DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GOVERNMENT SERIOUSLY CONCERNED OVER ATTACK - SIR EDWARD

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THE GOVERNMENT IS +VERY SERIOUSLY CONCERNED+ ABOUT THE RECENT ATTACK ON A MEMBER OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID THIS (MONDAY) AFTERNOON.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE SHAW BUILDINGS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, SIR EDWARD SAID HE HAD HAD A PERSONAL REPORT FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE ABOUT THE INCIDENT TODAY, AND THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED IT WITH BOTH THE CHIEF SECRETARY AND THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION.

+THE POLICE HAD AN IMMEDIATE AND THOROUGH INQUIRY, INVESTIGATION INTO IT IS IN PROCESS NOW.

+BUT WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT IT, AND YOU MAY BE ASSURED THAT THE INVESTIGATION WILL BE A VERY THOROUGH ONE,+ HE SAID.

ASKED FOR THE REASON BEHIND THE ATTACK, SIR EDWARD SAID HE MUST LEAVE THAT TO THE POLICE INVESTIGATION AT THIS STAGE BEFORE COMING TO ANY CONCLUSIONS.

ON WHETHER PEOPLE HAD OVER-REACTED TO THE INCIDENT, HE SAID HE COULD UNDERSTAND THAT THERE WAS CONCERN OVER SUCH AN INCIDENT.

+AS YOU KNOW, A NUMBER OF COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS HAVE EXPRESSED VIEWS ON IT.

+AND TOMORROW AFTERNOON I SHALL SEE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD WHO HAS ASKED TO COME TO REPRESENT TO ME THE VIEWS AND FEELINGS ON IT,+ HE SAID.

ASKED WHETHER DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS SHOULD BE GIVEN PROTECTION, SIR EDWARD SAID HE HOPED HE WOULD GET SOME REACTIONS ON WHAT THE VIEWS OF DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WERE ON THE INCIDENT TOMORROW AFTERNOON.

+IT IS OF COURSE THE CASE THAT IF ANYBODY IS CONCERNED ABOUT HIS SECURITY OR SAFETY, HE SHOULD GET IN TOUCH WITH THE POLICE WHO ARE WELL EXPERIENCED IN DEALING WITH THESE MATTERS,+ HE ADDED.

ON THE FORMAT OF THE NEW PASSPORT, SIR EDWARD SAID IT WOULD NOT BE TOO LONG BEFORE THERE WOULD BE AN ANSWER TO THAT.

AS FOR THE ORDER IN COUNCIL, HIS ANSWER WAS +AGAIN, NOT TOO LONG+.

AND IN REPLY TO A QUESTION ON WHETHER HE HAS A +FIXED DATE+ FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF THE NEW LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS, HE SAID, +I HAVE A DATE BUT I HAVEN'T QUITE FIXED IT.+

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QUARTERLY JOBLESS RATE STABLE AT 3.3 PER CENT

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THE UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION REMAINED STABLE WHILE THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT SITUATION DETERIORATED SLIGHTLY IN THE QUARTER JUNE - AUGUST 1985 WHEN COMPARED WITH THE QUARTER ENDING MAY 1985, ACCORDING TO THE LATEST LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR JUNE - AUGUST 1985 WAS 3.3 PER CENT, COMPARED WITH THE RATE OF 3.2 PER CENT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING MAY 1985. THE RATE FOR JUNE - AUGUST 1984 WAS 3.4 PER CENT. THE INCREASE OF 0.1 PERCENTAGE POINT OVER THE PREVIOUS QUARTER AND THE DECREASE OF 0.1 PERCENTAGE POINT OVER THE YEAR ARE BOTH STATISTICALLY NOT SIGNIFICANT.

THE NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS IN THE QUARTER ENDING AUGUST 1985 WAS ESTIMATED TO BE 88 100, COMPARED WITH 83 700 FOR THE QUARTER ENDING MAY 1985 AND 90 800 FOR THE SAME QUARTER OF 1984.

THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE FOR JUNE - AUGUST 1985 WAS 1.4 PER CENT, COMPARED WITH THE RATE OF 1.0 PER CENT FOR THE PREVIOUS QUARTER. THE RATE FOR JUNE - AUGUST 1984 WAS 0.9 PER CENT. THE INCREASES OF 0.4 PERCENTAGE POINT OVER THE PREVIOUS QUARTER AND 0.5 PERCENTAGE POINT OVER THE YEAR ARE BOTH STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT - THAT IS, THEY ARE GREATER THAN MIGHT BE EXPECTED TO ARISE FROM SAMPLING ERROR.

THE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF UNDEREMPLOYED PERSONS FOR THE QUARTER ENDING AUGUST 1985 WAS 36 000 COMPARED WITH 26 700 FOR THE QUARTER ENDING MAY 1985 AND 24 500 FOR THE SAME QUARTER OF 1984.

CONSISTENT WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (ILO), PERSONS WHO WORKED LESS THAN 35 HOURS A WEEK WERE REGARDED AS UNDEREMPLOYED ONLY IF THEY WERE SEEKING MORE WORK OR WERE NOT SEEKING MORE WORK BECAUSE THEY BELIEVED MORE WORK WAS NOT AVAILABLE.

COMMENTING UPON THESE FIGURES, THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS SAID THAT BECAUSE THE PROPORTION OF FIRST-TIME JOB SEEKERS (E.G. PEOPLE WHO HAVE JUST LEFT SCHOOL) VARIES FROM MONTH TO MONTH, THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATES WHICH HAD BEEN SEASONALLY ADJUSTED FOR THE VARIATION IN FIRST-TIME JOB SEEKERS SHOULD BE USED IN MAKING COMPARISONS OVER TIME.

HE ADDED THAT BASED ON A SYSTEM OF MANUAL EXTRACTION OF INFORMATION FROM SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRES FOR THE LATEST MONTH, PROVISIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATES COVERING THE LASTEST MOVING THREE-MONTH PERIOD COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE WITHIN TWO WEEKS AFTER THE SURVEY. THESE PROVIDE AN EARLY INDICATION OF THE LATEST TREND IN THE UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT SITUATION. THE PROVISIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED) FOR JULY - SEPTEMBER 1985 WAS 3.7 PER CENT, AND THE PROVISIONAL UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE WAS 1.3 PER CENT. HOWEVER, IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE WILL BE LOWER AFTER SESAONAL ADJUSTMENT. THE UNADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR JUNE - AUGUST 1985 WAS 3.6 PER CENT.

/THE UNEMPLOYMENT .....

THE UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT STATISTICS WERE OBTAINED FROM A CONTINUOUS GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY (GHS) CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT. THIS SURVEY COVERS A QUARTERLY SAMPLE OF SOME 14 000 HOUSEHOLDS OR 52 000 PERSONS, SELECTED SCIENTIFICALLY TO REPRESENT THE LAND-BASED CIVILIAN NON-INSTITUTIONAL POPULATION IN HONG KONG.

PERSONAL AND LABOUR FORCE DATA WERE OBTAINED IN THE SURVEY BY INTERVIEWING EACH INDIVIDUAL MEMBER AGED 15 AND ABOVE IN THE HOUSEHOLDS SAMPLED.

IN THE SURVEY, THE DEFINITIONS USED IN MEASURING UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT FOLLOW CLOSELY THOSE RECOMMENDED BY THE ILO.

