



Received by PRO
on 23 SEP 1993

DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 842 8777

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1993

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ANSON CHAN APPOINTED CHIEF SECRETARY

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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT MRS ANSON CHAN, CBE, JP, WILL SUCCEED SIR DAVID FORD AS CHIEF SECRETARY ON NOVEMBER 29, 1993.

MRS CHAN HAS VERY WIDE EXPERIENCE IN THE GOVERNMENT HAVING SERVED IN A VARIETY OF POSTS THROUGHOUT HER CAREER. IN RECENT YEARS SHE HAS BEEN DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES AND, MOST RECENTLY, SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE.

SIR DAVID WILL LEAVE HONG KONG ON NOVEMBER 29. AFTER A PERIOD OF LEAVE, HE WILL TAKE OVER AS COMMISSIONER OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICE IN LONDON AT THE BEGINNING OF 1994.

THE CURRENT COMMISSIONER, MR JOHN YAXLEY, CBE, JP, IS RETIRING IN LATE NOVEMBER 1993.

COMMENTING ON THE ANNOUNCEMENT, THE GOVERNOR SAID: "HONG KONG OWES A TREMENDOUS DEBT TO SIR DAVID FORD FOR HIS OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP OVER THE PAST SIX-AND-A-HALF YEARS.

"HIS ABSOLUTE COMMITMENT TO HONG KONG WAS APPARENT TO ME AS SOON AS I TOOK OFFICE. HE HAS PROVIDED EXEMPLARY LEADERSHIP TO THE CIVIL SERVICE AND DIRECTED THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS MOST EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY. WE SHALL MISS HIM GREATLY.

"AT THE SAME TIME I FOUND A WORTHY SUCCESSOR. HER ALL-ROUND KNOWLEDGE OF THE GOVERNMENT MACHINE, OF THE SOCIAL FABRIC OF HONG KONG AND OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AND HER STERLING PERSONAL QUALITIES, MAKE HER THE IDEAL PERSON TO BE CHIEF SECRETARY.

"I LOOK FORWARD ENORMOUSLY TO WORKING WITH HER."

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES ON MRS ANSON CHAN AND SIR DAVID FORD ARE:

THE HONOURABLE MRS ANSON CHAN, CBE, JP

AGED 53. MRS CHAN FIRST JOINED THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE IN 1962 AND ROSE TO HER PRESENT RANK OF SECRETARY IN 1988. SHE HAS SERVED IN A NUMBER OF DEPARTMENTS AND BRANCHES INCLUDING AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, FINANCE BRANCH, THE THEN COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT, THE THEN NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AND THE THEN SOCIAL SERVICES BRANCH. SHE WAS DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND LATER DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE DURING THE PERIOD 1979 TO 1987. MORE RECENTLY, MRS CHAN WAS SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES FROM 1987 TO APRIL 1993, WHEN SHE TOOK UP HER PRESENT APPOINTMENT AS SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE.

/THE HONOURABLE

THE HONOURABLE SIR DAVID FORD, KBE, LVO, JP

AGED 58. SIR DAVID FORD JOINED THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT IN 1972 AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION SERVICES, VERY SOON AFTERWARDS BECOMING DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION SERVICES. HE SUBSEQUENTLY SERVED AS COMMISSIONER, LONDON OFFICE FROM 1980 TO 1982. ON RETURNING TO HONG KONG HE BECAME DIRECTOR OF HOUSING AND LATER SECRETARY FOR HOUSING. HE WAS SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE FROM 1985 TO 1986 AND HAS BEEN CHIEF SECRETARY SINCE EARLY 1987.

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SENIOR DIRECTORATE APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED

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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) A SERIES OF MOVEMENTS OF PERSONNEL AT SENIOR LEVELS OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

MR MICHAEL SZE CHO-CHEUNG, ISO, JP, WILL TAKE OVER AS SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE ON FEBRUARY 1, 1994.

MR NICHOLAS NG WING-FUI, JP, WILL TAKE OVER FROM MR SZE AS SECRETARY FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS ON FEBRUARY 1, 1994.

MR YEUNG KAI-YIN, CBE, JP, HAS RESIGNED FROM THE CIVIL SERVICE AND WILL BE LEAVING THE GOVERNMENT AT THE END OF THE MONTH.

HAVING PREVIOUSLY INDICATED THAT HE INTENDED LEAVING, HE HAS BEEN GIVEN PERMISSION TO TAKE UP AN APPOINTMENT IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR WITH EFFECT FROM DECEMBER 1, 1993.

MR HAIDER H T BARMA, ISO, JP, WILL TAKE OVER FROM MR YEUNG AS SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT ON OCTOBER 1, 1993.

MR ALBERT LAM CHI-CHIU, JP, WILL, ON HIS RETURN FROM THE TRAINING COURSE HE IS CURRENTLY ATTENDING IN BEIJING, TAKE OVER FROM MR BARMA IN MID-NOVEMBER 1993 AS DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES.

MR RICHARD HOARE, OBE, JP, WILL TAKE OVER FROM MR NICHOLAS NG AS DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION IN JANUARY 1994.

MR PATRICK WILLIAMSON, ISO, JP, WILL BE RETIRING AT THE END OF MARCH 1994.

MR PETER LO YAT-FAI, JP, WILL TAKE OVER FROM MR WILLIAMSON AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE AFFAIRS TO THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY IN BRUSSELS AT THE END OF MARCH 1994.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF THESE OFFICERS ARE:

/THE HONOURABLE

THE HONOURABLE MICHAEL SZE CHO-CHEUNG, ISO, JP

AGED 48. MR SZE FIRST JOINED THE CIVIL SERVICE IN 1969 AND ROSE TO HIS PRESENT RANK OF SECRETARY IN MARCH 1993. HE SERVED IN A NUMBER OF BRANCHES AND DEPARTMENTS INCLUDING THE THEN HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, THE THEN RESETTLEMENT DEPARTMENT AND CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH. MR SZE WAS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TRADE FROM 1984 TO 1987, WHEN HE WAS APPOINTED DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE. MORE RECENTLY, HE WAS DIRECTOR OF MARINE FROM 1990 TO OCTOBER 1991 AND HE HAS BEEN SECRETARY FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS SINCE THEN.

MR HAIDER BARMA, ISO, JP

AGED 49. MR BARMA JOINED THE CIVIL SERVICE IN 1966 AND ROSE TO HIS PRESENT RANK OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER STAFF GRADE A IN 1989. DURING HIS EARLY YEARS HE SERVED IN A VARIETY OF POSTS IN THE THEN NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AND HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT AS WELL AS THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, ECONOMIC SERVICES BRANCH AND ENVIRONMENT BRANCH. MR BARMA WAS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF HOUSING FROM 1983 TO 1986 AND DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE FROM 1986 TO 1988. MORE RECENTLY, HE WAS DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL SERVICES FROM 1988 TO 1991, WHEN HE TOOK UP HIS PRESENT APPOINTMENT AS DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES.

MR NICHOLAS NG WING-FUI, JP

AGED 46. MR NG FIRST JOINED THE CIVIL SERVICE IN 1970 AND WAS APPOINTED TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE IN 1971. HE ROSE TO HIS PRESENT RANK OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER STAFF GRADE A IN JANUARY 1993. DURING THE EARLY YEARS OF HIS CAREER, MR NG SERVED MAINLY IN THE THEN HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AND THE STANDING COMMISSION ON CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE. HE HAS ALSO SERVED IN A NUMBER OF BRANCHES INCLUDING THE THEN COUNCILS AND ADMINISTRATION BRANCH, CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH AND TRADE AND INDUSTRY BRANCH. IN 1987 HE WAS APPOINTED DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION SERVICES. MR NG REJOINED THE STANDING COMMISSION AS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL IN 1989 BEFORE TAKING UP HIS PRESENT APPOINTMENT AS DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION IN 1991.

MR ALBERT LAM CHI-CHIU, JP

AGED 53. MR LAM FIRST JOINED THE CIVIL SERVICE IN 1959 AND WAS APPOINTED TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE IN 1966. HE ROSE TO HIS PRESENT RANK OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER STAFF GRADE A IN JANUARY 1993. MR LAM SERVED IN A NUMBER OF DEPARTMENTS AND BRANCHES INCLUDING THE THEN NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AND HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH AND STANDING COMMISSION ON CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE. HE WAS DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY (HONG KONG AND KOWLOON) FROM 1982 TO 1985 AND DEPUTY COMMISSIONER (LONDON) FROM 1985 TO 1988. ON RETURN FROM THE UK IN 1989, MR LAM SERVED AS DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT UNTIL 1991, WHEN HE TOOK UP HIS PRESENT APPOINTMENT AS REGIONAL SECRETARY (NEW TERRITORIES) IN THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION.

