



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1978

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STATUTORY HOLIDAY REMINDER

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THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. NEIL HENDERSON, TODAY (THURSDAY) REMINDED EMPLOYERS THAT UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE THE DAY OF THE CHINESE WINTER SOLSTICE FESTIVAL (WHICH FALLS ON DECEMBER 22) AND CHRISTMAS DAY (DECEMBER 25) HAS BEEN APPOINTED ALTERNATIVELY AS ONE OF THE 10 STATUTORY HOLIDAYS AND WORKERS MUST BE GIVEN EITHER ONE OF THESE TWO DAYS OFF.

MR. HENDERSON EMPHASISED THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE APPLIED TO ALL EMPLOYEES WHEREVER THEY WORK.

UNDER THE ORDINANCE, ALL MANUAL EMPLOYEES WITHOUT DISTINCTION, INCLUDING DOMESTIC SERVANTS, IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR EARNINGS, AND ALL NON-MANUAL EMPLOYEES EARNING NOT MORE THAN \$2,000 A MONTH, ARE ENTITLED TO THE HOLIDAY.

THEY MUST ALSO BE PAID FOR THE DAY OFF IF THEY HAVE WORKED CONTINUOUSLY FOR THEIR EMPLOYERS FOR THREE MONTHS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY.

IF AN EMPLOYEE IS REQUIRED TO WORK ON A STATUTORY HOLIDAY, HE MUST BE GIVEN AN ALTERNATIVE DAY-OFF WITHIN 60 DAYS BEFORE OR AFTER THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY.

IF THE ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY IS TO BE GRANTED BEFORE THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY, THE EMPLOYER MUST NOTIFY THE EMPLOYEE 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY.

IN THE CASE WHERE AN ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY IS TO BE GIVEN AFTER THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY, THE EMPLOYEE MUST BE NOTIFIED OF THE ARRANGEMENT AT LEAST 48 HOURS BEFORE THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY.

IF THE EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEE AGREE, ANY DAY WITHIN 30 DAYS OF A STATUTORY HOLIDAY OR ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY MAY BE TAKEN BY THE EMPLOYEE AS A SUBSTITUTED HOLIDAY.

FOR EASY REFERENCE BY BOTH EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES THE 10 STATUTORY HOLIDAYS FOR THE COMING YEAR ARE:

- * JANUARY 1 (THE FIRST DAY OF JANUARY)= JANUARY 28, 29 AND 30 (LUNAR NEW YEAR'S DAY, AND THE SECOND AND THIRD DAY OF LUNAR NEW YEAR RESPECTIVELY - IF JANUARY 28, WHICH FALLS ON A SUNDAY, HAPPENS TO BE AN EMPLOYEE'S REST DAY THEN JANUARY 31 OR ANOTHER DAY SHOULD ALSO BE GRANTED AS A HOLIDAY IN LIEU)=
- * APRIL 5 (CHING MING FESTIVAL DAY)=
- * MAY 30 (TUEN NG OR DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL)=
- * OCTOBER 6 (THE DAY FOLLOWING MID AUTUMN FESTIVAL)=
- * OCTOBER 29 (CHUNG YEUNG FESTIVAL DAY), AND

/* DECEMBER 22.....

- * DECEMBER 22 OR ALTERNATIVELY DECEMBER 25 (CHINESE WINTER SOLSTICE FESTIVAL DAY OR ALTERNATIVELY CHRISTMAS DAY), PLUS A FLOATING HOLIDAY WHICH SHALL BE DESIGNATED BY THE EMPLOYER AND NOTIFIED TO EACH OF HIS EMPLOYEE AT THE END OF THE PRECEDING YEAR. IF THE EMPLOYER DOES NOT DESIGNATE THIS HOLIDAY, THEN IT WILL AUTOMATICALLY FALL ON THE FIRST WEEK DAY IN JULY OR THE FIRST MONDAY IN AUGUST AT THE EMPLOYER'S OPTION.

COMPLAINTS OR ENQUIRIES ABOUT STATUTORY HOLIDAYS MAY BE MADE TO THE NEAREST BRANCH OFFICE OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE.

THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS ARE: FOR KOWLOON EAST 3-205638= KOWLOON WEST 3-201652= KWUN TONG 3-898520= TSUEN WAN 12-422096= TUEN MUN 12-818443 EXT. 82= AND HONG KONG ISLAND 5-282523 EXT. 60.

