



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 1982

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

SIR MURRAY'S FAREWELL TO LEGCO

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, HAS MADE EXCELLENT RECOVERY FROM HIS RECENT ILLNESS BUT ON THE INSISTENCE OF HIS DOCTORS THAT HE SHOULD CONTINUE TO REST QUIETLY FOR THE TIME BEING, WAS NOT ABLE TO PRESIDE OVER THIS AFTERNOON'S SITTING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A FAREWELL SPEECH SIR MURRAY HAD PREPARED FOR THE OCCASION WAS READ OUT ON HIS BEHALF BY THE DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE.

SPEECH BY HIS HONOUR THE DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR

Honourable Members,

The Governor, thankfully, has made an excellent recovery from his recent illness, but his doctors insist that he should continue to rest quietly for the time being. That is why, to his very great regret he has not been here today to preside over your proceedings. But he has asked me to read the following farewell speech which he prepared for this occasion before his illness.

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FAREWELL SPEECH BY THE GOVERNOR,
SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE

Before the Council adjourns this afternoon, I would like to record my admiration for the way official and unofficial members make this Council the efficient and effective organ of government that it is.

Over the last 10 years there have been many changes and I think that of the original members I faced with such trepidation in 1971, only one still remains.

Since then the size of the Council has doubled and in consequence the spread of personalities, knowledge and age is much wider, and more able to speak with direct or indirect experience of the problems and wishes of the diverse elements of our community, and of the factors that govern their prosperity.

At the same time, the work of UMELCO has enormously increased and has been supported by an expanded professional staff. The net result has been that the scrutiny of government bills has become more intense, and the work of liaison with the public and the role of ombudsman has matured, and the influence exerted by members through advisory committees also greatly increased. I am certain that the work of government has greatly benefited.

During the years that we have worked together Hong Kong has had an average growth rate of 10% per year in real terms. Full marks to our workforce, entrepreneurs and bankers and those responsible for managing our economy for making this possible during worldwide economic conditions which were for the most part sluggish or recessional. But a government which could not make something out of such prolonged growth would be contemptible. The question is, did we do the right things, at the right speed, with the assets we were so fortunate to have. With the knowledge of hindsight, I think that generally speaking we did do the right things, though the emphasis and speed and details in some fields might have been varied.

/However.....

However that may be the Government, of which you are such a vital part, is judged a success by the world. In spite of deficiencies largely thrust upon it, Hong Kong is judged a success. What is it that has enabled this tiny and desperately overcrowded part of the land mass of China to become one of the greatest concentrations of industrial production, finance and communications in the world? There are other crowded communities with a harbour and little else, which have not achieved comparable growth prosperity and international respect. Obviously, in the first place the character of its people, and those who direct and man the many units of our economic, social and political life. But also, I think, Hong Kong's prosperity depends on a whole series of interrelated elements, all of which we have succeeded in guarding. We have a fine harbour, but we have kept it a free port; we have a system of law whose practice is understood domestically and internationally, administered by a judiciary that is independent; we have a currency that is backed as to over 100% and is convertible and acceptable; we maintain a fiscal environment which is exceptionally predictable in the extraordinarily low burdens it imposes, and is free from ideological bias. We have maintained access to markets overseas through our membership, via the United Kingdom, of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade with all the safeguards that this contains; we have financial services on a scale and of an expertise that rank third in the world; we maintain freedom to invest, to work, to employ and to earn, and to do what one will with the proceeds, with the minimum of restriction necessary to prevent abuse. Our administration is efficient by world standards and its policies have been kept free from the sudden shifts and changes that affect most other governments; we have a net of social security which, though incomplete, removes from the unfortunate denial of medical treatment, education, subsistence or shelter if need is proved; and we have a

/vast scheme.....

vast scheme of cheap public housing. We have social and political stability and by international standards a high level of law and order. We have a free press. Of course, we have excellent relations with China and excellent Sino/British relations over Hong Kong; and a high degree and steady increase in two-way economic co-operation between Hong Kong and other parts of China have been vital links in this chain of characteristics which have produced our prosperity, links whose importance will steadily increase.

These things, and our British connection, are interrelated, and in combination they have produced a vital flame that has fired men and women to risk and work for Hong Kong's growth, and to build up and maintain investment, employment and services in this tiny area; that vital flame is confidence, and is our most precious asset.

Honourable Members, much of our time in this Council is spent in the day-to-day business of legislation, but I have thought it right on this occasion to speak of fundamentals. They have been guarded well over the past 30 years and their effect on the lives of people in Hong Kong and on what Hong Kong can offer are there for all to see. I have every confidence that your wisdom and dedication will continue to preserve them, and with them the continued growth of the prosperity of the people of Hong Kong.

I thank Members for their advice and help over these years. I am sure that Sir Edward Youde is encouraged by the knowledge that he too will be able to count on you, and that he will be supported by one of the finest public services in the world. He is a man of massive qualifications, known to most of you, and who knows Hong Kong as well as China, London and America. Though I am sad to leave, I am glad to hand over to a successor with such massive qualifications, probably the most senior official ever to be appointed Governor.

VALEDICTORY SPEECH BY HON. R.H. LOBO

Sir,

My unofficial colleagues and I would like to thank Sir Murray - through you, for the very kind remarks which you have expressed on his behalf.

It is very sad that Sir Murray is unable to be present here this afternoon and that he should be in any sense indisposed at this final stage of his stay.

On the other hand, it is a great relief that Sir Murray is making such excellent progress toward recovery and on behalf of the whole community, I would like to convey to Sir Murray, through you, Sir, our sincere good wishes for his speedy return to a full and active life.

Sir, at this time, no doubt Sir Murray will nevertheless be receiving many eloquent expressions of appreciation. But I hope the sentiments which I am privileged to convey on behalf of my unofficial colleagues in this Chamber, may have a special meaning, at this time.

Although we are conscious of his high office as Governor and know Sir Murray well, as President of this Council, we have also seen him as a helpful and concerned leader, inside and outside the Chamber.

His confidence in this Council is amply demonstrated by the dramatic increase in our membership under his Presidency and, I trust, we have responded by the greatly increased attention which an enlarged Council has been able to give to the examination of proposed legislation; to the consideration of public policy; the scrutiny of the public finances and the implementation of Government programmes.

It is the vogue to disparage legislative bodies which are less than fully democratic but in the real world the fully elective principle is the exception rather than the rule and with far less reason than prevails here.

The more than ten years of Sir Murray's service to Hong Kong have seen the extension of principles of consultation and representation as well as the passage through this Council of a body of legislation which reflects to a marked degree his obvious concern for the welfare of the people of Hong Kong and for the development of a fair and just society.

