



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1984

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

GOVERNOR LEAVING FOR PEKING
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A FACILITY HAS BEEN ARRANGED FOR PRESS PHOTOGRAPHERS AND CAMERAMEN TO COVER THE DEPARTURE OF THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, FOR PEKING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

SIR EDWARD, ACCOMPANIED BY THE POLITICAL ADVISER, MR ROBIN MCLAREN, WILL BE LEAVING ON FLIGHT CA102, ETD 12.45 PM.

PLEASE ADVISE THOSE ASSIGNED TO COVER THE DEPARTURE TO ASSEMBLE AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE AIRPORT TERMINAL BUILDING NOT LATER THAN 11.30 AM TOMORROW. GIS OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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BRIGHTER OUTLOOK FOR MANUFACTURERS
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AN ENCOURAGING OUTLOOK FOR MANUFACTURING FIRMS IS SHOWN IN THE LATEST QUARTERLY BUSINESS SURVEY COMPILED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

FIRMS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR CONTINUED TO EXPERIENCE AN IMPROVEMENT IN BUSINESS DURING THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1983 - AND THIS IMPROVEMENT TURNED OUT TO BE GREATER THAN WAS EXPECTED IN THE PREVIOUS QUARTERLY SURVEY.

ABOUT 900 FIRMS FORMING A CROSS-SECTION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY WERE ASKED ABOUT THEIR PERFORMANCE IN THE LAST QUARTER OF 1983 AND THEIR EXPECTATIONS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR.

THE PICTURE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR, HOWEVER, WAS STILL WEAK WITH FIRMS REPORTING THAT THEY EXPECTED FURTHER DETERIORATION IN BUSINESS.

WITH REGARD TO THE 'WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS' SECTOR, SOME IMPROVEMENT IN BUSINESS WAS REPORTED WHILE A FAIRLY SIGNIFICANT EXTENT OF IMPROVEMENT IN BUSINESS WAS EXPERIENCED BY FIRMS IN THE 'OTHER SERVICES' SECTOR (INCLUDING BANKS, TRANSPORTATION FIRMS ETC.) WHICH LARGELY ACCORDS WITH EXPECTATIONS RECORDED IN THE LAST SURVEY.

THE BUSINESS OUTLOOK OF THE 'MANUFACTURING' SECTOR FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR CONTINUES TO BE FAVOURABLE, AS RESPONDENTS INDICATE THAT ON THE WHOLE THE LEVEL OF BUSINESS IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1983 WILL BE MAINTAINED IN THE FIRST QUARTER. THIS SHOWS AN UNUSUAL DEGREE OF OPTIMISM BECAUSE THE FIRST QUARTER IS USUALLY A SEASONAL TROUGH, ACCORDING TO HISTORICAL EXPERIENCE.

RESPONDENTS IN THE 'WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS' SECTOR EXPECT THE BUSINESS SITUATION TO REMAIN ON THE WHOLE STABLE IN THE FIRST QUARTER WHILE FIRMS IN THE 'OTHER SERVICES' SECTOR LOOK FORWARD TO CONSIDERABLE IMPROVEMENTS IN BUSINESS IN THE FIRST QUARTER.

/IN CONTRAST

IN CONTRAST TO THE FAVOURABLE BUSINESS SITUATIONS ANTICIPATED BY FIRMS IN THE 'MANUFACTURING' AND 'SERVICES' SECTORS, FIRMS IN THE 'CONSTRUCTION' SECTOR STILL HOLD A PESSIMISTIC VIEW ABOUT THEIR IMMEDIATE BUSINESS PROSPECTS. THEY INDICATE THAT THE DOWNTREND IN CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES WILL CONTINUE AND NO SIGNS OF RECOVERY ARE EVIDENT IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1984.

IMPROVEMENTS IN BUSINESS WERE REPORTED BY FIRMS IN THE MAJORITY OF THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1983. FIRMS IN THE 'WEARING APPAREL' AND 'ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPLIANCES AND SUPPLIES' INDUSTRIES EXPERIENCED SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS IN BUSINESS IN THE FOURTH QUARTER AND EXPECT THE FAVOURABLE BUSINESS SITUATION TO CONTINUE INTO THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1984.

