



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1983

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

GOVERNOR RETURNS TOMORROW
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THREE PHOTOGRAPHIC FACILITIES HAVE BEEN ARRANGED TO HELP NEWSMEN COVER THE RETURN OF THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE- AND THE ARRIVAL OF MR RICHARD LUCE, MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS; AND SIR PERCY CRADOCK, BRITISH AMBASSADOR TO PEKING.

SIR EDWARD RETURNS TO HONG KONG TOMORROW (SATURDAY) ON FLIGHT CA 101, ETA 11.45 AM. PHOTOGRAPHERS AND CAMERAMEN ASSIGNED TO COVER HIS RETURN SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE AIRPORT TERMINAL BUILDING NOT LATER THAN 10.45 AM.

MR LUCE ARRIVES TOMORROW (SATURDAY) EVENING ON FLIGHT CX 712, ETA 9.35 PM. NEWSMEN COVERING HIS ARRIVAL SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM NOT LATER THAN 8.30 PM.

SIR PERCY ARRIVES IN HONG KONG ON SUNDAY (SEPTEMBER 25) ON FLIGHT CA 101, ETA 11.45 AM. THOSE ASSIGNED TO COVER HIS ARRIVAL SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM NOT LATER THAN 10.45 AM.

GIS OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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TEXTILES EXPORT CONTROL SYSTEM REVIEWED
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THE RESULTS OF A MAJOR REVIEW OF THE QUOTA SYSTEM BY THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD WERE ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY). THE 14 RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDE MEASURES TO PLUG LOOPHOLES IN THE RULE REGARDING PERSISTENT TEMPORARY TRANSFERS OF QUOTAS.

THE BOARD'S REPORT WAS SUBMITTED BY ITS CHAIRMAN, THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR E.P. HO, FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL THIS WEEK, WHERE IT WAS APPROVED.

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TO ANNOUNCE DETAILS OF THE MODIFIED QUOTA SYSTEM, THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, SAID THAT THE REVIEW WAS THE THIRD OF ITS KIND. SIMILAR REVIEWS WERE CONDUCTED IN 1976 AND 1980.

+THESE REVIEWS ARE NECESSARY TO ENSURE THAT THE SYSTEM MEETS ITS TWO BASIC OBJECTIVES: FIRST, THAT HONG KONG DISCHARGES FULLY ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER BILATERAL AGREEMENTS AND THE MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENTS, AND SECONDLY, THAT THE QUOTA SYSTEM ALLOWS FOR OPTIMUM UTILISATION OF RESTRAINT LIMITS AGREED WITH IMPORTING COUNTRIES,+ MR MACLEOD SAID.

/HE ADDED

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HE ADDED THAT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE QUOTA SYSTEM IS UNDERLINED BY THE FACT THAT TEXTILES AND CLOTHING ACCOUNT FOR MORE THAN 40 PER CENT OF HONG KONG'S TOTAL DOMESTIC EXPORTS.

THE 1983 REVIEW STARTED IN FEBRUARY THIS YEAR. IT WAS INITIALLY UNDERTAKEN BY AN IN-HOUSE REVIEW COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF OFFICIALS OF THE TRADE AND INDUSTRY BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT AND OF THE TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENTS.

THE COMMITTEE INVITED COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS ON THE EXISTING QUOTA SYSTEM FROM TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATIONS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC. IT RECEIVED 27 CONTRIBUTIONS AND, HAVING CONSIDERED THEM IN DETAIL, SUBMITTED ITS COMMENTS AND PROPOSALS TO THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD IN JUNE.

THE BOARD FURTHER CONSIDERED THE ISSUES INVOLVED IN DETAIL AND EVENTUALLY PRESENTED A COMPREHENSIVE REPORT TO THE GOVERNMENT IN AUGUST.

DESCRIBING THE MODIFICATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN RECOMMENDED BY THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD AND APPROVED BY THE GOVERNMENT, MR MACLEOD SAID THEY WERE MAINLY CONCERNED WITH THE QUOTA TRANSFER SYSTEM AND THE OPERATION OF FREE QUOTA SCHEMES.

