



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, JULY 1, 1988

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GOVERNOR WELCOMES ESTABLISHMENT OF JLG OFFICES  
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THE PRESENCE IN HONG KONG OF THE CHINESE AND BRITISH TEAMS OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP WILL ENSURE EVEN CLOSER CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

"THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT WILL ASSIST IN THIS IN EVERY WAY IT CAN," SIR DAVID SAID, WHEN ADDRESSING A JOINT RECEPTION TO MARK THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PERMANENT LOCAL OFFICES OF THE TWO TEAMS.

"FROM TODAY THE PRINCIPAL BASE OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP WILL BE IN HONG KONG," SIR DAVID SAID, ADDING THAT THE ROLE OF THE GROUP WOULD NOT CHANGE.

THE GOVERNOR SAID THE IMPORTANCE TO HONG KONG OF THE WORK OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP WAS WIDELY RECOGNISED.

SINCE IT WAS FORMED IN MAY 1985, THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP HAD MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION.

IT ALREADY HAD A SOLID RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT IN DEALING WITH A NUMBER OF COMPLEX ISSUES.

"THIS RECORD OF SUCCESS BODES WELL FOR AN EVEN MORE FRUITFUL FUTURE," SIR DAVID SAID.

"I AM SURE THAT THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WILL JOIN ME IN WISHING THE GROUP EVERY SUCCESS IN THEIR WORK."

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FOLLOWING ARE THE FULL TEXTS OF SPEECHES GIVEN BY THE SENIOR REPRESENTATIVES OF THE BRITISH AND CHINESE TEAMS, MR ROBIN MCLAREN AND MR KE ZAISHUO.

SPEECH BY MR ROBIN MCLAREN  
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YOUR EXCELLENCY SIR DAVID WILSON, AMBASSADOR KE ZAISHUO, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I AM VERY PLEASED TO JOIN AMBASSADOR KE IN WELCOMING YOU HERE THIS EVENING. PERHAPS I CAN ALSO BE ALLOWED TO WELCOME MY FELLOW HOST TO HONG KONG, AS AMBASSADOR KE AND MANY OF HIS COLLEAGUES WILL NOW BE MAKING THE TERRITORY THEIR HOME FOR THE FIRST TIME.

/THIS EVENING'S .....

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THIS EVENING'S RECEPTION MARKS THE BEGINNING OF A NEW PHASE IN THE WORK OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP. FOR THREE YEARS WE HAVE HAD NO PERMANENT HOMES OF OUR OWN. HENCEFORTH WE SHALL HAVE A FIRM BASE HERE. OUR OFFICE WILL BE HERE; MOST OF OUR STAFF WILL BE HERE. THAT IS NOT TO SAY THAT WE SHALL LET OUR GOVERNMENTS FORGET US, SINCE WE SHALL REMIND THEM OF OUR EXISTENCE BY CONTINUING TO MEET ONCE A YEAR IN LONDON AND PEKING AS WELL AS IN HONG KONG.

FOR ALL OUR PERIPATETIC WAY OF LIFE, WE HAVE ALREADY ACHIEVED MUCH. THROUGH THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP WE HAVE REACHED A SERIES OF PRACTICAL AGREEMENTS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO HONG KONG'S FUTURE AS A SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA. WE HAVE WORKED TOGETHER TO UNDERSTAND THE NEEDS OF HONG KONG AND TO ESTABLISH HOW THEY CAN BEST BE SERVED. IN ALL THAT WE HAVE DONE WE HAVE SHARED ONE OVER-RIDING OBJECTIVE - TO GIVE FULL EFFECT TO THE JOINT DECLARATION TO WHICH BOTH OUR GOVERNMENTS REMAIN FULLY COMMITTED.

WITH HONG KONG AS THE GROUP'S PRINCIPAL BASE, OUR TASK WILL BE GREATLY FACILITATED. CONTACTS BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES, ALREADY CLOSE, WILL BECOME STILL EASIER AND MORE DIRECT. THE UNDERSTANDING AND FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE MEMBERS OF OUR TWO TEAMS WILL, I AM SURE, BE ENHANCED.

THE BRITISH AND CHINESE SIDES' OFFICES WILL BECOME THE MAIN CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATION ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE JLG. I EXPECT TOO THAT THE MAJORITY OF MEETINGS OF EXPERTS WILL TAKE PLACE HERE. AND WHERE BETTER THAN IN THE TERRITORY ITSELF, WHERE EACH SIDE CAN BEST APPRECIATE LOCAL NEEDS AND ASPIRATIONS?

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BRITISH SIDE'S NEW OFFICE HERE WILL NOT IN ANY WAY DIMINISH THE VITAL ROLE PLAYED BY OFFICIALS OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT. IT IS THEY WHO HAVE DAY-TO-DAY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF HONG KONG. AND IT IS THEY WHO PROVIDE THE KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE WHICH ARE THE ESSENTIAL FOUNDATION OF OUR WORK. THEY WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY THEIR FULL PART ON THE BRITISH SIDE.

NOR WILL THE TASKS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP CHANGE SIMPLY BECAUSE WE HAVE ACQUIRED A PERMANENT BASE IN HONG KONG. THE JOINT DECLARATION STATES CLEARLY THAT THE JLG IS AN ORGAN OF LIAISON AND NOT AN ORGAN OF POWER. THAT WILL REMAIN OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLE.

FINALLY LET ME PROPOSE A TOAST:

- TO THE CONTINUING SUCCESS OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP;
- TO CLOSE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN THE BRITISH AND CHINESE SIDES; AND
- TO THE CONTINUING STABILITY AND PROSPERITY OF HONG KONG;  
AND

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- TO THE HEALTH OF OUR FRIENDS FROM THE CHINESE SIDE AND ALL DISTINGUISHED GUESTS PRESENT.

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SPEECH BY MR KE ZAISHUO  
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THE OFFICES OF THE CHINESE AND BRITISH SENIOR REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT LIAISON GROUP ARE ESTABLISHED TODAY, AND WE ARE GREATLY HONOURED BY THE PRESENCE OF HIS EXCELLENCY SIR DAVID WILSON AND ALL THE OTHER DISTINGUISHED GUESTS HERE THIS EVENING. PLEASE ALLOW ME TO EXPRESS, ON BEHALF OF ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE CHINESE OFFICE, OUR WARM WELCOME AND THANKS TO YOU ALL.

THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT LIAISON GROUP WAS SET UP IN MAY 1985 FOLLOWING THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION ON THE QUESTION OF HONG KONG. THE GROUP HAS TWO MAIN TASKS WHICH ARE INTER-RELATED, NAMELY, TO GUARANTEE THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JOINT DECLARATION AND TO ENSURE A SMOOTH TRANSFER OF GOVERNMENT IN 1997. OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS AND MORE, THANKS TO THE EFFORTS OF THE TWO SIDES TO ACCOMPLISH THE TWO MAJOR TASKS, THE GROUP HAS DONE A GREAT DEAL OF WORK AND ACHIEVED A SERIES OF AGREEMENTS WHICH ARE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO IMMEDIATE AND FUTURE INTERESTS OF HONG KONG, THUS MAKING ITS OWN CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STABILITY AND PROSPERITY OF HONG KONG. THE WORK OF THE GROUP HAS WON THE ENDORSEMENT OF THE TWO GOVERNMENTS, AND HAS BEEN UNDERSTOOD AND WELCOMED BY MANY HONG KONG PEOPLE FROM ALL CIRCLES OF LIFE. IT SHOULD BE POINTED OUT THAT THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED BY THE GROUP CANNOT BE SEPARATED FROM THE SUPPORT AND CO-OPERATION OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EITHER.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF ANNEX II TO THE JOINT DECLARATION, THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT LIAISON GROUP HAS TAKEN HONG KONG AS ITS PRINCIPAL BASE AS FROM TODAY. THIS MARKS THE NEW STAGE IN THE WORK OF THE GROUP. THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP IS AN ORGAN FOR LIAISON BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS AND NOT AN ORGAN OF POWER. IT SHALL NEITHER TAKE PART IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF HONG KONG NOR PLAY ANY SUPERVISORY ROLE OVER THAT ADMINISTRATION. THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP WITH ITS PRINCIPAL BASE IN HONG KONG WILL NOT BRING ANY CHANGES TO THE NATURE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE GROUP. HOWEVER, THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP HAVING ITS BASE IN HONG KONG AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CHINESE AND BRITISH OFFICES WILL CERTAINLY HELP STRENGTHEN THE CONTACTS AND UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN MEMBERS OF THE TWO OFFICES, ENHANCE THE FRIENDSHIP AND CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES AND FACILITATE THE BETTER ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE TASKS OF THE GROUP. THIS ALSO HAS FURTHER SIGNIFICANCE TO THE CHINESE TEAM, THAT IS, WE ARE PROVIDED WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO KNOW FIRST HAND ABOUT AND GET FAMILIARISED WITH HONG KONG SO THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO FURTHER IMPROVE THE WORKING EFFICIENCY OF THE JLG.

/IT IS .....

IT IS THE JOINT RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CHINESE AND BRITISH SIDES TO IMPLEMENT THE JOINT DECLARATION FULLY AND FAITHFULLY AND WE ARE FULLY AWARE OF THE HEAVY DUTIES ON OUR SHOULDERS. IN THE YEARS AHEAD, WE WILL CERTAINLY HAVE A GREAT DEAL OF WORK TO DO AND MAY ALSO HAVE TO HANDLE PROBLEMS OF ONE KIND OR ANOTHER. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT SO LONG AS OUR TWO SIDES WORK TOGETHER AS WE DID IN THE PAST IN THE SPIRIT OF FRIENDSHIP AND CO-OPERATION, TREAT EACH OTHER IN ALL SINCERITY AND UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER, WE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE ABLE TO FIND APPROPRIATE SOLUTIONS TO ALL THE PROBLEMS BEFORE US.

AT PRESENT, THE GENERAL SITUATION OF HONG KONG IS GOOD AND WE ARE ALWAYS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT ITS FUTURE. NEVERTHELESS, THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT THERE WILL BE NO DIFFICULTIES ALONG THE WAY AHEAD. CHINESE LEADERS HAVE STATED ON REPEATED OCCASIONS THAT THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT STANDS FIRM IN IMPLEMENTING THE PRINCIPLE OF "ONE COUNTRY, TWO SYSTEMS" AND THIS PRINCIPLE WILL NOT CHANGE IN ANY CIRCUMSTANCES. IT IS WITH THIS IN MIND THAT WE ON THE CHINESE SIDE HAVE BEEN CONDUCTING THE JLG WORK. WE SHALL WORK HARD TOGETHER WITH OUR BRITISH COLLEAGUES FOR THE STABILITY AND PROSPERITY OF HONG KONG.

NOW, I WISH TO PROPOSE A TOAST:

- TO THE CONTINUED PROGRESS AND SUCCESS OF THE WORK OF THE JLG;
- TO THE CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF THE FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND CO-OPERATION BETWEEN CHINA AND BRITAIN;
- TO THE STABILITY AND PROSPERITY OF HONG KONG; AND
- TO THE HEALTH AND GOOD LUCK OF HIS EXCELLENCY SIR DAVID WILSON AND ALL THE OTHER DISTINGUISHED GUESTS PRESENT.

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WORKING METHODS OF JLG OFFICE DISCUSSED

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THE FUTURE WORKING METHODS TO BE ADOPTED BY THE HONG KONG OFFICE OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP WERE DISCUSSED TODAY (FRIDAY) AT A MEETING BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH THE BRITISH AND CHINESE TEAMS.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER THE MEETING, THE SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BRITISH TEAM, MR ROBIN MCLAREN, SAID: "THIS HAS NOT BEEN A FORMAL JLG MEETING AS YOU KNOW, IT HAS BEEN A MEETING OF THE TWO SENIOR REPRESENTATIVES WHO HAVE MET IN ORDER TO MARK THIS VERY SPECIAL OCCASION WHEN THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP IS TAKING HONG KONG AS ITS PRINCIPAL BASE.

"WE'VE TAKEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW SOME OF THE BUSINESS THAT IS GOING ON BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES, IN VARIOUS CONTACTS AND IN VARIOUS EXPERT GROUPS SINCE OUR LAST FULL MEETING OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP."

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LORD GLENARTHUR LOOKS OVER NEW TOWN

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THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE MINISTER WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR HONG KONG, LORD GLENARTHUR, VISITED TUEN MUN NEW TOWN THIS (FRIDAY) MORNING AND ALSO INSPECTED THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM WHICH WILL SOON GO INTO OPERATION THERE.

THE FIRST STOP FOR LORD GLENARTHUR WAS SIU HONG COURT, A LARGE HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME DEVELOPMENT COMPLETED IN 1980 AND HOUSING 17,400 PEOPLE.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR NEW TERRITORIES, MR MICHAEL SUEN, HE WENT TO THE ROOF OF A 25-STORY HOUSING BLOCK FOR A PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE NEW TOWN.

HE WAS BRIEFED BY THE PROJECT MANAGER (NEW TERRITORIES/NORTHWEST) OF THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, MR SIU CHUEN, ON VARIOUS DEVELOPMENTS AND MAJOR PROJECTS BEING UNDERTAKEN IN TUEN MUN.

LORD GLENARTHUR AND HIS PARTY THEN LEFT FOR TUEN TSZ WAI CHI TONG, AN ANCESTRAL HALL OF THE TO FAMILY, WHERE THEY WERE MET BY THE TUEN MUN RURAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR LAU WONG-FAT, AND VILLAGE REPRESENTATIVES, MR TO KAM-CHOW AND MR TO FUK-TIM.

TUEN TSZ WAI VILLAGE IS MORE THAN 200 YEARS OLD, AND HAS A POPULATION OF ABOUT 2,500. THE EXISTING CHI TONG WAS COMPLETED IN 1971 TO ACCOMMODATE THE ANCESTRAL SHRINES OF THE TO FAMILY.

AT THE CHI TONG, THE ESTATE SURVEYOR OF THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, MR JOHN MARSHALL, TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN TO LORD GLENARTHUR A \$36-MILLION IMPROVEMENT SCHEME UNDER WHICH SURROUNDING RESIDENTIAL AND INDUSTRIAL AREAS WILL BE UPGRADED.

THE SCHEME COVERS AN AREA OF 51 HECTARES INCLUDING THREE VILLAGES -- SAN HING TSUEN, TUEN TSZ WAI AND TING CHUEN WAI.

