



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1985

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+COMMUNITY GOOD SENSE+ BEHIND STABLE SOCIETY
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HONG KONG WAS A STABLE SOCIETY ONLY BECAUSE THE COMMUNITY HAD THE GOOD SENSE TO RECOGNISE THE DANGER AND THE PROBLEMS CAUSED BY CHANGES THAT WERE TAKING PLACE IN THE SOCIETY, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE/DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE CONFERENCE, HE SAID: +TOO MUCH LITTER AND NEGLECT LED TO THE 'CLEAN HONG KONG CAMPAIGN'; CORRUPTION LED TO THE COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION; THE PROBLEMS OF DRUGS LED TO THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS, AND THE RISING TIDE OF CRIME IN THE EARLY SEVENTIES LED TO THE FIGHT CRIME MOVEMENT AND THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEES.

+HONG KONG FOUGHT BACK AGAINST THE FORCE OF DECADENCE, DISEASES, CORRUPTION AND CRIME,+ SIR DAVID SAID.

THE +NEVER-ENDING NATURE+ OF THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME WAS AS TRUE OF HONG KONG AS IT WAS ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD, AS TRADITIONS, LOYALTIES AND MORAL VALUES CHANGED IN RESPONSE TO CHANGES IN THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT AND CHANGES IN OCCUPATIONS AND ACTIVITIES.

+WE LIVE IN TIMES OF RAPID AND RELENTLESS CHANGE,+ HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME WAS NOT ONE OF SENSATIONAL VICTORIES, BUT WAS +A WAR OF ATTRITION+.

IT INVOLVED STEADY, UNRELENTING PRESSURE BY A WELL EQUIPPED POLICE FORCE WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE COMMUNITY.

+DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEES PROVIDE THE VITAL LINK BETWEEN THE POLICE FORCE AND THE PUBLIC THEY SERVE,+ HE SAID.

SPEAKING OF ACTIONS TO COUNTER TRIAD ACTIVITIES, SIR DAVID SAID THE +WORKING GROUP ON GANGS+ OF THE CENTRAL FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE HAD BEEN EXAMINING THE PROBLEM, AND WAS REVIEWING THE LAW TO SEE HOW AND WHERE IT MIGHT NEED TO BE STRENGTHENED.

+THIS IS NOT EASY AND A BALANCE WILL HAVE TO BE STRUCK BETWEEN THE NEED TO ARREST AND PUNISH THE CRIMINAL AND TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF THE INDIVIDUAL,+ HE SAID. +BUT ULTIMATELY WE AS A COMMUNITY WILL HAVE TO DECIDE WHAT WE WANT TO DO.+

ON JUVENILE DELINQUENCY AND YOUTH CRIME, SIR DAVID POINTED OUT THAT SENSIBLE AND EARLY ACTION AT SCHOOL MIGHT TURN POTENTIAL CRIMINALS OF TODAY INTO THE GOOD CITIZENS OF TOMORROW.

HE THANKED MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEES FOR THE GOOD WORK THEY HAD DONE AND SAID HE LOOKED FORWARD TO STRENGTHENED COOPERATION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME.

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IMPORTANCE OF 'RULE OF LAW' STRESSED
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HONG KONG, WITH THE ESTABLISHED TRADITION OF THE COMMON LAW BEHIND IT, HAD AT ITS DISPOSAL POWERFUL WEAPONS WITH WHICH TO PRESERVE LIBERTY AND TO CHALLENGE OPPONENTS OF FREEDOM, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR MICHAEL THOMAS, SAID TODAY.

THAT TRADITION WAS ACCORDED THE TITLE +RULE OF LAW,+ MR THOMAS SAID, IN A SPEECH AT THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE AND DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE CONFERENCE.

SPEAKING ABOUT +THE IMPORTANCE OF THE RULE OF LAW,+ MR THOMAS SAID THAT THE PHRASE +THE RULE OF LAW+ WAS A FAMILIAR ONE, BUT MANY WHO USED IT READILY ENOUGH DID NOT FIND IT EASY TO EXPLAIN WHAT IT MEANT.

THE CONCEPT OF THE RULE OF LAW COULD PROBABLY BE BEST DESCRIBED AS A REFERENCE TO SOME OF THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF LAW, EVOLVED OVER MANY CENTURIES, THAT GOVERNED THE WAY IN WHICH POWER WAS EXERCISED.

MR THOMAS SAID THAT, UNLIKE IN SUCH COUNTRIES AS THE UNITED STATES, RUSSIA AND CHINA, WHICH HAD WRITTEN CONSTITUTIONS, THE PRINCIPLE OF THE RULE OF LAW IN BRITAIN AND HONG KONG WAS BASED ON COMMON LAW.

THOSE OTHER COUNTRIES, HE SAID, HAD ALL BEEN THROUGH REVOLUTIONARY CHANGES IN FAIRLY RECENT TIME, AND THERE HAD TO BE A NEW BASIS FOR LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT, NEW LAWS, NEW ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE EXERCISE OF POWER.

+AND SO NEW CONSTITUTIONS WERE DRAWN UP TO SET OUT THE NEW RULES FOR ALL TO SEE.+

BRITAIN, HE SAID, HAD, THROUGHOUT ITS LONG HISTORY, AVOIDED REVOLUTIONARY CHANGE.

THE ABSOLUTE POWER OF ITS KINGS WAS TAMED GRADUALLY AND ON THE WHOLE PEACEFULLY: AT FIRST BY THE BARONS AND LATER BY ITS PEOPLE IN PARLIAMENT.

+IN THE MEANTIME, THE JURISTS WERE EXPOUNDING THE LAW AND THE JUDGES WERE APPLYING THEM TO CASES THAT CAME TO COURT.

+IN THIS WAY THE COMMON LAW DEVELOPED OUT OF THE TEXTBOOKS AND REPORTS OF DECIDED CASES. EVEN TODAY, LAWYERS CAN REFER A JUDGE TO A DECISION THAT WAS MADE HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO TO SHOW WHAT THE LAW IS NOW,+ MR THOMAS SAID.

HONG KONG HAD ITS LETTERS PATENT AND ROYAL INSTRUCTIONS BUT THEY WERE SKELETAL INSTRUMENTS ABOUT THE MODE OF GOVERNMENT. THEY DID NOT DEAL WITH THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THOSE WHO LIVED IN HONG KONG OR THE PRINCIPLES OF LAW AND ADMINISTRATION BY WHICH THEY WERE GOVERNED, HE SAID.