+THIS CONCENTRATION ON THESE ASPECTS IS NOT SURPRISING,+ SAID MR MACLEOD. +THEY BOTH RELATE TO ONE OF OUR CENTRAL CONCERNS, NAMELY HOW TO ENSURE THAT NEWCOMERS TO THE INDUSTRY CAN HAVE A REASONABLE CHANCE OF OBTAINING QUOTA. THE TRANSFERABILITY OF QUOTAS HAS FOR MANY YEARS BEEN A CENTRAL PART OF OUR QUOTA SYSTEM. IT HAS ALSO BEEN THE MOST CONTROVERSIAL ASPECT OF THE SYSTEM AND THE SUBJECT OF CRITICAL COMMENT FROM TIME TO TIME.+

THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD HAS CONCLUDED THAT THE TRANSFER SYSTEM SHOULD CONTINUE IN BEING FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

- * TO FACILITATE OPTIMUM UTILISATION OF QUOTAS BY HONG KONG AS A WHOLE BY PROVIDING FLEXIBILITY TO THE TRADE,
- * TO PROVIDE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR COMPANIES WITH NO OR INSUFFICIENT QUOTAS TO OBTAIN QUOTAS THROUGH THE TRANSFER SYSTEM,
- * TO ENCOURAGE QUOTAS TO MOVE FROM THE HANDS OF THOSE WHO ARE NO LONGER ABLE TO USE THEM TO THOSE WHO ARE.

THE BOARD HAS, HOWEVER, RECOMMENDED IMPROVEMENTS IN THE EXISTING RULE REGARDING PERSISTENT TRANSFERORS.

/UNDER THIS

UNDER THIS RULE, A QUOTA-HOLDER WHO TRANSFERS OUT TEMPORARILY, OVER TWO CONSECUTIVE YEARS, 50 PER CENT OR MORE OF HIS TOTAL QUOTA HOLDINGS IN EITHER THE GARMENT OR NON-GARMENT GROUP OF CATEGORIES FOR ANY PARTICULAR MARKET IS LIABLE TO HAVE HIS QUOTAS REDUCED IN THE THIRD YEAR. HOWEVER, THIS LIABILITY CAN BE REDUCED OR ELIMINATED BY ANY TRANSFERS IN.

THIS HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR SOME QUOTA-HOLDERS WHO HAVE PERSISTENTLY TRANSFERRED OUT QUOTAS IN HIGH-DEMAND CATEGORIES TO EVADE THE RULE BY TRANSFERRING IN QUOTAS IN LOW-DEMAND CATEGORIES FOR OFFSETTING PURPOSES. QUOTAS THUS TRANSFERRED IN HAVE OFTEN NOT BEEN USED FOR SHIPMENT AND HAVE THUS BEEN WASTED.

TO COUNTER THIS PRACTICE, ONLY TRANSFERRED-IN QUOTAS WHICH HAVE BEEN UTILISED WILL IN FUTURE BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION IN CALCULATING A QUOTA-HOLDER'S LIABILITY UNDER THIS RULE.

IN ADDITION, STRINGENT CONDITIONS WILL ALSO BE INTRODUCED TO ENSURE THAT A COMPANY SUPPLYING QUOTAS FOR A PARTICULAR SHIPMENT IS GENUINELY AND DIRECTLY CONCERNED WITH THE MANUFACTURE OR THE EXPORT OF THE GOODS. THIS IS AIMED AT STRENGTHENING THE DETERRENT AGAINST +UNDERGROUND+ TRANSFERS OF QUOTAS.

THE OTHER MODIFICATIONS RECOMMENDED BY THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD ARE AIMED MAINLY AT DISCOURAGING SPECULATIVE APPLICATIONS FOR FREE QUOTAS.

MR MACLEOD SAID THAT THE TRADE DEPARTMENT WILL SHORTLY BE ANNOUNCING DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE VARIOUS MODIFICATIONS.

+SOME OF THE CHANGES CAN BE IMPLEMENTED IMMEDIATELY. OTHERS CAN ONLY BE PUT INTO EFFECT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE NEXT RESTRAINT PERIOD BECAUSE THEY WOULD AFFECT THE DISPOSITION ALREADY MADE BY QUOTA-HOLDERS,+ MR MACLEOD SAID.

AS REGARDS THE TIMING OF THE NEXT REVIEW, MR MACLEOD SAID THAT, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD, THE QUOTA SYSTEM WILL HENCEFORTH BE +CONTINUOUSLY MONITORED AND CONSTANTLY REVIEWED, AND ITS PROVISIONS MODIFIED WHERE AND WHEN NECESSARY.+

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SIR PHILIP PRAISES CAS PUBLIC SERVICE
* * *

HONG KONG'S VOLUNTEER CIVIL AID SERVICES WAS PRAISED THIS EVENING BY THE DEPUTY GOVERNOR, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, FOR ITS COMMUNITY WORK.

