



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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76 MORE BOAT PEOPLE SEEK REPATRIATION

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ANOTHER 76 VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE, WHO ARRIVED IN HONG KONG AFTER JUNE 16 THIS YEAR, HAVE REQUESTED VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION TO VIETNAM SINCE MID-SEPTEMBER.

"THIS BRINGS TO 254 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE WHO HAVE COME AFTER THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCREENING POLICY AND WHO HAVE ASKED TO BE SENT BACK," A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (WEDNESDAY) SAID.

"IN THE FIRST HALF OF SEPTEMBER, THERE WERE SOME 80 SIMILAR REQUESTS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"LAST MONTH, 69 SUCH REQUESTS WERE RECEIVED.

"OF THE LATEST 76 REQUESTS, MOST HAVE COME FROM VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE STAYING IN THE HEI LING CHAU DETENTION CENTRE AND SOME OTHERS FROM THE ERSKINE TEMPORARY HOLDING CENTRE.

"THEIR DETAILS HAVE BEEN PASSED TO THE UNHCR FOR PROCESSING."

EARLIER THIS YEAR, THE GOVERNMENT ALSO PASSED TO THE UNHCR THE NAMES OF 16 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES, WHO ARRIVED IN HONG KONG BEFORE JUNE 16 AND HAVE ASKED FOR VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION.

SINCE 1978, A TOTAL OF 26 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES HAVE VOLUNTARILY RETURNED TO VIETNAM.

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HONG KONG IS RECOGNISED AS IMPORTANT MARKET

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AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN WERE INCREASINGLY RECOGNISING THE IMPORTANCE OF HONG KONG AS A MARKET IN ITS OWN RIGHT, AS A SPRINGBOARD INTO CHINA, AND FOR ITS IDEAL LOCATION AT THE CENTRE OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC -- A REGION OF DYNAMIC GROWTH, THE MINISTER AT THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE IN WASHINGTON, D.C., MR PETER LO SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

HOWEVER, MANY SECTORS OF THE HONG KONG MARKET REMAINED VIRTUALLY UNTAPPED DESPITE A 34 PER CENT INCREASE IN U.S. EXPORTS TO THE TERRITORY IN THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1988, MR LO SAID.

/MR LO

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MR LO WAS ADDRESSING AN EXPORT SEMINAR "OPPORTUNITIES IN HONG KONG" ARRANGED BY THE WORLD TRADE CENTRE INSTITUTE OF DELAWARE AND THE DELAWARE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE.

REFLECTING THE FACT THAT OPPORTUNITIES WERE BEING MISSED, MR LO SAID ALTHOUGH HONG KONG WAS ONE OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST IMPORTERS OF TEXTILES FABRICS, BUYING NEARLY US\$5 BILLION WORTH LAST YEAR, THE U.S. SHARE OF THIS LUCRATIVE BUSINESS WAS ESTIMATED TO BE LESS THEN ONE PER CENT.

OTHER U.S. EXPORTERS WERE DOING BETTER, MR LO SAID, NOTING THAT PER CAPITA IMPORTS FROM THE U.S. LAST YEAR AMOUNTED TO US\$624, SUBSTANTIALLY MORE THAN THE EEC (US\$179), JAPAN (US\$224) OR TAIWAN (US\$362).

FURTHER, IN 1987, HONG KONG WAS THE LARGEST MARKET IN THE WORLD FOR U.S. GINSENG (US\$41M) AND CUT DIAMONDS (US\$148M) AND THE THIRD LARGEST FOR U.S. CIGARETTES' (US\$262M) AND ORANGES (US\$48M), HE ADDED.

THE ATTRACTIONS OF HONG KONG AS A MARKET WOULD CONTINUE BEYOND 1997, MR LO SAID.