THE POWER TO MAKE NEW LAWS WAS ENJOYED BY PARLIAMENT WHO, WITH THE FORMAL ASSENT OF THE KING, MADE STATUTES, WHICH WERE JUST AS BINDING AS THE RULES LAID DOWN BY THE JURISTS AND JUDGES.

+BUT NOWHERE IS THERE TO BE FOUND A WRITTEN CONSTITUTION WHICH COMPREHENSIVELY SETS OUT (1) WHERE THE POWER LIES- (2) HOW POWER IS TO BE EXERCISED, AND (3) WHAT ARE THE RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF INDIVIDUALS,+ MR THOMAS SAID.

+THE ANSWER TO MANY OF THOSE QUESTIONS CAN BE FOUND IN THE POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY EXPRESSED BY THOSE WORDS +THE RULE OF LAW.+

MR THOMAS SAID THAT FIRST AND MOST IMPORTANT, THE RULE OF LAW REQUIRED THAT THE POWERS OF THE CROWN AND OF ALL ITS SERVANTS, INCLUDING LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES SHOULD BE DERIVED FROM LAW.

+THAT IS, THE LAW AS IT IS CLEARLY SET OUT AND LIMITED IN LEGISLATION AND BY THE JUDICIAL DECISIONS TAKEN BY INDEPENDENT COURTS.

+THIS IS TO BE CONTRASTED WITH A DIFFERENT STATE IN WHICH THE SOVEREIGN OR THE PRESIDENT OR THE GOVERNMENT CAN EXERCISE POWERS WHICH GO BEYOND THE REACH OF THE LAW,+ HE SAID.

THE TYRANT, MR THOMAS SAID, COULD MAKE DECREES, CONFISCATE LAND, AND LOCK UP HIS OPPONENTS WITHOUT FEAR OF CHALLENGE EXCEPT THE BULLET OF THE ASSASSIN OR THE ANGER OF THE +MOB.+

+BUT AT THE HEART OF OUR SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT LIES THE RULE THAT NO-ONE, FROM THE GOVERNOR DOWN THROUGH THE RANKS OF SECRETARIES, DIRECTORS, COMMISSIONERS, THE POLICE, ICAC, IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS AND EXCISE, NO-ONE CAN DO ANYTHING THAT AFFECTS THE INDIVIDUAL, HIS HOME, HIS MONEY OR HIS FREEDOM, UNLESS HE CAN POINT TO SOME SPECIFIC PROVISION OF THE LAW WHICH AUTHORISES WHAT HE HAS DONE.

+IF HE CANNOT DO THAT, HE CAN BE SUED IN THE COURTS OF HONG KONG AND COMPELLED TO PUT RIGHT WHAT HE HAD DONE OR TO PAY COMPENSATION FOR THE WRONG THAT HE HAS DONE,+ MR THOMAS SAID.

A SECOND FEATURE OF THE RULE OF LAW WAS SUMMARISED AS +EQUALITY BEFORE THE LAW.+

IT WAS FUNDAMENTAL THAT ALL PERSONS, HIGH OR LOW, REGARDLESS OF RACE, POLITICS OR RELIGION, WERE SUBJECT TO THE ORDINARY LAW OF THE LAND ADMINISTERED BY THE ORDINARY COURTS OF LAW.

+THIS MEANS THAT ANY ATTORNEY GENERAL WHO DRIVES WITHOUT THE RIGHT KIND OF LICENCE IS LIABLE TO BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE COURTS AND PUNISHED FOR HIS OFFENCE.

+EQUALLY, A POLICE OFFICER WHO ARRESTS AND DETAINS A MAN BY MISTAKE IS LIABLE TO PAY HIM COMPENSATION,+ MR THOMAS SAID.

THE THIRD FEATURE OF THE RULE OF LAW WHICH HE LIKED TO STRESS WAS THE IMPORTANCE OF THE COURTS AND THE LAWYERS TOO, MR THOMAS SAID.

+THE COURTS PROTECT THE RIGHTS AND FREEDOM OF INDIVIDUALS, AND THEY KEEP IN CHECK THE GROWTH OF STATE POWER AND DEAL EFFECTIVELY WITH ITS ABUSE,+ HE SAID.

THIS HAD BEEN ACHIEVED BECAUSE OF THE RESPECT ACCORDED BY THOSE IN POWER TO LANDMARK JUDICIAL DECISIONS FROM THE PAST.

THIS IN TURN AFFECTED THE ATTITUDE AND INFLUENCE OF LEGAL PRACTITIONERS, LEGAL DRAFTSMEN AND LEGAL ADVISERS WHICH TENDED TO BE CONSERVATIVE AND JEALOUS OF WELL-ESTABLISHED LEGAL RULES.

MR THOMAS SAID THAT IN THEORY, THE POWER OF THE GOVERNOR TO MAKE LAWS WITH THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL UNDER LETTERS PATENT FOR +THE PEACE, ORDER AND GOOD GOVERNMENT+ OF HONG KONG WAS A WIDE ONE. BUT IN REALITY THAT POWER WAS CAREFULLY CONTROLLED, IF ONLY BECAUSE IT WAS WIDELY DISPERSED.

MANY DIFFERENT PEOPLE WERE INVOLVED IN THE PREPARATION AND APPROVAL OF NEW ORDINANCES - SECRETARIES AND PUBLIC OFFICERS WHO EVOLVED POLICY, THE ADVISORY AND DISTRICT BOARDS WHO WERE CONSULTED UPON POLICY PROPOSALS, THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WHICH DETERMINED POLICY AND APPROVED BILLS, INTERESTED PARTIES, THE MEDIA AND PUBLIC OPINION WHO EXAMINED BILLS WHEN THEY WERE GAZETTED, AND FINALLY THE MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WHO SCRUTINISED, DEBATED AND PASSED BILLS, WITH OR WITHOUT AMENDMENT, HE SAID.

SO LONG AS GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS RESPECTED THE SPIRIT OF +THE RULE OF LAW,+ HONG KONG'S REPUTATION AS A FREE AND OPEN SOCIETY WOULD CONTINUE.

IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT THAT SOME GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WERE TO TRY TO OVERTHROW ESTABLISHED PERSONAL FREEDOMS, OR TO DISREGARD THE PROVISIONS OF HONG KONG'S ORDINANCES OR THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENANTS, OR TO CLAIM THE RIGHT TO INTERFERE WITH ACTIVITIES THAT ARE OPPOSED TO THEIR POLICIES, THE RULE OF LAW WOULD BE IN DANGER.