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MR RICHARD HOARE, OBE, JP

AGED 43. MR HOARE JOINED THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE IN 1972 AND ROSE TO HIS PRESENT RANK OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER STAFF GRADE A IN JANUARY 1993. DURING HIS EARLY YEARS, HE SERVED IN THE THEN HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, THE THEN SOCIAL SERVICES BRANCH, SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH. MR HOARE WAS SECONDED TO THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE FROM 1982 TO 1985. AFTER A SHORT SPELL IN THE THEN GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH, MR HOARE SERVED AS PRIVATE SECRETARY, GOVERNMENT HOUSE FROM 1986 TO 1989, AND AGAIN FROM 1990 TO 1992. MR HOARE IS CURRENTLY ATTENDING A TRAINING COURSE AT THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF DEFENCE STUDIES.

MR PETER LO YAT-FAI, JP

AGED 47. MR PETER LO FIRST JOINED THE CIVIL SERVICE IN 1967 AND ROSE TO HIS PRESENT RANK OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER STAFF GRADE B1 IN 1991. IN HIS EARLY YEARS, HE SERVED MAINLY IN THE THEN TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT AND LATER THE TRADE DEPARTMENT. MR LO WAS IN ECONOMIC SERVICES BRANCH FROM 1982 TO 1984. HE WAS POSTED TO THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE IN WASHINGTON IN 1984 AS COUNSELLOR, AND TOOK UP HIS CURRENT APPOINTMENT AS MINISTER IN 1987.

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STATEMENT BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY (DESIGNATE), MRS ANSON CHAN,
AT A PRESS BRIEFING
HELD ON TUESDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER 1993

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I HOPE THIS IS GOING TO BE A VERY INFORMAL SESSION AND NOT THE SORT OF USUAL FORMAL PRESS CONFERENCE THAT I AM USED TO HAVING AT WHICH I GET A GREAT DEAL OF GRILLING FROM MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA.

CAN I FIRST OF ALL SAY THAT I AM VERY HAPPY TO BE MEETING WITH YOU ALL ON THIS, WHAT TO ME IS A VERY HAPPY OCCASION. YOU MAY OR MAY NOT AGREE BUT I HOPE YOU WILL SHARE MY HAPPINESS. I WANT FIRST OF ALL TO SAY THAT I AM EXTREMELY HAPPY AND GREATLY HONOURED TO BE CHOSEN BY THE GOVERNOR TO SUCCEED SIR DAVID FORD AS THE NEXT CHIEF SECRETARY. AS YOU ALL KNOW, I HAVE WORKED IN THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT FOR 31 YEARS. IN FACT, TO BE EXACT, IT IS EXACTLY FOUR DAYS FROM 17 SEPTEMBER, THE DAY ON WHICH I JOINED THE CIVIL SERVICE, THAT IS IN 1962.

/SIR DAVID

SIR DAVID, AS YOU KNOW, HAS HELD THE POST OF CHIEF SECRETARY FOR THE LAST SIX-AND-A-HALF YEARS. I THINK HE IS THE LONGEST SERVING CHIEF SECRETARY AND I THINK HIS RECORD AND HIS PERFORMANCE DURING THESE SIX-AND-A-HALF YEARS YOU ARE ALL VERY FAMILIAR WITH. I HAVE WORKED VERY CLOSELY WITH SIR DAVID AND I THINK HE HAS BEEN A REALLY OUTSTANDING CHIEF SECRETARY. HE HAS SERVED WITH GREAT DISTINCTION AND WITH, I THINK, A GREAT DEAL OF COMMITMENT AND LOVE FOR THE HONG KONG COMMUNITY AND I REALISE VERY WELL, AS I SAID THIS MORNING, THAT HIS WILL BE A VERY DIFFICULT ACT TO FOLLOW. BUT I HAVE ALSO WORKED IN A RANGE OF JOBS IN THE CIVIL SERVICE; I HAVE A GREAT DEAL OF AFFECTION FOR EVERY MEMBER OF THE CIVIL SERVICE. I BELIEVE THAT WE HAVE IN HONG KONG, REALLY, A TOP-NOTCH CIVIL SERVICE SECOND TO NONE. DESPITE SOME VERY DIFFICULT TIMES, WE HAVE A GREAT NUMBER OF VERY DEDICATED, VERY COMMITTED, MEN AND WOMEN WHO ARE PREPARED TO DO THEIR BEST TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY OF HONG KONG, WHO ARE AWARE OF THE NEED TO CHANGE IN RESPONSE TO CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES, AND I CONSIDER IT A GREAT PRIVILEGE TO BE, AS IT WERE, HEAD OF SUCH A FINE CIVIL SERVICE.

I HOPE THAT YOU WILL JUDGE ME ACCORDING TO MY ACHIEVEMENTS AND RESULTS IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS. WHAT I THINK I CAN PROMISE IS THAT I WILL SERVE WITH MY USUAL ENTHUSIASM AND I WILL DISCHARGE MY RESPONSIBILITIES WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOUR AND I HOPE VERY MUCH TO WORK IN CLOSE CO-OPERATION AND WITH THE SUPPORT OF ALL MY COLLEAGUES IN THE CIVIL SERVICE. I REALISE THAT INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS HAVE GOT CERTAIN WORRIES, AND OF COURSE DURING THESE NEXT FEW TRANSITIONAL YEARS THERE WILL OF COURSE BE UNDERSTANDABLY A GREAT DEAL OF UNCERTAINTY. I WILL DO MY BEST TO EASE THE MINDS OF CIVIL SERVANTS. IN THE TWO MONTHS, OR THREE MONTHS ACTUALLY, THAT I HAVE BEEN SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE, I HAVE MADE IT A POINT TO MEET WITH AS MANY MEMBERS OF THE CIVIL SERVICE AS I POSSIBLY CAN. I HAVE, FOR EXAMPLE, CHATTED UP ALL THE POLICY SECRETARIES, MET ALL HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS, AND I AM ARRANGING INDIVIDUALLY TO MEET IN RATHER MORE INFORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES WITH MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE AND WITH OTHER PROFESSIONAL OFFICERS, IN ORDER TO HAVE A BETTER FEEL FOR THE SORT OF WORRIES AND CONCERNS THAT CIVIL SERVANTS HAVE AND TO SEE IN WHAT WAY WE CAN TRY AND EASE THEIR MINDS.

I KNOW THAT THE NEXT FEW YEARS WILL NOT BE EASY, THERE WILL BE MANY CHALLENGES. I, OF COURSE, WELCOME THESE CHALLENGES AND I WILL DO MY BEST TO TRY AND MEET THESE CHALLENGES AND I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THE CIVIL SERVICE AS A WHOLE WILL BE MORE THAN ABLE TO MEET THESE CHALLENGES SUCCESSFULLY.

ALTHOUGH I WAS NOT BORN IN HONG KONG, I WENT TO SCHOOL HERE, I GOT MARRIED AND RAISED MY FAMILY HERE, SO MY ROOTS ARE VERY MUCH IN HONG KONG AND I HOPE VERY MUCH IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS TO BE ABLE TO SERVE HONG KONG IN WHATEVER CAPACITY MAY BE AVAILABLE TO ME. IN THE 31 YEARS THAT I HAVE SERVED IN THE CIVIL SERVICE, I HAVE OF COURSE SEEN HONG KONG GO THROUGH MANY CRISES, AND IT SEEMS TO ME, EACH AND EVERY CRISIS HAS ONLY RESULTED IN HONG KONG EMERGING STRONGER THAN EVER AND I AM SURE THAT THIS WILL CONTINUE. I PERSONALLY, AM VERY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG AND I HOPE, WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF MY COLLEAGUES AND WORKING IN CLOSE CO-OPERATION WITH MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THAT WE WILL, TOGETHER, BE ABLE TO MEET THE CHALLENGES AHEAD.

I AM ALSO, OF COURSE, FULLY CONSCIOUS THAT WE WILL NEED TO, AS IT WERE, WORK ALSO IN CLOSE CO-OPERATION WITH THE CHINESE TO ACHIEVE A SMOOTH TRANSITION, AND I HOPE THAT WITH MUTUAL GOODWILL AND CO-OPERATION, WE WILL TOGETHER BE ABLE TO ENSURE THAT THE NEXT FEW YEARS WILL IN FACT ACHIEVE A SMOOTH TRANSITION AND THAT THE FUTURE FOR HONG KONG AFTER 1997, WILL BE A STABLE AND PROSPEROUS ONE.

FINALLY, LET ME JUST TACKLE ONE PARTICULAR CONCERN. I READ FROM TIME TO TIME IN THE MEDIA THAT MY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE MEDIA SEEMS NOT TO BE ALL THAT I WOULD WISH IT TO BE. MAYBE YOU ONLY TEND TO SEE ONE SIDE OF ME, WHICH IS WHEN I COME OUT AND TRY AND DEFEND GOVERNMENT POLICY. I HAVE ALWAYS HELD THE VIEW THAT AS A SENIOR CIVIL SERVANT, YOU HAVE FIRST OF ALL A DUTY TO CONSIDER VERY CAREFULLY BEFORE YOU FORMULATE POLICIES, AND HAVING FORMULATED THOSE POLICIES, TO TRY AND COMMUNICATE AND TO EXPLAIN THESE TO THE PUBLIC AND TO MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND TO DEFEND THEM IN THE BEST WAY THAT YOU POSSIBLY CAN. THAT DOESN'T, OF COURSE, MEAN THAT I AM INTRANSIGENT OR THAT I AM INFLEXIBLE AND REFUSE TO CHANGE MY STANCE. I WOULD LIKE - AND IF I AM NOT DOING THIS, I WILL DO MY BEST TO TRY AND ACHIEVE THAT - I WOULD LIKE YOU TO, IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS - AND I AM SURE THAT IN MY NEW OFFICE I WILL HAVE MORE CONTACTS WITH YOU, I SINCERELY HOPE I WILL - THAT YOU WILL PERHAPS SEE THE SOFTER SIDE OF ME.