THE COMMISSIONER ALSO SAID THAT TO CONFORM TO THE LATEST STANDARDS RECOMMENDED BY THE ILO, THE GHS DEFINITIONS OF +UNEMPLOYMENT+ AND +UNDEREMPLOYMENT+ HAD BEEN MODIFIED SINCE JANUARY 1985. HOWEVER, A COMPLETE CONVERSION WILL ONLY BE INTRODUCED IN MAY 1986 WHEN A SUFFICIENTLY LONG SERIES OF THE STATISTICS UNDER THE NEW DEFINITIONS IS AVAILABLE. USING THE NEW DEFINITIONS THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR JUNE - AUGUST 1985 WAS 3.2 PER CENT, AND THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE WAS 2.0 PER CENT.

DETAILED ANALYSIS OF LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS IS GIVEN IN THE REPORT ON THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY WHICH IS PUBLISHED FOUR TIMES A YEAR. THE NEXT REPORT, COVERING THE QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER 1985, WILL BE ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE IN DECEMBER.

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MISSION TO NORTH AMERICA A SUCCESS -- CHEONG-LEEN

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THE URBAN COUNCIL'S DUAL MISSION TO NORTH AMERICA HAD BEEN A SUCCESS ON ALL THREE FRONTS -- IN UPDATING COUNCILLORS ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN CITY SERVICES, IN ENABLING A LOOK-AND-LEARN PARTY TO SEE THE VERY LATEST IN MUSEUM DEVELOPMENTS, AND IN FURTHER CEMENTING TIES BETWEEN HONG KONG AND NORTH AMERICA.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, MR HILTON CHEONG-LEEN, SAID THIS TODAY WHEN SUMMING UP THE 12-DAY VISIT TO NORTH AMERICA.

ON THE STREAMLINING OF OPERATIONS, MR CHEONG-LEEN SAID THE HONG KONG PARTY INVESTIGATED HOW TORONTO, VANCOUVER AND SAN FRANCISCO SPEEDED UP APPLICATIONS FOR RESTAURANT LICENCES, LONG A SUBJECT OF CRITICAL EXAMINATION HERE BY THE COUNCIL.

/+THEY HAVE .....

+THEY HAVE METHODS OF CO-ORDINATING THEIR BUILDING, ZONING, FIRE AND HEALTH REGULATIONS THAT RESULT IN MUCH FASTER PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS,+ SAID MR CHEONG-LEEN.

+WE WILL NOW HAVE TO LOOK INTO WHETHER SUCH METHODS COULD BE ADAPTED TO WORK IN WITH PROPOSED CHANGES TO OUR REGULATIONS THAT ARE ALREADY IN THE PIPELINE.+

CONCERNING BREACHES OF HEALTH REGULATIONS BY RESTAURANT OPERATORS, THESE CITIES TOOK A MUCH HARDER LINE ON DIRTY RESTAURANTS, SUSPENDING LICENCES FOR LONGER PERIODS THAN WAS THE CASE IN HONG KONG.

TURNING TO RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, MR CHEONG-LEEN SAID THAT AMERICAN CITIES, VANCOUVER IN PARTICULAR, MADE CONSIDERABLE USE OF VOLUNTEER WORKERS, PARTICULARLY FOR WEEKEND AND HOLIDAY COMMITMENTS WHEN VENUES WERE HEAVILY USED BUT STAFF HAD TO BE PAID OVERTIME.

+THIS IS AN APPROACH WORTH LOOKING INTO,+ HE SAID.

ON STREET HAWKING, MR CHEONG-LEEN SAID THAT THIS WAS A PROBLEM THAT WAS FAST EMERGING IN TORONTO.

+HERE IS A CASE WHERE OUR EXPERIENCE WITH THE PROBLEM MIGHT BE VALUABLE TO THEM,+ HE SAID.

+WE WILL BE SENDING THEM COPIES OF THE REPORT OF THE WORKING PARTY ON HAWKER AND RELATED PROBLEMS, AND HOPE THAT ITS RECOMMENDATIONS MIGHT ENABLE THEM TO HEAD OFF SOME OF THE PROBLEMS THAT HAVE DEVELOPED IN HONG KONG.+

A SECOND PARTY, HEADED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF CULTURE SELECT COMMITTEE, MR LAWRENCE FUNG AND DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES, MR AUGUSTINE CHUI KAM, HAD MADE GAINFUL VISITS TO SEVERAL MUSEUMS AND RELATED INSTITUTIONS IN NORTH AMERICAN CITIES TO SEE THE NEWEST DEVELOPMENTS IN MUSEUM DESIGN AND PHILOSOPHY.