SIR PHILIP SAID, AS AN EXAMPLE, THAT THE CAS SHOWED +YET AGAIN DURING THE PASSAGE OF TYPHOON ELLEN EARLIER THIS MONTH, WHAT AN INDISPENSABLE ROLE IT PLAYS IN RELIEVING THE PRESSURES ON THE REGULAR SERVICES BY HELPING TO CLEAR DEBRIS AND RESCUE TRAPPED PEOPLE FROM COLLAPSED BUILDINGS.+

+NEARLY A THOUSAND VOLUNTEERS RESPONDED TO THE CHALLENGE SWIFTLY AND, ALONGSIDE THEIR COLLEAGUES IN THE REGULAR SERVICES, THEY WORKED QUIETLY AND WITH GREAT EFFICIENCY,+ SIR PHILIP SAID.

SIR PHILIP WAS SPEAKING AS GUEST THIS EVENING AT THE CAS ANNUAL DINNER HELD IN A KOWLOON RESTAURANT.

HE RECALLED THAT THE CAS WAS FORMED IN 1952, BASICALLY AS A CIVIL DEFENCE UNIT OF RECRUITS OBLIGED TO UNDERTAKE SOME FORM OF COMPULSORY NATIONAL SERVICE.

SINCE THEN, HE SAID, IT HAS DEVELOPED INTO A BROAD-BASED ORGANISATION TO HELP WITH NATURAL DISASTERS AND OTHER EMERGENCIES, AS WELL AS CROWD CONTROL DURING FESTIVALS. IT ALSO ENGAGED IN MOUNTAIN RESCUE WORK AMONG OTHER +SPECIAL AREAS OF EXPERTISE+.

CONGRATULATING THE CAS COMMISSIONER, MR ROGER LOBO, AND STAFF ON THE +FINE WORK OF THE DYNAMIC CORPS OF VOLUNTEERS,+ SIR PHILIP SAID: +I AM ASSURED THAT THEIR MORALE, AS BEFITS A UNIFORMED AND DISCIPLINED SERVICE, IS UNAFFECTED BY CURRENT ANXIETIES -- WHICH, OF COURSE, NONE CAN ESCAPE. IT IS HOW WE COPE WITH SUCH ANXIETIES WHICH MATTERS.+

WELCOMING THE DEPUTY GOVERNOR, MR LOBO SAID THE CAS WAS +A LARGE AND HAPPY FAMILY+ OF HONG KONG BELONGERS REPRESENTING PRACTICALLY EVERY PROFESSION, TRADE AND SKILL -- WITH A SINCERE AIM TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY.+

THE CAS MEMBERS WERE EVER READY, WHENEVER CALLED ON, TO CARRY OUT ANY DUTY THEY COULD PERFORM -- +ALONE OR SIDE BY SIDE WITH THE OTHER SERVICES,+ MR LOBO SAID.

THE CAS HAD RECEIVED 500 REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE LAST YEAR AND WAS NOW HAVING TO BE MORE SELECTIVE +SO THAT VOLUNTEERS ARE NOT OVER-EXTENDED IN PERFORMING TOO FREQUENT DUTIES.+

WHILE THE CAS WOULD SELDOM, IF EVER, TURN DOWN A REQUEST FOR GENUINE ASSISTANCE, IT MUST NOW EVALUATE ITS PRIORITIES, AS ITS EXPANSION PROGRAMME INTO THE NEW TOWNS, TOGETHER WITH ITS REQUIREMENTS FOR TRAINING AND EFFICIENCY, WAS A MATTER OF PRIORITY.

MR LOBO SAID ALSO THAT AS HONG KONG BELONGERS, CAS MEMBERS STRIVE HARD IN THEIR DUTIES +TO MAINTAIN THE TERRITORY'S STABILITY, PEACE AND PROSPERITY, THE LIFESTYLE AND SYSTEM THE MEMBERS WERE USED TO, AND TO ENSURE CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE.+

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CHILDREN AND THE NEW SEAT BELT LAW
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FROM OCTOBER 1, DRIVERS AND FRONT-SEAT PASSENGERS IN PRIVATE CARS FIRST REGISTERED AFTER AUGUST 1, 1976, WILL, BY LAW BE REQUIRED TO WEAR SEAT BELTS.

FOR CHILDREN, HOWEVER, THE SAFEST PLACE IS IN A BACK SEAT WEARING A PROPER RESTRAINT.

THE LAW DOES ALLOW CHILDREN TO SIT IN FRONT SEATS, PROVIDING THEY ARE WEARING RESTRAINTS APPROPRIATE TO THEIR AGE WHICH EFFECTIVELY RESTRAIN THEM.

+THERE IS NO DOUBT, HOWEVER,+ SAID A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN, +THAT THE SAFEST PLACE FOR A CHILD IS IN A REAR SEAT WITH A PROPER RESTRAINT.