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CONSUMER PRICE INDICES FOR AUGUST

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THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) IN AUGUST WAS 8.5% HIGHER THAN IN THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR, ACCORDING TO FIGURES RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

ALTHOUGH THIS INCREASE WAS SLIGHTLY FASTER THAN THE INCREASE OF 8.2% IN JULY, IT WAS SIMILAR TO THE INCREASES OF 8.5% IN MAY AND 8.6% IN JUNE.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID CONSUMER PRICE INFLATION REMAINED RELATIVELY STABLE IN RECENT MONTHS.

"THE HIGHER YEAR-ON-YEAR RATE OF INCREASE IN THE CPI(A) IN AUGUST THAN IN JULY WAS MAINLY DUE TO FASTER INCREASES IN THE PRICES OF SALT-WATER FISH AND FRESH VEGETABLES."

"TAKING THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS TOGETHER, THE YEAR-ON-YEAR RATE OF INCREASE IN THE CPI(A) AVERAGED AT 8.5%. THIS IS HALF OF A PERCENTAGE POINT BELOW THE RECENTLY REVISED FORECAST INFLATION RATE OF 9% FOR 1993 AS A WHOLE," HE ADDED.

THE CPI(B) AND THE HANG SENG CPI WERE HIGHER BY 8.5% AND 9.2% RESPECTIVELY IN AUGUST THAN IN THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR. THESE INCREASES WERE THE SAME AS THOSE IN JULY.

THE COMPOSITE CPI, WHICH IS COMPILED BASED ON THE COMBINED EXPENDITURE PATTERN OF HOUSEHOLDS COVERED BY THE THREE CPI'S, SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 8.7% IN AUGUST OVER THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR. THIS WAS SLIGHTLY HIGHER THAN THE CORRESPONDING INCREASE OF 8.6% IN JULY.

COMPARING AUGUST 1993 WITH AUGUST 1992, RELATIVELY SLOWER INCREASES IN PRICES WERE RECORDED FOR DURABLE GOODS (2.6% IN BOTH CPI(A) AND CPI(B)); FUEL AND LIGHT (4.2% IN BOTH CPIS); FOOD EXCLUDING MEALS AT RESTAURANTS (6.4% IN THE CPI(A) AND 6.2% IN THE CPI(B)); MISCELLANEOUS GOODS (7.1% AND 6.5%); AND CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR (7.1% IN BOTH CPIS).

ON THE OTHER HAND, RELATIVELY FASTER INCREASES IN PRICES WERE RECORDED FOR HOUSING (12.4% IN THE CPI(A) AND 12.5% IN THE CPI(B)); AND ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO (9.6% AND 8.8%).

AS FOR MEALS AT RESTAURANTS, TRANSPORT AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES, THEIR CORRESPONDING INCREASES WERE 8.6%, 8.6% AND 8.3% IN THE CPI(A) AND 8.6%, 7.8% AND 7.9% IN THE CPI(B).

COMPARING AUGUST 1993 WITH JULY 1993, THE CPI(A) AND CPI(B) BOTH INCREASED BY 0.4%. HOWEVER, THIS COMPARISON COULD HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS.

FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDING AUGUST 1993, THE CPI(A) WAS, ON AVERAGE, HIGHER BY 8.4% THAN IN THE THREE MONTHS ENDING AUGUST 1992. THE CORRESPONDING INCREASE FOR THE CPI(B) WAS 8.6%.

FROM JANUARY TO AUGUST 1993, THE CPI(A) AND CPI(B) WERE, ON AVERAGE, HIGHER BY 8.5% AND 8.9% RESPECTIVELY THAN IN THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD IN 1992.

FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDING AUGUST 1993, THE CPI(A) AND CPI(B) WERE, ON AVERAGE, HIGHER BY 8.8% AND 9.2% RESPECTIVELY THAN IN THE PRECEDING 12-MONTH PERIOD.

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FOR THE CPI'S. THE DESEASONALISED CPI(A) AND CPI(B) INCREASED AT AN AVERAGE RATE OF 0.4% AND 0.5% RESPECTIVELY PER MONTH DURING THE THREE MONTHS ENDING AUGUST 1993.

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX REPORT

MORE DETAILS ARE GIVEN IN THE "CONSUMER PRICE INDEX REPORT" FOR AUGUST 1993, WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT \$12 A COPY FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, HONG KONG; OR FROM THE PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

FOR LOCAL AND OVERSEAS MAILINGS, CONTACT SHOULD BE MADE WITH THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT, FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, 1 BATTERY PATH, HONG KONG.

FOR ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE INDICES, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL 805 6403. DETAILS OF THE HANG SENG CPI ARE CONTAINED IN THE HANG SENG CPI REPORT ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC RESEARCH DEPARTMENT OF HANG SENG BANK LTD.

Table 1 Consumer Price Indices and Rates of Increase for August 1993
(Oct. 89 - Sep. 90 = 100)

Component	CPI(A)		CPI(B)		Hang Seng CPI		Composite CPI	
	Index for Aug 93	% change over Aug 92	Index for Aug 93	% change over Aug 92	Index for Aug 93	% change over Aug 92	Index for Aug 93	% change over Aug 92
Food	133.5	+7.6	135.0	+7.6	134.8	+8.3	134.3	+7.7
Meals bought away from home	142.2	+8.6	142.2	+8.6	139.6	+9.5	141.7	+8.8
Food, excluding meals bought away from home	124.8	+6.4	125.0	+6.2	126.4	+6.1	125.1	+6.3
Housing	149.2	+12.4	150.6	+12.5	152.2	+13.0	150.7	+12.6
Fuel and light	121.3	+4.2	120.7	+4.2	120.5	+4.1	121.0	+4.2
Alcoholic drinks and tobacco	177.4	+9.6	167.8	+8.8	163.7	+8.6	172.1	+9.2
Clothing and footwear	126.1	+7.1	127.2	+7.1	134.1	+11.0	129.3	+8.4
Durable goods	109.2	+2.6	108.3	+2.6	112.7	+3.1	109.9	+2.8
Miscellaneous goods	124.0	+7.1	122.2	+6.5	121.2	+6.4	122.6	+6.7
Transport	136.7	+8.6	135.8	+7.8	136.1	+7.1	136.2	+7.9
Miscellaneous services	140.6	+8.3	137.8	+7.9	131.2	+6.2	136.6	+7.5
All items	136.3	+8.5	136.6	+8.5	137.4	+9.2	136.7	+8.7

The 1989/90-based consumer price indices are based on the expenditure patterns derived from the 1989/90 Household Expenditure Survey. The CPI(A) is based on the expenditure pattern of about 50% of urban households in Hong Kong, which had an average monthly expenditure of \$2,500-\$9,999 in 1989/90. The CPI(B) is based on the expenditure pattern of the next 30% of urban households, which had an average monthly expenditure of \$10,000-\$17,499 in the same period. The Hang Seng CPI is based on the expenditure pattern of the next 10% of urban households, which had an average monthly expenditure of \$17,500-\$37,499 in 1989/90.

Whereas the CPI(A), CPI(B) and Hang Seng CPI are based on the expenditure patterns of groups of households with different magnitudes of household expenditure, the Composite CPI is compiled based on the expenditure pattern of all these households taken together. Thus, while the CPI(A), CPI(B) and Hang Seng CPI show the impact of consumer price changes on different groups of households, the Composite CPI shows the impact of consumer price changes on the household sector generally.

