



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1985

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REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT MUST BE MAINTAINED

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HONG KONG'S OBJECTIVE IS TO MAINTAIN INTERNATIONAL INTEREST IN THE VIETNAMESE REFUGEE PROBLEM AS WELL AS A FLOW OF RESETTLEMENT OF REFUGEES FROM HONG KONG, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

HE WAS SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER OPENING THE SALVATION ARMY COMMAND HEADQUARTERS IN YAU MA TEI THIS MORNING.

ASKED TO COMMENT ON THE BRITISH HOME AFFAIRS COMMITTEE'S REPORT ON VIETNAMESE REFUGEES, SIR EDWARD SAID HE WOULD BE TALKING TO MINISTERS AND PARLIAMENTARIANS ABOUT THE REPORT DURING HIS LONDON VISIT.

+BOTH THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAVE NO INTEREST IN MAINTAINING THE CLOSED CAMPS.

+OUR CONCERN IS THAT THERE SHOULD BE AN OVERALL SOLUTION TO THE VIETNAMESE REFUGEE PROBLEM,+ HE SAID.

SIR EDWARD POINTED OUT THAT HONG KONG HAD A VERY GOOD RECORD IN ACCEPTING AND LOOKING AFTER VIETNAMESE REFUGEES, AND COOPERATING IN THE RESETTLEMENT PROGRAMME.

+OUR CONCERN IS THAT THE INTERNATIONAL INTEREST IN THIS PROBLEM SHOULD NOT DIMINISH AND THAT IF REFUGEES DO ARRIVE HERE WE CAN BE SURE OF BEING ABLE TO OBTAIN RESETTLEMENT PLACES FOR THEM.

+AND I SHALL BE TALKING ABOUT ALL THESE TO MINISTERS WHEN I AM THERE, BECAUSE THEY WILL WANT TO CONSIDER IT AND WE WILL WANT TO CONSIDER IT BEFORE THEY REPLY TO THE REPORT,+ HE ADDED.

ON WHETHER HONG KONG CAN HANDLE MORE VIETNAMESE REFUGEES, HE SAID: +THE WAY TO DEAL WITH A REFUGEE PROBLEM WAS TO ENSURE THAT THEY CAN GO ON TO COUNTRIES OF SETTLEMENT.

+YOU CANNOT HAVE THE COUNTRIES OF FIRST SETTLEMENT ACCEPTING THEM ALL SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY ARE THE CLOSEST.

+THAT IS WHY WE NEED TO MAINTAIN INTERNATIONAL INTEREST IN THIS PROBLEM AND TO MAINTAIN A FLOW OF RESETTLEMENT FROM HONG KONG. THAT IS OUR OBJECTIVE.+

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION ON THE AGENDA FOR HIS TRIP TO LONDON, SIR EDWARD SAID THE MAIN PURPOSE WAS TO GIVE AN ACCOUNT TO MINISTERS AND PARLIAMENTARIANS AND OTHERS OF WHAT HAD BEEN GOING ON IN HONG KONG.

ONE OF THE PRIME SUBJECTS WOULD BE PREPARATION FOR THE ELECTIONS, HE SAID.

/+THERE IS

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+THERE IS VERY GREAT INTEREST THERE IN THE WAY IN WHICH THIS SYSTEM HAS BEEN DEVELOPING OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS,+ HE SAID.

SIR EDWARD NOTED THAT NOW THE FIRST ELECTED MEMBERS WERE ABOUT TO TAKE THEIR PLACE IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. +THIS HAS AROUSED GREAT INTEREST AND PEOPLE WANT TO KNOW HOW WE ARE DOING AND HOW WE THINK IT WILL DEVELOP,+ HE SAID. +SO THAT WILL BE ONE OF THE KEY THINGS.+

HE SAID HE WOULD ALSO TALK TO PEOPLE IN LONDON ABOUT WORLD TRADING PROBLEMS BECAUSE +WE ARE COMING UP TO SOME IMPORTANT TRADE DISCUSSIONS.+

+I WANT TO KNOW HOW THE PEOPLE IN LONDON AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE SEE THESE PROBLEMS, BECAUSE HONG KONG'S TRADE INTERESTS ARE VERY IMPORTANT TO HONG KONG AND SO I WANT TO HAVE A TALK ABOUT THAT.

