



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1984

## CONTENTS

## PAGE NO.

### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING:

LOANS FOR DENTAL GRADUATES SUGGESTED .....	1
TDC PRAISED FOR EFFORTS .....	2
PLEA TO KEEP TAXATION SYSTEM SIMPLE .....	3
MORE TIME NEEDED FOR FULL DEMOCRACY - S.L. CHEN .....	5
LYDIA DUNN CALLS FOR REAPPRAISAL OF GOVERNMENT MACHINERY .	7
LEGCO MEMBER MAY CHANGE MIND ON DEATH PENALTY .....	10
DEAL WITH THE FUTURE IN THREE STAGES, SAYS WONG LAM .....	12
MORE USE OF CHINESE LANGUAGE URGED .....	14
BORDER INDUSTRIAL ZONE PROPOSED BY ALLEN LEE .....	16
LITTLE ATTENTION PAID TO POLITICS IN PAST - ANDREW SO ....	18
HK NEEDS OWN POLITICAL FORMULA, F.K. HU SAYS .....	20
SEARCH FOR MORE MARKETS URGED .....	22
BILL BROWN SUPPORTS CONTINUATION OF LINKED EXCHANGE RATE .	24
GRAVE THREAT SEEN FROM U.S. TEXTILE RULES .....	26
RESIDENTS TO DISCUSS WHITE PAPER .....	29
BOARD MEMBERS TO MEET .....	30
PRISONS NEED MORE 'FRIENDS' - GARNER .....	30
VTC GETS MORE MANAGEMENT SPECIALISTS .....	31
PRIMARY SCHOOLS URGED TO JOIN GYMNASTICS .....	32
NEW SCOUT TROOP FORMED .....	32
NEW CUSTOMS LAUNCH COMMISSIONED .....	33
DISPLAY TELLS ABOUT ORTHOPAEDICS .....	33
MORE TIME TO JOIN DANCE CONTEST .....	34
NEW PREMISES FOR RSS EASTERN OFFICE .....	34
\$57-MILLION CONTRACT FOR AQUEDUCT .....	35
SIX DAYS LEFT TO APPLY FOR RICHLAND GARDENS FLATS .....	36
TENANCIES OFFERED FOR FIVE SITES .....	37
ROOFTOP STRUCTURES TO BE CLEARED .....	38
CONSTRUCTION SAFETY SEMINAR .....	38
TRAFFIC CHANGES .....	39

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1984

- 1 -

LOANS FOR DENTAL GRADUATES SUGGESTED

\*\*\*\*\*

THE GOVERNMENT WAS ASKED TODAY TO CONSIDER LOANS TO DENTAL GRADUATES TO HELP THEM SET UP THEIR OWN CLINICS.

RAISING THIS QUESTION ON THE OPENING DAY OF THE ANNUAL POLICY DEBATE IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, DR THE HON HARRY FANG SAID HIS SUGGESTION WAS BASED ON THE FACTS THAT:

\* IT WAS NOT THE GOVERNMENT POLICY TO PROVIDE GENERAL SERVICES IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS AND CLINICS,

\* THE PRINCE PHILIP DENTAL SCHOOL WAS TO PRODUCE QUALIFIED DENTAL SURGEONS FOR THE COMMUNITY, AND

\* THE PRIMARY DIFFICULTY IN SETTING UP A DENTAL CLINIC WAS THE EXPENSE OF THE EQUIPMENT.

DR FANG SAID SUCH LOW-INTEREST OR INTEREST-FREE LOANS WOULD HELP ACHIEVE THE GOVERNMENT'S ULTIMATE AIM OF IMPROVING DENTAL SERVICES WITHOUT A RECURRENT FINANCIAL COMMITMENT.

HE ALSO CALLED ON THE GOVERNMENT TO ENCOURAGE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF HONG KONG'S OWN ACADEMY OF MEDICINE.

THIS WOULD PRIMARILY BE AN EXAMINATION BODY TO VALIDATE HIGHER QUALIFICATIONS FOR CLINICAL SPECIALTIES AND TO MAINTAIN INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED STANDARDS, HE SAID.

THIS WAS NECESSARY BECAUSE BY 1997 OR PERHAPS BEFORE, LOCAL TRAINING MIGHT NO LONGER BE RECOGNISED BY OVERSEAS COLLEGES SUCH AS THE U.K.'S ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS AND PHYSICIANS.

DR FANG RECALLED A PARAGRAPH IN THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS WHICH SAID PLANS FOR 1985 INCLUDED PREPARATION OF A TRANSPORT POLICY FOR THE DISABLED, TO ENSURE THAT, AS FAR AS POSSIBLE, THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE DISABLED WERE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN GENERAL TRANSPORT PLANNING.

+I WELCOME THIS MOVE AND WISH TO SUGGEST THAT RESPONSIBILITY OF THE REHAB BUS, WHICH IS A DOOR-TO-DOOR SERVICE CARRYING THE SEVERELY DISABLED TO AND FROM WORK AND IS PRESENTLY OPERATING 18 ROUTES, BE TRANSFERRED FROM THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT TO THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT BECAUSE PROVIDING TRANSPORT FOR THIS PURPOSE IS NO LONGER WELFARE,+ HE SAID.

HE ALSO URGED THAT THIS SERVICE BE EXPANDED FURTHER TO ENABLE MORE DISABLED PEOPLE TO ENGAGE IN PRODUCTIVE WORK.

ON THE ENACTMENT OF NEW LEGISLATION ON ACCESS TO BUILDINGS, DR FANG SAID THIS HAD BEEN IN THE PIPELINE FOR SOME TIME AND A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ON THIS ISSUE HAD BEEN RAISED AT THE LAST TWO LEGCO SESSIONS.

/+MAY I .....

+MAY I URGE THAT PROGRESS OF THIS LEGISLATION BE EXPEDITED AND THAT ALL FUTURE PUBLIC AND COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS BE REQUIRED TO FOLLOW THE CODE OF PRACTICE TO ENSURE THAT THEY ARE ACCESSIBLE TO THOSE WHO ARE LESS ABLE TO COPE WITH DESIGN DEFICIENCIES WHICH PRESENT PHYSICAL OBSTACLES?+ HE SAID.

THE GOVERNOR SAID IN HIS ADDRESS THAT EFFORTS TO IMPROVE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROBLEMS OF THE HANDICAPPED, IN PARTICULAR THE MENTALLY ILL, WOULD BE STEPPED UP.

+IT IS HOPED THAT THE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC EDUCATION IN REHABILITATION WILL BE GIVEN ADEQUATE FUNDS IN ORDER TO DISCHARGE THESE DUTIES EFFECTIVELY,+ DR FANG SAID.

HE WELCOMED +WHOLE HEARTEDLY+ THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A STEERING COMMITTEE ON THE REVIEW OF MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDED IN HOSPITALS, AND THE APPOINTMENT OF CONSULTANTS TO EXAMINE HOW BEST TO IMPROVE THE EXISTING ORGANISATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF HOSPITALS TO ENABLE THEM TO COPE MORE EFFECTIVELY.

DR FANG, WHO WAS AWAY ON AN INTERNATIONAL REHABILITATION CONFERENCE DURING THE RECENT TWO-DAY LEGCO MEETING WHICH DEBATED A MOTION ENDORSING THE SINO-BRITISH DRAFT AGREEMENT, SAID THE AGREEMENT WAS THE BEST DEAL HONG KONG COULD POSSIBLY EXPECT.

BUT HE HOPED THAT WITH ITS RATIFICATION, HONG KONG BRITISH SUBJECTS WHO MAY NOT WISH TO STAY PERMANENTLY IN HONG KONG AFTER 1997 WOULD BE ABLE TO OBTAIN ABODE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

+AN ASSURANCE THAT THE UNITED KINGDOM WOULD ALWAYS LOOK SYMPATHETICALLY ON SUCH APPLICATIONS WOULD DO MUCH TO DISPEL THE IMPRESSION THAT WE ARE BEING ABANDONED,+ DR FANG SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TDC PRAISED FOR EFFORTS

\* \* \*

THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL WAS PRAISED FOR ITS EFFORTS TODAY BY THE HON FRANCIS TIEN.

SPEAKING IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR TIEN SAID, +THE TDC WAS AN INSTRUMENT GREATLY RESPECTED AS A GENERATOR OF TRADE INFORMATION.

+ITS TRACK RECORD IS UNDOUBTED AND ITS REPUTATION IN THE HONG KONG BUSINESS COMMUNITY IS HIGH.+

ITS ACTIVITIES WERE SEEN AS ESSENTIAL TO AN EXPANSION OF TRADE ACTIVITIES.

/+YET, WHILE .....

+YET, WHILE IT HAS A STATUS AND A HIGH PUBLIC VISION TO MAINTAIN, IT STILL HAS MANY EVERYDAY THINGS TO DO BEHIND THE SCENES,+ HE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT MUCH HARD WORK WAS NEEDED TO SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF INDIVIDUAL HONG KONG COMPANIES, BRINGING TOGETHER BUYERS AND SELLERS THROUGH ITS TRADE ENQUIRIES SERVICE, PARTICIPATING IN TRADE FAIRS, STORE PROMOTIONS, AND ORGANISING GROUPS OF BUSINESS MEN AND WOMEN.

AS FOR THE EFFECT OF THE INITIALLING OF THE SINO-BRITISH DRAFT AGREEMENT, MR TIEN STATED, +I CAN CONFIDENTLY SAY THAT WITH TRADE WE CAN ANTICIPATE SUCCESS IN OUR ENDEAVOURS.

+I CAN FURTHER SAY THAT TRADE IS WHAT HONG KONG MUST HAVE FOR STABILITY. AND MOREOVER, TRADE IS WHAT WE DO BEST.+

HONG KONG HAD SKILLED NEGOTIATORS AS WELL AS ENTERPRISING MANUFACTURERS AND TRADERS WHO COULD HELP TO ENSURE ITS CONTINUED SUCCESS.

+WE MUST NOT, HOWEVER, BE COMPLACENT. NEWER MARKETS ARE REQUIRED,+ HE SAID.

AN ACTIVE POLICY OF TRADE DIVERSIFICATION WAS NEEDED AND HONG KONG'S PRODUCTS HAD TO BE INCREASINGLY MORE COMPETITIVE, HE ADDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

#### PLEA TO KEEP TAXATION SYSTEM SIMPLE

\*\*\*\*\*

A PLEA TO KEEP HONG KONG'S TAXATION SYSTEM SIMPLE WAS MADE BY THE HON ALEX WU IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

MR WU ASKED THAT TAXATION BE KEPT SIMPLE, SO AS NOT TO CREATE A BUREAUCRATIC MONSTER OF THE KIND THAT IMPEDED BUSINESS IN MANY OTHER COUNTRIES.

+WE ARE ALL APPRECIATIVE OF THE EFFORTS OF THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY AND HIS TEAM IN DEALING WITH OUR DEFICITS,+ MR WU SAID.

+BUT THE SOLUTION DOES NOT LIE IN CREATING A TAX SYSTEM THAT ONLY EXPERTS CAN UNDERSTAND.

+THIS IS THE DANGER WE NOW FACE.+

RECENT INLAND REVENUE AMENDMENT BILLS SHOWED A MARKED TENDENCY TOWARDS THE INTRODUCTION OF COMPLICATED TAX SYSTEMS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

/THESE WERE .....

- 4 -

THESE WERE A SOURCE OF ANXIETY TO BUSINESSMEN AND - EQUALLY WORRYING - THEY WERE CONTRARY TO THE MANNER IN WHICH TAXATION HAD ALWAYS BEEN HANDLED IN HONG KONG.

+MEMBERS WILL BE AWARE THAT IN SOME COUNTRIES THE TAX LAWS ARE NOW SO COMPLICATED THAT MANY PEOPLE CANNOT EVEN FILL OUT THE FORMS FOR THEIR PERSONAL ASSESSMENT WITHOUT ASSISTANCE,+ MR WU SAID.

IN SUCH PLACES TAX CONSULTANTS HAD BECOME A MAJOR INDUSTRY IN THEIR OWN RIGHT BECAUSE IT HAD BECOME A FULL-TIME JOB KEEPING UP WITH THE LATEST AMENDMENTS AND THE LOOPHOLES THAT COULD BE MADE IN THEM.

+SUCH A SITUATION NEGATES ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRACY - THAT GOVERNMENTS ARE SET UP TO SERVE THE PEOPLE, NOT THE OTHER WAY ROUND,+ MR WU DECLARED.

+UNFORTUNATELY THERE ARE DISTURBING SIGNS THAT RECENT TAX LEGISLATION IN HONG KONG, AND SOME THAT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED, CAN QUICKLY UNDERMINE OUR ENTIRE ECONOMY BECAUSE IF IT BECOMES ESTABLISHED COMPANIES WILL MOVE THEIR FUNDS AWAY FROM HONG KONG.

+THIS MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO HAPPEN HERE,+ HE URGED.

TURNING TO THE LANGUAGE ISSUE, MR WU SAID IT WAS ENCOURAGING THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS EXAMINING THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE REPORT OF THE WORKING PARTY ON THE CHINESE LANGUAGE FOUNDATION CONCERNING PRODUCTION OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS WRITTEN IN CHINESE.

+HOWEVER,+ HE SAID,+ I AM SLIGHTLY DISAPPOINTED THAT NO INDICATION WAS GIVEN OF THE GOVERNMENT'S VIEW ON THE PROPOSED CHINESE LANGUAGE FOUNDATION'S BROADER OBJECTIVE, NAMELY TO PROMOTE AND FACILITATE THE BETTER USE OF CHINESE AS A TOOL OF COMMUNICATION, STUDY, WORK AND LEISURE THROUGH VARIOUS PROMOTIONAL, RESEARCH AND PUBLISHING ACTIVITIES, INVOLVING NOT ONLY SCHOOLS BUT ALSO THE MASS MEDIA AND THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE.+

HE ASKED THAT, WHILE PRODUCTION OF SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS SHOULD BE GIVEN TOP PRIORITY BECAUSE OF ITS RELEVANCE TO THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION IN SCHOOLS, THE OTHER PROPOSED ACTIVITIES OF THE FOUNDATION SHOULD ALSO BE SUPPORTED AND GIVEN EQUAL EMPHASIS BECAUSE THEY WERE COMPLEMENTARY TO EACH OTHER AND TOGETHER WERE BENEFICIAL TO THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG.