HONG KONG COULD THEN EXPECT PUBLIC OPINION, THE LEGISLATURE AND EVERY LAWYER TRAINED IN THE COMMON LAW TO STAND UP AND MAKE THEIR ARTICULATE PROTEST.

+IT WOULD BE UP TO THE PERSONS AFFECTED TO EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT OF ACCESS TO THE COURTS TO CHALLENGE UNLAWFUL ACTS OF THE EXECUTIVE. IT WOULD BE UP TO HONG KONG'S JUDGES, PROUD OF THEIR ROLE AS INDEPENDENT AND IMPARTIAL GUARDIANS OF THE RULE OF LAW, TO EXERCISE THEIR JURISDICTION TO CHECK THE ABUSE OF POWER.

+IT IS OFTEN SAID THE 'THE PRICE OF LIBERTY IS ETERNAL VIGILANCE.'

+TO BE ALERT IS ONE THING, TO BE ARMED IS ANOTHER. HONG KONG WITH THE ESTABLISHED TRADITION OF THE COMMON LAW BEHIND IT, HAS AT ITS DISPOSAL POWERFUL WEAPONS WITH WHICH TO PRESERVE LIBERTY AND TO CHALLENGE OPPONENTS OF FREEDOM.

+TO THAT TRADITION, WE ACCORD THE TITLE 'THE RULE OF LAW',+ MR THOMAS SAID.

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INNOVATIVE SCHEMES HELP FIGHT CRIME

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INNOVATIVE SCHEMES WHICH REQUIRED LITTLE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES HAD PROVIDED VITAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME, THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DONALD LIAO, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

MOST FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEES WORKING AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL NOW ADMINISTERED VARIOUS AWARD SCHEMES TO ENCOURAGE CITIZENS TO REPORT CRIME OR SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES, HE SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE ANNUAL FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE-DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE CONFERENCE, MR LIAO SAID ONE SUCH SCHEME WAS THE MODEL CITIZEN AWARD WHICH HAD A SPECIAL TOUCH, SINCE THE PERSON BEING RECOGNISED AND GIVEN THE AWARD WAS NOT A 'FACELESS' PERSON BUT WAS SOMEONE OF LOCAL IDENTITY.

+AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL, THE MOST INVALUABLE RESOURCES MUST BE THE HUMAN ONE, AND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME INVOLVES ORGANISING EXISTING HUMAN RESOURCES INTO CLOSELY-KNIT UNITS TO FACILITATE REPORT OF ANY SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES TO THE POLICE,+ HE SAID.

+IT INVOLVES MOBILISING EXISTING RESOURCES AND CAN BE READILY IMPLEMENTED.

+IT IS THIS TYPE OF INNOVATIVE MEASURES THAT I HOPE WILL BE FORTHCOMING THROUGH DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEES,+ MR LIAO SAID.

SINCE THE FIRST DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEES WERE FORMED NINE YEARS AGO, NUMEROUS PUBLICITY ACTIVITIES HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT TO ENCOURAGE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AGAINST CRIME, INCLUDING THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION AND DRUG ABUSE.

MR LIAO SAID THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME WAS A RESPONSIBILITY FOR EVERYONE. WHILE THE POLICE AND DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED WERE DOING THEIR UTMOST IN MAINTAINING INTERNAL SECURITY, THE DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEES SERVED TO ASSIST AND COMPLEMENT GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS IN COMBATING CRIME.

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+THE COMMITTEES ARE BLESSED BY THEIR COMPOSITION IN HAVING A WIDE CROSS-SECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE WHO HAVE FIRST-HAND KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT IS MOST NEEDED FROM A DISTRICT'S POINT OF VIEW AT A PARTICULAR POINT AND TIME,+ HE SAID.

+I HOPE THAT WE WOULD MAKE THE BEST USE OF THIS CONFERENCE TO FREELY EXCHANGE VIEWS, AND TO CAPITALISE ON OUR POOLED TALENTS.+

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FIRST-EVER CONFERENCE FOR FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEES
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MEMBERS OF THE 19 DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEES THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY GOT TOGETHER TO SHARE THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND VIEWS ON LAW AND ORDER IN A CONFERENCE HELD TODAY (MONDAY).

THE CONFERENCE IN SHERATON HOTEL WAS THE FIRST OF ITS KIND ORGANISED BY THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE. IT WAS ATTENDED BY MEMBERS OF THE FCC AND SOME 300 UNOFFICIAL DFCC MEMBERS, POLICE REPRESENTATIVES AND DISTRICT OFFICERS.

IN HIS OPENING SPEECH, THE CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN, DR HO KAM-FAI, SAID THE PURPOSE OF THE CONFERENCE WAS TO PROVIDE A FORUM WHERE MEMBERS OF THE FCC AND DFCC'S COULD FREELY EXCHANGE THEIR VIEWS ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF LAW AND ORDER AS PERCEIVED FROM THEIR OWN ANGLE.

ALSO, THIS GET-TOGETHER WAS INTENDED TO FOSTER A CLOSER RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE CENTRAL FCC AND DFCC'S ON ONE HAND, AND AMONG THE VARIOUS DFCC'S ON THE OTHER, HE SAID.

DR HO SAID HE HOPED THAT THE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND GOODWILL WOULD HELP TO DEVELOP POLICIES AND LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS THAT WERE MORE EFFECTIVE IN COMBATTING CRIMES.

ALSO SPEAKING AT THE OPENING SESSION WERE THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, WHO IS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE; THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR MICHAEL THOMAS; THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR RAYMON ANNING; AND THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DONALD LIAO.

DELEGATES WERE LATER SPLIT UP INTO SEVEN GROUPS, EACH ASSIGNED TO DISCUSS A TOPIC OF CURRENT INTEREST. AN EXPERT ON EACH TOPIC GAVE A BRIEF TALK TO EACH GROUP TO STIMULATE DISCUSSION.