+AND THEN THERE WILL BE OTHER ISSUES. I EXPECT THE JLG WILL COME UP, BUT IT IS NOT THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF MY VISIT,+ HE SAID.

ASKED WHO HE WOULD BE SEEING IN LONDON, THE GOVERNOR SAID HE EXPECTED TO SEE THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND MR RICHARD LUCE IN THE FOREIGN OFFICE, AS WELL AS OFFICIALS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE.

+COMMISSIONER MR HAYE HAS ARRANGED A LUNCH AT WHICH I AM GOING TO MEET A NUMBER OF MPS, INCLUDING SIR PETER BLAKER, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ANGLO-HONG KONG PARLIAMENTARY GROUP,+ HE SAID.

+I EXPECT BY THE TIME I GET THERE ON MONDAY - WHEN I TURN UP IN LONDON ON MONDAY - THE LIST OF PEOPLE I AM TO SEE WILL HAVE GROWN SOMEWHAT BECAUSE IT DOES TEND TO GROW VERY SUBSTANTIALLY IN THE LAST FEW DAYS BEFORE I ARRIVE.+

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SCOUTS PRAISED FOR YOUTH YEAR ACTIVITIES * * * * *

THE 1985 INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR IS OF SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE TO THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID AT THE ASSOCIATION'S ST GEORGE'S DAY RALLY THIS (SATURDAY) AFTERNOON.

SPEAKING AS THE CHIEF SCOUT OF THE ASSOCIATION, SIR EDWARD SAID THIS YEAR WAS OF SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE BECAUSE ALL HONG KONG YOUTH GROUPS ARE TAKING PART IN THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR.

+I AM GLAD TO KNOW THAT IN RESPONSE TO THE CALL TO PARTICIPATE, YOUR ASSOCIATION HAS ORGANISED A WIDE VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES WHICH EMPHASISE THE THEME OF 'PARTICIPATION, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE'.

/+THE COMMUNITY

+THE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT BADGE SCHEME INTRODUCED EARLIER THIS YEAR ENCOURAGES PARTICIPATION BY SCOUTS IN A NUMBER OF CAMPAIGNS, TO 'CLEAN HONG KONG', 'PREVENT CORRUPTION', 'FIGHT AGAINST DRUG ABUSE' AND 'FIGHT AGAINST CRIME',+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

THE GOVERNOR NOTED THAT NEXT YEAR WOULD ALSO BE A YEAR OF GREAT SIGNIFICANCE TO THE ASSOCIATION.

+I UNDERSTAND YOU ARE ALSO PLANNING TO HOLD A JAMBOREE TO COMMEMORATE THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF YOUR SERVICE TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, A RECORD OF WHICH YOU CAN BE JUSTLY PROUD,+ HE SAID.

HE ALSO CONGRATULATED MR CHAU CHAM-SON ON HIS APPOINTMENT AS THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF THE ASSOCIATION.

+UNDER HIS GUIDANCE AND LEADERSHIP, I AM SURE THAT SCOUTS WILL CONTINUE TO ENJOY EXCITING AND CHALLENGING PROGRAMMES WHICH WILL HELP THEM TO BECOME CITIZENS OF WHOM ANY COMMUNITY CAN BE PROUD,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

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EPA TO GIVE PRESS BRIEFING
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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WILL GIVE A PRESS BRIEFING TO INTRODUCE THE NEW MOBILE AIR QUALITY MONITORING LABORATORY AT ITS HEADQUARTERS CONFERENCE ROOM ON WEDNESDAY (APRIL 24) AFTERNOON.

ACTING PRINCIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICER, MR FRED TROMP WILL SPEAK ABOUT THE \$950 000 MOBILE LABORATORY WHICH CAME INTO OPERATION EARLY THIS MONTH.