MR WU ALSO MENTIONED THE ACADEMY FOR PERFORMING ARTS AND THE PROGRESS WHICH HAD BEEN MADE SINCE ENROLMENT OF ITS FIRST DANCE AND MUSIC STUDENTS LAST MONTH. THE VERY LARGE NUMBER OF APPLICANTS AND THE HIGH STANDARD OF ACHIEVEMENT AND POTENTIAL OF THOSE ACCEPTED CONFIRMED HIS VIEW THAT THERE EXISTED A RICH WELL-SPRING OF PERFORMING TALENT AMONG THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

/HE SAID .....

HE SAID NEXT YEAR THE ACADEMY WOULD TAKE UP FULL RESIDENCY IN THE NEW BUILDING PROVIDED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB WHERE THE FACILITIES WOULD BE SECOND TO NONE.

ON THE COUNCIL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, MR WU SAID THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HAD RECENTLY APPROVED A BLOCK VOTE OF FUNDS AND THE COUNCIL WOULD ACCORDINGLY DECIDE WHERE TO CHANNEL THE FUNDS AND THUS BE MORE TRULY ABLE TO FOSTER THE ARTS, TO SUPPORT NEW ENDEAVOURS AND TO RESPOND TO NEW IDEAS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

MORE TIME NEEDED FOR FULL DEMOCRACY - S.L. CHEN  
\* \* \* \*

IT WOULD BE TOO MUCH TO EXPECT HONG KONG TO ACHIEVE A FULLY AND TRULY DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT IN 13 YEARS, OR LESS, THE HON S.L. CHEN SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

+I BELIEVE THE IMPORTANCE DOES NOT LIE SO MUCH WITH COMPLETING THE SYSTEM IN 13 YEARS, BUT WITH BUILDING UP A SOLID FOUNDATION ON WHICH A SOUND GOVERNMENTAL SYSTEM COULD DEVELOP AND FLOURISH IN THE YEARS TO COME,+ HE SAID.

+WE MUST ALLOW TIME FOR THE SYSTEM TO EVOLVE GRADUALLY AND MORE IMPORTANTLY FOR PEOPLE OF THE RIGHT CALIBRE SERVING THE SYSTEM TO EMERGE.

+A HASTILY DEVELOPED DEMOCRACY COULD BE HONG KONG'S OWN WORST ENEMY,+ MR CHEN SAID.

ON THE CALL FOR CONTINUING REINVESTMENT IN NEW PLANT AND MACHINERY, HE SAID LOCAL BUSINESSMEN AND INDUSTRIALISTS WERE UNLIKELY TO HEED IT UNLESS THEY COULD SEE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FUTURE WOULD COMMAND BOTH THEIR FAITH AND TRUST.

+THEREFORE WE MUST NOT BE CARRIED UNWITTINGLY BY THE SWEET SOUND OF DEMOCRACY, IGNORING THAT OUR PRIORITY TASK IS TO MAINTAIN HONG KONG AS A SOUND AND HEALTHY ECONOMY WHICH IS OUR SUREST GUARANTEE FOR FUTURE SURVIVAL,+ HE SAID.

+AN ECONOMIC DECLINE IN HONG KONG WOULD BE DETRIMENTAL TO THE FULL AND FAITHFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT AND CONSEQUENTLY OUR SURVIVAL.+

MR CHEN SAID INDUSTRIALISTS WOULD WATCH TO SEE WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT WAS ALSO INVESTING IN THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG.

/RECORDS SHOWED .....

RECORDS SHOWED THAT FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS EXPENDITURE ON ECONOMIC SERVICES WAS ONLY A VERY SMALL PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL PUBLIC EXPENDITURE, IN CONTRAST TO EXPENDITURE ON SOCIAL SERVICES, WHICH HAD BEEN KEPT AT A HIGH LEVEL OF OVER 40 PER CENT OF TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR THE SAME PERIOD EXCEPT IN 1981.

+THIS COULD HARDLY BE SEEN AS ENCOURAGEMENT TO DEVELOP AND STRENGTHEN OUR ECONOMY,+ HE SAID.

HE FELT STRONGLY THAT SOME CHANGE IN THE EXISTING GOVERNMENT POLICY WOULD HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED SERIOUSLY.

IN PARTICULAR, THE DISPARITY IN EMPHASIS BETWEEN SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SERVICES SHOULD BE REDRESSED TO REFLECT THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING HONG KONG AS A SOUND AND HEALTHY ECONOMY.

+IN MY VIEW, ECONOMIC SERVICES SHOULD BE STRENGTHENED AND A MORE AGGRESSIVE AND DYNAMIC APPROACH TO ASSISTING COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY ADOPTED.+

THEY SHOULD ALSO BE ENCOURAGED TO SPONSOR AND PROVIDE INDUSTRIAL SUPPORT SERVICES SUCH AS ADVANCED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FACILITIES WHICH WERE NORMALLY BEYOND THE CAPACITY OF ANY INDIVIDUAL INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS OR EVEN A COMPLETE SECTOR OF THE INDUSTRY, BUT WERE ESSENTIAL TO MAINTAINING THEIR LEAD IN THE INTERNATIONAL MARKET.

+I APPRECIATE THAT THE NON-INTERFERENCE POLICY HAS SEEMINGLY SERVED HONG KONG WELL IN THE PAST,+ MR CHEN SAID.

+BUT EVEN THE HEALTHIEST PERSON REQUIRES A DOSE OF TONIC FROM TIME TO TIME TO MAINTAIN PEAK CONDITION.

+FOR HONG KONG TO MAINTAIN AND STRENGTHEN ITS ECONOMY, PARTICULARLY AFTER THE UNCERTAINTY FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS, TIMELY ENCOURAGEMENT AND ASSISTANCE FROM GOVERNMENT WOULD ONLY BE RIGHT AND PROPER.

+HONG KONG HAS BUILT UP AND MAINTAINED ITS INDUSTRIAL LEAD IN THE REGION, BUT IN A COMPETITIVE WORLD WE CANNOT AFFORD TO LET THAT LEAD SLIP,+ HE SAID.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1984

- 7 -

LYDIA DUNN CALLS FOR REAPPRAISAL OF GOVERNMENT MACHINERY  
\* \* \* \*

THE HON LYDIA DUNN TODAY CALLED FOR A REAPPRAISAL OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT MACHINERY.

MISS DUNN, SPEAKING IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, SAID THE COMING INTO EFFECT OF THE DRAFT SINO-BRITISH AGREEMENT HAD MANY IMPLICATIONS FOR THE GOVERNMENT AND THE COMMUNITY, AND FOR RELATIONS BETWEEN THEM.

SHE COVERED FOUR MAIN AREAS: THE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT; THE CHANGES THAT WOULD BE NEEDED IN THE ATTITUDE OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE COMMUNITY; THE CASE FOR A REAPPRAISAL OF THE CENTRAL MACHINERY OF GOVERNMENT; AND THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING THE EFFICIENCY, LOYALTY AND MORALE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE IN ORDER TO KEEP UP AN EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT DURING THE NEXT 12 - 13 YEARS AND BEYOND.

+I SHOULD FIRST SAY THAT TO MY MIND THE MOST IMPORTANT IMMEDIATE PRACTICAL CONSEQUENCE OF THE AGREEMENT IS THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE BEFORE IT ONE CLEAR, OVER-RIDING AIM.

+THAT AIM MUST BE TO GOVERN HONG KONG AND TO DEVELOP ITS SYSTEMS IN SUCH A WAY AS TO ENSURE THE SMOOTHEST POSSIBLE TRANSITION FROM OUR PRESENT STATUS AS A BRITISH DEPENDENT TERRITORY TO OUR NEW STATUS IN 1997 AS A SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION OF CHINA,+ MISS DUNN SAID.

+WE MUST ENSURE THAT EVERYTHING THE GOVERNMENT DOES, EVERY CHANGE THAT WE MAKE, WILL FACILITATE OR AT LEAST NOT IN ANY WAY PREJUDICE THE TRANSITION.

+THE MOST IMPORTANT AREA OF NECESSARY CHANGE WILL BE, OF COURSE, IN OUR SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT,+ SHE SAID.

+I HAVE PREVIOUSLY ADVOCATED THAT WE SHOULD MOVE TOWARDS A MINISTERIAL SYSTEM, BY WHICH I MEAN THAT THE PRINCIPAL OFFICIALS, OR MINISTERS, OF THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE CHOSEN AND APPOINTED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE FROM AMONG THE MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE.

+I BELIEVE THAT ONLY IN THIS WAY CAN WE FORGE A STRONG CHAIN OF RESPONSIBILITY LINKING THE ELECTED LEGISLATURE, THE EXECUTIVE AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE AND THAT ONLY THUS CAN THE EXECUTIVE AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE BECOME TRULY ACCOUNTABLE TO THE PEOPLE THEY EXIST TO SERVE.+

THE OTHER WAY WAS FOR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE TO NOMINATE PRINCIPAL OFFICIALS WHO WERE NOT MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE.

/THE QUESTION .....

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1984

- 8 -

THE QUESTION AS TO +WHICH WAY ARE WE TO GO+ WOULD HAVE TO BE FACED BEFORE LONG FOR TWO REASONS:

\* THE DECISION THAT WAS MADE WOULD HAVE CONSIDERABLE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE REST OF THE SYSTEM.

\* IT WAS NECESSARY THAT THE NEW SYSTEM SHOULD BE WORKING SMOOTHLY WELL BEFORE THE TIME OF TRANSITION.

+JUST AS IMPORTANT AS CHANGES IN THE MACHINERY OF GOVERNMENT WILL BE CHANGES IN OUR ATTITUDES TO IT,+ MISS DUNN CONTINUED.

+BY 1997 HONG KONG WILL BE RUNNING ITS OWN ELECTED GOVERNMENT.

+AS A COMMUNITY WE TEND TO TAKE LITTLE INTEREST IN WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING UNLESS ITS ACTIONS DIRECTLY AFFECT OUR OWN INTERESTS.

+IN FUTURE WE SHALL HAVE TO THINK MORE ABOUT WHETHER ITS ACTIONS ARE GOOD FOR THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE.+

WHAT WAS NEEDED WAS A FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE IN THE PEOPLE'S ATTITUDES TO THE GOVERNMENT, TO BE MATCHED BY A CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT ATTITUDES.

+FOR IF THE PUBLIC DOES NOT FEEL THAT THE MOVES TOWARDS MORE REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT WILL LEAD TO REAL CHANGE IN THE WAY WE ARE GOVERNED THEN THERE IS A RISK OF A CONTINUATION OF THE APATHY THAT HAS CHARACTERISED THE PUBLIC'S ATTITUDE TO DISTRICT BOARD AND THE URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN THE PAST,+ SHE ADDED.

THE GOVERNMENT MUST BE MORE, AND MORE QUICKLY, RESPONSIVE, AND IT MUST NOT BE SO DEFENSIVE.

+IT MUST REACT TO PUBLIC OPINION, TO CRITICISM AND TO OPPOSITION WITH REASONED ARGUMENT AND A WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER CHANGE WITHOUT BEING FORCED INTO IT.

+IT MUST NOT IGNORE, REJECT WITHOUT ARGUMENT OR BRUSH ASIDE OBJECTIONS, HOWEVER MISCONCEIVED IT MAY THINK THEY ARE,+ MISS DUNN SAID.

A REAPPRAISAL OF THE MACHINERY OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT WOULD ALSO BE NECESSARY WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ELECTED LEGISLATURE; THE REMOVAL FROM IT OF MOST OF THE OFFICIAL MEMBERS; THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW CONSTITUTION OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL; AND OF A NEW RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO COUNCILS.

+I AM SURE THAT NONE OF US WANTS A HIGHLY CENTRALISED GOVERNMENT,+ SHE SAID.

/FLEXIBILITY AND .....

FLEXIBILITY AND RESPONSIVENESS, SHE SAID, DEMANDED DECENTRALISATION.

+SO, TO START WITH, COULD WE HAVE A WRITTEN DEFINITION, AS PRECISE AS POSSIBLE, OF THE AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH SECRETARY?

+TO ME AT LEAST THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THEM AND HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS HAS ALWAYS BEEN UNCLEAR.+

MISS DUNN SAID THE NEED TO KEEP THE COMPLEX ADMINISTRATION RUNNING EFFICIENTLY WHILE AT THE SAME TIME ADAPTING IT TO FACE THE FUTURE PUT A VERY HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY ON THE PUBLIC SERVICE.

+WE ARE FORTUNATE THAT, AS WE ENTER THIS NEW ERA, WE ALREADY HAVE A PUBLIC SERVICE THAT HAS SERVED HONG KONG WELL, THAT IS HARD-WORKING, EFFICIENT AND DEDICATED TO THE PUBLIC GOOD.

+WE ALL KNOW THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE SERVICE HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY AFFECTED BY THE STRESS AND UNCERTAINTY THAT HAVE AFFECTED US ALL IN THE LAST TWO YEARS. THEY HAVE NOT ALLOWED THEIR PERSONAL CONCERNS TO AFFECT THEIR PERFORMANCE. WE SHOULD ACKNOWLEDGE THE DEBT WE ALL OWE THEM,+ SHE SAID.

+THE DEMANDS THE COMMUNITY MAKES UPON THEM WILL NOT GROW LESS IN THE FUTURE.

+THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT MUST GOVERN AS EFFECTIVELY IN THE FUTURE AS IT HAS DONE IN THE PAST.+

THIS COULD NOT BE DONE UNLESS A LOYAL AND DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVICE WAS KEPT.

THE MAINTENANCE OF THE MORALE OF THE SERVICE POSED AN AWKWARD DILEMMA, WHOSE EXISTENCE IT WOULD BE FOOLISH TO DENY.

PART IV OF ANNEX I TO THE DRAFT AGREEMENT PROVIDES THAT FROM 1997 ALL PUBLIC SERVANTS MAY CONTINUE IN THEIR EMPLOYMENT WITH THEIR PAY AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE NO LESS FAVOURABLE THAN BEFORE AND THEIR PENSION AND GRATUITY RIGHTS GUARANTEED. BUT IT ALSO PROVIDES THAT EXPATRIATES MAY NO LONGER SERVE AS SECRETARIES OR AS HEADS OF MAJOR DEPARTMENTS AT THE SAME LEVEL, NOR AS DEPUTY HEADS OF SOME DEPARTMENTS THOUGH THEY MAY CONTINUE TO SERVE AS ADVISERS.