/THE SPEAKERS

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THE SPEAKERS ON THE SEVEN TOPICS WERE:

- (1) CRIME PREVENTION - MR NG TAK-LEUNG, CHIEF INSPECTOR,
CRIME PREVENTION BUREAU
- (2) TRIADS AND ORGANISED CRIME - MR A.P. LEE, STAFF OFFICER,
CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE BUREAU
- (3) NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH - MR TSE CHAN-FAI, ASSISTANT CHIEF
POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICER
- (4) ROLE OF DFCC'S IN FIGHTING CRIME - MRS SOPHIA HO, FCC
UNOFFICIAL MEMBER
- (5) YOUTH AND JUVENILE CRIME - MR WONG WAH-CHIU, SENIOR
SUPERINTENDENT, CORRECTIONAL
SERVICES DEPARTMENT; AND MR YIP
TAI-CHU, ASSISTANT DISTRICT
SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER
- (6) VIOLENT CRIME AND CONTROL OF FIREARMS - MR CHAN KAI-WING,
STAFF OFFICER,
ORGANISED AND
SERIOUS CRIME
BUREAU
- (7) SOCIAL CRIME - MR LEE KAI-FAT, PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT
SECRETARY (BOARDS AND ENTERTAINMENT),
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION
BRANCH

HIGHLIGHT OF THE DAY TOOK THE FORM OF A PLENARY SESSION WHERE THE CHAIRMEN OF THE SEVEN GROUPS REPORTED ON THE VIEWS AND RECOMMENDATIONS REACHED BY THEIR INDIVIDUAL GROUPS.

QUESTIONS RAISED DURING THE PLENARY SESSION WERE ANSWERED BY A PANEL HEADED BY DR HO KAM-FAI. OTHER PANELISTS WERE THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, OPERATIONS, MR LI KWAN-HA; AND FCC MEMBERS INCLUDING THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR DAVID JEAFFRESON; THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DONALD LIAO; MR HILTON CHEONG-LEEN, MRS SOPHIA HO AND MR PETER C. WONG.

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COMMUNITY CO-OPERATION CRUCIAL IN ANTI-TRIAD FIGHT
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ANTI-TRIAD OPERATIONS CANNOT BE COMPLETELY SUCCESSFUL WITHOUT GREATER CO-OPERATION FROM THE COMMUNITY, THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR RAYMON ANNING, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

CALLING FOR MORE SUPPORT FOR POLICE EFFORTS AGAINST ORGANISED GANGS, MR ANNING SAID IT WAS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT FOR POLICE TO HEAR FROM PEOPLE WHO HAD BEEN VICTIMISED OR THREATENED.

+WITHOUT THEIR WILLINGNESS TO COME FORWARD AND GIVE INFORMATION AND, IN APPROPRIATE CASES, TO GIVE EVIDENCE AGAINST THOSE WHO HAVE THREATENED OR EXTORTED MONEY FROM THEM, POLICE ACTION ALONE CANNOT BE COMPLETELY SUCCESSFUL,+ MR ANNING ADMITTED.

+A GREAT DEAL DEPENDS ON THE PUBLIC AND THE POLICE WORKING TOGETHER.+

SPEAKING AT THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE AND DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE CONFERENCE, MR ANNING SAID THAT TRIADS REMAIN A MENACE IN THE COMMUNITY AND SHOULD NOT BE UNDERESTIMATED.

+WE IN THE POLICE ARE TAKING POSITIVE ACTION AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO AT ALL LEVELS,+ HE SAID.

ALTHOUGH TRIADS HAD HISTORIC ORIGINS, THEY HAD LONG SINCE DEGENERATED INTO CRIMINAL ORGANISATIONS OF THE +MOST BASE AND VENAL KIND.+

TURNING TO OTHER ASPECTS OF POLICE WORK, MR ANNING DESCRIBED SOME OF THE OLD AND NEW METHODS USED BY THE FORCE TO KEEP FLEXIBLE AND RESPONSIVE TO CHANGES IN CRIME TRENDS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

POLICE IN HONG KONG HAD AT THEIR DISPOSAL SOME OF THE MOST MODERN EQUIPMENT AND EXPERTISE THAT WAS AVAILABLE TODAY. YET, THERE WAS NO MORE EFFECTIVE DETERRENT TO CRIME THAN THE UNIFORMED OFFICER WALKING THE BEAT.

+THIS BLEND OF OLD AND NEW IS, I BELIEVE, A MAJOR FACTOR IN WHAT I DESCRIBE, AT THE RISK OF BEING IMMODEST, AS SOME VERY REAL SUCCESSES IN THE TASK OF POLICING HONG KONG.+

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT PRIORITIES IN THE COMING DECADE WOULD BE TO PRESERVE AND ENHANCE THE RELATIONSHIP OF TRUST AND CO-OPERATION WITH THE PUBLIC.

+FROM THE OBSERVATIONS WHICH I HAVE MADE OVER THE YEARS, I CAN SAY WITH CONVICTION THAT THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE IS AHEAD OF MOST IN THE ASPECT OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS,+ SAID MR ANNING.

/LAST YEAR,

LAST YEAR, MORE THAN 621 000 PEOPLE SOUGHT ASSISTANCE OR ADVICE FROM THE POLICE; EVERY MONTH MORE THAN 3 000 YOUNG PEOPLE BECAME NEW MEMBERS OF THE JUNIOR POLICE CALL, WHICH WAS NOW ONE OF THE LARGEST AND MOST ACTIVE YOUTH ORGANISATIONS IN HONG KONG; AND HONG KONG'S CITIZENS' ARREST RATE NOW RANKED AMONG THE HIGHEST IN THE WORLD.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE, MR ANNING ASSURED CONFERENCE DELEGATES THAT A FACTOR THAT WOULD NOT CHANGE, WAS THE IMPORTANCE OF THE POLICE FORCE IN THE DAILY LIFE OF HONG KONG.

+IN THE QUEST FOR STABILITY AND PROSPERITY, IT MUST NOT BE FORGOTTEN THAT IT IS UPON THE POLICE FORCE THAT STABILITY ULTIMATELY RESTS AND THE CHANCES OF PROSPERITY WITHOUT STABILITY ARE SLIM.+

HE SAID HE BELIEVED THE POLICE FORCE WAS IN EXCELLENT SHAPE TO MEET THE WHATEVER CHALLENGES LAY AHEAD.

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BILINGUALISM POSES A DAUNTING TASK — SIR DAVID
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HONG KONG FACED A DAUNTING TASK OF ENSURING THAT YOUNG PEOPLE DEVELOPED SKILL AND CONFIDENCE IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, LANGUAGES WHICH WERE A WORLD APART — ONE WITH ITS ORIGIN IN INDO-EUROPEAN, THE OTHER IN THE SINITIC GROUP, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT A SEMINAR ORGANISED BY THE ENGLISH SPEAKING UNION, SIR DAVID SAID THAT INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION WAS ESSENTIAL TO HONG KONG.

+WE ARE DEPENDENT — AS A CENTRE OF INDUSTRY, TRADE AND INTERNATIONAL FINANCE — UPON OUR LINKS WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD, WITHOUT ENGLISH THESE LINKS WOULD WITHER AND DIE.