Sir Murray's term of office has also seen, as the Financial Secretary so ably said in concluding his Budget address, an outstanding improvement in the living standards of the average man and woman in terms of housing, health, education, social welfare, recreation, law and order, transport and many other fields.

Sir Murray's own mark is stamped clearly upon many of these programmes and they will indeed stand as his contribution to the history of this territory.

It is particularly gratifying that in his new role Sir Murray will, still have the opportunity to exercise his concern for us.

We know that Sir Murray will continue to think of us as we, most surely, will not forget him and his dedication to Hong Kong.

I will therefore repeat Sir, that all of us in this community offer our heartfelt gratitude to Sir Murray for his leadership during these memorable "MacLehose Years".

We would also like to express our thanks to Lady MacLehose for all that she has done in so many fields.

All of us here and indeed the people of Hong Kong regret that Sir Murray's tenure of office has come to an end and I would like to express our good wishes to Lady MacLehose and Sir Murray for a well-earned, long and happy retirement - the people of Hong Kong will always keep them in their hearts.

SPEECH BY HIS HONOUR THE DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR

Mr Lobo:

It is my privilege to associate Official Members with your eloquent testimony to His Excellency's governship these past 10 years and more. This privilege is mine ex-officio, so to speak, as Chief Secretary. But I also happen to be personally qualified to exercise this privilege for I, alone, among Official (and Unofficial) Members have served on this Council continuously throughout His Excellency's presidency. I would not wish to suggest that I, alone, have not fallen by the wayside, but simply that others have left earlier, or have started later, or have had broken service.

By now, in various places and on various occasions all that can be said about His Excellency's governship has been said. But I feel bound to make this observation: His Excellency's perception of the task of administering Hong Kong in the past decade has had a truly strategic quality about it which has been an inspiration to the Civil Service. That perception seems to have been based on John Galsworthy's maxim that "if you do not think about the future you cannot have one". Certainly, that perception has wrought profound changes in the economic and social circumstances of this city which must provide for all who live here a sure foundation for the future.

The warm gratitude and admiration of the Civil Service, no less than of people of all walks of life in Hong Kong, go with Sir Murray on his retirement from his post here, together with our affectionate best wishes for his future life as Lord MacLehose in Ayrshire and Westminster. Likewise, we extend our felicitations to Lady MacLehose who has graced Government House with such distinction throughout these eventful years.

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SCANNERS FOR GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS BY END OF YEAR

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COMPUTERISED TOMOGRAPHY SCANNERS FOR DIAGNOSTIC PURPOSES WILL BE INSTALLED AT QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL AND THE NEW PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL BY THE END OF THE YEAR, THE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, DR THE HON K.L. THONG, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SUBJECT TO FINANCE COMMITTEE APPROVAL, THE THIRD SCANNER SHOULD BE INSTALLED IN THE QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL BY THE MIDDLE OF 1983 AND ANOTHER ONE IN THE PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL SHORTLY AFTER, HE ADDED.

DR THONG WAS SPEAKING AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL THIS AFTERNOON IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION BY AN UNOFFICIAL MEMBER, MISS LYDIA DUNN.

MISS DUNN HAD ASKED THE GOVERNMENT TO EXPLAIN WHY BODY SCANNING DIAGNOSTIC EQUIPMENT IS NOT AVAILABLE IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS AND WHAT IT IS DOING TO OVERCOME THIS DEFICIENCY.

DR THONG EXPLAINED THAT THE IDEA OF ACQUIRING SCANNERS FOR MAJOR GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS WAS FIRST MOOTED IN THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT IN 1977.

TO ACQUIRE FUNDS FOR THIS EQUIPMENT, AN ITEM WAS INCLUDED IN THE DEPARTMENTAL DRAFT ESTIMATES FOR THE YEAR 1978/79, IN THE HOPE THAT IF EVERYTHING WENT WELL, THE FIRST SCANNER COULD BE INSTALLED AT QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL BY LATE 1979, HE SAID.

IN THE EVENT, HOWEVER, IT HAS TAKEN MORE TIME THAN AT FIRST ENVISAGED BECAUSE OF THREE MAIN FACTORS, SAID DR THONG.

FIRSTLY, THE USUAL AND NECESSARY FINANCIAL CONTROL, TENDER AND PUBLIC WORKS PROCEDURES HAD TO BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO.

SECONDLY, DEVELOPMENT IN THIS NEW TYPE OF DIAGNOSTIC EQUIPMENT HAS BEEN EXTREMELY RAPID SO THAT BY LATE 1978, THE ORIGINAL ORDER FOR A HEAD AND NECK SCANNER HAD TO BE SUBSTITUTED BY A NEW ONE FOR A WHOLE BODY SCANNER, WHICH WAS A MORE ADVANCED MODEL.

BECAUSE OF THIS DEVELOPMENT, SAID DR THONG, A FRESH REQUEST WAS MADE WHICH MEANT RETRACING ALL THE STEPS AND PROCEDURES NECESSARY FOR JUSTIFICATION OF FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FINALLY AGREED TO MAKE AVAILABLE THE NECESSARY FUNDS IN JULY 1979 AND TENDER PROCEDURES WERE THEN INSTITUTED.

THE TENDER WAS AWARDED TO EMI CO. FOR A WHOLE BODY SCANNER IN FEBRUARY 1980.

UNFORTUNATELY, SAID DR THONG, AT THIS CRUCIAL STAGE, THE EMI CO. IN APRIL 1980 EXPRESSED THEIR INTENTION TO GIVE UP THEIR INTERESTS IN THE MANUFACTURE OF SCANNERS.

THIS UNEXPECTED DEVELOPMENT AT THE END OF AN EXTENDED AND SOMEWHAT STRENUOUS PROCEDURAL EXERCISE WAS TO CAUSE THE CENTRAL TENDER BOARD TO CANCEL THE ORDER TO EMI IN OCTOBER 1980, HE SAID.

IN AN ATTEMPT TO EXPEDITE MATTERS, A SPECIAL APPLICATION WAS MADE BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR RESTRICTED TENDERS TO BE ISSUED TO COMPANIES THAT WERE STILL PRODUCING SCANNERS BUT THIS WAS NOT SUPPORTED BY THE CENTRAL TENDER BOARD WHICH DECIDED TO GO FOR OPEN TENDER AGAIN, SAID DR THONG.

+THUS, GOOD INTENTIONS AND STRENUOUS EFFORTS NOTWITHSTANDING, A FIRM ORDER COULD ONLY BE PLACED IN NOVEMBER 1981 FOR A SCANNER FOR THE QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL WHICH IS NOW EXPECTED TO BE DELIVERED IN OCTOBER THIS YEAR,+ HE SAID.