FIRMS IN THE 'TEXTILES', 'ELECTRONICS' AND 'WATCHES AND CLOCKS' INDUSTRIES ALSO EXPERIENCED A SIGNIFICANT UPTURN IN BUSINESS IN THE FOURTH QUARTER BUT THEY EXPECT SOME DECLINE IN BUSINESS IN THE FIRST QUARTER, DUE MAINLY TO SEASONAL FACTORS. IN CONTRAST, FIRMS IN THE 'FOOD, BEVERAGE AND TOBACCO' INDUSTRY REPORTED A DETERIORATION IN BUSINESS IN THE FOURTH QUARTER WITH LITTLE PROSPECT OF IMPROVEMENT. FIRMS IN THE 'PLASTICS' INDUSTRY ALSO EXPERIENCED NO IMPROVEMENT IN BUSINESS IN THE FOURTH QUARTER, WITH LITTLE CHANGE IN PROSPECTS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER.

AS FOR THE 'CONSTRUCTION' SECTOR, THE DETERIORATION IN BUSINESS CONTINUED TO AFFECT FIRMS IN THIS SECTOR IN THE FOURTH QUARTER AND THIS SITUATION IS EXPECTED TO PERSIST IN THE FIRST QUARTER. FIRMS IN 'WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE' ACHIEVED SOME IMPROVEMENT IN BUSINESS IN THE FOURTH QUARTER AND EXPECT THAT THEIR PERFORMANCE IN THE FIRST QUARTER WILL REMAIN LARGELY UNCHANGED.

RESPONDENTS IN THE 'RESTAURANTS' SECTOR REPORTED LITTLE CHANGE IN BUSINESS IN THE FOURTH QUARTER AND EXPECT SOME DECLINE IN BUSINESS FOR THE FIRST.

SEEN FROM HISTORICAL TRENDS, THE RESTAURANT BUSINESS APPEARED TO HAVE HAD A RATHER UNFAVOURABLE FOURTH QUARTER. PROBABLY BECAUSE THE FOURTH QUARTER BUSINESS LEVEL DID NOT ACHIEVE ITS USUAL IMPROVEMENTS OVER THE THIRD QUARTER, THE SEASONAL DECLINE FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1984 WAS NOT EXPECTED TO BE SUBSTANTIAL. FIRMS IN THE 'HOTELS' SECTOR ACHIEVED A CONSIDERABLE INCREASE IN BUSINESS IN THE FOURTH QUARTER BUT EXPECT A SEASONAL DROP IN BUSINESS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER.

FIRMS IN THE 'OTHER SERVICES' SECTOR RECORDED A SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT IN BUSINESS IN THE FOURTH QUARTER, AND EXPECT FURTHER IMPROVEMENT IN BUSINESS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER. IN PARTICULAR, 'BANKS' EXPERIENCED A SHARP BUSINESS RECOVERY IN THE FOURTH QUARTER, AND ARE VERY CONFIDENT OF FURTHER ADVANCES FOR THE FIRST QUARTER. SIGNIFICANT BUSINESS UPTURN WAS ATTAINED BY THE 'TRANSPORTATION' BUSINESS AND A STABLE OUTLOOK IS EXPECTED FOR THE FIRST QUARTER.

FOR THE 'MANUFACTURING' SECTOR, THE INTENSITY OF THE PROBLEMS OF UNCERTAINTIES DUE TO EXCHANGE RATE FLUCTUATIONS AND HIGH INTEREST RATES DECLINED CONSIDERABLY IN THE FOURTH QUARTER AND ARE EXPECTED TO EASE OFF FURTHER IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1984. HOWEVER, HIGH MATERIAL PRICES REMAINED A PROMINENT PROBLEM WITH LITTLE PROSPECT OF IMPROVEMENT IN THE NEXT QUARTER.