HE SAID THE JOINT DECLARATION WAS BEING IMPLEMENTED FAITHFULLY AND THE FOUNDATIONS FOR CONTINUING PROSPERITY IN THE NEXT CENTURY WERE BEING LAID SUCH AS STRONG LONG-TERM INVESTMENTS BY FOREIGN AS WELL AS LOCAL BUSINESS, AND AMBITIOUS INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECTS BY PRIVATE INTERESTS AS WELL AS GOVERNMENT.

"THE CONTINUING IMPORTANCE AND DYNAMISM OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION, AND THE POTENTIAL OF CHINA, PROVIDE A SOLID BASIS FOR THE CONTINUING PROSPERITY OF HONG KONG," HE SAID.

THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL'S SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE IN THE AMERICAS, MR ANDREW MA ALSO SPOKE ABOUT TRADE OPPORTUNITIES IN HONG KONG.

BEFORE THE SEMINAR, MR LO HAD A MEETING WITH SENATOR WILLIAM V. ROTH (REPUBLICAN) OF DELAWARE.

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HONG KONG'S FUTURE: STEPPING INTO THE 90'S - SASI

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POLITICAL PUNDITS HAVE OFTEN TAKEN DELIGHT IN FORECASTING HONG KONG'S DOWNFALL BUT HAVE FREQUENTLY BEEN PROVED WRONG ABOUT ITS ABILITY TO WEATHER CRISES.

THIS WAS SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) BY THE SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION, MR PETER TSAO, WHILST GIVING A TALK ON "HONG KONG'S FUTURE: STEPPING INTO THE 90'S" TO THE JAPAN-HONG KONG SOCIETY IN TOKYO, JAPAN.

MR TSAO SAID: "ANY PESSIMISTIC ASSESSMENT OF THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG FAILS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE CLEAR COMMITMENT BY BOTH THE BRITISH AND CHINESE GOVERNMENTS TO ENSURE THAT THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WILL CONTINUE TO ENJOY AN ENVIRONMENT WHICH IS BOTH CONDUCIVE TO A VITAL AND DYNAMIC ECONOMY AND TO A STEADY AND CONTINUING IMPROVEMENT IN THE QUALITY OF LIFE."

SPEAKING OF HOW PRESENT INDICATORS PROVIDED STRONG GROUNDS FOR FUTURE OPTIMISM, HE SAID OVERSEAS VISITORS WERE CONSTANTLY AMAZED BY THE VIBRANCY OF THE REAL HONG KONG WHICH WAS SO MUCH AT ODDS WITH WHAT PROPHETS OF DOOM AND INACCURATE MEDIA REPORTING WOULD HAVE THEM BELIEVE.

"I THINK IT WOULD NOT BE INACCURATE TO SAY THAT FOREIGN COMPANIES ARE FALLING OVER THEMSELVES TO COMPETE IN TENDERING FOR MAJOR CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS IN HONG KONG," HE SAID.

"THE SECOND HARBOUR CROSSING, A ROAD AND RAIL TUNNEL, IS BEING CONSTRUCTED AND WILL BE OPERATED BY A PRIVATE CONSORTIUM.

"THE HARBOUR CROSSING'S PAY-BACK PERIOD EXTENDS WELL INTO THE NEXT CENTURY, AND THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE INVESTORS HAVE NO FEARS FOR THE FUTURE OF THEIR ENDEAVOURS."

CITING ANOTHER EXAMPLE, MR TSAO POINTED OUT THAT A LOCAL COMPANY HAD PAID HK\$4.39 BILLION FOR THE RIGHT TO DEVELOP FURTHER THE CONTAINER PORT.

"I MYSELF ANNOUNCED A TENDER LAST MONDAY FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEM IN HONG KONG. THE INVESTMENT WILL BE IN THE ORDER OF HK\$3 - 4 BILLION," HE ADDED.

SEEING HONG KONG'S PATH THROUGH THE 90'S AND BEYOND, MR TSAO SAID THAT HONG KONG WOULD REMAIN, AMONG OTHER THINGS, AN INDEPENDENT INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE WITH A FREE PORT AND A SEPARATE CUSTOMS TERRITORY.

