



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1994

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TRANSFER OF VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS FROM HIGH ISLAND

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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT 81 VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS WOULD BE TRANSFERRED FROM HIGH ISLAND DETENTION CENTRE NEXT MONDAY (SEPTEMBER 19) IN PREPARATION FOR THEIR RETURN HOME UNDER THE ORDERLY REPATRIATION PROGRAMME. ANOTHER PERSON WILL BE TRANSFERRED FROM CHI MA WAN DETENTION CENTRE.

THEY WILL BE MOVED TO VICTORIA PRISON FOR DOCUMENTATION, MEDICAL CHECKS AND OTHER PROCEDURES TO BE CARRIED OUT BEFORE LEAVING HONG KONG ON SEPTEMBER 22 AND 23.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE MIGRANTS WHO WERE SUBJECT TO REPATRIATION HAD BEEN GIVEN PLENTY OF ADVANCE NOTICE.

"THEY WERE TOLD ON AUGUST 22 THAT THEY WOULD BE RETURNED HOME IN UPCOMING REPATRIATION EXERCISES IF THEY DID NOT VOLUNTEER BEFORE SEPTEMBER 2," HE POINTED OUT.

"THE 82 WHO WILL BE TRANSFERRED NEXT WEEK WERE INFORMED TODAY OF THE MOVE, AND OF THEIR DEPARTURE FROM HONG KONG," HE ADDED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE HELP OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES WAS SOUGHT TO ADD TO THE COUNSELLING THAT THE MIGRANTS HAD ALREADY BEEN GIVEN TO DATE.

"STAFF OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAVE SPOKEN TO EACH OF THE 82 PEOPLE AND ASKED THEM TO BE PREPARED TO LEAVE.

"IT IS OUR FERVENT HOPE THAT THEY WILL DO SO VOLUNTARILY," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE TRANSFER WOULD BE MONITORED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF CHRISTIAN ACTION AND OXFAM AND NON-OFFICIAL JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

THE APPOINTMENT OF MONITORS IS ONE OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE JUSTICES OF THE PEACE REPORT ON THE WHITEHEAD INCIDENT ON APRIL 7.

"WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THE TWO NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS (NGOS) AND THE NON-OFFICIAL JUSTICES OF THE PEACE FOR AGREEING TO TAKE UP THIS MONITORING ROLE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"WE ARE HAVING DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER NGOS WHO HAVE WORKED WITH VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS IN THE DETENTION CENTRES AND ARE HOPEFUL THAT MORE WILL PARTICIPATE IN FUTURE EXERCISES."

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE ROLE OF THE MONITORS WAS TO OBSERVE THE TRANSFER AND DEPARTURE EXERCISES AND TO REPORT ON THEM.

"THE MONITORS WILL BE FULLY BRIEFED BEFORE EACH OPERATION. THEY WILL BE FREE TO MOVE WITHIN THE CAMP AND DEPARTURE AREAS, SUBJECT ONLY TO THE DECISIONS OF THE FIELD COMMANDERS WITH REGARD TO THEIR SAFETY. THEY WILL ACT AS OBSERVERS AND NOT INTERMEDIARIES, AND WILL NOT INTERVENE IN THE OPERATIONS," HE EXPLAINED.

/THE MONITORS

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THE MONITORS WILL SUBMIT A REPORT ON THEIR OBSERVATIONS TO THE CHIEF SECRETARY WITHIN 24 HOURS AFTER EACH OPERATION.

THE REPORTS WILL BE MADE PUBLIC.

ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE FOR THE MEDIA TO COVER EACH OF THE THREE OPERATIONS. THERE WILL BE A FIXED PRESS POSITION AT HIGH ISLAND FROM WHERE THE OPERATION AND DEPARTURE FROM THE CAMP CAN BE OBSERVED, AND WHERE STATEMENTS TO THE PRESS WILL BE MADE.

PHOTOGRAPHERS ARE ADVISED TO BRING TELEPHOTO LENS FOR THE BEST COVERAGE.

PRESS COACHES WILL BE PROVIDED, LEAVING FROM THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES CAR PARK, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG. YOUR REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD ARRIVE BY 7.30 AM ON MONDAY (SEPTEMBER 19).

ANYONE WISHING TO USE THEIR OWN TRANSPORT WILL HAVE TO STOP AT THE ROAD BARRIER AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE RESERVOIR AREA AND TO TRANSFER TO THE PRESS COACHES, WHICH WILL ARRIVE AT ABOUT 8.30 AM.

