



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 1976

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PLANNING OF NEW TOWNS WELL ORGANISED

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THE GOVERNMENT IS NOW PARTICULARLY WELL ORGANISED IN ITS APPROACH TO THE PLANNING AND PROVISION OF FACILITIES IN THE NEW TOWNS, THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR NEW TERRITORIES, MR. E.B. WIGGHAM, SAID TODAY.

HE WAS PRESENTING A PAPER ENTITLED +NEW TOWN MANAGEMENT+ AT THE TWO-DAY HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE SYMPOSIUM ON +SOCIAL PLANNING IN A NEW TOWN+ AT THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

MR. WIGGHAM, WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES FOR TSUEN WAN, SHA TIN AND TUEN MUN NEW TOWNS, SAID SHA TIN AND TUEN MUN IN PARTICULAR WOULD BENEFIT FROM THE LATEST THINKING IN THE PLANNING AND DESIGN OF HOUSING, SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS AND CULTURAL FACILITIES.

+BUT THESE WILL NOT BEAR FRUIT UNLESS WE ENSURE THAT THE APPROPRIATE COMMUNITY SERVICES ARE PROVIDED IN STEP WITH THE PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT, AND ENSURE ALSO THAT THE COMMUNITY FOR WHOM THESE SERVICES ARE PROVIDED ARE AWARE OF THEMSELVES AND THEIR NEW OPPORTUNITIES,+ HE SAID.

+IT IS IN THE FIELD OF COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE NEW TOWNS, COUPLED WITH THE PROBLEMS OF IMPORTING A NEW POPULATION AND GRAFTING IT ON TO AN EXISTING RURAL SOCIETY, THAT WE ARE NOW BEGINNING TO BUILD UP EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE THAT WILL ENABLE US TO CHART OUR COURSE FOR THE FUTURE.+

HE SAID THAT THE RURAL ENVIRONMENT, WHICH IS THE STARTING POINT AND EVER-PRESENT BACKCLOTH FOR ALL THREE NEW TOWNS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, MEANT THAT ONE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S FIRST AIMS MUST BE TO PREVENT THE CREATION OF A VACUUM IN EXISTING COMMUNITY LIFE AS A RESULT OF THE DISSOLUTION OF VILLAGES AND THE REHOUSING OF THEIR POPULATIONS.

STRESSING THAT THIS DID NOT IMPLY TOTAL DESTRUCTION OF THE ORIGINAL LANDSCAPE OR RURAL SOCIETY, MR. WIGGHAM SAID THAT IN SHA TIN, SPECIAL EFFORT HAD BEEN MADE TO PRESERVE AS MANY OF THE EXISTING VILLAGES AS POSSIBLE.

+THIS MEANS THAT, TO A CONSIDERABLE EXTENT, THE INHABITANTS OF THESE VILLAGES WILL BE ABLE TO CONTINUE THEIR LIFE STYLE IN CIRCUMSTANCES THAT ARE FAMILIAR TO THEM, YET AT THE SAME TIME ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE FACILITIES AND IMPROVED COMMUNICATIONS THAT A NEW TOWN ENVIRONMENT BRINGS,+ HE ADDED.

FOR OBVIOUS REASONS, HOWEVER, MR. WIGGHAM SAID IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO PRESERVE ALL EXISTING VILLAGES INCLUDED WITHIN LAYOUTS.

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HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT ALL THREE NEW TOWNS WERE HEADED BY DISTRICT OFFICERS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, WITH VERY WIDE POWERS ON LAND CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT.

+IT IS IN EXERCISE OF HIS LAND CONTROL FUNCTIONS THAT THE DISTRICT OFFICER THROUGH MEDIATION, EXPLANATION, NEGOTIATION AND IN THE END CLEARANCE, IS CALLED UPON TO PLAY AN EARLY PART IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW TOWN.+

MR. WIGGHAM SAID THE THREE NEW TOWN MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES ENSURED THAT THE NECESSARY FACILITIES AND SERVICES WERE PROVIDED IN EACH NEW TOWN TO MEET THE NEEDS AND ASPIRATIONS OF THE GROWING POPULATION AND THAT THESE FACILITIES WERE USED PROPERLY AND TO THE FULLEST EXTENT.