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DEMAND FOR RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY HOLDING UP WELL

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DESPITE INCREASES IN PRICES AND INTEREST RATES THE DEMAND FOR RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY APPEARS FOR THE MOMENT TO BE HOLDING UP WELL, PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HOUSING, MISS ELAINE CHUNG, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

MISS CHUNG, SPEAKING AT THE LIONS CLUB OF TAI PING SHAN LUNCHEON MEETING, SAID SHE THOUGHT THAT FLAT PRICES IN HONG KONG WERE GENERALLY STRONG ON THE UPTAKE AND HESITANT ON THE DOWNTURN.

SHE ATTRIBUTED FIVE REASONS TO THIS +PHENOMENON+:

- * THE UNDERLYING STRONG DEMAND FOR RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY=
- * THE ACTIVITIES OF SPECULATORS IN A BUOYANT MARKET SITUATION=
- * THE PRACTICE OF DEVELOPERS TO PRE-SELL, DURING THE BOOM YEARS, ALL FLATS DUE TO BE COMPLETED BETWEEN ONE CREST OF THE BOOM AND ANOTHER, THEREBY AVOIDING THE NECESSITY OF FINDING RELUCTANT BUYERS DURING THE LEAN YEARS=

/* THE.....

* THE PRACTICE OF MOST BANKS TO ALLOW MORTGAGE REPAYMENT PERIODS TO BE PROLONGED AT TIMES OF RISING INTEREST RATES= AND

* THE ABSENCE (+THANK GOODNESS+) OF SHORT SELLING OF FLATS BY SPECULATORS IN HONG KONG.

+THESE FACTORS SUGGEST,+ MISS CHUNG SAID,+THAT IF REAL INCOME IN HONG KONG IS NOT SUBSTANTIALLY CHANGED PRICES AND RENTS FOR SMALL FLATS IN GOOD LOCATIONS ARE LIKELY TO LEVEL OFF, WHILE THE SUPPLY OF AND DEMAND FOR LUXURY ACCOMMODATION ARE NOT LIKELY TO EASE FOR SOME TIME.+

MISS CHUNG SAID THE 40,000 PUBLIC HOUSING FLATS TO BE COMPLETED IN 1979 WOULD CERTAINLY BE WELCOMED BY THE THOUSANDS OF ELIGIBLE FAMILIES DISPLACED BY DEVELOPMENT CLEARANCES, OR AFFECTED BY DISASTERS OR LIVING IN SQUATTER HUTS OR DILAPIDATED TENEMENTS.

THE GROWING ACCEPTABILITY OF ESTATES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WOULD BE MORE MARKED IN 1979. +I FORESEE THAT THE GROWING POOL OF LABOUR IN THE NEW TOWNS WILL ATTRACT MORE LARGE INDUSTRIAL FIRMS TO MOVE TO THE NEW TERRITORIES AND, IN TURN, THE SMALLER INDUSTRIAL FIRMS, WHICH SERVE THE LARGER ONES, WILL ALSO MOVE.+

MISS CHUNG SAID THE DESIGN OF HOUSING AUTHORITY FLATS WAS FLEXIBLE ENOUGH TO PERMIT A DEGREE OF INTERCHANGE SHOULD IT BE DESIRABLE TO ALTER THE PROPORTION OF FLATS FOR RENT AND FOR SALE, ADDING:

+PERSONALLY, I WOULD LIKE TO SEE AN INCREASE IN THE PROPORTION OF FLATS FOR SALE FOR MANY REASONS, INCLUDING ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND POLITICAL.+

ON PRIVATE HOUSING, MISS CHUNG SAID THAT UNLESS PROJECTS NOW BEING PLANNED WERE DEFERRED THE SHORT TERM OUTLOOK FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY FOR 1979 WAS ONE OF HIGHER LABOUR AND MATERIAL COSTS AND OF HIGHER CONTRACT PRICES.

MISS CHUNG SAID THE PRACTICE OF SELLING PRIVATE FLATS WELL AHEAD OF THEIR COMPLETION DATES HAD BEEN AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THE FINANCING OF RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT IN HONG KONG - BUT IT COULD LEAD TO A SITUATION WHEREBY A FLAT WAS BOUGHT AND SOLD FOR A QUICK PROFIT SEVERAL TIMES BEFORE IT WAS ACTUALLY OCCUPIED.