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CONCERN ABOUT FIRE HAZARD TO LIFE AND PROPERTY

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THE FIRE SERVICES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1982 WHICH SEEKS TO INCREASE THE PENALTIES THAT MAY BE IMPOSED ON THOSE WHO IGNORE FIRE HAZARD ABATEMENT NOTICES AND ORDERS, UNDERLINED THE GOVERNMENT'S PRIME CONCERN TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF PROTECTION TO LIFE AND PROPERTY, THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, THE HON LEWIS DAVIES SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

UNDER THIS BILL, THE MAXIMUM FINE FOR A WILFUL ACT OR DEFAULT CAUSING A FIRE HAZARD WILL BE INCREASED FROM \$2 000 TO \$25 000, FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH A FIRE HAZARD ABATEMENT NOTICE, FROM \$2 000 PLUS \$40 A DAY FOR A CONTINUOUS OFFENCE TO \$25 000 PLUS \$2 500 A DAY, AND FOR KNOWINGLY CONTRAVENING A FIRE HAZARD ORDER, FROM \$4 000 PLUS \$100 A DAY TO \$50 000 PLUS \$5 000 A DAY.

THE BILL ALSO EMPOWERS A MAGISTRATE, AFTER HEARING A COMPLAINT BY THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES, TO MAKE A CLOSING ORDER ON PREMISES WHERE A FIRE HAZARD HAS ARISEN. AT PRESENT, SUCH AN ORDER CAN ONLY BE MADE IF THE CAUSE OF THE FIRE HAZARD IS THE STRUCTURAL NATURE OR LOCATION OF THE PREMISES CONCERNED.

IN MOVING THE SECOND READING OF THE BILL IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR DAVIES SAID THE PRESENT LEVEL OF FINES, WHICH HAS REMAINED UNCHANGED SINCE 1964 OR EVEN EARLIER, HAS CLEARLY FAILED TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE SUPPORT FOR THE ACTIONS OF FIRE SERVICES STAFF IN THE INTERESTS OF PUBLIC SAFETY.

+SOME IRRESPONSIBLE FACTORY OPERATORS HAVE COME TO REGARD THE PAYMENT OF SUCH RELATIVELY MODEST FINES AS A ROUTINE FACTORY OVERHEAD. THIS DISREGARD OF THE LAW AND OF THEIR REASONABLE RESPONSIBILITIES HAS AROUSED MUCH UNDERSTANDABLE PUBLIC CONCERN,+ HE SAID.

+IT MAY HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE FIRE-RELATED DEATHS OF 44 PERSONS AND THE LOSS OF \$150 MILLION WORTH OF PROPERTY IN 1981. IT HAS ALSO INCREASED, QUITE UNNECESSARILY, THE HAZARDS UNDER WHICH OUR VALIANT FIRE SERVICES DAY AFTER DAY TACKLE FIRES.+

MR DAVIES SAID THAT FOR THE PENALTIES TO HAVE THE DESIRED EFFECT, THE INCREASED FINES MUST BE OF SUFFICIENT SEVERITY AND THAT DAILY FINES MUST BE ALSO INCREASED TO ENSURE THE PROMPT ACTION IS THEN TAKEN BY OFFENDERS.

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NEW BILL TO CLOSE LOOPHOLES IN DANGEROUS DRUGS LAW
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A BILL DESIGNED TO CLOSE LOOPHOLES IN THE EXISTING LAW DEALING WITH TRAFFICKING AND MANUFACTURE OF DANGEROUS DRUGS WAS INTRODUCED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

MOVING THE SECOND READING OF THE DANGEROUS DRUGS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1982, THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, THE HON LEWIS DAVIES SAID THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE BILL WAS TO ALLOW PROSECUTION OF PERSONS ENGAGED IN +DILUTING+ OR +CUTTING+ DANGEROUS DRUGS BY REDEFINING +MANUFACTURE+, TO ENSURE THAT ANY QUANTITIES OF DANGEROUS DRUGS, HOWEVER SMALL, WERE REGARDED AS DANGEROUS DRUGS FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE ORDINANCE, AND TO PROVIDE A MEANS FOR DEALING WITH SUSPECTED DRUG COURIERS CARRYING DRUGS IN BODY CAVITIES.

THE AMENDMENTS WERE PART OF THE CONTINUING EFFORTS TO PROTECT THE COMMUNITY FROM SUCH CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES AND TO BRING TRAFFICKERS, CHEMISTS, COURIERS AND OTHERS TO JUSTICE, HE SAID.

+IN SPITE OF THE PROGRESS MADE IN RECENT YEARS IN DEALING WITH DRUG TRAFFICKING AND ABUSE PROBLEMS, THEY STILL REPRESENT A GREAT THREAT TO THE SOCIAL HEALTH OF THE COMMUNITY, AND ESPECIALLY TO YOUNG PEOPLE.

+ILLICIT DRUGS CONTINUE TO REACH HONG KONG, AND THE COMPETENCE AND EXPERTISE OF OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IS CONSTANTLY BEING CHALLENGED BY NEW TRAFFICKING METHODS AND ROUTES OF ENTRY DEvised BY THE WELL-FINANCED CRIMINALS ENGAGED IN THIS EVIL TRADE,+ MR DAVIES SAID.

ONE OF THE METHODS USED, HE SAID, WAS TO REPLACE IMPORTS OF OPIUM OR MORPHINE WITH HEROIN BASE (DIACETYLMORPHINE), WHICH IS OF LOWER BULK AND HIGHER VALUE.

THIS METHOD ALSO FACILITATED THE PREPARATION OF THE MOST COMMONLY USED HEROIN SALT, DIACETYLMORPHINE HYDROCHLORIDE, BY THE SIMPLE ADDITION OF HYDROCHLORIDE ACID TO HEROIN BASE. THIS OBIATED THE LONG, SMELLY AND OFTEN DANGEROUS PROCESS OF MANUFACTURING HEROIN FROM MORPHINE USING ACETIC ANHYDRIDE WHICH WAS USED IN LOCAL CLANDESTINE LABORATORIES IN THE PAST.

UNDER THE EXISTING ORDINANCE THE MANUFACTURE OF DANGEROUS DRUGS BY THE +DILUTING+ OR +CUTTING+ PROCESS, THAT IS MIXING THE HYDROCHLORIDE SALT WITH ADDITIVE SUBSTANCES SUCH AS CAFFEINE, STRYCHNINE OR BARBITURATES, DID NOT APPLY TO CASES OF DILUTING OR CUTTING.

AS A RESULT A CHARGE OF MANUFACTURING DANGEROUS DRUGS COULD NOT BE LAID IN FOUR CASES IN WHICH DRUGS FOUND ON EQUIPMENT AND PARAPHERNALIA IN THE CLANDESTINE LABORATORIES CONCERNED WERE, IN THE OPINION OF THE GOVERNMENT CHEMIST, REFERABLE TO THE DILUTION OR CUTTING OF DANGEROUS DRUGS RATHER THAN THEIR MANUFACTURE.

