



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

SATURDAY, MAY 30, 1987

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SATURDAY, MAY 30, 1987

PROGRESS MADE ON DEFENCE TALKS
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DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR R.I.W. UPTON AND DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR GENERAL DUTIES, MR D. TSANG, RETURNED TO HONG KONG TODAY (SATURDAY) FROM LONDON, WHERE THEY HAD BEEN ATTENDING EXPERT LEVEL TALKS BETWEEN THE BRITISH AND CHINESE SIDES ON THE MATTER OF DEFENCE AND PUBLIC ORDER.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT EXPERTS FROM THE BRITISH AND CHINESE SIDES MET IN LONDON ON MAY 27 AND 28 TO DISCUSS QUESTIONS RELATING TO DEFENCE AND THE MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC ORDER.

AS AGREED AT THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP, THEY CARRIED FORWARD DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JOINT DECLARATION RELATING TO DEFENCE AND THE MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC ORDER IN THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION AND THE NEED FOR A SMOOTH TRANSITION IN THIS AREA.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE ATMOSPHERE AT THE TALKS HAD BEEN EXCELLENT, THAT IT HAD BEEN A GOOD MEETING AND THAT PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE.

HK AID TO FIRE VICTIMS
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THE GOVERNMENT WILL PROVIDE \$5 MILLION WORTH OF RELIEF SUPPLIES FOR VICTIMS OF THE FOREST FIRE DISASTER IN HEILONGJIANG PROVINCE OF NORTHERN CHINA.

THE RELIEF FUNDS HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

THE ACTION WAS TAKEN IN RESPONSE TO AN APPEAL LAST WEEK BY THE CHINESE MINISTRY OF FORESTRY TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY FOR AID FOR THE 50 000 MADE HOMELESS BY THE FIRES AND FOR THE THOUSANDS INJURED IN FIGHTING THEM.

THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT WILL BE USING THE \$5 MILLION TO PROVIDE FOOD, BLANKETS, AND SOME MEDICAL SUPPLIES. ABOUT 1 800 TONNES OF RICE, 290 TONNES OF CANNED MEAT AND 11 TONNES OF BISCUITS WILL BE PROVIDED, TOGETHER WITH 5 000 BLANKETS, 10 000 DISPOSABLE SYRINGES, 10 HOSPITAL AIR MATTRESSES AND QUANTITIES OF BLEACHING AGENT.

CATHAY PACIFIC AIRWAYS HAVE OFFERED TO PROVIDE, FREE OF CHARGE, SPACE FOR A FIRST BATCH OF RELIEF SUPPLIES TO BE SENT OUT ON JUNE 2, (TUESDAY) AND FOR A SECOND BATCH ON JUNE 5.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

ARRANGEMENT HAS BEEN MADE FOR THE PRESS TO COVER THE LOADING OF RELIEF SUPPLIES AT THE AIRPORT ON TUESDAY (JUNE 2). MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE AIRPORT PRESS ROOM AT 8.30 AM. GIS OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

WORK BEGUN ON NEW MUSEUM OF ART
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FOUNDATION WORK ON THE NEW MUSEUM OF ART AT TSIM SHA TSUI HAS STARTED FOLLOWING THE RECENT AWARD OF A \$11.6 MILLION PILING CONTRACT TO A LOCAL COMPANY BY THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

LOCATED NEXT TO THE SPACE MUSEUM AND THE CULTURAL CENTRE NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION, THE NEW MUSEUM BUILDING WITH AN OPEN PEDESTRAIN PIAZZA WILL COVER AN AREA OF ABOUT 5 000 SQUARE METRES.

IT WILL CONSIST OF FIVE STOREYS AND A ONE-LEVEL BASEMENT.

FIVE EXHIBITION GALLERIES, WITH A TOTAL FLOOR AREA OF ABOUT 4 500 SQUARE METRES, WILL BE PROVIDED FOR THE DISPLAY OF CONTEMPORARY HONG KONG ART, ART IN CHINESE HISTORY, HISTORICAL PICTURES, CHINESE ANTIQUITIES AND CHINESE FINE ART.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A 1 300-SQUARE-METRE TEMPORARY EXHIBITION ALLERY FOR VISITING EXHIBITS.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES, INCLUDING A LECTURE HALL, LIBRARY AND A NUMBER OF ART STUDIOS, TOGETHER WITH WORKSHOPS FOR CONSERVATION, RESTORATION, GRAPHIC DESIGN, PHOTOGRAPHY, CARPENTRY, METAL AND PLASTIC WORKS, WILL BE INCLUDED.

ARTEFACT STORES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THE STORAGE OF OIL AND ACRYLIC PAINTINGS, PAPER AND TEXTILE WORKS, CERAMIC AND STONE WARES, AND WOOD AND METAL WORKS.

OTHER FACILITIES WILL INCLUDE ADMINISTRATIVE AND CURATORIAL OFFICES, A BOOK SHOP, SOCIETY ROOM AND REFRESHMENT CORNER.

THE PILING WORK FOR THE NEW MUSEUM BUILDING WILL TAKE ABOUT EIGHT MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

WORK ON THE SUPERSTRUCTURE IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN EARLY 1988 AND BE COMPLETED IN 1990.

THE NEW MUSEUM WILL REPLACE THE EXISTING MUSEUM LOCATED AT THE HIGH BLOCK OF THE CITY HALL.

THE ESTIMATED COST FOR THE PROJECT IS \$125 MILLION.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION A FORMIDABLE CHALLENGE
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THE RAPID EXPANSION AND IMPROVEMENT OF SECONDARY EDUCATION DURING THE LAST DECADE HAS LED TO A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF STAFF IN LOCAL SCHOOLS, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR Y.T. LI, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

THIS RESULTED IN A STANDARD-SIZE SECONDARY SCHOOL NOW USUALLY HAVING AS MANY AS 50 TEACHERS, MR LI ADDED.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE MIDDLE MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP FOR CATHOLIC COUNCIL SECONDARY SCHOOLS, MR LI SAID THE COMPLEXITIES OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION, COUPLED WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF A LARGE STAFF, PRESENTED A FORMIDABLE CHALLENGE TO ALL SCHOOL PRINCIPALS.

+THERE IS FORTUNATELY A GROWING RECOGNITION THAT THE PRINCIPAL NEEDS TO BE EQUIPPED WITH ADEQUATE KNOWLEDGE OF MANAGEMENT CONCEPTS AND SKILLS IN ORDER TO MANAGE HIS OR HER SCHOOL EFFECTIVELY,+ MR LI SAID.

+PERHAPS LESS WIDELY APPRECIATED, HOWEVER, IS THE FACT THAT MANAGEMENT CONCEPTS AND SKILLS ARE IMPORTANT NOT ONLY TO SCHOOL PRINCIPALS BUT ALSO TO THE SENIOR TEACHERS INVOLVED IN SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION - THE MIDDLE MANAGERS WITHIN THE SCHOOL.+

NOTING THAT MOST ORGANISATIONS RELIED HEAVILY ON DELEGATION TODAY, MR LI SAID DELEGATION MUST BE BASED ON TRUST AND IN TURN, WAS BUILT ON THE MANAGER'S CONFIDENCE THAT HIS ASSISTANTS HAD THE ABILITY AND SKILLS NECESSARY TO ASSIST IN THE DAY-TO-DAY OPERATION OF THE ORGANISATION INCLUDING STRONG POWERS OF CO-ORDINATION.

ON THE INTEGRATION OF MANAGEMENT THEORY WITH EDUCATION, MR LI SAID IT WAS A FIELD WHICH IN MANY RESPECTS WAS STILL LARGELY UNEXPLORED. MOST OF THE MANAGEMENT THEORIES COULD NOT BE DIRECTLY APPLIED WITHOUT MODIFICATION TO EDUCATION BECAUSE IT WAS GENERALLY NOT PROFIT-ORIENTED. IN ADDITION, EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES, TEACHERS' PERFORMANCE, SCHOOL EFFECTIVENESS AND THE LIKE WERE NOT EASILY MEASURABLE, HE SAID.

+THE INTEGRATION OF MANAGEMENT THEORY WITH EDUCATION IS THEREFORE BECOMING AN AREA OF GROWING CONCERN AMONG EDUCATORS,+ SAID MR LI, ADDING THAT TODAY'S WORKSHOP WAS A SIGNIFICANT AND POSITIVE STEP IN THE DIRECTION OF SUCH INTEGRATION IN LOCAL SYSTEM.

MR LI EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE PARTICIPANTS WOULD GAIN VALUABLE INSIGHT INTO THE PROBLEMS ATTACHED TO MIDDLE MANAGEMENT IN SCHOOLS FROM THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY SPEAKERS FROM THE FACULTY OF EDUCATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG AND WOULD BENEFIT MORE AFTER JOINING THE PANEL DISCUSSION DURING THE COURSE OF THE WORKSHOP.

PREMISES RESERVED FOR WELFARE SERVICES

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS RESERVED 29 PREMISES IN NEW PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES AND PRIVATE DEVELOPMENTS FOR THE OPERATION OF NURSERIES AND SOCIAL CENTRES FOR THE ELDERLY.

THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IS NOW INVITING WELFARE AGENCIES TO APPLY FOR THESE PREMISES WHICH WILL BECOME AVAILABLE OVER THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.

THE PREMISES WILL BE LOCATED IN 12 PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES AND FIVE PRIVATE DEVELOPMENTS PLANNED FOR VARIOUS DISTRICTS.

WHEN COMPLETED, 15 OF THESE NEW PREMISES WILL BE USED AS NURSERIES AND THE REMAINING 14 AS SOCIAL CENTRES FOR THE ELDERLY.

A COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF THESE WELFARE PREMISES HAS BEEN SENT TO WELFARE AGENCIES FOR THEIR INFORMATION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT URGED INTERESTED AGENCIES TO APPLY AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.

APPLICATIONS SHOULD REACH THE DEPARTMENT AT WORLD TRADE CENTRE, 19/F., 280 GLOUCESTER ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY, ON OR BEFORE JUNE 30, 1987.

+SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION TO PROVIDE A PARTICULAR SERVICE DOES NOT AUTOMATICALLY IMPLY THAT RECURRENT SUBVENTIONS OR CAPITAL GRANT FROM THE LOTTERIES FUND WOULD BE FORTHCOMING.

+SEPARATE APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE MADE IN DUE COURSE AND EACH CASE WILL BE CONSIDERED ON ITS OWN MERITS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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SAI KUNG FREE EYE CHECK-UP FOR THE ELDERLIES

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ABOUT 400 ELDERLIES IN SAI KUNG TOOK PART IN THE FREE EYE CHECK-UP TODAY (SATURDAY) AT THE SAI KUNG TOWN HALL.

ALL PARTICIPANTS WERE EITHER 65 YEARS OLD OR ABOVE AND HAD ENROLLED THEMSELVES FOR THE CHECK-UP ON APRIL 27.

AMONG THEM, 195 ELDERLIES WERE RECOMMENDED BY SEVEN ELDERLY CENTRES IN THE DISTRICT WHILE THE REST WERE INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPANTS.

OPTOMETRISTS FROM AN OPTICAL COMPANY WERE ON HAND TO CHECK THE EYES OF THE ELDERLIES WITH COMPUTERISED EYE CHECKING MACHINE.

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THOSE WHO WERE FOUND TO HAVE POOR EYE SIGHT WERE ENCOURAGED TO BUY SPECTACLES AT A COST OF ONLY \$10, WHILE THOSE RECEIVING PUBLIC ALLOWANCE COULD GET THEM FREE.

HOWEVER, THEY WERE ALSO PERMITTED TO MAKE PAYMENT FOR THE SPECTACLES IN PERSON OR BY REPRESENTATIVE ON JUNE 3 (WEDNESDAY) IN THE SAI KUNG TOWN HALL IF THEY WERE NOT ABLE TO PAY TODAY.

MEANWHILE, PAMPHLETS ON EYE CARE WERE ALSO DISTRIBUTED TO THE ELDERLIES TO ENHANCE THEIR KNOWLEDGE ON THIS SUBJECT.

ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE ON JUNE 3, 17 AND 26 TO TAKE THE ELDERLIES TO THE OPTICAL COMPANY FOR SPECTACLES FITTING.

SPONSORED BY THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD, THE PROJECT WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE, JUNK BAY MEDICAL RELIEF COUNCIL AND SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT WITH THE AIM OF ENHANCING KNOWLEDGE ON EYE CARE AND AROUSING RESIDENTS' CONCERN FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE.

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VOLUNTEERS WANTED FOR PROBATIONER SCHEME
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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH THE REHABILITATION OF OFFENDERS.

PEOPLE WHO ARE 21 YEARS OF AGE OR OVER, WITH SECONDARY EDUCATION AND RICH LIFE EXPERIENCE AND WHO ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING OTHERS, ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE VOLUNTEER SCHEME FOR PROBATIONERS (VSP).

APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE CENTRE FOR THE VOLUNTEER SCHEME FOR PROBATIONERS AT ROOM 1028, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG AND PROBATION OFFICES ATTACHED TO MAGISTRACIES.

COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE VSP CENTRE ON OR BEFORE JUNE 15.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL ATTEND A BRIEF ORIENTATION COURSE BEFORE THEY WORK TOGETHER WITH PROBATION OFFICERS IN HELPING YOUNG OFFENDERS IN THEIR REHABILITATION.

APART FROM BEFRIENDING PROBATIONERS, THE VOLUNTEERS CAN HELP THEM DEVELOP MEANINGFUL HOBBIES AND HABITS, AND CULTIVATE HEALTHY PURSUITS. TUITION AND USEFUL GUIDANCE CAN ALSO BE PROVIDED TO THE PROBATIONERS.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SCHEME CAN BE MADE TO MR M.C. FUNG ON TELEPHONE 5-8955230.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR NT REGIONAL POLICE HEADQUARTERS
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THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW CENTRALISED NEW TERRITORIES REGIONAL POLICE HEADQUARTERS AT TAI PO TO REPLACE THE EXISTING ONE AT TUNG LO WAN HILL ROAD, SHA TIN.

PILING WORK FOR THE PROJECT WILL BE COMPLETED IN JUNE, AND WORK ON ITS SUPERSTRUCTURE IS EXPECTED TO START IN JULY AND TAKE ABOUT TWO YEARS TO COMPLETE.

SITUATED AT A 7 700-SQUARE-METRE SITE NEAR THE SUN HING GARDEN PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION SCHEME DEVELOPMENT, THE NEW HEADQUARTERS WILL HAVE A COMPOUND, A PARADE/INSPECTION AREA, A 14-STOREY BUILDING AND A RANGE OF SINGLE-STOREY ANCILLARY BUILDINGS.

FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED IN THE MAIN BUILDING WILL INCLUDE OFFICES; INTERVIEW, CONFERENCE AND REPORT ROOMS; CONTROL/COMMUNICATION CENTRES; COMPUTER ROOMS; BARRACK ROOMS AND LOCKER/REST ROOMS.

THERE WILL ALSO BE AN INDOOR SHOOTING RANGE AND A MULTI-PURPOSE HALL WHICH CAN BE TURNED INTO A GYMNASIUM OR AN ASSEMBLY HALL.

THE SINGLE-STOREY ANCILLARY BUILDINGS WILL BE USED AS WORKSHOPS AND FOR STORAGE.

A TOTAL OF 25 670 SQUARE METRES OF GROSS FLOOR AREA WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE BUILDINGS.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING TENDERS IS NOON ON JUNE 19.

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THREE CONTRACTS AWARDED
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THREE CONTRACTS WORTH MORE THAN \$3.19 MILLION HAVE BEEN AWARDED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT FOR FIRE SERVICE, LIFT AND ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS AT THE RANK AND FILE MARRIED QUARTERS FOR FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL BEING BUILT AT TUEN MUN.

WORK ON THE CONTRACTS HAS ALREADY STARTED AND WILL TAKE 16 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE QUARTERS ARE BEING BUILT OFF CASTLE PEAK ROAD IN SAN HUI AND WILL BE 20-STOREYS, PROVIDING 11 300 SQUARE METRES OF ACCOMMODATION SPACE FOR 160 FAMILIES.

THE PROJECT WILL ALSO INCLUDE A CARPARK, GARDEN AND COVERED CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA.

THE QUARTERS ARE EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY EARLY SEPTEMBER, 1988.

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NEW ACCOMMODATION FOR CUSTOMS KOWLOON COLLECTION OFFICE
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THE KOWLOON COLLECTION OFFICE OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT WILL MOVE FROM OCEAN CENTRE TO THE STAR HOUSE IN TSIM SHA TSUI FROM JUNE 2 (TUESDAY).

THE NEW OFFICE WILL PROVIDE BETTER FACILITIES AND MORE COLLECTION COUNTERS. TO SHORTEN THE QUEUING TIME FOR LODGEMENT OF TRADE DECLARATIONS, COUNTERS ARE DIVIDED INTO FOUR GROUPS ACCORDING TO THEIR SPECIAL FUNCTIONS.

GENERAL ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE AT 3-7234325.

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TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD TO DISCUSS NOISE CONTROL
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MEMBERS OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD WILL GIVE THEIR VIEWS ON THE DRAFT NOISE CONTROL BILL AT THEIR MEETING ON TUESDAY (JUNE 2).

THE BOARD WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT ON THE CONTROL OF UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS.

THE MEETING WILL START AT 2.30 PM IN THE MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL, 2/F., TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING, 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE MEETING.

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ROAD CLOSURE IN TUEN MUN AND SAU MAU PING
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ROAD D9 IN TUEN MUN BETWEEN THE CASTLE PEAK ROAD/ROAD D9 ROUNDABOUT AND TSENG CHOI STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 1 AM TO 5 AM ON MONDAY (JUNE 1) AND TUESDAY FOR ROAD WORK.

MOTORISTS ON CASTLE PEAK ROAD NORTHBOUND HEADING FOR YUEN LONG SHOULD DRIVE VIA PUI TO ROAD AND TUEN MUN ROAD, WHILE THOSE ON CASTLE PEAK ROAD SOUTHBOUND HEADING FOR KOWLOON SHOULD DRIVE STRAIGHT AHEAD ALONG CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND TUEN MUN ROAD.

/MEANWHILE, TRAFFIC

MEANWHILE, TRAFFIC ON CASTLE PEAK ROAD SOUTHBOUND HEADING FOR THE SECTION OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD SOUTH OF ROAD D9 WILL BE DIVERTED VIA TUEN MUN ROAD AND PUI TO ROAD.

IN SAU MAU PING, TWO SECTIONS OF ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM JUNE 2 TO JUNE 6 BETWEEN 1.30 AM AND 5.30 AM DAILY FOR FOOTBRIDGE CONSTRUCTION.

THE ROAD SECTIONS ARE : SAU MAU PING ROAD BETWEEN SHUN ON ROAD AND HIP WO STREET; AND HIP WO STREET NORTHBOUND BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH SAU MAU PING ROAD AND A POINT ABOUT 50 METRES SOUTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION.

DURING THE CLOSURE, MOTORISTS TRAVELLING TO AND FROM SAU MAU PING ROAD SHOULD USE SHUN ON ROAD.

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NIGHT CLOSURE OF PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER
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THE PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM TUESDAY (JUNE 2) TO JUNE 6 FROM 10 PM TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR RECONSTRUCTION.

DURING THE CLOSURE, VEHICLES ON WATERLOO ROAD SOUTHBOUND HEADING FOR PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD SOUTHBOUND WILL BE DIVERTED VIA GROUND LEVEL WATERLOO ROAD AND PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD.

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PUBLIC LIGHT BUS RESTRICTED ZONE IN SHEUNG SHUI
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ROAD L9 BETWEEN ITS JUNCTIONS WITH ROAD D1 AND ROAD D7 IN SHEUNG SHUI WILL BE MADE A PROHIBITED ZONE TO PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES 24 HOUR DAILY FROM 10 AM ON TUESDAY (JUNE 2).