THE OBJECTIVE IS TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT IN AREAS WHERE THERE ARE EXISTING INFORMAL, UNPLANNED SETTLEMENTS AND WHERE THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT INTEND TO UNDERTAKE LARGE-SCALE REDEVELOPMENT.

BASIC INFRASTRUCTURAL FACILITIES SUCH AS ROADS, SEWERS, PARKING AREAS AND ANCILLARY FACILITIES WILL BE PROVIDED FOLLOWING LAND RESUMPTION AND CLEARANCE PROCEDURES.

LORD GLENARTHUR LATER PROCEEDED TO THE BUTTERFLY BEACH RECREATION AREA, A 9 HECTARE SITE, WHICH IS BEING DEVELOPED BY THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT INTO A SCENIC SPOT FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS.

LORD GLENARTHUR AND HIS PARTY THEN VISITED THE LUNG MUN ROAD OPERATIONS HEADQUARTERS OF THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM WHICH WILL SERVE THE NORTHWEST NEW TERRITORIES.

/ACCOMPANYING THE .....

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ACCOMPANYING THE PARTY WAS THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, MR MICHAEL LEUNG.

LORD GLENARTHUR WAS BRIEFED ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE \$1 BILLION LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM, WHICH WILL LINK TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG, AND HAVE MORE THAN 23 KILOMETRES OF TRACK.

THE SYSTEM IS ENTIRELY NEW IN HONG KONG, AND THE METHOD OF TICKETING WILL ALSO BE UNIQUE IN RAIL TRANSPORT HERE AS PASSENGERS WILL NOT NEED TO PASS THROUGH GATES OR BARRIERS AT TRAIN STOPS.

HE WAS ALSO TOLD THAT THE OPEN FARE SYSTEM WILL PROVIDE A HIGH DEGREE OF CONVENIENCE FOR PASSENGERS, THEREBY ENHANCING THE EFFICIENCY OF THE LIGHT RAIL OPERATION.

AFTER TOURING THE CONTROL CENTRE, LORD GLENARTHUR BOARDED AN AIR-CONDITIONED TRAIN FOR A SHORT RIDE.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AT THE END OF THE TRAIN RIDE, LORD GLENARTHUR DESCRIBED THE LRT AS AN EXCELLENT AND POPULAR SYSTEM WHICH WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL TO ALL THOSE WHO LIVED IN THAT PART OF HONG KONG, AND PARTICULARLY IN THE FUTURE, WHEN IT WAS POSSIBLE TO LINK IT ON TO THE REST OF THE TRANSPORT SYSTEM.

HE SAID VERY HIGH STANDARDS OF ENGINEERING AND SAFETY WERE ASSURED BY THE SYSTEM.

LORD GLENARTHUR ALSO TOLD THE PRESS THAT HE HAD SEEN NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN TUEN MUN AND PROPOSALS FOR THE FUTURE, AS WELL AS PLANS FOR REDEVELOPMENT OF VILLAGES.

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#### PRAISE FOR OVERSEAS BANKING INPUT

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THE INTEREST OF OVERSEAS BANKS IN ESTABLISHING A PRESENCE IN HONG KONG HAS BLENDED ADMIRABLY WITH THE TERRITORY'S UNIQUE ATTRIBUTES TO MAKE HONG KONG A MAJOR CENTRE IN THE INTERNATIONAL BANKING NETWORK, THE ACTING FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR DAVID NENDICK, SAID THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING.

SPEAKING AT THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION DINNER OF THE HONG KONG CENTRE OF THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF BANKERS, MR NENDICK SAID OVER 400 OVERSEAS BANKS FROM SOME 51 COUNTRIES WERE NOW REPRESENTED IN HONG KONG IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, AND THIS INCLUDED THREE-QUARTERS OF THE WORLD'S TOP 100 BANKS.

/HE NOTED .....

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HE NOTED THAT WHEN THE HONG KONG CENTRE OF THE INSTITUTE WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1963, THERE WERE ONLY ABOUT 70 BANKS HERE. FEWER THAN HALF WERE OVERSEAS BANKS, COMING FROM PERHAPS A DOZEN COUNTRIES.

MR NENDICK SAID THAT SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT 25 YEARS AGO, THE HONG KONG CENTRE HAD GROWN FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH AND HAD CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BANKING INDUSTRY IN HONG KONG.

"APART FROM TRAINING AND EDUCATION, THE HONG KONG CENTRE HAS THE IMPORTANT TASK OF PROMOTING COMMUNICATION BETWEEN LOCAL BANKING PRACTITIONERS AND THEIR OVERSEAS COUNTERPARTS," HE SAID.

"THROUGH REGULAR CONTACTS WITH OVERSEAS CENTRES, BETTER LINKS ARE BEING ESTABLISHED BETWEEN LOCAL AND OVERSEAS BANKERS."

MR NENDICK SAID THIS WAS AN IMPORTANT CATALYST FOR THE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS AND TRANSFER OF NEW CONCEPTS AND TECHNIQUES.

"THE INPUT OF ACQUIRED WISDOM FROM OTHER BANKING CENTRES HELPS IN THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONALISATION OF OUR OWN BANKING SECTOR," HE ADDED.

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#### CONTINUED HIGH STANDARDS OF BANKING SUPERVISION URGED

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HONG KONG MUST CONTINUE TO INVEST IN THE KIND OF SUPERVISORY STANDARDS THAT ARE NECESSARY TO GIVE LOCAL USERS OF OUR FINANCIAL SYSTEM THE SECURITY THEY NEED AND DESERVE, THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING, MR TONY NICOLLE, SAID THIS (FRIDAY) MORNING.

"IN THE PROCESS, WE SHALL RETAIN THE RESPECT AND CONFIDENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PLAYERS WHO DO BUSINESS HERE OR WHO OTHERWISE RELY ON HONG KONG INSTITUTIONS FOR BANKING SERVICES," HE SAID AT THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF BANKERS, HONG KONG CENTRE, SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION SEMINAR.

HE ADDED THAT HE ENVISAGED A STRENGTHENING OF THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN SUPERVISORS AND THE SUPERVISED AS HE AND HIS OFFICE CONSULTED THE FINANCIAL COMMUNITY ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES.

SPEAKING ON THE CAPITAL ADEQUACY REQUIREMENT, MR NICOLLE SAID THAT FROM SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR, NO AUTHORISED INSTITUTION INCORPORATED IN HONG KONG SHOULD AT ANY TIME HAVE A CAPITAL ADEQUACY RATIO OF LESS THAN FIVE PER CENT.

IN ADDITION, THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING IS ALSO EMPOWERED AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE INSTITUTION CONCERNED, TO VARY THE MINIMUM RATIO UP TO A MAXIMUM OF EIGHT PER CENT FOR BANKS AND 10 PER CENT FOR DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES.

/HOWEVER, HE .....

HOWEVER, HE SAID, IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT BANKS COULD FIND THAT THEIR RATIOS MOVE UP AND DOWN QUITE UNEXPECTEDLY FOR REASONS OFTEN OUTSIDE THEIR CONTROL, A SYSTEM OF "TRIGGER" RATIOS HAD BEEN INTRODUCED WHICH WAS SET AT A SMALL MARGIN ABOVE THE MINIMUM RATIO.

HE SAID WHEN AN INSTITUTION'S RATIOS DROPPED BELOW THIS LEVEL IT WAS ASKED TO CONSULT THE OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING AS TO THE REASONS FOR THE CHANGE, AND WHAT STEPS IT WOULD TAKE IN ORDER TO AVOID A BREACH OF THE STATUTORY MINIMUM.

"THIS IS TO PROVIDE BOTH THE INSTITUTION AND US WITH A MEANS OF GUARDING AGAINST THE POSSIBILITY THAT CAPITAL RATIOS DO NOT FALL TO OR BELOW THE STATUTORY MINIMUM BEFORE REMEDIAL ACTION IS TAKEN," HE SAID.

"IT IS INTENDED AS A HELPFUL TOOL FOR BOTH OF US, TO MAKE SURE THAT A WARNING LIGHT WILL START FLASHING BEFORE A LACK OF CAPITAL BECOMES A POTENTIAL THREAT TO DEPOSITORS," HE ADDED.

TURNING TO THE RECENTLY RELEASED REPORT OF THE SECURITIES REVIEW COMMITTEE, MR NICOLLE SAID AN AREA OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO HIM HIGHLIGHTED BY THE COMMITTEE WAS THE IMPORTANT ROLE WHICH THE BANKING SUPERVISOR COULD HAVE IN COORDINATING THE SUPERVISION OF BANKING GROUPS WHICH COMPRISED BOTH BANKING AND OTHER FINANCIAL BUSINESSES.

HE SAID THAT AT PRESENT, THE SUPERVISION TENDED TO BE FOCUSED ON THE INDIVIDUAL AUTHORISED ENTITIES, AND ONLY LIMITED REGARD WAS PAID TO THE REST OF THE GROUP OF WHICH AN INSTITUTION WAS PART.

HE POINTED OUT THAT BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING INSTITUTIONS HAD OF COURSE DIVERSIFIED INTO A RANGE OF DIFFERENT FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES, AS A RESULT OF WHICH THEY WERE INCREASINGLY BEING LOCATED WITHIN LARGER FINANCIAL GROUPS.

"IT FOLLOWS, THEREFORE, THAT A DISASTER IN ONE PART OF THE GROUP COULD CAUSE A LOSS OF CONFIDENCE IN THE BANK OR DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY AND EVEN PRECIPITATE A WITHDRAWAL OF DEPOSITS.

"IN MY VIEW IT IS MOST IMPORTANT FOR THE SUPERVISOR TO HAVE A BROAD VIEW OF A BANKING GROUP IN ORDER TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE POTENTIAL RISKS WITHIN THE GROUP WHICH MAY OTHERWISE NOT BE APPARENT TO HIM," HE SAID.

ON THE CONSOLIDATED SUPERVISION OF FINANCIAL GROUPS, MR NICOLLE SAID THE SECURITIES REVIEW COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING SHOULD HAVE A PRIMARY ROLE IN SUPERVISING THE CAPITAL ADEQUACY AND LIQUIDITY OF BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES WHICH WERE ALSO LICENSED TO DEAL IN SECURITIES.

THE REPORT SUGGESTED THAT WHERE A NUMBER OF SUPERVISORY AUTHORITIES WERE SUPERVISING DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES WITHIN A GROUP IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT THAT SOMEONE SHOULD TAKE AN OVERALL VIEW OF THE GROUP AS A WHOLE.

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"IN MOST CASES WHERE A BANK/DTC FORMS A SIGNIFICANT PART OF THE GROUP IT IS MY FEELING THAT THIS ROLE SHOULD DEVOLVE TO MY OFFICE," HE SAID.

"THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECURITIES REVIEW COMMITTEE HAVE YET TO BE FULLY DIGESTED. WHATEVER HAPPENS, HOWEVER, I ENVISAGE WORKING CLOSELY WITH MY OTHER SUPERVISORY COLLEAGUES TO LAUNCH A FRAMEWORK FOR CONSOLIDATED SUPERVISION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE," HE ADDED.

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HAWKERS IN YAU MA TEI JOIN HANDS WITH USD STAFF IN CLEAN-UP  
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SOME 230 LICENSED FIXED PITCH HAWKERS IN BOWRING STREET, YAU MA TEI, TODAY JOINED HANDS WITH STAFF OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO CLEAN UP THEIR STALL AREAS.

"THE BIG CLEAN-UP IS PART OF A SERIES FOR THE DISTRICT AIMED AT ENCOURAGING COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN KEEPING HONG KONG CLEAN," SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT.

"DURING THIS MORNING'S EXERCISE, THE HAWKERS SWEEP CLEAN THEIR AREAS AND HELPED DISPOSE OF REFUSE.

"STAFF FROM THE DEPARTMENT THEN HOSED DOWN THE GENERAL AREAS OF THE STALLS."

CAPTION: PHOTOGRAPH SHOWS LICENSED FIXED PITCH HAWKERS IN BOWRING STREET IN YAU MA TEI, JOINING HANDS WITH USD STAFF IN CLEANING UP THEIR STALL AREAS.

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VIEWS ON VICE PROPOSALS SOUGHT  
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THE GOVERNMENT IS SEEKING PUBLIC VIEWS ON A NUMBER OF PROPOSALS TO CLAMP DOWN ON SIGNS ADVERTISING PROSTITUTION SERVICES AND TO CONTROL NUISANCES CAUSED BY VICE ESTABLISHMENTS.

THE PROPOSALS ARE CONTAINED IN A WHITE BILL PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE CRIMES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988 SEEKS TO PROHIBIT THE PUBLIC DISPLAY OF SIGNS ADVERTISING THE SERVICES OF A PROSTITUTE AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE REMOVAL OF SUCH SIGNS.

/THE BILL .....

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THE BILL ALSO REQUIRES A MAGISTRATE TO ISSUE A SIX-MONTH CLOSURE ORDER IN RESPECT OF PREMISES WHERE TWO OFFENCES HAVE BEEN COMMITTED IN CONTRAVENTION OF CERTAIN VICE-RELATED PROVISIONS IN THE CRIMES ORDINANCE AND THE MASSAGE ESTABLISHMENTS ORDINANCE, RESULTING IN CONVICTION.

THE ORDER WILL BE ISSUED IF A SECOND OFFENCE IS COMMITTED WITHIN 12 MONTHS FROM THE FIRST CONVICTION.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE PROPOSALS SHOULD SEND THEM TO THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1. THE ADDRESS IS CNTA HEADQUARTERS, WORLD SHIPPING CENTRE, 7 CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON.

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DTC REGISTRATION REVOKED

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THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING ANNOUNCED THAT THE REGISTRATION OF ANZ ASIA LIMITED AS A DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY HAS BEEN REVOKED AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS TODAY (FRIDAY) AT ITS OWN REQUEST UNDER SECTION 31(2) OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE.

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TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL AGREEMENT SIGNED

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AN AGREEMENT FOR CONSTRUCTING THE \$2 BILLION TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL PROJECT WAS SIGNED TODAY (FRIDAY) BETWEEN THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, MR MICHAEL LEUNG, AND CHAIRMAN OF TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL COMPANY, MR Y. YANAGISAWA.