HE FELT IT HIS DUTY TO ENSURE THAT THE MAXIMUM BENEFIT WAS DERIVED FROM MEETINGS OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES, BOTH IN TERMS OF A MUTUAL INTERCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN MEMBERS AND IN FEED-BACK OF LOCAL KNOWLEDGE AND ADVICE TO DEPARTMENTAL HEADQUARTERS.

HE TOLD THE GATHERING THAT A PROGRAMME WAS BEING DRAWN UP BY THE N.T.A. TO MONITOR THE CURRENT AND FUTURE PROVISIONS OF SERVICES BOTH GOVERNMENTAL AND UTILITY AND, IN THE WELFARE FIELD, BY VOLUNTARY AGENCIES.

+IT IS ENVISAGED THAT THE PLAN WILL PROVIDE A CHECK LIST FOR THE VARIOUS SPECIALIST DEPARTMENTS TO ENSURE THAT THEY ARE AWARE OF THE NEED TO PROVIDE SERVICES AS SOON AS POPULATION REQUIREMENTS DEMAND,+ HE SAID.

AT THE MOMENT, MR. WIGGHAM POINTED OUT THE DISTRICT OFFICE WAS VERY MUCH AT THE CENTRE OF THE VARIOUS MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES IN EACH NEW TOWN DISTRICT.

+IT IS REPRESENTED ON ALL COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES AND CONTINUES TO INITIATE NEW BRANCHES OF COMMUNITY ACTIVITY AND LIAISON. IN FUTURE, HOWEVER, WE ENVISAGE THAT LOCAL PERSONALITIES WILL INCREASINGLY INVOLVE THEMSELVES IN THE RUNNING OF LOCAL AFFAIRS.+

HE ALSO STRESSED THE NEED OF BODIES OUTSIDE THE GOVERNMENT TO +FOCUS THEIR ATTENTION ON THE NEEDS OF OUR GROWING TOWNSHIPS SO THAT, BY WORKING TOGETHER IN TANDEM, WE CAN ENSURE THAT THE BUILDING UP OF THE NEW COMMUNITY AS HERE IN SHA TIN WILL BE SOMETHING OF WHICH WE WILL ALL BE ABLE TO FEEL PROUD.+

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SUPPORT FOR GREATER PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN COMMUNITY PLANNING
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THE CHIEF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT PLANNING OFFICER FOR SHA TIN NEW TOWN, MR. ALLAN CROSBY, TODAY FULLY SUPPORTED GREATER PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT.

ADDRESSING THE OPENING SESSION OF A TWO-DAY SYMPOSIUM ON SOCIAL PLANNING IN THE NEW TOWN, HE STRESSED THAT PLANNING WAS VERY MUCH CONCERNED WITH PEOPLE, AND INCREASED INVOLVEMENT OF PEOPLE IN COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT WAS A MATTER OF HIGH PRIORITY AND IMPORTANCE.

THE SYMPOSIUM, CO-SPONSORED BY THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE AND THE ROYAL TOWN PLANNING INSTITUTE AT THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY, IS USING SHA TIN NEW TOWN AS ITS CASE STUDY.

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SYMPOSIUM, A MINI-EXHIBITION ON THE NEW TOWN IS BEING HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY USING MATERIAL OF THE HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL SHA TIN NEW TOWN EXHIBITION STAGED IN MARCH BY THE P.W.D.'S NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

MR. CROSBY SAID THE PLANNING FOR SHA TIN NEW TOWN HAD TAKEN MANY YEARS BY MANY PEOPLE OF MANY DIFFERENT WALKS OF LIFE AND THIS WOULD CONTINUE.