AFTER THE BRIEFING, PRESS MEMBERS WILL BE TAKEN TO THE GOVERNMENT LAND TRANSPORT AGENCY POOL OFFICE AT KAI TAK WHERE THEY WILL SEE THE MOBILE LABORATORY IN OPERATION. TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED DURING THE TOUR.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE 11/F, EMPIRE CENTRE, 68 MODY ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI EAST BY 1.45 PM. GIS OFFICERS WILL ASSIST.

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YOUTHS URGED TO PLAY CIVIC ROLE
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YOUNG PEOPLE, THE DRIVING FORCE OF SOCIETY, SHOULD PLAY THE ROLE OF PIONEERS WHILE HONG KONG'S POLITICAL STRUCTURE IS UNDERGOING GREAT CHANGES, THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DONALD LIAO, SAID THIS EVENING (SATURDAY).

THROUGH ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT, YOUNG PEOPLE WILL BE ABLE TO SHARPEN THEIR AWARENESS IN SOCIETY AND POLITICS, AS WELL AS WIDEN THEIR HORIZONS TO DEVELOP A BALANCED AND WHOLESOME PERSONALITY, HE SAID.

+THEY MAY THUS MAKE ACTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY AND SERVE THE PUBLIC WELL,+ HE SAID, AT THE ST GEORGE'S DAY FELLOWSHIP DINNER OF THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG.

MR LIAO NOTED THAT YOUNG PEOPLE'S ENTHUSIASM IN TAKING PART IN POLITICS WAS EVIDENT IN LAST MONTH'S DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS.

SIXTY, OR 12 PER CENT, OF THE 501 CANDIDATES WERE AGED BETWEEN 21 AND 30.

AND 46, OR 19 PER CENT, OF THE ELECTED MEMBERS WERE IN THE SAME AGE GROUP, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 11 PER CENT COMPARED WITH THE DB ELECTIONS THREE YEARS AGO, HE SAID.

THIS WAS VERY ENCOURAGING, AND THERE WOULD BE LOTS OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTHS TO TAKE PART IN POLITICS, HE SAID.

+THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF TODAY, APART FROM TRYING THEIR BEST TO BLAZE NEW TRAILS AND TO DEVELOP THEIR ABILITIES WITH FULL CONFIDENCE, SHOULD ALSO DEDICATE THEMSELVES TO COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT, AS THE BASIC SPIRIT OF SCOUTS ADVOCATES, SO THAT HONG KONG MAY MAINTAIN ITS ECONOMIC GROWTH AND POLITICAL STABILITY,+ HE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THE THEME OF THE 1985 INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR, +PARTICIPATION, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE+, COINCIDES WITH THE OBJECTIVES OF THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION, AND SHOULD BE THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF YOUNG PEOPLE TAKING PART IN POLITICS.

MR LIAO ALSO PRAISED THE SCOUTS FOR DEVOTING THEIR TIME AND PERSONAL RESOURCES TO THE MOVEMENT.

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FEBRUARY ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT, PAYROLL FIGURES OUT
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THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND IN TERMS OF MONTHS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR IN FEBRUARY 1985 WAS SIMILAR TO THAT IN THE PREVIOUS MONTH, ACCORDING TO THE RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

WHILE INCREASES IN ORDERS-ON-HAND WERE REPORTED IN THE PLASTIC AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES, ORDER POSITIONS IN OTHER MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE.

COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH, EMPLOYMENT IN MOST MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES DECREASED AS SOME WORKERS LEFT THEIR JOBS AROUND THE CHINESE NEW YEAR.

CONTINUED INCREASES IN PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS WERE REPORTED BY MOST MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES DUE TO THE PAYMENT OF YEAR-END BONUSES AND DOUBLE PAY. HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE FOOD AND DRINKS INDUSTRY AS MOST FIRMS HAD PAID YEAR-END BONUSES IN JANUARY.