NO PLBS WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE PROHIBITED AREA.

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WATER SUPPLY IN TSUEN WAN
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WATER PRESSURE TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN TSUEN WAN WILL REDUCE ON TUESDAY (JUNE 2) FROM 10 PM TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR MAINS WORK.

THE AFFECTED PREMISES ARE AT THE WEST SIDE OF TAI HO ROAD TO 13 MILESTONE, CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN.

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

(SUPPLEMENT)

SATURDAY, MAY 30, 1987

THE FULL TRANSCRIPT OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE
GIVEN BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, ON MAY 29, 1987

H.E.: THANK YOU VERY MUCH AND GOOD AFTERNOON. IT IS NICE TO SEE THAT THERE IS A WORLD BEYOND THE CAMERAS AND TO SEE ALL OF YOU. I HAVE NOW BEEN IN HONG KONG FOR SOME SEVEN WEEKS, EXACTLY SEVEN WEEKS YESTERDAY. PERHAPS I COULD START JUST BY SHARING VERY BRIEFLY WITH YOU, SOME OF MY INITIAL IMPRESSIONS.

THE FIRST ONE IS SOMETHING WHICH STRIKES ANYBODY COMING BACK TO HONG KONG EVEN AFTER A VERY SHORT TIME AWAY AND THAT IS, THE ENORMOUS VITALITY OF THE PLACE. ONE SEES IT ALL AROUND, IN BUILDING AND IN PLANNING, FOR THE MEDIUM AND FOR THE LONG-TERM FUTURE. NOW, I HAVE BEEN TRYING TO SEE, FOR MYSELF, AS MUCH AS I CAN IN A SHORT TIME, OF THAT PLANNING AND THAT WORK.

I HAVE BEEN LOOKING AT THE POSITIVE THINGS WHICH HAVE BEEN DONE, I'VE ALSO BEEN LOOKING AT SOME OF THE THINGS WHICH STILL HAVE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THEM.

IT IS VERY STRIKING, I THINK, THAT HONG KONG HAS MADE ENORMOUS PROGRESS OVER THE LAST DECADE, PARTICULARLY IN TERMS OF QUANTITY OF WHAT HAS BEEN PROVIDED. IF YOU LOOK AT THE HOUSING PROGRAMME, TRANSPORT PROGRAMME, MEDICAL CARE, ALL OF THESE THINGS ENORMOUSLY STRIDE OVER THE LAST DECADE.

BUT I AM ALSO CONSCIOUS OF THE FACT, AFTER MY SEVEN WEEKS HERE, THAT THERE ARE RISING ASPIRATIONS AMONGST PEOPLE HERE. PERHAPS ONE COULD LOOK AT THIS IN TERMS OF A SEARCH FOR IMPROVEMENT IN QUALITY, TO MATCH THE IMPROVEMENTS IN QUANTITY WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN THE LAST DECADE.

THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THERE ARE A NUMBER OF AREAS WHERE MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE. ONE THINKS OF THE QUALITY OF HOUSING, ONE THINKS OF THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION, THE MANAGEMENT OF HEALTH CARE, AND THE ENVIRONMENT -- WHERE THE RAPIDITY OF DEVELOPMENT HAS CREATED ITS OWN PROBLEMS. SO MUCH HAS BEEN DONE BUT THERE IS A GREAT DEAL STILL TO BE DONE.

THE OTHER POINT WHICH STRIKES ME IS THAT YOU CAN ONLY DO WITH THESE THINGS, YOU CAN ONLY IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE IF YOU HAVE A SOUND ECONOMIC FOUNDATION. A PROSPEROUS ECONOMY IS THE KEYSTONE TO ANYTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE.

AT THE MOMENT, OUR ECONOMY IS DOING VERY WELL BUT THIS FACT MEANS THAT THE GOVERNMENT MUST CONTINUE TO PAY ATTENTION TO ENSURING THAT OUR ECONOMY REMAINS DYNAMIC AND THAT ENTERPRISE IS REWARDED.

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ONE LAST IMPRESSION AND, THAT IS, GOING AROUND EVEN IN THE PERIOD OF SEVEN WEEKS, I AM VERY STRUCK INDEED BY THE AMOUNT OF TIME PEOPLE SPEND IN HONG KONG, DEVOTED TO PUBLIC AFFAIRS. AND I AM THINKING HERE, NOT JUST OF PEOPLE IN THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THE MUNICIPAL COUNCILS, THE DISTRICT BOARDS - WHICH GET A GOOD DEAL OF PUBLICITY - BUT AT A MUCH LOWER LEVEL, GETTING DOWN TO ADVISORY BOARDS, AREA COMMITTEES, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES.

AN IMMENSE AMOUNT OF VERY VALUABLE WORK IS DONE BY A LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN HONG KONG. I FIND THAT VERY IMPRESSIVE.

IT GOES, I THINK, WITH A SYSTEM WHICH HAS GROWN UP OVER THE YEARS, WHERE THAT HAPPENS AND WHERE THERE IS ALSO CONSULTATION - AND CONSULTATION IS, OF COURSE, WHAT WE ARE JUST EMBARKING UPON IN THE PROCESS OF DISCUSSING THE GREEN PAPER, WHICH WAS PUBLISHED TWO DAYS AGO.

WITH THOSE FEW INITIAL IMPRESSIONS, MAY I SAY THAT I SHALL BE HAPPY TO TRY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS THAT YOU HAVE GOT.

Q: SALLY BLYTH (RTHK), SIR DAVID, THE 1984 WHITE PAPER ON THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT STATES IN ITS CONCLUSIONS THAT ON THE QUESTION OF DIRECT ELECTIONS - AND I QUOTE, +THE BULK OF PUBLIC RESPONSE FAVOURED A CAUTIOUS APPROACH WITH A GRADUAL START, BY INTRODUCING A VERY SMALL NUMBER OF DIRECTLY ELECTED MEMBERS IN 1988 AND BUILDING UP TO A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER BY 1997.+ THE GOVERNMENT'S GREEN PAPER THIS WEEK FAILS TO MENTION THESE CONCLUSIONS. THE 1984 WHITE PAPER WAS MEANT TO POINT THE WAY FORWARD. IS THE GOVERNMENT NOW SWEEPING ITS ENTIRE CONTENTS UNDER THE CARPET?

A: THE SHORT ANSWER IS +NO+. BUT LET ME EXPAND ON THAT.

THE 1984 WHITE PAPER HAD ONE KEY SECTOR IN ITS DECISIONS AND THAT WAS, TO INTRODUCE FOR THE FIRST TIME, AN ELEMENT OF INDIRECT ELECTIONS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. THAT WAS A VERY SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN THE SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT WHICH HONG KONG HAD PREVIOUSLY HAD. THAT, OF COURSE, HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED. WE HAVE BEEN LIVING WITH THE NEW SYSTEM FOR JUST OVER A YEAR AND A HALF.

ANOTHER POINT WHICH WAS MADE IN THE CONCLUSIONS TO THE WHITE PAPER WAS THAT THE QUESTION OF DIRECT ELECTIONS WOULD BE FURTHER CONSIDERED IN THE CONTEXT OF A REVIEW WHICH WAS PUT TO 1987, INSTEAD OF THE ORIGINAL PROPOSAL. THAT, OF COURSE, IS THE REVIEW WHICH WE ARE NOW EMBARKED ON. SO THAT HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT EXACTLY.

Q: BERNARD FONG (SCMP), I HAVE A SPONTANEOUS QUESTION, SIR.

A: I HOPE THEY ARE ALL SPONTANEOUS.

Q: BERNARD FONG, WHAT MARK, SIR, DO YOU WISH TO LEAVE ON HONG KONG? LORD MACLEHOSE IS KNOWN FOR HOUSING AND OTHER MAJOR PROJECTS AND SIR EDWARD YOUDE FOR THE JOINT DECLARATION. AND NOW, YOURSELF, THE GOVERNOR OF THE TRANSITION PERIOD. YOU HAVE SAID YOU WOULD WAGE WAR ON POLLUTION, PROMOTE TRADE AND ADVANCE HIGH EDUCATION. WILL ALL THESE THINGS BE ACHIEVED WHEN YOU ARE FACED WITH THE DELICATE JOB OF REFORMING THE POLITICAL SYSTEM AND PLEASING CHINA? YOU HAVE SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS NO PRECONCEIVED IDEAS ON POLITICAL CHANGES, BUT THEN YOU HAVE ALSO SAID 'GO SLOW ON REFORMS'. WHICH THEN IS YOUR REAL POSITION, SIR?

A: WITH RESPECT, FOR A SPONTANEOUS QUESTION, THAT'S EXTREMELY LONG. IT IS ALSO QUITE DIFFICULT TO PICK ON ONE THING TO ANSWER IT. WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO DO AND WOULD LIKE TO HAVE DONE, WHEN I FINISH HERE - IS TO HAVE CARRIED AS SINCERELY AS POSSIBLE THE JOB OF BEING GOVERNOR OF HONG KONG. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF AREAS WHERE, OVER TIME, I HOPE I WILL CONCENTRATE MY EFFORTS. BUT HAVING BEEN HERE ONLY SEVEN WEEKS, IT IS RATHER TOO EARLY TO SAY EXACTLY WHERE THOSE WILL BE. I HOPE THAT, WHEN IT COMES TO GIVING MY FIRST ADDRESS TO LEGCO IN OCTOBER OF THIS YEAR, THAT SOME OF THE AREAS WHERE I THINK EFFORT SHOULD BE CONCENTRATED, WILL BECOME APPARENT.