TO CLOSE THIS LOOPHOLE, THE AMENDING BILL PROPOSED THAT THE DEFINITION OF +MANUFACTURE+ UNDER THE ORDINANCE SHOULD BE WIDENED TO INCLUDE MAKING, ADULTERATING, PURIFYING, MIXING, SEPARATING OR OTHERWISE TREATING A DANGEROUS DRUGS.

THE SECOND AMENDMENT PROPOSED THAT PROSECUTIONS MIGHT BE INSTITUTED IN CASES INVOLVING MINUTE QUANTITIES OF DANGEROUS DRUGS WHETHER THEY ARE MEASURABLE OR USABLE OR NOT.

THIS WAS NECESSARY SINCE A COURT OF APPEAL RULED IN 1979 THAT A CHARGE OF POSSESSING DRUGS MUST BE SUPPORTED BY EVIDENCE THAT THE DRUGS FOUND WERE USABLE, WHICH COULD BE DIFFICULT IF THE QUANTITY INVOLVED WAS VERY SMALL.

THE THIRD PROPOSED AMENDMENT WAS DESIGNED TO EXTEND TO OFFICERS OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE THE POWERS ALREADY AVAILABLE TO OFFICERS OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE SO THAT THEY CAN CALL IN MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS TO SEARCH BODY CAVITIES OF SUSPECTED DRUG COURIERS WITH OR WITHOUT THEIR CONSENT.

PROVISION WAS ALSO MADE FOR THE DETENTION OF SUSPECTED PERSONS FOR THE COMPLETION OF SUCH SEARCHES AND FOR THE EXTENSION OF THE LEGAL PROTECTION UNDER THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE ORDINANCE TO THE POLICE AND PUBLIC OFFICERS ASSISTING THEM TO CONDUCT SUCH SEARCHES UNDER THE DANGEROUS DRUGS ORDINANCE.

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LIFE TERM PROPOSED FOR KIDNAPPING

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THE HEAVIER PENALTY OF LIFE IMPRISONMENT PROPOSED FOR KIDNAPPING — INSTEAD OF THE EXISTING MAXIMUM PENALTY OF 14 YEARS — WAS PARTLY IN RESPONSE TO A CALL BY HIGH COURT JUDGES AND PARTLY INTENDED TO DETER THE COMMISSION OF THIS WICKED OFFENCE, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE HON J.C. GRIFFITHS, SAID AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE SECOND READING OF THE OFFENCES AGAINST THE PERSON (AMENDMENT) BILL 1982, MR GRIFFITHS SAID THE AMENDMENT WOULD BRING THE OFFENCE INTO A HIGHER CATEGORY WITH OTHER +VERY SERIOUS MAJOR CRIMES+ WHICH CARRY A MAXIMUM PENALTY OF LIFE IMPRISONMENT.

+THE BILL WILL ALTER THE EXISTING SITUATION BY RAISING THE OFFENCE OF KIDNAPPING FROM A THIRD GRAVITY TO A SECOND GRAVITY OFFENCE.

+IT WILL NOW BE CLASSED WITH SUCH GRAVE OFFENCES AS MANSLAUGHTER, ATTEMPTED MURDER, OR RAPE, RATHER THAN, AS AT PRESENT WITH BURGLARY OR BLACKMAIL,+ HE SAID.

THE PRESENT 14-YEAR MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR KIDNAPPING HAS BEEN IN EXISTENCE SINCE 1865 WHEN THE RELEVANT SECTION OF THE ORDINANCE WAS FIRST ENACTED, HE SAID.

THE DEATH PENALTY, HE SAID, IS PROVIDED FOR CRIMES OF THE +UTMOST SERIOUSNESS+, GRADED AS CRIMES OF THE FIRST GRAVITY.

MR GRIFFITHS SAID THAT, EXCEPT FOR THE MOST SERIOUS CRIMES, THE JUDGES USUALLY AWARD SENTENCES SUBSTANTIALLY LESS THAN THE MAXIMUM, RESERVING THE MAXIMUM SENTENCE FOR THE VERY WORST EXAMPLE OF ANY PARTICULAR CRIME.

+SO MAXIMUM PENALTIES OF 'LIFE' OR OF '14 YEARS IMPRISONMENT' ARE CLEAR INDICATIONS FROM THE LEGISLATURE TO THE JUDICIARY OF THE RELATIVE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH SOCIETY VIEWS VARIOUS MAJOR CRIMES,+ HE SAID.

MR GRIFFITHS SAID IT WAS HOPED THAT +THOSE EVIL MEN WHO ARE TEMPTED TO INDULGE IN THE WICKED OFFENCE WILL NOW BE DETERRED BY THE REALISATION OF THE NEW AND MORE SEVERE PUNISHMENT THAT IS NOW IN STORE FOR THEM ONCE THE BILL IS ENACTED+.

DEBATE ON THE BILL WAS ADJOURNED.

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REGULATIONS TO PROTECT WORKERS' HEARING APPROVED
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THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY) APPROVED AMENDING REGULATIONS AIMED AT PROTECTING WORKERS' HEARING.

THE REGULATIONS, KNOWN AS THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1982, WILL COME INTO OPERATION ON DECEMBER 1 THIS YEAR, TO GIVE PROPRIETORS SUFFICIENT TIME TO ACQUIRE EAR PROTECTORS AND TO PERSUADE THEIR EMPLOYEES TO USE THEM.

IN TABLING THE REGULATIONS IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THE ACTING COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, DR THE HON JAMES HAYES SAID THAT THE REGULATIONS WERE PROPOSED, AS A FIRST STEP, TO REQUIRE THE PROPER MAINTENANCE OF MACHINERY AND PLANT TO MINIMISE NOISE AND THE PROVISION AND WEARING OF HEARING PROTECTORS BY WORKERS EXPOSED TO A SOUND LEVEL OF 90 DB(A) OR HIGHER FOR A CONTINUOUS PERIOD OF EIGHT HOURS ON ANY ONE DAY.

HE SAID THAT THE REGULATIONS WERE BASED ON RECOMMENDATIONS BY AN INDUSTRIAL NOISE CONSULTANT INVITED TO HONG KONG IN 1979 TO ASSESS THE INDUSTRIAL NOISE PROBLEM AND TO ADVISE GOVERNMENT ON MEANS TO PROTECT THE HEARING OF WORKERS EXPOSED TO EXCESSIVE INDUSTRIAL NOISE.