LABOUR TURNOVER ON THE APPROACH OF THE CHINESE NEW YEAR ALSO CAUSED THE NUMBER OF OPERATIVES EMPLOYED BY CONSTRUCTION FIRMS TO DECLINE. PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS WENT UP BECAUSE OF DOUBLE PAY AND YEAR-END BONUSES.

IN THE SERVICES SECTORS, HOWEVER, SUBSTANTIAL DECREASES IN PAY-ROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS WERE REPORTED BECAUSE MOST OF THE FIRMS HAD ALREADY DISTRIBUTED THEIR ANNUAL BONUSES AND DOUBLE PAY IN JANUARY.

THE EMPLOYMENT LEVEL IN THE SERVICES SECTORS WAS STABLE, EXCEPT FOR A VERY SLIGHT DECLINE IN THAT OF HOTELS.

THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS FOR THE LAST THREE MONTHS ARE SHOWN IN THE TABLES BELOW.

THE SURVEY COVERED A PANEL OF THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES AND THE 50 LARGEST COMPANIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND SELECTED SERVICES SECTORS CHOSEN BY REFERENCE TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH 1983.

AS THE SAMPLE WAS NOT DRAWN ON A RANDOM BASIS, THE DEPARTMENT CAUTIONED THAT RESULTS ON MAGNITUDE OF CHANGE MIGHT NOT REFLECT THE EXPERIENCE OF THE ECONOMY AS A WHOLE, ALTHOUGH THEY SHOULD GIVE A USEFUL INDICATION OF THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE FOR A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ECONOMY IN THE SHORT TERM.

/THE SURVEY

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 1985 IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, AND THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER, KAI TAK COMMERCIAL BUILDING, AT \$1.50 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE MADE TO THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT AT 3-7212786.

A. ORDERS-ON-HAND IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

| INDUSTRY | (% CHANGE OVER THE PRECEDING MONTH) | | | ORDERS-ON-HAND (IN TERMS OF MONTHS) FOR FEB. 1985 |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|---|
| | DEC. 1984 | JAN. 1985 | FEB. 1985 | |
| WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR | -2 | -2 | * | 4.55 |
| TEXTILES, EXCEPT WEARING APPAREL | * | -4 | * | 2.17 |
| PLASTIC PRODUCTS | 5 | -1 | 5 | 4.45 |
| FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS | 1 | 6 | 2 | 3.59 |
| ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS | -2 | * | * | 5.44 |
| OTHERS | * | * | * | 4.34 |
| ALL ABOVE INDUSTRIES | -1 | -1 | * | 4.47 |

B. EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS

| INDUSTRY/ SERVICES | PERSONS ENGAGED BY THE COMPANIES SURVEYED | | | PER CAPITA EARNINGS | | | PER CAPITA EARNINGS FOR FEB. 1985 HK\$ |
|-----------------------|---|-----------|-----------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|--|
| | (% CHANGE OVER THE PRECEDING MONTH) | | | PRECEDING MONTH) | | | |
| | DEC. 1984 | JAN. 1985 | FEB. 1985 | DEC. 1984 | JAN. 1985 | FEB. 1985 | |
| MANUFACTURING | -1 | * | -2 | 8 | 15 | 11 | 3 737 |
| FOOD AND DRINKS | * | 1 | * | 6 | 48 | -32 | 3 679 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-------|-------|
| WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR | * | -1 | -2 | 6 | 10 | 9 | 3 071 | |
| TEXTILES, EXCEPT WEARING APPAREL | * | -1 | -1 | 14 | 2 | 20 | 3 778 | |
| PLASTIC PRODUCTS | 1 | -2 | -3 | -3 | 10 | 64 | 4 493 | |
| FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS | -1 | * | -2 | 2 | 30 | 20 | 3 732 | |
| ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS | -2 | * | -4 | 10 | 12 | 12 | 3 547 | |
| OTHERS | * | 2 | * | 10 | 20 | -2 | 4 890 | |
| CONSTRUCTION | ** | * | -1 | -3 | 6 | 13 | 6 | 5 165 |
| SERVICES | * | * | * | 28 | 17 | -21 | 5 897 | |
| BANKS | * | -1 | * | 71 | -7 | -34 | 4 589 | |
| HOTELS | * | * | -1 | 32 | 58 | -20 | 5 289 | |
| PUBLIC UTILITIES | * | * | * | 7 | 35 | -23 | 5 662 | |
| OTHERS | * | 1 | * | 28 | 11 | -2 | 8 312 | |