Q: EMILY LAU (FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW), SIR DAVID, SINCE HONG KONG IS THE ONLY BRITISH COLONY THAT WILL NOT BE GIVEN INDEPENDENCE AND INSTEAD WILL BE HANDED OVER TO A COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT, DOES THE BRITISH AND HONG KONG GOVERNMENTS HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY IN MAKING SURE THAT A DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT IS IN PLACE BEFORE THE HANDING OVER IN 1997? AND DO YOU THINK THAT REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT SHOULD INCLUDE SOME ELEMENTS, AT LEAST, OF DIRECTLY ELECTED MEMBERS IN THE LEGISLATURE?

A: THE RESPONSIBILITY, IF YOU INTERPRET THAT NARROWLY, WILL HAVE TO BE THE RESPONSIBILITY WHICH IS DEFINED BY THE JOINT DECLARATION, AND EVERYTHING THAT IS LAID DOWN IN THAT. THAT, OF COURSE, AS YOU KNOW, LAYS DOWN THAT THE LEGISLATURE WILL BE ELECTED BY, OR IN, 1997, BUT DOES NOT SAY PRECISELY HOW THAT SHOULD BE DONE.

THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR BOTH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT UP UNTIL 1997, CAN BE SUMMED UP, I SUGGEST, IN ADMINISTERING EFFICIENTLY AND EFFECTIVELY.

PRECISELY WHAT FORM OF GOVERNMENT IS GOING TO EVOLVE HERE OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS WILL DEPEND PARTLY ON WHAT IS GOING TO BE ESTABLISHED FOR 1997. NOW THAT IS A MATTER FOR THE BASIC LAW, WHICH WILL BE PASSED BY THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS; AND PARTLY WHAT IS EVOLVED HERE, WHICH WILL DEPEND, IN TURN, ON THE SORT OF RESPONSE THAT ONE GETS TO THE GREEN PAPER EXERCISE NOW.

/Q: EMILY LAU,

Q: EMILY LAU, SO YOU ARE SAYING THAT RESPONSIBILITY MAY MEAN NOT INTRODUCING ANY FORM OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT HERE BY 1997?

A: I AM NOT TRYING TO DEFINE IT IN THOSE TERMS. I AM TRYING TO DEFINE IT IN TERMS OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR EFFECTIVE, EFFICIENT ADMINISTRATION FOR MAINTAINING PROSPERITY AND STABILITY. THOSE ARE THE KEY RESPONSIBILITIES. HOW ONE EVOLVES THE SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT, AS I HAVE JUST SAID, DEPENDS, FIRST OF ALL, WHERE YOU ARE GOING TO FINISH UP IN 1997, WHICH IS PARTLY FOR THE BASIC LAW TO DEFINE AND, PARTLY, BECAUSE A LARGE SECTOR OF THE BASIC LAW IS ALREADY DEFINED BY THE JOINT DECLARATION PARAMETERS, PARTLY ALSO ON WHAT EVOLVES BETWEEN NOW AND 1997. ONE CANNOT AT THIS STAGE SAY EXACTLY WHAT FORM OF GOVERNMENT THAT IS GOING TO BE. WE ARE ONLY JUST STARTING ON THE GREEN PAPER EXERCISE.

Q: MAK YIU-ON, MING PAO, SIR, THE CONSULTATION PROCESS IS IN PROGRESS AND PEOPLE ARE WORRIED ABOUT PEOPLE REMAIN SILENT. WOULD YOU PROMISE THAT EXCO WOULD NOT PUT ASIDE THE OPINION EXPRESSED, AS THERE IS FEW PEOPLE GIVE THEIR VIEWS?

A: I HOPE IT'S BEEN MADE CLEAR, CERTAINLY I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE IT CLEAR NOW, THE GOVERNMENT WISHES AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE GREEN PAPER. IT IS NOT A SIMPLE SUBJECT, AS MANY PEOPLE HAVE ALREADY COMMENTED ON THE GREEN PAPER. IT DOES REQUIRE VERY CAREFUL THOUGHT, CONSIDERED OPINIONS TO BE PUT FORWARD. THE GOVERNMENT HAS ALSO SAID THAT THOSE OPINIONS WILL BE TAKEN FULLY INTO ACCOUNT WHEN DECISIONS ARE TAKEN AT THE END OF THIS PROCESS. SO I HOPE PEOPLE ARE CLEAR THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD WISH AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE, INCLUDING ALL THOSE WHO HAVE NOT SPOKEN OUT YET, TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS, HAVING THOUGHT ABOUT THEIR VIEWS VERY CAREFULLY.

Q: JAMES TAM (SING PAO DAILY NEWS), WOULD YOU GIVE US A BRIEF ACCOUNT ON THE GOVERNMENT'S LATEST TACTICS ON OUR LONG TERM PROBLEM OF REFUGEES?

A: ARE YOU THINKING OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES?

Q: JAMES TAM, YES.

A: PERHAPS I COULD SAY A NUMBER OF THINGS ON THAT. FIRST OF ALL, IT IS AN ENORMOUS PROBLEM FOR HONG KONG, HAVING TO LOOK AFTER REFUGEES FROM VIETNAM, MANY OF THEM PEOPLE WHO HAVE NO CONNECTION WITH THIS TERRITORY, WHEN AT THE SAME TIME AS WE ALL KNOW, THERE IS A MAJOR PROBLEM OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION FROM CHINA, OFTEN OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE SOME CONNECTION WITH THIS TERRITORY.

SO THE FIRST THING I WOULD LIKE TO SAY IS, I AM VERY CONSCIOUS OF THE SIZE OF THIS PROBLEM FOR HONG KONG AND THE SERIOUSNESS OF IT. WE HAVE NOW GOT SOME 7 800 REFUGEES HERE. THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY TOWARDS THIS IS TO DO AS MUCH AS POSSIBLY CAN TO ENSURE THAT RESETTLEMENT CONTINUES AND INCREASES.

WE HAVE JUST RECENTLY HAD A NEW OFFER OF RESETTLEMENT FROM THE UK. BOTH THE UK GOVERNMENT AND THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT WILL BE USING THAT OFFER TO GO TO OTHER RESETTLEMENT COUNTRIES AND SAY, +WHAT MORE ARE YOU NOW PREPARED TO DO TO TAKE PEOPLE FROM HONG KONG?+

AT THE MOMENT, THE OUTFLOW FOR RESETTLEMENT IS GREATER THAN THE INFLOW, THE TRICKLE INFLOW, OF NEW REFUGEES. BUT THE OUTFLOW IS NOT FAST ENOUGH AT THE MOMENT. WE WOULD LIKE IT TO BE FASTER.

Q: JAMES TAM, ARE WE HAVING ANY NEW SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM BECAUSE RESETTLEMENT NUMBERS ARE DECREASING IN THE PAST FEW YEARS. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING IN MIND TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION?

A: LONGER TERM, THERE IS THOUGHT BEING GIVEN AND CONSULTATION GOING ON BETWEEN A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT GOVERNMENTS, ABOUT HOW TO ACHIEVE A LONG TERM SOLUTION WHICH MIGHT, FOR INSTANCE, INVOLVE RETURNING TO VIETNAM, PEOPLE WHO ARE DEFINED AS +ECONOMIC MIGRANTS+ RATHER THAN STRAIGHT POLITICAL REFUGEES. THOSE DISCUSSIONS ARE GOING ON NOW.

TO BE ABLE TO DO THAT, YOU NEED TWO PRE-CONDITIONS. THE FIRST AND VERY SIMPLE ONE IS THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM HAS TO BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT PEOPLE BACK, OTHERWISE YOU CAN'T DO IT. THE SECOND IS, THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WOULD QUITE RIGHTLY WISH TO BE ASSURED THAT PEOPLE SENT BACK ARE GOING TO BE DECENTLY TREATED.

SO, UNTIL YOU HAVE THOSE TWO CONDITIONS IN PLACE, YOU CAN'T PROCEED WITH A PROGRAMME OF REPATRIATION.

Q: CHAN CHUNG-KWUN (ORIENTAL DAILY NEWS), SIR, I WOULD LIKE TO PURSUE ON THE GREEN PAPER AGAIN. THE SCOPE OF THE GREEN PAPER IS RATHER LIMITED, ACCORDING TO SOME CRITICS, WOULD YOU ENCOURAGE THE PUBLIC TO EXPRESS OPINIONS AND VIEWS ON TOPICS BEYOND THE SCOPE OF THE GREEN PAPER?

A: THERE ARE, OF COURSE, A LARGE NUMBER OF ISSUES DEALT WITH IN THE GREEN PAPER. I HAVE HEARD SOME PEOPLE SAY THAT TOO MANY ISSUES ARE DEALT WITH IN THE GREEN PAPER. NOW, IF PEOPLE HAVE VIEWS OUTSIDE THE SCOPE OF THE GREEN PAPER, THEN THEY SHOULD STILL PUT THEM FORWARD. IF THEY ARE FAR REMOTE IN SUBJECT FROM WHAT THE GREEN PAPER IS DISCUSSING, SAY, THEY WERE ON TRADE POLICY, TO TAKE A RATHER RIDICULOUS EXAMPLE, THEN YOU CAN'T EXPECT THAT TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. BUT IF THEY ARE CLOSELY RELATED TO THE SUBJECTS BEING DISCUSSED IN THE GREEN PAPER, THEN, OF COURSE, THE GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT VIEWS THAT ARE EXPRESSED.

Q: ANN BROCKLEHURST, REUTERS, I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU IF YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THIS GROWING NUMBER OF HONG KONG RESIDENTS WHO ARE LEAVING HONG KONG FOR COUNTRIES LIKE CANADA AND AUSTRALIA?

A: FOR A LONG TIME IN HONG KONG, THERE HAS BEEN A TRADITION OF PEOPLE BEING EDUCATED ABROAD AND MOVING THROUGH HONG KONG AND SETTLING ABROAD. SO THE QUESTION OF PEOPLE MOVING OUT OF HONG KONG IS NOTHING NEW.

IT IS ALSO A TRADITION OF HONG KONG NOT TO TRY IN ANY WAY TO RESTRICT PEOPLE'S FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT, AND I THINK THAT'S A TRADITION WHICH PEOPLE CONSIDER TO BE VERY IMPORTANT.