"ITS FREELY CONVERTIBLE CURRENCY, THE HONG KONG DOLLAR, WILL BE RETAINED - UNTOUCHED BY FOREIGN EXCHANGE CONTROLS," HE SAID.

"INVESTMENTS WILL BE PROTECTED BY LAW AS THEY ARE NOW AND HONG KONG'S JUDICIAL SYSTEM WILL BE ALLOWED TO MAINTAIN ITS INDEPENDENCE .

"THERE MUST BE FEW COMMUNITIES ANYWHERE WHICH HAVE SUCH GUARANTEES OF CONTINUITY INTO THE MIDDLE OF THE NEXT CENTURY."

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FIRST CHOLERA CASE CONFIRMED

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A 75-YEAR-OLD MAN WAS YESTERDAY (TUESDAY) CONFIRMED TO BE SUFFERING FROM CHOLERA - THE FIRST CASE REPORTED SO FAR THIS YEAR.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (WEDNESDAY), A MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE MAN WAS A LOCAL RESIDENT WHO RETURNED TO HONG KONG ON SEPTEMBER 14 AFTER A TRIP TO MACAU. THE MAN HAD ABDOMINAL PAIN AND DIARRHOEA FOUR DAYS LATER.

THE VICTIM ATTENDED THE ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT OF THE TANG SHIU KIN HOSPITAL ON SEPTEMBER 19 AND WAS TRANSFERRED TO QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL WHERE HE WAS ADMITTED.

YESTERDAY'S LABORATORY RESULTS ON THE MAN'S STOOL CONFIRMED THAT HE WAS SUFFERING FROM CHOLERA EL TOR. HE WAS REFERRED TO PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL WHERE HIS CONDITION WAS TODAY DESCRIBED BY THE ATTENDING DOCTOR AS SATISFACTORY.

MEANWHILE, HEALTH STAFF FROM THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT HAD VISITED THE VICTIM'S HOME IN WAN CHAI. THE FAMILY MEMBERS OF THE VICTIM WERE GIVEN MEDICAL EXAMINATION AND THEIR PREMISES WAS DISINFECTED.

THE CASE WAS CLASSIFIED AS AN IMPORTED CASE SINCE THE MAN HAD TRAVELLED OUTSIDE HONG KONG, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

LAST YEAR, A TOTAL OF FOUR CHOLERA CASES WERE REPORTED IN THE TERRITORY.

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RECORD NUMBER OF STUDENTS TAKES PART IN CAREERS QUIZ

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A RECORD NUMBER OF 115,000 FORM 3 TO FORM 5 STUDENTS FROM 250 SECONDARY SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY WILL BE COMPETING IN THE 7TH CAREERS QUIZ ORGANISED BY THE CAREERS ADVISORY SERVICE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT NEXT MONTH.

THIS COMPARES WITH 110,000 STUDENTS FROM 240 SCHOOLS WHO TOOK PART IN THE EVENT LAST YEAR.

THE QUIZ WHICH STARTS ON MONDAY (OCTOBER 3), WILL LAST FOR EIGHT DAYS. IT IS AIMED AT AROUSING THE AWARENESS OF STUDENTS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF CHOOSING CAREERS AS WELL AS ENCOURAGING THEM TO UNDERTAKE RESEARCH INTO CAREERS AND FURTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES.

/PARTICIPATING STUDENTS

PARTICIPATING STUDENTS WILL HAVE TO FILL IN A QUESTIONNAIRE CONTAINING 50 MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS.

"THESE QUESTIONS RELATE TO CAREERS INFORMATION, VOCATIONAL TRAINING, FURTHER STUDIES AND GENERAL KNOWLEDGE REGARDING EMPLOYMENT LEGISLATION IN HONG KONG," A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS, THE THREE SCHOOLS WITH THE HIGHEST AVERAGE MARKS IN EACH FORM WILL BE PRESENTED WITH TROPHIES.