SHE SAID 1978 SAW POSITIVE ACTION BY MANY DEVELOPERS TO DAMPEN SPECULATION, USING A BALLOTING PROCEDURE TO ALLOCATE FLATS AND CHARGING A FEE FOR THE TRANSFER OF BOOKING RECEIPTS OR PURCHASE AGREEMENTS FOR FLATS.

ALSO, INTEREST ON MORTGAGES HAD JUMPED FROM AN AVERAGE OF 0.83 PER CENT PER MONTH AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR TO THE EXISTING AVERAGE OF 0.96 PER CENT PER MONTH.

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APPEAL FOR BETTER RESPONSE TO
MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT SURVEY
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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAS ISSUED 22,500 REMINDERS TO MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS WHICH HAVE NOT YET FURNISHED THEIR EMPLOYMENT RETURNS FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER OF THE YEAR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT EMPLOYMENT ENQUIRY CARDS WERE FIRST MAILED TO INDIVIDUAL MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS ON DECEMBER 2.

MANAGEMENTS WERE REQUESTED TO COMPLETE THE CARDS WITH THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE ENGAGED AND EXISTING VACANCIES AS ON DECEMBER 4, AND RETURN THEM TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT NOT LATER THAN DECEMBER 11.

+THE FULL-SCALE MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT SURVEY NOW IN PROGRESS COVERS SOME 46,000 MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS,+ THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL PROVIDE NOT ONLY BENCHMARK DATA FOR THE ANALYSIS OF EMPLOYMENT STRUCTURE AND TRENDS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR BUT ALSO A COMPREHENSIVE AND UP-TO-DATE DIRECTORY OF MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS FOR CONDUCTING SAMPLE SURVEYS IN THE SUBSEQUENT QUARTERS.

+PROMPT REPORTING FROM MANAGEMENTS WILL AVOID FURTHER FOLLOW-UPS AND FACILITATE THE EARLY RELEASE OF SURVEY RESULTS. ON RECEIPT OF REMINDERS, MANAGEMENTS SHOULD THEREFORE COMPLETE AND RETURN THE CARDS AT THEIR EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY,+ HE SAID.

SIMILAR ENQUIRIES AT THE SAME TIME ARE ALSO BEING MADE IN THE BANKING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND OTHER SELECTED TRADES AND SERVICES. ENQUIRIES IN THE IMPORT/EXPORT, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADES, RESTAURANT AND HOTELS ARE DUE TO START SOON.

+THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS IS APPEALING TO MANAGEMENTS FOR CO-OPERATION IN THESE EMPLOYMENT SURVEYS. HE HAS STRESSED THAT INFORMATION FURNISHED WOULD BE TREATED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND WOULD BE USED SOLELY FOR COMPILING STATISTICAL TABLES,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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PWD SITE VISIT
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT'S DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT, MR. DAVID STEAD WILL INSPECT A NUMBER OF WORK SITES IN KOWLOON TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO SEE THE PROGRESS OF VARIOUS P.W.D. PROJECTS.

HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY CHIEF ENGINEERS OF VARIOUS OFFICES CONCERNED.

AMONG THE SITES TO BE VISITED WILL BE THE WESTERN APPROACH TO THE AIRPORT TUNNEL AND THE TAI KOK TSUI SECTION OF THE WEST KOWLOON CORRIDOR, STAGE II.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE VISIT OF THE DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT TO P.W.D. WORK SITES TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

OFFICIAL TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WHO WISH TO MAKE USE OF THE TRANSPORT FACILITY SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE OPEN CAR PARK OUTSIDE THE RECEPTION OFFICE, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD AT 9.10 A.M.

TWO NINE-SEATER VANS WILL LEAVE AT 9.15 A.M. SHARP.

OFFICERS OF THE P.W.D.'S PUBLICITY UNIT WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST THE PRESS.

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CORRECT CHRISTMAS CARD POSTAGE

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THE POST OFFICE TODAY (THURSDAY) REMINDED THE PUBLIC THAT THE CORRECT POSTAGE RATE FOR AN UNSEALED LOCAL CHRISTMAS CARD WEIGHING TWO OUNCES OR LESS IS 20 CENTS.