MISS DUNN SAID THIS HAD TWO IMPLICATIONS: LOCALISATION HAD TO BE SPEEDED UP AND A MORE SYSTEMATIC APPROACH MADE TO IT.

+SYSTEMATIC EFFORTS MUST BE MADE TO IDENTIFY EARLY AND TRAIN FOR GREATER RESPONSIBILITIES THOSE WHO HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO BECOME THE SENIOR OFFICERS OF THE FUTURE PERHAPS SOONER THAN THEY WOULD HAVE BEFORE.+

/ANOTHER IMPLICATION .....

ANOTHER IMPLICATION WAS THAT THE CAREER PROSPECTS OF EXPATRIATE OFFICERS COULD NOT BE AS GOOD AS THEY HAD BEEN IN THE PAST.

BUT THE MAINTENANCE OF THE EFFICIENCY AND STABILITY OF THE SERVICE WAS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS THE NEED FOR ACCELERATED LOCALISATION, SHE SAID.

EXPATRIATES HAD BEEN SERVING HONG KONG WELL, WORKING IN HARMONY WITH AN INCREASING PROPORTION OF LOCAL OFFICERS.

+WE MUST NOT PURSUE LOCALISATION SO SINGLE-MINDEDLY AS TO GIVE THE EXPATRIATES THE FEELING THAT THERE IS NO FUTURE AT ALL FOR THEM,+ MISS DUNN SAID.

MANAGEMENT OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE, AND OF HONG KONG AFFAIRS GENERALLY, WOULD REQUIRE A GREAT DEAL MORE IMAGINATION AND UNDERSTANDING THAN EVER BEFORE, SHE STATED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

LEGCO MEMBER MAY CHANGE MIND ON DEATH PENALTY  
\* \* \* \* \*

THE HON PETER C. WONG SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY HE MIGHT BE PERSUADED TO REVIEW HIS STAND ON THE DEATH PENALTY.

SPEAKING IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR WONG SAID HE SHARED THE GOVERNOR'S CONCERN OVER THE HIGH INCIDENCE OF TRIAD AND GANG CRIMES, AND SERIOUS AND VIOLENT CRIMES COMMITTED BY YOUNG MEN.

+THE PREVALENT USE OF FIREARMS IN THE COMMISSION OF CRIMES MUST BE DEPLORED,+ MR WONG SAID.

+THE LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS REFERRED TO BY YOUR EXCELLENCY ARE THEREFORE ENCOURAGING.

+IN MY VIEW, THERE IS PROBABLY NO BETTER DETERRENT THAN THE PROVISION OF INCREASED PENALTIES AND THE IMPOSITION OF HEAVIER SENTENCES.+

ON THE DEATH PENALTY AS THE +SUPREME PUNISHMENT+, MR WONG SAID, +I HAVE ALWAYS CONSIDERED MYSELF AN ABOLITIONIST, BUT WITH THE HIGH INCIDENCE OF SERIOUS AND VIOLENT CRIMES AND THE ADVENT OF A NEW ERA I MAY BE PERSUADED TO REVIEW MY STANCE.+

+MY OWN VIEW IS THAT IF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG HAD THEIR SAY MANY CONVICTED MURDERERS NOW SERVING THEIR COMMUTED LIFE IMPRISONMENT WOULD HAVE FORFEITED THEIR LIVES FOR THE HEINOUS CRIMES THEY COMMITTED.+

/HE ADDED .....

HE ADDED THAT IT WAS ALMOST CERTAIN THAT THE FUTURE SAR GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT HESITATE TO CARRY OUT THE DEATH PENALTY WHICH IS STILL HONG KONG'S STATUTE BOOK.

MR WONG SAID AFTER THE TERRORIST BOMB ATTACK IN BRIGHTON THE MOVEMENT TO RESTORE THE DEATH PENALTY IN ENGLAND WAS GATHERING MOMENTUM.

+IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, THE OVERALL INTERESTS OF THE COMMUNITY MUST OVERRIDE THOSE OF THE INDIVIDUAL,+ HE SAID.

IF THE DEATH PENALTY WAS EVER TO BE CARRIED OUT IN HONG KONG, HE WOULD NOT SUBSCRIBE TO THE RETURN OF THE GALLOWES.

IT WAS A PRIMITIVE FORM OF EXECUTION WHICH BELONGED TO ANOTHER AGE, HE SAID.

HE SUGGESTED THAT A CIVILISED METHOD SHOULD BE USED, SUCH AS THE INJECTION OF A LETHAL SOLUTION PRECEDED BY AN APPROPRIATE DOSE OF ANAESTHESIA AS EVEN THE MOST ATROCIOUS OF CRIMINALS DESERVED HUMANE TREATMENT.

ON INFILTRATION OF TRIADS INTO SCHOOLS, MR WONG SAID DESPITE ASSURANCES BY THE GOVERNMENT HE WAS NOT SATISFIED THAT ENOUGH HAD BEEN DONE TO PROTECT THE YOUNGER MEMBERS OF SOCIETY FROM TRIAD INFLUENCE.

+I WOULD URGE THE GOVERNMENT NOT TO UNDERESTIMATE THE SERIOUSNESS OF THIS PROBLEM AND TO TAKE POSITIVE STEPS TO REMEDY THE SITUATION BEFORE IT GETS WORSE.

+I WOULD ALSO APPEAL TO SCHOOL AUTHORITIES AND PARENTS NOT TO TURN A BLIND EYE TO THIS DESTRUCTIVE FORCE WHICH IS THREATENING THE HEALTHY EXISTENCE OF OUR SCHOOLS.

+THEIR CO-OPERATION IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL IF WE ARE TO SUCCEED IN ERADICATING THE TRIAD ELEMENT FROM OUR EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS.+

MR WONG ALSO CALLED FOR REFORM OF THE TEXTILE QUOTA SYSTEM. HE SAID HE BELIEVED THAT THE VOLUME OF QUOTA TRANSFERS IN 1983 FOR THE U.S. MARKET HAD INCREASED TO THE EXTENT THAT THE QUOTAS TRANSFERRED EXCEEDED 50 PER CENT OF THE OVERALL RESTRAINED LIMIT. THIS SHOWED THAT THE QUOTA HOLDINGS WERE NOW OUT OF LINE WITH THE STRUCTURE OF INDUSTRY AND TRADE.

HE URGED THE GOVERNMENT TO DEAL WITH THIS PROBLEM URGENTLY +TO SAFEGUARD THE COMMUNITY'S WIDER INTERESTS IN THIS MATTER.+

MR WONG, DESCRIBING HIMSELF AS A STAUNCH ADVOCATE FOR A THIRD UNIVERSITY, SAID HE WAS EXTREMELY PLEASED TO LEARN THAT A NUMBER OF SITES FOR SUCH AN INSTITUTION HAD BEEN IDENTIFIED.

UNIVERSITY EDUCATION WAS EXPENSIVE AND A HEAVY BURDEN ON THE PUBLIC REVENUE.

+AS A LONG TERM INVESTMENT, HOWEVER, THE MONEY TO BE SPENT ON A THIRD UNIVERSITY WILL BRING INCALCULABLE BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY,+ HE SAID.

ON LEGISLATION, MR WONG SAID THERE WERE 12 TO 13 YEARS TO CONSOLIDATE THE LAWS NOW IN FORCE IN HONG KONG. THIS TASK WOULD BE TIME-CONSUMING AND SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN WITHOUT DELAY.

+SEVERAL OF OUR ORDINANCES ARE DEPENDENT ON ENGLISH STATUTES AND TO THAT EXTENT AMENDMENTS WILL HAVE TO BE INTRODUCED SO THAT OUR LAWS CAN STAND ON THEIR OWN,+ HE SAID.

AS EXAMPLES, HE CITED ORDINANCES RELATING TO SHIPPING, CIVIL AVIATION AND PATENT.

OBVIOUSLY, HE SAID, CERTAIN MODIFICATIONS TO THE EXISTING LAWS WOULD BE NECESSARY IN VIEW OF IMPENDING CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

DEAL WITH THE FUTURE IN THREE STAGES, SAYS WONG LAM  
\* \* \* \* \*

THE NEXT 13 YEARS COULD BE DIVIDED INTO THREE PERIODS OF ABOUT FOUR YEARS EACH, THE HON WONG LAM SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

HE SAID THE MAJOR CONCERN OF THE FIRST PERIOD -- FROM NOW TO 1988 -- WAS TO REMOVE THE SHADOW OF POLITICAL UNCERTAINTY AND PUT HONG KONG BACK ON THE TRACK OF DEVELOPMENT SO THAT PROSPERITY AND STABILITY MIGHT BE MAINTAINED AND THE PEOPLE HERE MIGHT WORK AND LIVE COMFORTABLY AND PEACEFULLY AS THEY HAD DONE IN THE SEVENTIES AND EARLY EIGHTIES.

+ANOTHER MAJOR CONCERN OF THE PERIOD IS TO MAKE PRELIMINARY PREPARATION FOR FUTURE POLITICAL CHANGES,+ HE ADDED.

THE MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM OF THE SECOND PERIOD -- 1988 TO 1992 -- WOULD BE THE MAINTENANCE OF PROSPERITY AND STABILITY ON THE ONE HAND, AND THE DRANG UP OF ALL THE PROCEDURES NECESSARY FOR IMPLEMENTING THE +HONG KONG PEOPLE ADMINISTERING HONG KONG+ FORMULA ON THE OTHER.

THE THIRD PERIOD -- FROM 1992 TO 1997 -- WOULD BE A PERIOD OF PROGRESSIVE TRANSITION, MR WONG CONTINUED.

HE SAID THAT BY THAT TIME, HONG KONG WOULD STAY UNDER BRITISH RULE ONLY IN NAME BUT TO A VERY LARGE EXTENT, HONG KONG PEOPLE WOULD ADMINISTER HONG KONG WITH A +HIGH DEGREE OF AUTONOMY+.

FOCUSING HIS DISCUSSION ON THE FIRST PERIOD, HE SAID, +WE SHOULD FIRST TRY OUR BEST TO REMOVE THE SHADOW CAST BY POLITICAL UNCERTAINTIES THAT BOTHERED US IN THE LAST TWO YEARS.+

HE POINTED OUT THAT OTHER THAN INFORMING US THAT THE PEGGED EXCHANGE RATE SYSTEM WOULD REMAIN IN FORCE AND STRONGER REGULATION WOULD BE INTRODUCED IN THE FINANCIAL SECTOR, NOTHING HAD BEEN SAID IN THE POLICY ADDRESS ABOUT THE INTRODUCTION OF POSITIVE MEASURES TO ENCOURAGE AND STIMULATE INVESTMENTS, IN PARTICULAR CAPITAL INVESTMENTS AND RE-INVESTMENTS.

+FURTHERMORE, NO IDEA HAS BEEN GIVEN ON WAYS TO RETAIN BRAINS AND WEALTH. IT IS MY HOPE THAT GOVERNMENT WILL GIVE MORE SPECIFIC DETAILS AND MAKE MORE DEFINITE ARRANGEMENTS IN THESE RESPECTS,+ HE SAID.

+THE SECOND CRUCIAL TASK OF THIS PERIOD IS TO CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF THE HONG KONG PEOPLE, DEVELOP OUR INFRASTRUCTURE AND INTRODUCE VARIOUS KINDS OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES, TO SHOW AND CONVINCED THE WORLD AND THE HONG KONG PEOPLE THAT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT IS DETERMINED TO MAINTAIN PROSPERITY AND STABILITY IN HONG KONG FOR THE PERIOD LEADING UP TO 1997,+ HE ADDED.

THE THIRD CRUCIAL TASK IN THIS PERIOD WAS UPHOLDING THE GOVERNMENT'S AUTHORITY.

WITH THE IMPENDING TRANSFER OF SOVEREIGNTY IT WOULD NOT BE AS EASY TO EXERCISE AUTHORITY AS BEFORE, HE SAID.

+MINOR SOCIAL DISCONTENT COULD EASILY FLARE UP AND RESULT IN CHAOS AND INSTABILITY,+ MR WONG PREDICTED.

+THUS, THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD PAY MUCH GREATER CARE TO THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE IN INTRODUCING ITS POLICIES.+

BILLS AND MEASURES THAT MIGHT CAUSE DISTURBANCES SUCH AS THE ONE CAUSED BY THE TAXI DRIVERS' LINE-UP THIS YEAR SHOULD BE AVOIDED AS FAR AS POSSIBLE.

+THE FOURTH CRUCIAL TASK OF THE FIRST PERIOD IS TO MAKE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS IN THE POLITICAL STRUCTURE SO THAT THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WILL GOVERN HONG KONG TO AN APPRECIABLE EXTENT DURING THE SECOND PERIOD,+ MR WONG SAID.

+I THINK THIS PREPARATION SHOULD INVOLVE TWO ASPECTS.

+FIRSTLY, DIRECT ELECTIONS TO A LIMITED EXTENT SHOULD BE INTRODUCED TOWARDS THE END OF THE FIRST PERIOD SO THAT HONG KONG PEOPLE WOULD HAVE A CHANCE TO GET IN TOUCH WITH THIS INEVITABLE REALITY IN THE LATE 80'S, GAIN EXPERIENCE FROM THESE ELECTIONS AND TO INTRODUCE IMPROVEMENTS WHERE NECESSARY.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1984

- 14 -

+I AGREE THAT POLITICAL CHANGES SHOULD BE PROGRESSIVE.  
IT WOULD BE WRONG TO INTRODUCE CHANGES TOO QUICKLY.

+I ALSO APPRECIATE THE SIGNIFICANCE OF INDIRECT ELECTIONS  
FOR THEY SERVE A SPECIAL PURPOSE.