WITH THE PASSING OF THE TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL BILL WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT FROM TODAY, CONSTRUCTION OF THE 3.9-KILOMETRE-LONG TWIN TUBE TUNNEL BETWEEN DIAMOND HILL IN KOWLOON AND SIU LEK YUEN IN SHA TIN WILL START EARLY THIS MONTH FOR COMPLETION IN MID-1991.

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FRIDAY, JULY 1, 1988

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NEW TAB MEMBERSHIP

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THE TERMS OF ELEVEN NON-OFFICIAL MEMBERS CURRENTLY SERVING ON THE TRADE ADVISORY BOARD (TAB) HAVE BEEN EXTENDED FOR ANOTHER YEAR WITH EFFECT FROM TODAY (FRIDAY).

IN ADDITION, THREE NEW MEMBERS - MR VICENT WAN, MR LOUIS K.C. WONG AND MISS SYLVIA YAU - HAVE BEEN APPOINTED TO THE BOARD, WHILE TWO INCUMBENT MEMBERS - MR KENNETH TING AND MR THOMAS CLYDESDALE - WILL RETIRE THIS MONTH.

THE THREE OFFICIAL MEMBERS - THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY AND THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE - WILL REMAIN ON THE BOARD, WHILE THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY WILL CONTINUE TO BE THE EX-OFFICIO CHAIRMAN.

THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD FOR THE YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 1988 WAS GAZETTED TODAY.

THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY AND CHAIRMAN OF TAB, MR HAMISH MACLEOD PAID TRIBUTE TO THE TWO OUTGOING MEMBERS FOR THE INVALUABLE SERVICES THEY HAVE RENDERED.

MR TING AND MR CLYDESDALE HAVE SERVED ON THE TAB FOR FOUR YEARS AND TWO AND A HALF YEARS RESPECTIVELY.

OF THE THREE NEW MEMBERS, MR VINCENT WAN (44) IS AN ACCOUNTANT AND ALSO A MEMBER OF THE RICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE, MR LOUIS K.C. WONG (51) IS CURRENTLY CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG EXPORTERS' ASSOCIATION, WHILE MISS SYLVIA YAU (38) IS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF SUN HUNG KAI COMMODITIES IN CHARGE OF CHINA TRADE.

MEMBERS WHO HAVE BEEN RE-APPOINTED ARE: MR PAUL T.S. YIN; MR WILLIAM TURNBULL; MR WARREN W.L. HUI; MR GARY N. HARILELA; MR RAY MAN LEUNG; MRS ELEANOR C.M. LING; MR HO SAI-CHU; MR JACK SO; DR KENNETH K.K. WANG; MR T.H. BARMA AND MR PAUL CHENG.

THE TRADE ADVISORY BOARD, COMPRISING MAINLY NON-OFFICIAL MEMBERS, IS CONSULTED ON ALL MATTERS AFFECTING HONG KONG'S TRADE, OTHER THAN TRADE IN TEXTILES AND GARMENTS.

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/12 .....

LAND REHABILITATION PROGRAMME GETS LOCAL SUPPORT

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THE OWNERS OF THREE LOTS OF AGRICULTURAL LAND IN CHEUNG PO, YUEN LONG TODAY (FRIDAY) MADE AVAILABLE THEIR LAND ON RENT TO THE VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION IN SUPPORT OF A GOVERNMENT PILOT PROJECT TO BRING FALLOW FARM LAND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES BACK TO CULTIVATION.

APART FROM THE FIVE OWNERS OF THE THREE LOTS, 15 OWNERS OF 25 LOTS HAVE REGISTERED WITH THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT OF THEIR FIRM INTENTION TO LET THEIR LAND TO THE VMO AND MANY MORE LAND OWNERS IN CHEUNG PO WHO HAVE EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN JOINING THE PROJECT TO IMPLEMENT THE AGRICULTURAL PRIORITY AREA CONCEPT.

IN CHEUNG PO, 12 OUT OF 52 HECTARES OF AGRICULTURAL LAND ARE LYING FALLOW. IN VIEW OF ITS CONVENIENT ACCESS AND EXISTING BASIC FACILITIES, THE AREA HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS ONE OF THE TWO AGRICULTURAL PRIORITY AREAS WITH THE GREATEST POTENTIAL, IN WHICH TO CARRY OUT THE LAND REHABILITATION PROGRAMME.

THE OTHER AREA IS HOK TAU IN FANLING.

AT A CEREMONY HELD AT THE PAT HEUNG VEGETABLE MARKETING CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY OFFICE THIS MORNING, THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE, SIGNED THE TENANCY AGREEMENTS WITH THE LAND OWNERS CONCERNED.

THEY WERE ALSO PRESENTED WITH CHEQUES FOR FIVE YEARS' RENTS IN RESPECT OF THE THREE LOTS MEASURING 5,120 SQUARE METRES IN AREA. THESE LOTS WOULD SUBSEQUENTLY BE SUB-LETTED TO INTERESTED FARMERS.

SPEAKING AT THE TENANCY AGREEMENT SIGNING CEREMONY, DR LEE SAID THAT THE PILOT PROJECT WAS BEING CARRIED OUT WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF ACHIEVING BETTER UTILISATION OF AGRICULTURAL LAND AND IMPROVING THE RURAL ENVIRONMENT.

"THE GOVERNMENT AND THE VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION ARE POOLING THEIR RESOURCES TOGETHER TO IMPROVE THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND MARKETING FACILITIES IN THE TWO AREAS AND TO PROVIDE PARTICIPATING FARMERS WITH THE NECESSARY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO ENSURE THAT THE REHABILITATION PROGRAMME IS IMPLEMENTED SMOOTHLY," HE SAID.

HOWEVER, DR LEE POINTED OUT, THE SUCCESS OF THE REHABILITATION PROGRAMME DEPENDED VERY MUCH ON THE SUPPORT OF LAND OWNERS IN MAKING THEIR FALLOW LAND AVAILABLE FOR CULTIVATION PURPOSES.

"I AM VERY PLEASED WITH THE INITIAL RESPONSE AND LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING SUPPORT FROM OTHER LAND OWNERS IN CHEUNG PO AND HOK TAU SO THAT LAND RESOURCES IN THESE AREAS COULD BE BETTER UTILISED," HE SAID.

FRIDAY, JULY 1, 1988

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ARRESTS MADE IN ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES IN MARKET  
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STRINGENT MEASURES TO CURB ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES IN THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION (FMO)'S CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET CAME INTO FORCE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THESE MEASURES ARE BEING IMPLEMENTED WITH THE FULL SUPPORT OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE. AS A RESULT, TWO MEN WERE ARRESTED THIS MORNING.

A JOINT PRESS BRIEFING WILL BE HELD TODAY AT 3.30 PM BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT AND THE POLICE TO GIVE DETAILS OF TODAY'S JOINT ENFORCEMENT ACTION.

PRESENT AT THE BRIEFING, WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT AFD'S CONFERENCE ROOM ON 14TH FLOOR, CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 393, CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON, WILL BE THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, MR TONY BENNETT, AND THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (FISHERIES), DR CHRISTOPHER LEE.

ALSO PRESENT WILL BE THE POLICE'S SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR STEPHEN PAANG, AND HIS ASSISTANT DISTRICT COMMANDER (CRIME), MR S. YIP.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO ATTEND.

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NEW LONG SERVICE PAYMENT PROVISIONS BECOME EFFECTIVE  
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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT REMINDED THE PUBLIC THAT THE EMPLOYMENT (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) ORDINANCE 1988 PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON WEDNESDAY CAME INTO EFFECT TODAY (FRIDAY).

UNDER THE NEW LEGISLATION, LONG SERVICE PAYMENT SHALL BE PAYABLE TO A QUALIFIED EMPLOYEE WHO RESIGNS ON GROUND OF ILLNESS AFTER BEING CERTIFIED BY A DOCTOR IN A GOVERNMENT OR SUBVENTED HOSPITAL AS BEING PERMANENTLY UNFIT FOR HIS PRESENT JOB.

AN EMPLOYEE AGED 65 YEARS OR OVER WITH NOT LESS THAN 10 YEARS OF SERVICE SHALL BE ENTITLED TO LONG SERVICE PAYMENT UPON RESIGNATION.

THE SURVIVING FAMILY MEMBERS OF A DECEASED EMPLOYEE SHALL ALSO BE ABLE TO RECEIVE A LONG SERVICE PAYMENT IF THE DECEASED HAD COMPLETED THE QUALIFYING PERIOD OF SERVICE AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH.

/THE NEW .....

FRIDAY, JULY 1, 1988

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THE NEW LAW FURTHER COVERS NON-MANUAL EMPLOYEES WHOSE WAGES DO NOT EXCEED THE \$11,500 WAGE CEILING A MONTH WITHIN THE 12 MONTHS PRIOR TO DISMISSAL, AS WELL AS RE-EMPLOYMENT AFTER RETIREMENT.

ENQUIRIES ON THE NEW LEGISLATION MAY BE MADE TO ANY BRANCH OFFICES OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE.

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EMPLOYMENT DOCUMENTS - CHECK BEFORE YOU SIGN

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) ADVISED YOUNG PERSONS SEEKING A SALES JOB TO BE ON THE ALERT WHEN ASKED TO SIGN ANY AGREEMENT OR DOCUMENTS AT THE TIME OF ENGAGEMENT.

THE PLEA WAS MADE FOLLOWING THE RECEIPT OF A NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS BY THE DEPARTMENT FROM SOME INSURANCE SALES PERSONNEL THAT THEY HAD BEEN MISLED INTO BELIEVING THAT THEY WERE HIRED AS EMPLOYEES OF THE COMPANIES AND THAT THE ADVANCED COMMISSION THEY WERE PAID WAS THEIR MONTHLY SALARY.

"HOWEVER, UPON RESIGNATION AFTER AN UNSUCCESSFUL TRIAL PERIOD, THEY WERE ASKED BY THE INSURANCE COMPANIES THEY WORKED FOR TO PAY BACK A LARGE SUM OF MONEY," A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

"ONLY THEN DID THEY DISCOVER THAT BY SIGNING THE VOLUMINOUS DOCUMENTS AT THE TIME OF FIRST ENGAGEMENT, THEY HAD FORFEITED ALL THE PROTECTIONS A NORMAL EMPLOYEE WAS ENTITLED TO UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE."

THE SPOKESMAN CALLED ON JOB SEEKERS TO EXAMINE VERY CAREFULLY ANY AGREEMENT OR DOCUMENTS THEY ARE ASKED TO SIGN.

IN PARTICULAR, THEY SHOULD MAKE SURE WHETHER THEY WERE TO BE EMPLOYED AS A PAID EMPLOYEE UNDER A CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT OR AS AN AGENT UNDER AN AGENCY AGREEMENT.

"THIS IS BECAUSE ONCE THEY HAVE SIGNED AN AGENCY AGREEMENT, THEY ARE NOT REGARDED AS EMPLOYEES OF THE COMPANY AND ARE OUTSIDE THE PROTECTION OF THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE," HE SAID.

PROSPECTIVE JOB SEEKERS SHOULD ALSO FIND OUT WHETHER THE MONEY PAID TO HIM EVERY MONTH IN THE FORM OF ADVANCED COMMISSION IS IN FACT A SALARY WHICH NEEDS NOT TO BE RETURNED, OR A LOAN WHICH HAS TO BE PAID BACK TO THE COMPANY UPON RESIGNATION OR DISMISSAL.

"IF IN DOUBT, JOB SEEKERS SHOULD SEEK ADVICE FROM THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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BREAKWATER AT SAI KUNG INNER PORT SHELTER PROPOSED

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THE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO CONSTRUCT A BREAKWATER WITHIN AN AREA OF ABOUT 2.29 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEA-BED AT SAI KUNG INNER PORT SHELTER.

IT WILL PROVIDE AN AREA OF SHELTERED WATER AS COMPENSATION FOR THAT LOST UNDER THE PROPOSED RECLAMATION OF SAI KUNG CREEK BY THE SAI KUNG TOWN DEVELOPMENT PACKAGE 5 ENGINEERING WORKS.

THE WORK IS SCHEDULED TO START IN JANUARY NEXT YEAR AND BE COMPLETED IN ABOUT 12 MONTHS.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA AFFECTED IS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S (FRIDAY) GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

THE NOTICE TOGETHER WITH ITS RELATED PLAN CAN BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS POSTED NEAR THE SITE.

THE PLAN CAN ALSO BE SEEN AT THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG; THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 34 CHAN MAN STREET, SAI KUNG, AND THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, SAI KUNG, 3RD FLOOR, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING.

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEA-BED INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 31, 1988.

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PRIVATE STREET IN MONG KOK TO BE RESUMED

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THE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO RESUME AND REPAIR KAM FONG STREET, AND SOME SCAVENGING LANES IN MONG KOK FOR BETTER MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT SAID, "THE STREET AND LANES PROPOSED TO BE RESUMED ARE AT PRESENT NOT PROPERLY MAINTAINED AND MANAGED BECAUSE THEY ARE UNDER MULTIPLE SUBDIVIDED OWNERSHIP."

"AS A RESULT, THEY ARE GENERALLY IN POOR CONDITION IN TERMS OF MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT GIVING RISE TO SERIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AND ACCESS PROBLEMS," HE SAID.

/"IT IS .....

"IT IS THEREFORE NECESSARY IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST TO RESUME THEM TO ENABLE ITS PROPER MAINTENANCE AND USE," HE ADDED.

THE PROJECT INCLUDES REPAIRING THE CARRIAGEWAY, FOOTWAYS OF KAM FONG STREET AND SCAVENGING LANES WITHIN LOT NO. KML 47 AND THE IMPROVEMENT WORK TO THE RELATED DRAINAGE.

THE WORKS ARE PROGRAMMED TO START IN SEPTEMBER 1989 FOR COMPLETION IN 12 MONTHS.

A NOTICE ON THE PROPOSED WORKS IS PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE PLAN MAY BE INSPECTED AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG; AT THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, KOWLOON WEST, YAU MA TEI CAR PARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON; AND AT THE MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICE, 157 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD WEST, GROUND FLOOR, KOWLOON.

ANY PERSON OBJECTING TO THE PROPOSAL SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD BEFORE AUGUST 30, 1988.