AS REGARDS THE 'CONSTRUCTION' AND NON-MANUFACTURING SECTORS, THE PROBLEM OF UNCERTAINTIES DUE TO EXCHANGE RATE FLUCTUATIONS EASED OFF IN THE FOURTH QUARTER. HOWEVER, CONSTRUCTION FIRMS STILL CONSIDER PRICE COMPETITION FROM FIRMS IN HONG KONG AND INSUFFICIENT BUSINESS CONTRACTS AS THE MAJOR PROBLEMS FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1983 AND FIRST QUARTER OF 1984.

RESPONDENTS IN BOTH 'RESTAURANTS' AND 'WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE' CONTINUED TO INDICATE PRICE COMPETITION AS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM IN THE FOURTH QUARTER AND EXPECT THIS TO PERSIST IN THE FIRST QUARTER. ALTHOUGH PARTICIPATING FIRMS IN THE 'HOTELS' BUSINESS STILL REGARD PRICE COMPETITION AS THE MAJOR PROBLEM FOR BOTH THE FOURTH AND FIRST QUARTERS, THE STRAIN OF THIS PROBLEM EASED IN THE FOURTH QUARTER AS COMPARED WITH THE SITUATION OF THE PREVIOUS SURVEY.

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT SAID THAT THE SURVEY RESULTS, OBTAINED WITH A MINIMUM TIME LAG, WERE BASICALLY INTENDED TO PROVIDE ONE SOURCE OF REFERENCE FOR MAKING A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF THE CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION OF HONG KONG.

PARTICIPATING FIRMS WERE ASKED TO INDICATE WHETHER, IN THEIR OPINIONS, THE GENERAL BUSINESS SITUATION AND LEVEL OF CAPACITY UTILISATION HAD 'IMPROVED', 'REMAINED THE SAME' OR 'DETERIORATED' IN THE IMMEDIATE PAST QUARTER, AS COMPARED WITH THE QUARTER BEFORE. THEY WERE ALSO ASKED TO INDICATE WHETHER THE SITUATION WILL 'IMPROVE', 'REMAIN THE SAME' OR 'DETERIORATE' IN THE FORTHCOMING QUARTER. THE BALANCE OF OPINIONS OF RESPONDENTS WAS TABULATED AND ANALYSED.

THE SURVEY REPORT ALSO CONTAINS A SECTION ON BUSINESS PROBLEMS EXPERIENCED AND EXPECTED BY FIRMS IN DIFFERENT ECONOMIC SECTORS AND A BREAKDOWN OF VIEWS OF FIRMS BY SIZE GROUPS.

THE DEPARTMENT CAUTIONED THAT FOR A SURVEY OF THIS NATURE, THE RESULTS SHOULD BE INTERPRETED WITH CARE AS IT WAS DIFFICULT TO ESTABLISH PRECISELY THE EXTENT TO WHICH RESPONDENTS' PERCEPTION OF THE PAST AND THE FUTURE ACCORDS WITH THE UNDERLYING TRENDS.

COPIES OF THE REPORT, CONTAINING AN ANALYSIS OF THE SURVEY FINDINGS AND STATISTICAL TABLES, HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO FIRMS TAKING PART IN THE SURVEY AND TO OTHER BUSINESS ORGANISATIONS. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY OBTAIN COPIES FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALE CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, AT \$3 PER COPY.

FURTHER DETAILS ON THE QUARTERLY BUSINESS SURVEY MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE NATIONAL INCOME BRANCH OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AT 5-423401.

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NEED FOR INDUSTRIAL SAFETY EFFORT STRESSED
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THE ESTABLISHMENT OF INDUSTRY-BASED SAFETY SUB-COMMITTEES IS AIMED AT INDUCING MOTIVATION AND CO-OPERATION FROM ALL PARTIES CONCERNED WITH PROMOTING INDUSTRIAL SAFETY.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, DR JAMES HAYES, TODAY (MONDAY), AT THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE METALWARE INDUSTRY SAFETY SUB-COMMITTEE.