+THE PROPOSALS TO-DATE ALREADY SHOW THAT THE GREAT OPPORTUNITIES FOR A VASTLY IMPROVED PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT WITHIN THE NEW TOWN ARE BEING CAREFULLY AND METHODICALLY GRASPED AND DEVELOPED.+

THE MAIN AIM OF THE NEW TOWN, HE SAID, WAS NOT JUST TO PROVIDE 500,000 PEOPLE WITH SATISFACTORY HOMES AND EMPLOYMENT, BUT ALSO TO ENCOURAGE THE FORMATION OF A HEALTHY AND BALANCED COMMUNITY WHERE THE BASIC NEEDS OF ALL ITS RESIDENTS COULD READILY BE MET.

+FROM THE MISTAKES AND SUCCESSES OF THE PAST, THE GOVERNMENT IS DETERMINED TO DEVELOP A MORE BALANCED COMMUNITY IN THE NEW TOWN THAN HAS CHARACTERISED TOO MUCH OF THE DEVELOPMENT WITHIN URBAN AREAS IN THE PAST.

+THIS DOES NOT MEAN SOME PRECISE OR ACADEMIC REGULATING OF NUMBERS OF PEOPLE OR RESTRICTING THE SCOPE FOR HUMAN INTERACTION; MOST OF WHICH IS UNKNOWN. ON THE CONTRARY, IT IS A PRACTICAL POLICY OF GREATER FREEDOM OF CHOICE, AND IMPORTANT TO THE SOCIAL PROGRESS OF HONG KONG.+

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MR. CROSBY SAID THE NEW TOWN WAS BEING PLANNED TO BE DEVELOPED IN A SERIES OF SELF-CONTAINED COMMUNITIES OF VARIOUS SIZES - EACH RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY HAVING ITS OWN LOCAL SHOPS, SCHOOLS, KINDERGARTENS, PLAYGROUNDS, OPEN SPACES, PUBLIC TRANSPORT FACILITY, SOCIAL WELFARE AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES APPROPRIATELY PLANNED AROUND ITS OWN FOCAL POINT ACCORDING TO THE SPECIAL CHARACTER OF THE PARTICULAR AREA.

HOWEVER, THE ULTIMATE SUCCESS OF ANY SUCH GOALS OR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MUST DEPEND ON THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES AND THE LEADERSHIP GIVEN TO SUCH SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, HE SAID.

HE SAID THAT PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN PLANNING WHICH BECAME ALMOST A RELIGION WITH MANY PLANNERS AND OTHERS IN WESTERN COUNTRIES IN THE SIXTIES WAS NOW KNOWN TO HAVE MANY PITFALLS AND LIMITATIONS. +BUT IT IS STILL AN ESSENTIAL INGREDIENT IN MODERN PLANNING,+ HE ADDED.

IN RECENT YEARS, HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD DEMONSTRATED SEVERAL MOVES TO SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE THE INVOLVEMENT OF PEOPLE IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GENERALLY.

IN THIS REGARD, NEW GROUND WAS BEING BROKEN ALL THE TIME IN SHA TIN NEW TOWN. AS AN EXAMPLE, HE CITED THE RECENT SHA TIN NEW TOWN EXHIBITION BY THE P.W.D.'S NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO GIVE PEOPLE A CLEAR VIEW OF THE PLANNED DEVELOPMENT AND ENCOURAGE THEIR INTEREST AND INVOLVEMENT.

MANY SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES THROUGHOUT HONG KONG WERE GIVEN ENCOURAGEMENT AND HELP TO STUDY THE NEW TOWN PROJECT, AND A COMPREHENSIVE BROCHURE ON SHA TIN NEW TOWN PROPOSALS WAS ALSO BEING PREPARED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

MR. CROSBY SAID HE REGARDED THESE AS NOT ONLY THE FIRST STAGE OF PUBLIC AWARENESS BUT NECESSARY STEPS TO A WIDER PLATFORM OF PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT GENERALLY.

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HORSE-RIDING FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN NO LONGER A DREAM
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FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN, HORSE RIDING IS A SPORT THEY CAN ENJOY ONLY IN THEIR DREAMS.