* CHANGES WITHIN + 0.5 PER CENT

** PERSONS ENGAGED COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS NOT INCLUDED.

SALVATION ARMY PRAISED FOR WORK
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WELFARE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE SALVATION ARMY WERE VERY IMPORTANT AND NECESSARY FOR THE COMMUNITY, AND DEMONSTRATED THE VITAL ROLE PLAYED BY VOLUNTARY AGENCIES IN HONG KONG, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE NEW SALVATION ARMY COMMAND HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX, SIR EDWARD SAID, +THE SALVATION ARMY MINISTERS NOT ONLY TO SPIRITUAL BUT ALSO TO THE MATERIAL NEEDS.+

HE NOTED THAT THE SALVATION ARMY WAS MARKING ITS 55TH YEAR IN HONG KONG, AND SAID IT HAD GROWN FROM OPERATING A HOME FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS, INTO A LARGE AND WELL ORGANISED VOLUNTARY AGENCY, PROVIDING A WIDE RANGE OF SOCIAL SERVICES.

IT OPERATED A NUMBER OF KINDERGARTENS, PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS, AND WELFARE SERVICES, INCLUDING CHILD CARE CENTRES, CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRES, HOMES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS, DAY AND RESIDENTIAL SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY AND THE DISABLED.

+THE COMPLETION OF THIS MODERN, PURPOSE-BUILT HEADQUARTERS WILL ENABLE THE SALVATION ARMY TO CONSOLIDATE AND EXPAND ITS VALUABLE WORK FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

HE CONGRATULATED ALL ASSOCIATED WITH THIS BUILDING PROJECT AND WISHED THE SALVATION ARMY CONTINUED SUCCESS IN ITS OPERATION HERE IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

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SUMMER FORESTRY CAMPS ORGANISED
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WEEK-LONG FORESTRY WORK CAMPS HAVE BEEN ORGANISED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT AND THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT FOR STUDENTS AND VOLUNTARY WORKERS DURING THE COMING SUMMER HOLIDAYS.

THESE WORK CAMPS, WHICH WILL BE HELD BETWEEN JULY 8 AND AUGUST 23 AT 18 DIFFERENT COUNTRY PARK SITES, ARE OPEN TO ALL PERSONS AGED 15 OR OVER.

APPLICATIONS AND ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE CAMPS FROM SCHOOLS SHOULD BE MADE TO THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

VOLUNTARY AGENCIES SHOULD SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATIONS TO THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND IF THEY ARE MEMBERS OF THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE, SUCH APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE SENT THROUGH THE COUNCIL.

FOR UNIVERSITIES AND POST-SECONDARY COLLEGE STUDENTS, APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE MADE TO THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT.

THE CLOSING DATE IS MAY 15.

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DRAGON BOATS TO RACE AT NEW VENUE
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THE TAI PO DRAGON BOAT RACE WILL BE HELD ON JUNE 22 AT A NEW VENUE THIS YEAR, AT TOLO HARBOUR OUTSIDE THE TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE.

THIS WAS DECIDED AT A RECENT MEETING OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT DRAGON BOAT COMMITTEE.

FIFTY TEAMS WILL TAKE PART IN THE RACE, EACH WITH 27 MEMBERS COMPRISING A PADDLING CREW OF 24, A DRUMMER, A GONG-BEATER AND A STEERSMAN.

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FROM TEAMS TO TAKE PART IN THE RACE. APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICES OF THE TAI PO RURAL COMMITTEE, TAI PO SPORTS ASSOCIATION LIMITED AND DISTRICT OFFICE. THE FORMS MUST BE RETURNED BY MAY 13 WITH AN ENTRY FEE OF \$500.