THIS SUB-COMMITTEE IS THE FIFTH ONE FORMED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND ACCIDENT PREVENTION, COMPRISING REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATIONS AND TRADE UNIONS AS MEMBERS. SIMILAR SUB-COMMITTEES FOR THE SHIPBUILDING AND SHIPREPAIRING, CONSTRUCTION, TEXTILES AND PLASTICS INDUSTRIES HAVE ALREADY BEEN FORMED.

EXPLAINING THE BACKGROUND FOR FORMING THE NEW SUB-COMMITTEE, DR HAYES POINTED OUT THAT IN 1983 THERE WERE 3 977 ACCIDENTS IN THE METALWARE INDUSTRY, LOWER ONLY IN NUMBER TO THE CONSTRUCTION AND GARMENT INDUSTRIES. IN THE SAME YEAR, THERE WERE NO FEWER THAN 806 INSTANCES IN WHICH MECHANICAL PRESS OPERATORS HAD THEIR HANDS OR FINGERS CRUSHED AT WORK.

WHILE THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN PROMOTING SAFETY AT WORK THROUGH ENACTING AND ENFORCING SAFETY LEGISLATION, TAKING OUT PROSECUTIONS FOR BREACHES OF THE LEGISLATION, AND PROVIDING EDUCATION, TRAINING AND PUBLICITY, EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS HAD AN EQUALLY IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN ENSURING SAFETY AT WORK.

WITHOUT GOOD MOTIVATION AND CO-OPERATION FROM ALL SIDES, ANY EFFORT TO IMPROVE SAFETY AT WORK WAS LIKELY TO BE INEFFECTIVE. IT WAS FOR THIS REASON THAT INDUSTRY-BASED SAFETY SUB-COMMITTEES HAD BEEN FORMED.

THE NEW SUB-COMMITTEE'S TERMS OF REFERENCE ARE TO PRODUCE A CODE OF SAFE WORKING PRACTICES FOR THE METALWARE INDUSTRY AND TO PROMOTE AND SUSTAIN A GROWING INTEREST IN IMPROVING SAFETY AT WORK.

DR HAYES STRESSED THAT THE SUB-COMMITTEE COULD ONLY ACHIEVE ITS AIMS IF THERE WAS ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT.

NOTING THAT INTEREST AND INPUT FROM ALL ITS MEMBERS WAS VITAL, HE APPEALED FOR THEIR REGULAR ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION.

HE TOLD THE MEMBERS : +WE PARTICULARLY VALUE YOUR PRACTICAL ADVICE AND YOUR DEEP KNOWLEDGE IN THIS FIELD IN HELPING TO ESTABLISH REALISTIC SAFETY STANDARDS AND DRAW UP LEGISLATION AND CODES OF PRACTICES.

+WITHOUT THE PARTICIPATION BY EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATIONS AND UNIONS REPRESENTED ON THE SAFETY SUB-COMMITTEE, THE SUB-COMMITTEE'S WORK WOULD LACK SUBSTANCE AND THE MEANS TO PUT ACROSS THE IMPORTANT MESSAGE OF WORK SAFETY TO ALL CONCERNED.+

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AUXILIARY AIR FORCE GEARED FOR BUSY YEAR
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THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY AIR FORCE FLEW 481 EMERGENCY MISSIONS LAST YEAR, NEARLY 60 PER CENT MORE THAN THE 308 FLOWN IN 1982.

AND IT IS GEARED FOR A GREATER CALL ON ITS SERVICES THIS YEAR, ITS CHIEF STAFF OFFICER, SQUADRON LEADER J.G. SHAWCROSS, SAID TODAY.

ONE REASON FOR THE EXPECTED INCREASE IN ACTIVITY IS BECAUSE MORE LOCAL FISHING VESSELS ARE BEING FITTED WITH RADIO COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT.

ANOTHER IS THAT MORE ACCIDENTS ARE LIKELY TO OCCUR WITH THE INCREASE IN OIL DRILLING OPERATIONS IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA, INVOLVING OIL RIGS AND DRILLING VESSELS, HE EXPLAINED.

