OUR MORAL RESPONSIBILITY, IS TO SEE THAT THE AGREEMENT THAT WE SO PAINFULLY NEGOTIATED AND THAT WAS HERALDED WORLDWIDE AS SUCH AN ACHIEVEMENT, THAT THAT IS IMPLEMENTED TO THE FULL. THIS IS OUR MORAL RESPONSIBILITY AND IT IS A RESPONSIBILITY THE FIVE MILLION PEOPLE IN HK ARE, NOW MATTER WHAT NATIONALITY THEY ARE, AND IT IS THAT RESPONSIBILITY THAT AS I'VE SAID WE SHALL CONTINUE TO DISCHARGE TO THE FULL. THAT IS WHERE OUR MORAL RESPONSIBILITY LIES.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1986

- 12 -

Q. FANNY WONG, ORIENTAL DAILY NEWS : MR RENTON IT WAS EARLIER SUGGESTED THAT NEXT YEAR'S POLITICAL REVIEW WILL BE AN EMPTY REVIEW AND LAST NIGHT YOU ASSURED UMEICO MEMBERS THAT OUR REVIEW WILL BE A SERIOUS ONE. COULD YOU GIVE US AN IDEA OF HOW SERIOUS?

MR RENTON : I HONESTLY THINK THAT'S UP TO YOU PEOPLE IN HK TO SHOW HOW SERIOUSLY YOU TAKE IT. IT IS YOU WHO ARE GOING TO BE MAKING THE SUGGESTIONS, AS I'VE ALREADY SAID, NOT ME. BUT I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT I HAVE ADVISED THE CHINESE THAT THIS MUST BE A SERIOUS REVIEW, THAT IS WHAT WE EXPECT IT TO BE AND THE CONTENT THOUGH NOW OF WHAT YOU PUT INTO IT IS UP TO YOU, BECAUSE IT IS UP TO YOU TO COME FORWARD WITH YOUR FEELINGS, YOUR SUGGESTIONS.

HUGH DAVIES, DAILY TELEGRAPH : HOW CAN YOU GIVE GUARANTEES OF WHAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S REACTION IS GOING TO BE?

MR RENTON : OF COURSE ONE DOESN'T GIVE HYPOTHETICAL GUARANTEES ABOUT DOCUMENTS THAT HAVEN'T BEEN WRITTEN YET. IT REALLY WOULD BE ...

HUGH DAVIES : YOU KEEP TALKING ABOUT THE REVIEW, SAYING THAT YOU'LL TAKE EVERYTHING SERIOUSLY, BUT YOU STILL WON'T MAKE ANY PROMISE AS TO WHAT, TO THE PEOPLE HERE, AS TO WHAT YOU WILL DO IF THEY COME UP WITH A MAJOR, AH, SOMETHING THAT WILL OBVIOUSLY UPSET THE CHINESE, SUCH AS DIRECT ELECTIONS.

MR RENTON : I REALLY DON'T THINK IT IS HELPFUL OR USEFUL TO SPEND OUR TIME CHASING THE WILLOWISPS OF OVER FERTILE MINDS. THE REVIEW IS AHEAD OF THE PEOPLE OF HK. IT IS UP TO THEM TO MAKE THEIR SUGGESTIONS AND I'M SURE THE OFFICIALS AND UNOFFICIALS WILL BE SEEKING FOR THE APPROPRIATE AVENUES FOR THOSE SUGGESTIONS TO BE CHANNELLED SO THEY CAN LISTEN TO THEM. THEY DID THIS WITH THE ASSESSMENT OFFICE, FOR EXAMPLE, OVER THE AGREEMENT, AND THAT IS THE PROPER COURSE FOR ME TO FOLLOW, FOR HK PEOPLE TO FOLLOW, FOR THE ADMINISTRATION HERE TO FOLLOW, AND ALL OF THIS WILL BE VERY CLOSELY LISTENED TO BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AS WE HAVE DONE IN THE PAST. AND TO HYPOTHECATE SIR ON WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO IF IT ... IF IT DOESN'T FIT IN, WHEN WE OURSELVES HAVE NO PRECONCEIVED IDEAS, AS I REPEAT, FRANKLY THAT IS NOT EITHER A HELPFUL OR PRACTICAL EXERCISE.