BUT THE ERA OF THIS BELIEF HAS ENDED — THANKS TO LADY MACLEHOSE AND OTHER VOLUNTEERS WHOSE JOINT EFFORTS HAVE ENABLED MORE THAN 300 HANDICAPPED CHILDREN TO HAVE RIDING EXERCISE REGULARLY.

LADY MACLEHOSE'S IDEA OF ORGANISING RIDING LESSONS FOR THESE CHILDREN CAME MORE THAN A YEAR AGO AND SHE WAS SUPPORTED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB AND A NUMBER OF ENTHUSIASTS.

THE RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION WAS SUBSEQUENTLY FORMED WITH LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, DR. HARRY FANG AS ITS PRESIDENT. RIDING SESSIONS THEN BEGAN AT THE BEAS RIVER COUNTRY CLUB WITH THE JOCKEY CLUB DONATING ALL THE PONIES AS WELL AS SPECIAL RIDING EQUIPMENT.

LADY MACLEHOSE WHO INITIATED THE SCHEME CALLED AT THE BEAS RIVER COUNTRY CLUB YESTERDAY (THURSDAY) AND SAW THE YOUNG RIDERS IN ACTION. SHE ALSO SPOKE TO THE VOLUNTEERS PRESENT.

SINCE OCTOBER LAST YEAR, RIDING LESSONS HAVE BEEN HELD REGULARLY ONCE A WEEK FOR DISABLED CHILDREN FROM ABOUT 20 INSTITUTIONS.

VOLUNTEERS WITH RIDING EXPERIENCE HAVE PLAYED AN IMPORTANT PART IN THE SCHEME, ASSISTING THE YOUNG RIDERS AND INSTRUCTING THEM ON THE TECHNIQUES OF THE SPORT.

DR. FANG SAID A LARGER NUMBER OF HANDICAPPED CHILDREN WOULD BE ABLE TO BENEFIT IF MORE PEOPLE WOULD VOLUNTEER THEIR SERVICES IN THIS WORTHWHILE PROJECT. HE STRESSED THAT IT WAS NOT NECESSARY FOR THOSE WISHING TO HELP TO HAVE RIDING EXPERIENCE.

RIDING NOT ONLY BENEFITS THE CHILDREN PHYSICALLY, BUT ALSO BOOSTS THEIR SELF-CONFIDENCE, DR. FANG SAID. THEY HAVE PROVED TO THEMSELVES THAT THEY CAN TAKE PART IN A SPORT AND RECREATION THAT IS NORMALLY MEANT FOR THEIR ABLE-BODIED FRIENDS.

PARENTS AND TEACHERS, HE ADDED, HAVE ALL STATED THAT THERE HAS BEEN A DRAMATIC IMPROVEMENT IN THE CHILDREN AFTER TAKING PART IN THE RIDING LESSONS.

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NEW FEES FOR ENGLISH-SPEAKING SCHOOLS

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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY ANNOUNCED NEW FEE LEVELS IN ENGLISH-SPEAKING SCHOOLS WHICH WILL BE INTRODUCED FROM SEPTEMBER, 1976. THE NEW FEES ARE \$3,040 A YEAR FOR SECONDARY AND \$1,900 A YEAR FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

+THEY WILL APPLY IN THE GOVERNMENT ENGLISH-SPEAKING SCHOOLS AND IN THOSE RUN BY THE ENGLISH SCHOOLS FOUNDATION,+ A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

WHEN THE PRESENT FEES WERE ANNOUNCED IN SEPTEMBER, 1973 IT WAS INTENDED THAT THEY WOULD REMAIN UNCHANGED FOR THREE YEARS AND THAT A TRIENNIAL REVIEW OF THE COST OF RUNNING ENGLISH-SPEAKING SCHOOLS WOULD BE CONDUCTED IN THE 1975/76 ACADEMIC YEAR.