DR HAYES SAID THAT, IN HIS REPORT, THE CONSULTANT ADVISED THAT IN ORDER TO CARRY OUT A PROPER HEARING CONSERVATION PROGRAMME FOR WORKERS IN INDUSTRY IT WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR HONG KONG TO HAVE A SET OF HEARING PROTECTION LEGISLATION. AS AND WHEN REQUIRED, THIS COULD BE USED TO PROTECT WORKERS FROM EXCESSIVE NOISE EXPOSURE.

THE CONSULTANT FURTHER RECOMMENDED THAT PROTECTION OF HEARING WAS NECESSARY IN EVERY INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKING WHERE, ON ANY DAY, ANY PERSON WAS EXPOSED CONTINUOUSLY FOR EIGHT HOURS TO A SOUND LEVEL EXCEEDING 90 DB(A) OR WAS SUBJECT TO AN EQUIVALENT OR GREATER EXPOSURE TO SOUND.

THE CONSULTANT EMPHASISED THAT THE LEGISLATION SHOULD HAVE A SIMPLE FRAMEWORK WHICH WOULD BE OPERABLE IN THE PRESENT INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS AND WOULD STILL BE VIABLE IN THE FUTURE AS IMPROVEMENTS IN STANDARD BECAME NECESSARY TO FURTHER IMPROVE WORKING CONDITIONS.

MEANWHILE, DR HAYES CONTINUED, A CODE OF PRACTICE FOR REDUCING THE EXPOSURE OF INDUSTRIAL WORKERS TO NOISE WAS BEING PREPARED.

IT WOULD INCORPORATE THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING GROUP ON PROTECTION OF WORKERS' HEARING, COMPOSED OF OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS AND CHAIRED BY THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH CONSULTANT.

THE CODE WOULD PROVIDE A BASIS AND DIRECTION FOR THE POSSIBLE INTRODUCTION OF FURTHER LEGISLATION FOR REDUCING AND CONTROLLING INDUSTRIAL NOISE AT SOURCE TO ACHIEVE SAFE LEVELS.

DR HAYES SAID THAT CARE WOULD BE TAKEN AT THAT TIME TO ESTABLISH THE PRACTICABILITY OF ANY NEW PROPOSALS, AND TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME FOR INDUSTRY TO MAKE THE REQUIRED CHANGES AND IMPROVEMENTS.

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PLAN FOR TEMPORARY SCHOOL FOR SEAMEN

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ABOUT 5 000 HONG KONG SEAMEN WHOSE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE ARE INSUFFICIENT TO MEET THE MANDATORY MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS LAID DOWN IN THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON STANDARDS OF TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND WATCH-KEEPING FOR SEAFARERS WILL FACE THE THREAT OF IMMEDIATE UNEMPLOYMENT ONCE THE CONVENTION COMES INTO EFFECT SOME TIME NEXT YEAR.

IN HIS REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM DR THE HON HO KAM-FAI IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY, THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, THE HON DAVID JEAFFRESON SAID THAT TO MEET THESE CRITICAL CIRCUMSTANCES, THE GOVERNMENT HAD PUT APPROPRIATE PROPOSALS SEEKING TO ESTABLISH A TEMPORARY TRAINING SCHOOL FOR SEAMEN TO THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL.

ONCE IN THIS WAY WE HAD SOLVED THE IMMEDIATE PROBLEM OF KEEPING OUR SEAMEN EMPLOYABLE, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONSIDER WITH THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL WHAT THE PERMANENT ANSWER SHOULD BE, HE SAID.

MR JEAFFRESON SAID THERE WERE AT PRESENT SOME 87 000 SEAMEN REGISTERED WITH THE MARINE DEPARTMENT, BUT OF THESE ONLY ABOUT 17 000 COULD BE SAID TO BE ACTIVELY EMPLOYED ON OCEAN-GOING SHIPS.

/HE SAID OF

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HE SAID OF THE 17 000, ABOUT 6 000 WERE OFFICERS AND THE STANDARDS OF TRAINING PROVIDED FOR OFFICERS AT THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS LAID DOWN IN THE CONVENTION.

+THE TRAINING OF RATINGS IN HONG KONG FALLS FAR SHORT OF THE STANDARD REQUIRED UNDER THE CONVENTION. THERE IS NO INSTITUTION IN HONG KONG THAT IS ADEQUATELY EQUIPPED AND STAFFED FOR THE FULL RANGE OF PRE-SEA TRAINING FOR RATINGS REQUIRED UNDER THE CONVENTION,+ HE SAID.

MR JEAFFRESON SAID THAT OF THE 11 000 SERVING NON-OFFICER SEAMEN, ABOUT A HALF HAD SUFFICIENT EXPERIENCE TO QUALIFY FOR A CERTIFICATE UNDER THE TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS LAID DOWN IN THE CONVENTION.

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TIMING OF UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION RESULTS * * * * *

A REQUEST BY DR THE HON HARRY FANG FOR THE RESULTS OF THE HIGHER AND ADVANCED LEVEL EXAMINATIONS TO BE ANNOUNCED AT THE SAME TIME COULD BE PUT TO THE EXAMINATIONS AUTHORITY, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, THE HON COLVYN HAYE, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

MR HAYE WAS REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY DR FANG WHO HAD ASKED IF THE GOVERNMENT WOULD REQUEST THE EXAMINATIONS AUTHORITY TO ANNOUNCE THE RESULTS OF THE HIGHER LEVEL AND THE ADVANCED LEVEL EXAMINATIONS AT THE SAME TIME.

THIS WAS SO THAT SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES IN THE A-LEVEL EXAMINATION WHO WERE UNABLE TO ENTER HONG KONG UNIVERSITY WOULD NOT HAVE TO WAIT A WHOLE YEAR BEFORE APPLYING FOR ADMISSION TO THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY WHICH CLOSED APPLICATIONS BEFORE THE A-LEVEL RESULTS WERE PUBLISHED, DR FANG HAD SAID.

THE DIRECTOR SAID: +I CANNOT SAY WHETHER THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY WILL ACCEPT A FORTNIGHT'S DELAY - FOR THIS IS WHAT IT MEANS, WITH H-LEVEL RESULTS COMING OUT IN EARLY JULY AND A-LEVELS IN MID-JULY - BUT OF COURSE IT CAN BE ASKED.