+YET I FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT HONG KONG PEOPLE WOULD SOONER OR  
LATER FACE THE REALITY OF DIRECT ELECTION, THOUGH NOT ENTIRELY  
FULL SCALE, AT LEAST HALF SCALE.+

+SECONDLY, TO PREPARE FOR CHANGES IN THE POLITICAL STRUCTURE,  
IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO SEPARATE THE ADMINISTRATIVE MACHINERY  
FROM THE MONITORING MACHINERY,+ MR WONG SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

MORE USE OF CHINESE LANGUAGE URGED  
\* \* \* \* \*

FURTHER STEPS SHOULD BE TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT TO RAISE THE  
POSITION OF THE CHINESE LANGUAGE IN THE INTERESTS OF GOOD  
ADMINISTRATION, DR THE HON HO KAM-FAI SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

HE SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT, BEING THE LARGEST SINGLE AND  
GOOD EMPLOYER IN HONG KONG, SHOULD TAKE THE LEAD IN RECRUITING  
YOUNG PEOPLE WITH A CHINESE SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION, THEREBY  
SERVING AS AN EXAMPLE TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR. TESTS IN THE USE  
OF THE CHINESE LANGUAGE SHOULD BE MADE COMPULSORY FOR ALL  
CANDIDATES APPLYING FOR ANY GRADE IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

HE SAID ALSO THAT PROMOTION IN THE CIVIL SERVICE SHOULD TAKE  
INTO ACCOUNT AN OFFICER'S LEVEL OF COMPETENCY IN WRITTEN AND  
ORAL CHINESE, IF HE OR SHE WAS ETHNIC CHINESE.

AND INCENTIVES SHOULD BE GIVEN TO NON-CHINESE SPEAKING  
OFFICERS IN THE CIVIL SERVICE WHO HAD ACQUIRED A PRESCRIBED LEVEL  
OF PROFICIENCY IN WRITTEN OR ORAL CHINESE, HE SAID.

DR HO SAID THAT MORE SERIOUS EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO  
GIVE THE USE OF CHINESE EQUAL STATUS WITH THAT OF ENGLISH IN  
COURT PROCEEDINGS AND TO MAKE CHINESE A LANGUAGE OF THE LAW  
IN THE LONG-TERM.

TERTIARY EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO  
MAKE A PASS IN CHINESE AN ADMISSION REQUIREMENT FOR CANDIDATES  
OF CHINESE DESCENT, HE SAID.

/DR HO .....

DR HO ALSO SAID THAT DECISIONS ON THE USE OF CHINESE AS A MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS MUST BE MADE WITHOUT DELAY TO RAISE THE PROFICIENCY OF STUDENTS IN USING BOTH CHINESE AND ENGLISH BEFORE COMPLETING THEIR EDUCATION.

IT WAS MOST HEARTENING, HE SAID, TO LEARN THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS PAYING ATTENTION TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE REPORT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CHINESE LANGUAGE FOUNDATION AND IN PARTICULAR TO THE PRODUCTION OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS IN CHINESE.

+IT CAN BE ANTICIPATED THAT MORE CONTACTS WITH CHINA IN A WIDE RANGE OF ECONOMIC, TRADING, CULTURAL, SOCIAL AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES WILL TAKE PLACE,+ HE SAID.

+IT IS THEREFORE THE MOST OPPORTUNE TIME TO CONSIDER WAYS AND MEANS OF RAISING THE GENERAL STANDARD OF THE CHINESE LANGUAGE IN THE TERRITORY, AS A CONCRETE MEASURE TO PREPARE HONG KONG FOR ITS RE-INTEGRATION INTO THE CHINESE SOVEREIGNTY.+

DR HO SAID IT WAS A COMMON FACT IN HONG KONG THAT A PERSON WITH A CHINESE SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION WAS NORMALLY LIMITED TO A RANGE OF JOBS CHARACTERISED BY RESTRICTED MOBILITY, POOR PROMOTION PROSPECTS, A MEAGRE SALARY AND A LOW STATUS WHEN COMPARED WITH HIS OR HER COUNTERPART WITH AN ENGLISH SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION.

+THIS STATE OF AFFAIRS MUST BE REDRESSED AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME,+ HE SAID.

THE COMMUNITY, HE SAID, LOOKED TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR VIGOROUS LEADERSHIP IN ELEVATING THE POSITION AND STATUS OF THE CHINESE LANGUAGE IN HONG KONG. +AS A MATTER OF FACT THE GOVERNMENT HAD MORE CONSIDERABLE EFFORT IN THIS REGARD,+ HE SAID.

ON PUBLIC ASSISTANCE DR HO SAID THERE WERE TWO CATEGORIES OF RECIPIENTS WHOSE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES AND NEEDS WARRANTED COMPASSIONATE CONSIDERATION.

THE FIRST GROUP WERE WIDOWS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN.

+NOWADAYS, REARING CHILDREN WITH A DECENT LIVING STANDARD REQUIRES AN EXPENDITURE NORMALLY LARGER THAN THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PAYMENT,+ DR HO SAID.

THE SECOND GROUP CONSISTED OF CHRONICALLY SICK PERSONS WHO WERE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR SICK LEAVE UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE AND WHOSE ILLNESS HAD RENDERED THEM INCAPABLE OF WORK FOR A PROLONGED PERIOD OF TIME, BUT WHO WERE NOT PERMANENTLY DISABLED.

THE NEEDS OF THIS GROUP OF PEOPLE WERE OFTEN BEYOND WHAT PUBLIC ASSISTANCE WAS DESIGNED FOR.

+TO ALLEVIATE HARDSHIP, I WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST THAT IN THE FORTHCOMING COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW AS MENTIONED IN YOUR ANNUAL ADDRESS THESE TWO CATEGORIES OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS BE CONSIDERED FOR A WIDOWHOOD SUPPLEMENT AND A CHRONIC SICKNESS SUPPLEMENT WHICH, LIKE EXISTING SUPPLEMENTS, SHOULD BE AT HALF THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE RATE,+ DR HO SAID.

ON THE FUTURE, DR HO SAID NO OTHER MEASURES COULD BE MORE CONVINCING TO SHOW THE GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO ADMINISTER HONG KONG IN A SINGLE-MINDED AND CONSCIENTIOUS MANNER UP TO THE HISTORIC LANDMARK OF 1997 THAN THE LONG LIST OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ANNOUNCED IN THE GOVERNOR'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

THESE INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECTS WERE IN VARIOUS STAGES OF CONSTRUCTION OR WERE TO BE COMMITTED IN THE NEAR FUTURE, WITH THEIR COMPLETION SET FOR THE 1990'S.

+THIS SHOWS THE GOVERNMENT'S FAITH IN THE FUTURE AND WILL HENCE GREATLY BOOST THE CONFIDENCE OF LOCAL AND OVERSEAS BUSINESSMEN AND INDUSTRIALISTS TO INVEST AND RE-INVEST IN HONG KONG,+ DR HO SAID.

+THIS NO DOUBT WILL WORK TOWARDS THE LONG-TERM INTEREST OF THE TERRITORY,+ HE ADDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

BORDER INDUSTRIAL ZONE PROPOSED BY ALLEN LEE  
\* \* \* \* \*

THE GOVERNMENT WAS TODAY ASKED TO LOOK INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF ENLISTING CHINA'S CO-OPERATION IN SETTING UP AN INDUSTRIAL ZONE AT THE BORDER WHICH WOULD EMPLOY LABOUR FROM NEARBY CHINESE TOWNS AND VILLAGES.

THE SUGGESTION WAS PUT FORWARD BY THE HON ALLEN LEE AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE INTRODUCTION OF NINE YEARS' COMPULSORY EDUCATION HAD LED TO DIFFICULTIES IN RECRUITING NEW LABOUR IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR.

+IF HONG KONG HAD THE ADDITIONAL LABOUR FORCE, WE WOULD BE ABLE TO INCREASE OUR EXPORTS,+ HE SAID.

MR LEE SAID HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT, GIVEN THE COMBINATION OF HONG KONG'S MANAGEMENT EXPERTISE AND THE CHINESE LABOUR FORCE, HONG KONG'S COMPETITIVE EDGE WOULD DEFINITELY BE STRENGTHENED.

THERE WERE NUMEROUS MUTUAL BENEFITS TO BE HAD. +THIS SCHEME IS FEASIBLE,+ HE EXPLAINED.

+IN CASE THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY AND THE DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION ARE WORRIED ABOUT THE PROBLEM OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS, I BELIEVE MEASURES CAN BE TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT THIS INDUSTRIAL ZONE BE A RESTRICTED AREA.

+THE FACTORIES CAN BE OPERATED AS BONDED FACTORIES, WHICH HONG KONG MANUFACTURERS SHOULD BE FAMILIAR WITH IF THEY HAVE FACTORIES OUTSIDE OF HONG KONG.

+ONE THING IS CERTAIN, THERE COULD NEVER BE A SHORTAGE OF LABOUR IN A COUNTRY WITH A POPULATION OF ONE BILLION PEOPLE.+

MR LEE SAID HE WAS NOT FORGETTING THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL AND THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL, NOR THE IMPORTANCE OF OVERSEAS INVESTMENT PROMOTION AND THE GOVERNMENT'S INFRASTRUCTURAL SUPPORT FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

+BUT, AT THE END OF THE DAY, WE NEED LABOUR AND WE NEED TO STAND TALL AND LET OUR COMPETITORS WORRY ABOUT HONG KONG,+ HE SAID.

COMMENTING ON HONG KONG'S RELATIONSHIP WITH CHINA, MR LEE COMPARED IT TO THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN A SUBSIDIARY AND THE HEADQUARTERS OF A MULTINATIONAL COMPANY AND SAID WE MUST ESTABLISH MUTUAL TRUST AND UNDERSTANDING WITH CHINA.

+IT IS UNDERSTANDABLE THAT WE HAVE CONCERNS, BUT WE SHOULD TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT CHINA HAS ACHIEVED IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS INSTEAD OF CONTINUOUSLY DWELLING ON THE FIRST 30 YEARS OF THE HISTORY OF THE PEOPLES' REPUBLIC OF CHINA,+ HE SAID.

REFERRING TO CHINA'S RECENT ANNOUNCEMENT THAT IT PLANS TO CARRY OUT REFORMS IN THE CITIES AND IN ITS MANUFACTURING FACILITIES, MR LEE SAID: +IF ANYTHING, CHINA IS ON THE RIGHT TRACK OF MODERNISATION AND WE SHOULD BE GLAD TO SEE CHINA HEADING IN ITS CURRENT DIRECTION.+

+WE ARE ALL AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF HONG KONG TO CHINA, AND VICE VERSA. THEREFORE, WE MUST LOOK AHEAD AND WE MUST CONTRIBUTE OUR PART IN ENSURING AND MAINTAINING HONG KONG'S PROSPERITY AND STABILITY,+ HE SAID.

+NOW IS THE TIME FOR EVERYONE IN HONG KONG TO THINK OF WHAT CONTRIBUTIONS THEY CAN MAKE AND HOW THEY CAN PARTICIPATE IN BUILDING HONG KONG'S FUTURE.

+WITH A COMMUNITY AND A GOVERNMENT DEDICATED TO THAT TASK, WE CAN BE CONFIDENT THAT HONG KONG WILL REMAIN THE VIBRANT, DYNAMIC AND PROGRESSIVE CITY OF WHICH ITS CITIZENS ARE SO JUSTLY PROUD.+

MR LEE ALSO SPOKE ABOUT TWO ASPECTS OF EDUCATION - HIGHER EDUCATION AND COMPUTER EDUCATION.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1984

- 18 -

ON HIGHER EDUCATION, HE SAID IT WAS GRATIFYING TO SEE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CITY POLYTECHNIC AND HE HOPED ITS FUTURE EXPANSION WOULD BE AS RAPID AS ITS ESTABLISHMENT.

ON COMPUTER EDUCATION, HE SAID EVEN THOUGH A PILOT SCHEME BEGAN IN 1982 WHICH PROVIDED COMPUTER EQUIPMENT TO 105 GOVERNMENT-AIDED SCHOOLS, HE FELT HONG KONG WAS FALLING BEHIND ITS COMPETITORS IN THIS FIELD.

+I BELIEVE A REVIEW SHOULD BE CONDUCTED IMMEDIATELY WITH THE AIM OF INTRODUCING COMPUTER COURSES INTO ALL SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN THE NEAR FUTURE AS WELL AS INTRODUCING COMPUTER COURSES INTO PRIMARY SCHOOLS,+ MR LEE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

LITTLE ATTENTION PAID TO POLITICS IN PAST - ANDREW SO  
\* \* \* \* \*

IN THE PAST EMPHASIS HAD BEEN PLACED ON ECONOMIC ACHIEVEMENT, WITH LITTLE ATTENTION PAID TO POLITICS, THE HON ANDREW SO SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

MR SO SAID THAT, HOWEVER, AS CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGED POLITICS WOULD BECOME HONG KONG'S CONCERN.

LEADERS OF HONG KONG WOULD BE MORE ENTERPRISING AND MORE ADVENTUROUS AND INNOVATIVE IN SPIRIT, HE SAID.

ELECTIONS AND VOTING WOULD BE AN INTEGRAL PART OF LIFE IN HONG KONG.

THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION STIPULATED THAT THE LEGISLATURE OF THE HONG KONG SAR SHALL BE CONSTITUTED BY ELECTIONS.

THIS WAS INDEED A VERY IMPORTANT PROVISION.

+THAT, I BELIEVE, WAS ACHIEVED AFTER MUCH HARD WORK,+ MR SO SAID, +WE MUST THEREFORE CHERISH IT.+

MILLIONS AND MILLIONS OF PEOPLE ALL OVER THE WORLD WERE DEPRIVED OF THE FREEDOM OF CHOICE.

THEY WOULD SURELY URGE THE PEOPLE HERE TO VALUE THE CHANCES OF EXERCISING THEIR RIGHT TO HOLD ELECTIONS AND CAST VOTES.

+FOR THE SAKE OF OUR OWN FREEDOM AND THE FREEDOM OF OTHERS IN HONG KONG, WE MUST ABOVE ALL BEAR THIS IN MIND,+ MR SO SAID.

HE SAID HE BELIEVED THAT IN BUILDING A SUITABLE POLITICAL SYSTEM FOR HONG KONG, IT WAS NOT ADVISABLE TO BE TOO CONSERVATIVE.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1984

- 19 -

THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION HAD ALREADY GIVEN HONG KONG A BLUEPRINT.