AT THE MOMENT, WE'VE GOT A FAIRLY STEADY MOVEMENT. IT'S BEEN AVERAGING OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS ABOUT 20 000 A YEAR. FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, THE FIGURES FOR THE LAST TWO YEARS, TO THE EXTENT THAT YOU CAN DEFINE THEM ACCURATELY, HAVE BEEN LOWER THAN THAT NUMBER. AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR, AGAIN TO THE EXTENT THAT YOU CAN DEFINE IT ACCURATELY, I THINK THEY ARE GOING ABOUT NORMAL.

AT THE SAME TIME, WE HAVE GOT ANOTHER PHENOMENON, WHICH IS NOT ENTIRELY NEW, BUT WHICH SEEMS TO BE INCREASING. THAT IS, PEOPLE WHO HAVE SETTLED ABROAD, OR ESTABLISHED A RIGHT OF RESIDENCE ABROAD, RETURNING TO HONG KONG BECAUSE THEY FIND THE ENVIRONMENT MORE CONDUCIVE IN EVERY WAY. THEY FIND IT CULTURALLY MORE CONDUCIVE, THEY FIND IT ECONOMICALLY MORE CONDUCIVE.

SO WE HAVE GOT A FLOW IN BOTH DIRECTIONS - AND IT IS NOT A NEW FLOW. SO I DON'T THINK IT IS SOMETHING THAT WE NEED BE OVERLY CONCERNED ABOUT.

I MIGHT JUST ADD ONE POINT, FROM PERSONAL BACKGROUND, AND THAT IS, THAT AS A SCOTSMAN, I COME FROM A COUNTRY WHERE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN DOING THAT FOR MANY GENERATIONS.

Q: TSUI MING-YUEN (WEN WEI PO), SIR, BACK TO THE GREEN PAPER. IT HAS LISTED OUT ABOUT 40 OPTIONS FOR THE PUBLIC TO CONSIDER, WHETHER THE SYSTEM OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE FURTHER DEVELOPED IN 1988 BUT, AT PARAGRAPH 114, THE PAPER CAUTIONED THE PUBLIC THAT CERTAIN OPTIONS OR COMBINATIONS OF OPTIONS WOULD HAVE A GREATER IMPACT THAN OTHERS ON THE BALANCE OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SIR, DO YOU THINK THE PUBLIC HAS THE KNOWLEDGE TO CONSIDER WHICH COMBINATION IS THE BEST FOR SOCIETY, WITHOUT THE NECESSARY INFORMATION OR GUIDANCE FROM THE ADMINISTRATION? SECONDLY, DO YOU THINK IT IS A RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT TO SEEK THE PUBLIC OPINION WITHOUT TELLING THEM THE IMPLICATIONS OF ANY COMBINATIONS?

A: FIRST OF ALL, I THINK IT IS RIGHT FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO LAY OUT A SERIES OF OPTIONS AND TO SAY TO THE PUBLIC, IT IS NOW UP TO YOU TO PUT FORWARD YOUR VIEWS ON THESE OPTIONS. SECONDLY, IF THE PUBLIC IS GOING TO DO THAT, IT IS ALSO RIGHT THAT THE PUBLIC SHOULD REALISE HOW COMPLEX THESE ISSUES ARE. THAT VARIOUS COMBINATIONS HAVE DIFFERENT SORTS OF EFFECT.

TO TRY TO OVERSIMPLIFY THE ISSUES WOULD NOT, I BELIEVE, BE DOING A SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC. THEY ARE COMPLICATED, THEY CANNOT, OR THEY SHOULD NOT, BE OVER-SIMPLIFIED.

NOW, YOUR OTHER POINT ABOUT LAYING OUT ALL THE IMPLICATIONS OF EACH POSSIBLE COMBINATION - AND I UNDERSTAND THE POINT AND I TAKE IT - BUT IF YOU DID TRY TO DO THAT IN DETAIL, YOU WOULD FINISH UP WITH A VERY LARGE GREEN PAPER INDEED. IT WOULD BE OF BOOK SIZE.

SO, I THINK, WHAT ONE MUST RELY ON IS THE PUBLIC AND DISCUSSION BY INFORMED PEOPLE, WORKING OUT FOR THEMSELVES WHAT THOSE IMPLICATIONS ARE, CONSIDERING THE IMPLICATIONS BEFORE THEY PUT IN THEIR VIEWS TO THE SURVEY OFFICE.

Q: CLAUDIA MO (AFP), SIR, WHY DOESN'T HONG KONG GOVERNMENT KEEP PROPER EMIGRATION FIGURES? AND, SECOND QUESTION, DO YOU THINK THE NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY IN HONG KONG HAS BECOME OUR SHADOW GOVERNMENT?

A: THEY DON'T SEEM TO BE INTERRELATED BUT LET ME TRY TO ANSWER THEM. THE FIRST ONE - THE SIMPLE ANSWER IS, BECAUSE THERE IS NO CONTROL OVER MOVEMENT OUT OF HONG KONG. I FEEL SURE THAT PEOPLE HERE WOULD NOT WANT THERE TO BE THAT SORT OF CONTROL. SO WHAT YOU HAVE IS FIGURES FOR PEOPLE HOLDING VARIOUS HONG KONG DOCUMENTS, TRAVEL DOCUMENTS, LEAVING, AND YOU HAVE OTHER FIGURES FOR THOSE PEOPLE COMING BACK IN. BUT YOU CAN NEVER TELL WHETHER SOMEBODY LEAVING IS GOING FOR A TWO WEEK HOLIDAY TO BALI, FOR EDUCATION IN THE UNITED STATES AT UNIVERSITY, OR FOR LIFE TIME SETTLEMENT. NOR DO I BELIEVE THAT WE, THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, SHOULD BE ASKING THOSE QUESTIONS. THAT WOULD BE FETTERING THE RIGHT OF MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE.

Q: CLAUDIA MO, CERTAINLY YOU CAN GET SUCH FIGURES FROM CONSULATES?

A: YOU CAN GET FROM CONSULATES THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO ARE APPLYING FOR VISAS. YOU DON'T ALWAYS KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE ACTUALLY TAKE UP THOSE VISAS AND USE THEM. SO THE FIGURES THAT COME FROM THE VARIOUS CONSULATES HERE ARE, THEMSELVES, ALSO NOT TOTALLY ACCURATE FOR WHO IS LEAVING THIS TERRITORY TEMPORARILY, OR WHO IS LEAVING PERMANENTLY.

THE SECOND QUESTION, IF I COULD GO ON TO THAT, WAS +IS THE NCNA BECOMING A SHADOW GOVERNMENT?+ NO.

Q: JANE HUTCHEON (RTHK), HAVING HEARD THE RECENT REMARKS OF CHINESE LEADERS INCLUDING DENG XIAO PING, CAN YOU SAY THAT CHINA'S VIEWS WILL NOT INFLUENCE OUR SHORT TERM FUTURE POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT, EVEN IF THEIR STATED OPINIONS RUN CONTRARY TO WHAT HONG KONG VIEWS ARE ON THE GREEN PAPER?

A: A NUMBER OF VIEWS HAVE BEEN PUT FORWARD BY A LARGE NUMBER OF DIFFERENT PEOPLE. IN THE LONG TERM, THAT IS, IN THE DRAFTING OF THE BASIC LAW AND DEFINING OF THE SITUATION OF POST-1997, IT SEEMS ABSOLUTELY CLEAR THAT THE VIEWS OF CHINESE LEADERS WILL BE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE, BECAUSE THE BASIC LAW IS TO BE PASSED BY THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS. BUT, ON THE VIEWS PUT FORWARD BY ANYBODY, I WOULD CAUTION PEOPLE TO READ VERY CAREFULLY WHAT THOSE VIEWS ARE. THEY ARE NOT ALWAYS AS SIMPLE OR ONE-WAY AS THE INTERPRETATIONS WOULD SOMETIMES PUT THEM. SO FAR AS THE GREEN PAPER EXERCISE IS CONCERNED, A LARGE NUMBER OF DIFFERENT PEOPLE ARE PUTTING FORWARD VIEWS BUT IT IS FOR THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG TO DECIDE THEMSELVES WHAT VIEWS THEY THINK THEY WANT TO PUT TO THE GOVERNMENT. AND I AM SURE THEY ARE QUITE CAPABLE OF DOING THAT THEMSELVES.

Q: MATTHEW LEUNG (HONG KONG STANDARD), THE GREEN PAPER MENTIONED THAT THE NEW ELECTORAL COLLEGE CONCEPT FOR LONG-TERM DISCUSSION AND SINCE IT IS MENTIONED IN CHAPTER 1 OF THE GREEN PAPER THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE 1987 REVIEW IS TO CONSIDER WHETHER THE SYSTEM OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT IN HONG KONG SHOULD BE FURTHER DEVELOPED IN 1988 AND IN WHAT MANNER= SO MY QUESTIONS ARE WHY THIS IDEA AMONG COUPLES OF OTHERS FOR LONGER TERM DEVELOPMENT SUGGESTED BY OTHER PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SELECTIVELY LISTED IN THE GREEN PAPER. MY SECOND QUESTION IS, IS IT THE KIND OF RECOMMENDATION OR DIRECTION PUT FORWARD BY THE ADMINISTRATION?

A: LET ME TAKE THE SECOND PART FIRST. THE ANSWER IS NO. IT IS PUT FORWARD AS SOMETHING TO FLOAT FOR POSSIBLE DISCUSSION, BUT IT IS NOT THOUGHT BY THE ADMINISTRATION THAT THIS IS AN OPTION WHICH SHOULD BE TAKEN UP IN 1988. THAT IS VERY LARGELY BECAUSE IT IS A RELATIVELY NEW IDEA IN THE COMMUNITY AND IF IT WAS GOING TO BE USED IT REQUIRES A GREAT DEAL MORE THOUGHT IN WORKING OUT HOW IT WOULD APPLY IN DETAIL. SO IT IS PUT FORWARD AS ONE OF THE IDEAS WHICH HAS BEEN CIRCULATING IN THE COMMUNITY, TO SEE AT THIS STAGE WHETHER PUBLIC DISCUSSION WOULD THRASH THIS IDEA OUT OR WOULD TREAT IT AS SOMETHING WHICH THE PUBLIC WOULD NOT WANT TO PURSUE FOR THE LONGER TERM FUTURE BUT NOT FOR 1988.