Table 2 Consumer Price Indices for January 1991 - August 1993
(Oct. 89 - Sep. 90 = 100)

<u>Year/month</u>	<u>CPI(A)</u>	<u>CPI(B)</u>	<u>Hang Seng CPI</u>	<u>Composite CPI</u>
1991 January	108.3	108.4	108.6	108.4
February	110.3	110.1	110.2	110.2
March	111.9	111.1	110.7	111.3
April	113.9	113.0	112.0	113.1
May	114.0	113.6	113.4	113.7
June	114.6	114.1	113.9	114.2
July	115.4	114.8	113.9	114.8
August	116.0	115.3	114.6	115.4
September	116.8	116.1	115.8	116.3
October	117.2	116.8	117.4	117.1
November	117.7	117.6	118.7	117.9
December	118.1	118.3	118.5	118.3
1992 January	119.7	119.3	119.4	119.5
February	121.8	121.2	121.0	121.4
March	122.5	121.9	121.8	122.1
April	124.0	123.4	122.9	123.5
May	124.0	123.8	124.2	124.0
June	125.3	125.1	125.2	125.2
July	125.5	125.4	125.4	125.4
August	125.6	125.9	125.8	125.8
September	128.3	127.9	127.5	128.0
October	128.4	128.4	128.6	128.5
November	128.5	129.0	129.9	129.0
December	129.3	129.8	130.0	129.7
1993 January	131.8	131.6	131.5	131.7
February	132.4	132.2	132.0	132.2
March	132.0	132.2	133.1	132.4
April	133.5	133.9	134.5	133.9
May	134.5	134.8	136.3	135.1
June	136.0	135.9	137.1	136.3
July	135.8	136.1	136.9	136.2
August	136.3	136.6	137.4	136.7

Chart 1 Year-on-year Rates of Increase in CPI(A)

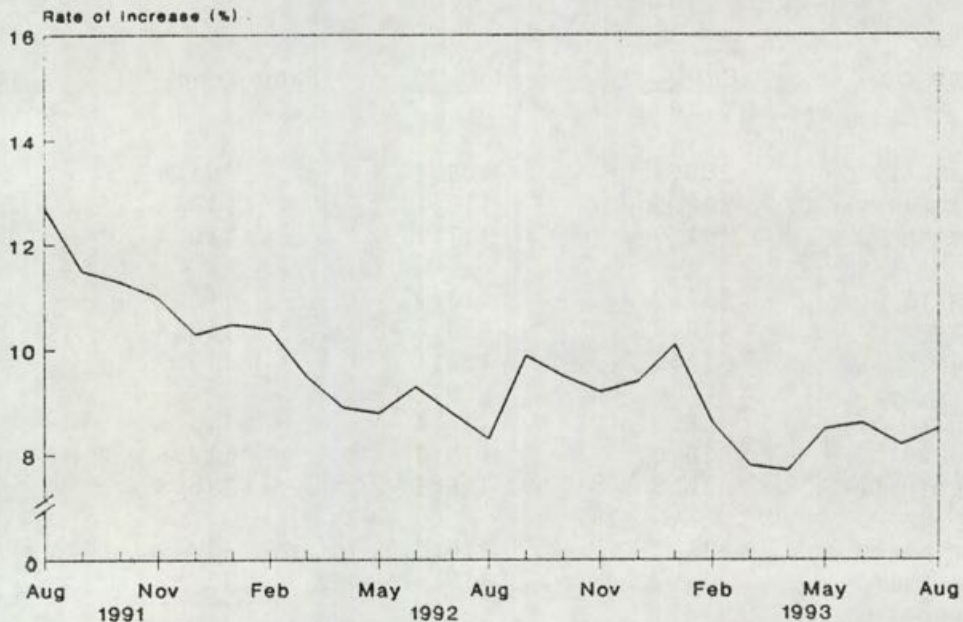


Chart 2 Year-on-year Rates of Increase in CPI(B)

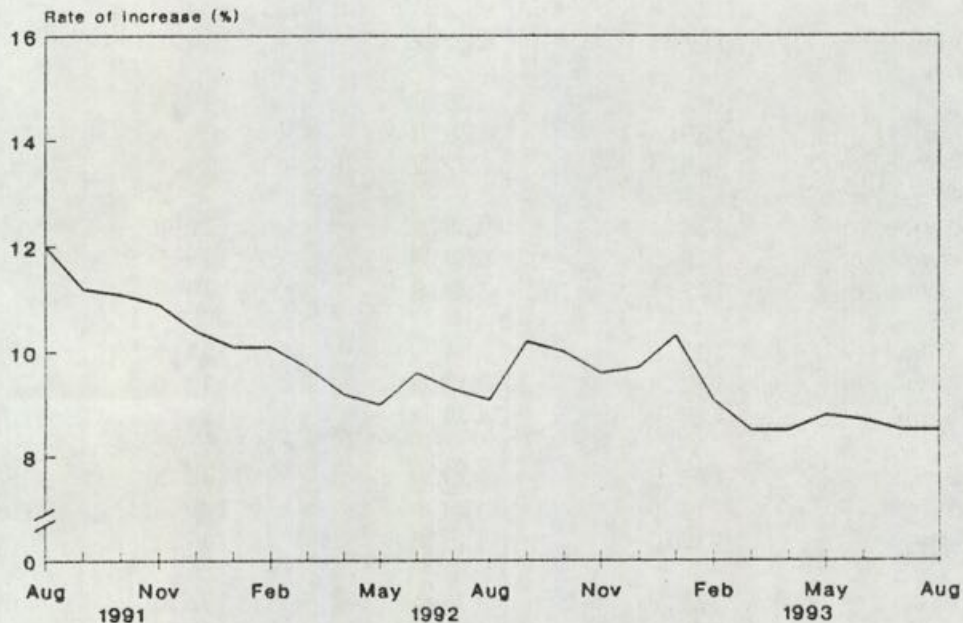


Chart 3 Year-on-year Rates of Increase in Hang Seng CPI

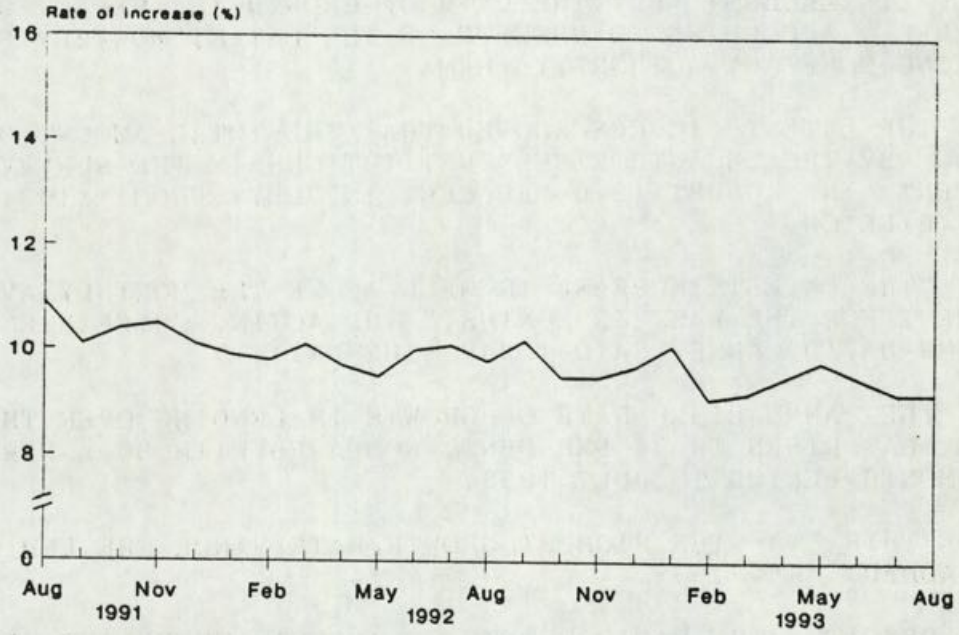
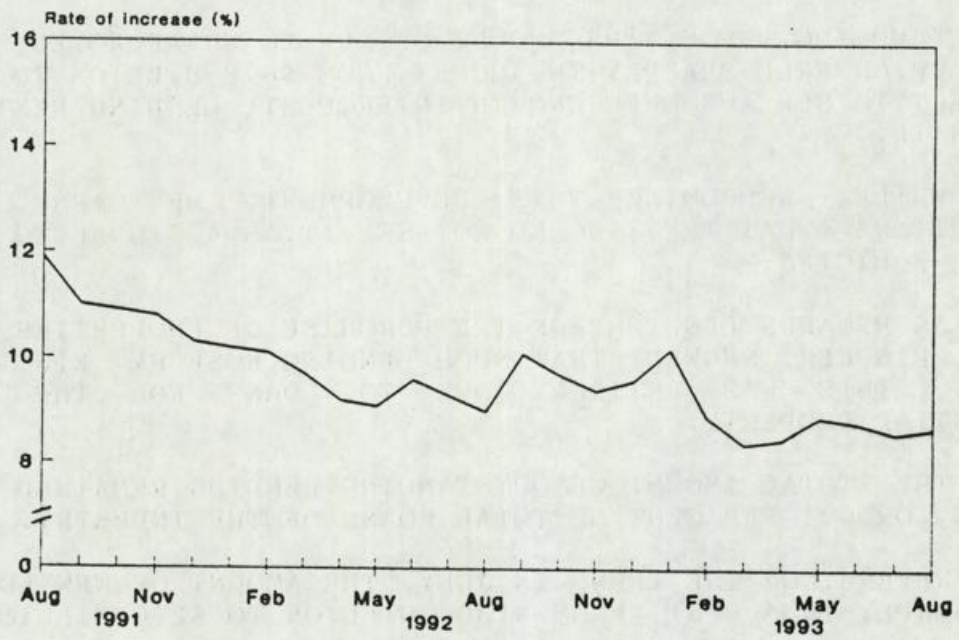


Chart 4 Year-on-year Rates of Increase in Composite CPI



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1993

- 12 -

RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE SURVEY RESULTS FOR AUGUST

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RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE LENDING IN HONG KONG CONTINUED TO RISE RAPIDLY IN AUGUST BUT THE RATE OF GROWTH IS EXPECTED TO SLOW IN SEPTEMBER, ACCORDING TO RESULTS OF THE LATEST MONTHLY SURVEY OF THE HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY (HKMA).