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#### RESULTS OF RETAIL SALES SURVEY FOR APRIL RELEASED

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THE VALUE OF TOTAL RETAIL SALES IN APRIL 1988, ESTIMATED AT \$7,747 MILLION, WAS 23 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN APRIL 1987 WHILST THEIR VOLUME WAS 13 PER CENT HIGHER, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

COMPARING APRIL 1988 WITH APRIL 1987, RETAIL SALES OF FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO HAD NEGLIGIBLE CHANGE IN VALUE AND A DROP OF 9 PER CENT IN VOLUME. FUELS WENT DOWN BY 6 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 10 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, RETAIL SALES OF "OTHER CONSUMER GOODS" AND CONSUMER DURABLES ROSE BY 44 PER CENT AND 23 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN VALUE AND 33 PER CENT AND 14 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN VOLUME.

CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS INCREASED BY 10 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND REMAINED ALMOST UNCHANGED IN SALES VOLUME.

ANALYSED BY SELECTED TRADES, SALES BY DEPARTMENT STORES ROSE SUBSTANTIALLY BY 58 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 44 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

/MOTOR VEHICLES .....

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MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS RECORDED INCREASES OF 25 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 12 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME.

CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS WENT UP BY 22 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 15 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME.

SUPERMARKETS SALES ROSE BY 8 PER CENT IN VALUE AND HAD ALMOST NO CHANGE IN VOLUME.

COMPARING THE PERIOD JANUARY TO APRIL 1988 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1987, TOTAL RETAIL SALES INCREASED BY 24 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 14 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

ANALYSED BY MAJOR TRADE GROUPS, SALES OF FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO INCREASED BY 7 PER CENT IN VALUE AND DROPPED BY 2 PER CENT IN VOLUME. FUELS WENT UP BY 5 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND DECREASED SLIGHTLY BY 1 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, RETAIL SALES OF "OTHER CONSUMER GOODS" AND "CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS" ROSE BY 34 PER CENT AND 28 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN VALUE WHILST THEIR CORRESPONDING INCREASES IN VOLUME WERE 24 PER CENT AND 16 PER CENT. CONSUMER DURABLES INCREASED BY 26 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 17 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME.

ANALYSED BY SELECTED TRADES, SALES BY DEPARTMENT STORES WENT UP BY 55 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 41 PER CENT IN VOLUME, WHILE THE CORRESPONDING INCREASES FOR MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS WERE 39 PER CENT AND 26 PER CENT.

CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS INCREASED BY 20 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 13 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME. SUPERMARKETS SALES ROSE BY 14 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 6 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

WHEN COMPARED WITH MARCH 1988, AND BEARING IN MIND THAT THIS COMPARISON IS AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS, TOTAL RETAIL SALES FOR APRIL 1988 DECREASED BY 2 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 4 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO WENT DOWN BY 4 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 5 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME, WHILE FUELS DECREASED BY 5 PER CENT IN BOTH SALES VALUE AND VOLUME.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, RETAIL SALES OF CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS ROSE BY 7 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 3 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

CONSUMER DURABLES INCREASED BY 1 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND REMAINED ALMOST UNCHANGED IN SALES VOLUME. "OTHER CONSUMER GOODS" FELL BY 3 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 5 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME.

/ANALYSED BY .....

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ANALYSED BY SELECTED TRADES, SALES OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS RECORDED INCREASES OF 7 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 6 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

SALES BY DEPARTMENT STORES WENT DOWN BY 1 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 3 PER CENT IN VOLUME. CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS DECREASED BY 2 PER CENT IN BOTH SALES VALUE AND VOLUME. SUPERMARKETS SALES DROPPED BY 7 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 8 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

THE REPORT CONTAINING THE ANALYSIS OF THE APRIL 1988 SURVEY RESULTS IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, AT \$1 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. 5-8234941).

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

TABLE 1 PRESENTS THE REVISED TOTAL RETAIL SALES FIGURE FOR MARCH 1988 AND THE PROVISIONAL FIGURE FOR APRIL 1988.

TABLE 2 SHOWS THE VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES IN MARCH AND APRIL 1988 (A) FOR ALL RETAIL TRADES, (B) BY MAJOR TRADE GROUPS AND (C) BY SELECTED TRADES (WHICH FORM PART OF THE RELEVANT MAJOR TRADE GROUPS), WITH AVERAGE RETAIL SALES FROM OCTOBER 1984 TO SEPTEMBER 1985 TAKEN AS 100. COMPARISONS OF APRIL 1988 RESULTS WITH THOSE FOR MARCH 1988 AND WITH THOSE FOR APRIL 1987 AND COMPARISONS OF RETAIL SALES IN THE PERIOD JANUARY TO APRIL 1988 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1987 ARE ALSO GIVEN.

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TABLE 1 : TOTAL RETAIL SALES

Total Retail Sales for April 1988 (Provisional Figure) = HK\$7,747 million  
 for March 1988 (Revised Figure) = HK\$7,885 million

TABLE 2 : VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES  
FOR MARCH 1988 AND APRIL 1988

(Monthly average of Oct. 84 - Sept. 85 = 100)

Item	Index of Retail Sales	March	April	April 1988	April 1988	Jan. - Apr. 1988	Jan. - Apr. 1988
		1988	1988	compared with March 1988	compared with April 1987	compared with Jan. - Apr. 1987	compared with Jan. - Apr. 1987
		(Revised figures)	(Provisional figures)	Points	%	Points	%
<b>(A) FOR ALL RETAIL TRADES</b>							
	Value	141	138	-2	-2	26	23
	Volume	121	116	-4	-4	13	13
<b>(B) BY MAJOR TRADE GROUPS</b>							
Foodstuffs, alcoholic drinks and tobacco	Value	118	113	-4	-4	*	*
	Volume	104	99	-6	-5	-10	-9
Fuels	Value	93	88	-5	-5	-6	-6
	Volume	100	94	-5	-5	-10	-10
Clothing, footwear and allied products	Value	136	145	10	7	13	10
	Volume	114	117	3	3	1	*
Consumer durables	Value	145	146	1	1	28	23
	Volume	119	119	*	*	15	14
Other consumer goods	Value	161	155	-6	-3	48	44
	Volume	136	128	-7	-5	32	33
<b>(C) BY SELECTED TRADES</b>							
(see note 1 below)							
Supermarkets	Value	142	132	-10	-7	10	8
	Volume	125	115	-10	-8	*	*
Motor vehicles and parts	Value	194	208	14	7	42	25
	Volume	140	149	9	6	16	12
Consumer durables other than motor vehicles and parts	Value	130	127	-2	-2	23	22
	Volume	113	110	-3	-2	14	15
Department stores	Value	164	163	-1	-1	60	58
	Volume	138	133	-5	-3	41	44

NOTES : 1. In order to analyse the sales of certain trades WITHIN major trade groups, the value and volume indexes in respect of the following selected trades are compiled :

- "Supermarkets" - a trade in the "Foodstuffs, alcoholic drinks and tobacco" group.
- "Motor vehicles and parts" - a trade in the "Consumer durables" group.
- "Consumer durables other than motor vehicles and parts" - a trade in the "Consumer durables" group.
- "Department stores" - a trade in the "Other consumer goods" group.

2. Figures denoting changes are derived from the unrounded index figures.

3. "\*" denotes change of less than 0.5.

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QUARTERLY REPORT FOR CONTINUING HOUSEHOLD SURVEY  
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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO CONDUCT THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY IN JULY TO SEPTEMBER.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE SURVEY, CONDUCTED MONTHLY SINCE AUGUST 1981, COLLECTS INFORMATION ON EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT, AND THE GENERAL SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION.

IN ADDITION, QUESTIONS ON HONG KONG RESIDENTS' EXPENDITURE ABROAD; SMOKING HABITS; EXPENDITURE ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT TO AND FROM WORK; PARTICIPATION IN SHARES AND STOCKS ACTIVITIES AND HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE ON RENT WILL ALSO BE INCLUDED IN THE QUARTERLY REPORT.

"SOME 5,000 HOUSEHOLDS ARE SELECTED AT RANDOM EACH MONTH FROM ALL DISTRICTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE SURVEY," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"ABOUT HALF OF THE HOUSEHOLDS INTERVIEWED THREE MONTHS AGO, WILL BE SURVEYED AGAIN TO MEASURE MORE ACCURATELY THE CHANGES THAT HAVE OCCURRED SINCE THEN," HE ADDED.

AN OFFICIAL LETTER, IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, HAS BEEN SENT TO THE SAMPLED HOUSEHOLDS TO EXPLAIN THE PURPOSE OF THE SURVEY AND TO SEEK THEIR CO-OPERATION.

ASSISTANT CENSUS AND SURVEY OFFICERS, CARRYING IDENTITY CARDS ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT, WILL VISIT THESE HOUSEHOLDS TO COLLECT THE REQUIRED INFORMATION, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"ALL INFORMATION COLLECTED WILL BE TREATED CONFIDENTIALLY AND WILL NOT BE REVEALED TO ANY PERSON OR ORGANISATION OUTSIDE THE DEPARTMENT," HE ADDED.

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DONALD LIAO URGES MORE PARTICIPATION IN SYP  
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THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DONALD LIAO, TODAY (FRIDAY) CALLED YOUNG PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NUMEROUS ACTIVITIES OF THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME WHICH ARE AIMED AT PROVIDING THEM WITH AN ENJOYABLE AND MEANINGFUL SUMMER.

MR LIAO WAS SPEAKING TO ABOUT 2,000 YOUTHS AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 1988 SYP ORGANISED BY THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME COMMITTEE AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM.

/"WE ALL .....

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"WE ALL WANT OUR YOUNG PEOPLE TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP THEIR POTENTIAL AND ABILITY THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN ALL KINDS OF RECREATIONAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES," MR LAIO SAID.

"'SHARE THE FUN AND SERVE THE COMMUNITY' IS THE THEME AND SPIRIT OF THIS YEAR'S SYP," MR LIAO REMINDED THE YOUNG PEOPLE AT THE CEREMONY.

"IT IS ALSO THE AIM OF THE SYP TO GIVE YOUNG PEOPLE MORE CHANCES TO GET TO KNOW THEIR OWN COMMUNITY WHILE TAKING PART IN SUMMER ACTIVITIES," HE ADDED.

THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME WAS FIRST LAUNCHED IN 1969, TARGETTING AT YOUNG PEOPLE BETWEEN SIX AND 25 YEAR OLD, WITH THE AIM OF ENCOURAGING THEM TO SPEND THE SUMMER IN A HEALTHY AND USEFUL WAY.

PROGRAMMES ORGANISED BY VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, DISTRICT BOARDS AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES THIS YEAR INCLUDE MUSIC CAMPS, FORESTRY CAMPS, COMMUNITY PROJECTS, LEADERSHIP TRAINING, SPORTS, AND MANY OTHER EDUCATIONAL, CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

"THE TOTAL EXPENDITURE OF THE PROGRAMME THIS YEAR IS ESTIMATED AT ABOUT \$23 MILLION, FOR WHICH THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB HAS CONTRIBUTED \$8.95 MILLION," MR LIAO SAID.

THE JOCKEY CLUB HAD BEEN THE MAJOR DONOR TO THE SYP FOR 20 YEARS AND THIS YEAR'S DONATION WAS 40 PER CENT OVER LAST YEAR'S FIGURE.

AT THE CEREMONY, MR LIAO, REPRESENTING THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME COMMITTEE, RECEIVED THE JOCKEY CLUB DONATION FROM MR JOHN SWAINE, A STEWARD OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.

FOLLOWING THE CEREMONY WAS AN ONE-HOUR SWINGING SUMMER CONCERT JOINTLY PRESENTED BY THE SYP COMMITTEE, URBAN COUNCIL AND RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG.

OTHER THAN THE 2000 SPECTATORS WHO ENJOYED THE MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT AT THE STADIUM, THE PUBLIC WILL BE ABLE TO SHARE THE FUN WHEN THE TAPED PROGRAMME IS TELEVISED ON TVB JADE ON JULY 17 (SUNDAY) AT 10.20 PM.

THREE MORE SWINGING SUMMER CONCERTS WILL BE HELD IN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS AT THE KO SHAN THEATRE, TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL AND PITCH NO. 8 INSIDE HAPPY VALLEY.

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SHA TIN SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME OPENS THIS SUNDAY

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A FIVE-DAY EXHIBITION FEATURING YOUTH ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNITY SERVICES WILL PROVIDE USEFUL BACKGROUND INFORMATION TO YOUNG PEOPLE WHO WISH TO CHOOSE FROM SOME 600 ACTIVITIES IN THE SHA TIN SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SHA TIN DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE SAID THIS OPENING EVENT, TO BE HELD AT THE ROMAN ARENA OF THE NEW TOWN PLAZA FROM SUNDAY (JULY 3), WAS PREPARED BY 16 VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

"TO MARK THE OCCASION, AN OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT 2.30 PM ON THE SAME DAY AT THE SAME LOCATION," HE SAID.

"OFFICIATING GUESTS WILL INCLUDE THE ACTING SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ANDREW PYNE; SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR NG CHAN-LAM AND SYP CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR LAU KONG-WAH."

THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT THIS YEAR'S PROGRAMME WAS SOLELY FUNDED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB AT \$227,500 -- A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE OVER LAST YEAR'S \$157,600.

"THIS YEAR, \$167,618 HAS BEEN ALLOCATED TO VARIOUS VOLUNTARY BODIES, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND SCHOOLS FOR ORGANISING 112 EVENTS," HE ADDED.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME TO BE HELD AT 2.30 PM ON SUNDAY (JULY 3) AT THE ROMAN ARENA, NEW TOWN PLAZA, SHA TIN.

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FRIDAY, JULY 1, 1988

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SUMMER YOUTH FUN FOR KWUN TONG STARTS ON SUNDAY

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SOME 600 YOUTHS IN KWUN TONG ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE PART ON SUNDAY (JULY 3) AFTERNOON IN A FUN-FILLED WATER CARNIVAL WHICH MARKS THE OPENING OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME 1988.

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY AT KWUN TONG SWIMMING POOL WILL BE THE DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY (HONG KONG AND KOWLOON), MR PAUL LEUNG; KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR CHRIS WAN; REGIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER (EAST KOWLOON), MR LOK MAN-PAN; DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR LAM HANG-FAI; LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR POON CHI-FAI; RECREATION AND SPORTS MANAGER (KOWLOON EAST), MRS POLLY LAI AND CHAIRPERSON OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, MADAM YEUNG KAM-CHUN.

IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE OPENING, A WATER CARNIVAL FEATURING SYNCHRONISED SWIMMING DEMONSTRATIONS, AQUATIC GAMES AND FREE SWIMMING SESSION WILL BE HELD.

AT A PRELUDE TO THE FUNCTION, A FANCY BROADCASTING BUS WILL TOUR THE DISTRICT IN THE MORNING AND STOP OVER THE WAY TO -DISTRIBUTE SOUVENIRS TO YOUNG PEOPLE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME OPENING CEREMONY TO BE HELD ON SUNDAY (JULY 3) AT 2.30 PM AT KWUN TONG SWIMMING POOL, TSUI PING ROAD.

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SIR EDWARD YOUDE MEMORIAL MEDALS

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THE SIR EDWARD YOUDE MEMORIAL FUND COUNCIL ANNOUNCED TODAY (JULY 1) THE INTRODUCTION OF A MEDAL SCHEME FOR FORM 5- 7 STUDENTS WHO HAVE EXCELLED IN THEIR ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE.

SELECTION FOR THE AWARDS OF SIR EDWARD YOUDE MEMORIAL MEDAL WILL BE BASED ON EXCEPTIONAL ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS AT THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION, THE HONG KONG HIGHER LEVEL EXAMINATION AND THE HONG KONG ADVANCED LEVEL EXAMINATION.

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"THE FIRST SELECTIONS WILL BE MADE THIS YEAR BASED ON THE RESULTS OF THESE PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS.

"EACH AWARD WINNER WILL RECEIVE A MEDAL, A CERTIFICATE AND A SUM OF \$2,000," SAID PROFESSOR LEUNG WAI-SUN OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG WHO IS A MEMBER OF THE SIR EDWARD YOUDE MEMORIAL FUND COUNCIL.

THE COUNCIL WHICH IS CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PROMOTING THE EDUCATION AND LEARNING OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG HAS ALREADY GIVEN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO THE BEST FORMS 5, 6 AND 7 STUDENTS THROUGH ITS PRIZE SCHEME.

"OUR FUTURE IS IN THE HANDS OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE, THE COUNCIL HOPES THAT BY SETTING UP THE MEDAL SCHEME, IT WILL BE ABLE TO ACCORD RECOGNITION TO THE BEST STUDENTS OF THE YEAR IN EACH OF THE THREE PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS," SAID PROFESSOR LEUNG.

FIVE MEDALS WILL BE AWARDED EACH YEAR: ONE FOR A FORM 5 STUDENT AND ONE FOR EACH STREAM IN FORMS 6 AND 7.

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#### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEMES IN WAN CHAI

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THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF WAN CHAI'S NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME PHASE SIX WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT 3.30 PM.

FOUR BUILDINGS - HENNESSY MANSION, YING LEE MANSION, JAFFE COURT AND MOON FAIR MANSION - WILL TAKE PART IN THE SCHEME.

OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ALLAN CHOW; POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR. MICHAEL PREW; CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, MR CHENK HOK-YIN; AND DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MRS PEGGY LAM.

THERE WILL BE A SEMINAR AFTER THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY IN WHICH POLICE OFFICERS WILL GIVE TALKS ON HOW TO PREVENT BURGLARIES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT 1/F, GLORIOUS RESTAURANT, 41 LOCKHART ROAD, WAN CHAI.

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STUDENT DELEGATION BOUND FOR CANBERRA

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SIX SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS WILL LEAVE SHORTLY FOR CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA, TO TAKE PART IN THE 29TH INTERNATIONAL MATHEMATICAL OLYMPIAD (IMO) TO BE HELD BETWEEN JULY 10 AND 21.

THE STUDENTS, AGED UNDER 20 AND FROM SIX SECONDARY SCHOOLS, WERE SELECTED FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN THE PRELIMINARY LOCAL CONTEST.

IT IS THE FIRST TIME THAT LOCAL STUDENTS WILL REPRESENT HONG KONG IN THE OLYMPIAD.

THE CONTEST IS SPONSORED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE HONG KONG MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY AND THE INTERNATIONAL MATHEMATICAL OLYMPIAD (HK) EXECUTIVE SUBCOMMITTEE.

TO MARK THE OCCASION, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (BUILDING AND SYSTEM) OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, MR S.H. HSU, WILL PRESENT A FLAG TO THE TEAM AT A CEREMONY AT THE WING LUNG BANK (HEAD OFFICE) TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT AT THE MAIN HALL OF THE WING LUNG BANK (HEAD OFFICE) AT 21ST FLOOR, WING LUNG BANK BLDG, 45 DES VOEUX ROAD, CENTRAL, AT 10 AM TOMORROW.

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FUNCTIONS IN SUPPORT OF WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

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A FILM WHICH DEPICTS THE IMPORTANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION WILL BE SHOWN TO RESIDENTS OF EASTERN DISTRICT AT MUCH REDUCED PRICES.

THIS IS ONE OF THE FUNCTIONS ORGANISED BY THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD'S WORKING GROUP ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CLEAN HONG KONG ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF THE 1988 WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY.

"THE FILM, ENTITLED -- THE WARRIORS OF THE WIND, IS BOTH EDUCATIONAL AND ENTERTAINING," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE WORKING GROUP SAID.

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"IT WILL BE SHOWN AT 10.30 AM ON JULY 9 (SATURDAY) AT THE GOLDEN HUNG KAI THEATRE IN NORTH POINT. TICKETS AT A NOMINAL FEE OF \$2 EACH WILL BE ON SALE AT THE THEATRE FROM JULY 4 (MONDAY)," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

ANOTHER ACTIVITY ORGANISED BY THE WORKING GROUP TO PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IS A PLANTING CEREMONY TO BE HELD TO JULY 23 AT THE NEWLY-OPENED SITTING-OUT AREA AT KORNHILL, QUARRY BAY.

THE SITTING-OUT AREA WAS CONSTRUCTED BY THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD AT A COST OF ABOUT \$196,000.

THE PROJECT, WHICH INCLUDES A CHINESE PAVILION, SOME FLOWER-BEDS AND A NUMBER OF BENCHES, WILL PROVIDE A RECREATIONAL VENUE FOR NEARBY RESIDENTS.

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#### DB FUNDS FOR PUBLICISING DRAFT BASIC LAW

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A TOTAL OF \$55,000 WILL BE ALLOCATED BY THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT BOARD TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS FOR ORGANISING ACTIVITIES TO PUBLICISE THE DRAFT BASIC LAW FOR THE BENEFIT OF RESIDENTS.

ORGANISATIONS AND SCHOOLS IN KWAI TSING DISTRICT MAY APPLY FOR ALLOCATION OF FUNDS BEFORE JULY 30.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT SUB-OFFICES OF THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICE.

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#### BUS LANE AT HUNG MUI KUK ROAD TO BE EXTENDED

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT FROM 7.30 AM ON MONDAY (JULY 4), THE EXISTING BUS LANE ON THE KERBSIDE LANE OF THE KOWLOON-BOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF HUNG MUI KUK ROAD WILL BE EXTENDED FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH CHUNG PAK ROAD TO THE ENTRANCE TO THE CAR PARK AT HUNG MUI KUK INTERCHANGE.

NO VEHICLES OTHER THAN BUSES AND THOSE WITH PERMITS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE BUS LANE BETWEEN 7.30 AM AND 9 AM DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED TO WATCH OUT FOR TRAFFIC SIGNS AND ROAD MARKINGS INDICATING THE BUS LANE.

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LONG VEHICLE BAN IN SHIU FAI TERRACE

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT ALL VEHICLES OVER 4.6 METRES LONG WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ENTER SHIU FAI TERRACE IN WAN CHAI BETWEEN HOUSE NOS. 1 AND 2C FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (JULY 4).

THIS MEASURE WILL BE IN FORCE FOR ABOUT SEVEN WEEKS TO FACILITATE ROADWORKS.

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WATER CUT IN KWAI CHUNG

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN KWAI CHUNG WILL BE TURNED OFF TOMORROW (SATURDAY) FROM 9 PM TO 8 AM THE NEXT DAY FOR WATER MAINS WORK.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY KWAI CHUNG ROAD, LAI KING HILL ROAD, JOINT STREET, LAI CHO ROAD, AND CASTLE PEAK ROAD (EXCEPT PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL).

AT THE SAME TIME, WATER PRESSURE TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN KWAI CHUNG WILL BE WEAKENED.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY CONTAINER PORT ROAD, KWAI TAI ROAD, KWAI YUE STREET, WING SHUN STREET, TEXACO ROAD, KWAI FUK ROAD, SHING FUK STREET, KWAI SHING CIRCUIT, KWAI HING ROAD, WO TONG TSUI STREET, CASTLE PEAK ROAD, LAI CHO ROAD, JOINT STREET, LAI KING HILL ROAD, KWAI CHUNG ROAD AND TSUEN WAN ROAD, INCLUDING ALL BLOCKS OF MEI FOO SUN TSUEN TO THE SOUTH OF KWAI CHUNG ROAD.

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## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES  
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 5-8428777

SUPPLEMENT

FRIDAY, JULY 1, 1988

TRANSCRIPT OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE GIVEN BY  
LORD GLENARTHUR, MINISTER OF STATE,  
FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE,  
ON JULY 1, 1988

FRIDAY, JULY 1, 1988

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LORD GLENARTHUR GIVES PRESS CONFERENCE

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FOLLOWING IS A TRANSCRIPT OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE GIVEN TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR HONG KONG, LORD GLENARTHUR:

LORD GLENARTHUR: I AM DELIGHTED TO BE BACK IN HONG KONG AND TO HAVE ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO MEET YOU. THIS IS MY THIRD VISIT ALTOGETHER IN THE YEAR SINCE I TOOK ON MY PRESENT JOB AS MINISTER OF STATE IN THE FCO. ONCE AGAIN THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT HAS ORGANISED A FULL AND VARIED PROGRAMME.

DURING MY STAY I HAVE HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GOVERNOR, WITH EXCO AND LEGCO, AND WITH THOSE HANDLING THE PROBLEM OF VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE. I HAVE SEEN THAT PROBLEM FOR MYSELF AT THE HEI LING CHAU AND SHAM SHUI PO CENTRES. I HAVE ALSO MET REPRESENTATIVES OF THE BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITIES, INCLUDING THOSE RUNNING THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL. AND I HAVE VISITED THE TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE AND THE TUEN MUN NEW TOWN.

I AM VERY GRATEFUL TO THE GOVERNOR AND HIS OFFICIALS FOR ARRANGING THIS PROGRAMME, AND TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE GIVEN ME AND MY WIFE SO MUCH OF THEIR TIME.

AS YOU KNOW, I HAVE ALSO BEEN TO THAILAND AND CHINA ON THIS TRIP. I GAVE A PRESS CONFERENCE IN PEKING. BUT IT MAY BE OF INTEREST TO YOU IF I REPEAT SOME OF THE MAIN POINTS THAT CAME UP THEN.

HONG KONG WAS CENTRAL TO MY DISCUSSIONS WITH CHINESE MINISTERS. I WAS IMPRESSED BY THEIR DETERMINATION TO IMPLEMENT THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THEIR READINESS TO CONSULT HONG KONG PEOPLE ON THE DRAFT BASIC LAW AND TO AMEND IT IN THE LIGHT OF THEIR VIEWS.

I DISCUSSED WITH THE CHINESE MINISTERS THE PROBLEM OF VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE BEING GIVEN ASSISTANCE ALONG THE COAST OF CHINA ON THEIR WAY TO HONG KONG: THEY UNDERSTOOD THE PROBLEM, UNDERTOOK TO FIND OUT THE FACTS, AND SAID THEY WOULD DO WHAT THEY COULD TO HELP.

VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE HAVE BEEN A MAJOR TOPIC OF MY DISCUSSIONS HERE TOO, AS IT WAS WHEN SIR GEOFFREY HOWE WAS HERE A MONTH AGO. SINCE THEN THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT HAS INTRODUCED A NEW POLICY. THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAD NO HESITATION IN ENDORSING THAT POLICY. THE SITUATION SIMPLY COULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO GO ON AS IT WAS.

/I HAVE .....

I HAVE NOW SEEN FOR MYSELF HOW THE NEW POLICY IS BEING IMPLEMENTED. I HAVE BEEN GREATLY IMPRESSED BY THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS SET UP SINCE JUNE 16 AND THE DEDICATION AND PROFESSIONALISM OF THE STAFF INVOLVED. IT IS OF COURSE TOO EARLY TO ASSESS THE EFFECT ON THE NUMBERS OF ARRIVALS. BUT THOSE THINKING OF SETTING OFF FOR HONG KONG FROM VIETNAM TO IMPROVE THEIR ECONOMIC SITUATION SHOULD CLEARLY UNDERSTAND ONE THING: HOWEVER LONG IT TAKES THEY WILL BE SENT BACK TO THEIR OWN COUNTRY. IT IS NO GOOD THEIR THINKING THAT HONG KONG IS ANY LONGER A STAGING POST TO A NEW LIFE ELSEWHERE.

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN VERY ACTIVE IN EXPLAINING THE NEW POLICY, SECURING SUPPORT FOR IT, AND BRINGING INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE TO BEAR ON VIETNAM. THE FOREIGN SECRETARY HAS SPOKEN PERSONALLY TO THE VIETNAMESE, SOVIET AND CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTERS. AND, AS I'VE SAID, I HAVE DISCUSSED THE PROBLEM IN MY TALKS IN PEKING. WE HAVE BEEN KEEPING UP THE PRESSURE ON THE VIETNAMESE IN LONDON AND HANOI, TO URGE THEM TO TAKE BACK THEIR ECONOMIC MIGRANTS. ONE THING IS CERTAIN: THE KEY TO A LASTING SOLUTION LIES FIRST AND FOREMOST WITH VIETNAM.

DURING MY VISIT HERE I HAVE ALSO HAD IT PUT TO ME THAT THE UK SHOULD TAKE IN MORE OF THE GENUINE REFUGEES NOW IN HONG KONG, THEREBY EASING HONG KONG'S BURDEN AND ENCOURAGING GREATER RESETTLEMENT ELSEWHERE. WE HAVE OF COURSE ALREADY TAKEN IN A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF REFUGEES FROM HONG KONG - DESPITE ALL THE IMMIGRATION PRESSURES WE FACE FROM OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD. BUT AFTER THE RECENT INFLUX INTO HONG KONG WE ARE LOOKING AGAIN AT ALL ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM. MORE RESETTLEMENT IN THE UK IS OBVIOUSLY AMONG THESE OPTIONS.