+THE GENEROUS CO-OPERATION OF MUSEUM AUTHORITIES IN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES HAS ENSURED THAT OUR ONCOMING MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WILL INCORPORATE THE VERY LATEST IN THINKING ON MUSEUM DESIGN,+ SAID MR CHEONG-LEEN.

FINALLY, THE VISIT HAD CEMENTED RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE THREE CITIES OF NORTH AMERICA WITH LARGE CHINESE POPULATIONS, MANY OF THEM MIGRANTS FROM HONG KONG.

IN ALL THREE CITIES -- VANCOUVER, TORONTO AND SAN FRANCISCO -- THE PARTY HAD NOT ONLY REFRESHED CONTACT WITH CHINESE COMMUNITIES BUT, IN A BUSINESS SENSE, HAD DONE MUCH TO ENCOURAGE FURTHER CANADIAN PARTICIPATION IN HONG KONG'S CONTINUING SUCCESS STORY.

/+INTEREST IN .....

+INTEREST IN HONG KONG IS VERY HIGH IN TORONTO, FOR INSTANCE,+ HE SAID. +WE EVEN WERE ASKED TO SEE IF WE COULD HELP ARRANGE FOR THE HONG KONG EXHIBIT AT NEXT YEAR'S EXPO IN VANCOUVER TO BE DISPLAYED LATER IN TORONTO. THIS WOULD INDEED BE A FURTHER FEATHER IN THE CAP OF HONG KONG AND WE HOPE IT IS POSSIBLE.

+ALSO, WE'RE NOT DISCOUNTING THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE EXHIBIT CAN BE BROUGHT BACK TO HONG KONG SO IT CAN BE SEEN AND ENJOYED HERE TOO.+

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PRESENTATION OF INSIGNIA
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INSIGNIA FOR 81 PEOPLE WILL BE PRESENTED BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, AT A CEREMONY AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE AT 6 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

SEVENTY-NINE RECIPIENTS WERE DECORATED BY THE QUEEN FOR SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC, WHILE TWO WERE AWARDED THE GOVERNOR'S COMMENDATION.

PROFESSOR HO HUNG-CHIU AND MR FRANCIS TIEN YUAN-HAO WILL RECEIVE THE CBE.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

A LIST OF THE RECIPIENTS AT THE INSIGNIA PRESENTATION MAY BE COLLECTED FROM THE GIS NEWS DIVISION AT 4 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

ONLY PHOTOGRAPHERS AND CAMERAMEN WITH SPECIAL PASSES WILL BE ADMITTED TO GOVERNMENT HOUSE. THEY SHOULD MEET GIS OFFICERS IN THE GUARD ROOM NOT LATER THAN 5.30 PM.

NEWSPAPERS WITHOUT SUCH PASSES WILL BE ABLE TO OBTAIN PHOTOGRAPHS BY ARRANGEMENT WITH CAMBRIDGE'S STUDIO, 802, YIP FUNG BUILDING, 8TH FLOOR, 2-12 D'AGUILAR STREET, CENTRAL, TELEPHONE 5-223314.

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RSD STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

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THE WAYS AND MEANS SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL WILL HOLD ITS MONTHLY MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO EXAMINE THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1985.

THE OPEN MEETING BEGINNING AT 2.30 PM WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE COUNCIL'S CHAMBER IN TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK AND GOVERNMENT OFFICE BUILDING, SECOND FLOOR, 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE MEETING.