THE LATEST FIGURES SHOWED THAT THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF OUTSTANDING LENDING BY THE 28 AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS IN THE SURVEY ROSE BY 2.5 PER CENT IN AUGUST (2.6 PER CENT IN JULY) FROM \$193.7 BILLION TO \$198.4 BILLION.

"THE LATEST INCREASE IS WELL ABOVE THE MONTHLY AVERAGE OF 1.3% PER CENT FOR THE PAST 12 MONTHS," THE ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE HKMA, MR DAVID CARSE, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE ANNUALISED RATE OF GROWTH IN LENDING OVER THE LAST THREE MONTHS HAS RISEN TO 34 PER CENT, COMPARED WITH 30.2 PER CENT IN THE THREE-MONTH PERIOD TO JULY 1993.

"THIS IS THE HIGHEST GROWTH RATE SINCE THE END OF 1991," MR CARSE ADDED.

DESPITE THE RAPID GROWTH IN AUGUST, THERE ARE SIGNS THAT THE PROPERTY MARKET IS COOLING OFF.

THIS REFLECTS THE FURTHER TIGHTENING MEASURES INTRODUCED BY CERTAIN BANKS TOWARDS THE END OF AUGUST AND DETERIORATING AFFORDABILITY FOLLOWING THE RECENT STEEP RISE IN PRICES.

"JUDGING FROM THE AMOUNT OF NEW LOANS APPROVED BUT NOT YET DRAWN, WHICH FELL SHARPLY IN AUGUST FROM \$6.8 BILLION TO \$4.3 BILLION, I EXPECT TO SEE A SLOWER GROWTH IN PROPERTY LENDING NEXT MONTH," MR CARSE SAID.

WHILE WELCOMING THIS DEVELOPMENT, MR CARSE HAS ADVISED INSTITUTIONS THAT THEY SHOULD NOT SEE IT AS A SIGNAL TO RELAX THEIR LENDING POLICIES.

AS REGARDS LENDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTIES IN CHINA, THE LATEST FIGURES SHOWED THAT SUCH LENDING ROSE BY 2.3 PER CENT IN AUGUST. THIS WAS ENTIRELY DUE TO LOANS FOR THE PURCHASE OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY.

THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF OUTSTANDING LENDING REMAINED LOW AT \$3.1 BILLION, OR 0.1 PER CENT OF TOTAL LOANS OF THE INDUSTRY.

REVERSING THE TREND IN JULY, THE AMOUNT OF NEW LOAN APPROVALS ROSE SHARPLY IN AUGUST, FROM \$136 MILLION TO \$270 MILLION.

"IN THE LIGHT OF THE CURRENT FINANCIAL SITUATION IN CHINA, THIS IS A SOMEWHAT SURPRISING DEVELOPMENT," MR CARSE SAID.

/"HOWEVER IT

"HOWEVER IT SEEMS TO RELATE TO SPECIFIC PROJECTS WHERE THE COMMITMENT BY THE BANKS TO PROVIDE MORTGAGE FINANCE WAS ENTERED INTO SOME TIME AGO.

"IT REMAINS THE HKMA'S VIEW THAT INSTITUTIONS SHOULD BE CAUTIOUS ABOUT ENTERING INTO ADDITIONAL COMMITMENTS IN CHINA AT THIS TIME," HE ADDED.

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MARKET COMPLEX COMPLETED ON TIME AND WITHIN BUDGET
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THE CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE MARKET COMPLEX PHASE I WILL COME INTO OPERATION NEXT MONTH AFTER BEING COMPLETED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT (ASD) IN RECORD TIME.

STARTING FROM INITIAL DESIGN STAGE TO COMPLETION, THE 70,000-SQUARE-METRE BUILDING TOOK ONLY 30 MONTHS TO FINISH.

A CEREMONY WAS HELD TODAY (TUESDAY) TO MARK THE HANDING-OVER OF THE MARKET BY THE ASD TO THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT WHICH WILL MANAGE THE COMPLEX.

SPEAKING AT THE CEREMONY, THE SECRETARY FOR WORKS, MR JAMES BLAKE, SAID: "THIS MARKET PROJECT, WHICH IS PROBABLY THE FASTEST-EVER BUILDING PROJECT IN HONG KONG RELATIVE TO ITS SIZE, HAS BEEN COMPLETED ON TIME AND WITHIN BUDGET."

THE MARKET WILL REPLACE THE EXISTING SCATTERED WHOLESALE MARKET FACILITIES IN WEST KOWLOON.

"THE SUCCESS OF THIS PROJECT DEMONSTRATES THE EFFECTIVENESS OF RIGOROUS PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND COST CONTROL SYSTEMS, EMPLOYED IN THIS INSTANCE BY THE ASD AND THE NEW AIRPORT PROJECTS CO-ORDINATION OFFICE, BUT COMMON TO ALL AIRPORT CORE PROGRAMME (ACP) CONTRACTS.

"THE COMPLETION OF THIS PROJECT WILL ENABLE FURTHER RECLAMATION WORK IN WEST KOWLOON TO PROCEED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE WEST KOWLOON EXPRESSWAY AND THE AIRPORT RAILWAY, THE ESSENTIAL TRANSPORTATION LINKS CONNECTING THE NEW AIRPORT IN CHEK LAP KOK TO URBAN AREAS.

"THE AIRPORT RAILWAY, WHOSE CONSTRUCTION WILL BEGIN AS SOON AS WE HAVE REACHED AGREEMENT ON FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS, WILL ALSO HELP TO RELIEVE CROWDING ALONG THE EXISTING MASS TRANSIT ROUTE AS WELL AS SHORTENING THE JOURNEY TIME BETWEEN KOWLOON NORTH (LAI KING STATION) AND CENTRAL," MR BLAKE SAID.

THE DIRECTOR OF ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES, MR PAUL CORSER, SAID EVERY ASPECT OF THE MARKET PROJECT WAS EXCEPTIONAL.

HANDING OVER A SYMBOLIC KEY TO THE MARKET TO THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, MR MICHAEL LEE, MR CORSER SAID NO DELAY COULD BE ACCEPTED ON THE PROJECT.

THIS WAS BECAUSE THE EXISTING WHOLESALE MARKETS WOULD LOSE THEIR SEA ACCESS AS THE WEST KOWLOON RECLAMATION PROCEEDED AND THE RECLAMATION COULD NOT BE DELAYED AS RECLAMATION PROGRESS AFFECTED THE CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD AND RAIL LINKS TO THE NEW AIRPORT AT CHEK LAP KOK.

"FOR THIS REASON THE CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE MARKET WAS DESIGNATED AN ACP PROJECT AND THE CONTRACT WAS LET UNDER THE VERY DEMANDING SPECIAL CONTRACT CONDITIONS USED FOR ACP WORK.

"THESE CONDITIONS HAVE PROVED VERY SUCCESSFUL, ALLOWING A TIGHT CONTROL OF THE COST AND A QUICK SETTLEMENT OF ANY DISPUTES," MR CORSER SAID.

"THE CONSTRUCTION PROCESS SAW UP TO 900 MEN ON SITE. AT ONE STAGE CONCRETE WAS POURED AT A RATE OF 5,000 CUBIC METRES PER WEEK, A RECORD FOR A HONG KONG BUILDING PROJECT," HE SAID.

OTHER GUESTS OF HONOUR WHO OFFICIATED AT THE CEREMONY INCLUDED THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON THE NEW AIRPORT AND RELATED PROJECTS (ACC), MR WONG PO-YAN; THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD AND ALSO A MEMBER OF THE ACC, MR CHOY WAI-SHEK; THE MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE CONTRACTOR YAU LEE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED, MR WONG IP-KUEN; THE DIRECTOR OF NEW AIRPORT PROJECTS CO-ORDINATION OFFICE, MR BILLY LAM, AND THE DIRECTOR OF TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT, MR CHOW CHE-KING.

THE CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE MARKET COMPLEX, DESIGNED TO OPERATE ROUND THE CLOCK, EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR, WILL BE ABLE TO HANDLE MORE THAN 1,000 TONNES OF FRESH PRODUCE A DAY.

THE SECOND PHASE OF THE MARKET IS BEING PLANNED. WHEN COMPLETED, THE MARKET WILL FORM A FULLY INTEGRATED WHOLESALE MARKET FACILITY SERVING MORE THAN FOUR MILLION PEOPLE IN KOWLOON, THE NEW TERRITORIES AND PART OF HONG KONG ISLAND UP TO THE YEAR 2011.

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ALL-OUT WAR AGAINST UNLICENSED GUESTHOUSES
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THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION (CNTA) IS LAUNCHING A FULL-SCALE OPERATION AGAINST UNLICENSED GUESTHOUSES.

IN THE PAST TWO DAYS OFFICERS FROM CNTA'S LICENSING AUTHORITY (LA) MADE SUDDEN INSPECTIONS TO TOURIST ACCOMMODATIONS IN LYTON BUILDING, MIRADOR MANSION AND CHUNGKING MANSIONS IN TSIM SHA TSUI.