I HAVE REFERRED TO THE BASIC LAW. AS I MADE CLEAR IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS DEBATE WE ARE TAKING CAREFUL NOTE OF CONCERNS EXPRESSED IN HONG KONG. WE HAVE DRAWN THE ATTENTION OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT TO THEM. WE HAVE GIVEN THE RECORD OF THE DEBATE TO THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES. AND AS I HAVE ALREADY TOLD YOU, THEY ARE CLEARLY PAYING PARTICULARLY CLOSE ATTENTION TO VIEWS EXPRESSED HERE.

ANOTHER OF THE SUBJECTS I HAVE DISCUSSED HERE, PARTICULARLY WITH OMELCO, HAS BEEN THE TREATMENT OF HONG KONG PASSPORT HOLDERS AT BRITISH PORTS OF ENTRY. I WAS ABLE TO TELL THEM THAT SIR GEOFFREY HOWE HAD ALREADY TAKEN UP WITH THE HOME SECRETARY THE COMPLAINTS RAISED DURING HIS VISIT. I ALSO ASSURED THEM THAT I WOULD PERSONALLY RAISE THE CONCERNS EXPRESSED TO ME WITH MY OWN OPPOSITE NUMBER AT THE HOME OFFICE. BUT THERE'S ONE THING I WANT TO MAKE CRYSTAL CLEAR NOW: THERE IS NO POLICY OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST HONG KONG PASSPORT HOLDERS. ANYONE WHO THINKS THERE IS, IS WRONG.

MY VISIT HAPPENS TO COINCIDE WITH ANOTHER EVENT - THE OPENING OF THE BRITISH AND CHINESE JLG OFFICES IN HONG KONG. THE JLG HAS ACHIEVED MUCH IN THE THREE YEARS OF ITS EXISTENCE: ITS LOCATION IN HONG KONG MAKES NO DIFFERENCE TO ITS ROLE BUT WILL MAKE CO-OPERATION STILL CLOSER AND MORE EFFICIENT. I WISH THE TWO TEAMS CONTINUED SUCCESS IN THEIR IMPORTANT WORK.

/I WOULD .....

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I WOULD LIKE TO END BY EMPHASISING ONE THING. I'M THE THIRD BRITISH MINISTER TO VISIT HONG KONG INSIDE A MONTH. ALL THESE VISITS MAKE CLEAR OUR DETERMINATION TO CARRY OUT IN FULL THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES TOWARDS HONG KONG.

FANNY WONG (ORIENTAL DAILY NEWS): IT IS A QUESTION ON DEFENCE COST. IS IT TRUE THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WILL NOT CONSIDER MAKING ANY FURTHER CONCESSIONS TO THE NEW DCA. SECOND, DESPITE SOME LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLORS VOTE AGAINST THE NEW PACT, ISN'T IT TOTALLY UNFAIR TO HONG KONG THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT SHOULD IMPOSE ITEMS SUCH AS VAT OR EVEN SALARY TAX IN THE OLD AGREEMENTS, THAT WE HAVE TO PAY FOR THAT? ISN'T IT TIME NOW THAT YOU SHOULD CONSIDER DROPPING OUT THOSE ONE-OFF PAYMENT FOR THE OUTSTANDING BILL?

LORD GLENARTHUR: CAN WE TAKE THE DCA WHICH I THINK IS THE MAIN BURDEN OF YOUR QUESTION? THE FACT IS THAT THE AGREEMENT WHICH HAS BEEN ACHIEVED RESULTS FROM A LONG PERIOD OF NEGOTIATIONS, AND VERY TOUGH NEGOTIATIONS THEY'VE BEEN. WE NOW HAVE THAT AGREEMENT APPROVED BY EXCO AND IT NEXT GOES TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF LEGCO AND I HOPE THAT THEY WILL SEE IT FOR WHAT IT IS, AND WHAT IT IS IS THE BEST AGREEMENT THAT COULD BE REACHED BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES. I HOPE ALSO THAT YOU WILL REALISE THAT THE UNITED KINGDOM HAS AGREED TO PAY A HIGHER SHARE AT A TIME OF INTENSE PRESSURE ON OUR DEFENCE BUDGET WORLDWIDE. SO THAT REALLY IS THE IMPORTANT THING, THE AGREEMENT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED, THE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN TOUGH, NOW THE IMPORTANT THING IS FOR IT TO GO IN FRONT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF LEGCO.

FANNY WONG: BUT ISN'T IT UNFAIR FOR US TO PAY FOR THE VAT AND THE SALARY TAX FOR THE OUTSTANDING BILL? ISN'T IT UNFAIR FOR US BECAUSE FOR SALARY TAX, HONG KONG CIVIL SERVANTS DON'T GET ANY SALARY TAX FROM THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, THAT MIGHT BE A POINT OF VIEW, BUT VARIOUS ELEMENTS IN THE FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS, PERHAPS EVEN MORE WIDELY THAN THAT SEEM TO BE UNFAIR, BUT I THINK YOU MUST ALSO BEAR IN MIND THAT WHEN IT COMES TO SOMETHING LIKE DEFENCE COSTS AGREEMENTS HONGKONG HAS FOR LONG PAID ITS SHARE, PAID A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT AND THOSE ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN VALID NOW FOR MANY YEARS.

WHAT WE'VE GOT IS A NEW AGREEMENT; WE MUST GIVE THAT AGREEMENT THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK. I BELIEVE THAT IT'S A FAIR AGREEMENT AND I HOPE THAT WHEN IT GOES IN FRONT OF THE LEGCO FINANCE THAT IT WILL BE ENDORSED AS IT HAS BEEN BY EXCO.

FANNY WONG: SO THERE WILL BE NO FURTHER CONCESSIONS?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, AN AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED.

/SALLY BLYTH (RTHK): .....

SALLY BLYTH (RTHK): IT'S UNDERSTOOD THAT DURING YOUR MEETING WITH LEGISLATORS LAST NIGHT, YOU SAID THERE'S BEEN A MEETING BETWEEN THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND THE UNHCR IN LONDON ABOUT THE UNHCR PAYING MORE TOWARDS THE COST OF THE UPKEEP OF THE CLOSED CAMPS IN HONG KONG. CAN YOU GIVE US MORE DETAILS ABOUT THOSE DISCUSSIONS AND HAS THERE BEEN ANY INDICATION FROM THE UNHCR THAT THEY WILL IN FACT AGREE TO PAY MORE?

LORD GLENARTHUR: YES, THERE WAS A MEETING, THE MEETING WAS A WORKING LEVEL MEETING IN LONDON AND I WILL BE LOOKING AT WHAT'S BEEN SAID IN DETAIL WHEN I GET HOME TOMORROW. THE FACT IS THAT THERE ARE A NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS GOING ON, BOTH HERE WITH ME VISITING. POINTS HAVE BEEN PUT TO ME, POINTS HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED IN LONDON AND IT WILL BE IMPORTANT TO TRY AND PUT THE TWO TOGETHER. AS FOR WHETHER WE TAKE IT ANY FURTHER FROM THERE VERY MUCH DEPENDS ON WHAT WAS SAID. I'M AFRAID I'LL HAVE TO OBVIOUSLY DISCUSS IT FULLY WITH THE OFFICIALS ON MY SIDE IN LONDON.

SALLY BLYTH: HAVE YOU MET ANYBODY FROM THE UNHCR HERE?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, I'VE MET MR KARIM YES, BECAUSE HE CAME ROUND BOTH CAMPS WITH ME.

SALLY BLYTH: AND WAS THAT SUBJECT RAISED THEN ABOUT THE UNHCR PAYING MORE?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, WE DISCUSSED IT IN VERY GENERAL TERMS BUT, OF COURSE, IT WAS BY NO MEANS A DISCUSSION, IT WAS A CONVERSATION.

SALLY BLYTH: DO YOU AGREE THE UNHCR SHOULD PAY MORE?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, YES I DO THINK THE UNHCR SHOULD PAY MORE TO HELP HONG KONG WITH THE REFUGEE PROBLEM, BUT THE PRECISE AMOUNT AND THE DETAILS AND THE FINE PRINT, SO TO SPEAK, WILL OBVIOUSLY HAVE TO BE NEGOTIATED AND I HONESTLY DON'T THINK THAT I SHOULD TRY TO PRE-EMPT ANY OF THAT DISCUSSION.

ANTHONY FLORES (COMMERCIAL RADIO): WILL BRITAIN CONTRIBUTE TO THE RUNNING OF THE CAMPS FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS SINCE IT'S OUTSIDE THE JURISDICTION OF THE UNHCR?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, THE FACT IS THAT WE'VE, AS I SAID, DISCUSSED JUST NOW THE PROBLEM OF THE UNHCR AND THEIR ELEMENTS. THE WHOLE QUESTION OF THE COST OF RUNNING THE CAMPS IS, I KNOW, A BIG BURDEN UPON HONG KONG AND IT'S EXTREMELY WELL RUN.

I THINK THAT THERE ARE ONE OR TWO THINGS TO BE TAKEN ACCOUNT ON. ONE IS THAT WE ARE NOT QUITE SURE YET, WE HAVEN'T HAD THE FULL RESULT OF THE EFFECT OF THE CHANGE OF POLICY, WE'LL HAVE TO SEE HOW THAT GOES. WE'VE GOT VARIOUS OTHER ELEMENTS WHICH WILL NEED TO BE DISCUSSED, AS I SAID IN MY OPENING STATEMENT, WHEN WE GET BACK, TO SEE HOW WE CAN TAKE IT FORWARD AND ALL THESE ITEMS REALLY RUN TOGETHER.

/I THINK .....

I THINK IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE TO TRY AND SINGLE ANY ONE ASPECT OUT WHETHER IT BE COST, WHETHER IT BE UK RESETTLEMENT, WHETHER IT BE ANY OTHER. THE WHOLE THING IS TO TRY AND FIND A WAY THROUGH THE VERY REAL DIFFICULTIES THAT EXIST, USING ALL THE MEANS AT OUR DISPOSAL.

STUART PALLISTER (ATV): COULD I JUST RETURN TO THE DEFENCE COSTS, SIR. YOU SAY THAT AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED WHICH RATHER PRE-EMPTS THE FINANCE COMMITTEE'S DECISIONS, BUT WHAT HAPPENS IF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE DOES DECIDE TO THROW IT OUT BECAUSE THEY ARE IN BASICALLY A "NO LOSE" SITUATION?

LORD GLENARTHUR: I DON'T REALLY THINK I CAN ANSWER HYPOTHETICAL QUESTIONS. THE FACT IS THAT THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN REACHED, IT HAS BEEN ENDORSED BY EXCO AND IT NOW GOES TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF LEGCO. LET'S NOT MAKE PROBLEMS BEFORE THESE DISCUSSIONS HAVE TAKEN PLACE. IT IS A HYPOTHETICAL QUESTION.

TSE CHOI-WAN (TVB): DO YOU THINK THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S HANDS ARE TIED AS FAR AS DEFENCE COSTS ARE CONCERNED BECAUSE YOU YOURSELF SAID LAST NIGHT THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO HAVE A BRITISH TROOP WITHDRAWAL FROM HONG KONG EVEN IF LEGCO VOTE DOWN THE NEW PROPOSAL?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, SO FAR AS THE CHANGES IN THE GARRISON ARE CONCERNED, THOSE HAVE TO OBVIOUSLY BE DISCUSSED AS WE WORK TOWARDS 1997. THERE WILL BE ADJUSTMENTS TO FORCE LEVEL NO DOUBT, AS THERE ALWAYS HAVE BEEN. IT IS UNREALISTIC TO SUPPOSE THAT THE UNITED KINGDOM COULD WITHDRAW SUDDENLY FROM HONG KONG; THAT IS NOT IN ANYBODY'S INTEREST TO ACHIEVE. AND THE IMPORTANT THING IS, AS I HAVE SAID, THAT AN AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED AND IT IS IMPORTANT FROM THAT AGREEMENT TO HAVE IT ENDORSED FULLY HERE IN HONG KONG.

TSE CHOI-WAN: I WANT TO FOLLOW UP THIS QUESTION. SO, EVEN IF LEGCO VOTED DOWN ON THIS, YOU HAVE NOTHING MORE TO DO?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, I HAVE JUST ANSWERED THAT. IT IS A HYPOTHETICAL QUESTION; LET'S NOT DEAL IN HYPOTHESES.

ANN QUON (SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST): YOU SUGGESTED THAT RAISING THE QUOTA ON REFUGEES WAS ONE OF THE OPTIONS BEING STUDIED. CAN YOU BE MORE SPECIFIC ABOUT WHAT PROGRESS YOU HAVE MADE IN THAT DIRECTION. ARE YOU LOOKING AT A SPECIFIC FIGURE. ARE YOU GOING TO CONFINE IT TO FAMILY REUNION CASES OR OPEN IT. WHAT ARE THE QUALIFICATIONS GOING TO BE?

LORD GLENARTHUR: I REALLY CAN'T GO INTO MORE DETAIL ON IT, I AM AFRAID, AND I AM SURE YOU WILL UNDERSTAND WHY. I HAVE JUST EXPLAINED THAT THERE ARE A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM WHICH HAVE TO BE DISCUSSED. ONE OF THEM, AS I HAVE SAID, WILL BE THE QUESTION OF RESETTLEMENT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM. I AM NOT GOING TO GIVE DETAILS ON IT. THERE IS A LOT OF CONSIDERATION TO BE GIVEN TO WHAT I HAVE SEEN IN HONG KONG.

ONE OF THE PURPOSES OF COMING HERE WAS TO ACTUALLY SEE THE CONDITIONS, SEE THE CAMPS, SEE THE PROBLEMS THAT ARE FACED BY EVERYONE IN HONG KONG, BY THE REFUGEES THEMSELVES, AND TO TAKE WITH ME A NUMBER OF IMPRESSIONS SO THAT I CAN DISCUSS THEM IN LONDON. I AM NOT GOING TO GO INTO DETAILS ABOUT NUMBERS OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

ANN QUON: WHAT WILL BRITAIN BE DOING IN TRYING TO INCREASE THE QUOTA?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, AS I HAVE SAID, I HAVE BEEN GIVEN A LOT OF INFORMATION WHILE I HAVE BEEN HERE. I SHALL GO BACK AND ONE OF THE ITEMS THAT IS IN THAT PACKAGE WILL BE THE QUESTION OF THE RESETTLEMENT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM. I HAVE TO TAKE IT BACK TO LONDON WITH ALL THE OTHER ITEMS.