ACCESS TO THE AREA AND THE PRESS POSITION WILL BE BY PRESS COACH ONLY.

DETAILS OF THE PRESS ARRANGEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 22 AND 23 WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER.

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ADDITIONAL SCHEDULED AIR SERVICES BETWEEN HK AND CHINA

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AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED ON ADDITIONAL SCHEDULED AIRLINE FLIGHTS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND POINTS IN CHINA FOLLOWING THREE DAYS OF BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS IN BEIJING ON ARRANGEMENTS UNDER THE UK - CHINA AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT.

THIS WAS DISCLOSED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MRS ELIZABETH BOSHER, WHO ATTENDED THE DISCUSSIONS AS A MEMBER OF THE UK TEAM.

THE CAPACITIES OF FLIGHTS ON HONG KONG - CHINA ROUTES WERE LAST REVIEWED AND ADJUSTED IN 1991.

"TO MEET A GROWTH IN DEMAND, ADDITIONAL CHARTER FLIGHTS HAVE BEEN OPERATED ON A REGULAR BASIS BY BOTH CHINESE AIRLINES AND DRAGONAIR SINCE THEN.

"THE AGREEMENT FORMALISES THESE FLIGHTS, THEREBY INCORPORATING THE ADDITIONAL CAPACITIES AS PART OF THE SCHEDULED SERVICES OPERATING BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINA," SHE EXPLAINED.

MRS BOSHER SAID THE DEVELOPMENT WOULD BE OF BENEFIT TO THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC, ESPECIALLY AS IT WOULD PUT DRAGONAIR IN A BETTER POSITION TO PLAN THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF ITS SERVICES.

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TRANSCRIPT OF FOREIGN SECRETARY'S PRESS CONFERENCE

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FOLLOWING IS A TRANSCRIPT OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE BY THE BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY, THE RT HON DOUGLAS HURD, AT CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES TODAY (FRIDAY):

GOVERNOR: GOOD AFTERNOON, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. WE'RE DELIGHTED THAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE HAS BEEN ABLE TO VISIT HONG KONG ONCE AGAIN AT A PARTICULARLY USEFUL MOMENT, JUST BEFORE NEXT WEEK'S JLG, AND BEFORE HIS MEETING WITH QIAN QICHEN AT THE END OF THE MONTH AND I'D LIKE TO INVITE HIM TO SAY A FEW WORDS TO US.

FOREIGN SECRETARY: ONE OF THE TRUTHS ABOUT HONG KONG IS THAT IT DOESN'T STAND STILL AND THEREFORE THOSE WHO ARE IN ANY WAY INVOLVED IN ITS AFFAIRS HAVE TO COME HERE AS OFTEN AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO SEE HOW IT HAS MOVED FORWARD. IT'S A YEAR SINCE I WAS HERE AND THAT WAS VERY SHORT. TODAY HAS BEEN A DAY OF SEEING FOR MYSELF HOW THINGS HAVE MOVED FORWARD. I'VE HAD LONG TALKS WITH THE GOVERNOR AND HIS SENIOR OFFICIALS. THIS MORNING I MET MEMBERS OF EXCO AND LEGCO. I HAD A MEETING WITH SOME OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY LAST NIGHT. I HAVE VISITED THE NEW AIRPORT TODAY.

IN THE WORLD OUTSIDE HONG KONG, AMONG IGNORANT PEOPLE, THERE MAY STILL BE AN IDEA THAT SOMEHOW WE'RE HANGING ABOUT, HONG KONG IS HANGING ABOUT AND WAITING. BUT IN FACT THE NEW AIRPORT, THE BIGGEST CIVIL ENGINEERING PROJECT NOW IN THE WORLD, IS GOING AHEAD AMAZINGLY FAST. AND ANYONE WHO VISITS IT, AS I DID THIS MORNING, CAN'T FAIL TO BE DEEPLY IMPRESSED BY WHAT IS GOING ON THERE. ITS PRACTICAL IMPORTANCE AND ITS SYMBOLIC IMPORTANCE, AS FAR AS HONG KONG IS CONCERNED, ARE HUGE. I WENT TO SHA TIN, WHICH AGAIN I REMEMBER STANDING ON A HILLSIDE OUTSIDE SHA TIN AND BEING TOLD HERE WOULD BE THE RACE COURSE, HERE WOULD BE THE NEW TOWN AND THINKING, WELL, THAT'S FINE, THESE WERE GOOD PLANS. THERE IT IS NOW, AN AMAZING CITY. HIGH STANDARDS OF HOUSING AND AS FAR AS I COULD JUDGE, HIGH ENTHUSIASM FOR THE ELECTIONS TAKING PLACE FOR THE DISTRICT BOARD. WE MET THE CANDIDATES AND THEY AND THEIR MANIFESTOES WERE QUITE REMINISCENT OF THESE PROCESSES ELSEWHERE AND THAT IN ITSELF WAS ACTUALLY EXCITING.