Q: STEVE VINE (OBSERVER), SIR DAVID, THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT SEEMS TO HAVE MADE IT QUITE CLEAR ITS OWN VIEW ON THE INTERPRETATION OF THE JOINT DECLARATION IN THAT THEY DON'T THINK IT IS FOR THIS ADMINISTRATION TO MAKE SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES DURING THE INTERIM PERIOD. DO YOU THINK THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, WHICH WAS THE OTHER SIGNATORY OF THE DECLARATION SHOULD MAKE CLEAR ITS VIEW ON ITS INTERPRETATION OF THAT PART OF THE AGREEMENT?

/A: I AM

A: I AM NOT SURE QUITE WHICH BIT OF THE AGREEMENT YOU ARE REFERRING TO; THE PART OF THE AGREEMENT WHICH IS VERY RELEVANT TO THE EXERCISE THAT WE ARE CARRYING OUT AT THE MOMENT IS THE PART THAT I REFERRED TO JUST EARLIER, WHICH WAS THAT THE LEGISLATURE AFTER 1997 WILL BE FORMED BY ELECTIONS, BUT WITHOUT DEFINING WHAT THOSE FORMS OF ELECTION SHOULD BE. AS FAR AS THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED, ON THE GREEN PAPER EXERCISE, THEY HAVE MADE THEIR POSITION QUITE CLEAR AND THAT IS THAT THIS IS TO BE GENUINE CONSULTATION IN WHICH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT HAVE NO PRE-CONCEIVED IDEAS ABOUT THE OUTCOME. SO THAT POSITION HAS BEEN MADE QUITE CLEAR.

Q: STEVE VINE, MY UNDERSTANDING IS THAT WHAT THE CHINESE HAVE BEEN SAYING IS NOT WHAT IS THE OUTCOME BUT SIMPLY THAT THIS ADMINISTRATION SHOULD NOT BE MAKING SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES, THAT THOSE SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES ARE IN BREACH OF THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT SEEMS TO HAVE SAID NOTHING ON THAT MATTER?

A: I AM NOT TOO SURE EXACTLY WHAT STATEMENT BY THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT YOU ARE REFERRING TO. CAN I JUST PUT IT IN A SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT CONTEXT AND THAT IS THERE IS A REAL PRACTICAL PROBLEM WHICH IS APPARENT TO EVERYBODY AND THAT IS THE BASIC LAW, DEFINING WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN ON THE ELECTION OF THE LEGISLATURE IN 1997, SO THAT BASIC LAW CAN DETERMINE HOW THAT SECTION OF THE AGREEMENT WILL BE THRASHED OUT BY 1997.

SO YOU HAVE A PRACTICAL PROBLEM ABOUT HOW TO ENSURE THAT WHEN IT COMES TO 1997 THERE IS NOT A SUDDEN CHANGE OF SYSTEMS. YOU HAVE A PROBLEM OF MAKING SURE THAT THE BRIDGE MEETS ACROSS THE TIME IN JULY 1997. THAT I THINK IS A PRACTICAL PROBLEM. AND SO FAR AS CHINESE GOVERNMENT STATEMENTS HAVE BEEN REFERRING TO CHANGES, THAT IS THE PRACTICAL PROBLEM WHICH I THINK THEY ARE REFERRING TO.

Q: WILLIAM FUNG (ATV), DO YOU THEN ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO SPEAK OUT THEIR MIND ON THE GREEN PAPER BUT WHICH IS THE MORE IMPORTANT - THE QUANTITY, THE QUALITY OF PUBLIC OPINION OR THE CONVERGENCE WITH THE BASIC LAW?

A: SORRY, COULD YOU SAY THAT AGAIN? WHICH DO I THINK IS MORE IMPORTANT?

Q: WILLIAM FUNG, THE QUANTITY, THE QUALITY OF PUBLIC OPINION OR THE CONVERGENCE WITH THE BASIC LAW?

A: I'VE GOT THREE OPTIONS. FIRST OF ALL, WE WANT QUANTITY OF REACTION TO THE GREEN PAPER. SECONDLY, WE VERY MUCH WANT QUALITY OF REACTION. I SAID EARLIER THAT THESE ARE COMPLEX ISSUES. I DO THINK THAT IS A VERY SERIOUS POINT, THEY ARE NOT SIMPLE ISSUES. SO ONE IS LOOKING FOR THOUGHTFUL QUALITY OF RESPONSE, PEOPLE WHO HAVE REALLY CONSIDERED THE ISSUES AND THE IMPLICATIONS. SO WE ARE LOOKING FOR BOTH OF THOSE. AT THE END OF THE DAY, WE ARE LOOKING FOR A WAY OF EVOLVING THE GOVERNMENT SYSTEM IN HONG KONG WHICH WILL MEET AS A BRIDGE WHAT IS ESTABLISHED IN THE BASIC LAW. I THINK NO SENSIBLE PERSON WOULD SAY THAT THIS CONVERGENCE OR A LACK OF CONVERGENCE WOULD BE SENSIBLE.

THE WORD +CONVERGENCE+ WHICH ITSELF IS A PERFECTLY RESPECTABLE WORD HAS BEEN MUCH-ABUSED BY OVER-REPETITION; BUT IF ONE THINKS OF IT IN TERMS OF A BRIDGE MEETING ACROSS A PARTICULAR POINT IN TIME, THEN I THINK ANYBODY APPLYING COMMON-SENSE WOULD SAY THAT THE BRIDGE OUGHT TO MEET IN THE MIDDLE AND NOT MISS.

Q: WILLIAM FUNG, SO FINALLY YOU ARE SAYING THAT EVENTUALLY IT IS CONVERGENCE WITH THE BASIC LAW THAT IS MOST IMPORTANT?

A: I DIDN'T SAY THAT, I SAID THAT WE WERE LOOKING FOR THREE DIFFERENT SORTS OF THINGS AND I WOULD NOT LIKE TO OVER-SIMPLIFY MY ANSWER. ALL OF THOSE THREE THINGS ARE IMPORTANT. PERHAPS, TO TRY TO GET TO YOUR ANSWER, THERE IS NO STRAIGHT YES OR NO ANSWER TO THAT. ONE SHOULD SAY THAT WE ARE TRYING TO EVOLVE A SYSTEM GRADUALLY HERE= WE ARE TRYING TO DO IT BY CONSULTING OPINION IN HONG KONG. THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT IS WORKING TOWARDS DRAFTING OF THE BASIC LAW= THEY TOO ARE CONSULTING.

I PERSONALLY BELIEVE THAT THEY WILL LOOK WITH GREAT INTEREST AT THE RESULTS OF THE CONSULTATION WE ARE CARRYING OUT NOW. I BELIEVE IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR THESE TWO EXERCISES TO GO IN PARALLEL, SO THAT THE PROBLEM ABOUT HOW YOU MEET UP AT THE END OF THE DAY SHOULD BE SOLVED IN THAT MANNER.

Q: DAVID DODWELL (FINANCIAL TIMES), IT STRIKES ME THAT THIS IS ACTUALLY THE CRUX, THE GREEN PAPER DEBATE IS MUCH LESS TO DO WITH WHATEVER FORM OF ELECTIONS OCCUR NEXT YEAR THAN IT IS TO DO WITH MAKING SURE THAT WHEN CHINA ACTUALLY BUILDS ITS SIDE OF THE BRIDGE, THAT SIDE OF THE BRIDGE IS SHIFTED TO MEET THE BRIDGE THAT IS BEING CONSTRUCTED THIS SIDE, I.E. IT IS LIKE A COVERT EFFORT TO PERSUADE THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT THAT THEY HAVE TO BUILD THE BRIDGE THERE AND NOT WHERE THEY ARE CURRENTLY BUILDING IT.

A: WITHOUT GETTING TOO TIED UP ON THE METAPHORS, WE CAN'T PRE-JUDGE WHAT THE SHAPE OF THE BRIDGE WILL BE OR WHEREABOUTS ON THE MAP IT WILL GO. THE WHOLE EXERCISE OF CONSULTATION IS TO TRY TO FIND OUT WHERE THE PILLARS OF THE BRIDGE ARE TO BE ESTABLISHED IN THE VIEWS OF PEOPLE IN HONG KONG.

Q: BETTY LIU, TVB NEWS, WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF PUBLIC OPINION DOESN'T NECESSARILY CONVERGE WITH THE CHINESE VIEWS ON THE BASIC LAW? FOR EXAMPLE, IF THE MAJORITY OF PEOPLE HERE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE DIRECT ELECTIONS, ON THE OTHER HAND YOU HAVE DENG XIAOPING SAYING HE IS NOT REALLY FOR DIRECT ELECTIONS IN HONG KONG. WHAT WILL HAPPEN THERE?

A: IT IS NOT FOR ME TO INTERPRET CHAIRMAN DENG XIAOPING. BUT I DON'T THINK HE SAID THAT IN SIMPLE TERMS. I THINK THAT IS WHY I SAID LOOK VERY CAREFULLY AT THE WORDING OF WHAT HE SAID.

/THERE ARE

THERE ARE TWO UNKNOWNNS IN THAT; THE FIRST UNKNOWN IS, WE DO NOT ACTUALLY KNOW AT THIS STAGE WHAT IS GOING TO COME OUT OF THE GREEN PAPER EXERCISE. WE QUITE SIMPLY DO NOT KNOW WHAT PUBLIC REACTION IS GOING TO BE. THAT IS WHAT WE ARE TRYING TO FIND OUT. THE SECOND UNKNOWN IS WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT IS GOING TO BE WRITTEN INTO THE DRAFT OF THE BASIC LAW, SO YOU HAVE TWO UNKNOWNNS.