THE FIRST THREE STUDENTS SCORING THE HIGHEST MARKS IN THE WHOLE CONTEST WILL EACH BE AWARDED A PANASONIC GRAPHIC WRITER AND THOSE IN THE FOURTH TO TENTH PLACES WILL EACH RECEIVE A PANASONIC COMPACT HEADPHONE PLAYER.

THE NEXT 100 STUDENTS WILL EACH BE GIVEN A PANASONIC SOLAR-POWERED CALCULATOR.

ALL ANSWERS AND RESULTS WILL BE PROCESSED BY THE GOVERNMENT DATA PROCESSING AGENCY AND PRIZES FOR THE QUIZ ARE SPONSORED BY SHUN HING ELECTRONIC TRADING CO. LTD. FOR THE THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR.

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HALF MILLION YOUNGSTERS TO LEARN ROAD SAFETY

ROAD SAFETY AWARENESS OF THE 500 000-PLUS PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN IN HONG KONG WILL BE ENHANCED FOLLOWING THE LAUNCHING OF AN INTENSIVE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE +CONSTABLE CARE CHILDREN'S SAFETY PROGRAMME+, WHICH FORMS PART OF THIS YEAR'S SAFETY CAMPAIGN, IS TARGETED AT CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN EIGHT AND 12 YEARS.

SPEAKING AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TRAFFIC, MR PEDRO CHING KWOK-HOO, SAID THE AIM OF THE PROGRAMME WAS TO MAKE YOUNG PEOPLE MORE CONSCIOUS OF THE DANGERS ON ROADS, AND TO TEACH THEM THE BEST WAY TO AVOID BECOMING VICTIMS OF TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS.

/HE DESCRIBED

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HE DESCRIBED THE PROJECT AS UNPRECEDENTED IN ITS SCOPE, VARIETY AND IMAGINATION. IT IS ORGANISED AND SPONSORED BY COMMERCIAL ORGANISATIONS AND HAS THE SUPPORT OF THE ROAD SAFETY COUNCIL, THE POLICE, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES AND THE BRITISH FORCES.

+OVER THE NEXT 12 MONTHS THE CAMPAIGN WILL DRIVE HOME ROAD SAFETY MESSAGES TO SCHOOL CHILDREN IN MANY WAYS,+ HE SAID.

UNDER THE TERRITORY-WIDE PROGRAMME, NICE NOVELTIES EACH BEARING A ROAD SAFETY MESSAGE WILL BE HANDED OUT TO SCHOOL CHILDREN AND COMPETITIONS WILL BE HELD TO PROMOTE ROAD SAFETY AWARENESS.

+AS MANY AS 60 000 POSTERS, 25 000 BOARD GAMES, 20 000 COTTON SHOULDER BAGS, AND LARGE QUANTITIES OF STICKERS, CAPS AND T-SHIRTS HAVE BEEN PRODUCED FOR DISTRIBUTION,+ MR CHING SAID.

+IN ADDITION, A SERIES OF COMPETITIONS WILL BE HELD IN THE YEAR-LONG CAMPAIGN. THE FIRST TO BE LAUNCHED THIS MONTH IS A STORY AND COLOURING-IN COMPETITION WITH LOTS OF VALUABLE PRIZES INCLUDING COMPUTERS, RADIOS, WATCHES AND A GRAND PRIZE OF A TRIP TO TOKYO DISNEYLAND.+

MR CHING SAID 500 000 ENTRY FORMS WOULD BE DISTRIBUTED THIS WEEK INVITING PARTICIPANTS TO ENTER INTO THE COMPETITION.

THE GIVE-AWAY ITEMS AND THE ENTRY FORMS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AT DISTRICT ROAD SAFETY DAYS AND TO SCHOOLS BY POLICE ROAD SAFETY OFFICERS.