+AT THE SAME TIME, THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG ARE VERY MUCH AWARE OF THEIR ROOTS WHICH THEY SHARE WITH CHINA AND LANGUAGE IS A VITAL ELEMENT OF THAT HERITAGE,+ HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID THAT AN ACTIVE POLICY OF BILINGUALISM SHOULD BE PURSUED AS IT WAS VITAL TO HONG KONG'S VERY EXISTENCE.

+NOT A TOKEN BILINGUALISM, BUT A COMMITTED EFFORT TO ATTAIN HIGH STANDARDS OF COMPETENCE IN BOTH LANGUAGES,+ HE SAID.

+MOST SCHOOLS TEACH IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, USING ENGLISH TEXTBOOKS. THIS IS A SITUATION WHICH CLEARLY DOES NOT DO JUSTICE TO EITHER LANGUAGE.

+AFTER TAKING THE ADVICE OF EXPERTS AND AFTER MUCH CONSULTATION AND COGITATION, WE HAVE ADOPTED MEASURES TO STRENGTHEN AND IMPROVE OUR TEACHING OF BOTH LANGUAGES.+

SIR DAVID SAID THAT BASICALLY THESE COULD BE SUMMED UP AS MORE TEACHERS AND MORE BOOKS. MORE NATIVE TEACHERS OF ENGLISH, NOT ONLY TEACHING THEMSELVES BUT TEACHING TEACHERS, AND MORE TEXTBOOKS WRITTEN IN CHINESE, HE ADDED.

EARLIER IN HIS SPEECH, SIR DAVID SAID THAT THE ENGLISH SPEAKING UNION WAS THE PRODUCT OF THE VISION AND ENERGY OF TWO MEN — EVELYN WRENCH, AN ENGLISHMAN, AND ALEXANDER SMITH COCHRAN, AN AMERICAN — AFTER THE TWO WORLD WARS.

HE SAID THAT THE ESSENTIAL INSIGHT UPON WHICH THE UNION WAS FOUNDED — THAT PEACE AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT DEPENDED UPON INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING AND THAT UNDERSTANDING DEPENDED IN TURN UPON COMMUNICATION — REMAINED EVERY BIT AS VALID TODAY AS IT WAS IN THE YEARS AFTER THE GREAT WAR.

+THE IMPORTANCE OF ENGLISH AS A MEDIUM OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION — WHICH THE UNION HAS DONE SO MUCH OVER THE YEARS TO PROMOTE — MUST BE SEEN IN THIS LIGHT.

+IT IS NO LONGER THE SPECIAL LINGUISTIC PROPERTY OF ANY NATION. IT IS A MEANS ALL OVER THE WORLD BY WHICH PEOPLE CAN TALK TO THE PEOPLE OF OTHER NATIONS; SCIENTIST TO SCIENTIST; TEACHER TO TEACHER; LEADER TO LEADER,+ HE SAID.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY SAID THAT HONG KONG, WITH ITS DETERMINATION TO MASTER THE NEED TO LOOK INWARD TO ITS CULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC FOUNDATIONS AND OUTWARD TO THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION AND THE WORLD UNDOUBTEDLY FACED A CHALLENGE, BUT +YOU WILL HAVE SEEN HOW HONG KONG IS FACING ITS OTHER PROBLEMS.+

+I AM CONFIDENT THAT GIVEN THE GREAT INTEREST BEING SHOWN IN THIS QUESTION OF LANGUAGE IN HONG KONG, WE WILL MAKE A UNIQUE CONTRIBUTION TO THE SOLUTION,+ HE SAID.

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MADAM XU ILL, NOT ARRIVING
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MADAM XU HANBING, WIFE OF CHINA'S STATE COUNCILLOR AND DIRECTOR OF THE HONG KONG AND MACAU AFFAIRS OFFICE, MR JI PENGFEI, WILL NOT BE ACCOMPANYING MR JI DURING HIS VISIT TO HONG KONG BECAUSE OF HEALTH REASONS.

MADAM XU'S VISITS TO THE PAK TIN SHELTERED WORKSHOP AND THE HENRY G. LEONG YAU MA TEI COMMUNITY CENTRE, SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 11), HAVE BEEN CANCELLED.

/THE REST

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THE REST OF MR JI'S PROGRAMME FROM DECEMBER 10 TO 13 WILL NOT BE AFFECTED.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

FOLLOWING IS THE PRESS ARRANGEMENT FOR THE ARRIVAL OF MR JI TOMORROW:

THERE WILL BE A FIXED POSITION AT THE ARRIVAL HALL +FINGER+ OF THE AIRPORT FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS AND CAMERAMEN TO COVER HIS ARRIVAL. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE AIRPORT PRESS ROOM ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE AIRPORT TERMINAL BUILDING NOT LATER THAN 10 AM.

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GOVERNMENT IN GOOD PLANNING POSITION WITH STUDIES
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PLANNING WORK CARRIED OUT SINCE 1980 HAS PLACED THE GOVERNMENT IN ITS BEST POSITION EVER TO RESPOND TO THE PRESSURE FOR GROWTH, THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, MR TONY EASON, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON ON THE RECENTLY-PUBLISHED +PLANNING FOR GROWTH+, MR EASON SAID THAT WHEN STUDIES COVERED BY THE BOOKLET STARTED, POPULATION PROJECTIONS SAID THE TERRITORY WOULD BE HOME TO ABOUT SEVEN MILLION PEOPLE BY THE YEAR 2000.

REVISED POPULATION PROJECTIONS LATE IN 1984 PUT THE FIGURE AT 6.4 MILLION BY 2000.

+THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT OUR PLANNING WORK TO DATE HAS BEEN WASTED OR IS WRONG OR THAT HARBOUR RECLAMATION WON'T BE NEEDED,+ MR EASON SAID.

+POPULATION GROWTH MAY HAVE SLOWED BUT IT CERTAINLY HAS NOT STOPPED COMPLETELY. THE PRESSURE TO PRODUCE MORE LAND MAY HAVE LESSENED BUT IT HAS NOT DISAPPEARED ALTOGETHER.

+THE WORK DONE ON OUR TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY STUDIES IS SUCH THAT, PROVIDED IT IS REGULARLY UPDATED, IT CAN HELP US WITH OUR DECISION-MAKING ON DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMING PROGRESSIVELY FOR A LONG TIME TO COME.+

+MOREOVER, WE MUST NOT FORGET THAT OUR DEVELOPMENT NEEDS ARE NOT GENERATED PURELY BY POPULATION GROWTH BUT ALSO SPRING FROM ECONOMIC FACTORS SUCH AS THE TERRITORY'S ROLE AS A PORT AND ENTREPOT AND A FINANCIAL, TRADING AND TOURIST CENTRE.