+AS TO CUHK CLOSING ITS ENTRY LIST BEFORE A-LEVEL RESULTS ARE PUBLISHED, THE UNIVERSITY IS THE AUTHORITY FOR ITS OWN ADMISSION POLICIES. AGAIN, WE CAN ASK FOR CONSIDERATION OF HIGHER AND ADVANCED LEVEL CANDIDATES IN THE SAME YEAR, TO MEET THE PROBLEM DESCRIBED BY DR FANG.+

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FOUR TRADE DESCRIPTION CASES RESULT IN JAIL TERMS
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SENTENCES OF IMPRISONMENT WERE IMPOSED IN FOUR CASES OUT OF 96 SUCCESSFUL PROSECUTIONS CARRIED OUT UNDER THE TRADE DESCRIPTIONS ORDINANCE WHICH CAME INTO FORCE IN APRIL LAST YEAR, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE HON J.C. GRIFFITHS SAID AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

AND THERE ARE AT PRESENT 343 CASES AWAITING TRIAL, HE SAID, IN REPLY TO A QUESTION BY THE HON K.C. CHAN.

OF THE CONVICTIONS, 57 RELATED TO OFFENCES INVOLVING FORGED TRADE MARKS AND THE REMAINDER RELATED TO APPLICATION OF FALSE TRADE DESCRIPTION, HE SAID.

THERE WERE FOUR UNSUCCESSFUL PROSECUTIONS, HE POINTED OUT.

MR GRIFFITHS SAID THAT FORFEITURE ORDERS MADE BY THE COURTS IN RESPECT OF GOODS SEIZED HAD A MARKET VALUE OF \$494 000, WHILE THE GOODS SEIZED IN THE CASES AWAITING TRIAL WERE VALUED AT NEARLY \$18 MILLION.

+IN DUE COURSE FORFEITURE ORDERS WILL BE APPLIED FOR IN THOSE CASES WHERE IT IS APPROPRIATE TO DO SO,+ HE SAID.

WITH REGARD TO THE QUESTION AS TO WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT WAS SATISFIED WITH THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE ORDINANCE, MR GRIFFITHS SAID THE MAIN PURPOSE OF BRINGING THE ORDINANCE INTO LAW, AS WAS EXPLAINED SOME TIME AGO BY THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, WAS TO STRENGTHEN IN VARIOUS AREAS THE LAW WITH REGARD TO CONSUMER PROTECTION.

MR GRIFFITHS SAID HE HOPED THAT THE FIGURES QUOTED DEMONSTRATED THAT THE ORDINANCE APPEARED TO BE ACHIEVING ITS OBJECTIVE.

+GOVERNMENT IS SATISFIED WITH THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE ORDINANCE,+ HE CONCLUDED.

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NO LUGGAGE RESTRICTIONS ON KCR TRAINS
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THE GENERAL MANAGER OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY DOES NOT INTEND TO IMPOSE LUGGAGE RESTRICTIONS ON PASSENGERS TRAVELLING ON EXISTING DIESEL TRAINS, THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, THE HON ALAN SCOTT, SAID TODAY.

NOR DID THE KCR AT PRESENT FORESEE THE NEED FOR RESTRICTIONS ON THE ELECTRIFIED SERVICE FROM HUNG HOM TO SHA TIN -- DUE TO COMMENCE ON MAY 6 -- EVEN THOUGH NEW REGULATIONS, COMING INTO EFFECT ON FRIDAY (APRIL 30), WOULD EMPOWER THE GENERAL MANAGER TO LIMIT THE NUMBER AND SIZE OF PIECES OF LUGGAGE CARRIED BY PASSENGERS.

MR SCOTT WAS REPLYING TO A QUESTION RAISED BY THE REV THE HON JOYCE BENNETT IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

HE EXPLAINED THAT WHILE THE KCR INNER-SUBURBAN COACHES WERE SIMILAR TO MTR COACHES, THEY HAD A DIFFERENT SEATING LAYOUT. THE OUTER-SUBURBAN COACHES ALSO HAD A DIFFERENT SEATING LAYOUT, WITH LUGGAGE RACKS AS WELL AS LAVATORIES.

MR SCOTT SAID THAT FOR REASONS OF SAFETY AND EFFICIENT OPERATION CONSIDERATION WAS BEING GIVEN TO THE NEED FOR RESTRICTIONS ON THE DIMENSIONS AND TYPES OF LUGGAGE CARRIED BY CHINA-BOUND PASSENGERS ON THE NEW ELECTRIC TRAINS WHICH WILL OPERATE WHEN THE ELECTRIFICATION PROGRAMME HAS BEEN COMPLETED.

THE AMOUNT OF ACCOMPANYING LUGGAGE WOULD BE DETERMINED BY THE SIZE OF THE LUGGAGE PROVIDED, HE SAID, AND EXCESS LUGGAGE WOULD BE CARRIED IN SEPARATE UNITS.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CONSIGNMENT OF EXCESS LUGGAGE WERE NOW BEING WORKED OUT IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE GUANGZHOU RAILWAY AUTHORITY.

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AUTHORITY TAKES TOUGHER STEPS AGAINST OFFENDING DRIVERS

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THE HOUSING AUTHORITY IS TO TIGHTEN UP ON OFFENDING DRIVERS ON ROADS WITHIN ITS ESTATES.

IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY, THE SECRETARY FOR HOUSING, THE HON DONALD LIAO, MOVED THE HOUSING (TRAFFIC)(AMENDMENT) BY-LAWS 1982, UNDER WHICH, ON REQUEST, THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF REGISTERED OWNERS AND DRIVERS OF VEHICLES USING RESTRICTED ROADS, CAR PARKS AND PARKING PLACES IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES MUST BE SUPPLIED.

MR LIAO SAID THE AMENDMENTS WERE BEING INTRODUCED AS A RESULT OF DIFFICULTIES EXPERIENCED BY STAFF IN TAKING EFFECTIVE ACTION AGAINST ILLEGAL PARKING AND OTHER TRAFFIC OFFENCES IN HOUSING ESTATES.

+AT PRESENT, PROSECUTION ACTION AGAINST DRIVERS CANNOT BE BROUGHT IF THEY REFUSE TO GIVE THEIR NAMES AND ADDRESSES,+ SAID MR LIAO.

+THESE BY-LAWS MAKE IT OBLIGATORY FOR THE DRIVER OF A VEHICLE ON A RESTRICTED ROAD OR IN A PARKING PLACE TO GIVE HIS NAME AND ADDRESS WHEN SO REQUESTED, AND ALSO ENABLE STAFF TO OBTAIN FROM REGISTERED OWNERS THE PARTICULARS OF DRIVERS OF VEHICLES AT THE TIME OF ALLEGED OFFENCES.+

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HONG KONG - SHENZHEN AGREEMENTS
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A TEAM OF HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS LED BY THE POLITICAL ADVISER WILL VISIT SHENZHEN ON FRIDAY (APRIL 30) TO SIGN A DOCUMENT RECORDING THE AGREEMENTS ON VARIOUS PROJECTS REACHED DURING THE VISIT TO HONG KONG OF A SHENZHEN DELEGATION LED BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE SHENZHEN MUNICIPALITY LAST MONTH. PRESS ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE VISIT AND DOCUMENT-SIGNING CEREMONY ARE BEING MADE BY THE SHENZHEN AUTHORITIES.