Q. DAISY LEE FROM MING PAO : JUST RECENTLY IN HK THERE HAS BEEN DIVERGENT INTERPRETATION OF SOME OF THE TERMS IN THE JOINT DECLARATION BETWEEN HK PEOPLE AND CHINESE OFFICIALS. WHY DID BRITAIN, AS A SIGNING PARTY OF THE JOINT DECLARATION, NOT TURN ROUND AND REVERSE (?) THEM?

/MR RENTON :

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1986

- 13 -

MR RENTON : BECAUSE IF YOU ARE FOR EXAMPLE ... I DON'T KNOW PRECISELY WHAT YOU ARE REFERRING TO, BUT THERE WILL OBVIOUSLY BE INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN HK OFFICIALS AND THE CHINESE ON A WIDE RANGE OF ISSUES. THERE ARE FORMAL DISCUSSIONS, IF THAT'S THE RIGHT WORD FOR IT, IN THE LAND COMMISSION, WHICH HAS ALREADY REACHED POSITIVE PROPOSALS. THERE WILL OF COURSE IN THIS AT TIMES BE DIVERGENT VIEWS ABOUT DETAIL AND IT'S NOT FOR US TO STEP IN SURELY ON EVERY OCCASION AND EVERY DETAIL AND SAY WHAT WE THINK, THAT WE ARE THERE WITH THE OVERALL RESPONSIBILITY AND WHERE ... IF MATTERS BECOME DIFFICULT ON A MAJOR ISSUE, AND I STRESS THE WORD IF, THAT IS WHAT THE JLG WILL BE LOOKING AT, THAT IS WHAT MINISTERIAL MEETINGS MAY BE ABOUT. I DON'T THINK IT IS NECESSARY OR RIGHT FOR US TO STEP IN EVERY TIME THERE'S AN ARGUMENT ABOUT THE MEANING OF A WORD.

MR ROBERTS : WE'VE GOT TIME FOR JUST TWO MORE QUESTIONS. THE FIRST IS MARK BRAYNE.

MARK BRAYNE, BBC : MR RENTON YOU JUST SAID THAT IT WOULD BE WRONG TO SPEND TIME CHASING THE WILLOWISPS OF OVER FERTILE MINDS. ARE YOU SUGGESTING IN ANY WAY THAT THE IDEA OF DIRECT ELECTIONS IS A WILLOWISP OF AN OVER FERTILE MIND?

MR RENTON : OF COURSE NOT. WHAT I WAS SUGGESTING, AND YOU KNOW THAT VERY WELL, DON'T TRY TO PUT SUGGESTIONS INTO MY MOUTH, WHAT I WAS SUGGESTING, WITH ALL RESPECT TO THE GENTLEMAN BEHIND YOU, THIS WISH THAT WE SHOULD GIVE HYPOTHETICAL ANSWERS TO HYPOTHETICAL PROBLEMS THAT HAVEN'T YET OCCURRED, THAT I REGARD THAT AS A WILL OF THE WISP.

Q. JAMIE WALKER, SCM POST : MR RENTON, IF YOU ACCEPT THAT LEGCO IS, THE ROLE OF LEGCO IS, TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF HK PEOPLE AND TO REFLECT THE VIEWS OF HK PEOPLE, IS NOT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT THEN BOUND TO FOLLOW WHAT IT RECOMMENDS?

MR RENTON : THE EXACT ROLE, AS YOU WILL KNOW, OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LEGCO AND EXCO IN THE FUTURE IS ONE OF THE MATTERS OF DETAIL TO BE WORKED OUT IN THE FUTURE DISCUSSION ABOUT THE DEVELOPMENT OF CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT. WE ALL KNOW THAT LEGCO ITSELF HAS BEEN EVOLVING OVER THE YEARS, BECAUSE FOR THE FIRST TIME YOU HAVE, AND I ATTENDED THE OPENING SESSION IN OCTOBER, LEGCO SITTING WITH ELECTED UNOFFICIALS, ALBEIT INDIRECTLY ELECTED. NOW THIS IN ITSELF IS A MAJOR CHANGE. NOW THAT PATTERN IS ONE THAT YOU, THE PEOPLE OF HK, AND THE GOVERNMENT OF HK WILL CLEARLY BE LOOKING AT TO SEE WHAT THE APPROPRIATE NEXT STEP SHOULD BE. THAT IS WHAT THE 87 REVIEW WILL BE ABOUT.

STEPHEN DAVIES, RTHK : MR RENTON, I'M SORRY SIR, THAT COMPLETELY MISSED THE QUESTION. THE QUESTION WAS THAT GIVEN THAT LEGCO IS SUPPOSED TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PEOPLE OF HK NOW, DOES THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT NOW FEEL OBLIGED TO LISTEN TO WHAT LEGCO SAYS AND ACT UPON IT?