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SPORTS PROGRAMME FOR QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

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THE NEW REGIONAL COUNCIL WILL ORGANISE THE 1986 QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION SPORTS PROGRAMME ON JUNE 14 ON THE SAME SCALE AS THE ONE HELD THIS YEAR.

A PROPOSAL BY THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO THIS EFFECT WAS ENDORSED BY THE RECREATION AND CULTURE SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL AT A MEETING TODAY (MONDAY).

THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (LEISURE SERVICES) OF THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MR DAVID WEEKS, TOLD THE COMMITTEE THAT THE 1985 PROGRAMME ORGANISED BY THE RSD OFFERED 32 RECREATION AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES. THEY ATTRACTED OVER 7 000 PARTICIPANTS IN THE NON-URBAN AREAS.

MR WEEKS SAID, +THE PROGRAMME WAS DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE TERRITORY-WIDE PARTICIPATION BY AS LARGE A CROSS-SECTION OF THE COMMUNITY AS POSSIBLE, EITHER AS ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS OR AS SPECTATORS. EVENTS ORGANISED INCLUDED SPORTS COMPETITIONS AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES, DEMONSTRATIONS, CARNIVAL-TYPE EVENTS, MILITARY BANDS AND DANCE PERFORMANCES.+

ON LIBRARY FACILITIES IN FANLING, MR WEEKS SAID THAT A SECOND INTERIM LIBRARY - KNOWN AS THE FANLING PUBLIC LIBRARY AND LOCATED AT CHEUNG LOK HOUSE, CHEUNG WAH ESTATE - WOULD BE OPENED TO THE PUBLIC IN NOVEMBER.

/OCCUPYING AN .....

OCCUPYING AN AREA OF 284 SQUARE METRES, THE LIBRARY WOULD HAVE A STOCK OF 12 600 BOOKS IN BOTH CHINESE AND ENGLISH, IN ADDITION TO 70 NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS AND MORE THAN 900 AUDIO CASSETTES.

+THIS AND THE FIRST INTERIM LIBRARY AT THE NORTH DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE AND TOWN HALL MAY EVENTUALLY BE REPLACED BY A FULL-SCALE DISTRICT LIBRARY OF 1 600 SQUARE METRES AT SHEK WU HUI MARKET COMPLEX IN 1988/89,+ MR WEEKS SAID.

THE MEETING WAS ALSO TOLD THAT THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT ORGANISED 995 DISTRICT RECREATION AND SPORTS PROJECTS DURING THE FOUR MONTHS FROM APRIL TO JULY 1985, ATTRACTING A TOTAL OF 53 237 PARTICIPANTS. OF THESE PROJECTS, 158 WERE JOINTLY ORGANISED WITH DISTRICT BOARDS, WHICH CONTRIBUTED $110 697 TOWARDS THE COSTS.

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RSD TO EXTEND PRIVATISED CLEANSING ARRANGEMENT

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THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS TO EXTEND THE EXISTING PILOT SCHEME OF CONTRACTING CLEANSING SERVICES IN SHEK WU HUI TO A PRIVATE FIRM FROM NOVEMBER 1 WHEN THE CURRENT CONTRACT RUNS OUT.

THIS WAS DISCLOSED BY THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL SERVICES, MR MICHAEL SUEN, WHEN HE WAS ADDRESSING THE MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF NEW TERRITORIES THIS EVENING.

HE RECALLED THAT THE SCHEME WAS FIRST CONCEIVED IN EARLY 1983.

+THE OBJECTIVES ARE TO ASSESS PRIVATE CONTRACTORS' ABILITY TO DELIVER, WHEN COMPARED WITH GOVERNMENT DISTRICT LABOUR ARRANGEMENT, AN EQUALLY GOOD OR BETTER STANDARD OF CLEANSING SERVICES, AND, IF SUCCESSFUL, TO HELP TO CONTAIN CIVIL SERVICE GROWTH,+ HE SAID.