WHAT I WAS TRYING TO SAY EARLIER WAS THAT SINCE BOTH THE CHINESE SIDE AND WE IN HONG KONG ARE ENDEAVOURING TO CONSULT PUBLIC OPINION AND TO PAY DUE ATTENTION TO PUBLIC OPINION, THAT ONE HOPES THE EXERCISE WILL PROCEED IN PARALLEL, SO THE SORT OF SCENARIO THAT YOU ARE DESCRIBING WON'T ARISE. THAT MUST BE THE HOPE, THAT MUST BE WHAT ONE IS AIMING FOR.

Q: BETTY LIU, TVB; BUT IF IT DOES HAPPEN?

A: THAT IS VERY HYPOTHETICAL BASED ON TWO HYPOTHETICAL PROBLEMS.

Q: CHEUNG KIT-FUNG (PAI SHING): I HAVE HEARD THAT SIR GEOFFREY HOWE AND MR WU XUEQIAN HAVE DISCUSSED THE DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT IN HONG KONG FOR THE PAST TWO MONTHS. CAN YOU CONFIRM THAT THE DISCUSSIONS LEAD TO SOME SORT OF CONSENSUS OR AGREEMENT?

A: THERE HAVE BEEN TWO RECENT MEETINGS BETWEEN SIR GEORFFREY HOWE AND FOREIGN MINISTER WU XUEQIAN. ONE WAS IN GENEVA, ONE WAS RECENTLY IN BANGKOK WHEN BOTH OF THEM, IF I REMEMBER RIGHTLY, WERE THERE FOR AN ESCAP CONFERENCE. AT BOTH OF THOSE MEETINGS THEY DISCUSSED MOST OF THE TIME A LARGE RANGE OF INTERNATIONAL ISSUES BUT ALSO DID TOUCH ON HONG KONG. AND THE WHOLE TIME THERE IS DISCUSSION GOING ON ABOUT HONG KONG, BETWEEN THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT ON THE WHOLE QUESTION OF TRANSITION, BUT THE GREEN PAPER WHICH HAS JUST BEEN PUBLISHED IS A DOCUMENT PUT OUT BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, SO WHAT YOU HAVE GOT IN THE GREEN PAPER IS THE VIEWS PUT OUT BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT.

Q: NG TING-KAI (ATV), THE AIM OF THE GREEN PAPER IS TO REVIEW THE DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT. CAN YOU EXPLAIN WHY THE ROLE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS NOT BEEN INCLUDED?

Q: CHAN YUN-CHI (ATV) AND THE LINKAGE - WE ARE TOGETHER. THE LINKAGE BETWEEN EXCO AND LEGCO WHICH WAS PROVIDED FOR BY SIR HADDON-CAVE IN 1985.

A: THE 1984 WHITE PAPER IN ITS CONCLUSION SAID, IF I REMEMBER RIGHT, THAT THERE HAD BEEN VERY LITTLE PUBLIC RESPONSE ON THE QUESTION OF THE COMPOSITION OF EXCO AND THAT THIS WAS SOMETHING WHICH COULD BE DISCUSSED IN THE FUTURE, NOT WITH ANY SPECIFIC TIME GIVEN FOR THAT.

IT WAS SAID EARLIER THIS YEAR, IT WAS I BELIEVE MADE QUITE CLEAR THAT THE POSITION OF EXCO AND THE RELATIONSHIP OF EXCO TO LEGCO WOULD NOT BE FURTHER DISCUSSED AT THIS STAGE. TWO REASONS REALLY FOR THAT; ONE IS, WE HAVE ONLY JUST GONE THROUGH A MAJOR CHANGE IN THE SYSTEM. AS I SAID EARLIER WE HAVE ONLY JUST HAD OVER 1-1/2 YEARS OF FOR THE FIRST TIME HAVING AN INDIRECTLY ELECTED ELEMENT IN LEGCO. SO THAT WAS QUITE A CONSIDERABLE CHANGE. THE GOVERNMENT WANTS TO FOLLOW A STEP BY STEP AND GRADUAL APPROACH, SO THAT THE GOVERNMENT FEELS IT IS RIGHT NOW TO CONSIDER ONLY FURTHER INCREMENTAL CHANGES, NOT SOMETHING WHICH MIGHT HAVE MAJOR CONSTITUTIONAL IMPLICATIONS, LIKE HOW YOU FORM EXCO AND HOW YOU MIGHT CHANGE THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EXCO AND LEGCO. THOSE ARE THINGS WHICH WOULD GO MUCH FURTHER IN CONSTITUTIONAL TERMS.

Q: FUNG YUK-LIN (RTHK), SIR, YOU STRESSED MANY TIMES ON THE CONVERGENCE BUT THE BASIC LAW WILL NOT BE READY UNTIL 1988. WILL IT CONFINE THE SCOPE OF REVIEW THIS YEAR? WILL THERE BE FURTHER REVIEWS BEFORE 1997?

A: SORRY, I DIDN'T GET CLEAR THE MIDDLE PART OF THAT QUESTION.

Q: FUNG YUK-LIN (RTHK), THE POINT IS THE BASIC LAW WILL NOT BE READY UNTIL NEXT YEAR AND THE POLITICAL REVIEW IS ONGOING NOW. WILL THE BASIC LAW CONFINE THE SCOPE OF THE REVIEW THIS YEAR. CAN WE WAIT UNTIL THE BASIC LAW COMES OUT?

A: THE BASIC LAW IS CLEARLY ONE OF THE FACTORS WHICH PEOPLE IN HONG KONG WILL WISH TO HAVE IN THEIR MINDS WHEN THEY LOOK AT THIS GREEN PAPER. IT IS ONE OF THE FACTS OF LIFE WHICH PEOPLE WILL WANT TO BE AWARE OF.

AS I HAVE SAID SEVERAL TIMES, IT IS FOR THE BASIC LAW TO DEFINE PRECISELY HOW THE LEGISLATURE WILL BE FORMED IN 1997, THAT IS A FACT OF LIFE. BUT WHAT WE ARE DOING AT THE MOMENT IS CARRYING OUT A CONSULTATION ON WHETHER OR NOT THERE SHOULD BE CERTAIN CHANGES IN THE WAY YOU ELECT THE LEGISLATURE. THAT IS NOT WAITING UNTIL THE BASIC LAW COMES OUT. IT WAS A REVIEW WHICH WAS PROMISED FOR 1987 AND THEREFORE IT HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT IN 1987.

Q: FUNG YUK-LIN (RTHK), WAS THE DRAFTING OF THE BASIC LAW TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION IN THIS REVIEW?

/A: WHAT I

A: WHAT I SAID AT THE BEGINNING WAS THAT THE EXISTENCE OF A BASIC LAW, THE FACT THAT THE FIRST DRAFT WILL NOT COME OUT UNTIL 1988. THE BASIC LAW ITSELF PROBABLY WOULD NOT BE PASSED UNTIL 1990 IS AN IMPORTANT POLITICAL FACT WHICH PEOPLE IN HONG KONG WILL WISH TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT, I FEEL SURE, IN CONSIDERING ALL THE RANGE OF OPTIONS PUT DOWN IN THE GREEN PAPER. SO TO THAT EXTENT THE BASIC LAW DOES HAVE AN IMPACT ON THE GREEN PAPER AND IT CLEARLY WILL IN PEOPLE'S MINDS.

Q: CHEUNG CHEE-KWONG (TVB), SIR DAVID, THE GREEN PAPER DOESN'T EVEN MENTION THE DATE FOR THE NEXT REVIEW. CAN WE EXPECT ONE IN THE FUTURE?

A: THAT'S ONE OF THE THINGS WHICH WILL BE LOOKED AT WHEN THE GOVERNMENT IS DRAFTING THE WHITE PAPER. IT DIDN'T SEEM RIGHT AT THE MOMENT IN THE GREEN PAPER EXERCISE TO BE LOOKING TWO STEPS AHEAD TO WHETHER THERE SHOULD BE ANOTHER REVIEW AND IF SO WHEN. BUT THAT'S ONE OF THE THINGS THAT WILL BE LOOKED AT IN THE CONTEXT OF THE WHITE PAPER.

Q: CAN YOU EXPECT ONE, SAY, IN 1989 OR 1990?

A: WELL, YOU ARE NOT ASKING ME NOW TO START DRAFTING THE WHITE PAPER. ALL I CAN SAY AT THIS STAGE IS THAT WHETHER OR NOT TO WRITE INTO THE WHITE PAPER THE EXISTENCE OF ANOTHER REVIEW AND, IF SO, THE TIMING OF IT, THAT WILL BE CONSIDERED AT THE END OF THIS EXERCISE. NOW IF THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE THAT THERE SHOULD BE ANOTHER REVIEW AND THAT IT SHOULD BE AT A CERTAIN TIME, THEN I HOPE THEY WILL PUT FORWARD THOSE IDEAS DURING THE GREEN PAPER EXERCISE.

Q: ANN QUON, (SUNDAY MORNING POST), IN 1979 THE THEN GOVERNOR MACLEHOSE MET WITH DENG XIAOPING IN PEKING AND WHEN HE RETURNED TO HONG KONG, HE TOLD INVESTORS TO PUT THEIR HEARTS AT EASE. YOU YOURSELF AS POLITICAL ADVISER AND SIR S.Y. KAN AS SENIOR EXECUTIVE UNOFFICIAL WERE PART OF THAT GROUP. THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS REPORTS WITH VARYING DEGREES OF AUTHENTICITY AS TO WHAT ELSE WAS SAID AT THAT MEETING WITH DENG. COULD YOU NOW AT THE START OF YOUR GOVERNORSHIP PUT THE RECORD STRAIGHT ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED?

A: FIRST OF ALL, IT WAS SIR Y.K. KAN. THANK YOU FOR GIVING YOUR NAME AT THE BEGINNING BECAUSE KNOWING WHAT YOU HAVE WRITTEN RECENTLY, THERE IS ONE POINT THAT I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE UP AND I THINK IT IS RIGHT THAT THE RECORD SHOULD BE PUT STRAIGHT ON IT.

