



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1976

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ARRIVAL OF LAST SOIL EXPERT

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THE LAST MEMBER OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS TAKING PART IN THE SAU MAU PING LANDSLIDE INVESTIGATION ARRIVED IN HONG KONG THIS MORNING.

HE IS PROFESSOR VICTOR DE MELLO, HEAD OF THE SAN CARLOS SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AT BRAZIL'S SAO PAULO UNIVERSITY.

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, MR. WILLIAM BELL, SAID TODAY PROFESSOR DE MELLO HAD EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE OF SLOPES IN THE RESIDUAL SOILS OF BRAZIL, WHICH RESEMBLED THOSE OF HONG KONG.

IN 1972, HE HAD ATTENDED A CONFERENCE ON ENGINEERING PROBLEMS IN HONG KONG, AND PRESENTED A SPECIAL GUEST LECTURE ENTITLED +THOUGHTS ON ENGINEERING APPLICABLE TO RESIDUAL SOILS+.

NEXT MONTH, PROFESSOR DE MELLO WOULD DELIVER THIS YEAR'S RANKIN LECTURE TO THE INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS IN LONDON, AN HONOUR AWARDED ONLY TO THE WORLD'S MOST EMINENT SOIL ENGINEERS.

MR. BELL SAID PROFESSOR DE MELLO HAD COME TO HONG KONG DIRECT FROM CARACAS, WHERE HE HAD BEEN THE GUEST LECTURER AT A VENEZUELAN ENGINEERING CONFERENCE.

PROFESSOR DE MELLO WAS MET AT THE AIRPORT BY SENIOR REPRESENTATIVES OF BINNIE AND PARTNERS, THE P.W.D. CONSULTANTS PREPARING THE REPORT ON THE SAU MAU PING LANDSLIDE.

MR. BELL SAID THAT AFTER BEING BRIEFED BY BINNIES ON THE WORK DONE SO FAR AND THE LINES ON WHICH THE INVESTIGATION WAS BEING UNDERTAKEN, THE PROFESSOR WOULD BEGIN A WEEK-LONG SERIES OF CONSULTATIONS WITH THE OTHER LOCAL AND OVERSEAS EXPERTS TAKING PART IN THE INVESTIGATION.

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SHALLOW DRAUGHT ANTI-OIL POLLUTION CRAFT TO BE PURCHASED
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THE FIGHT AGAINST OIL POLLUTION IN HONG KONG WATERS HAS REACHED NEW DIMENSIONS FOLLOWING THE GREENLIGHT GIVEN BY THE GOVERNMENT TO THE MARINE DEPARTMENT TO BUY A SECOND VESSEL TO DEAL WITH THIS MENACE.

TENDERS FROM LOCAL AND OVERSEAS BUILDERS INCLUDING THOSE FROM BRITAIN AND JAPAN HAVE BEEN RECEIVED AND THEY ARE BEING PROCESSED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

THE PROCESSING OF THE TENDERS WILL TAKE ABOUT A MONTH TO COMPLETE.

ACCORDING TO THE MARINE OFFICER/POLLUTION CONTROL UNIT, MR. TONY MASON, THE AWARD OF THE CONTRACT AND THE DELIVERY OF THE VESSEL WOULD TAKE ABOUT ONE YEAR.

AT PRESENT, THE DEPARTMENT HAS A LAUNCH SPECIALLY EQUIPPED TO PERFORM ANTI-OIL POLLUTION DUTIES IN HONG KONG WATERS. IN CASES WHEN MORE VESSELS ARE REQUIRED, 20 OTHER GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES EACH OF WHICH CAN BE FITTED WITH SPRAYING BOOMS AND AGITATION DEVICES CAN BE MOBILISED.

THE GOVERNMENT, HE SAID, HAD RECENTLY APPROVED MORE THAN \$440,000 FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO BUY HONG KONG'S FIRST SHALLOW DRAUGHT VESSEL DESIGNED SPECIALLY TO DEAL WITH OIL SLICKS ON BEACHES AND IN SHALLOW WATERS.