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VIETNAMESE BOATS CONTINUE JOURNEY
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IN THE PAST TWO DAYS, TWO VIETNAMESE REFUGEE BOATS HAVE DECIDED TO CONTINUE THEIR JOURNEY AFTER ARRIVING IN HONG KONG, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY.

THE FIRST BOAT, WITH EIGHT REFUGEES, ARRIVED ON APRIL 15. ITS OCCUPANTS CLAIMED TO HAVE LEFT HONG GAI, NORTH VIETNAM ON MARCH 20. THEY ALL OPTED TO CONTINUE THEIR JOURNEY AND THEY WERE GIVEN FOOD AND OTHER ESSENTIAL ITEMS. MINOR REPAIRS WERE MADE TO THEIR BOAT AND ITS ENGINE. THEY LEFT VOLUNTARILY ON APRIL 18.

THE SECOND BOAT, WITH 106 REFUGEES, ARRIVED ON APRIL 17. ITS OCCUPANTS CLAIMED TO HAVE LEFT NHA TRANG, SOUTH VIETNAM ON APRIL 9. ONE GROUP OF 59 DECIDED TO STAY IN HONG KONG AND, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ONE WHO WAS SENT TO HOSPITAL FOR TREATMENT ON APRIL 17, ALL WERE TRANSFERRED TO CHI MA WAN CLOSED CENTRE ON APRIL 18. THE REMAINING GROUP OF 47 ELECTED TO CONTINUE THEIR JOURNEY. THEY WERE GIVEN ADEQUATE SUPPLIES OF FOOD AND OTHER ESSENTIAL ITEMS. THEY LEFT VOLUNTARILY ON APRIL 19.

THE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THESE TWO BOATS BROUGHT TO SIX THE NUMBER OF CASES OF VOLUNTARY DEPARTURE SINCE THE INTRODUCTION OF THE CLOSED CENTRE POLICY IN JULY 1982. THERE HAVE NOW BEEN THREE CASES IN 1985.

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'YOUTH POLICIES IN PERSPECTIVE'
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A THREE-DAY CONFERENCE ENTITLED 'YOUTH POLICIES IN PERSPECTIVE' WILL BE HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG BETWEEN APRIL 29 AND MAY 1.

IT IS ORGANISED BY THE CENTRAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE ON 1985 INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR (CCCIYY).

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KIOSK OPERATOR NEEDED
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TENDERS ARE BEING INVITED FOR THE OPERATION OF A LIGHT REFRESHMENT KIOSK AT THE SAI KUNG TANG SHIU KIN SPORTS GROUND FROM JULY 1.

THE SPORTS GROUND IS A MAJOR RECREATION AND SPORTS COMPLEX FOR THE 30 000 RESIDENTS OF THE NEW TOWN, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

FACILITIES AT THE SPORTS GROUND INCLUDE A STANDARD-SIZED, TURFED SOCCER PITCH, AN ALL-WEATHER RUNNING TRACK AND A BASKETBALL-VOLLEYBALL COURT.

PERSONS INTERESTED IN BIDDING FOR THE THREE-YEAR CONTRACT TO RUN THE KIOSK SHOULD OBTAIN TENDER FORMS FROM THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE OF THE RSD ON THE FIFTH FLOOR OF SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, SAI KUNG.

COMPLETED TENDER FORMS MUST BE HANDED IN AT THE RSD HEADQUARTERS ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF SWIRE AND MACLAINE HOUSE (AUSTIN CENTRE), 19-23 AUSTIN AVENUE, TSIM SHA TSUI, BEFORE 9 AM ON MAY 24.

FURTHER INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE OF THE RSD ON TELEPHONE 3-2813707.

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SPORTS AREA FOR KOWLOON PARK
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TENDERS ARE INVITED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SPORTS AND GAMES AREA AT KOWLOON PARK.

IT WILL CONSISTS OF A TEMPORARY ACCESS ROAD TO KOWLOON PARK FROM AUSTIN ROAD, TWO VOLLEY BALL COURTS ON HARD PLAYING SURFACE, A REFRESHMENT KIOSK, AND SPECTATOR TERRACES WITH A MAXIMUM CAPACITY OF 500 PEOPLE.