+IT IS HOPED THAT BY THE END OF THE CAMPAIGN ALL PRIMARY SCHOOL PUPILS WOULD HAVE PARTICIPATED IN AT LEAST ONE, IF NOT ALL, COMPETITIONS AND, AS A RESULT, WOULD HAVE THE ROAD SAFETY CONCEPT DEEPLY REGISTERED IN THEIR MINDS.+

MR CHING POINTED OUT THAT EACH YEAR MORE THAN 3 000 CHILDREN OF THE AGE GROUP WERE SERIOUSLY INJURED OR KILLED ON THE ROADS, AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS DETERMINED TO REDUCE THIS TERRIBLE TOLL.

+IT IS A WONDERFUL EXAMPLE OF HOW THE WHOLE COMMUNITY, INCLUDING THE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTORS, CAN PULL TOGETHER FOR THE GOOD OF OUR CHILDREN,+ MR CHING REMARKED.

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TRAINING CENTRE SCOUTS "BEAT RETREAT"

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A GROUP OF TRAINING CENTRE INMATES OF THE HONG KONG ISLAND 221ST SCOUT GROUP BAND WILL DEMONSTRATE THEIR MUSICAL TALENT AND MARCHING SKILLS IN A "BEATING RETREAT" PERFORMANCE THIS FRIDAY NIGHT (SEPTEMBER 30) AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID: "THE 'BEATING RETREAT' IS ONE OF THE MANY ACTIVITIES THAT THE DEPARTMENT ORGANISES FOR THE INMATE SCOUTS.

"IT IS HOPED THAT THROUGH THE SCOUTING MOVEMENT, THE INMATES CAN DEVELOP THEIR POTENTIAL AND CULTIVATE SELF-CONFIDENCE, AND TO APPRECIATE THE MEANING OF DISCIPLINE AND TEAMWORK SPIRIT."

"PUBLIC RESPONSE TO THE "BEATING RETREAT" PERFORMANCE IS OVERWHELMING AND IT IS FULL HOUSE FOR THE NIGHT'S EVENT. IN VIEW OF THE FAVOURABLE RESPONSE, THE DRESS REHEARSAL TO BE HELD TOMORROW (THURSDAY) NIGHT WILL ALSO BE OPEN TO PUBLIC, AND THIS IS ALSO FULL," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

A MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND THE SENIOR MEMBER (DESIGNATE) OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR ALLEN LEE, WILL OFFICIATE AT FRIDAY'S CEREMONY.

THE ORIGIN OF THE "BEATING RETREAT" DATES BACK TO THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY; AND IT WAS AN ORGANISED AND ACCEPTED PROCEDURE IN THE ARMY OF WILLIAM III AT THE END OF THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY.

"RETREAT" WAS ORIGINALLY SOUNDED AND DRUMS WERE BEATEN ON THE RAMPARTS HALF AN HOUR BEFORE CLOSING THE GATES OF A GARRISON TOWN AT NIGHT.

THE PURPOSE WAS TO RECALL TROOPS WITHIN THE WALLS, AND PRESUMABLY TO WARN THE CIVIL POPULATION. AT THE SAME TIME, THE NIGHT WATCH WAS SET (OR GUARDS MOUNTED) AND, AT NIGHTFALL, THE FLAG LOWERED. A CEREMONY WAS ESTABLISHED TO REGULATE THESE DUTIES.

AS TIME PASSED, THE OPERATIONAL MILITARY SIGNIFICANCE OF THESE DUTIES DIMINISHED, BUT THE STANDARD OF MILITARY MUSIC AND THE CAPABILITY OF REGIMENTAL BANDS IMPROVED.

GRADUALLY, THE CEREMONIAL PROCEDURE BECAME THE BASIS OF A MILITARY SPECTACLE AND ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE PUBLIC IN PLACES WHERE TROOPS WERE STATIONED.

THE 221ST HONG KONG GROUP WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IN 1986.

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A SCOUT GROUP COUNCIL WAS LATER SET UP TO LOOK AFTER ITS MANAGEMENT. THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL IS MR LAU HON-WAH AND MR HERMAN HUI IS THE CHAIRMAN.

THE GROUP NOW HAS 120 MEMBERS, ALL OF WHOM ARE TRAINING CENTRE BOYS OF CAPE COLLINSON CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION AND LAI KING TRAINING CENTRE.