MR RENTON : THAT IS ACTUALLY NOT THE PATTERN THE WAY THINGS HAPPEN AT THE MOMENT, IS IT? LEGCO AT THE MOMENT IS A COMBINATION OF APPOINTED UNOFFICIALS ...

/INTERJECTION :

INTERJECTION : SO YOU SEE IT IS NOT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PEOPLE OF HK.

MR RENTON : PLEASE DO NOT PUT WORDS INTO MY MOUTH. THAT MAY BE WHAT YOU'D LIKE ME TO SAY, BUT I'M NOT SAYING IT. IF YOU WISH TO INDULGE IN INSULTS, THAT'S YOUR PRIVILEGE, BUT IF YOU WANT A CLEAR ANSWER YOU'D BETTER LISTEN TO ME. WE ALL KNOW THE POSITION OF LEGCO AT THE MOMENT, THAT IT IS A MIXTURE OF OFFICIALS, APPOINTED MEMBERS, APPOINTED UNOFFICIALS AND ELECTED UNOFFICIALS. THIS IS A VERY UNIQUE COMPOSITION. I DON'T KNOW OF ANY OTHER LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY IN THE WORLD THAT IS LIKE THIS, BUT IT HAS EVOLVED AS APPROPRIATE TO THE UNIQUE SYSTEM OF HK AND I AM SURE THAT FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS WILL BE EQUALLY, MUST BE EQUALLY APPROPRIATE, TO THE SYSTEM OF HK BECAUSE YOU ARE IN A UNIQUE SITUATION.

Q. WITH RESPECT MR RENTON, THAT WASN'T THE QUESTION. THE QUESTION WAS, IS THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT LISTENING TO LEGCO AND IS IT OBLIGED TO DO WHAT LEGCO ASKS IT TO DO NOW?

MR RENTON : YOU ARE ... I'M VERY SORRY SIR, I HAVE NOTHING TO ADD TO THE QUESTION THAT ... THE ANSWER I HAVE JUST GIVEN YOU, WHICH IS ABSOLUTELY ACCURATE AND FAIR IN THE CONTEXT OF THE UNIQUE CIRCUMSTANCES OF HK, NOT ONLY THE PAST BUT THE FUTURE. BUT IF YOU READ THE DEBATES IN BOTH THE HOUSE OF COMMONS AND THE HOUSE OF LORDS, THE DEBATES RECENTLY, YOU WILL SEE THAT THE VIEWS OF LEGCO CERTAINLY COUNT IN LONDON BECAUSE THEY WERE FREQUENTLY QUOTED IN THAT DEBATE. LEGCO MEMBERS COME OVER TO LONDON TO LOBBY US, THAT IS ABSOLUTELY RIGHT, SO ANY IDEA THAT WE'RE IGNORING LEGCO, IF THAT IS WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO SUGGEST - I HOPE YOU'RE NOT - THAT'S QUITE INACCURATE.

Q. THE MAJORITY OF OUR REQUESTS WERE REJECTED BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT. THIS LAST REQUEST WAS REJECTED BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

MR RENTON: FORGIVE ME, SIR. NOTHING HAS BEEN REJECTED. YOU MUST SEE THAT FROM THE STATEMENT I MADE THIS MORNING. THERE WILL BE COPIES AVAILABLE AT THE END, BUT I MADE IT ABUNDANTLY PLAIN IN THAT STATEMENT THAT THESE REQUESTS THAT CAME THROUGH ON THE THREE POINTS ARE ALL BEING CONSIDERED. SPECIFICALLY ON THE QUESTION OF THE ENDORSEMENT, I REPEAT THE WORDS I SAID EARLIER, THAT ON THE QUESTION OF THE ENDORSEMENT, PROVIDED A SATISFACTORY FORMULA CAN BE FOUND HMG WILL AGREE TO THE POSITION BEING MADE CLEAR IN THE PASSPORT. THAT SHOWS THE DEGREE, IN ANSWER TO YOU, THAT WE ARE LISTENING TO LEGCO AS WELL AS TO THE VIEWS OF HK THAT MAY BE EXPRESSED THROUGH OTHER DIRECTIONS AS WELL.

MR ROBERTS : THANK YOU, WE HAVE TO LEAVE IT THERE TO GO TO THE AIRPORT.