CHAIRMAN DENG XIAOPING AT THAT TIME RE-STATED THE CHINESE POSITION ABOUT HONG KONG WHICH IS THAT HONG KONG IS CHINESE TERRITORY. BUT IT IS WRONG TO SUGGEST THAT HE SAID THAT CHINA HAD MADE A DEFINITE DECISION TO TAKE OVER HONG KONG IN 1997, OR TO SUGGEST THAT LORD MACLEHOSE THEN SOMEHOW CONCEALED THIS FACT. THAT IS QUITE WRONG.

IT IS WRONG FURTHER, AND I AM REFERRING I THINK TO THE ARTICLE YOU WROTE, TO SUGGEST THAT THERE WAS INTER-CONNECTION BETWEEN WHAT ALLEGEDLY HAPPENED THEN AND THE BRITISH NATIONALITY ACT OF 1981. THAT'S QUITE SIMPLE TO CHECK, BECAUSE THE BRITISH NATIONALITY ACT OF 1981 GOES BACK, IF I REMEMBER RIGHT, TO A GREEN PAPER IN 1977 WHICH WAS THEN PICKED UP BY THE INCOMING ADMINISTRATION. SO THAT LONG PRE-DATES THE VISIT BY LORD MACLEHOSE TO PEKING. I HOPE THAT MAKES THAT POINT CLEAR.

Q: CAROLINE DEWHURST (ATV), YOU KEEP TALKING ABOUT +CONVERGENCE+ OF THE BASIC LAW. DO YOU THINK PARTIAL DIRECT ELECTIONS CAN BE PART OF THAT CONVERGENCE?

A: WITH RESPECT, IT'S NOT ME THAT KEEPS TALKING ABOUT CONVERGENCE. I HAVE SAID SEVERAL TIMES THAT THE BASIC LAW IS A FACT OF LIFE. THE OPTIONS WHICH ARE BEING PUT FORWARD IN THE GREEN PAPER ARE, AS THE CHIEF SECRETARY SAID WHEN HE WAS INTRODUCING IT IN LEGCO, THOSE ARE ALL GENUINE OPTIONS, SO THEY ARE ALL BEING PUT FORWARD FOR DISCUSSION. MY HOPE IS THAT BECAUSE BOTH THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT IS CONSULTING PEOPLE IN HONG KONG AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT IS CONSULTING PEOPLE IN HONG KONG IN DRAFTING ITS BASIC LAW, THAT THOSE TWO PROCESSES AND THE CONCLUSIONS WILL GO IN PARALLEL.

Q: HARVEY STOCKWIN (TIMES OF INDIA): I WANT TO TAKE YOU BACK TO YOUR IMPRESSIONS, SIR. HOW DOES IT FEEL WAY INTO THE POST-COLONIAL ERA TO BECOMING A COLONIAL GOVERNOR? I WOULD LIKE TO COUPLE THAT WITH TWO ADDENDA, THAT'S THE BROAD QUESTION. SECONDLY, OF COURSE, YOU ARE THE FIRST GOVERNOR TO TAKE OVER, KNOWING THE POST-COLONIAL ERA WILL ALSO ONE DAY SOON AFFLICT HONG KONG. LAST, BUT NOT LEAST, YOU SAY THAT MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE. DO YOU AGREE THAT MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE DURING YOUR GOVERNORSHIP TO GIVE HONG KONG'S POLITY A VIGOROUS DEGREE OF SELF-RELIANCE AND THAT THIS IS AN ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL BUTTRESS TO THE PROSPEROUS ECONOMY TO WHICH YOU REFER?

A: THAT IS A SERIES OF INTER-CONNECTED QUESTIONS. WHAT DOES IT FEEL LIKE TO BE GOVERNOR OF HONG KONG IN 1987, LET ME PUT IT LIKE THAT?

IT FEELS A TREMENDOUS HONOUR, AND I DON'T USE THAT PHRASE LIGHTLY, TO BE ASKED TO DO THIS JOB. I CANNOT THINK OF A MORE WORTHWHILE JOB TO BE ASKED TO DO. THE FACT THAT THERE IS NOW CLARITY ABOUT THE LONG-TERM FUTURE IN A WAY THAT THERE HASN'T BEEN FOR, LET'S SAY THE LAST 30 YEARS OR SO, DOESN'T MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE TO THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE GOVERNOR OR OF THE GOVERNMENT TO DO ITS UTMOST TO ADMINISTER HONG KONG WELL IN THE INTERESTS OF ITS PEOPLE DURING THAT TIME. THAT'S WHY I SAID THAT I BELIEVE THERE IS A LOT THAT IS STILL TO BE DONE ON THE BASIS OF AN IMMENSE AMOUNT OF ACHIEVEMENT IN THE PAST.

SO FAR AS THE LAST PART OF THE QUESTION IS CONCERNED, WHAT ONE WOULD LIKE TO SEE HERE IS A GOVERNMENT WHICH IS RESPONSIVE TO THE PEOPLE, WHICH HAS THE SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE, SO THAT IT CAN CARRY OUT POLICY EFFECTIVELY, SO THAT PEOPLE FEEL ASSOCIATED WITH THE ADMINISTRATION AND SO THAT IN TURN PRODUCES A STABLE SOCIETY, A DYNAMIC SOCIETY AND A SUCCESSFUL ECONOMY.

Q: (UNIDENTIFIED): COMING FROM A COUNTRY IN WHICH THE POLITICAL PARTY COMPETITION IS NOW IN VERY FULL SWING, DO YOU FEEL THAT THE EMERGENCE OF POLITICAL PARTIES IN HONG KONG WOULD BE A HEALTHY OR UNFORTUNATE PHENOMENON?

A: IT'S VERY DIFFICULT FOR ME TO COMMENT ON THAT WITHOUT SEEMING TO PRE-JUDGE WHAT PEOPLE MIGHT SAY IN THE GREEN PAPER. THE POINT I WOULD MAKE IS THAT THERE HAS NOT IN HONG KONG BEEN A TRADITION OF PARTY POLITICS, THAT HAS NEVER BEEN PART OF THE HONG KONG TRADITION. CONFRONTATIONAL POLITICS HAS NOT BEEN PART OF THE HONG KONG TRADITION EITHER. I SENSE THAT PEOPLE IN HONG KONG DO NOT LIKE CONFRONTATIONAL POLITICS, BUT THAT IS ONLY ME SENSING THAT AND IT IS FOR OTHER PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE IN HONG KONG, TO SAY WHETHER THAT IS SO.

AND A FINAL POINT, THAT IN DEVELOPING THE SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT IT SEEMS TO ME THAT ONE SHOULD EVOLVE ON THE BASIS OF HONG KONG'S OWN EXPERIENCE RATHER THAN SIMPLY TRYING TO COPY SYSTEMS WHICH HAVE BEEN ADOPTED ELSEWHERE.

HONG KONG, MANY PEOPLE HAVE SAID, IS A UNIQUE PLACE. IT NEEDS ITS OWN SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT.

Q: (UNIDENTIFIED): NOW WE HAVE THE GREEN PAPER MANY PEOPLE ARE BEGINNING TO WONDER WHY A CLAUSE TO ESTABLISH A REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT DEEPLY ROOTED, FIRMLY ROOTED, IN HONG KONG, DID NOT APPEAR IN THE GREEN PAPER THIS YEAR?

A: FIRST OF ALL, I DON'T THINK ANY GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT SHOULD NECESSARILY XEROX COPIES OF A PREVIOUS DOCUMENT. SO YOU DON'T EXPECT ONE DOCUMENT TO REFER TO EXACTLY WHAT WAS WRITTEN IN THE ONE BEFORE IT. THE ANSWER I HAVE JUST GIVEN, I THINK, RELATES VERY CLOSELY TO THE QUESTION YOU'VE ASKED. THE GOVERNMENT WOULD LIKE TO SEE A SYSTEM OF ADMINISTRATION EVOLVING WHICH IS RESPONSIVE TO PEOPLE IN HONG KONG, WHICH HAS THEIR SUPPORT AND IN THAT SENSE IS ROOTED IN HONG KONG. THAT'S WHAT ONE MEANS BY BEING ROOTED IN HONG KONG, HAVING THE SUPPORT, HAVING THE RESPECT OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, SO THE GOVERNMENT CAN OPERATE EFFECTIVELY. AT THE END OF THE DAY WHAT EVERYBODY WANTS. I'M SURE, IS A GOVERNMENT WHICH OPERATES EFFECTIVELY IN THE INTEREST OF HONG KONG.

Q: CHEN YUN-CHEE (ATV): WILL THERE BE A FURTHER REVIEW BEFORE 1997?

A: I DID ANSWER THAT JUST BEFORE.

Q: (UNIDENTIFIED) (QUESTION INAUDIBLE)

A: WHEN THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT MADE ITS ANNOUNCEMENT RECENTLY ABOUT TAKING ANOTHER BATCH OF REFUGEES FROM HONG KONG, THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT SAID IT WELCOMED THAT, AND IT WELCOMED THAT BECAUSE IT GIVES AN OPPORTUNITY BOTH FOR THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT TO GO TO OTHER RE-SETTLEMENT COUNTRIES AND SAY, WILL YOU NOW UP YOUR INTAKE. NOW, OF COURSE, THERE ARE PEOPLE IN HONG KONG WHO WOULD ALWAYS WISH BRITAIN TO TAKE MORE, AUSTRALIA TO TAKE MORE AND THE UNITED STATES TO TAKE MORE. THAT IS VERY UNDERSTANDABLE. WHAT WE MUST TRY TO DO IS TO MAKE SURE THAT ALL THESE RE-SETTLEMENT COUNTRIES TAKE MORE. THE LAST BIT OF YOUR QUESTION ABOUT WHOSE POLICY DECISION WAS IT ORIGINALLY. IT WAS A POLICY DECISION BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT. THIS IS FOR THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT TO DECIDE.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.