THEY WON THE FOOTDRILL COMPETITION IN THE HONG KONG ANNUAL SCOUT RALLY LAST YEAR AND TWO MEMBERS WERE SELECTED TO TAKE PART IN THE 16TH WORLD JAMBOREE HELD IN AUSTRALIA LAST DECEMBER. THE GROUP BAND HAS ALSO BEEN INVITED TO PERFORM IN NUMEROUS SOCIAL AND CEREMONIAL OCCASIONS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE "BEATING RETREAT" PERFORMANCE WHICH WILL START AT 8 PM THIS FRIDAY (SEPTEMBER 30) AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM, WAN CHAI.

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NIGHT MEETINGS FOR DB TO BE DISCUSSED

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THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT BOARD'S ADMINISTRATION AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE WILL MEET TOMORROW (THURSDAY) TO DISCUSS A PROPOSAL TO HOLD DISTRICT BOARD MEETINGS AT NIGHT AS WELL AS ITS DURATION.

THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE PUBLICITY WORK SUGGESTED IN THE REPORT OF THE SURVEY ON THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF KWAI TSING RESIDENTS.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO REPORT ON THE PROGRESS OF PRODUCING THE KWAI TSING ANNUAL DISTRICT BOARD REPORT, AND ON THE VISIT TO ENGLAND AND HOLLAND BY A KWAI CHUNG DISTRICT BOARD DELEGATION IN JULY.

THE ADMINISTRATION AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE IS CHAIRED BY KWAI TSING DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR LEE WING-TAT, AND CONSISTS OF CHAIRMEN OF THE BOARD'S SIX OTHER COMMITTEES AS MEMBERS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF KWAI TSING DISTRICT BOARD'S ADMINISTRATION AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE TO BE HELD AT 2 PM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) IN CONFERENCE ROOM, 10/F, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, KWAI CHUNG.

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TAXI SERVICE TO BE EXAMINED

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THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS A PROPOSAL TO IMPROVE THE PRESENT TAXI SERVICE AT A MEETING TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

IT SUGGESTS THE GOVERNMENT TO INTRODUCE REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE TRADE IN ORDER TO MONITOR MORE EFFECTIVELY TAXI SERVICE.

A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE TRANSPORT COMPLAINTS UNIT, MR ANTONIO ALMEIDA WILL INTRODUCE AT THE MEETING THE NEW PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE HANDLING OF COMPLAINTS AGAINST TAXI DRIVERS' MALPRACTICES.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO STUDY A REVIEW ON PEDESTRIAN PROBLEM SPOTS AND A PLAN TO IMPROVE THE WESTERN DISTRICT'S PEDESTRIAN AND TRAFFIC FACILITIES.

MEANWHILE, THE COMMITTEE WILL BE CONSULTED ON THE PROPOSED BUS AND FERRY ROUTE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR 1989-90.

A SENIOR ENGINEER OF THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, MR CHOW YING-SHUN WILL BRIEF MEMBERS ON THE PROGRESS OF THE AREA TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM BEING IMPLEMENTED IN THE DISTRICT.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE MEETING WHICH BEGINS AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AT THE CONFERENCE ROOM, 14/F., HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL.

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN WESTERN DISTRICT

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN WESTERN DISTRICT FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (SEPTEMBER 30) FOR ABOUT SIX MONTHS BECAUSE OF WORK ON THE UPGRADED CONNAUGHT ROAD PROJECT.

A SECTION OF ABOUT 95 METRES OF THE EASTBOUND TRAFFIC LANES OF DES VOEUX ROAD WEST NEAR ITS JUNCTION WITH HILL ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC EXCEPT FOR TRAMS.