A POST OFFICE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT MANY PEOPLE HAVE BEEN PUTTING ONLY 10-CENT STAMPS ON THE CARDS. THIS, HE SAID, COULD MEAN A DELAY IN DELIVERY AND THAT THE ADDRESSEE WOULD HAVE TO PAY A SURCHARGE.

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AIRMAIL FOR IRAN

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THE POST OFFICE TODAY (THURSDAY) ANNOUNCED THAT AIRMAIL LETTER AND PARCEL POST SERVICES TO IRAN, SUSPENDED SINCE OCTOBER 18, WILL BE PARTLY RESUMED WITH EFFECT FROM TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

+THIS MEANS THAT AIRMAIL LETTER-POST ITEMS FOR THIS COUNTRY WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR POSTING AS FROM TOMORROW,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR POST OFFICE SAID.

HE ADDED: +AIR PARCEL SERVICE TO IRAN CONTINUES TO BE SUSPENDED AT THE PRESENT TIME.+

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DESIGNING DAMS -- A SCIENTIFIC PROCESS

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THE SENIOR RESIDENT ENGINEER OF THE HIGH ISLAND WATER SCHEME, MR. A.P. FRASER SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THE DESIGN OF DAMS HAD, IN RECENT YEARS, BECOME A FAR MORE SCIENTIFIC PROCESS AND USED HIGH ISLAND AS THE LATEST AND MOST MODERN EXAMPLE.

SPEAKING AT THE Y'S MEN'S CLUB LUNCHEON MEETING, HE SAID THE EMPIRICAL APPROACH WAS VERY MUCH THE RULE IN DAM DESIGN UNTIL THE LAST FEW DECADES.

+USUALLY THE EMPIRICAL RULES WERE CORRECT BUT THE BASIC BEHAVIOUR OF THE MATERIALS WAS NOT UNDERSTOOD AND THE FACTORS OF SAFETY OF THE DAMS COULD NOT BE CALCULATED,+ HE SAID.

+THIS COULD LEAD TO GROSSLY OVER-DESIGNED, UNECONOMIC DESIGNS OR EQUALLY POSSIBLY TO INTRINSICALLY UNSAFE STRUCTURES.+

MR. FRASER POINTED OUT THAT RESEARCH IN SOIL AND ROCK MECHANICS HAD GIVEN THE DESIGNER MORE INSIGHT INTO THE PROPERTIES AND BEHAVIOUR OF EARTH AND ROCKFILL.

+EQUIPMENT IS NOW AVAILABLE TO TEST THE STRENGTH OF VARIOUS FILLS. THE USE OF COMPUTERS HAS REDUCED THE DRUDGERY OF THE SOLUTION OF STABILITY ANALYSES FOR DAMS,+ HE SAID.

+MATHEMATICAL MODELS OF DAMS CAN BE CREATED, USING FINITE ELEMENT ANALYSES AND THE STRESS AND THE STRAIN AT ANY POINT IN A DAM CAN BE CALCULATED.

+THE ENTIRE CONSTRUCTION AND IMPOUNDING SEQUENCE CAN BE SIMULATED BY THESE MATHEMATICAL MODELS.+

HOWEVER, MR. FRASER SAID, THESE METHODS WERE MERELY SOPHISTICATED TOOLS AND THEIR VALUE WAS ONLY AS GOOD AS THE BASIC DATA FED INTO THEM.

REFERRING TO THE DAMS AT THE HIGH ISLAND WATER SCHEME, HE SAID THEY EMPLOYED NEW TECHNIQUES IN THE USE OF THEIR ASPHALTIC CONCRETE CORES.

THE USE OF ASPHALTIC CONCRETE CORES, HE ADDED, WAS DETERMINED BY THE LACK OF SUITABLE IMPERMEABLE MATERIAL FOR A CONVENTIONAL CLAY CORE IN THE NEIGHBOURING AREA.

MR. FRASER ALSO SPOKE ABOUT THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF DAMS AND HOW TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT TYPE.

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HK STUDENTS' CENTRE IN LONDON RE-OPENED
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A RECEPTION WAS HELD ON TUESDAY (DECEMBER 12) EVENING TO MARK THE FORMAL RE-OPENING OF THE HONG KONG STUDENTS' CENTRE IN LANCASTER GATE, LONDON, FOLLOWING A 400,000 POUNDS STERLING RENOVATION PROGRAMME.