+SHEK WU HUI WAS CHOSEN FOR THE PILOT SCHEME BECAUSE IT IS SMALL AND COMPACT IN SIZE SO IT COULD BE EASILY MANAGED BY THE CONTRACTOR.+

ANOTHER REASON, MR SUEN ADDED, IS THAT IT HAS A SLOW PACE OF DEVELOPMENT SO AS NOT TO SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECT THE WORK WITHIN THE 12 MONTHS' CONTRACT PERIOD.

MR SUEN SAID THAT THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS CONSIDERING TO INCLUDE LUEN WO HUI IN THE NORTH DISTRICT IN THE PILOT SCHEME AS THE SMALL TOWNSHIP HAS THE SIMILAR CHARACTERISTICS AS SHEK WU HUI.

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HOI FUNG MANSION GETS A FACELIFT

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UNAUTHORISED ALTERATIONS AND ILLEGAL STRUCTURES IN THE HOI FUNG MANSION IN SHANGHAI STREET HAVE BEEN TAKEN DOWN WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF THE BUILDING'S OWNERS' CORPORATION TO PROVIDE IMPROVED SANITARY CONDITIONS AND A SAFER ACCESS FOR RESIDENTS.

HOI FUNG MANSION, BUILT IN 1976 WITH 26 UNITS HOUSING ABOUT 70 RESIDENTS, WAS ONE OF THE TARGET BUILDINGS CHOSEN BY THE YAU MA TEI BUILDING MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATION TEAM, UNDER THE DISTRICT OFFICE, TO IMPROVE ITS ENVIRONMENT.

+IT WAS ONE OF THE FIRST BUILDINGS TO BE INSPECTED BECAUSE IT HAD BEEN ALTERED TO A STATE WHERE IT BECAME UNSUITABLE FOR PEOPLE TO LIVE IN,+ YAU MA TEI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR AUGUSTINE CHENG, SAID.

ABOUT 73 UNAUTHORISED INSTALLATIONS AND ILLEGAL STRUCTURES WERE DETECTED IN THE BUILDING, THE MOST COMMON BEING THE ALTERATION OF STAIRCASES INTO KITCHENS AND TOILETS, POSING SERIOUS HEALTH AND FIRE HAZARDS TO RESIDENTS.

+THERE WAS NO MEANS OF ESCAPE AS THE OTHER STAIRCASE WAS COVERED AND CLOSED AT THE TOP FLOOR, THE COMMON CORRIDORS HAD BEEN ALTERED INTO LIVING AREAS AND ILLEGAL EXTENSIONS WERE BUILT OUTSIDE THE BUILDING,+ HE SAID.

RECOGNISING THE PROBLEM, THE DISTRICT'S BUILDING CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE, COMPRISING OFFICIALS FROM RELEVANT DEPARTMENTS, DECIDED IN JUNE TO TAKE ACTION TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS OF THE BUILDING.

WITH THE CONCERTED EFFORTS OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE DISTRICT OFFICE, ABOUT 89 PER CENT OF THE IRREGULARITIES WERE RECTIFIED.

+HOI FUNG MANSION WAS GIVEN A FACELIFT WITH THE ESCAPE ROUTE RESTORED, SMOKE DOORS REINSTATED, ILLEGAL STRUCTURES AND EXTENSIONS DEMOLISHED, AND IS NOW A SAFER AND HEALTHIER PLACE FOR RESIDENTS TO LIVE IN,+ MR CHENG SAID.

+THE PROJECT WAS ONE OF THE MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE BUILDING MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATION TEAM SINCE IT WAS SET UP IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE IN APRIL, AND ALSO WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF THE OWNERS' CORPORATION THE EXERCISE WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN SO SMOOTH,+ MR CHENG SAID.

HOI FUNG MANSION, ONE OF THE 30 TARGET BUILDINGS SELECTED BY THE TEAM FOR INTENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT, WILL BE CLOSELY MONITORED UNTIL ALL THE UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURES ARE DEMOLISHED.