/+THE NEXT

+THE NEXT BATCH OF HARBOUR RECLAMATIONS WILL BE REQUIRED AS MUCH FOR ECONOMIC REASONS AS FOR POUPLATION GROWTH. THEIR TIMING WILL NOT DEPEND PURELY ON DEMAND FOR HOUSING THEREFORE,+ HE SAID.

MR EASON SAID THAT BETWEEN NOW AND THE END OF THE DECADE RECLAMATIONS WOULD TAKE PLACE AT KELLETT BAY, ALDRICH BAY AND HUNG HOM BAY.

THE FIRST WOULD BE FOR PUBLIC HOUSING, THE SECOND FOR HOUSING AND AN IMPROVED TYPHOON SHELTER AND THE THIRD FOR EXPANDED KCRC OPERATIONS AND FOR COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVED AMENITIES.

WITHIN THE SAME PERIOD, PLANNING FOR RECLAMATIONS BETWEEN KENNEDY TOWN AND GREEN ISLAND, OFF WEST KOWLOON AND ALONG THE CENTRAL AND WAN CHAI WATERFRONTS SHOULD BE COMPLETED. THIS WOULD ALLOW WORK TO BEGIN TO MEET THE DEMANDS OF THE 1990S.

+LATER ON IN THE DECADE WE WILL BE LOOKING AGAIN AT THE LONGER-TERM CHOICE BETWEEN FURTHER MAJOR DEVELOPMENT AROUND THE HARBOUR AND AN EXPANSION OF TIN SHUI WAI BEYOND ITS INITIAL PHASE OF ABOUT 140 000 PEOPLE,+ HE SAID.

+IF THE PLANNING MOMENTUM OF THE PAST YEARS CAN BE MAINTAINED, MANY OF THE PROBLEMS CAUSED BY UNPLANNED DEVELOPMENT WITH WHICH HONG KONG IS ALL TOO FAMILIAR CAN BE ELIMINATED,+ HE ADDED.

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\$1 MILLION BOOST TO CHARITY FUND

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THE TANG SHIU KIN-HO TIM CHARITABLE FUND HAS RECEIVED A GENEROUS DONATION OF \$1 MILLION FROM A COMMUNITY LEADER WHO IS WELL-KNOWN IN THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

THE PHILANTHROPIST HAD ALSO MADE GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EDUCATION SECTOR IN THE PAST.

THE FUND, ADMINISTERED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, PROVIDES IMMEDIATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUALS OR FAMILIES COPING WITH HARDSHIP BROUGHT ON BY UNEXPECTED CIRCUMSTANCES.

GRANTS ARE PROVIDED FOR THE EDUCATION OF A CHILD, TO PURCHASE EQUIPMENT OR TO MEET THE HIGH COSTS OF MEDICAL TREATMENT OR OTHER NEEDS ARISING FROM PHYSICAL OR MENTAL DISABILITY OR CHRONIC ILLNESS.

THE FUND, IN PARTICULAR, HELPS VICTIMS OF NATURAL DISASTERS.

APPLICATIONS FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THE FUND CAN BE MADE TO THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS, PO LEUNG KUK OR THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

SOCIAL WORKERS OF WELFARE AGENCIES MAY ALSO REFER HARDSHIP CASES TO THE SECRETARY OF THE FUND OR THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE.

THE FUND, NOW TOTALLING MORE THAN \$30 MILLION, WAS FOUND BY SIR SHIU KIN TANG AND MR HO TIM IN 1977.

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE IS THE TRUSTEE AND MR CHARLES LUI IS THE ADVISER TO THE FUND.

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SECOND LIBRARY FOR NORTH DISTRICT OPENS
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RESIDENTS IN THE NORTH DISTRICT WILL BENEFIT FROM THE WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES OFFERED IN A NEW PUBLIC LIBRARY.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NORTH DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL, MR CHEUNG KUEN, WHEN HE DECLARED OPEN THE FANLING PUBLIC LIBRARY TODAY (MONDAY).

LOCATED AT CHEUNG LOK HOUSE, CHEUNG WAH ESTATE, THE NEW LIBRARY IS THE 16TH PROVIDED BY THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IN THE NON-URBAN AREAS, AND THE SECOND IN THE NORTH DISTRICT.

OCCUPYING AN AREA OF 284 SQUARE METRES, THE LIBRARY HAS AN INITIAL STOCK OF 14 000 CHINESE AND ENGLISH BOOKS, SAID MR CHEUNG.

IT OFFERS FREE LENDING SERVICES TO ADULTS AND CHILDREN, QUICK REFERENCE AND READERS' ENQUIRY SERVICE, NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS SERVICE AS WELL AS AUDIO CASSETTE LENDING SERVICE.

A WIDE RANGE OF LIBRARY EXTENSION ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING CONDUCTED VISITS FOR SCHOOLS AND ORGANISED GROUPS, STORY HOURS, BOOK EXHIBITIONS, AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES, WILL ALSO BE ORGANISED.

TO MARK THE OPENING, WINNING ENTRIES OF THE +N.T. IN PHOTO COMPETITION+ AND THE +BOOKMARK DESIGN COMPETITION+ WERE DISPLAYED IN THE LIBRARY.

GUESTS WHO ALSO TOOK PART IN THE CEREMONY TODAY WERE THE VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL, MRS MIRIAM LAU KIN-YEE; CHAIRMAN OF THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD, MR PANG HANG-YIN, AND THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL SERVICES, MR MICHAEL SUEN.

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1985

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CHINESE ENVIRONMENTALISTS VISIT EPA
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THE DIRECTOR OF THE CHINESE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, MR QU GEPING, LED A GROUP OF 11 OFFICIALS FROM THE CHINESE SOCIETY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES ON A VISIT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY THIS (MONDAY) MORNING.

THE VISITORS WERE GIVEN AN OVERVIEW OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION WORK OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DR STUART REED, AND HIS SENIOR STAFF.

THEY ALSO SAW THE WORK OF THE AGENCY'S FOUR DIVISIONS INVOLVED IN AIR AND WATER POLLUTION, NOISE, WASTE MANAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT.

MR QU AND THE PARTY ATTENDED THE POLMET '85 CONFERENCE ON POLLUTION HELD IN HONG KONG LAST WEEK. HE ADDRESSED THE DELEGATES ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION POLICIES WITHIN CHINA.