OF THE 481 EMERGENCY MISSIONS CARRIED OUT LAST YEAR, 88 WERE ON SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS, MOSTLY FOR LOST VESSELS, HIKERS AND MOUNTAIN CLIMBERS. AND IN THESE OPERATIONS, 62 WERE CARRIED OUT BY HELICOPTERS -- AGAINST 9 SUCH FLIGHTS IN 1982, AND 26 WERE DONE BY FIXED-WING AIRCRAFT, AGAINST 6 THE YEAR BEFORE.

THE OTHER EMERGENCY MISSIONS WERE FOR CASUALTY AND MEDICAL EVACUATION, WITH 256 CASES, AND FOR FIRE-FIGHTING PURPOSES, COVERING 137 CALLS.

THE RHKAAF HAS A FLEET OF FOUR FIXED-WING AIRCRAFT AND THREE DAUPHIN HELICOPTERS.

+OWING TO TYPHOONS AND THE INCLEMENT WEATHER, SHIP WRECKS WERE PARTICULARLY FREQUENT LAST YEAR,+ THE SENIOR OBSERVER CREWMAN, MR LEN LEUNG SAID.

THE SEARCH FOR THE MISSING CREW OF THE BARQUENTINE +OSPREY+ AFTER TYPHOON ELLEN STRUCK HONG KONG IN SEPTEMBER LASTED SIX DAYS.

+THE SEARCH WAS THE BIGGEST AND THE LONGEST OPERATION CARRIED OUT BY THE FORCE IN WHICH 32 SORTIES WERE MADE, TOTALLING 82.55 FLYING HOURS. THE ENTIRE FLEET WAS INVOLVED IN THE SEARCH AROUND THE WAN SHAN CHUN TAO,+ MR LEUNG SAID.

FIRE FIGHTING CALLOUTS WERE ANOTHER MAJOR AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY.

LAST YEAR THE AUXILIARY FORCE MADE 137 FLIGHTS TO HELP PUT OUT HILL FIRES, NEARLY DOUBLING THE NUMBER IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR AND DUMPING ABOUT 2 400 TONS OF WATER.

+THE INCREASE IN THE CALLOUTS REFLECTED NOT ONLY A RISE IN THE NUMBER OF HILL FIRES LAST YEAR, BUT ALSO THE GROWING PREFERENCE FOR THE HELICOPTER AS A MEANS FOR BATTLING FIRES IN THE INACCESSIBLE REGIONS ON HILL TOP AND IN COUNTRY PARK,+ MR LEUNG EXPLAINED.

/+THE METHOD,

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+THE METHOD, WIDELY KNOWN AS 'WATER BOMBING', IS DONE BY SIMPLY RELEASING A CASCADE OF WATER ONTO THE FIRE LINES FROM AN UNDERSLUNG BUCKET FILLED UP WITH WATER IN A NEARBY RESERVOIR.

+A BUCKET CAN HOLD UP TO 220 GALLONS OF WATER AND THE METHOD HAS PROVED VERY EFFECTIVE TO STOP FIRES FROM SPREADING,+ HE ADDED.

ALTHOUGH HILL FIRE AND RESCUE CALLOUTS ROSE SHARPLY LAST YEAR, CASUALTY AND MEDICAL EVACUATIONS STILL ACCOUNTED FOR THE BIGGEST SHARE OF EMERGENCY FLIGHTS.

LAST YEAR, THE FORCE HANDLED 256 SUCH CALLS, 14 PER CENT MORE THAN IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR. HEART PROBLEMS AND TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS TOPPED THE LIST REQUIRING EVACUATION, FOLLOWED BY DIFFICULT CHILDBIRTH, INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS, SNAKE BITES, HEAT STROKE AND EXHAUSTION.

THE RHKAAF ALSO PLAYS AN ESSENTIAL, COMPLEMENTARY ROLE TO THE AMBULANCE SERVICE. WITHOUT ITS HELP, MANY OF THE CASUALTIES IN THE OUTLYING ISLANDS AND IN THE REMOTE PARTS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES MIGHT NOT HAVE SURVIVED.