MATTHEW LEUNG (HONGKONG STANDARD): IN FACE OF THE DIFFERENT POLITICAL MODELS COME UP BY HONG KONG PEOPLE, WILL YOU PERSONALLY CALL FOR A POLITICAL COMPROMISE AMONG THEM, ON THE FIRST SAR GOVERNMENT?

LORD GLENARTHUR: COULD YOU REPEAT THAT QUESTION? I FRANKLY COULD NOT HEAR IT.

MATTHEW LEUNG: WELL, IN FACT OF THE DIFFERENT POLITICAL MODELS COME UP BY HONG KONG PEOPLE REGARDING ON THE FIRST SAR GOVERNMENT, WILL YOU PERSONALLY CALL FOR A POLITICAL COMPROMISE AMONG HONG KONG PEOPLE?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, I THINK WHAT WE HAVE GOT AT THE MOMENT IS A SITUATION WHERE THE DRAFT BASIC LAW HAS APPEARED FOR THE FIRST TIME, THERE IS A CONSULTATIVE PROCESS TAKING PLACE HERE ON IT, AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT HAVE SAID THAT THEY WOULD TAKE DUE ACCOUNT OF ALL THE VIEWS BEING EXPRESSED HERE ON THAT DRAFT BASIC LAW. THOSE WILL APPEAR AGAIN AND THEN THERE WILL BE A FURTHER CONSULTATIVE PROCESS. SO THAT REALLY, I THINK, COMES INTO THE MATTER OF THE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS ITSELF. WHAT I DO DEPENDS VERY LARGELY ON THE RESULTS OF THE VIEWS THAT ARE EXPRESSED HERE.

MATTHEW LEUNG: YOU THINK THAT A POLITICAL COMPROMISE WILL HELP BY THE END OF THE DAY?

LORD GLENARTHUR: DO I THINK A POLITICAL COMPROMISE WILL COME? WELL, I CAN'T FORECAST WHAT THE OUTCOME OF A CONSULTATIVE PROCESS IS GOING TO BE. WE HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS.

ANNIE LAM (SING TAO JIH PAO): THE ENGLISH VERSION OF THE DRAFT BASIC LAW HAS BEEN CRITICISED TO BE A VERY POOR TRANSLATION BY THE LEGAL PROFESSIONS. EVEN SIR DAVID WILSON ALSO TOLD US THAT HE HAS TO READ BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE TEXTS TOGETHER TO GET A COMPLETE PICTURE. DID YOU ENCOUNTER THE SAME DIFFICULTY WHILE READING THE DRAFT BASIC LAW AND HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT YOU HAVE ALREADY GRASPED THE ACCURATE MEANING OF ALL THOSE PROVISIONS?

/LORD GLENARTHUR: .....

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LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, I THINK THAT IS A VALID POINT OF VIEW. THERE MAY WELL NEED TO BE AN AUTHENTIC BRITISH, ENGLISH TEXT OF THE DRAFT BASIC LAW AND I THINK FROM ALL THE CONVERSATIONS I HAVE HAD IN CHINA THAT THAT VIEW IS ACCEPTED THERE AS WELL BUT IT IS A MATTER FOR THEM - BUT I THINK THAT THAT POINT IS WELL UNDERSTOOD, YES.

SANDY LI (SING TAO WAN PAO): AS THE WORLD EXPOSITION APPLICATION IS CLOSING IN NOVEMBER, WHEN WILL THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TAKE ACTION. WHAT IS YOUR PERSONAL VIEWS ON HONG KONG HOSTING THE EXPO'97?

LORD GLENARTHUR: CAN I TAKE THE LAST POINT? THE QUESTION OF EXPO IS ONE THAT, OF COURSE, RAISES A NUMBER OF PRACTICAL PROBLEMS. I THINK THAT AT THE MOMENT IT IS SOMETHING WHICH THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT HAS GOT TO LOOK AT VERY CAREFULLY TO SEE JUST WHAT THOSE SORT OF PROBLEMS ARE. I KNOW THERE IS ENTHUSIASM FOR THE IDEA BUT THE IMPORTANT THING IS FOR THOSE WHO HAVE TO DEAL WITH THE IDEA TO BE AWARE OF THE PRACTICALITIES INVOLVED AND AT THE MOMENT, AS I UNDERSTAND IT, THESE ARE BEING DISCUSSED.

K.K. WONG (RTHK): GOING BACK TO THE DCA. SOME LEGCO MEMBERS CLAIM THAT ONLY A SLIDING SCALE OF SHARING WOULD BE FAIR TO HONG KONG. IN FACT, THE SLIDING SCALE METHOD WAS DISCUSSED DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS BUT IT WAS RULED OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. WOULD YOU EXPLAIN TO US WHY THIS METHOD WAS NOT ADOPTED?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, YES, IT IS A CLAIM THAT'S BEEN MADE, I KNOW. BUT THE FACT IS THAT THERE IS ALREADY A SIGNIFICANT DECREASE IN THE PROPORTION PAID BY HONG KONG. TEN PER CENT IS SUBSTANTIAL BY ANY STANDARD IN FACT. THEN YOU HAVE TO LOOK INTO THE FUTURE AND UNDERSTAND THAT FURTHER SAVINGS WILL COME FROM A RANGE OF OTHER MEASURES. THEN, FURTHER STILL, OVERALL COSTS WILL DECLINE AS THE PLANNED WITHDRAWAL WHICH I REFERRED TO EARLIER TAKES EFFECT, AND FINALLY, AS LEADING UP TO 1997.

THE AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED, EXCO HAVE ENDORSED IT, IT NOW GOES TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF LEGCO. THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT THEY SHOULD HAVE A CHANCE TO DISCUSS IT AND THAT IT SHOULD BE ENDORSED BY THEM.

LEO DOBBS (AFP): GOING BACK TO THE VIETNAM QUESTION. OK, THE VIETNAMESE REFUGEES ARE REGARDED AS ECONOMIC REFUGEES, THEY ARE BEING THOUGHT OF AS ECONOMIC REFUGEES NOW. SO, WHY DOESN'T BRITAIN PUMP MONEY INTO HANOI AS AUSTRALIA, JAPAN, SWEDEN HAVE BEEN DOING?

LORD GLENARTHUR: THAT QUESTION HAS BEEN ASKED AS WELL, AND I UNDERSTAND THE FORCE OF THE ARGUMENT BEHIND IT. ONE OF THE DANGERS, OF COURSE, OF PUMPING MONEY INTO VIETNAM IN THE WAY THAT YOU SUGGEST IS THAT BY DOING SO, YOU HELP SUPPORT NOT THOSE WHO YOU WANT TO SUPPORT, WHO WANT TO LEAVE, BECAUSE OF THE ECONOMIC SITUATION, BUT IT HELPS SUPPORT VIETNAM MAINTAIN AN ARMY OF SEVERAL HUNDRED THOUSAND ILLEGALLY OCCUPYING CAMBOADIA. NOW, YOU CAN'T JUST LOOK AT THE THING SINGLY, YOU'VE GOT TO TAKE THE INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION INTO ACCOUNT AND THAT IS WHAT WE HAVE TO DO.

/NOW, WHETHER .....

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NOW, WHETHER OR NOT THERE ARE ANY CHANGES IN THAT IN DUE COURSE IS A MATTER OF CONJECTURE. I UNDERSTAND THE FORCE OF THE ARGUMENT BUT I HAVE TO SAY THAT THERE ARE VERY SERIOUS, VERY DANGEROUS CONSEQUENCES THAT COULD BE... FROM DOING IT.

LEO DOBBS: WHEN SIR GEOFFREY HOWE WAS HERE, HE WAS SAYING THAT ALL THE PROBLEMS OF VIETNAM STEMMED FROM THEIR POLITICAL SYSTEM. SO, THAT TO ME WOULD SEEM THAT THE REFUGEES HERE WERE POLITICAL REFUGEES.

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, THAT MAY BE YOUR VIEW, BUT THE PURPOSE OF CHANGING THE SYSTEM IN THE WAY THAT WE'VE DESCRIBED IT IS TO SCREEN OUT THOSE WHO ARE GENUINE REFUGEES WHO MEET THE CRITERIA THAT IS LAID DOWN, AND THOSE WHO DON'T MEET IT WILL REMAIN HERE UNTIL ONE DAY THEY GO BACK TO VIETNAM.

JULIE MAPLESTON (COMMERCIAL RADIO): DO YOU THINK THAT THE SCREENING POLICY MIGHT BE IMPOSING UNDUE BURDENS ON HONG KONG AS WELL AS THE BOAT PEOPLE WHO COME HERE, GIVEN THAT THEY MAY NEVER BE REPATRIATED TO VIETNAM, AND THEREFORE THEY ARE GOING TO BE STAYING IN DETENTION CAMPS HERE POSSIBLY FOR EVER, BECAUSE VIETNAM AT THIS STAGE ISN'T PREPARED TO REPATRIATE THEM. WHO IS TO SAY THAT THEY EVER WILL. GIVEN THAT THE SCREENING POLICY MIGHT NOT BE SUCH A BIG DETERRENT, BECAUSE PEOPLE WHO FIRST ARRIVED HERE AFTER THE SCREENING POLICY WAS IMPLEMENTED WERE COMING OUT WITH STATEMENT "WELL, WE'D RATHER BE HERE IN HONG KONG IN A DETENTION CENTRE THAN BACK IN VIETNAM." YOU KNOW THEY ARE REALLY PREPARED TO COME OUT HERE NO MATTER WHAT?

LORD GLENARTHUR: ABSOLUTELY. WHEN I TALKED TO A LOT OF THEM YESTERDAY, AND THAT WAS MADE PLAIN TO ME ON A DOZEN OF DIFFERENT OCCASIONS. IT'S A PRETTY HORRIFIC INDICTMENT OF A SYSTEM, ISN'T IT, THAT THEY'D RATHER LIVE FOR AS LONG AS IT TAKES IN THOSE CONDITIONS, AS BEST LOOKED AFTER AS THEY POSSIBLY CAN BE, RATHER THAN GO BACK TO VIETNAM. IT IS THE MOST APPALLING INDICTMENT OF A SYSTEM THAT ANYONE'S EVER HEARD OF.

AND TO SAY THAT IT IS DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE THE SCREENING, WELL, THE HONG KONG EXPERTS WHO HAVE BEEN DOING THIS NOW, LOOKING AT IT AND TALKING TO THESE PEOPLE FOR MANY YEARS, HAVE BUILT UP A GREAT DEAL OF EXPERIENCE. I'M SURE THAT THEY WILL MANAGE IT, I AM SURE THAT IT WILL BE DONE EFFICIENTLY. AND I ONLY HOPE THAT THE ENTIRE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY NOTE THE ENORMOUS CONCERNS THAT EVERYBODY HAS ABOUT THE SITUATION IN VIETNAM AND APPLIES WHATEVER PRESSURE THEY CAN ON THE AUTHORITIES WHO ULTIMATELY MUST BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONDITIONS IN THEIR OWN COUNTRY, TO TRY AND ACHIEVE THE SORT OF CONDITIONS THAT WILL ALLOW PEOPLE TO GO BACK.

/MITYANEW (REUTERS): .....

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MITYANEW (REUTERS): IF YOU FEEL IT IS AN INDICTMENT OF THE SYSTEM THAT THESE REFUGEES DON'T WANT TO GO BACK, WHAT DO YOU FEEL IS THE SYSTEM THAT INTENDS TO SEND THEM BACK?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, THE SITUATION WOULD NOT OCCUR UNTIL WE HAVE ACTUALLY GOT AN EXCHANGE SYSTEM IN VIETNAM TO TAKE THEM BACK PROPERLY. I MEAN THE NUMBERS THAT HAVE GONE BACK UP TO NOW HAVE BEEN VERY SMALL. A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF RESETTLEMENT HAS TAKEN PLACE. IT HAS BEEN INCREDIBLY SLOW. WE WANT TO SEE IT IMPROVED AND IT WON'T BE IMPROVED UNTIL THE SITUATION IN VIETNAM HAS IMPROVED AND THEN PEOPLE WILL GO BACK UNDER SUITABLE SAFEGUARDS AND CONDITIONS.

BUT THE FACT IS WE HAVE A SYSTEM NOW AT THE MOMENT WHICH IS WHOLLY UNTENABLE. THAT'S WHY PEOPLE WANT TO LEAVE AND THAT IS WHY THEY ARE PREPARED, AS A LADY IN THE FRONT ROW SAID, TO BE CONTENT TO STAY HERE IN THE SORT OF CONDITIONS WHICH WE HAVE FOR AS LONG AS IT TAKES.

LEO DOBBS: DOES THAT APPLY TO EVERY COMMUNIST SYSTEM? I MEAN WOULD IT BE OKAY TO SEND BACK SOME SOVIETS IF THEY STARTED...?

LORD GLENARTHUR: SHALL WE DEAL WITH ONE SUBJECT AT A TIME? WE ARE TALKING ABOUT VIETNAM.

BETTY LIU (TVB): YOU SAID THAT DURING YOUR TALKS WITH THE CHINESE, YOU WERE TOLD THAT VIETNAMESE PEOPLE WERE GIVEN ASSISTANCE ALONG THE WAY TO HONG KONG. CAN YOU TELL US WHAT EXACTLY IS THE SITUATION?

LORD GLENARTHUR: I DID NOT SAY THAT, WITH RESPECT. WHAT I SAID WAS THAT IT WAS A CONCERN THAT CERTAIN BOATS HAD BEEN RECEIVING SOME SORT OF SUSTENANCE ON THEIR JOURNEY FROM THE VIETNAMESE PORTS THAT THEY HAVE LEFT TO HONG KONG AND THAT WHILST THE FACTS AREN'T KNOWN, IT IS A VERY LONG COASTLINE, A DIFFICULT COASTLINE TO POLICE, SO TO SPEAK. THIS WAS SOMETHING THAT THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT TOOK SERIOUSLY. THEY DIDN'T KNOW THE FULL FACTS. THEY WOULD LOOK AT IT AND THEY WOULD SEE WHAT THEY COULD DO TO HELP.