+IN CRASHES, SMALL CHILDREN ARE LIABLE TO BECOME FLYING MISSILES. A RESTRAINT WILL STOP THEM FROM BEING THROWN AROUND THE CAR WHICH COULD RESULT IN DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY.+

CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN 12 AND 15 YEARS, WEIGHING OVER 36 KG (80 LB), CAN USE AN ORDINARY ADULT SEAT BELT, IF IT ADJUSTS AUTOMATICALLY OR IS MANUALLY ADJUSTED TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE RESTRAINT. BOOSTER CUSHIONS CAN HELP IN ACHIEVING THIS.

FEW, IF ANY, OF THE APPROVED RESTRAINTS FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN CAN BE FITTED IN FRONT SEATS - THOUGH THIS MAY BE POSSIBLE IN SOME CARS THAT HAVE THE REQUIRED ANCHORAGE POINTS IN THE FRONT. THEREFORE, UNTIL RESTRAINING DEVICES FOR YOUNG CHILDREN FOR USE IN THE FRONT SEAT ARE DEVELOPED, THE LAW EFFECTIVELY REQUIRES YOUNGER CHILDREN TO SIT IN THE REAR SEATS.

BABIES WEIGHING UNDER 9 KG (20 LB) WHO CANNOT SIT UP BY THEMSELVES SHOULD BE CARRIED IN THE BACK OF THE CAR LYING DOWN IN A CARRYCOT ACROSS THE CAR WITH THEIR HEADS TOWARDS THE MIDDLE OF THE CAR. THE CARRYCOT SHOULD BE HELD ON THE BACK SEAT BY SPECIAL CARRYCOT RESTRAINING STRAPS.

CHILDREN AGED FROM ABOUT NINE MONTHS TO FOUR YEARS, WEIGHING 9 - 18 KGS (20 TO 40 LBS) ARE BEST PROTECTED WITH THE USE OF A PROPER CHILD SAFETY SEAT IN THE BACK SEAT WHICH IS USUALLY FIXED TO THE CAR STRUCTURE BY TWO STRAPS AT THE TOP AND TWO AT THE BOTTOM. THE CHILD IS HELD IN THE SEAT BY A HARNESS.

CHILDREN AGED FROM THREE TO 12 YEARS, WEIGHING 15 - 36 KGS (35 - 80 LBS) SHOULD WEAR EITHER A CHILD HARNESS MADE OF A LAP STRAP AND TWO SHOULDER STRAPS, OR A SPECIAL LAP AND DIAGONAL BELT, WHICH ALSO HAS AN EXTRA STRAP RUNNING BEHIND THE CHILD THAT ACTS AS A GUIDE TO CHANGE THE LIE OF THE DIAGONAL BELT.

+THERE IS NO POINT IN GAMBLING WITH A CHILD'S LIFE+, SAID THE SPOKESMAN.

+EVEN THOUGH THE LAW DOES NOT REQUIRE THAT REAR SEAT BELTS BE FITTED, COMMON SENSE SHOULD CONVINCE PARENTS THAT THEY ARE ESSENTIAL,+ HE SAID.

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SPORTS TO HELP SPREAD ANTI-SMOKING MESSAGE
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A TERRITORY-WIDE SPORTS PROJECT WILL BE HELD NEXT MONTH TO PROMOTE HEALTHY PURSUITS AMONG YOUNGSTERS AND TO DISCOURAGE THEM FROM SMOKING.

ENTITLED +1983 INTER-SCHOOL OLYMPIAD+, THE PROJECT FORMS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE CURRENT PHASE OF THE ANTI-SMOKING PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN AIMED AT EDUCATING YOUNG PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY SCHOOL CHILDREN, AGAINST SMOKING.

IT IS ORGANISED BY THE ANTI-SMOKING PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN STEERING COMMITTEE WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT, THE HONG KONG SCHOOL SPORTS ASSOCIATION, THE NEW TERRITORIES SCHOOL SPORTS ASSOCIATION AND THE HONG KONG SCHOOL SPORTS COUNCIL.

ANNOUNCING THE EVENT AT A PRESS CONFERENCE THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON, MR JOHN DUNN, DEPUTY CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID: +WE ALL BELIEVE THAT SPORTING ACTIVITIES HAVE A POSITIVE INFLUENCE ON THE OVERALL DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEREFORE AMPLE OPPORTUNITIES SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN VARIOUS SPORTS COMPETITIONS.+

MR DUNN POINTED OUT THAT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THAT THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HAD TAKEN THE LEAD IN ORGANISING A FOUR-EVENT TRACK AND FIELD MEET TO TEST THE ENDURANCE AND TECHNIQUE IN ATHLETICS OF LOCAL SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS.