ANCILLARY FACILITIES SUCH AS CHANGING ROOMS, TOILETS AND STORES WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED, AND THE SURROUNDING AREA WILL BE LANDSCAPED.

THE WORKS, DESIGNED BY THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, ARE EXPECTED TO COMMENCE IN JULY AND BE COMPLETED IN MARCH 1986.

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NEW TAXI STANDS DESIGNATED
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FROM 10 AM ON TUESDAY (APRIL 23), NEW TAXI STANDS WILL BE DESIGNATED AT THE EASTERN KERBSIDE OF WOOSUNG STREET AT ITS JUNCTION WITH PAK HOI STREET AND AT THE NORTHERN KERBSIDE OF NING PO STREET BETWEEN NATHAN ROAD AND PARKES STREET.

THE EXISTING TAXI STAND AT PARKES STREET WILL BE CANCELLED.

ON THE SAME DAY, YUEN LONG CASTLE PEAK ROAD AT 31-3/4 MILESTONE AND 31 MILESTONE WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN 12.30 AM AND 1.15 AM TO FACILITATE ROAD WORK. MOTORISTS MAY USE FAN KAM ROAD AND KAM TIN ROAD INSTEAD.

ALSO FROM TUESDAY, SOY STREET BETWEEN HAK PO STREET AND SAI YEE STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY WESTBOUND TO EASE TRAFFIC FLOW.

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PERMANENT EASEMENT PROPOSED
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GOVERNMENT PROPOSES TO CREATE A PERMANENT EASEMENT ON KING'S ROAD IN NORTH POINT IN CONNECTION WITH A FOOTBRIDGE PROJECT.

IT IS REQUIRED TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF FOOTBRIDGE NO. 6 AT THE JUNCTION OF KING'S ROAD AND JAVA ROAD.

THE PROPOSAL WILL AFFECT PRIVATE LAND IN FRONT OF MODEL HOUSING ESTATE WHERE 108.7 SQUARE METRES OF PERMANENT EASEMENT IS TO BE CREATED. THIS LAND IS CURRENTLY USED AS PAVEMENT.

THE FOOTBRIDGE IS ONE OF THE NINE BEING CONSTRUCTED IN THE NORTH POINT AND QUARRY BAY AREAS AS PART OF THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT PRIORITY SCHEME CURRENTLY BEING IMPLEMENTED IN THESE AREAS.

A NOTICE OF AN ORDER MADE UNDER THE ROADS (WORKS, USE AND COMPENSATION) ORDINANCE WAS PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE AND POSTED ON OR NEAR THE SITE.

THE ORDER AND RELEVANT PLAN CAN BE SEEN AT:

- * CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG;
- * DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, HONG KONG NORTH, 12TH FLOOR, HARBOUR CENTRE, HARBOUR ROAD, HONG KONG; AND
- * EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, 884-886, KING'S ROAD, GROUND FLOOR, HONG KONG.

ON THE EXPIRY OF A TWO-MONTH PERIOD FROM THE POSTING OF THE NOTICE, THE EASEMENT WILL BE CREATED.

ANY PERSON ELIGIBLE FOR COMPENSATION UNDER THE ORDINANCE MAY SUBMIT CLAIMS IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS.

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TAPS OFF IN POK FU LAM

FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN POK FU LAM WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR SIX HOURS BETWEEN 10 AM AND 4 PM ON TUESDAY (APRIL 23) FOR WATER MAINS WORK.

THE AFFECTED PREMISES ARE BOUNDED BY BISNEY ROAD, CONSORT RISE AND CROWN TERRACE.

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FIRING PRACTICE

FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE HA TSUEN-CASTLE PEAK RANGE FROM MONDAY (APRIL 22) TO FRIDAY (APRIL 26) BETWEEN 8 AM AND 5 PM.

THE PUBLIC ARE WARNED NOT TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN THE RED FLAGS ARE HOISTED.

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