MR QU HAS BEEN A DRIVING FORCE IN RAISING THE IMPORTANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IN CHINA.

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MACPHERSON PLAYGROUND TO GET \$2.7M SPECTATOR STAND
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THE URBAN COUNCIL IS TO BUILD A \$2.7 MILLION PERMANENT SPECTATOR STAND AT MACPHERSON PLAYGROUND IN MONG KOK.

+CONSTRUCTION WORK WILL BEGIN SHORTLY AND BE COMPLETED BY EARLY 1987,+ SAID A COUNCIL SPOKESMAN TODAY.

HE SAID THE OLD STAND WAS DEMOLISHED IN 1982 AFTER IT WAS FOUND TO BE STRUCTURALLY UNSAFE.

+SINCE THEN, THE COUNCIL HAS BEEN PROVIDING SEVERAL PORTABLE STANDS AS A TEMPORARY ARRANGEMENT PENDING THE NEW PROJECT,+ HE SAID.

+THIS 1 000-SEAT STAND WILL BE A BOOST TO THE FACILITIES AT MACPHERSON PLAYGROUND WHICH IS A POPULAR VENUE FOR MINI-SOCCER MATCHES AND OTHER FUNCTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.

+THE PROJECT WILL ALSO INCORPORATE SUCH FACILITIES AS TOILETS, INCLUDING ONE FOR THE HANDICAPPED, CHANGING ROOMS, A REFEREE REST ROOM, STORE ROOMS, AN OFFICE AND A READING/CONFERENCE ROOM.+

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1985

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BUILDING MANAGEMENT SEMINAR IN WAN CHAI
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ABOUT 120 REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE OWNERS' CORPORATIONS AND MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES IN WAN CHAI WILL TAKE PART IN A BUILDING MANAGEMENT SEMINAR TOMORROW (TUESDAY) NIGHT.

THE SEMINAR IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE DISTRICT'S FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE.

PARTICIPANTS WILL BE BRIEFED ON CRIME PREVENTION IN MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS AND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME; THE DEED OF MUTUAL CONVENANT AND MANAGEMENT OF COMMON PARTS IN A BUILDING; AND THE RIGHTS AND POWERS OF OWNERS' CORPORATIONS.

SPEAKERS WILL INCLUDE THE WAN CHAI ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS DONNA WONG; DISTRICT CRIME PREVENTION OFFICER, MR LAU PING-KONG; TAI HANG-SO KON PO AREA COMMITTEE MEMBER, MR WONG TAK-SHING; AND A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE BUILDING MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATION TEAM OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE.

PARTICIPANTS WILL ALSO TAKE PART IN GROUP DISCUSSIONS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON BUILDING MANAGEMENT.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY TO THE WINNERS OF THE DISTRICT'S FIGHT CRIME CAMPAIGN ESSAY AND POSTER DESIGN COMPETITIONS.

THE SEMINAR WILL BE HELD AT 8 PM TOMORROW AT THE YU MAK YUEN YOUTH AND CHILDREN CENTRE ON THE 20TH FLOOR OF TUNG WAH MANSION AT 201 HENNESSY ROAD.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1985

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DETAILS ON CIVIC EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

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CHAIRMAN OF THE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT CIVIC EDUCATION CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, MR LEE WING-TAT, WILL MEET THE PRESS AT 11.30 AM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO INTRODUCE CIVIC EDUCATION ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT.

THE PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT OFFICE, 10TH FLOOR, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING (NEXT TO KWAI HING MTR STATION), 166-174 HING FONG ROAD.

VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, MR CHUI HONG-SHEUNG, AND A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE, MR LAI ON-KWOK, WILL ALSO BE PRESENT.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

LATEST DATE TO POST X'MAS CARDS

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THE LATEST DATE FOR POSTING CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR LOCAL DELIVERY IS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY.

POSTINGS AFTER THIS DATE CANNOT BE GUARANTEED DELIVERY BEFORE CHRISTMAS, AND THE PUBLIC ARE URGED TO SEND THEIR CARDS EARLY TO AVOID LAST-MINUTE RUSH.

BUSINESS WOULD BE CONDUCTED AS USUAL ON CHRISTMAS EVE (DECEMBER 24) AND NEW YEAR'S EVE (DECEMBER 31), BUT ALL POST OFFICES WOULD BE CLOSED DURING THE PUBLIC HOLIDAYS, EXCEPT ON BOXING DAY, DECEMBER 26, WHEN 39 POST OFFICES WILL BE OPEN FOR BUSINESS FROM 9 AM TO NOON.

THESE 39 POST OFFICES INCLUDE THE GENERAL POST OFFICE ON HONG KONG ISLAND, KOWLOON CENTRAL AND TSIM SHA TSUI IN KOWLOON AND TSUEN WAN AND TAI PO IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

/THERE WILL

THERE WILL ALSO BE SPECIAL DELIVERIES OF LETTERS AND PARCELS ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, AND ALSO ON BOXING DAY.

THERE WILL BE NO DELIVERIES ON CHRISTMAS DAY AND NEW YEAR'S DAY.

FURTHER DETAILS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM INDIVIDUAL POST OFFICES OR FROM THE POST OFFICE ENQUIRY BUREAU AT 5-231071.

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NORTH DISTRICT WALK ON SUNDAY

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THE NORTH DISTRICT WALK, ONE OF THE WALKS FOR MILLIONS ORGANISED BY THE COMMUNITY CHEST, WILL TAKE PLACE IN SHEUNG SHUI THIS SUNDAY (DECEMBER 15).

THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, ACCOMPANIED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR IAN WOTHERSPOON, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE STARTING CEREMONY AT 10 AM IN THE FUNG KAI SECONDARY SCHOOL.

THE WALK WILL INCLUDE THREE ROUTES COVERING ABOUT SIX, SEVEN AND NINE KILOMETRES RESPECTIVELY WHICH WILL FINISH AT THE FUNG KAI SECONDARY SCHOOL.

THE LOCAL ORGANISER OF THE WALK, MR LAU KIN-WING, SAID: +IT IS A RARE CHANCE FOR CITY DWELLERS TO ENJOY A COUNTRYSIDE WALK WITH RUSTIC SCENERY WHILE SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY CHEST.+

SPONSOR FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL DISTRICT OFFICES AND THE COMMUNITY CHEST OFFICE AT 905 WORLD TRADE CENTRE, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG.