THE APPROVAL WAS GIVEN AFTER THE SPECIAL SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE PORT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON OIL POLLUTION (S.C.O.O.P.) RECOMMENDED THAT THIS TYPE OF VESSEL WOULD ENABLE THE GOVERNMENT TO DEAL WITH OIL SPILLAGES IN SHALLOW WATERS BY:

- * SPRAYING DISPERSANTS ON OIL SLICKS THAT HAVE DRIFTED CLOSE INSHORE=
- * SPRAYING DISPERSANTS ON ROCKS AND SEAWALLS FROM SEAWARD=
- * OPERATING A NON-TOXIC OIL SKIMMING DEVICE=
- * LANDING MEN AND EQUIPMENT ON BEACHES AND FORESHORES FROM SEAWARD=
- * LOCATING AND MARKING OIL SLICKS CLOSE INSHORE=
- * TRANSPORTING AND DEPLOYING ABSORBENTS SUCH AS POLYURETHANE FOAM AND EFFECTING ITS SUBSEQUENT RECOVERY=
- * TRANSPORTING POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT= AND
- * COLLECTING REFUSE FROM THE HARBOUR WHEN NOT REQUIRED FOR OIL POLLUTION CONTROL PURPOSES.

IN MAKING THE RECOMMENDATIONS, S.C.O.O.P. SAID IT RECOGNISED THAT THE SANDY BEACHES OF HONG KONG ARE VITAL AND INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT RECREATIONAL AMENITY.

THE GAZETTED BEACHES AND THOSE TO BE OPENED IN THE FUTURE, IT NOTED, LIE ADJACENT TO ONE OF THE BUSIEST SEAPORTS IN THE WORLD, AND CATER FOR AN ESTIMATED 150,000 PEOPLE AT WEEKENDS AND ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS DURING THE SUMMER, AND THE NUMBER IS PROBABLY INCREASING.

/+THE GROSSLY

+THE GROSSLY UNPLEASANT AND OFTEN INDIVIDUALLY EXPENSIVE CONSEQUENCES OF OIL CONTAMINATION OF BATHING BEACHES ARE WELL KNOWN AND NEED NO FURTHER ELABORATION,+ IT SAID.

+IT IS SUFFICIENT TO SAY THAT FOR VARIOUS SOCIAL AND ECOLOGICAL REASONS EVERY EFFORT MUST BE MADE TO STOP OIL POLLUTION REACHING THE BEACHES,+ IT ADDED.

THE RECOMMENDATIONS HAD BEEN ENDORSED BY THE PORT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, EPCOM, THE URBAN COUNCIL AND APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT.

THE FLAT-BOTTOMED ANTI-OIL POLLUTION VESSEL, MR. MASON POINTED OUT, WOULD BE ABOUT NINE METRES (ABOUT 30 FEET) IN LENGTH AND WOULD BE CAPABLE OF A SPEED OF 20 KNOTS.

HE SAID THE VESSEL WOULD BE FITTED WITH THE FOLLOWING ANTI-OIL POLLUTION EQUIPMENT:

- * EQUIPMENT FOR SPRAYING CHEMICALS, THIS METHOD BEING THE QUICKEST WAY OF EFFECTIVELY DEALING WITH ANY OIL SLICK. WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF IMPROVED LOW TOXICITY CHEMICALS, THIS METHOD IS ACCEPTED IN A WIDE RANGE OF ENVIRONMENTS.
- * NON-TOXIC RECOVERY EQUIPMENT FOR RECLAIMING OIL WHERE THE SPRAYING OF DISPERSANT WOULD BE DETRIMENTAL TO THE ENVIRONMENT, FOR EXAMPLE, NEAR OYSTER BEDS OR FISH REARING FARMS. THE REQUIRED SYSTEM USES A 220-MILLIMETRE THICK ROPE-LIKE MOP OF SPECIALLY FORMULATED FIBRES TO ABSORB OIL WHILST REJECTING WATER.
- * STORAGE FOR RECOVERED OIL. OIL RECOVERED FROM THE SEA BY THIS METHOD NEEDS TO BE STORED AND MOVED AND THIS CAN BE DONE BY USING A DRACONE (FLOATING TANK), A LARGE FLEXIBLE SAUSAGE-SHAPED CONTAINER, WHICH PROVIDES ECONOMIC BULK TRANSPORTATION OF ALL LIQUIDS LIGHTER THAN SEA WATER.
- * CLEARANCE PACK FOR THE COLLECTION OF FLOATING DEBRIS AND DRIFTWOOD. IT CONSISTS OF A WIRE MESH SCOOP.

COMMENTING ON THE PRESENT SITUATION IN THE HARBOUR AREA WHERE FLEETS OF SMALL MOTOR CARGO BOATS AND SAMPANS ARE DAILY COLLECTING TONS OF RUBBISH, MR. MASON SAID: +IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, REFUSE COLLECTED FROM THE SEA AND FROM OCEAN GOING SHIPS AVERAGED 11-1/2 TONS A DAY.