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (TUESDAY), PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY, MR FRANCIS LO, SAID UNLICENSED OPERATORS WOULD BE DEALT WITH UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE HOTEL AND GUESTHOUSES ACCOMMODATION ORDINANCE.

HE SAID THE NEW ROUND OF INSPECTIONS OF GUESTHOUSES HAD STARTED SINCE SEPTEMBER, ADDING THAT POLICING AND PROSECUTING WOULD BE A LONG-TERM EXERCISE, WITH NO TIME LIMIT AND DID NOT CONFINE TO A PARTICULAR DISTRICT.

/HE SAID

HE SAID THE INSPECTIONS WERE TO GET RID OF ANY POTENTIAL DANGER TO VISITORS AS "THEIR SAFETY CANNOT AND MUST NOT BE COMPROMISED."

AT PRESENT, THERE ARE 164 LICENSED TOURIST GUESTHOUSES.

"THE HOTEL AND GUESTHOUSE ACCOMMODATION ORDINANCE HAS TO BE STRICTLY ENFORCED TO SAFEGUARD TOURISTS, AND TO UPHOLD HONG KONG'S REPUTATION AS A TOURIST CENTRE," MR LO STRESSED.

HE INVITED THE PUBLIC TO REPORT ON UNLICENSED GUESTHOUSES BY TELEPHONING 881 7034.

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SAMPLES OF MILK PRODUCTS TESTED

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IN RESPONSE TO PRESS ENQUIRIES ON THE TESTING OF MILK PRODUCT SAMPLES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TODAY (TUESDAY) CONFIRMED THAT MINUTE TRACES OF ALUMINIUM PARTICLES WERE FOUND IN THE SAMPLES TAKEN FROM THE PRODUCTS BEING RECALLED BY THE SOLE AGENT OF FRISOLAC H AND FRISOMEL.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE PARTICLES FOUND WERE BARELY VISIBLE TO HUMAN EYES.

HE SAID TRACE ALUMINIUM PARTICLES CONSUMED SHOULD NOT HAVE ANY LONG-TERM HARMFUL EFFECT AS THE PARTICLES WOULD BE EXCRETED OUT OF THE BODY.

HE FURTHER EXPLAINED THAT STUDIES CARRIED OUT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES, AUSTRALIA, CANADA, SINGAPORE AND MALAYSIA HAD FOUND THAT TRACE ALUMINIUM WAS COMMONLY FOUND IN BREAST MILK, SOYA-BASED AND COW-BASED MILK FORMULA.

HE SAID: "THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE RECALL EXERCISE CONDUCTED BY THE SOLE AGENT."

AS ON THE TESTING OF OTHER MILK PRODUCT SAMPLES NOT ON THE RECALL LIST, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE RESULTS FOUND WERE WITHIN THE INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE STANDARD AND SAFE FOR CONSUMPTION.

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CONTRACT SIGNED FOR FLOOD ALLEVIATION WORKS

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THE DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT (DSD) WILL START CARRYING OUT FLOOD ALLEVIATION WORKS IN YUEN LONG AND KAM TIN FROM OCTOBER 4.

A CONTRACT WORTH ABOUT \$275.5 MILLION FOR THE WORKS WAS SIGNED THIS (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON BY THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF DRAINAGE SERVICES (PROJECTS AND DEVELOPMENT), MR SIH NAM-SEN, AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CONTRACTOR, HOI SING CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED.

THE CONTRACT IS THE FIRST ONE FOR A COMPREHENSIVE DRAINAGE PROJECT TO ALLEVIATE FLOODING IN THE AREAS.

MR SIH NOTED THAT THE CONTRACT INVOLVED THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE EXISTING SHAN PUI RIVER FROM THE DOWNSTREAM OF THE YUEN LONG INFLATABLE DAM TO INNER DEEP BAY, WHICH WAS THE MAIN DRAINAGE OUTLET FOR THE YUEN LONG AND KAM TIN CATCHMENTS.

THE WORKS INCLUDE:

- * DREDGING OF FOUR KILOMETRES OF NAVIGATION CHANNEL IN DEEP BAY AND ALONG SHAN PUI RIVER;
- * WIDENING AND DEEPENING OF THE EXISTING SHAN PUI RIVER;
- * CONSTRUCTING THREE KILOMETRES OF FLOOD EMBANKMENT;
- * CONCRETE LINING OF A 460-METRE NULLAH;
- * RECONSTRUCTING THE ACCESS ROAD IN FRONT OF CHUNG HAU TSUEN;
- * RECONSTRUCTING AND EXTENDING THE BORDER ROAD AND THE BORDER FENCE, AND
- * LANDSCAPING AND OTHER ANCILLARY ASSOCIATED WORKS.

THE WORKS WILL BE COMPLETED IN 48 MONTHS.

MEANWHILE, DSD HAS COMMISSIONED A STUDY ON ASSET INVENTORY IN THE DEPARTMENT.

AN AGREEMENT ON THE STUDY WAS SIGNED TODAY BY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (TRADING FUND), MR CHUNG KWOK-LEUNG, AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF MONTGOMERY WATSON HONG KONG LIMITED.

MR CHUNG NOTED THAT A COMPREHENSIVE ASSET INVENTORY WAS ESSENTIAL FOR THE EFFECTIVE ASSET MANAGEMENT OF DSD.

ASSETS RELATED TO THE PROVISION OF SEWAGE SERVICES INCLUDE SEWAGE COLLECTION, TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL FACILITIES AS WELL AS TELEMETRY CONTROL SYSTEMS, COMPUTER SYSTEMS AND VEHICLES.

"THE CONSULTANTS WILL HAVE TO SEARCH AND UPDATE EXISTING RECORDS AND DATA, ASSESS THE CONDITIONS OF THE ASSETS, COMPIL AN INVENTORY AND PLACE A REALISTIC VALUE ON THE ASSETS," HE ADDED.

THE STUDY, AT A COST OF ABOUT \$3 MILLION, WILL BE COMPLETED IN THREE MONTHS.

ON COMPLETION OF THE STUDY, A COMPUTERISED ASSET INVENTORY WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR REPLACEMENT PLANNING, MAINTENANCE PROGRAMMING AND DEPRECIATION CALCULATION OF THE SEWERAGE ASSETS, MR CHUNG SAID.

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COMPANIES FINED FOR POLLUTING ENVIRONMENT
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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) RELEASED A LIST OF COMPANIES THAT HAVE BEEN FOUND GUILTY IN THE COURTS DURING AUGUST OF BREACHING ANTI-POLLUTION LEGISLATION CURRENTLY ENFORCED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

SIMILAR ANNOUNCEMENTS WILL BE MADE MONTHLY.

BECAUSE THE LEGAL PROCEEDINGS COULD BE TIME CONSUMING, THERE WAS SOMETIMES A LENGTHY TIME GAP BETWEEN THE DATE OF THE OFFENCE AND THE CONVICTION DATE.

FOLLOWING IS THE LIST OF PROSECUTION CASES AND THE ASSOCIATED FINES IMPOSED BY THE COURTS DURING AUGUST THIS YEAR:

NAME (COMPANY/ PERSON)	ADDRESS	DATE OF OFFENCE	NATURE OF OFFENCE	FINES(\$)	RECORD OF OFFENCE	COURT
1. CHAOZHOU- PALACE RESTR LTD	YUN PING RD, CAUSEWAY BAY	17.03.92- 4.12.92	APCO : UNAUTHORISED INSTALLATION OR ALTERATION OF FURNACES	3,000	1ST	EASTERN
2. LUEN CHEONG TAI CONSTRUCT- ION CO LTD	TAI WAI, SHA TIN	26.3.92	DASO : DUMPING OF ABOUT 750 CUBIC METRES OF MUD AT SEA NEAR CHEUNG CHAU NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE LICENCE CONDITION	200	1ST	"
3. WONG HON-MO	MUK MIN SHAN VILLAGE, SAI KUNG	30.7.92	WPCO : DISCHARGED POLLUTING MATTER IN THE PORT SHELTER WATER CONTROL ZONE	25,000	5TH	KWUN TONG

/SHIU TUNG

4. SHIU TUNG- TIM HOPEWELL FEATHER WORKS	KWAN TEI PAK TSUEN, FANLING	15.10.92	WPCO :	30,000	2ND	FANLING	
			DISCHARGED POLLUTING MATTER IN THE DEEP BAY WATER CONTROL ZONE				
5. CHINA HARBOURS ENGINEERING COMPANY	KING'S RD, HONG KONG	5.1.93	DASO :	4,000	2ND	EASTERN	
			PERMIT DUMPING OF ABOUT 750 CUBIC METRES OF MUD AT SEA SOUTH OF CHEUNG CHAU NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE LICENCE CONDITION				
6. ZHEN HUA ENGINEERING CO LTD	"	5.1.93	DASO :	4,000	1ST	"	
			DUMPING OF ABOUT 750 CUBIC METRES OF MUD AT SEA SOUTH OF CHEUNG CHAU NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE LICENCE CONDITION				
7. THE EXPRESS BUILDERS CO LTD	ASHLEY RD, TSIM SHA TSUI	14.1.93	DASO :	4,000	1ST	EASTERN	
			PERMIT DUMPING OF ABOUT 750 CUBIC METRES OF MUD AT SEA NEAR NINEPIN GROUP NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE LICENCE CONDITION				
8.	"	"	DASO :	"	4,000	2ND	"
9.	"	"	DASO :	"	4,000	3RD	"
10.	"	"	DASO :	"	4,000	4TH	"
11. FANTA (CFC) CONSTRUCTION CO LTD	HOI BUN RD, KWUN TONG	14.1.93	DASO :	4,000	4TH	"	
			DUMPING OF ABOUT 750 CUBIC METRES OF MUD AT SEA NEAR NINEPIN GROUP NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE LICENCE CONDITION				