THE TEAM, AIMING TO BRING ABOUT A BETTER AND SAFER LIVING ENVIRONMENT TO RESIDENTS IN THE DISTRICT, WILL CONTINUE TO RENDER ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE TO OWNERS' CORPORATIONS AND MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES OF ALL MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS WHICH HAVE PROBLEMS.

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SHARE DISCLOSURES

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THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON TAKEOVERS AND MERGERS UNDER RULE 29 OF THE HONG KONG CODE ON TAKEOVERS AND MERGERS ADVISES THAT ON OCTOBER 11, 1985, WARDLEY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD, A SUBSIDIARY OF WARDLEY LTD ENGAGED IN INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS, HAS DEALT FOR INVESTMENT CLIENTS IN INTERNATIONAL CITY HOLDINGS LTD SHARES AS FOLLOWS: -

DATE	BOUGHT/SOLD	NUMBER OF SHARES	PRICE PER SHARE
11.10.85	SOLD	3,000,000	HKD 0.98
11.10.85	SOLD	5,000,000	HKD 0.975

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YOUTH CHINESE MUSIC FESTIVAL SET FOR NEXT MONTH

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FOUR WELL-KNOWN MUSICIANS FROM CHINA WILL BE TAKING PART IN THE 1985 HONG KONG YOUTH CHINESE MUSIC FESTIVAL, WHICH WILL BE HELD FROM NOVEMBER 2 TO 10.

THE FESTIVAL, WHICH WILL BE THE THIRD ONE, IS ORGANISED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH.

THE AIM IS TO IMPROVE THE STANDARD OF PERFORMANCE OF THE YOUNG MUSICIANS AND TO STIMULATE PUBLIC INTEREST IN CHINESE MUSIC.

THE GUEST MUSICIANS FROM CHINA ARE MR DING YU-FENG (ER-HU), MR LI GUANG-CAI (SUO-NA), MISS PAN O-JING (PI-PA) AND MR CHI XIANG-SHENG (SAN XIAN).

THERE WILL BE CONCERTS, SEMINARS AND MASTER CLASSES.

LECTURE DEMONSTRATIONS AND MASTER CLASSES ON SAN-XIAN, SUO-NA, ER-HU AND PI-PA WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THE VISITING CHINESE MUSICIANS AT YAU MA TEI, KWUN TONG, MONG KOK, TSUEN WAN AND HONG KONG MUSIC CENTRES.

TEN AMATEUR CHINESE ORCHESTRAS WILL BE PERFORMING IN THE FESTIVAL WITH THE OPENING CONCERT TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 3, AND THE FINALE CONCERT TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 10, AT THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY HALL, BOTH STARTING AT 8 PM.

IN SUPPORT OF THE FESTIVAL, THE URBAN COUNCIL WILL CO-PRESENT WITH THE MUSIC OFFICE A STUDENT CONCERT AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM ON NOVEMBER 10.

/MR YEUNG .....

MR YEUNG PO-KWAN, LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, WILL BE THE OFFICIATING GUEST AT THE OPENING CONCERT, AND THE DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES, MR AUGUSTINE CHUI KAM WILL OFFICIATE AT THE FINALE CONCERT.

TICKETS FOR THE OPENING CONCERT AND THE FINALE CONCERT AT $5 EACH ARE ON SALE AT ALL MUSIC CENTRES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE.

FOR ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL 5-458791 AND 0-428127.

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DETAILS ON COMPETITIONS

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A PRESS CONFERENCE TO ANNOUNCE DETAILS OF THE HONG KONG YOUTH CULTURE AND ARTS COMPETITIONS WILL BE HELD AT 4 PM THIS WEDNESDAY (OCTOBER 16) AT THE CHIU CHOW GARDEN RESTAURANT, CONNAUGHT CENTRE.