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PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT SUPPORTED
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THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD WAS CONSIDERING A PROPOSAL BY THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC ON PRODUCT INNOVATION AND DESIGN, THE COMMISSIONER OF INDUSTRY, MR PETER TSAO SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

OFFICIATING AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE 1982 NEW PRODUCT COMPETITION ORGANISED BY THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION, MR TSAO SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONSIDER THE PROVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WHEN THE NEED FOR INDUSTRY-WIDE PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES COULD BE ESTABLISHED.

HE AGREED THAT GREATER EMPHASIS SHOULD BE PLACED ON PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT TO DIVERSIFY THE RANGE OF MANUFACTURE TO CREATE NEW DEMAND FOR HONG KONG PRODUCTS. THIS WOULD HELP TO ENSURE THAT HONG KONG WOULD BE IN THE BEST POSITION TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE UPSWING WHEN THE WORLD ECONOMY REGAINED ITS STRENGTH.

+THE LOCAL POPULATION IS RECEPTIVE TO NEW AND INNOVATIVE IDEAS. THEY ARE BY NATURE CREATIVE AND THERE IS NO SHORTAGE OF TALENT IN HONG KONG. IN TEXTILES, FOR EXAMPLE, WE ARE AMONG THE BEST IN THE WORLD IN PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT.

+GIVEN ALSO THE LIBERAL ECONOMIC POLICIES OF THE GOVERNMENT, HONG KONG'S ENVIRONMENT IS CONDUCIVE TO PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES, AND WE HOPE THAT MORE OF OUR YOUNGER GENERATION WILL ENTER THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR,+ HE CONCLUDED.

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 1982

HONG KONG - SHENZHEN AGREEMENTS

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COUNSELLOR WILL VISIT SHENZHEN ON FRIDAY (APRIL 30) TO SIGN A
DOCUMENT REGARDING THE AGREEMENTS ON VARIOUS PROJECTS REACHED
DURING THE VISIT TO HONG KONG OF A SHENZHEN DELEGATION LED
BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE SHENZHEN MUNICIPALITY LAST
MONTH. PRESS ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE VISIT AND DOCUMENT SIGNING
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PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT SUPPORTED

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BY THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC ON PRODUCT INNOVATION AND DESIGN
THE COMMISSIONER OF INDUSTRY, MR. PETER TSAO SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

OFFICERS AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE 1982 NEW
PRODUCT COMPETITION ORGANISED BY THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS
ASSOCIATION, MR. TSAO SAID, THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD CONSIDER THE

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WE AGREED THAT GREATER EMPHASIS SHOULD BE PLACED ON PRODUCT
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KONG WOULD BE IN THE BEST POSITION TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE UPSETTING
WHEN THE WORLD ECONOMY RECOVERED ITS BREATHING SPACE.

THE LOCAL POPULATION IS RECEPTIVE TO NEW AND INNOVATIVE
IDEAS. THEY ARE BY NATURE CREATIVE AND THERE IS NO SHORTAGE OF
TALENT IN HONG KONG. IN FACT, FOR EXAMPLE, WE ARE AMONG THE
BEST IN THE WORLD IN PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT.

HE ALSO SAID THE LIBERAL ECONOMIC POLICIES OF THE GOVERNMENT
HONG KONG'S ENVIRONMENT IS CONDUCIVE TO PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT
ACTIVITIES AND HE HOPED THAT MORE OF OUR YOUNGER GENERATION WILL
ENTER THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR IN THE FUTURE.

AGENCIES CAN APPLY FOR SUBVENTION TO RUN ADULT COURSES
* * * *

NON-PROFIT MAKING VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS ARE INVITED TO APPLY FOR GOVERNMENT SUBVENTION IN 1982/83 TO ASSIST THEM IN THE RUNNING OF ADULT EDUCATION COURSES AND ACTIVITIES.

THE SUBVENTION SCHEME IS ONE OF THE MEASURES CONTAINED IN THE 1978 WHITE PAPER ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF SENIOR SECONDARY AND TERTIARY EDUCATION.

+A TOTAL OF 24 PROJECTS INVOLVING 19 VOLUNTARY BODIES ARE NOW IN SESSION, AS COMPARED WITH 18 PROJECTS INVOLVING 12 VOLUNTARY BODIES WHEN THE SCHEME WAS FIRST INTRODUCED IN 1980, + AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

ALL APPLICATIONS FOR SUBVENTION WILL BE DULY CONSIDERED BY THE DEPARTMENT, HE SAID.

THE SCHEME HAS RECENTLY BEEN REVIEWED, AND BESIDES SUBVENTION TO ASSIST IN MEETING THE COSTS OF STAFF AND BASIC EQUIPMENT, ASSISTANCE WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:-

- (A) ANNUAL SALARY FOR CENTRE ADMINISTRATORS (EQUIVALENT TO THAT FOR AN ADULT EDUCATION PART-TIME SUPERVISOR IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT),
- (B) BASIC OFFICE EQUIPMENT, WHERE APPLICABLE,
- (C) A SUM OF \$500 PER QUARTER TO COVER THE COST OF TELEPHONE, WATER AND ELECTRICITY CHARGES ON A SHARING BASIS, AND
- (D) HIRE CHARGES FOR ACCOMMODATION AT THE EXISTING GOVERNMENT RATE.

SUITABLE COURSES FOR SUBVENTION INCLUDE THOSE DESIGNED TO IMPROVE BASIC LITERACY IN CHINESE, GENERAL EDUCATION FOR PARTICULAR GROUPS SUCH AS FACTORY WORKERS AND FISHERFOLK, RE-ORIENTATION AND CANTONESE FOR NEWCOMERS FROM OTHER PARTS OF ASIA, SOCIAL AND MORAL EDUCATION, ACTIVITIES IN GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS NOT COVERED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S SERVICES, LABOUR EDUCATION, PREVOCATIONAL TRAINING, SPECIAL EDUCATION, CAREERS EDUCATION, PRE-RETIREMENT AND RETIREMENT EDUCATION, ADULT EDUCATION COURSES AND ACTIVITIES, AND JOB-ORIENTED COURSES.

INTERESTED ORGANISATIONS WISHING TO APPLY FOR SUBVENTION CAN OBTAIN APPLICATION FORMS IN PERSON OR BY POST FROM THE ADULT EDUCATION SECTION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, MA TAU KOK GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 1 MA TAU KOK ROAD, FOURTH FLOOR, KOWLOON.