12.CHINA EXPAND CONSTRUCTION LTD	CAINE RD, MID-LEVELS	31.1.93	NCO : PERMIT CONSTRUCTION WORK WITHOUT A VALID PERMIT	750	1ST	WESTERN
13.CHAN BING-CHUN	"	31.1.93	NCO : "	750	1ST	"
14.FAR EAST WAGNER CONSTRUCTION LTD	SEYMOUR RD, MID-LEVELS	14.2.93	NCO : CARRY OUT CONSTRUCTION WORK WITHOUT A VALID PERMIT	2,500	1ST	"
15.CHAN KWOK-CHEUNG	"	14.2.93	NCO : PERMIT CONSTRUCTION WORK WITHOUT A VALID PERMIT	2,500	1ST	"
16.HSIN CHONG (FOUNDATIONS) ASIA LTD	LOCKHART RD, WAN CHAI	25.2.93	NCO : CARRY OUT PERCUSSIVE PILING NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONDITIONS OF A PERMIT	5,000	1ST	EASTERN
17.SIU TAT-FAI	LOCKHART RD, WAN CHAI	25.2.93	NCO : PERMIT PERCUSSIVE PILING NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONDITIONS OF A PERMIT	2,000	1ST	EASTERN
18.CHU TIM	KAM TSIN TSUEN, SHEUNG SHUI	25.2.93	WDO : PERMIT DISCHARGING UNTREATED LIQUID LIVESTOCK WASTE INTO WATERCOURSE IN LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL AREA 10	1,500	1ST	FANLING
19.LEIGHTON CONTRACTORS (ASIA) LTD	QUEEN'S RD EAST, WAN CHAI	25.2.93	APCO : CONDUCT A SPECIFIED PROCESS WITHOUT LICENCE/ EXEMPTION	30,000	1ST	TSUEN WAN

20.LIN MAN-WING	MARBLE RD, NORTH POINT	4.3.93	NCO : FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENT IN A NOISE ABATE- MENT NOTICE	3,000	1ST	EASTERN
21.SUN ASIA TRANSPORTAT- ION	GLOUCESTER RD, WAN CHAI	7.3.93	OLPO : IMPORTING SCHEDULED SUBSTANCES WITHOUT A LICENCE	10,000	1ST	"
22.TELLY WEAVING & DYEING FACTORY LTD	TA CHUEN PING ST, KWAI CHUNG	13.3.93	APCO : EXCESSIVE DARK SMOKE EMISSION	4,000	1ST	FANLING
23.NGAN HEE- CHUEN AS WING WAH RESTAURANT	TAI HING ESTATE, TUEN MUN	17.3.93	WPCO : DISCHARGED POLLUTING MATTER IN NORTH WESTERN WATER CONTROL ZONE	10,000	1ST	TUEN MUN
24.KEYNACE INVESTMENTS LTD	KIN SANG ESTATE, TUEN MUN	17.3.93	WPCO : DISCHARGED POLLUTING MATTER IN NORTH WESTERN WATER CONTROL ZONE	10,000	1ST	TUEN MUN
25.MOK YIU- WAH AS WAH KEE BEAN PRODUCT FTY	TONG YAN SAN TSUEN, YUEN LONG	18.3.93	WPCO : DISCHARGED POLLUTING MATTER IN DEEP BAY WATER CONTROL ZONE	20,000	1ST	FANLING
26.KWOK KAI- KO AS TUNG KONG BEAN CURD FTY	CASTLE PEAK RD, YUEN LONG	18.3.93	WPCO : " " " "	25,000	2ND	"
27.THE TIEN CHU VE-TSIN CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES (HONG KONG) LTD	PAK TAI ST, MA TAU WAI	19.03.93	APCO : CONTRAVENING TERMS OR CONDITIONS OF A SPECIFIED PROCESS LICENCE	20,000	1ST	TSUEN WAN

28.SINO ESTATE MANAGEMENT LTD	HONG KONG GOLD COAST, TUEN MUN	23.3.93	WPCO : DISCHARGED POLLUTING MATTER IN NORTH WESTERN WATER CONTROL ZONE	15,000	1ST	TUEN MUN
29.HOP FAT FARM	SHAP PAT HEUNG, YUEN LONG	24.3.93	APCO : EXCESSIVE DARK SMOKE EMISSION	7,000	1ST	FANLING
30.HO SIU-HOI	TAK HING ST, YAU MA TEI	26.3.93	NCO : FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENT IN A NOISE ABATEMENT NOTICE	5,000	1ST	SOUTH KOWLOON
31.HO KING-HOI	TAK HING ST, YAU MA TEI	26.3.93	NCO : "	5,000	1ST	"
32.MOON KEE BEANCURD FTY	TIN SUM VILLAGE, KAM TIN	30.3.93	APCO : EXCESSIVE DARK SMOKE EMISSION	8,500	1ST	FANLING
33.WELFARE FINISHING AND DYEING FACTORY LTD	PING SHAN, YUEN LONG	31.3.93	WPCO : DISCHARGED POLLUTING MATTER IN DEEP BAY WATER CONTROL ZONE	80,000	3RD	FANLING
34.HOP HING OIL FACTORY LTD	TONG YAN SAN TSUEN, YUEN LONG	31.3.93	WPCO : "	15,000	1ST	"
35.CHING TAK-SING AS SIU CHEUNG DYEING FTY	PING SHAN, YUEN LONG	31.3.93	WPCO : "	40,000	2RD	"
36.MODERN METAL AND REFINING LTD	YUEN LONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, YUEN LONG	2.4.93	WPCO : "	10,000	1ST	"

37.NICE DYEING FACTORY LTD	KWAI TING RD, KWAI CHUNG	13.4.93	APCO : EXCESSIVE DARK SMOKE EMISSION	3,500	1ST	TSUEN WAN
38.CHI SHING BLEACHING & DYEING FACTORY LTD	CHEUNG TAT RD, TSING YI	14.4.93	APCO : "	9,000	2ND	"
39.SOM WING- TUNG	NGAU TAU KOK RD, KWUN TONG	15.4.93	WDO : KEEP MORE THAN 10 POULTRY IN LIVESTOCK WASTE PROHIBITION AREA NO. 2	2,000	1ST	KWUN TONG
40.GOLDEN CUP IND LTD	NATHAN RD, TSIM SHA TSUI	16.4.93	NCO : FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENT IN A NOISE ABATEMENT NOTICE	15,000	2ND	SOUTH KOWLOON
41.BEST MADE DYEING FTY LTD	WING LAP ST, KWAI CHUNG	19.4.93	APCO : EXCESSIVE DARK SMOKE EMISSION	7,500	2ND	TSUEN WAN
42.WAI YIP DYEING FTY LTD	WING LAP ST, KWAI CHUNG	19.4.93	APCO : "	3,000	1ST	"
43.YUNG KWOK-TUNG	HONG NING RD, KWUN TONG	20.4.93	WDO : KEEP MORE THAN 10 POULTRY IN LIVESTOCK WASTE PROHIBITION AREA NO. 2	1,000	1ST	KWUN TONG
44.LINK DYEING WORKS LTD	TEXACO RD, TSUEN WAN	22.4.93	APCO : EXCESSIVE DARK SMOKE EMISSION	4,000	1ST	TSUEN WAN
45.SANDRON LTD	FU HING ST, SHEUNG SHUI	26.4.93	APCO : "	5,000	1ST	FANLING

46. THE DIRECTORS OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION	SALISBURY RD, TSIM SHA TSUI	28.4.93	NCO : FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENT IN A NOISE ABATEMENT NOTICE	5,000	1ST	SOUTH KOWLOON
47. SHAMROCK RESTAURANT LTD	NATHAN RD, YAU MA TEI	6.5.93	NCO : "	15,000	4TH	"
48. WAI KONG SILK DYEING FACTORY LTD	WING LAP ST, KWAI CHUNG	6.5.93	APCO : EXCESSIVE DARK SMOKE EMISSION	4,000	1ST	TSUEN WAN
49. LAU CHOI-NGOR	SOY ST, MONG KOK	7.5.93	NCO : FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENT IN A NOISE ABATEMENT NOTICE	7,000	1ST	NORTH KOWLOON
50. ARTS LAUNDRY CO	SHING YIP ST, KWUN TONG	11.5.93	APCO : EXCESSIVE DARK SMOKE EMISSION	2,000	1ST	KWUN TONG
51. EMPIRE LEADER ENTERPRISES LTD	QUEEN'S RD WEST, WESTERN	12.5.93	APCO : FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH A COURT ORDER ON PROHIBITING THE USE OF FURNACES AND SO ON	1,000	2ND	EASTERN
52. KONG SUN DYEING WORKS LTD	KO FAI RD, YAU TONG BAY	13.5.93	APCO : EXCESSIVE DARK SMOKE EMISSION	3,000	2ND	KWUN TONG
53. KWONG HING (SUN KEE) DYEING FACTORY	DIAMOND NEW VILLAGE, HAMMER HILL RD	13.5.93	APCO : "	3,000	1ST	SAN PO KONG