HONG KONG'S LONDON COMMISSIONER, MR. DENIS BRAY, AND MRS. BRAY WELCOMED THE GUESTS, AMONG WHOM WERE TWO OF HIS PREDECESSORS, MR. A.J.M. WRIGHT AND MR. S.T. KIDD.

GUESTS INCLUDED HONG KONG STUDENTS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM WHO WERE CLEARLY PLEASED WITH THE NEW FACILITIES OFFERED AT THE CENTRE -- A FOCAL POINT FOR THEM.

RESIDENT STUDENTS SHOWED GUESTS AROUND THE BUILDING AND, JUDGING BY THEIR REACTIONS, A POPULAR FEATURE OF THE CENTRE IS ITS NEW SELF-CATERING KITCHEN WITH 12 COOKING UNITS, AND THE COMMUNAL DINING HALL.

WITH THE RENOVATIONS COMPLETED, THE CENTRE HAS INCREASED ITS ACCOMMODATION TO 45 ROOMS. IT CAN NOW ACCOMMODATE 90 STUDENTS IN FOUR, THREE AND TWO-BEDDED ROOMS.

THE CENTRE ALSO HAS A GAMES ROOM EQUIPPED WITH TABLE TENNIS, A MUSIC ROOM AND TWO TV/RECREATION ROOMS. THERE IS A REFURBISHED STUDY AREA AND A NEW GAS-FIRED CENTRAL HEATING SYSTEM.

SMOKE DETECTION EQUIPMENT HAS BEEN FITTED, AND THE ENTIRE BUILDING REWIRED.

THE CENTRE NOW HAS A 17-FOOT ELECTRICALLY OPERATED FILM SCREEN, MOST OF THE COST OF WHICH CAME FROM THE SIR DAVID TRENCH RECREATION FUND.

THE RENOVATION PROGRAMME, WHICH BEGAN IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR, INCLUDED THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN INTERNAL FIRE ESCAPE.

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S.W.D.'S FOURTH COMMUNITY HALL FOR KWAI CHUNG DISTRICT
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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S FOURTH COMMUNITY HALL IN KWAI CHUNG WILL BE OFFICIALLY OPENED TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AS ANOTHER FOCAL POINT OF GROUP AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES FOR RESIDENTS OF THE DISTRICT.

THE KWAI FONG COMMUNITY HALL IS THE SEVENTH OF A SERIES PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN VARIOUS PARTS OF HONG KONG IN ITS CONTINUOUS EFFORTS TO MEET A GROWING DEMAND FOR SUCH FACILITIES.

TWO OTHER NEW COMMUNITY HALLS ALREADY OPERATING WILL BE OFFICIALLY OPENED SOMETIME NEXT YEAR. ONE IS AT SHEK YAM ESTATE, ALSO IN KWAI CHUNG, AND THE OTHER AT TAI HING ESTATE IN TUEN MUN.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, A TSUEN WAN COMMUNITY LEADER, MR. CHAN PO-FONG WILL CUT THE RIBBON AT A CEREMONY TOMORROW TO MARK THE OPENING OF KWAI FONG COMMUNITY HALL.

STAFF AT THE COMMUNITY HALL ORGANISES REGULARLY VARIOUS CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES SUCH AS INTEREST GROUPS AND VOLUNTEER SERVICE PROGRAMMES AS WELL AS YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING COURSES TO HELP RESIDENTS BECOME MORE CIVIC-MINDED AND ENABLE THEM TO BUILD UP A MORE INTEGRATED COMMUNITY.

THE COMMUNITY HALL IS ALSO AVAILABLE FOR LOAN TO LOCAL GROUPS, SCHOOLS AND ORGANISATIONS FOR HOLDING MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE KWAI FONG COMMUNITY HALL, WHICH WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (DECEMBER 15) AT 4 P.M. AT SHING FONG STREET OPPOSITE KWAI FONG ESTATE, TSUEN WAN.

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BUSY YEAR FOR C.A.S.

THE CIVIL AID SERVICES HAD A VERY BUSY TIME IN FISCAL 1977 -- THEIR MEMBERS WERE CALLED OUT 309 TIMES FOR VARIOUS CIVIC AND EMERGENCY DUTIES.