THE COMPETITIONS ARE JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AND ABOUT 200 VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS.

THE PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY (HONG KONG AND KOWLOON) OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, MR GREGORY LEUNG, CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG YOUTH CULTURE AND ARTS COMPETITIONS, MR SHUM CHOI-SANG, AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL BE AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 78.8 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 461.650 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 494.721 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 84.4 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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SHEUNG WAN, HAPPY VALLEY WATER CUT

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN SHEUNG WAN AND HAPPY VALLEY WILL BE TURNED OFF ON THURSDAY (OCTOBER 17) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY.

IN SHEUNG WAN LEAKAGE TEST WILL BEGIN FROM 11 PM AND THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY CAINE ROAD, LADDER STREET, PO HING FONG, KUI IN FONG, TAI PING SHAN STREET, BRIDGES STREET, STAUNTON STREET AND ABERDEEN STREET INCLUDING U LAM TERRACE AND HOLLYWOOD ROAD POLICE QUARTERS.

IN HAPPY VALLEY FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES WILL ALSO BE TURNED OFF FROM 10 PM FOR MAINS WORK.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY BROADWOOD ROAD, HOLLY ROAD, GREEN LANE, BROOM ROAD, BRIAR AVENUE, BLUE POOL ROAD (BETWEEN CHEONG MING STREET AND TAI HANG ROAD), HAPPY VIEW TERRACE, 27-37 PERKINS ROAD AND 148-150 TAI HANG ROAD.

MEANWHILE, SALT WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN KWAI CHUNG WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 9.30 AM TO 5 PM THE SAME DAY FOR MAINS WORK.

THE AFFECTED PREMISES ARE LEI MUK SHUE ESTATE, SHEK YAM ESTATE, SHEK LEI ESTATE AND THOSE ALONG WO YI HOP ROAD.

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NO MAIL DELIVERY

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THERE WILL BE NO MAIL DELIVERY ON TUESDAY (OCTOBER 22), WHICH IS A GENERAL HOLIDAY, THE POSTMASTER GENERAL ANNOUNCED TODAY.

ALL POST OFFICES WILL ALSO BE CLOSED THAT DAY.

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PUNCH BREAKS FOREMAN'S RIB

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THE FOREMAN OF AN URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT GENERAL DUTIES TEAM SUFFERED A BROKEN RIB TODAY WHEN ALLEGEDLY PUNCHED BY A MAN IN KOWLOON CITY.

THE FOREMAN HAD JUST SERVED A LITTERING SUMMONS ON THE MAN.

THE INJURED FOREMAN, MAK KWOK-LEUNG, IS NOW IN QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL.

A MAN WAS ARRESTED AFTER THE INCIDENT.

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ROAD CLOSURE IN WAN CHAI

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HEARD STREET BETWEEN HENNESSY ROAD AND WAN CHAI ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 8 AM TO MIDNIGHT ON THURSDAY (OCTOBER 17) FOR THE LAYING OF POWER CABLE.

DURING THE CLOSURE, VEHICLES ON HENNESSY ROAD HEADING FOR WAN CHAI ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED TO USE BURROWS STREET.

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SOY STREET CLOSED

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SOY STREET BETWEEN PORTLAND STREET AND NATHAN ROAD AND ANOTHER SECTION BETWEEN NATHAN ROAD AND SAI YEUNG CHOI STREET SOUTH WILL BE CLOSED FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (OCTOBER 17) TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SUBWAY ACROSS NATHAN ROAD.

MOTORISTS ON SAI YEUNG CHOI STREET SOUTH HEADING FOR NATHAN ROAD SHOULD TRAVEL VIA DUNDAS STREET. MOTORISTS ON NATHAN ROAD HEADING FOR PORTLAND STREET CAN USE HAMILTON STREET OR SHANTUNG STREET.

THE TAXI STAND AT SOY STREET EAST OF NATHAN ROAD WILL BE CANCELLED.

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