+THE FEES HAVE REMAIN UNCHANGED AND THE TRIENNIAL REVIEW HAS BEEN COMPLETED. THE NEW FEE LEVELS ARE THE RESULT OF THIS REVIEW,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE NEW FEES HAVE BEEN CALCULATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES LAID DOWN IN THE LONG TERM FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING SCHOOLS AGREED IN 1973 AND EMBODIED IN THE CODE OF AID FOR SCHOOLS OPERATED BY THE ENGLISH SCHOOLS FOUNDATION.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT: +THESE ARRANGEMENTS PRESERVE SIMILAR FEE LEVELS FOR SCHOOLS OPERATED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THE FOUNDATION.

+THE NEW FEES WILL HOLD GOOD UNTIL THE NEW TRIENNIUM ENDS IN THE 1978/79 ACADEMIC YEAR.+

FOLLOWING ON THE FEE INCREASES, THE GOVERNMENT WILL AT THE SAME TIME MAKE COMPARABLE ADJUSTMENTS OF ITS LOCAL EDUCATION ALLOWANCES FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES. THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF FEE REMISSION WILL ALSO CONTINUE TO OPERATE.

THE GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS CONCERNED ARE KING GEORGE V SCHOOL, GLENEALY JUNIOR SCHOOL, KENNEDY ROAD JUNIOR SCHOOL, KOWLOON JUNIOR SCHOOL, PEAK SCHOOL AND QUARRY BAY SCHOOL.

THE SCHOOLS RUN BY THE ENGLISH SCHOOLS FUNDATION AFFECTED ARE ISLAND SCHOOL, BEACON HILL SCHOOL, CAUSEWAY BAY SCHOOL AND BOUNDARY JUNIOR SCHOOL.

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CANAL ROAD FLYOVER EXTENSION
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WILL BEGIN CONSTRUCTION WORK IN JULY TO EXTEND THE CANAL ROAD FLYOVER WHICH WILL FORM PART OF A MAJOR ROUTE LINKING KOWLOON AND ABERDEEN.

TENDERS FOR THE EXTENSION WORKS ARE NOW BEING INVITED AND IT IS EXPECTED THAT CONTRACTS WILL BE SIGNED IN JUNE.

MR. C.K. CHOW, CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE P.W.D.'S HIGHWAYS CONSULTANTS MANAGEMENT DIVISION, SAID TODAY THE WORKS WOULD TAKE ABOUT THREE AND A HALF YEARS TO COMPLETE AND HAD BEEN TIMED TO COINCIDE WITH WORK ON THE PROPOSED ABERDEEN TUNNEL.

THE CANAL ROAD FLYOVER EXTENSION, HE SAID, WOULD PROVIDE A DIRECT LINK BETWEEN THE CROSS-HARBOUR TUNNEL AND THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL WHICH WILL RUN FROM HAPPY VALLEY TO WONG CHUK HANG.

PREQUALIFYING TENDERS FOR THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL ARE CURRENTLY BEING PROCESSED AND IT IS ENVISAGED THAT TENDERS FOR THE ACTUAL TUNNEL WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO BE CALLED IN JULY. PRESENT ESTIMATES ARE THAT THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY LATE 1979 OR EARLY 1980.

TOGETHER WITH THE CROSS-HARBOUR TUNNEL, THE CANAL ROAD FLYOVER EXTENSION AND THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL WILL FORM MAJOR HIGH CAPACITY ROUTE BETWEEN HUNG HOM AND WONG CHUK HANG AND REDUCE TRAVELLING TIME BETWEEN THESE TWO DISTRICTS TO ABOUT 15 MINUTES.

MR. CHOW SAID THE CANAL ROAD FLYOVER EXTENSION FROM GLOUCESTER ROAD TO WONG NAI CHUNG ROAD WOULD BASICALLY CONSIST OF AN ELEVATED ROAD PROVIDING FOUR LANES FOR TRAFFIC.

+ACCESS RAMPS WILL BE PROVIDED TO ENABLE TRAFFIC FROM MORRISON HILL ROAD AND WONG NAI CHUNG ROAD TO USE THE EXTENDED FLYOVER.