THE FORCE LAST YEAR EVEN EXPANDED ITS SERVICE TO COVER EMERGENCY EVACUATIONS IN THE CHAI WAN AND SHAU KEI WAN DISTRICTS IN ORDER TO BEAT TRAFFIC CONGESTION, LIFTING 12 SUCH CASUALTIES.

THE EMERGENCY FLIGHTS FORM A PART OF THE FORCE'S DAILY ROUTINE, WHICH INCLUDES PROVIDING AIR SERVICES FOR GOVERNMENT WORK AND VISITING VIPS.

+LOOKING AHEAD, E ARE EXPECTING FURTHER GROWTH IN THE DEMAND FOR EMERGENCY SERVICE,+ SQD LDR SHAWCROSS SAID.

+BUT EVEN WITH THE INCREASED DEMAND FOR EMERGENCY FLIGHTS, WE EXPECT TO BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN THE SAME LEVEL OF SERVICE AND TO HANDLE THE WORKLOAD IN AN EQUALLY SATISFACTORY MANNER,+ HE ADDED.

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TUEN MUN TO HAVE PRIMARY SCHOOL 21
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A START WILL BE MADE LATER THIS MONTH ON BUILDING TUEN MUN'S TWENTY-FIRST PRIMARY SCHOOL.

A PILING CONTRACT VALUED AT \$647 000 HAS BEEN AWARDED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

IT WILL TAKE THREE MONTHS TO COMPLETE, FOLLOWING WHICH WORK ON BUILDING THE SUPERSTRUCTURE WILL BEGIN UNDER A SEPARATE CONTRACT.

THE SCHOOL IS EXPECTED TO BE READY BEFORE SEPTEMBER NEXT YEAR.

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IT IS BEING BUILT ON A 5 220-SQUARE-METRE SITE AT CASTLE PEAK ROAD, WONG KA WAI.

THE SIX-STOREY BUILDING WILL HAVE 24 CLASSROOMS ON THE UPPER FLOORS, AND A COVERED PLAY AREA AND CHANGING ROOMS ON THE GROUND FLOOR.

TUEN MUN'S POPULATION IS 190 000 AT PRESENT, AND IS FORECAST TO GROW TO OVER 500 000 BY 1990.

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VEHICLE DEPOT TO BE EXPANDED
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THE GOVERNMENT IS TO EXPAND MAINTENANCE AND SERVICING FACILITIES AT ITS VEHICLE DEPOT IN TUEN MUN.

THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT HAS AWARDED A \$1.5 MILLION CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF AN ANNEX TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SERVICING AND REPAIR FACILITIES FOR GOVERNMENT VEHICLES SERVING THE WESTERN NEW TERRITORIES.

WORK UNDER THE CONTRACT WILL INVOLVE BUILDING 12 SERVICING BAYS, INCLUDING FOUR LUBRICATING PITS.

ALTERATIONS WILL ALSO BE MADE TO EXISTING OFFICES, STOREROOMS AND WORKSHOPS IN THE DEPOT.

WORK WILL START AFTER THIS MONTH AND BE COMPLETED BY AUGUST.

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'CLEAN AND GREEN' STAGE ONE ENDING
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PARTICIPANTS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE EDUCATION SCHEME, THE 'CLEAN AND GREEN PROJECT', ARE REMINDED THAT THEY HAVE ONLY LESS THAN TWO WEEKS TO COMPLETE THE FIRST STAGE OF THE PROJECT.

THE PROJECT IS A COMPETITION ORGANISED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT TO PROMOTE A CLEANER AND GREENER COUNTRYSIDE, PARTICULARLY IN THE COUNTRY PARKS.

UNDER THE FIRST STAGE OF THE PROJECT, ENDING ON FEBRUARY 29, ALL PARTICIPANTS HAVE TO HAND IN THREE BAGS OF LITTER PICKED UP FROM COUNTRY PARKS TO STAFF AT THE PARKS.