CHAIRMAN OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE AND ACTING PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS, MR WONG WOON-CHEUNG TOLD THE CONFERENCE THAT THE PROJECT HAD DRAWN EXCELLENT RESPONSE FROM SCHOOLS WHO WILL COME UP WITH A TOTAL OF 160 PARTICIPATING TEAMS.

HE SAID: +SHOULD THE PROJECT PROVE SUCCESSFUL, CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO ORGANISING SIMILAR EVENTS IN FUTURE.+

ALL COMPETITORS WILL BE UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE, AND THEY WILL BE ORGANISED INTO TWO DIVISIONS - ONE FOR BOYS AND ONE FOR GIRLS.

THE EVENTS FOR BOYS ARE 100 METRE RACE, LONG JUMP, 1 500 METRE RACE AND JAVELIN, WHEREAS FOR GIRLS ARE 100 METRE RACE, LONG JUMP, 800 METRE RACE AND SHOT PUTT.

MR WONG SAID THAT A TOTAL OF FOUR HEATS WILL BE CONDUCTED ON A REGIONAL BASIS AT THE HONG KONG STADIUM, MONG KOK STADIUM AND KWAI CHUNG SPORTS GROUND ON OCTOBER 1, 8, 9 AND 15 RESPECTIVELY.

+THE BEST THREE TEAMS IN EACH DIVISION OF EACH HEAT WILL BE QUALIFIED FOR THE GRAND FINAL TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 5 AT THE WAN CHAI SPORTS GROUND,+ HE SAID.

/MEDALS WILL

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MEDALS WILL BE AWARDED TO THE FIRST THREE WINNERS IN EACH OF THE FOUR EVENTS IN INDIVIDUAL HEATS AND THE SCHOOLS OF THE CHAMPION, THE FIRST RUNNER-UP AND THE SECOND RUNNER-UP TEAMS WILL EACH RECEIVE A SET OF REFERENCE BOOKS ON PHYSICAL EDUCATION.

IN THE GRAND FINAL, TROPHIES WILL BE AWARDED TO THE FIRST THREE TEAMS IN EACH DIVISION TOGETHER WITH COUPONS FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION EQUIPMENT.

PRIZES WILL BE PRESENTED AT THE END OF EACH HEAT BY REPRESENTATIVES OF VARIOUS GOVERNMENT BODIES AND NON-GOVERNMENT SPORTS ASSOCIATION.

THEY WILL INCLUDE THE DEPUTY CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS, MR JOHN DUNN; THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE HONG KONG SCHOOL SPORTS ASSOCIATION, FR. C.J. BARRETT; MEMBER OF ANTI-SMOKING PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN STEERING COMMITTEE AND EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER OF HONG KONG HEART FOUNDATION, DR S.M. KONG; AND THE PERMANENT HONORARY PRESIDENT OF THE NEW TERRITORIES SCHOOL SPORTS ASSOCIATION, MR LAU WONG-FAT.

MR WONG SAID: +THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE GRAND FINAL WILL BE A 400-METRE CELEBRITY INVITATION RELAY IN WHICH REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS FROM THE TELEVISION BROADCASTS LIMITED, RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG, HONG KONG COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING COMPANY LIMITED, CAPITAL ARTISTS LIMITED, THE OUTSTANDING YOUNG PERSONS ASSOCIATION AND THE COMPOSERS AND AUTHORS SOCIETY OF HONG KONG LIMITED WILL TAKE PART.+

THE HEATS AND THE GRAND FINAL OF THE ATHLETIC MEET WILL BE COVERED BY THE TELEVISION BROADCASTS LIMITED AND SCREENED IN ITS +SPORTS WORLD+ PROGRAMME ON OCTOBER 2, 9, 16 AND NOVEMBER 6 RESPECTIVELY.

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NEED SEEN FOR MORE SERVICES FOR AGED
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THE GOVERNMENT MUST SEEK TO ACHIEVE AN EXPANSION OF SERVICES FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE TOGETHER WITH VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR IAN MACPHERSON SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

HE SAID THE PERCENTAGE OF THE PEOPLE 60 YEARS AND OVER WAS EXPECTED TO INCREASE FROM THE PRESENT NINE PER CENT TO NEARLY 11 PER CENT BY 1986.

+LIKE MANY OTHER PLACES IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA WHICH HAVE UNDERGONE CHANGES IN LIVING STANDARDS, THE AGE STRUCTURE OF THE POPULATION IN HONG KONG IS CHANGING,+ HE SAID.