+THIS TOGETHER WITH GENERAL GROUND LEVEL IMPROVEMENTS AND ROAD WIDENING WILL HELP TO EASE CONGESTION AT THE KEY JUNCTIONS OF CANAL ROAD/LEIGHTON ROAD, MORRISON HILL ROAD/LEIGHTON ROAD, AND ALSO THE JUNCTION OF WONG NAI CHUNG ROAD/MORRISON HILL ROAD/QUEEN'S ROAD EAST,+ HE SAID.

TO ENABLE PEDESTRIANS TO CROSS THE ROADS IN SAFETY, HE SAID, A NETWORK OF SUBWAYS WOULD BE PROVIDED UNDER MORRISON HILL ROAD, WONG NAI CHUNG ROAD AND QUEEN'S ROAD EAST.

+AN ADDED FEATURE WILL BE A SPECIAL EXTENSION OF THE SUBWAY SYSTEM TO COPE WITH RACE DAY CROWDS AT HAPPY VALLEY,+ HE ADDED.

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MA TAU KOK OUTLINE ZONING PLAN

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THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD HAS APPROVED THE INCORPORATION OF NEW NOTES INTO THE APPROVED MA TAU KOK OUTLINE ZONING PLAN TO PROVIDE FOR GREATER FLEXIBILITY IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DISTRICT.

THE NOTES LIST THE PERMITTED USES OF SITES WITHIN THE VARIOUS ZONES AS WELL AS THOSE USES THAT MAY BE PERMITTED ON APPLICATION TO THE BOARD.

ANYONE OBJECTING TO THE INCLUSION OF THE NOTES IN THE OUTLINE ZONING PLAN SHOULD DIRECT HIS OBJECTION IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, MURRAY BUILDING, HONG KONG, BEFORE JUNE 29, 1976.

THE OUTLINE ZONING PLAN COVERS ABOUT 113 HECTARES (280 ACRES). P.W.D. PLANNERS HAVE EARMARKED ABOUT 35 HECTARES (87 ACRES) OF THE AREA FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT, 34 HECTARES (85 ACRES) FOR ROADS, 15.7 HECTARES (39 ACRES) FOR OPEN SPACE, 14.5 HECTARES (36 ACRES) FOR GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTION AND COMMUNITY USES, AND ABOUT 13.5 HECTARES (31 ACRES) FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

COPIES OF THE OUTLINE PLAN ARE ON SALE AT \$5 PER UNCOLOURED COPY AT THE P.W.D.'S CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, 19TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, HONG KONG.

THE PLAN MAY BE INSPECTED DURING NORMAL OFFICE HOURS UNTIL JUNE 29 AT THE TOWN PLANNING OFFICE, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, 17TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, OR AT THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (CENTRAL AND WESTERN) ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, HONG KONG, AND AT THE KOWLOON CITY C.D.O., 379 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD, KOWLOON.

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FEBRUARY ACCOUNTS SHOW \$247 M. SURPLUS

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THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 1976 SHOW A SURPLUS OF \$247 MILLION AS COMPARED WITH A SURPLUS OF \$56 MILLION IN FEBRUARY LAST YEAR.

THIS HAS RESULTED IN AN ACCUMULATED SURPLUS OF \$407 MILLION (EXCLUDING LOAN RECEIPTS OF \$264 MILLION) FOR THE FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1975-76, COMPARED WITH A DEFICIT OF \$348 MILLION FOR THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

TOTAL REVENUE FOR THE MONTH AT \$713 MILLION WAS \$124 MILLION MORE THAN IN FEBRUARY 1975 DUE MAINLY TO INCREASED RECEIPTS FROM INTERNAL REVENUE. THIS WAS THE RESULT PARTLY OF A MORE INTENSIVE EFFORT BY THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT TO COLLECT TAX BY THE DUE DATE, AND PARTLY BECAUSE FEWER SALARIES TAXPAYERS THAN EXPECTED TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE FACILITY TO PAY THE TAX DUE IN TWO INSTALMENTS.