TO MAKE THEMSELVES ELIGIBLE FOR THE SECOND STAGE OF THE PROJECT, THOUSANDS OF PARTICIPANTS, MOSTLY YOUNGSTERS, HAVE ALREADY BEEN GOING TO THE COUNTRY PARKS TO COLLECT LITTER.

/LETTERS WILL

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LETTERS WILL BE SENT TO THOSE WHO HAVE COMPLETED THE FIRST STAGE OF THE PROJECT, INVITING THEM TO TAKE PART IN THE SECOND STAGE NEXT MONTH, INVOLVING TREE PLANTING AND A SPECIAL CONTEST ON DESIGN.

THE PROJECT CONSISTS OF A TOTAL OF FIVE STAGES LASTING UNTIL AUTUMN THIS YEAR.

IT CARRIES A GRAND PRIZE OF A CAMPING TRIP TO AUSTRALIA FOR THE PARTICIPANT WHO SCORES THE MOST POINTS.

THE PROJECT IS SPONSORED BY THE ROTARY CLUB OF KOWLOON EAST.

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BOARD MEMBERS TO DISCUSS ACCESS FACILITIES
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THE PROPOSED ACCESS FACILITIES TO THE WAN CHAI RECLAMATION WILL BE TABLED FOR DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS' DISCUSSION AT THEIR MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON.

A CHIEF ENGINEER FROM THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, MR J.A. KESSLER, WILL BRIEF MEMBERS ON THE PROPOSED FACILITIES BASED ON A STUDY CONDUCTED BY A CONSULTANT FIRM FOR THE OFFICE.

THE STUDY WAS CONDUCTED LAST MAY TO CATER FOR THE ENVISAGED TRAFFIC DEMANDS WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE WAN CHAI RECLAMATION.

AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE URBAN COUNCIL'S REVISED CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA WILL INCLUDE A REVIEW OF THE TRIAL SCHEME ON REFUSE DISPOSAL BY PLASTIC BAGS, AN ANTI-OVERLOADING ON BUSES+ PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN, A STREET LIGHTING PROGRAMME IN THE DISTRICT, AND PROGRESS REPORTS ON THE BOARD'S COMMITTEES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD MEETING AT 4 PM ON TUESDAY (FEBRUARY 21) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE EIGHTH FLOOR OF TUNG WAH MANSION, 201 HENNESSY ROAD, HONG KONG.

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VALUE OF MACS AS TRAINING BASE STRESSED
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MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND OWNERS' INCORPORATIONS ARE IMPORTANT BASES FOR NURTURING AND TRAINING UP LEADERS TO PROMOTE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MR SYLVESTER TSE, SAID THIS (MONDAY) EVENING.

HE NOTED THAT MANY COMMUNITY LEADERS, SUCH AS DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS, URBAN COUNCILLORS AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLORS, HAD PREVIOUSLY SERVED IN THE MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES OR OWNERS' INCORPORATIONS.

MR TSE WAS ADDRESSING A GATHERING OF ABOUT 700 REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE LOCAL MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND OWNERS' INCORPORATIONS AT A FIRE PREVENTION SEMINAR.

HE SAID SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE SCHEME IN 1973, MORE THAN 200 SUCH COMMITTEES AND 160 OWNERS' INCORPORATIONS HAD BEEN FORMED IN SHAM SHUI PO.

WITH THE SETTING UP OF THESE ORGANISATIONS, OWNERS AND RESIDENTS OF THE BUILDINGS ARE ABLE TO HELP SOLVE PROBLEMS ON BUILDING MANAGEMENT, SECURITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANLINESS, HE SAID.