54.NG LAI-WING	TONG MI RD, TAI KOK TSUI	13.5.93	NCO : FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENT IN A NOISE ABATEMENT NOTICE	9,000	1ST	NORTH KOWLOON
55.OI MAN RESTAURANT LTD	OI MAN ESTATE, HO MAN TIN	18.5.93	APCO : EXCESSIVE DARK SMOKE EMISSION	2,500	1ST	SAN PO KONG
56.WONG KAM-HAY	SHAU KEI WAN RD, SHAU KEI WAN	19.5.93	NCO : FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENT IN A NOISE ABATEMENT NOTICE	5,000	1ST	EASTERN
57.B I S TEXTILE COMPANY (H.K.) LTD	CHAI WAN KOK ST, TSUEN WAN	20.5.93	APCO : EXCESSIVE DARK SMOKE EMISSION	10,000	2ND	TSUEN WAN
58.HUI WING-WO	KING'S RD, NORTH POINT	3.6.93	NCO : FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENT IN A NOISE ABATEMENT NOTICE	3,000	1ST	EASTERN
59.HEIR LIGHT FLOCKING & FINISHING FACTORY LTD	YEUNG UK RD, TSUEN WAN	7.6.93	APCO : EXCESSIVE DARK SMOKE EMISSION	3,000	1ST	TSUEN WAN
60.LUEN YING WASHING & DYEING FTY LTD	TSING YI IND CTR, TSING YI	8.6.93	APCO : "	3,500	1ST	"
61.NEW UNION BLEACHING & DYEING FTY	SAM CHUK ST, SAN PO KONG	8.6.93	APCO : "	3,000	1ST	SAN PO KONG
62.TREND CHOICE PRINTING & DYEING FTY LTD	PO YIP ST, YUEN LONG	9.6.93	APCO : "	7,000	1ST	FANLING

63.TSUI MING-KWAN	PAK SHA TSUEN, YUEN LONG	21.6.93	WDO : DISCHARGED LIQUID LIVESTOCK WASTE IN LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL AREA	2,000 1ST	"
64.NEW UNION BLEACHING & DYEING FTY	SAM CHUK ST, SAN PO KONG	22.6.93	APCO : EXCESSIVE DARK SMOKE EMISSION	3,500 2ND	SAN PO KONG
65.HANG CHEONG STEAM LAUNDRY & DRY CLEANING FTY LTD	MOK CHEONG ST, MA TAU KOK	5.7.93	APCO : USING AN UNSUITABLE FUEL IN A RELEVANT PLANT	6,000 1ST	"

NOTE :

APCO : AIR POLLUTION CONTROL ORDINANCE
 NCO : NOISE CONTROL ORDINANCE
 WPCO : WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ORDINANCE
 DASO : DUMPING AT SEA ACT 1974 (OVERSEAS TERRITORIES) ORDER 1975
 WDO : WASTE DISPOSAL ORDINANCE
 OLPO : OZONE LAYER PROTECTION ORDINANCE

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

ENQUIRIES ABOUT SPECIFIC CASES CAN BE DIRECTED TO THE FOLLOWING
 PRINCIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICERS:

APCO :	MR FRANKLIN CHUNG	TEL	594 6200
NCO :	MR STEVEN HO	TEL	594 6500
WPCO : CASE 3	MR R C ROTHAM	TEL	755 2200
CASE 4	MR PATRICK LEI	TEL	685 1133
CASE 23,24,25,26,28,33, 34,35,36 AND 63	MR MURRAY LUO	TEL	417 6133
DASO :	MR PAUL HOLMES	TEL	755 3553
WDO : CASE 18, 39 AND 43	MR PATRICK LEI	TEL	685 1133
CASE 63	MR MURRAY LUO	TEL	417 6133
OLPO :	MR FRANKLIN CHUNG	TEL	594 6200

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TWO FIREMEN AWARDED GOVERNOR'S COMMENDATION

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TWO FIRE SERVICES MEMBERS HAVE BEEN AWARDED THE GOVERNOR'S COMMENDATION FOR THEIR PROFESSIONALISM IN A RESCUE OPERATION DURING A FACTORY FIRE LAST MONTH.

THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES, MR JERRY LAM CHEK-YUEN, TODAY (TUESDAY) PRESENTED A LETTER OF CONGRATULATION FROM THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, TO ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL OFFICER LEUNG KING-LUN AND SENIOR FIREMAN LEE CHI-WAI.

IN THE LETTER, SIR DAVID SAID HE HAD NOTED THE DIRECTOR'S RECOMMENDATION REPORT WITH SATISFACTION, ADDING THAT A CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION WOULD BE PRESENTED TO THEM IN DUE COURSE AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

THE NO. 4 ALARM FIRE BROKE OUT AT A FACTORY ON THE 10TH FLOOR OF AN 11-STOREY INDUSTRIAL BUILDING AT 26 LEE CHUNG STREET, CHAI WAN, ON AUGUST 15.

AT THE HEIGHT OF THE BLAZE, TWO MEN WERE SEEN FLEEING THE ROOF OF THE BUILDING. THE 37-METRE TURNTABLE LADDER OF A FIRE ENGINE AT THE SCENE COULD NOT REACH THE ROOF.

WHILE WAITING FOR A LONGER TURNTABLE LADDER FROM SHEUNG WAN, MR LEUNG WORKED OUT A NEW IDEA TO INCREASE THE LADDER'S HEIGHT BY FASTENING A SHORT EXTENSION LADDER TO ITS TOP.

MR LEE CARRIED OUT THE SECURING JOB.

BY DOING THIS, THE TWO DISTRESSED MEN WERE ABLE TO ESCAPE.

THE RESCUE OPERATION WAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED WITHIN EIGHT MINUTES.

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CLOSURE OF UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURES SOUGHT

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING TO CLOSE AN UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURE AT A BUILDING IN MONG KOK, SO THAT IT CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT CAUSING DANGER TO OCCUPIERS AND THE PUBLIC.

THE UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURE IS A PROJECTION FROM A RESIDENTIAL UNIT ON THE FOURTH FLOOR OF A BUILDING AT 639-645 SHANGHAI STREET AND 1H FIFE STREET.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE ON NOVEMBER 23 WAS POSTED ON THE PREMISES TODAY (TUESDAY).

DEMOLITION WORK IS EXPECTED TO START AS SOON AS THE CLOSURE ORDER IS ISSUED.

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1993

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VIETNAMESE GO HOME

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A GROUP OF 232 VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS TODAY (TUESDAY) RETURNED TO VIETNAM UNDER THE UNITED NATION HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES' VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION PROGRAMME.

COMPRISING 69 MEN, 63 WOMEN, 50 BOYS AND 50 GIRLS, THEY WERE THE 165TH BATCH TO GO BACK UNDER THE PROGRAMME.

THIS GROUP BROUGHT TO 6,164 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS WHO HAVE RETURNED VOLUNTARILY THIS YEAR, AND TO 32,476 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RETURNEES SINCE THE PROGRAMME STARTED IN MARCH 1989.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
TENDER RESULTS

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TENDER DATE	21 SEPT 93
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	Q338
AMOUNT APPLIED	HKD 3,500 MN
AMOUNT ALLOTTED	HKD 1,000 MN
AVERAGE YIELD ACCEPTED	2.87 PCT
HIGHEST YIELD ACCEPTED	2.88 PCT
PRO RATA RATIO	ABOUT 21 PCT
AVERAGE TENDER YIELD	2.89 PCT

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

TENDER TO BE HELD IN THE WEEK BEGINNING 27 SEPTEMBER 1993 -

TENDER DATE	28 SEPT 93	28 SEPT 93
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	Q339	H374
ISSUE DATE	29 SEPT 93	29 SEPT 93
MATURITY DATE	29 DEC 93	30 MAR 94
TENOR	91 DAYS	182 DAYS
AMOUNT ON OFFER	HKD 1,000+200 MN	HKD 400+80 MN

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1993

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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\$ MILLION

OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,880
REVERSAL OF LAF	+120
BALANCE AFTER REVERSL OF LAF	2,000
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-730
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,270
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER TWI 112.1 *+0.1* 21.9.93	

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.68 PCT	14 MONTHS	2411	4.625	101.38	3.42
1 MONTH	2.73 PCT	17 MONTHS	2502	4.75	101.61	3.59
3 MONTHS	2.84 PCT	20 MONTHS	2505	3.75	99.94	3.82
6 MONTHS	3.00 PCT	23 MONTHS	2508	4.625	101.33	3.93
12 MONTHS	3.28 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 8,706 MN

CLOSED 21 SEPTEMBER 1993

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