TOTAL EXPENDITURE AT \$466 MILLION WAS \$67 MILLION LESS THAN THE SAME MONTH IN 1975, MAINLY BECAUSE OF DECREASED SPENDING ON PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS FOLLOWING THE SIGNIFICANT DECLINE IN CONTRACT PRICES.

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TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COURSE

THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE WILL OFFER A TWO YEAR FULL-TIME TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COURSE STARTING IN SEPTEMBER.

THE COURSE IS DESIGNED TO TRAIN FORM V SCHOOL-LEAVERS WITH APPROPRIATE TECHNICAL EDUCATION BACKGROUND TO BECOME QUALIFIED TEACHERS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

DURING THE TWO YEARS OF TRAINING, STUDENTS WILL STUDY EDUCATION THEORIES, INCLUDING EDUCATION PHILOSOPHIES AND EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY, THE DESIGN, PREPARATION AND APPLICATION OF AUDIO-VISUAL AIDS, TEACHING METHODOLOGY, MATHEMATICS AND GENERAL SCIENCES.

A PROPORTION OF TIME WILL BE ALLOCATED TO THE POLISHING UP OF SPECIALIST SUBJECT-MATTER IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, CONSTRUCTION, ACCOUNTANCY AND SECRETARYSHIP.

INDUSTRIAL ATTACHMENT AND VISITS WILL ALSO BE ARRANGED TO PROMOTE STUDENTS' CONTACT WITH INDUSTRIES. STUDENTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PASS BOTH COURSE WORK AND EXAMINATIONS AS WELL AS TEACHING PRACTICES BEFORE THEY GRADUATE.

FINANCIAL AIDS ARE AVAILABLE ON APPLICATION TO ASSIST STUDENTS IN TAKING UP THE TEACHER TRAINING.

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW INVITED FROM YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN WHO INTEND TO TAKE UP THE TEACHING PROFESSION AS THEIR CAREER.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE 373 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG, STARTING FROM MAY 1, 1976. COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE COLLEGE ON OR BEFORE MAY 22, 1976.

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FIRING PRACTICE

FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE ON CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON NINE DAYS NEXT MONTH.

THE PUBLIC ARE REMINDED THAT IT IS DANGEROUS TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN THE RED FLAGS ARE FLYING DURING THE TIME OF FIRING PRACTICE.

THE PRACTICE TIMES ARE:-

<u>DATE</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
MAY 5 (WEDNESDAY) MAY 6 (THURSDAY)	8.30 A.M. — 11 P.M.
MAY 18 (TUESDAY) MAY 19 (WEDNESDAY) MAY 20 (THURSDAY)	8.30 A.M. — 10 P.M.
MAY 21 (FRIDAY) MAY 26 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 A.M. — 4.30 P.M.
MAY 27 (THURSDAY)	8.30 A.M. — 10 P.M.
MAY 28 (FRIDAY)	8.30 A.M. — 6 P.M.

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RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF TSING YI BRIDGE LIFTED

THE EXISTING RESTRICTIONS ON CARS USING TSING YI BRIDGE WILL BE LIFTED FROM 10 A.M. TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

UNTIL TODAY, ALL MOTOR VEHICLES, EXCEPT THOSE DISPLAYING PERMITS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM USING THE APPROACH ROAD TO THE BRIDGE AND THE BRIDGE ITSELF.

HOWEVER, THE TSING YI BRIDGE WILL CONTINUE TO BE A 24-HOUR CLEARWAY AND NO PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE APPROACH ROAD LEADING TO TSING YI BRIDGE.

ALL GOODS VEHICLES OVER TWO TONS, EXCEPT AUTHORIZED IN WRITING BY THE AUTHORITY, WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE ROAD LEADING TO TSING YI TOWN BEYOND A POINT ABOUT 600 METRES FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH TSING YI BRIDGE.

THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS WILL FACILITATE TRAFFIC MOVEMENTS TO AND FROM TSING YI ISLAND WHICH WILL BE COMPATIBLE WITH THE LIMITED ROAD NETWORK ON THE ISLAND AT PRESENT.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE PUT UP FOR THE GUIDANCE OF MOTORISTS.

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