ALL APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE ADULT EDUCATION SECTION NOT LATER THAN MAY 31. APPLICANTS WILL BE NOTIFIED OF THE RESULTS IN EARLY JULY.

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES, ORGANISATIONS CAN CONTACT MR H.H. WOO OF THE SECTION ON 3-7133285.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 1982

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CHEUNG CHAU BUN FESTIVAL ON SATURDAY

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A GRAND PROCESSION OF LOCAL TRADITIONAL ITEMS WILL HIGHLIGHT THE ANNUAL CHEUNG CHAU BUN FESTIVAL ON SATURDAY (MAY 1) WHEN ABOUT 20 000 PEOPLE ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND.

THE 90-MINUTE PROCESSION WILL START AT 2.30 PM FROM PAK TI TEMPLE, MOVE DOWN THE MAIN STREETS AND PASS THE GUEST STAND ON PRAYA STREET AT THE WATERFRONT, BEFORE RETURNING TO THE TEMPLE.

THIS YEAR MORE THAN 1 600 PEOPLE FROM SOME 20 LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, SCHOOLS AND SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS WILL TAKE PART IN THE PROCESSION WHICH WILL INCLUDE A PARADE OF ALL THE SHRINES FROM THE ISLAND'S TEMPLES, THE FAMOUS +TREASURE SWORD+ OF PAK TI TEMPLE, FLOATS, UNICORN AND LION DANCES, CHIU CHAU GONG AND DRUM PERFORMANCES AND TRADITIONAL CHINESE MUSIC AND DANCES.

THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR IAN MACPHERSON, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE MAIN PROCESSION.

ON FRIDAY (APRIL 30) THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICER, MR RICKY FUNG, WILL DOT THE EYES OF LIONS AND UNICORNS IN A CEREMONY TO BE HELD AT 3 PM AT THE TEMPLE, IN PREPARATION FOR SATURDAY'S PROCESSION.

THE DISTRICT OFFICE ARRANGED THE FINANCING OF CONSTRUCTION OF THREE 13.7-METRE TALL BUN TOWERS.

ACCORDING TO LEGEND THE BUNS WILL BRING LUCK TO THE RECIPIENTS FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR.

THE BUNS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED ON SUNDAY, WHEN THE PROCESSION WILL BE HELD AGAIN, BUT ON A DIFFERENT ROUTE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO COVER THE GRAND PROCESSION ON SATURDAY ARE ADVISED THAT A HONG KONG AND YAU MA TEI FERRY, +MAN TAT+, WILL TAKE THE PRESS AND INVITED GUESTS TO CHEUNG CHAU, LEAVING QUEEN'S PIER AT 12.30 PM AND RETURNING AT 4 PM.

BADGES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE PRESS ON THE FERRY BY STAFF OF THE CNTA INFORMATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS UNIT.

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 1982

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TIN HAU FESTIVAL IN SAI KUNG

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED IN SAI KUNG FROM 10 AM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) UNTIL MIDNIGHT ON SUNDAY (MAY 16) FOR THE TIN HAU FESTIVAL.

UNDER THE ARRANGEMENTS, YI CHUN STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL VEHICLES.

HOWEVER, DURING THIS PERIOD, MAN NIN STREET WILL BE TEMPORARILY OPEN TO TWO-WAY TRAFFIC.

PARKING SPACES IN THE AREA WILL BE SUSPENDED, INCLUDING THE CAR PARKS ADJACENT TO THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE AND IN FRONT OF THE TIN HAU TEMPLE AS WELL AS SPACES ALONG MAN NIN STREET.

THE PLB AND TAXI STANDS WILL BE MOVED FROM YI CHUN STREET TO THE AREA NEAR SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE.

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TWO LOTS OF CROWN LAND SOLD

TWO LOTS OF CROWN LAND WERE SOLD AT AN AUCTION CONDUCTED BY THE LANDS DEPARTMENT AT THE SHOUSON THEATRE OF THE ARTS CENTRE TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE FIRST SITE, MEASURING ABOUT 1 498 SQUARE METRES IN NAM LONG SHAN ROAD, IS FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL (EXCLUDING GODOWN) PURPOSES.

IT WAS SOLD TO ERISKERY CO. LTD. FOR \$31 MILLION OR \$20 694.26 PER SQUARE METRE.

THE OTHER LOT, ABOUT 372 SQUARE METRES, IS SITUATED AT PENG CHAU, NEW TERRITORIES, AND IS FOR PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL USE.

IT WAS SOLD TO HERRMANN REAL ESTATE MARKETING CO. LTD. FOR \$300 000 OR \$806.45 PER SQUARE METRE.

ANOTHER LOT IN THE KOWLOON BAY RECLAMATION FOR DANGEROUS GOODS GODOWN PURPOSES WAS WITHDRAWN FROM THE AUCTION BECAUSE THERE WERE NO BIDDERS.

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 1982

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF GLOUCESTER FLYOVER
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THE FLYOVER AT GLOUCESTER ROAD LEADING TO THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS (EXCEPT SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS), BETWEEN 12.01 AM AND 6 AM FROM FRIDAY (APRIL 30).

THE CLOSURE IS NECESSARY TO ALLOW ROAD WORKS TO BE CARRIED OUT.

DURING THE CLOSURE, TRAFFIC FROM NORTH POINT TO THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL WILL BE DIVERTED VIA THE WESTBOUND GLOUCESTER ROAD, O'BRIEN ROAD, LOCKHART ROAD, FLEMING ROAD TO REJOIN THE EASTBOUND GLOUCESTER ROAD.

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DANCE PERFORMANCE CANCELLED
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+TRIPTYCH+ BY THE HONG KONG DANCE COMPANY, SCHEDULED TO BE STAGED AT THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL AUDITORIUM ON MAY 20 AT 7.30 PM HAS NOW BEEN CANCELLED.

TICKET HOLDERS CAN OBTAIN THEIR REFUNDS FROM THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL BOX OFFICE FROM MAY 16 TO 22.

THE BOX OFFICE WILL BE OPENED FROM 12.30 PM TO 9.30 PM ON WEEKDAYS AND FROM 11.30 AM TO 9.30 PM ON SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS.

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URBAN CLEARWAY AND PLB PROHIBITED ZONE IN MONG KOK
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LUEN WAN STREET IN MONG KOK WILL BE DESIGNATED AS AN URBAN CLEARWAY FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (APRIL 30).

NO MOTOR VEHICLE, EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES AND MAXICABS, WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP IN THAT STREET FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS FROM 7 AM TO 10 AM AND FROM 4 PM TO 7 PM DAILY.

MOREOVER, THE SAME STREET WILL BECOME A PROHIBITED ZONE FOR ALL PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES EXCEPT MAXICABS.

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