THE ORGANISATIONS ALSO PROVIDE A PLATFORM FOR THE PROMOTION OF A SENSE OF BELONGING AND NEIGHBOURLINESS THROUGH THE ORGANISATION OF VARIOUS RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES, HE SAID.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

BOARD TO SHOW ACHIEVEMENTS
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A WEEK-LONG EXHIBITION ENTITLED +MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD 721+ WILL START AT THE ARGYLE STREET MTR STATION FROM 8 AM TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

IT WILL INCLUDE PHOTOGRAPHS AND A VIDEO TAPE SHOW ON ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE BOARD AND ITS COMMITTEES IN THE PAST 721 DAYS.

JOINTLY OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE THE CHAIRMEN OF MONG KOK'S FIVE AREA COMMITTEES, NAMELY MR LAU CHI-MAN (EAST), MR YIP CHI-HOI (SOUTH), MR CHAN HON-CHUNG (WEST), MR HUNG WAI-MAN (NORTH) AND MR POON CHEUNG (TAI KOK TSUI).

ALSO PRESENT WILL BE THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR WILFRED WONG.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE +MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD 721+ EXHIBITION TO BE HELD TOMORROW AT 10 AM AT THE ARGYLE STREET MTR STATION.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

OPENING OF CHAI WAN CARGO WORKING AREA
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THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE, MR P.E.J. DAVY, AND MR LI NAN, VICE CHAIRMAN AND GENERAL MANAGER OF CHU KONG SHIPPING COMPANY LIMITED, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE NEW CHAI WAN PUBLIC CARGO WORKING AREA AT 3 PM ON FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 24).

THE CHAI WAN PUBLIC CARGO WORKING AREA IS LOCATED AT THE JUNCTION OF SHEUNG ON STREET AND KA YIP STREET, CHAI WAN.

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CEREMONY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

ANOTHER CENTRE OPENING
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MR YEUNG PO-KWAN, UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, AND MR RON BRIDGE, THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S KOWLOON CAREERS INFORMATION CENTRE ON THE 9TH FLOOR OF THE TO KWA WAN MARKET AND GOVERNMENT OFFICES AT 165 MA TAU WEI ROAD AT 4.15 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAS SET UP THREE CAREERS INFORMATION CENTRES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE HARBOUR, AIMED AT ACQUAINTING YOUNG PEOPLE WITH THE WORLD OF WORK. EACH CENTRE HAS A REFERENCE LIBRARY AND VARIOUS AUDIO-VISUAL AIDS AND STAFF THERE HANDLE ANY QUESTIONS OR ENQUIRIES CONCERNING FURTHER STUDIES AND CAREERS.

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CEREMONY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

NEW ADDRESS
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THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DIVISION ON THE 9TH FLOOR OF THE CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN YAUMATI HAS BEEN MOVED TO THE 9TH FLOOR OF THE YAUMATI CARPARK BUILDING.

PLANS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL UNDER THE AIR POLLUTION CONTROL (FURNACES, OVENS AND CHIMNEYS)(INSTALLATION AND ALTERATION) REGULATIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO THE NEW ADDRESS.

THE NEW OFFICE'S TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR ENQUIRIES IS 3-304416.

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1984

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TEMPORARY GLOUCESTER ROAD TRAFFIC PLAN
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FROM 0.30 AM TO 6 AM DAILY ON WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY AND FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 22, 23, AND 24), THE WESTBOUND SERVICE ROAD OF GLOUCESTER ROAD FROM ARSENAL STREET TO 28 METRES WEST OF FENWICK STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FOR WORKS.

DURING THE CLOSURE, THE SLIP ROAD CONNECTING THE WESTBOUND SERVICE ROAD OF GLOUCESTER ROAD WITH THE WESTBOUND MAIN CARRIAGEWAY OF GLOUCESTER ROAD NEAR FENWICK STREET, WHICH IS RESTRICTED TO BUSES AT PRESENT, WILL BE TEMPORARILY OPENED TO ALL VEHICLES.

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EARLY MORNING TAPS OFF
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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN TSZ WAN SHAN WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 11 PM ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 23) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY TSZ WAN SHAN ROAD, WAN WAH STREET AND SHEUNG FUNG STREET, INCLUDING BLOCK NO. 17 TO 32 OF TSZ WAN SHAN ESTATE.

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