MR MACPHERSON WAS SPEAKING AT A FOUNDATION STONE LAYING CEREMONY OF THE TAOIST CHING CHUNG CARE AND ATTENTION HOME AT PING HA ROAD IN HA TSUEN, YUEN LONG.

/HE SAID

HE SAID THE CARE AND ATTENTION HOME, THE THIRD IN THE NORTH-WEST NEW TERRITORIES BEING BUILT BY THE CHING CHUNG TAOIST ASSOCIATION, WOULD HELP GOVERNMENT TO MEET ITS TARGETS IN THE PROVISION OF ESSENTIAL SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES.

+A PROJECT OF THIS NATURE SHOWS THOUGHTFULNESS AND RESPECT FOR THE WELFARE OF THE ELDER GENERATION AND PROVIDES AN EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW FOR THE YOUNG,+ HE SAID.

+IT WILL PROVIDE FACILITIES FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE WHO DO NOT REQUIRE HOSPITALISATION BUT WHO DO NEED MORE PERSONAL NURSING CARE AND REGULAR TREATMENT THAN WOULD NORMALLY BE AVAILABLE AT OTHER CENTRES.+

UPON COMPLETION, THE 1 800-SQUARE-METRE HOME WILL BE A TWO-STOREY BUILDING PROVIDING ACCOMMODATION FOR ABOUT 150 OLD PEOPLE.

ALSO PRESENT AT TODAY'S CEREMONY WERE MRS MACPHERSON ; THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR JAMES WILSON THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR RICKY FUNG; THE CHAIRMAN OF CHING CHUNG TAOIST ASSOCIATION, MR TSUI KWON-CHOW; AND THE CHIEF MASTER OF THE ASSOCIATION, MR HAU PO-WOON.

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YOUTH BAND FESTIVAL SET FOR DECEMBER

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OPPORTUNITIES ARE NOW OPEN TO SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE 23 YEARS OF AGE OR LESS TO TAKE PART IN THE SIXTH HONG KONG YOUTH BAND FESTIVAL FROM DECEMBER 23 TO JANUARY 1, 1984.

THE BAND FESTIVAL IS ORGANISED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT TO STIMULATE LOCAL INTEREST IN BAND MUSIC AND TO RAISE THE STANDARD OF PERFORMANCE OF WIND INSTRUMENTS. FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE BAND FESTIVAL WILL INCLUDE A SIX-DAY RESIDENTIAL COURSE OF INTENSIVE MUSIC TRAINING FOR YOUNG LOCAL MUSICIANS AT THE LADY MACLEHOSE HOLIDAY VILLAGE IN SAI KUNG FROM DECEMBER 26 TO JANUARY 1, 1984.

AN OPENING CEREMONY AND A SYMPHONIC BAND PERFORMANCE WILL BE HELD ON DECEMBER 23 AT THE KO SHAN THEATRE. OTHER PROGRAMMES WILL INCLUDE A TOUR AROUND MAJOR HOSPITALS BY THE FESTIVAL BANDS ON CHRISTMAS EVE, A MARCHING BAND DISPLAY ON DECEMBER 28 AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM, A FESTIVAL CONCERT ON DECEMBER 29 AT THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL AND A GALA FINALE ON DECEMBER 31 AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM.

THE GALA FINALE WILL BE THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE FESTIVAL. APART FROM PERFORMANCES BY THE WINNERS OF THE SYMPHONIC BAND PERFORMANCE AND THE MARCHING BAND DISPLAY, THE JAPANESE NARASHINO HIGH SCHOOL BAND, WHICH WON THE GOLD MEDAL OF THE 1982 ALL JAPANESE SYMPHONIC BAND CONTEST, HAS ALSO BEEN INVITED TO PERFORM.

/THE BAND

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THE BAND FESTIVAL IS AN ANNUAL EVENT UNDER THE YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAMME TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL YOUNG MUSICIANS TO EXCHANGE MUSICAL EXPERIENCE WITH THEIR OVERSEAS COUNTERPARTS. IT IS HOPED THAT INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING CAN BE ENHANCED THROUGH SUCH EXCHANGE PROGRAMME.

LOCAL MUSICIANS SELECTED TO ATTEND THE RESIDENTIAL COURSE OF TRAINING WILL, THEREFORE, HAVE AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE THEIR MUSICAL KNOWLEDGE WITH MEMBERS OF THE VISITING JAPANESE BAND.

SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS MAY NOW APPLY TO TAKE PART IN THE SYMPHONIC BAND PERFORMANCE AND THE MARCHING BAND DISPLAY. IN ADDITION, INDIVIDUALS AGED 23 OR BELOW MAY ALSO APPLY TO BECOME MEMBERS OF THE FESTIVAL BANDS WHICH WILL BE RESIDENT AT THE LADY MACLEHOSE HOLIDAY VILLAGE.

APPLICATION FORMS, AVAILABLE AT ALL MUSIC CENTRES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE, SHOULD BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 1983. FOR ENQUIRIES PLEASE TELEPHONE 5-741622 OR 3-7149255.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

RACE DAY TRAFFIC PLAN ANNOUNCED
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SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED AT HAPPY VALLEY ON RACE DAYS THROUGHOUT THE 1983-84 RACING SEASON, WITH EFFECT FROM TOMORROW (SATURDAY), A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY.

THE ARRANGEMENTS DEAL WITH MAJOR TRAFFIC DIVERSION, LEARNER DRIVER RESTRICTIONS, PARKING, ACCESS TO CLUBS IN THE AREA, PUBLIC TRANSPORT, AS WELL AS TAXI AND PUBLIC LIGHT BUS, SERVICES.

PARTICULARS OF THE TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS ARE TRANSMITTED BY FACSIMILE NETWORK.

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KWUN TONG SCHOOLS FORM LIAISON GROUP
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THE KWUN TONG SCHOOL LIAISON COMMITTEE, COMPRISING MORE THAN 100 PRINCIPALS OF THE DISTRICT'S PRIMARY, SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS, WILL HOLD ITS INAUGURATION CEREMONY ON SUNDAY (SEPTEMBER 25).

A DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID, THE OBJECTIVES FOR SETTING UP THE COMMITTEE WERE TO STRENGTHEN THE LINK BETWEEN SCHOOLS SO THAT PROBLEMS OF MUTUAL CONCERN COULD BE DISCUSSED, AND TO PROMOTE BETTER UNDERSTANDING AMONG PRINCIPALS, TEACHERS AND STUDENTS THROUGH ORGANISING JOINT-SCHOOL FUNCTIONS.

+THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO SUPPORT COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT AND LIAISE CLOSELY WITH THE DISTRICT BOARD AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS,+ HE SAID.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE WILL BE GROUPED INTO FOUR UNITS ACCORDING TO THE TYPES AND LOCATIONS OF THE SCHOOLS. FIVE OFFICE-BEARERS FROM EACH OF THE FOUR UNITS WILL FORM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE SCHOOLS LIAISON COMMITTEE.

THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR IAN MACPHERSON, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY AT 3.30 PM AT THE TELFORD GARDENS COMMUNITY CENTRE IN KOWLOON BAY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THE KWUN TONG SCHOOL LIAISON COMMITTEE AT 3.30 PM ON SUNDAY (SEPTEMBER 25) AT THE TELFORD GARDENS COMMUNITY CENTRE IN KOWLOON BAY.

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NEWSLETTER ON DB WORK PUBLISHED
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SOUTHERN DISTRICT RESIDENTS ARE NOW BEING KEPT BETTER INFORMED OF THE PERFORMANCE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THEIR DISTRICT BOARD, THROUGH A RECENTLY-PUBLISHED MONTHLY NEWSLETTER.

PRODUCED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE, THE NEW PUBLICATION EMPHASISES THE WORK DONE AT EACH OF THE SIX CONSTITUENCIES.

SIX SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD NEWSLETTERS, ONE FOR EACH CONSTITUENCY, WILL HENCEFORTH BE ISSUED REGULARLY FOR DISTRIBUTION TO MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, OWNERS' CORPORATIONS, SCHOOLS AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS FOR DISPLAY ON THEIR NOTICE BOARDS.

PROGRESS ON LONG TERM DISTRICT BOARD PROJECTS AND MATTERS OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO LOCAL RESIDENTS, ALTHOUGH NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE BOARD, WILL ALSO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEWSLETTERS.

+AT PRESENT, RESIDENTS LEARN ABOUT THE BOARD'S WORK THROUGH THE MASS MEDIA, INCLUDING A DISTRICT NEWSPAPER,+ SAID THE BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR K.C. KWONG.

+THE NEWSLETTERS WILL PROVIDE A MORE DIRECT CHANNEL IN KEEPING RESIDENTS POSTED ON WORK DONE BY THE BOARD FOR THEIR PARTICULAR CONSTITUENCY,+ HE ADDED.

NEWSLETTERS FOR WAH FU, TIN WAN AND SHEK PAI WAN, AND STANLEY AND SHEK O WILL BE ISSUED IN THE FIRST WEEK OF EVERY MONTH.