+BUT THE FIGURE IS INCREASING. THE DAILY AVERAGE NOW STANDS AT 11 TONS FROM THE SEA AND TWO TONS FROM OCEAN-GOING VESSELS. THESE VESSELS ARE SERVICED BY REFUSE COLLECTING VESSELS UNDER CONTRACT TO THE MARINE DEPARTMENT.

+THIS YEAR WE HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED EXTRA FUNDS TO DEPLOY MORE CRAFT TO CARRY OUT SUCH TASKS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE HARBOUR.

+ORIGINALLY, THE AMOUNT ALLOCATED FOR THIS FINANCIAL YEAR'S HARBOUR REFUSE COLLECTION WORK BY SAMPANS AND MOTORISED BOATS WAS \$1.27 MILLION. THIS FIGURE HAS BEEN INCREASED BY A GRANT OF AN EXTRA \$190,000.

+THIS EXTRA AMOUNT MEANS THAT WE CAN ADD 10 MORE VESSELS TO THE PRESENT FLEET OF 31 SCAVANGING BOATS,+ HE SAID.

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SINCE LATE LAST MONTH, MR. MASON POINTED OUT, TWO EXTRA BOATS WERE HIRED TO COLLECT REFUSE IN THE CHAI WAN UNLICENSED DWELLING BOATS AREA AND, FROM NEXT MONTH, TWO EXTRA FLEETS OF FOUR BOATS EACH WILL COME INTO OPERATION.

ONE FLEET WILL BE STATIONED IN TSUEN WAN, AND THE OTHER WILL BE USED AS A BACK UP FLEET, HE SAID.

OF THE ORIGINAL 31 CRAFT, 16 ARE DEPLOYED IN THE CENTRAL HARBOUR AREA, SEVEN IN ABERDEEN, FIVE IN YAU MA TEI AND CAUSEWAY BAY TYPHOON SHELTERS AND THREE ARE ENGAGED IN COLLECTING REFUSE FROM OCEAN-GOING SHIPS.

MR. MASON SAID THAT WITH DEPLOYMENT OF ADDITIONAL CRAFT, THE REFUSE SITUATION IN THE HONG KONG WATERS SHOULD IMPROVE.

BUT, HE ADDED, THE BEST WAY TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM WAS TO SEEK THE CO-OPERATION OF THE PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY THE FLOATING POPULATION.

+UNTIL THERE IS MORE CO-OPERATION FROM THE USERS OF THE WATERS OF HONG KONG INCLUDING CERTAIN INDUSTRIES AND OTHER FACILITIES ON THE SHORE LINES, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE LEVEL OF EXPENDITURE CAN BE REDUCED,+ HE SAID.

EARLIER THIS WEEK, A SHIPPING COMPANY WAS FINED \$16,000 FOR POLLUTING THE HARBOUR WITH MARINE OIL. THE MAXIMUM FINE FOR THIS OFFENCE IS \$20,000.

IN ANOTHER CASE, A CHARTERER OF PLEASURE CRAFT WAS FINED \$1,000 AFTER A MAN WAS SEEN DUMPING A LARGE QUANTITY OF REFUSE OVERBOARD.

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TEMPORARY MOORING FOR JUMBO FLOATING RESTAURANT
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ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING MADE FOR THE JUMBO FLOATING RESTAURANT TO BE MOORED AT A BERTH ALONGSIDE THE SEA-WALL IN THE ABERDEEN WEST TYPHOON SHELTER, CLOSE TO WU NAM STREET.

THE MOORING OF THE FLOATING RESTAURANT AT THIS LOCATION IS A TEMPORARY MEASURE PENDING THE COMPLETION OF SHORE BASED FACILITIES, INCLUDING A CAR-PARK AND JETTY, AT SHUM WAN IN ABERDEEN WHERE THE JUMBO AND TWO OTHER FLOATING RESTAURANTS WILL BE MOORED IN ABOUT 18 MONTHS TIME.