+THUS IT IS MOST UNLIKELY THAT WE WOULD GO ASTRAY,+ MR SO SAID.

+WE MAY STUMBLE, BUT WE CAN OF COURSE STAND ON OUR FEET AGAIN, SHAKE OFF THE DUST AND MOVE ON IN A STEADY PACE.+

MR SO SAID THE SYSTEM OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT DEPENDED LARGELY ON THE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF THE PEOPLE.

THE SYSTEM ITSELF UNDERLINED THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATING THE PEOPLE.

IN HONG KONG IT WAS NECESSARY TO EDUCATE AND TRAIN UP LEADERS SO THAT THEY WOULD UNDERSTAND AND ASSUME THEIR POLITICAL RESPONSIBILITIES.

AT THE SAME TIME THE PEOPLE SHOULD BE EDUCATED TO UNDERSTAND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AND PLAY THEIR PART IN ELECTING SUITABLE LEADERS.

MOREOVER, THEY SHOULD ALSO BE TAUGHT TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS THE BILLS INTRODUCED BY IT.

+AS THE SINO-BRITISH DRAFT AGREEMENT CLEARLY INDICATES THE DIRECTION OF CHANGES FOR HONG KONG, PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY SHOULD STUDY THE FUTURE CHANGES AT DIFFERENT LEVELS AND IN DIFFERENT AREAS ENTHUSIASTICALLY WITH A VIEW TO ENSURING THAT THE AIM OF HONG KONG PEOPLE RUNNING HONG KONG CAN BE ACHIEVED,+ MR SO SAID.

HE SAID DIRECT OR INDIRECT ELECTIONS WERE AMONG THE POPULAR TOPICS BEING DISCUSSED RECENTLY.

+YET I THINK IT IS NOT THE CRUX OF THE WHOLE PROBLEM, WHAT IS CRUCIAL IS THAT THERE SHOULD BE MORE CITIZENS TO PARTICIPATE ENTHUSIASTICALLY IN THE ELECTIONS AND THAT MORE DEDICATED AND RIGHTEOUS MEN AND WOMEN SHOULD COME UP AS LEADERS,+ HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/20 .....

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1984

- 20 -

HK NEEDS OWN POLITICAL FORMULA, F.K. HU SAYS  
\* \* \* \*

HONG KONG PEOPLE MUST FACE THE REALITY OF MANAGING THEIR OWN AFFAIRS IN 13 YEARS' TIME BUT THERE IS NO READY-MADE, PROVEN, POLITICAL SYSTEM THEY CAN ADOPT. THEY MUST FIND THEIR OWN UNIQUE SOLUTION.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE HON F.K. HU IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

+THE FINAL STRUCTURE MUST ENSURE POLITICAL STABILITY, EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT ADMINISTRATION, CONTINUOUS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND, ABOVE ALL, THE FAITH OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC,+ HE SAID.

THE PRESENT DEMOCRATIC SYSTEMS ADOPTED IN MANY COUNTRIES HAD PROVED TO BE DETRIMENTAL TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND POLITICAL STABILITY OF THOSE COUNTRIES, HE OBSERVED. FROM NOW ON, HONG KONG PEOPLE MUST LEARN TO BE MORE CIVIC-MINDED, TO UNDERSTAND THE PROS AND CONS OF DIFFERENT POLITICAL SYSTEMS, AND TO APPRECIATE THEIR OWN RIGHTS AND DUTIES TO THEIR SOCIETY.

+WITHOUT SUCH KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING, THERE WILL NOT BE ANY GREAT IMPROVEMENT IN THE REGISTRATION OF VOTERS AND THE VOTING PERCENTAGE WILL BE VERY LOW,+ HE WARNED.

THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES WOULD NOT BE REPRESENTATIVE AND, CONSEQUENTLY, THERE COULD BE A LACK OF PUBLIC SUPPORT IN POLICY DECISIONS AND THEIR IMPLEMENTATION. FURTHERMORE, SOME CANDIDATES MIGHT MAKE UNREALISTIC PROMISES TO VOTERS WHICH MIGHT BE BENEFICIAL TO CERTAIN SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY BUT NOT NECESSARILY FAVOURABLE TO THE SOCIETY AS A WHOLE.

HE BELIEVED IT WAS POSSIBLE HONG KONG WOULD SEE THE EVENTUAL FORMATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES WITH A COMMON PLATFORM ON VARIOUS FRONTS. THESE PARTIES MIGHT PERSUADE CANDIDATES OF HIGH CALIBRE, WITH LEADERSHIP QUALITIES, TO STAND FOR ELECTION.

+THEREFORE, I AM IN FULL SUPPORT OF THE GRADUAL DEVELOPMENT OUTLINED IN THE GREEN PAPER IN ORDER TO ENSURE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION,+ HE ADDED.

IN THE MEANTIME, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY FORM THEIR OWN IDEAS ON WHETHER THEY FAVOUR THE ELECTION OF CANDIDATES IN THEIR INDIVIDUAL CAPACITIES, OR ON POLITICAL PARTY BASIS, OR OTHER ALTERNATIVES.

+FURTHERMORE,+ HE STRESSED, +WE MUST ENSURE THAT THERE WILL BE A SMOOTH TRANSITION INTO THE SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION GOVERNMENT IN 1997 WITH NO ABRUPT AND DRASTIC CHANGE IN THE POLITICAL STRUCTURE AT THAT TIME.+ TO ACHIEVE THIS, THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE CONSULTED AT VARIOUS STAGES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SYSTEM.

/MR HU .....

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1984

- 21 -

MR HU ADDED THAT THE TIMING FOR DIRECT ELECTIONS SHOULD NOT BE DECIDED PREMATURELY, BUT COULD BE CONSIDERED SERIOUSLY AFTER A FULL ASSESSMENT HAD BEEN MADE OF THE SITUATION.

TURNING TO THE CIVIL SERVICE, MR HU SAID THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE CONGRATULATED FOR ITS EFFORTS TO STABILISE THE SIZE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE, BUT EVEN GREATER EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE TO FURTHER REDUCE THE SIZE THROUGH STREAMLINING, AND THE SIMPLIFYING OF OPERATIONS AND PROCEDURES, WITHOUT SACRIFICING THE QUALITY OF WORK.

CITING THE PRIVATISATION OF GOVERNMENT CARPARK MANAGEMENT AS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF COST-EFFECTIVENESS, HE SAID ALL DEPARTMENTS SHOULD LOOK INTO AREAS WHERE WORK OR MANAGEMENT COULD BE PASSED ON TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR. THIS COULD ASSIST THE GOVERNMENT IN REDUCING THE SIZE OF THE CIVIL SERVICE, AND IN PRODUCING ADDITIONAL OR SIMILAR LEVELS OF REVENUE, INSTEAD OF INCURRING LIMITED REVENUES OR DEFICITS.

ON THE OTHER HAND, MR HU SAID, EXPANSION IN CERTAIN DEPARTMENTS MUST BE ALLOWED TO ENABLE THEM TO COPE WITH ADDITIONAL VOLUMES OF WORK - ESPECIALLY IN DEALING WITH MATTERS OF SECURITY AND TRADE - WITHOUT APPLYING THE RIGID RULE OF SAVING IN OTHER SECTORS.

+THE QUESTION OF RESTRAINING GROWTH IN THE CIVIL SERVICE MUST BE DEALT WITH SYSTEMATICALLY AND REASONABLY, BUT NOT DOGMATICALLY,+ HE SAID.

ON HONG KONG'S INDUSTRY, MR HU SAID HE BELIEVED THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DRAFT SINO-BRITISH AGREEMENT ON THE FUTURE WOULD NOW LEAD TO RENEWED CONFIDENCE AND A REVIVAL IN DOMESTIC INVESTMENTS.

HE SUGGESTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD SERIOUSLY LOOK INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTRES TO ASSIST MANUFACTURERS TO UP-GRADE THEIR PRODUCTS. THIS WOULD RESULT IN HIGHER MARGINS OF PROFIT, ENABLING THEM TO UNDERTAKE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT THEMSELVES.

ON SOCIAL WELFARE, MR HU SAID HE WAS PLEASED TO NOTE THERE WOULD BE A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSOLIDATING THE VARIOUS PAYMENTS AND FOR INCREASING THE AMOUNT OF DISREGARDED INCOME FOR THOSE WHO WERE ABLE TO SUPPLEMENT THEIR ASSISTANCE WITH THEIR OWN EARNINGS.

CONTENDING THAT THE PRESENT SCHEME, WITH ALL ITS SUPPLEMENTS AND ALLOWANCES WAS DIFFICULT AND COMPLICATED FOR THE PUBLIC TO UNDERSTAND AND - EQUALLY DIFFICULT FOR SOCIAL WORKERS TO EXPLAIN TO THEM - MR HU HOPED THAT THE REVIEW WOULD EVENTUALLY RESULT IN SIMPLIFICATION AND CONSOLIDATION OF THE SCHEME.

/MR HU .....

MR HU ALSO RAISED THE QUESTION OF A CONTRIBUTORY CENTRAL PROVIDENT FUND.

+ALTHOUGH I ACCEPT THAT OUR EXISTING NON-CONTRIBUTORY SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAMMES SHOULD REMAIN THE CENTRAL PILLAR OF OUR SYSTEM, A CENTRAL PROVIDENT FUND SCHEME COULD BE WORKED OUT TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL BENEFITS TO THOSE AFFECTED, FOR EXAMPLE, BY TEMPORARY UNEMPLOYMENT OR RETIREMENT AND IT COULD EVEN REDUCE THE CONTINUED BURDEN ON PUBLIC FUNDS,+ HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

SEARCH FOR MORE MARKETS URGED  
\* \* \* \*

PRIORITY SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE SEARCH FOR MORE MARKETS AND TO PRODUCT DIVERSIFICATION, THE HON WONG PO-YAN SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

BOTH JAPAN AND CHINA DESERVED PARTICULAR ATTENTION, AS FAR AS MARKETS WERE CONCERNED, HE SAID.

+EXTENSIVE RESEARCH ON THE JAPANESE MARKETS, DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF ITS SALES NETWORK AND INCESSANT ATTEMPTS TO ENTER THE MARKET WILL ONE DAY BRING CORRESPONDING RESULTS,+ HE SAID.

AS FOR CHINA, HE SAID THAT THE COUNTRY'S TRADE POLICY HAD BEEN CHANGING AND MORE DECISION-MAKING POWER WAS BEING DELEGATED. THIS HAD RESULTED IN PROVINCES AND MUNICIPALITIES ENGAGING IN TRADE WITH HONG KONG.

THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICIES RECENTLY ANNOUNCED BY CHINA WOULD FURTHER ENHANCE THIS PROCESS, HE SAID.

+ON ACCOUNT OF THIS, I SUGGEST THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD DIRECT AND HELP THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL TO ORGANISE MORE PROMOTION ACTIVITIES IN VARIOUS PROVINCES AND MUNICIPALITIES OF CHINA.

+IT WILL, ON ONE HAND, PROVIDE A CHANCE FOR TRADE EXPANSION FOR LOCAL MANUFACTURES AND, ON THE OTHER, SHOW OUR EXPERIENCE AND WAYS OF FOREIGN TRADE TO THE TRADING ORGANISATIONS OF CHINA,+ HE SAID.

APART FROM PROMOTING TRADE, MR WONG SAID, INDUSTRIAL DIVERSIFICATION SHOULD ALSO BE HIGH ON HONG KONG'S PRIORITY LIST.

/HE COMMENDED .....

HE COMMENDED THE GOVERNMENT FOR SETTING UP THE STANDARDS AND CALIBRATION LABORATORY AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT +DECISIVE ACTION+ WOULD BE TAKEN ON THE ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY'S PROPOSAL TO UNDERTAKE RESEARCH WORK.

+UNDER THE PRESENT FINANCIAL CLIMATE, I THINK IT IS MORE APPROPRIATE TO LEVY FUNDS FROM THE EXPORTS OF THE INDUSTRY TO FINANCE SUCH WORK,+ HE SAID.

MR WONG ALSO EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION WOULD KEEP PACE WITH INDUSTRIAL GROWTH.

HE ALSO SAID AS THE POLITICAL SYSTEM OF HONG KONG HAD STARTED TO TAKE ON A NEW FORM, CIVIC EDUCATION MUST BE INTRODUCED AT PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL LEVELS TO ENABLE STUDENTS TO BETTER UNDERSTAND CIVIC OBLIGATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS, SO THAT THEY MIGHT PLAY THEIR PART IN ELECTIONS AND POLITICS IN FUTURE.

+IN UNIVERSITY EDUCATION, I THINK A SPECIAL PROGRAMME SHOULD BE OFFERED AT UNDERGRADUATE OR GRADUATE SCHOOL LEVEL TO MAKE A SYSTEMATIC ACADEMIC STUDY ON THE PRACTICE AND POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENTS OF LOCAL POLITICS, ECONOMICS AND SOCIAL ISSUES SO AS TO PROVIDE A THEORETICAL BASIS FOR THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID HIGH PRIORITY SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A THIRD UNIVERSITY.

ON PUBLIC EXPENDITURE, MR WONG SAID HE BELIEVED THAT HONG KONG WOULD STILL NEED TO SPEND MONEY ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF ITS INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

+AS REVENUE FROM LAND SALES WILL BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED, A RE-ASSESSMENT OF THE PRIORITY ON EXPENDITURE MAY BE CALLED FOR.

+I SUGGEST THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD SERIOUSLY CONSIDER RESTRICTING EXPENDITURE ON PUBLIC HOUSING AND THAT INVESTMENT IN THIS SECTOR BE PARTIALLY TAKEN UP BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE,+ HE SAID.

THE +PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION SCHEME+ SHOULD BE FURTHER EXPANDED, HE SAID.

MR WONG ALSO SAID THE COMPARATIVELY LOW TAXATION RATE MUST BE MAINTAINED AND THIS FACTOR SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT WHEN DECIDING THE PRIORITIES OF GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

HE SAID IT WAS UNDESIRABLE TO HAVE BUDGET DEFICITS OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS, NO MATTER HOW SMALL THE DEFICIT WAS WHEN COMPARED WITH THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT.