BETTY LIU: WERE THEY GIVEN ASSISTANCE BY THE CHINESE OR WHAT?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, I MEAN CLEARLY SOME OF THESE BOATS HAVE BEEN STOPPING. NOW THE NATURE OF THE ASSISTANCE IS RATHER DIFFICULT TO COME BY. BUT PEOPLE HAVE GOT FOOD ON THE WAY HERE, THAT SORT OF THING. I AM NOT SUGGESTING FOR A MINUTE THAT OFFICIAL HELP IS BEING GIVEN, BUT THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES ARE OBVIOUSLY NOT SURE PRECISELY WHAT IS HAPPENING THEMSELVES. THEY SAID THEY'D LOOK INTO IT AND THEY WOULD DO WHAT THEY COULD TO HELP.

/BETTY LIU: .....

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BETTY LIU: TO HELP THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT OR TO HELP..?

LORD GLENARTHUR: TO HELP ALL OF US ENSURE THAT BY GETTING THE HELP THAT THEY SEEM TO BE GETTING, THAT ISN'T INCREASING THE NUMBER OF BOAT PEOPLE THAT COME TO HONG KONG.

BETTY LIU: WHAT IS THE POSITION THAT YOU CONVEYED?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, THAT WAS IT.

BETTY LIU: YOU TOLD THEM NOT TO HELP THESE PEOPLE?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, WE DIDN'T GO INTO THAT DETAIL. WE SIMPLY SAID THIS APPEARS TO BE HAPPENING, COULD YOU HAVE A LOOK AT IT.

FANNY WONG: THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY HAS SUGGESTED THAT A SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION IN THE BRITISH TROOPS STATIONED HERE WOULD ONLY HAPPEN IN MID 1990'S. IS IT YOUR INTENTION, CAN YOU DO IT AS WE SHALL BE HAVING AN EXPANDING POLICE FORCE TO TAKE OVER THE DUTIES?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, THERE WILL BE AN EXPANDING POLICE FORCE IN DUE TIME, YES, WE KNOW ABOUT THAT. THE ACTUAL METHOD AND THE DETAIL OF THE EVENTUAL RUN-DOWN OF THE BRITISH GARRISON HERE IS STILL A MATTER FOR DETERMINATION. IT IS OBVIOUSLY SOMETHING THAT IS DISCUSSED AT THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AS WELL. THE DETAILS HAVE NOT YET BEEN ESTABLISHED. IT IS TOO EARLY TO TELL.

FANNY WONG: IS IT POSSIBLE THAT YOU WILL DO SOMETHING IN THE EARLY 1990'S?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WE ARE NOT TALKING ABOUT TIME SCALES. AS I SAID, THE DECISIONS HAVE NOT YET BEEN TAKEN. THE DETAIL, I AM AFRAID, IS NOT THAT ADVANCED YET.

MR ROBIN MCLAREN, ASSISTANT UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE AT THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE: THAT, MINISTER, IF I MIGHT JUST ADD, IT IS OF COURSE THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE PRESS KNOW ALSO IT IS A SUBJECT THAT WE HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING WITH THE CHINESE IN THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP.

SALLY BLYTH (RTHK): YOU SAID THAT THE HARDER STAND WHICH HONG KONG HAS ADOPTED IN ITS REFUGEE POLICY YOU HAVE DISCUSSED WITH OTHER RESETTLEMENT COUNTRIES AND IT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN WIDELY ACCEPTED. DURING THESE TALKS HAVE YOU RECEIVED ANY INDICATION FROM THOSE RESETTLEMENT COUNTRIES THAT THEY TOO ARE CONSIDERING STEPPING UP THEIR RESETTLEMENT RATE OF REFUGEES FROM HONG KONG'S CAMPS?

LORD GLENARTHUR: NO, WE HAVE NOT HAD THOSE DISCUSSIONS YET. IT HAS BEEN REPRESENTED TO ME HERE THAT, AS I SAID EARLIER, THAT THERE MAY BE A LINKAGE BETWEEN WHAT THE UNITED KINGDOM DOES AND WHAT OTHERS MIGHT DO BUT, AGAIN, THOSE ALL FORM PART OF THE PACKAGE OF WAYS OF DEALING WITH THE PROBLEM WHICH I SHALL TAKE BACK AND CONSIDER.

/CHAN BO-SHUN .....

CHAN BO-SHUN (HONG KONG ECONOMIC JOURNAL): AS SOME LOCAL LEGISLATORS SAID, THAT DURING THE DEFENCE COSTS TALKS IT WILL PROBABLY BE THE UK GOVERNMENT FORCING THE HK GOVERNMENT TO TOE THE LINE, BECAUSE THE UK GOVERNMENT IS A SOVEREIGN STATE. WHY ARE YOU SO SURE IT IS A FAIR TALK BETWEEN BOTH SIDES SINCE THEY ARE NOT IN AN EQUAL STATE?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, THEY HAVE NOT BEEN IN AN EQUAL STATE FOR A LONG TIME, HAVE THEY? THAT'S THE FIRST THING. THE SECOND THING IS, NO, IT HAS NOT BEEN FORCED BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT ON THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT. IT IS AN AGREEMENT THAT HAS BEEN REACHED. IT IS QUITE WRONG TO SUGGEST IT HAS BEEN FORCED. IT IS NOT THE CASE.

CHAN BO-SHUN: AS YOU HAVE ALREADY ADMITTED, IT IS NOT IN AN EQUAL STATE, ARE YOU GOING TO IMPLY THAT HONG KONG IS NOT UNDER AN EQUAL STATE TO ADMIT SUCH A DCA?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, THE PROPORTIONMENT HAS BEEN ADJUSTED. THE PROPORTIONMENT HAS BEEN ADJUSTED IN FAVOUR OF HONG KONG. I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY TIMES I CAN GO OVER THE GROUND. WE ARE RATHER WASTING TIME, AREN'T WE? THE FACT IS THAT IT HAS BEEN AGREED, IT HAS BEEN ENDORSED BY EXCO, AND NOW IT GOES TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF LEGCO. I DON'T KNOW WHAT ELSE I CAN SAY.

CHAN BO-SHUN: BUT, IN FAVOUR OF HONG KONG, IT DOES NOT EQUAL TO A FAIR AGREEMENT?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, THAT MAY BE YOUR OPINION BUT THE FACT IS THAT THIS CHANGE HAS BEEN TO THE ADVANTAGE OF HONG KONG, WE MUST NOW LET IT BE DISCUSSED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF LEGCO.

ALAN CHAN (MORNING NEWS): WHAT WILL THE UK GOVERNMENT DO IF THE VIETNAM GOVERNMENT DID NOT CO-OPERATE IN THE SOLVING OF THE REFUGEE PROBLEMS?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, WE HAVE TO CONTINUE, AS WE ARE DOING AT THE MOMENT, ANYHOW, BEFORE WE GET TO THAT STAGE, TO DO WHAT WE CAN TO INCREASE THE INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE ON THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT TO MEND THEIR WAYS. WE HAVE ALREADY STARTED TO DO THAT.

WE HAVE BEEN DOING IT FOR SOME TIME AND WHEN I WAS LAST HERE IN SEPTEMBER, THE LAST SUBSTANTIVE VISIT I MADE, I ASKED OUR AMBASSADOR FROM HANOI TO GO BACK - HE WAS HERE AT THE TIME - TO GO BACK TO HANOI WITH A POWERFUL MESSAGE TO THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT. WELL, THAT MAY NOT HAVE HAD ALL THE DESIRED EFFECT. SINCE THEN A NUMBER OF EXCHANGES HAVE TAKEN PLACE. I HAVE DESCRIBED TO YOU HOW SIR GEOFFREY HOWE ONLY VERY RECENTLY SPOKE TO THE VIETNAMESE FOREIGN MINISTER AND TALKED TO HIM ABOUT IT AT GREAT LENGTH.

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE HAVE GOT TO APPLY THE SORT OF PRESSURE WHICH WILL... ENCOURAGEMENT TO THE VIETNAMESE AUTHORITIES TO CHANGE THEIR WAYS. LET'S NOT THINK OF WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IF THEY DO NOT. THE FACT IS WE HAVEN'T GOT TO THAT POINT YET. WE MUST MAKE SURE IT JOLLY WELL WORKS.

CHRIS POMERY (THE TIMES): WHEN YOU WERE IN PEKING, SIR, DID YOU DISCUSS TRADE WITH THE CHINESE AND DID YOU PASS ON THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S OFFICIAL VIEW OF THE BASIC LAW DRAFT AS IT STANDS AT THE MOMENT, AS WELL AS PASSING ON THE RECORD OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS DEBATE ON HONG KONG'S VIEWS?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, I DID TALK ABOUT TRADE VERY GENERALLY, SO FAR AS TRADE BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND CHINA IS CONCERNED, YES, BUT NOT IN ANY GREAT DETAIL. I VISITED VARIOUS PLACES INCLUDING A CO-PRODUCTION FACILITY WITH BRITAIN. BUT TRADE WAS NOT THE MAIN PURPOSE OF MY VISIT.

CHRIS POMERY: DO YOU HAVE A GOOD TRADING RELATIONSHIP WITH CHINA AND ARE THERE SIGNS THAT IT WILL IMPROVE?

LORD GLENARTHUR: TRADING RELATIONSHIP?

CHRIS POMERY: AND ARE THERE SIGNS THAT IT WILL IMPROVE?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, I HOPE IT WILL IMPROVE. CHINA HAS BEEN VISITED BY LORD YOUNG, THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, ON A COUPLE OF OCCASIONS, IF NOT MORE, AND I HOPE THAT THAT WILL BE IMPROVED, YES. I THINK THERE IS SCOPE THERE FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM TO DEVELOP ITS TRADE RELATIONS WITH CHINA. AND I THINK THAT IS TO THE ADVANTAGE OF HONG KONG AS WELL, BECAUSE THE FACT IS THAT I THINK IT GENERATES A FEELING OF GREAT CONFIDENCE. SO FAR AS I AM CONCERNED, AND I TELL YOU I VISITED CHINA FOR THE FIRST TIME AND IT WAS A VERY ENCOURAGING EXPERIENCE. SO FAR AS THE BASIC LAW IS CONCERNED, I DON'T THINK I HAVE REALLY GOT ANYTHING TO ADD TO WHAT I SAID IN MY OPENING STATEMENT. THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES HAVE CLEARLY TAKEN ON BOARD THE POINTS THAT WERE RAISED IN THAT DEBATE. THEY ARE WELL AWARE OF THE CONCERNS ON CERTAIN ASPECTS WHICH HAVE BEEN RAISED BY PEOPLE IN HONG KONG AND I HAVE NO DOUBT THEY WILL GIVE THEM ALL THE CONSIDERATION THAT THEY ARE DUE.

CHRIS POMERY: SIR GEOFFREY, WHEN HE WAS HERE LAST MONTH, SAID HE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO ENDORSE THE CURRENT DRAFT AS IT STANDS. WOULD YOU BE FEELING A SIMILAR POSITION?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, I MEAN IF SIR GEOFFREY HOWE SAID IT, YOU COULDN'T BE GETTING IT FROM A FINER SOURCE.

LEO DOBBS: I AM NOT SURE WHETHER THIS COMES WITHIN YOUR BRIEF. IT IS A QUESTION ABOUT LAOS. DOES THAT COME WITHIN YOUR...?

LORD GLENARTHUR: WELL, IT COMES INTO MY AREA - I JUST WONDER IF IT IS THE RIGHT TOPIC TO RAISE AT THIS PARTICULAR...

/LEO DOBBS: .....

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LEO DOBBS: WELL, A QUICK QUESTION. I WAS WONDERING, WILL THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT BE REOPENING AN EMBASSY THERE?

LORD GLENARTHUR: YOU KNOW I CAN'T GIVE YOU AN ANSWER.

MR MCLAREN: I CAN GIVE YOU AN ANSWER, MINISTER. THE ANSWER IS, NO, WE WILL NOT. WE HAVE INDIRECT RELATIONS IN THE SENSE THAT WE COVER LAOS FROM BANGKOK, THE AMBASSADOR IN BANGKOK IS ALSO AMBASSADOR TO VIENTIANE. HE HAS A PERMANENT OFFICE THERE IN VIENTIANE, HE IS ABLE TO COVER LAOS QUITE SATISFACTORILY FROM BANGKOK AND THERE IS AT PRESENT NO PLAN TO CHANGE IT.

ANNIE LAM: AS SIR DAVID WILSON HAS COMPLETED HIS FIRST YEAR OF SERVICE IN HONG KONG, CAN YOU COMMENT ON HIS PERFORMANCE. AND ARE YOU GOING TO ATTEND THE JLG OPENING CEREMONY RIGHT AFTER THIS PRESS CONFERENCE?

LORD GLENARTHUR: SIR DAVID WILSON HAS HAD A MARVELLOUS YEAR HERE. HE HAS THE FULL CONFIDENCE AND FULL SUPPORT OF HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT IN EVERY WAY AND I KNOW THAT HE THOROUGHLY ENJOYS THE WORK THAT HE DOES HERE. HE HAS GREAT EXPERIENCE BOTH OF HONG KONG AND OF CHINA AND I KNOW THAT ALL HIS ENERGIES ARE TURNED TO DEVELOPING THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG IN THE WAY THAT YOU WOULD ALL LIKE TO SEE IT. HE HAS OUR FULL SUPPORT. SO FAR AS THE JLG OPENING THIS EVENING IS CONCERNED, NO, I SHALL NOT BE AT THAT OPENING. IT IS PURELY COINCIDENTAL THAT I HAPPEN TO BE HERE AT THE SAME TIME.

ANNIE LAM: YOU STILL HAVE PLENTY OF TIME BEFORE YOUR PLANE LEAVES.

LORD GLENARTHUR: BUT I ALSO HAVE OTHER THINGS AS WELL, THAT I HAVE TO DO. PLENTY OF MEETINGS AND OTHER THINGS I HAVE TO DO BEFORE I LEAVE HERE. AS I HAVE SAID, IT IS PURELY COINCIDENTAL THAT I HAPPEN TO BE HERE AT THE TIME. I THINK IT IS MUCH BETTER IF THE TWO LEADING LIGHTS IN THAT ORGANISATION, MR MCLAREN ON MY RIGHT, MR KE FROM CHINA, THAT THEY ARE THERE. THE GOVERNOR WILL BE THERE AS WELL. IT IS VERY MUCH THEIR OCCASION, NOT MINE.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH INDEED.

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