THE ISSUES FOR ABERDEEN AND AP LEI CHAU, POKFULAM, AND WONG CHUK HANG AND BAY WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE SECOND AND THIRD WEEK OF EACH MONTH.

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THOUSANDS TAKING PART IN SPORTS FESTIVAL

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A FRIENDLY MATCH BETWEEN TWO FOOTBALL TEAMS, SEIKO AND EASTERN, IN KOWLOON PARK AT 3 PM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) WILL KICK OFF THE THREE-WEEK YAU MA TEI SPORTS FESTIVAL.

THE MATCH WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A SERIES OF SPORTS EVENTS FOR SOME 1 000 CHILDREN UNDER 12 YEARS OF AGE.

MORE THAN 3 000 PARTICIPANTS WILL CONTEST IN A NUMBER OF TOURNAMENTS INCLUDING BASKETBALL, FOOTBALL, BADMINTON, TABLE TENNIS AND RELAY RACES.

A WATER CARNIVAL AT THE LEI CHENG UK SWIMMING POOL WILL HIGHLIGHT THE FESTIVAL'S CLOSING CEREMONY ON OCTOBER 15.

THE SPORTS FESTIVAL IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD, RECREATION AND SPORTS SERVICES (YAU MA TEI DISTRICT) AND THE YAU MA TEI AND TSIM SHA TSUI RECREATION AND SPORTS ASSOCIATION TO PROMOTE LOCAL PEOPLE'S INTEREST IN SPORTS.

THE DISTRICT BOARD IS CONTRIBUTING \$11.500 TOWARDS THE TOTAL COST OF \$35 000 FOR THE FESTIVAL.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR CHIU YU-HEI, SAID THE LARGE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FULLY DEMONSTRATED THE HIGH COMMUNITY SPIRIT THERE.

+ADMISSION TO ALL EVENTS IS FREE AND PEOPLE ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND AND CHEER FOR THE CONTESTANTS,+ HE ADDED.

OFFICIATING AT TOMORROW'S OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR WILFRED WONG, THE ACTING PRINCIPAL RECREATION AND SPORT OFFICER, MR CHAN WING-FONG, AND MR CHIU.

LAND PAYMENT RATES ANNOUNCED
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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE EX-GRATIA COMPENSATION RATES FOR AGRICULTURAL LAND AND BUILDING LAND RESUMED IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WOULD REMAIN UNCHANGED FOR THE NEXT SIX MONTHS STARTING FROM OCTOBER 1 THIS YEAR.

THESE RATES ARE \$45.60 PER SQUARE FOOT FOR AGRICULTURAL LAND IN THE NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT AREAS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES AND IN THE URBAN AREAS OF HONG KONG AND KOWLOON AND \$78 PER SQUARE FOOT FOR BUILDING LAND WITHIN THE NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT AREAS.

THE RATES APPLICABLE TO LAND OUTSIDE THE DEVELOPMENT AREAS WILL BE THE APPROPRIATE PERCENTAGE OF THE BASIC RATES OF \$38 PER SQUARE FOOT FOR AGRICULTURAL LAND AND \$65 PER SQUARE FOOT FOR BUILDING LAND.

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FENCING COURSES ORGANISED FOR STUDENTS
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A SERIES OF FENCING COURSES WILL BE ORGANISED FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS BETWEEN OCTOBER AND DECEMBER THIS YEAR.

THESE COURSES ARE JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE HONG KONG AMATEUR FENCING ASSOCIATION AND THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE, HONG KONG.

THEY WILL BE HELD IN ST. PAUL'S COLLEGE, BONHAM ROAD, HONG KONG- LOK SIN TONG KU CHIU MAN SECONDARY SCHOOL, KWAI SHING CIRCUIT, KWAI CHUNG- TUNG WAH GROUP HOSPITALS CHANG MING THIEN COLLEGE, NAM CHEONG STREET, SHAM SHUI PO AND JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE, SHA TIN.

THE ENTRY FEE FOR THE COURSE WILL BE \$10 PER STUDENT. FOILS AND MASKS WILL BE PROVIDED.

EACH SCHOOL MAY NOMINATE NOT MORE THAN FOUR STUDENTS. NOMINATIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO THE PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR (PHYSICAL EDUCATION), EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 7TH FLOOR, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON BEFORE SEPTEMBER 28.

ENQUIRIES CONCERNING THE COURSES CAN BE DIRECTED TO MR SUN HOI-YAM OF THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION SECTION ON 3-884111 EXT. 280.

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