THE EXPECTED COMPLETION OF THE CAR-PARK AND JETTY IN ABOUT 18 MONTHS TIME WILL COINCIDE WITH THE COMMISSIONING OF A NEW FIRE-BOAT FOR ABERDEEN WHICH WILL BE LARGER, MORE POWERFUL AND BETTER EQUIPPED THAN THE EXISTING FIRE-BOAT. ALTHOUGH CERTAIN FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN REGARDING THE PROPOSAL TO MOOR THE JUMBO FLOATING RESTAURANT IN THE BUSY ABERDEEN WEST TYPHOON SHELTER, THE TEMPORARY MOORING OF THE JUMBO AT THIS LOCATION WILL NOT OBSTRUCT VESSELS USING THE FAIRWAY THROUGH THE HARBOUR. STATIONARY CRAFT WHICH WILL BE REQUIRED TO MOVE TO MAKE ROOM FOR THE JUMBO WILL BE RELOCATED UNDER THE DIRECTIONS OF THE MARINE DEPARTMENT IN SUCH A WAY AS TO MINIMIZE ADDITIONAL CONGESTION AND INCONVENIENCE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HONG KONG TOURIST ASSOCIATION HAS SAID THAT ABERDEEN AND ITS FLOATING RESTAURANTS IS ONE OF THE PERENNIAL ATTRACTIONS OF HONG KONG AND THE PRESENCE OF THE JUMBO WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BRING MORE VISITORS TO THE AREA WHICH WILL BE OF CONSIDERABLE COMMERCIAL BENEFIT TO THE COMMUNITY OF ABERDEEN.

THE NAME OF ABERDEEN IS LINKED TO THE FLOATING RESTAURANT BUSINESS AND IT IS CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE THAT THIS LARGE NEW FLOATING RESTAURANT SHOULD BE BASED THERE.

PUBLIC OFF-STREET CAR-PARKING FACILITIES WILL BE PROVIDED ADJACENT TO THE TEMPORARY MOORING AT THE OWNERS' EXPENSE. THE OWNERS HAVE ALSO BEEN REQUIRED TO MEET THE COST OF INSTALLING A MAINS WATER SUPPLY AND FIRE HYDRANTS ON THE SEA-WALL ALONGSIDE THE VESSEL. THE MOST STRINGENT FIRE PRECAUTIONS HAVE BEEN LAID DOWN BY THE MARINE DEPARTMENT IN CONSULTATION WITH THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND INCORPORATED INTO THE DESIGN OF THE FLOATING RESTAURANT.

THE EVENTUAL REMOVAL OF THE JUMBO AND TWO OTHER FLOATING RESTAURANTS TO NEW MOORINGS AT SHUM WAN, ABERDEEN IN ABOUT 18 MONTHS TIME IS PART OF GOVERNMENT'S PLAN FOR IMPROVING ABERDEEN HARBOUR BY RELIEVING CONGESTION AND MAKING IT A MORE EFFICIENT BASE FROM WHICH THE FISHING FLEET MAY OPERATE.

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PRESS CENTRE AT CFM MEETING TO BEGIN OPERATION TOMORROW

NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE PRESS CENTRE TO BE USED BY ACCREDITED PRESS, TV AND RADIO REPRESENTATIVES DURING THE PERIOD OF THE COMMONWEALTH FINANCE MINISTERS MEETING WILL COME INTO OPERATION TOMORROW (SUNDAY).

THE CENTRE, MANNED BY STAFF OF THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES AND CABLE AND WIRELESS, IS LOCATED AT CONFERENCE ROOM II AND III ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE HONG KONG CONVENTION CENTRE.

HOWEVER, ENTRY TO THE CONVENTION CENTRE DURING THIS PERIOD WILL BE STRICTLY CONTROLLED, AND ONLY AUTHORISED PASS-HOLDERS WILL BE PERMITTED IN.

PLEASE BE REMINDED THAT ACCREDITED PRESS PASSES CAN BE USED ONLY BY THE NAME-HOLDER WHO SHOULD ALSO CARRY SOME VERIFICATION OF HIS/HER IDENTITY. ANYONE ELSE ATTEMPTING TO USE THE PASS TO GAIN ADMISSION TO THE CONVENTION CENTRE WILL BE DENIED ENTRY.

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UNLOADING OF DIESEL OIL FROM CHINA BACK TO NORMAL

THE GENERAL MANAGER OF THE KOWLOON CANTON RAILWAY, MR. REGINALD GREGORY, SAID TODAY THAT THE UNLOADING OF DIESEL OIL FROM CHINA WILL RETURN TO NORMAL WITH THE OPENING OF A NEW TEMPORARY TERMINAL AT TAI PO KAU.

THE FIRST BATCH OF DIESEL OIL COMPRISING 16 WAGONS WILL ARRIVE AT THE NEW TERMINAL TOMORROW (SUNDAY) EVENING.

THE TERMINAL IS SPECIALLY OPENED TO HANDLE OIL TRAINS FROM CHINA WHICH HAVE BEEN DISRUPTED SINCE THE AUGUST 25 RAINSTORM.