HE ALSO COMMENDED THE GOVERNMENT FOR ITS EFFORTS IN RESTRAINING THE GROWTH OF THE CIVIL SERVICE IN THE PAST ONE OR TWO YEARS AND IN STABILISING THE SIZE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE IN 1985-86.

BILL BROWN SUPPORTS CONTINUATION OF LINKED EXCHANGE RATE  
\* \* \* \* \*

THE U.S. DOLLAR LINK COULD NOT BE TURNED ON AND OFF LIKE A TAP AND TO SUGGEST OTHERWISE WAS TO MISUNDERSTAND HOW THE SYSTEM WORKS, THE HON BILL BROWN SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

MR BROWN SAID HE WELCOMED THE GOVERNOR'S STATEMENT THAT THERE WERE NO PLANS TO CHANGE THE LINKED EXCHANGE RATE SYSTEM.

+I WELCOME THAT STATEMENT, FOR I DO NOT SUBSCRIBE TO THE VIEWS OF THOSE WHO BELIEVE WE SHOULD REVERT TO A FREE-FLOATING CURRENCY,+ HE SAID.

HE NOTED THERE HAD BEEN SUGGESTIONS THAT AS THE UNITED KINGDOM HAD NOW REACHED AGREEMENT WITH CHINA OVER THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG AND AS STABILITY HAD RETURNED TO THE HONG KONG MARKETS, THE LINK SHOULD BE ABANDONED OR THE LINKED RATE OF 7.80 SHOULD BE ALTERED.

+IT IS TRUE THAT THE LINK WAS ADOPTED AS A MEASURE TO RESTORE CONFIDENCE IN OUR CURRENCY. BUT IT IS ALSO TRUE THAT THE LINKED RATE SYSTEM, WHICH OFFERS A STABLE EXCHANGE RATE, HAS ITS OWN MERITS,+ HE SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT DURING PERIODS OF TURBULENCE, BOTH PRIOR TO THE SINO-BRITISH ACCORD BECAUSE OF POLITICAL UNCERTAINTY, AND MORE RECENTLY BECAUSE OF THE EXCEPTIONAL STRENGTH OF THE U.S. DOLLAR, HONG KONG'S EXCHANGE MARKET HAD BEEN RELATIVELY CALM.

+UNDER THE SYSTEM THIS STABILITY HAS BEEN PURCHASED AT THE COST OF MORE VOLATILE INTEREST RATES, BUT THE COMBINATION OF A STABLE EXCHANGE RATE AND THE AMOUNT OF CHANGE IN INTEREST RATES HAS PROVEN TO BE MORE ACCEPTABLE TO THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY THAN A FLOATING EXCHANGE RATE SUSCEPTIBLE TO EXAGGERATED MOVEMENTS CAUSED BY ANXIETY AND SPECULATION DURING PERIODS OF INSTABILITY.

+IT WOULD TAKE A BRAVE MAN TO DISCOUNT ANY POSSIBILITY OF SOME ELEMENT OF INSTABILITY AND TURMOIL REAPPEARING IN OUR MARKETS AT SOME POINT IN THE FUTURE, AND INDEED CHINESE LEADERS THEMSELVES HAVE WARNED US OF THAT POSSIBILITY RECURRING AT SOME POINT IN THE LONG COUNT DOWN TO 1997,+ HE SAID.

HE CONCEDED THERE WAS OF COURSE A COST TO PAY FOR LINKING THE HONG KONG DOLLAR TO THE US CURRENCY AND THAT HAD BEEN LIKENED, CORRECTLY, AS PLACING HONG KONG'S ECONOMY ON A ROLLER-COASTER POWERED BY THE US ECONOMY.

+THAT RELATIONSHIP TO DATE HAS BROUGHT HONG KONG AN EXPORT BOOM WITH ONLY MODEST INFLATIONARY PRESSURE, BUT IN THE EVENT OF THE US CURRENCY ITSELF SUFFERING ANY DRAMATIC REVERSAL OF FORTUNE IN THE YEARS AHEAD IT IS NOT INCONCEIVABLE THAT WE WOULD WISH TO RECONSIDER THE MERITS OF LINKING OUR EXCHANGE RATE TO AN ALTERNATIVE ANCHOR, SUCH AS A BASKET OF CURRENCIES REPRESENTATIVE OF OUR MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS,+ HE SAID.

THERE WAS, HOWEVER, NO SIGN THAT ANY SUCH MEASURE WOULD BE NECESSARY IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE, HE ADDED.

TURNING TO THE ACTUAL RATE OF 7.80, MR BROWN SAID THE WHOLE SYSTEM DEPENDED ON THE LINKED RATE REMAINING UNCHANGED.

+ANY UNDERVALUATION OR OVERVALUATION INDUCES CHANGES IN THE INTERNAL COST-PRICE STRUCTURE WHICH IN TIME BRINGS THE DOLLAR'S PURCHASING POWER BACK INTO PARITY WITH ITS EXCHANGE RATE,+ HE SAID.

+THE SYSTEM HAS NOW BEEN IN OPERATION FOR JUST OVER ONE YEAR, AND AFTER THE INITIAL IMPACT - WHICH DID OF COURSE REFLECT THE SHARP DEVALUATION THAT HAD OCCURRED EARLIER - EXPERIENCE SUGGESTS THAT EQUILIBRIUM HAS BEEN REACHED OR IS NEAR.

+I WOULD REMIND MEMBERS THAT IT DOES NOT IN FACT MATTER MUCH TO THE SYSTEM WHAT THE LINKED RATE IS ONCE THE INITIAL EFFECTS HAVE BEEN ABSORBED, AND TO CHANGE THE RATE NOW WOULD MERELY WRECK THE SYSTEM AND CAUSE SPECULATION ON FUTURE CHANGES, THAT IS TO SAY BRING ABOUT A SITUATION THE LINK IS DESIGNED TO AVOID,+ HE SAID.

ON PUBLIC FINANCES, MR BROWN BELIEVED THE DEVELOPMENTS TAKING PLACE IN OUR COMMUNITY WOULD LEAD TO INCREASED PUBLIC EXPENDITURE AND RAISED THE QUESTION OF WHERE WOULD THE REVENUE COME FROM.

WE NOW HAD A CLEARER PICTURE AS TO THE FUTURE CONTRIBUTION WE MIGHT EXPECT FROM LAND SALES, WHICH WOULD BE RESTRICTED UNDER THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT OVER THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG, AND FROM A MACRO-ECONOMIC POINT OF VIEW IT WAS NO BAD THING THAT SUCH MONEYS SHOULD ASSUME A MORE MODEST, ALTHOUGH HOPEFULLY MORE CONSISTENT SOURCE OF REVENUE, HE SAID.

MR BROWN BELIEVED THAT THE PROSPECT OF ADDITIONAL TAXATION WAS INEVITABLE, AND THEN INCREASED INDIRECT TAXATION WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO ANY SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN DIRECT TAXATION.

A TAX ON THE CONSUMPTION OF A WIDE RANGE OF GOODS AND SERVICES WOULD PERHAPS BE THE FAIREST METHOD OF SPREADING ANY ADDITIONAL TAX BURDEN EVENLY ACROSS THE COMMUNITY, HE FELT.

+A VALUE ADDED TAX WOULD MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE DAY IN THEORY, ALTHOUGH THE DIFFICULTIES OF COLLECTION COULD WELL MAKE IT IMPRACTICAL IN PRACTICE. HOWEVER, IN MY VIEW SOME FORM OF SALES TAX WILL NEED TO BE CONSIDERED AS BEING THE MOST EQUITABLE WAY TO FINANCE THE COMMUNITY'S GROWING DEMANDS WITHOUT UNDULY DISTURBING OUR PRESENT ECONOMIC SYSTEM, WHICH MUST BE MAINTAINED IF BUSINESS IS TO CONTINUE GENERATING THAT PROSPERITY WE ARE ALL PERHAPS TAKING TOO MUCH FOR GRANTED,+ HE SAID.

MR BROWN WAS PLEASED TO NOTE THE ASSURANCE GIVEN BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL LAST WEEK THAT GOVERNMENT REMAINED COMMITTED TO A POLICY OF LOW TAXATION FRIENDLY TO OUR ENTREPRENEURS.

GRAVE THREAT SEEN FROM U.S. TEXTILE RULES  
\* \* \* \* \*

THE NEW UNITED STATES CUSTOMS REGULATIONS ON TEXTILES AND APPAREL, COUPLED WITH THE STRENGTH OF THE U.S. DOLLAR, COULD DENT HONG KONG'S PROSPECTS FOR FURTHER ECONOMIC GROWTH, THE HON STEPHEN CHEONG SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SPEAKING IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR CHEONG SAID, IF CARRIED OUT IN FULL +WITHOUT SENSIBLE AND REASONABLE MODIFICATION+, THE NEW CUSTOMS REGULATIONS WOULD THREATEN THE VERY VIABILITY OF HONG KONG'S TEXTILES AND APPAREL INDUSTRY.

IN THE SHORT TERM, IF IMPLEMENTED WITHOUT MODIFICATION, THE REGULATIONS WOULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF WIPING OUT THE KNITWEAR SECTOR OF THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY, WHICH EXPORTED ABOUT HK\$3.5 BILLION WORTH OF BOTH RESTRAINED AND NON-QUOTA KNITTED PRODUCTS TO THE U.S. -- EASILY THE SECTOR'S LARGEST MARKET.

+MORE IMPORTANTLY, THE KNITWEAR SECTOR PROVIDES 60 000 JOBS WHICH, IF LOST, WOULD PRESENT SHORT TERM SERIOUS DISLOCATION PROBLEMS FOR SOME 200 000 PEOPLE, ASSUMING EACH WAGE EARNER SUPPORTS IN VARYING DEGREES ONLY THREE PERSONS IN THE FAMILY,+ HE SAID.

IN THE LONGER TERM, MR CHEONG SAID, THE EFFECT OF THESE REGULATIONS MIGHT BE EVEN MORE INSIDIOUS AND FAR REACHING.

+THE REGULATIONS REQUIRE EVERY MANUFACTURER TO DECLARE IN GREAT DETAIL, ON THE SPECIAL CUSTOMS INVOICE, THE STEPS INVOLVED IN THE MANUFACTURE OF THE GARMENT, AND THE PRODUCTION COST OF EVERY MANUFACTURING PROCESS.

+THAT MEANS THAT OUR MANUFACTURING COSTS WILL BE KNOWN TO OUR CUSTOMERS.

+THIS WOULD LEAD TO REDUCED PROFIT MARGINS FOR OUR MANUFACTURERS, TO A REDUCTION OF OUR MANUFACTURERS' ABILITY TO REINVEST, TO A GRADUAL EROSION OF OUR EXPORT COMPETITIVENESS AND TO A POSSIBLE COLLAPSE OF THE INDUSTRY,+ HE SAID.

MR CHEONG POINTED OUT THAT, IF THAT SCENARIO WERE TO MATERIALISE, 20 PER CENT OF HONG KONG'S EXPORT EARNINGS WOULD BE SERIOUSLY JEOPARDISED AND 20 PER CENT OF THE LABOUR FORCE WOULD HAVE TO READJUST AND FIND OTHER JOBS.

HE SAID HONG KONG COULD NOT AFFORD SUCH HUGE LOSSES IN EXPORT EARNINGS.

+I WOULD STRONGLY URGE THE GOVERNMENT, THEREFORE, TO DEVISE CONTINGENCY PLANS TO PREVENT SUCH A DISASTER FROM HAPPENING.

/+THE CONTINGENCY .....

+THE CONTINGENCY PLANS SO DEVISED MAY BE UNCONVENTIONAL, BUT EMERGENCY SITUATIONS DO REQUIRE IMAGINATIVE SOLUTIONS,+ SAID MR CHEONG.

+SECONDLY, THE STRENGTH OF THE U.S. DOLLAR VIS-A-VIS EUROPEAN CURRENCIES AND THE FACT THAT THE HONG KONG DOLLAR IS NECESSARILY LINKED TO THE U.S. DOLLAR HAVE ERODED THE COMPETITIVE EDGE OF OUR PRODUCTS.

+OUR EXPORTS TO EUROPE HAVE ALREADY SUFFERED FROM ANY APPRECIABLE LACK OF GROWTH AND IF THE STRENGTH OF THE U.S. DOLLAR WERE TO CONTINUE WELL INTO 1985, OUR EXPORT PERFORMANCE TO EUROPE MAY WELL EXPERIENCE FURTHER SET-BACKS,+ HE SAID.

MR CHEONG ASKED THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY TO TAKE A CAUTIOUS ATTITUDE IN THE PREPARATION OF THE 1985-86 BUDGET.

+CAPITAL EXPENDITURE WOULD CERTAINLY NEED TO BE MORE CAREFULLY SCRUTINISED SO THAT EVEN marginally viable projects could be deferred,+ HE SAID.

IN THIS CONNECTION, MR CHEONG SAID HE WAS NOT CONVINCED THAT THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE LIGHT RAIL SYSTEM LINKING TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG WAS +A FINANCIALLY VIABLE PROJECT+.

+BASED ON A 1984 DOLLAR VALUE OF 1.7 BILLION, AND ON DAILY PASSENGER BOARDINGS OF 600 000 TO 750 000 WHEN THE FULL LRT SYSTEM IS COMPLETED, IT WILL TAKE 10 TO 15 YEARS BEFORE THE INVESTMENT COULD BE RECOUPED,+ HE SAID.

HE CONCEDED IT WAS TRUE THAT THE KCRC HAD BEEN INVITED TO CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE THE PROPOSED SYSTEM, AND THEORETICALLY, THEREFORE, IF THE KCRC SHOULD DECIDE TO GO AHEAD, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT SHOULDER SHORT TERM LIABILITIES.

+THOUGH KCRC IS SEPARATED FROM THE GOVERNMENT IN THAT IT IS A CORPORATION HAVING AN INDEPENDENT IDENTITY, YET TO THE EXTENT THAT THE KCRC IS UNDERWRITTEN BY THE GOVERNMENT, THE GOVERNMENT IS ULTIMATELY RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS SURVIVAL AND ITS DEBTS,+ HE SAID.

+IT IS THEREFORE INCUMBENT ON THE GOVERNMENT TO SATISFY ITSELF BEYOND REASONABLE DOUBT THAT THE PROJECT IS VIABLE, BEFORE COMMITTING ITSELF IRREVOCABLY TO THE UNDERWRITING OF ANOTHER POSSIBLE WHITE ELEPHANT,+ MR CHEONG STRESSED.

ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A REPRESENTATIONAL SYTEM OF GOVERNMENT, MR CHEONG BELIEVED THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE GOAL OF INVOLVING MORE PEOPLE IN THE BUSINESS OF GOVERNING HONG KONG MUST BE THROUGH THE APPLICATION OF A MORE OPEN SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT.

/HE CONSIDERED .....

- 28 -

HE CONSIDERED THE OPENING TO THE PUBLIC OF HEARINGS IN THE EXAMINATION OF THE 1983-84 DRAFT ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE AS +A FIRST STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION+.

THE DECISION OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE TO HOLD ITS HEARING OF EVIDENCE IN PUBLIC WAS ANOTHER STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION, HE SAID.

AS A FURTHER STEP ALONG THE PATH TOWARDS MORE OPEN GOVERNMENT, MR CHEONG SUGGESTED THAT GOVERNMENT COULD AGREE TO A PROCEDURE BY WHICH THOSE UMELCO PANEL MEETINGS WHICH WERE HELD TO EXAMINE GOVERNMENT POLICY PROPOSALS OF MAJOR PUBLIC INTEREST MIGHT, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN, BE OPENED TO THE PUBLIC.

HE NOTED THAT THE PUBLIC WERE ADMITTED TO HEARINGS OF CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES IN THE UNITED STATES AND CERTAIN PARLIAMENTARY SELECT COMMITTEE HEARINGS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

DISCUSSING TEXTILE QUOTAS, MR CHEONG SAID THE CURRENT SYSTEM HAD BEEN THE RESULT OF A CONTINUOUS PROCESS OF CONSCIENTIOUS DELIBERATIONS EVER SINCE HONG KONG HAD BEEN FORCED TO RESTRAIN TEXTILE EXPORTS.

WHILE THE SYSTEM COULD NOT BE CLAIMED TO BE PERFECT, IT HAD BEEN WIDELY RECOGNISED BY THOSE WHO UNDERSTOOD THE TRADE AS A WELL-DESIGNED SYSTEM THAT COULD ACHIEVE THE PURPOSE MAINTAINING STABILITY AND CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF THE TRADE, HE SAID.

THE CONCERN EXPRESSED BY MR WONG, HE SAID, WAS UNDERSTANDABLE, AS THE WORKINGS OF THE SYSTEM WERE COMPLEX AND INCOMPREHENSIBLE TO PEOPLE UNFAMILIAR WITH THE TRADE.

MR CHEONG, HOWEVER, SAID THAT HE WELCOMED ANOTHER REVIEW OF THE QUOTA SYSTEM, IF GOVERNMENT SO DECIDED, NOT BECAUSE HE HAD THE SAME RESERVATIONS AS MR WONG, BUT BECAUSE THERE WAS A NEED +TO CONSTANTLY SATISFY OURSELVES THAT THE SYSTEM DEVISED WOULD BE THE RIGHT SYSTEM ON PRACTICAL AND ECONOMIC GROUNDS.+

- - - 0 - - -

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1984

- 29 -

RESIDENTS TO DISCUSS WHITE PAPER  
\* \* \* \*

TWO OPEN FORUMS HAVE BEEN ORGANISED BY THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE WHITE PAPER ON HONG KONG'S FUTURE.

THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR LAM KAM-KWONG, WILL BE PRESENT TO EXPLAIN THE WHITE PAPER.

THE FIRST FORUM WILL TAKE PLACE AT 8 PM TOMORROW (THURSDAY), AT THE HONG KONG CHIU CHOW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LIMITED, 10TH FLOOR, 81-85 DES VOEUX ROAD WEST.

SPEAKERS WILL INCLUDE UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE AND THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, MISS MARIA TAM; A CHARTERED SURVEYOR, MR LEUNG CHUN-YING; AND A SOLICITOR, MR AMBROSE LAU.

THE SECOND FORUM WILL BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 1 (THURSDAY), STARTING AT 8 PM AT THE KENNEDY TOWN KAI FONG WELFARE ASSOCIATION, 14A BELCHER'S STREET, KENNEDY TOWN.

SPEAKERS WILL INCLUDE UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR CARL TONG; A LECTURER OF CHINESE UNIVERSITY, DR JOSEPH CHENG; AND A SOLICITOR, MR VINCENT KO.

MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT BOARD, AREA COMMITTEES, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, OWNERS' CORPORATIONS AND OTHER LOCAL ORGANISATIONS HAVE BEEN INVITED TO ATTEND THE FORUMS, WHILE LOCAL RESIDENTS ARE ALSO WELCOME TO TAKE PART.

THE FORUMS ARE ORGANISED BY THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE DISTRICT BOARD'S WORKING GROUP ON THE WHITE PAPER ON THE SINO-BRITISH AGREEMENT ON HONG KONG.

ALL VIEWS COLLECTED AT THE FORUMS WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE ASSESSMENT OFFICE.

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE FORUMS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/30 .....

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1984

- 30 -

BOARD MEMBERS TO MEET  
\*\*\*\*\*

THE WHITE PAPER ON HONG KONG'S FUTURE WILL BE DISCUSSED AT KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TOMORROW.

SIR PATRICK NAIRNE, ONE OF THE MONITORS OF THE ASSESSMENT OFFICE, AND THE DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY, HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR ALBERT LAM, WILL BE ATTENDING THE MEETING.

BOARD MEMBERS WILL BE BRIEFED ON THE WORKS PROGRAMME OF THE PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, DUE TO START IN MID-1985.

THE QUESTION OF WHETHER CIVIL SERVANTS COULD RUN IN THE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS, AND ALTERNATIVE SUGGESTIONS TO THE CARPENTER ROAD PARK PROJECT WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING.

- - - - 0 - - - -

PRISONS NEED MORE 'FRIENDS' - GARNER  
\*\*\*\*\*

MORE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SHOULD JOIN IN THE GOOD WORK BEING DONE BY THE PRISONERS' FRIENDS' ASSOCIATION IN VISITING PRISONS, THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR THOMAS GARNER, SAID TODAY.

SPEAKING AS PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION, AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE IN STANLEY, MR GARNER SAID MANY PRISONERS WHO HAD NO RELATIVES OR FRIENDS NEEDED HELP + IN SETTLING DOWN AND FACING UP TO THE REALITY OF THEIR SENTENCE. +

REGULAR VISITS HELPED KEEP THE PRISONERS IN TOUCH WITH THE WORLD OUTSIDE AND GAVE THEM HOPE FOR THE FUTURE, BECAUSE THESE VISITS SHOWED THAT THE COMMUNITY DID CARE ABOUT THEM, HE SAID.

MR GARNER PAID TRIBUTE TO MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THE WELFARE OF THE PRISONERS.

THEIR SERVICE WAS VERY IMPORTANT, NOT ONLY TO THE PRISONERS THEMSELVES AND THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, BUT ALSO TO THE COMMUNITY, HE SAID.

+THE PART THAT YOU PLAY IS AN IMPORTANT ONE IN SUPPORT OF THE AIM TO REFORM AND CORRECT, WHICH IS WHAT THE COMMUNITY WANTS AND EXPECTS FROM THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, + HE SAID.

/MR GARNER .....

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1984

- 31 -

MR GARNER SAID THAT THE TASK OF ESTABLISHING FRIENDSHIP WITH A PRISONER WAS NOT EASY, AND CALLED FOR PATIENCE, TACT AND ENTHUSIASM.

HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT THE OUTCOME WAS APPRECIATED AND COULD BE MOST REWARDING.

+PARTICULARLY WHEN YOU KNOW THAT YOU HAVE HELPED A FELLOW HUMAN BEING IN NEED,+ HE SAID.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, IN PARTICULAR MATURE CANTONESE-SPEAKING MALES OVER 21 YEARS OLD WHO WISH TO JOIN THE PRISONERS' FRIENDS' ASSOCIATION, MAY APPLY TO THE ASSOCIATION C/O GUARDIAN HOUSE, 11TH FLOOR, 32 01 KWAN ROAD, HONG KONG.

- - - - 0 - - - -

VTC GETS MORE MANAGEMENT SPECIALISTS  
\* \* \* \* \*

THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL WAS RECRUITING SPECIALISTS ON MANAGEMENT TRAINING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT CENTRE, MR PETER BARRETT, CHAIRMAN OF THE VTC'S COMMITTEE ON MANAGEMENT AND SUPERVISORY TRAINING (CMST) SAID TODAY.

FOUR SENIOR ADVISORS, WHO WERE SPECIALISTS IN SUPERVISORY TRAINING, SMALL BUSINESS MANAGEMENT, ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND MARKETING AND STRATEGY, WERE EXPECTED TO JOIN THE CENTRE DIRECTOR, DR R.I. TRICKER BY EARLY NEXT YEAR, MR BARRETT SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE MANAGEMENT TRAINING RESOURCES EXHIBITION AND SEMINAR, MR BARRETT SAID THAT THE CENTRE WOULD BECOME A VERY EFFECTIVE INSTITUTION, CARRYING OUT THE FUNCTIONS OF RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, CO-ORDINATION AND PROMOTION IN MANAGEMENT EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

THE CENTRE WAS ESTABLISHED IN JULY THIS YEAR BY THE VTC, AFTER A SURVEY REPORT CONDUCTED BY THE CMST HAD CONFIRMED THAT INSTITUTIONAL TRAINING FACILITIES FOR MANAGEMENT WERE INADEQUATE IN TERMS OF BOTH QUALITY AND QUANTITY, MR BARRETT SAID.

THE TWO-DAY MANAGEMENT TRAINING RESOURCES EXHIBITION AND SEMINAR IS THE FIRST PUBLIC FUNCTION UNDERTAKEN UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE CENTRE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE EDUCATIONAL FILM SERVICES.

MIDDLE AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT EXECUTIVES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE SEMINAR AND EXAMINE THE LATEST MANAGEMENT TRAINING RESOURCES DISPLAYED AT THE HONG KONG MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT CENTRE AT 17/F, HARBOUR CENTRE, WAN CHAI, UP TO 6 PM TODAY, AND FROM 9 AM TO 6 PM TOMORROW.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1984

- 32 -

PRIMARY SCHOOLS URGED TO JOIN GYMNASTICS  
\* \* \* \*

PRIMARY SCHOOLS ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE 1984-85 GYMNASTIC COMPETITIONS TO BE HELD ON MARCH 23 AND 24, NEXT YEAR AT THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE, SHA TIN.

THE COMPETITIONS ARE JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE HONG KONG SCHOOLS SPORTS ASSOCIATION AND THE NEW TERRITORIES SCHOOLS SPORTS ASSOCIATION.

EACH SCHOOL MAY ENTER ONE TEAM OF BOYS, AND ONE TEAM OF GIRLS IN EACH DIVISION IN THE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS, AND NOT MORE THAN THREE BOYS AND THREE GIRLS IN EACH INDIVIDUAL EVENT. ALL COMPETITORS MUST NOT BE OVER 14 YEARS OF AGE ON SEPTEMBER 1, 1985.

EACH PARTICIPATING SCHOOL WILL HAVE TO NOMINATE ONE TEACHER TO SERVE AS JUDGE FOR THE COMPETITIONS AND PAY AN ENTRY FEE OF \$20 PER TEAM AND \$5 PER HEAD IN EACH INDIVIDUAL EVENT.

ALL COMPLETED FORMS, TOGETHER WITH FEES, MUST REACH THE PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR, PHYSICAL EDUCATION SECTION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AT KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 6/F, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON, NOT LATER THAN NOVEMBER 15, 1984.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE AT THE SECTION ON 3-884111 EXT. 277.

- - - - 0 - - - -

NEW SCOUT TROOP FORMED  
\* \* \*

A CEREMONY MARKING THE FORMATION OF A SCOUT TROOP FOR VIETNAMESE BOYS AT THE CHIMAWAN CLOSED CENTRE WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY (OCTOBER 27) AT 3.30 PM.

THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR THOMAS GARNER, AND THE DEPUTY REGIONAL COMMISSIONER OF BROTHERHOOD REGION, MR J.H. HENDERSON, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE INAUGURATION OF THE 16TH ISLAND GROUP OF THE HONG KONG SCOUT ASSOCIATION AT THE CLOSED CENTRE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

- 33 -

NEW CUSTOMS LAUNCH COMMISSIONED  
\* \* \*

THE SECOND REPLACEMENT LAUNCH FOR THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE - CUSTOMS LAUNCH NO. 3 - WAS COMMISSIONED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) DURING A CEREMONY ATTENDED BY THE SERVICE'S COMMISSIONER, MR HARNAM GREWAL.

THIS MORNING, MR GREWAL TOGETHER WITH OTHER SENIOR OFFICERS OF THE SERVICE, TOOK THE LAUNCH TO JOSS HOUSE BAY TO PAY HOMAGE TO THE GODDESS TIN HAU.

THE NEW LAUNCH, MEASURING 13.7 METRES, WAS BUILT BY A LOCAL SHIPYARD AT A COST OF ABOUT \$1 MILLION. IT HAS A CAPACITY OF 36 PERSONS AND FOUR CREW AND WILL BE USED TO CARRY CUSTOMS PERSONNEL PERFORMING DUTIES IN THE HARBOUR AREAS.

THE FIRST REPLACEMENT LAUNCH, CUSTOMS LAUNCH NO. 1, HAS BEEN IN SERVICE FOR ABOUT A MONTH.

- - - - 0 - - - -

DISPLAY TELLS ABOUT ORTHOPAEDICS  
\* \* \* \* \*

THIS YEAR'S TAI PO COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT WILL BE OPENED WITH A FOUR-DAY EXHIBITION ON +ORTHOPAEDICS AND YOU+, STARTING FROM FRIDAY (OCTOBER 26) AT THE TAI PO COMMUNITY CENTRE.

THE EXHIBITION WILL INCLUDE INFORMATION ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF ORTHOPAEDICS, BONE DISEASES COMMONLY FOUND AMONG CHILDREN AND OLD PEOPLE, SPUR, FRACTION, RHEUMATISM AND OSTEOCARCINOMA. THERE WILL ALSO BE AN AUDIO-VISUAL SHOW ON ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENTS AND OPERATIONS.