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TEMPORARY MARKET TO BE REPROVISIONED

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A TEMPORARY WHOLESALE POULTRY MARKET, WHICH WILL OCCUPY ABOUT ONE HECTARE, IS TO BE BUILT ON THE WESTERN RECLAMATION.

THE SINGLE-STOREY STRUCTURE WILL HAVE 14 TRADE STALLS, 36 PARKING SPACES, AN OFFICE AND A MINI-BANK.

WHEN COMPLETED AT THE END OF NEXT YEAR, IT WILL REPLACE THE TEMPORARY MARKET AT THE JUNCTION OF FORBES STREET AND DAVIS STREET, KENNEDY TOWN.

THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT WHICH IS EXPECTED TO START IN FEBRUARY NEXT YEAR.

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1985

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NEW POLYCLINIC FOR KWUN TONG
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TENDERS ARE INVITED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW POLYCLINIC AT THE YUNG FUNG SHEE MEMORIAL CENTRE AT CHA KWO LING ROAD, KWUN TONG.

THE NEW POLYCLINIC, TO BE KNOWN AS THE PAMELA YOUDE POLYCLINIC, WILL BE ON TWO EXTRA FLOORS ABOVE THE TWO-STOREY LOW BLOCK OF THE MEMORIAL CENTRE.

FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED INCLUDE AN OUT-PATIENT CLINIC, A SURGICAL-ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC, AN OBSTETRIC-GYNAECOLOGICAL CLINIC, AN EYE CLINIC, AN EAR, NOSE AND THROAT CLINIC, A DERMATOLOGICAL CLINIC, A RENAL DIALYSIS CENTRE, A PAEDIATRIC CLINIC, A CHILD ASSESSMENT CENTRE AND OTHER ANCILLARY ACCOMMODATION.

WORK ON THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO START IN EARLY 1986 AND BE COMPLETED BY EARLY 1987.

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SELECT COMMITTEE TO MEET TOMORROW
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THE ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL WILL HOLD A MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO ENDORSE TWO PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE LEGISLATION.

THE AMENDMENTS ARE TO PROVIDE OFFICERS OF THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND OTHER RELEVANT DEPARTMENTS WITH THE POWER OF ENTRY INTO SHIPYARDS TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST MARINE LITTERING OFFENDERS AND TO EMPOWER THE DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL SERVICES TO REFUSE THE TRANSFER OF PLACES OF AMUSEMENT LICENCES.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL BE BRIEFED ON TWO OTHER ISSUES, INCLUDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 1986 LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIRS TO BE HELD IN THE NON-URBAN AREAS.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM IN THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL CHAMBER, SECOND FLOOR, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK AND GOVERNMENT OFFICE BUILDING, 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING.

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1985

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COMMITTEE MEETINGS OPEN TO PUBLIC
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TWO COMMITTEE MEETINGS OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD WILL BE OPEN TO LOCAL RESIDENTS THIS WEEK.

ON WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 11), THE CULTURE AND SPORTS COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS THE SHA TIN ARTS AND SPORTS FESTIVAL FOR 1986-87 AT 9.30 AM IN THE DISTRICT BOARD'S CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE SIXTH FLOOR OF KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION.

THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 12) AT 4 PM AT THE SAME VENUE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER BOTH MEETINGS.

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GAS CENTRE OPENING
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THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR JOHN YAXLEY, WILL OPEN THE NEW SPECIAL GAS CENTRE OF THE HONG KONG OXYGEN AND ACETYLENE COMPANY, AT THE TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, AT 3 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE CEREMONY, AND THE RECEPTION WHICH WILL FOLLOW, AND TO TOUR THE PLANT.

A SPECIAL SHUTTLE BUS SERVICE WILL OPERATE FROM 2 PM ONWARDS BETWEEN THE TAI PO STATION OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY AND THE FACTORY.

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1985

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CHINESE EDITION OF REPORT RELEASED
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THE CHINESE EDITION OF HONG KONG NARCOTICS REPORT FOR 1984, PUBLISHED BY THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS (ACAN), IS AVAILABLE AT THE NARCOTICS DIVISION, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, 31ST FLOOR, UNITED CENTRE, QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG.

THE 100-PAGE HIGHLY-INFORMATIVE REPORT GIVES AN ACCOUNT OF THE DRUG PROBLEM IN HONG KONG AND WHAT THE GOVERNMENT VOLUNTARY AGENCIES ARE DOING TO COMBAT IT.

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OPERATION AGAINST DANGEROUS GOODS
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THE KOWLOON WEST DIVISION OF THE KOWLOON FIRE COMMAND WILL MOUNT AN OPERATION AGAINST PLACES WHERE EXCESSIVE DANGEROUS GOODS ARE STORED OR WITHOUT A LICENCE TOMORROW (TUESDAY) UNDER THE COMMAND OF DIVISIONAL COMMANDER TSANG KWONG-YU.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPERATION. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE REQUESTED TO ASSEMBLE AT THE MONG KOK FIRE STATION AT 181 TONG MEI ROAD BEFORE 10 AM TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

INFORMATION OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 70.9 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 415.758 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 445.483 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 76.0 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1985

- 21 -

PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD TRAFFIC CHANGES

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ROAD REPAIR WORKS WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN STAGES ON THE NORTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD BETWEEN WYLIE ROAD AND THE PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER FROM 10 AM ON DECEMBER 12 (THURSDAY) FOR ABOUT THREE MONTHS.

DURING THIS PERIOD, THE CARRIAGEWAY WILL BE REDUCED FROM THREE TO TWO LANES IN THE DAY-TIME AND AN ADDITIONAL TRAFFIC LANE MAY ALSO BE CLOSED AT NIGHT.

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TAI PO RESTRICTED ZONES

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THE EASTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF TAI PO ROAD NEAR YUEN CHAU TSAI, FROM A POINT 90 METRES WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH KWONG WANG ROAD TO A POINT 130 METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION, AND THE SECTION OF KWONG WANG ROAD BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH TAI PO ROAD AND A POINT 10 METRES NORTH OF SAME JUNCTION, WILL BE DESIGNATED RESTRICTED ZONES FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY STARTING FROM 10 AM ON DECEMBER 12 (THURSDAY).

MOTOR VEHICLES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS AND GOODS.

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SAU MAU PING WATER CUT

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN SAU MAU PING WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 11 PM ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 12) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL PREMISES IN SAU LAI STREET AND TAK WO STREET, INCLUDING BLOCKS NOS. 1 TO 17 OF SAU MAU PING ESTATE.

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