THERE ARE FIVE OTHER TEMPORARY TERMINALS SET UP FOR THE UNLOADING OF GOODS FROM RAILWAY WAGONS. THEY ARE LOACTED AT THE SOUTH OF SHA TIN STATION, FO TAN, WO HOP SHEK, FANLING AND HO TUNG LAU WORKSHOPS.

THE KCR OPENED THESE TEMPORARY TERMINALS BECAUSE THE WAGONS COULD NOT REACH KOWLOON AS A RESULT OF DAMAGE CAUSED TO THE OLD RAILWAY BRIDGE OVER SHING MUN RIVER.

COMMENTING ON THE WORK OF THE NEW BRIDGE AT TAI WAI, MR. GREGORY SAID: +THE WORK IS PROGRSSING SMOOTHLY AND THE BRIDGE WILL BE COMPLETED NEXT MONTH ON SCHEDULE.+

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OPENING OF NEW POST OFFICE

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A NEW POST OFFICE AT NOS. 160-164 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL WILL BE OPEN FOR BUSINESS ON MONDAY (SEPTEMBER 27) STARTING AT 10 A.M.

IT REPLACES THE DES VOEUX ROAD POST OFFICE WHICH WAS CLOSED DUE TO EXPIRY OF THE LEASE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE POST OFFICE SAID: +EXCEPT FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF INSURED LETTERS, A FULL RANGE OF POST OFFICE BUSINESS WILL BE TRANSACTED AT THIS NEW OFFICE.+

THE HOURS OF BUSINESS OF THE NEW OFFICE WILL BE FROM 9 A.M. TO 6 P.M. DAILY FROM MONDAY TO FRIDAY, AND FROM 9 A.M. TO 1 P.M. ON SATURDAYS. THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS.

STAMP VENDING MACHINES GIVING 24 HOURS AVAILABILITY OF 10-CENT AND 50-CENT STAMPS HAVE ALSO BEEN INSTALLED AT THE OFFICE.

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NEW JURY LIST

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THE ACTING REGISTRAR OF THE SUPREME COURT, MR. SIMON HERBERT MAYO, ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT A FURTHER LIST OF COMMON JURORS WILL BE POSTED ON THE NOTICE BOARD NEAR THE LIFT INSIDE THE SOUTH-WEST ENTRANCE OF THE SUPREME COURT BUILDING ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30.

THIS LIST WILL REMAIN POSTED FOR 14 DAYS.

DURING THIS PERIOD ANY PERSON MAY APPLY BY NOTICE IN WRITING TO THE REGISTRAR REQUIRING THAT HIS NAME OR THE NAME OF SOME OTHER PERSON BE POSTED OR REMOVED UPON CAUSE DULY ASSIGNED IN THE NOTICE.

THE REGISTRAR SHALL IN HIS DISCRETION, POST OR REMOVE SUCH NAME ACCORDINGLY AND SHALL IF NECESSARY ALTER THE LIST.

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EXHIBITION ON MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS
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AN EXHIBITION ON MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, BOTH ORIENTAL AND WESTERN, WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE HALL OF THE PRINCESS ALEXANDRA COMMUNITY CENTRE IN TSUEN WAN NEXT WEEK.

THE EXHIBITION, ORGANISED BY THE PRINCESS ALEXANDRA COMMUNITY CENTRE OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, WILL BEGIN AT 8 P.M. ON MONDAY (SEPTEMBER 27). IT WILL BE OPENED TO THE PUBLIC EVERYDAY FROM 10 A.M. TO 10 P.M. UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30.

DURING THE EXHIBITION, THERE WILL BE FOLK SINGING CONCERT, A MUSIC FAIR FOR YOUTHS AND A SLIDE SHOW INTRODUCING THE PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA EACH EVENING.

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C.A.S. CADET CORPS CANOE RACE
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MORE THAN 120 MEMBERS OF THE CIVIL AID SERVICES WILL TAKE PART IN A CANOE RACE AT TUEN MUN, NEW TERRITORIES ON SUNDAY (SEPTEMBER 26).

THE RACE, FIRST OF ITS KIND ORGANISED BY THE CAS CADET CORPS, WILL BE HELD AT THE TUEN MUN RIVER IN TUEN MUN NEW TOWN STARTING AT 9 A.M.

MR. JOHN BOWDEN, ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, TUEN MUN, WILL PRESENT MEDALS TO THE WINNERS AND THE LIU LIT-MO OVERALL CHAMPION CUP TO THE BEST CADET UNIT IN THE RACE.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO SEND A REPORTER AND/OR PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE RACE.

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