IT IS SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD AND JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE, THE HONG KONG ORTHOPAEDIC ASSOCIATION AND THE TAI PO COMMUNITY CENTRE.

THE CONVENOR OF THE COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT WORKING GROUP, MR MICHAEL LAI SAID THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT WAS TO AROUSE RESIDENTS' CONCERN OVER INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY HEALTH, WITH THE THEME THIS YEAR FOCUSING ON HOME SAFETY AND CHILD CARE.

ACTIVITIES ORGANISED TO PROMOTE FAMILY HEALTH INCLUDE A HOME SAFETY DAY, A DESIGN COMPETITION, AND AN AUDIO-VISUAL SHOW ON CHILD CARE FOR MOTHERS IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES AND TEMPORARY HOUSING AREAS.

THE DISTRICT BOARD HAS ALLOCATED \$15 000 FOR THE PROJECT.

OFFICIATING AT THE EXHIBITION AND COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR THOMAS CHAN; THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR (NT) OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, DR P.K. WONG; THE PRESIDENT OF HONG KONG ORTHOPAEDIC ASSOCIATION, DR CHOW SHEW-PING; THE CHAIRMAN OF TAI PO RURAL COMMITTEE, MR CHEUNG WAI-LAM; AND THE CHAIRMAN OF SAI KUNG NORTH RURAL COMMITTEE, MR LAM PAK-PING.

- - - - 0 - - - -

- 34 -

MORE TIME TO JOIN DANCE CONTEST  
\* \* \*

PEOPLE WISHING TO TAKE PART IN THE 14TH OPEN DANCE CONTEST HAVE ONE WEEK MORE TO SIGN UP.

+AS RESPONSE TO THE CONTEST HAS BEEN VERY GOOD, WE HAVE DECIDED TO EXTEND THE APPLICATION DEADLINE FROM OCTOBER 21 TO OCTOBER 31 SO THAT MORE PEOPLE CAN JOIN THE COMPETITION,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE COMPETITION WILL START ON DECEMBER 1, AT THE LEUNG SHEK CHEE COLLEGE, AND THE WINNING GROUPS WILL BE INVITED TO PERFORM AGAIN IN A SPECIAL SHOW AT THE CITY HALL ON JANUARY 12 NEXT YEAR.

ENTRY FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT IN THE DISTRICT'S GOVERNMENT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING IN TUNG YAN STREET. ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE BY CALLING 3-416315 OR 3-436123.

THE CONTEST IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE, THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT, AND THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT CULTURE AND RECREATION PROMOTION ASSOCIATION.

- - - - 0 - - - -

NEW PREMISES FOR RSS EASTERN OFFICE  
\* \* \*

THE NEW EASTERN OFFICE OF THE RECREATION AND SPORTS SERVICE (RSS) WAS OPENED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR PATRICK WILLIAMSON.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, MR WILLIAMSON SAID THE NEW PREMISES WAS MORE CONVENIENTLY LOCATED THAN THE PREVIOUS ONE, AND HE BELIEVED IT WOULD BE ABLE TO SATISFY THE RESIDENTS' NEEDS IN RECREATION AND SPORTS.

THE NEW OFFICE IS LOCATED ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF CHATON HOUSE AT 100 - 104 TSAT TSZ MUI ROAD.

THE RSS' EASTERN OFFICE, WHICH WAS SET UP IN 1974, HAS ORGANISED FOR THE RESIDENTS A WIDE RANGE OF RECREATION AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES, WHICH INCLUDE TRAINING COURSES IN VARIOUS SPORTS, RECREATION CAMPS, EXCURSIONS, FITNESS COURSES AND FUN DAYS FOR CHILDREN.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE OFFICE, THE RESIDENTS MAY CALL THE ENQUIRY ON 5-637161.

AMONG THOSE PRESENT AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WERE THE PRESIDENT OF EASTERN DISTRICT RECREATION AND SPORTS ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATION, MR SIU MING; AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE, MR CHOI WING-ON.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1984

- 35 -

\$57-MILLION CONTRACT FOR AQUEDUCT  
\* \* \* \* \*

A \$57-MILLION CONTRACT WAS AWARDED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN AQUEDUCT BETWEEN SAI O AND PAK KONG IN SAI KUNG.

THE AQUEDUCT, WHICH FORMS PART OF A PROJECT FOR DISTRIBUTING ADDITIONAL WATER SUPPLY FROM CHINA, WILL INVOLVE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 5.3 KILOMETRES LONG TUNNEL AND A 460 METRES LONG PIPELINE.

SIGNING THE CONTRACT ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT WAS THE DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR TOM TOMLINSON, AND THE CHAIRMAN AND MANAGING DIRECTOR OF PAUL Y CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED, MR GEORGE TSO.

OTHER WORKS TO BE CARRIED OUT CONCURRENTLY WITH THIS PROJECT - BUT UNDER SEPARATE CONTRACTS - ARE THE CONSTRUCTION OF TAI MEI TUK 'B' AND HARBOUR ISLAND PUMPING STATIONS AT PLOVER COVE RESERVOIR AND THE TOLO CHANNEL SUBMARINE PIPELINE.

RAW WATER STORED AT PLOVER COVE RESERVOIR WILL BE PUMPED FROM THE HARBOUR ISLAND STATION VIA THE SUBMARINE PIPELINE AND THE NEW AQUEDUCT TO PAK KONG WHERE A WATER TREATMENT PLANT WILL SOON BE BUILT.

TREATED WATER WILL THEN BE SUPPLIED TO THE SAI KUNG AREA, JUNK BAY, THE EASTERN PART OF KOWLOON AND NORTHEASTERN HONG KONG ISLAND.

RAW WATER WILL ALSO BE DIRECTED TO MA ON SHAN, WHERE A TREATMENT PLANT HAS BEEN PLANNED TO PROVIDE SUPPLY TO THE LATER STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT AT MA ON SHAN.

THE AQUEDUCT WILL BE DRIVEN FROM TWO PORTALS - ONE AT SAI O AND THE OTHER AT PAK KONG. AS PART OF THE THREE-YEAR CONSTRUCTION WORKS FALLS WITHIN PRIVATE PROPERTY, LAND ACQUISITION HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT BOTH AT SAI O AND PAK KONG.

THE WORK HAS BEEN DESIGNED AND WILL BE SUPERVISED ON BEHALF OF THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT BY THE CONSULTING ENGINEERS, BINNIE AND PARTNERS (HONG KONG).

- - - - 0 - - - -

/36 .....

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1984

- 36 -

SIX DAYS LEFT TO APPLY FOR RICHLAND GARDENS FLATS  
\* \* \* \*

PROSPECTIVE BUYERS OF RICHLAND GARDENS FLATS WHICH ARE NOW BEING OFFERED FOR SALE UNDER HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME PHASE VIB ARE ADVISED TO SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO AVOID LAST-MINUTE RUSH FOR THE FLATS.

+OVER 7 000 APPLICATIONS HAVE SO FAR BEEN RECEIVED AND WE EXPECT MORE TO POUR IN BEFORE THE DEADLINE ON TUESDAY (OCTOBER 30),+ SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HOUSING AUTHORITY TODAY.

+APPLICATIONS CAN BE SUBMITTED EITHER BY POST TO P.O. BOX 70147, KOWLOON CENTRAL POST OFFICE, OR BY HAND TO THE HOME OWNERSHIP CENTRE ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF OI MAN COMMERCIAL CENTRE IN HO MAN TIN,+ HE ADDED.

COPIES OF A SALES BROCHURE, APPLICATION FORMS AND A GUIDE TO HOS ARE STILL AVAILABLE AT THE HOME OWNERSHIP CENTRE FROM 9 AM TO 7 PM WHILE THE SAMPLE FLATS AT THE SITE IN KOWLOON BAY ARE OPEN FROM 10 AM TO 5.30 PM FOR PUBLIC VIEWING.

OTHER OUTLETS FOR THE APPLICATION FORMS AND THE GUIDE ARE THE APPLICATIONS SECTION OF THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT AT MA TAU KOK ROAD, ALL HOUSING AUTHORITY AND HOUSING SOCIETY ESTATE OFFICES AND ALL DISTRICT OFFICES.

THE RICHLAND GARDENS FLATS ON SALE UNDER THE CURRENT SALES EXERCISE INCLUDE 2 688 TWO-BEDROOM AND THREE-BEDROOM FLATS ON BLOCKS 1 TO 10.

THEY ARE PRICED FROM \$188 300 TO \$337 000 EACH WITH GROSS AREAS BETWEEN 43.7 AND 57.9 SQUARE METRES.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO REMINDED POTENTIAL APPLICANTS THAT THE MINI EXHIBITIONS, SUPPLEMENTED BY A VIDEO SHOW, AT MTR CENTRAL AND KWUN TONG STATIONS WERE OPEN DAILY FROM 8 AM TO 7 PM UNTIL SATURDAY (OCTOBER 27).

+HOUSING STAFF ARE ON THE SPOT TO ANSWER ENQUIRIES FROM THE PUBLIC AND COPIES OF A PAMPHLET AND APPLICATION FORMS ARE OBTAINABLE THERE.+

-----0-----

/37 .....

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1984

- 37 -

TENANCIES OFFERED FOR FIVE SITES  
\* \* \*

TENDERS FOR THE SHORT TERM TENANCIES OF FIVE SITES - ONE AT KOWLOON BAY RECLAMATION, ANOTHER ON TSING YI AND THREE IN SAI KUNG - ARE BEING SOUGHT BY THE LANDS DEPARTMENT.

THE KOWLOON BAY RECLAMATION SITE IS ABOUT 6 400 SQUARE METRES, AND IS FOR OPEN STORAGE AND THE STUFFING, DESTUFFING, REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF CONTAINERS.

TENANCY OF THIS SITE IS FOR TWO YEARS AND QUARTERLY THEREAFTER.

TENDER FORMS AND FURTHER PARTICULARS ABOUT THIS SITE ARE AVAILABLE, AND TENDER PLAN MAY BE INSPECTED AT THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, KOWLOON EAST, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON; AND THE LANDS DEPARTMENT, SURVEY DIVISION, MURRAY BUILDING, FIFTH FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

THE TSING YI SITE IS ABOUT 2 600 SQUARE METRES AND IS FOR PARKING OF GOODS VEHICLES, CONTAINER TRACTORS AND TRAILERS.

TENANCY OF THIS SITE IS FOR ONE YEAR, AND MONTHLY THEREAFTER.

TENDER FORMS AND FURTHER PARTICULARS ABOUT THIS SITE ARE AVAILABLE, AND TENDER PLAN CAN BE SEEN AT THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, TSUEN WAN, 10TH FLOOR, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING, 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN; THE LANDS DEPARTMENT SURVEY DIVISION AT MURRAY BUILDING; AND THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, KOWLOON AT YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING.

THE REMAINING THREE SITES ARE AT SAI KUNG TUK IN SAI KUNG.

MEASURING ABOUT 260, 280 AND 305 SQUARE METRES RESPECTIVELY, THEY ARE FOR CAR REPAIR WORKSHOP.

TENANCIES ARE FOR THREE YEARS, AND QUARTERLY THEREAFTER.

TENDER FORMS AND FURTHER PARTICULARS OF THESE SITES CAN BE OBTAINED FROM, AND TENDER PLANS CAN BE SEEN AT THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, SAI KUNG; THE LANDS DEPARTMENT SURVEY DIVISION AT MURRAY BUILDING; AND THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, KOWLOON AT YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING.

DEADLINE IS NOON ON NOVEMBER 9.

-----0-----

ROOFTOP STRUCTURES TO BE CLEARED  
\* \* \*

THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TODAY DECLARED THAT THE ILLEGAL STRUCTURES ON THE MAIN ROOF OF NOS. 17 AND 19, MAIDSTONE LANE, KOWLOON SHOULD BE CLOSED TO ENABLE DEMOLITION WORK TO BE CARRIED OUT, WITHOUT DANGER TO THE OCCUPIERS OR THE PUBLIC.

THE STRUCTURES ERECTED ON THE ROOF OF NOS. 17 AND 19, MAIDSTONE LANE WERE ILLEGAL AND REQUIRED TO BE DEMOLISHED UNDER ORDERS SERVED BY THE BUILDING AUTHORITY ON THE OWNERS. THESE ORDERS HAD NOT BEEN COMPLIED WITH AND IT WAS NOW NECESSARY FOR THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TO CARRY OUT THE DEMOLITION WORK IN THE OWNERS' DEFAULT.

NOTICES OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR CLOSURE ORDERS IN KOWLOON DISTRICT COURT ON NOVEMBER 22, AT 9.30 AM WERE POSTED TODAY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

CONSTRUCTION SAFETY SEMINAR  
\* \* \*

AN INDUSTRIAL SAFETY SEMINAR FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY WILL BE OPENED ON OCTOBER 26 (FRIDAY) AT 9.15 AM AT THE CHINESE YMCA, WATERLOO ROAD.

THE HALF-DAY SEMINAR, WHICH IS ORGANISED BY THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY SAFETY SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD, IS AIMED AT PROMOTING THE IMPORTANCE OF WORK SAFETY IN THIS HAZARDOUS INDUSTRY.

MR TAM YIU-CHUNG, VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS, ALSO A NEWLY-ELECTED MEMBER OF THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD, WILL OFFICIALLY OPEN THE SEMINAR.

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE FUNCTION.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1984

- 39 -

TRAFFIC CHANGES  
\* \* \* \*

FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (OCTOBER 26), VEHICLES LEAVING FROM THE LOADING AND UNLOADING BAYS BETWEEN PENINSULA CENTRE AND ROYAL GARDEN HOTEL WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TURN RIGHT INTO THE WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF THE UNNAMED ROAD BETWEEN AUTO PLAZA AND HOUSTON CENTRE.

AT THE SAME TIME, ROAD D2N BETWEEN TUEN MUN CLINIC AND ROAD D9 WILL BE DESIGNATED A RESTRICTED ZONE FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY.

WITHIN THE RESTRICTED ZONE, ALL MOTOR VEHICLES EXCEPT THOSE WITH PERMITS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM PICKING UP OR SETTING DOWN PASSENGERS, OR LOADING OR UNLOADING GOODS.

- - - - 0 - - - -