SEVEN OF THESE WERE FOR MOUNTAIN RESCUE, 14 FOR CARE OF FIRE VICTIMS, 69 FOR FIGHTING HILL FIRES, SIX FOR ANTI-OIL POLLUTION OPERATION AND 72 FOR CROWD CONTROL.

CROWD CONTROL DUTIES INCLUDED THOSE PERFORMED AT THE COMMUNITY CHEST'S WALKS FOR MILLION, QUEEN'S SILVER JUBILEE PROCESSION AND PAGEANT, AND AT VARIOUS CHARITY, RECREATION AND FESTIVAL FUNCTIONS.

THE CIVIL AID SERVICES ALSO PERFORMED NUMEROUS STANDING OPERATIONAL DUTIES DURING THE YEAR. THESE INCLUDED COUNTRYSIDE FIRE PREVENTION AND RURAL AREA PATROL ON SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS FROM OCTOBER 1, 1977 TO APRIL 30, 1978, AND MOUNTAIN RESCUE STANDBY DUTY THROUGHOUT THE YEAR ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

COMMENTING ON THIS, A C.A.S. SPOKESMAN SAID, +THE CONTINUED IMPROVEMENT IN OUR OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY HAS ENABLED US TO PERFORM OUR MANY EMERGENCY AND CIVIC DUTIES SUCCESSFULLY.

+THE WIDE VARIETY OF DUTIES PERFORMED BY THE C.A.S. AND THE CONFIDENCE SHOWN IN THE SERVICE BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC HELPS CONSIDERABLY TO MAINTAIN MEMBERS' INTEREST AND THEIR MORALE,+ HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO FORECAST THAT IN THE YEARS AHEAD, THERE WILL BE EVEN WIDER DIVERSIFICATION OF DUTIES FOR THE CIVIL AID SERVICES.

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NEW CDO'S ON COURTESY CALLS

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TWO NEWLY APPOINTED CITY DISTRICT OFFICERS OF WAN CHAI AND SOUTHERN DISTRICTS WILL PAY COURTESY CALLS TO THEIR RESPECTIVE RESIDENT ORGANISATIONS TOMORROW (FRIDAY) IN AN EFFORT TO MAINTAIN AND PROMOTE CLOSER RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DISTRICT CIVIC ORGANISATIONS AND THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT.

THE TWO CITY DISTRICT OFFICERS ARE MR. PAUL LEUNG OF WAN CHAI AND MISS ELLE SHUM OF SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

MR. LEUNG WILL VISIT THE WAN CHAI KAIFONG ASSOCIATION, ACCOMPANIED BY THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER (LIAISON), MR. POON PONG-HON AND THE POLICE DIVISIONAL SUPERINTENDENT (WAN CHAI), MR. J.B. GOULDSMITH.

MISS SHUM WILL CALL AT THE MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE OF WAH HING HOUSE IN WAH FU ESTATE. SHE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE ASSISTANT CITY DISTRICT OFFICER (LIAISON), MR. CHAN WAI-LEUNG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE VISITS BY THE TWO NEWLY APPOINTED CITY DISTRICT OFFICERS OF WAN CHAI AND SOUTHERN DISTRICTS TOMORROW (FRIDAY). MR. LEUNG WILL ARRIVE AT THE WAN CHAI KAIFONG ASSOCIATION AT 2 O'BRIEN ROAD AT 7 P.M. WHILE MISS SHUM WILL CALL AT THE MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF WAH HING HOUSE IN WAH FU ESTATE AT 8.30 P.M.

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NO RIGHT TURN

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT FROM 7 P.M. ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 16) TO 6 A.M. ON MONDAY (DECEMBER 18) ALL VEHICLES EXCEEDING TWO TONS IN UNLADEN WEIGHT WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM TURNING RIGHT FROM QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL INTO QUEEN VICTORIA STREET.

THE TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT IS TO FACILITATE WATERWORKS TO BE CARRIED OUT IN THE AREA.

DURING THE PERIOD, CHINA MOTOR BUS ROUTES 3, 6, 11, 12, 12A, 15, 25 AND 61 WILL BE DIVERTED TO PEDDER STREET, INSTEAD OF QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, BEFORE TURNING INTO CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL.

TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP IN THE AREA TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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