/AFFECTED VEHICLES

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AFFECTED VEHICLES WILL BE DIVERTED VIA CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST AND KA ON STREET TO REJOIN DES VOEUX ROAD WEST.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE FOLLOWING ROAD SECTIONS WILL BE DESIGNATED 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY URBAN CLEARWAYS:

- * THE NORTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST FROM A POINT ABOUT 70 METRES EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH CHIU KWONG STREET TO A POINT ABOUT 50 METRES WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH WILMER STREET.
- * WESTERN STREET EXTENSION FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST TO A POINT ABOUT 20 METRES NORTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION.

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED AREAS.

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SPECIAL ARTICLE ON INDEXES OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION
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THE JULY 1988 ISSUE OF THE HONG KONG MONTHLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS CONTAINS A SPECIAL REVIEW ARTICLE ENTITLED "REBASED QUARTERLY INDEXES OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION OF HONG KONG".

STARTING FROM THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1988, A NEW SERIES OF THE QUARTERLY INDEX OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION WITH 1986 AS THE BASE YEAR (I.E. THE INDEX FOR 1986 IS SET AT 100) IS PUBLISHED TO REPLACE THE OLD INDEX SERIES WITH THE INDEX FOR 1981 SET AT 100.

THE SPECIAL REVIEW ARTICLE DESCRIBES SOME NOTEWORTHY FEATURES RELATED TO THE COMPILATION OF THE QUARTERLY PRODUCTION INDEXES, AND AT THE SAME TIME PRESENTS THE REBASED INDEXES FOR THE PERIOD 1982 TO 1987.

THE NEW WEIGHTING SCHEME OF THE PRODUCTION INDEXES IS ALSO SHOWN WHICH REFLECTS THE MORE UP-TO-DATE INDUSTRIAL STRUCTURE OF HONG KONG.

THE HONG KONG MONTHLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS IS NOW ON SALE AT \$30 PER COPY. PURCHASES MAY BE MADE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, HONG KONG.

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"NO-ENTRY" BAN, GREEN MINIBUS FARE ADJUSTMENTS

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (OCTOBER 1) NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL APPLY TO A LAYBY AT A REFUSE COLLECTION POINT IN KWUN TONG.

NO VEHICLES WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE LAYBY FRONTING THE REFUSE COLLECTION POINT, ADJACENT TO THE NORTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF THE UNNAMED ROAD BETWEEN NGAU TAU KOK ROAD AND NGAU TAU KOK FOURTH STREET, AT ANY TIME OF THE DAY.

VEHICLES OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, HOWEVER, WILL NOT BE SUBJECT TO THE PROHIBITION.

ALSO FROM SATURDAY, FARE ADJUSTMENTS WILL BE MADE ON TWO GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES IN YUEN LONG.

THE FARE ON ROUTE NO.31, PLYING BETWEEN YUEN LONG AND TONG YAN SAN TSUEN, WILL BE INCREASED FROM \$1 TO \$1.2.

ROUTE NO. 32, OPERATING BETWEEN YUEN LONG AND TAN KWAI TSUEN, A SECTION FARE OF \$1 WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR JOURNEYS FROM HUNG SHUI KIU TO TAN KWAI TSUEN.

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FRESH AND SALT WATER CUTS IN KOWLOON

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FRESH AND SALT WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN KOWLOON WILL BE SUSPENDED FOR WATER WORKS IN THE NEXT TWO DAYS.

IN SAN PO KONG, FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO PREMISES IN THE AREA BOUNDED BY SHA TIN PASS ROAD, CHOI HUNG ROAD, PO-KONG VILLAGE ROAD, PO KONG LANE, SHUNG WAH STREET, SHEUNG FUNG STREET AND LUNG FUNG STREET WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 10 PM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) TO 7 AM THE NEXT DAY.

MEANWHILE, SALT WATER SUPPLY TO KWUN TONG, SAU MAU PING, LAM TIN, NGAU TAU KOK, NGAU CHI WAN, CHOI WAN, JORDAN VALLEY, KOWLOON BAY, PING SHEK, CHOI HUNG, SAN PO KONG, SHUN TIN, SHUN ON, SHUN LEE AND SHUN CHI COURT WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 9.30 AM TO 7 PM ON FRIDAY.

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