AND THEN NOW JUST IN THESE LAST FEW MINUTES MET BOTH SIDES OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP, THE BRITISH AND CHINESE TEAMS. IT WASN'T AN OPERATIONAL MEETING BUT IT ENABLED ME, I HOPE, TO PROVIDE THEM WITH A LITTLE BIT OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO PERSEVERE IN A JOB WHICH MOVES, BUT IN OUR VIEW MOVES TOO SLOWLY.

I'VE BEEN STRUCK DURING THESE DIFFERENT OCCASIONS BY TWO THINGS. FIRST, AS I HAVE BEEN OFTEN BEFORE, BY THE CONFIDENCE WHICH PEOPLE HERE HAVE IN THEIR ECONOMY, IN THEIR SOCIETY AND IN ITS FUTURE PROSPECTS. THE FOUNDATIONS ARE STRONG. SECONDLY, THE EMPHASIS WHICH EVERYONE PUTS, WITH DIFFERING ACCENTS, ON THE NEED FOR COOPERATION WITH CHINA AS WE MOVE TOWARDS THE TRANSFER OF SOVEREIGNTY AND I ENTIRELY AGREE WITH THAT. THAT MUST BE THE BASIS ON WHICH THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT APPROACH EVERY DISCUSSION WITH PEKING. AND I URGED BOTH SIDES OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP THIS AFTERNOON, URGED ON THEM THE NEED FOR MORE RAPID PROGRESS. THERE IS A FORMIDABLE BACKLOG OF WORK TO TACKLE, SUCCESS OVER DEFENCE LANDS SHOWS THAT PROGRESS CAN BE MADE, DECISIONS CAN BE REACHED EVEN ON VERY SENSITIVE MATTERS AND THEY MUST CLEARLY PRESS AHEAD WITH THAT.

/I SHALL

I SHALL BE SEEING, AS THE GOVERNOR SAID, MY CHINESE COUNTERPART, MR QIAN QICHEN, IN NEW YORK THE WEEK AFTER NEXT. AND I SEE THAT MEETING AS LINKED, TO A CERTAIN EXTENT, A PRELUDE TO THE IMPORTANT SPEECH WHICH THE GOVERNOR WILL MAKE ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT OF HONG KONG'S PROGRAMME HERE ON OCTOBER 5. I WILL PUT TO MR QIAN QICHEN AGAIN OUR CONVICTION AND OUR COMMITMENT. WE ARE SERIOUS ABOUT MAKING PROGRESS IN COOPERATION WITH CHINA FOR THE BENEFIT OF HONG KONG. WE ARE SERIOUS PARTLY BECAUSE THERE IS A COMMITMENT, A LEGAL COMMITMENT IN THE JOINT DECLARATION AND PARTLY BECAUSE THERE IS A SHARED INTEREST, BRITAIN'S INTEREST, CHINA'S INTEREST, HONG KONG'S INTEREST, THAT THIS CO-OPERATION SHOULD SUCCEED. IN ORDER TO SUCCEED IT NEEDS BOTH TO DEEPEN AND TO WIDEN. IT NEEDS TO BE MORE EFFECTIVE AND GO DEEPER IN THE AREAS WHICH ARE ALREADY BEING DISCUSSED, TO CONCLUDE AN AIRPORT AGREEMENT FOR EXAMPLE, TO CONCLUDE AN AIRPORT AGREEMENT. BUT IT NEEDS TO GO WIDER INTO AREAS WHERE THERE IS NOT AT THE MOMENT. CO-OPERATION NEEDS TO DEEPEN AND WIDEN AS FORESEEN IN THE JOINT DECLARATION. AND I AND MY COLLEAGUES, ALASTAIR GOODLAD, THE PRIME MINISTER, WE WILL WORK WITH THE GOVERNOR DURING THIS PERIOD, DURING THE REMAINING PERIOD OF BRITISH RULE.

OF COURSE THERE ARE UNCERTAINTIES AND DIFFICULTIES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. WHO ON EARTH, WHO ON EARTH IN HONG KONG EVER SUPPOSED THAT THIS JOB WOULD BE CARRIED THROUGH WITHOUT UNCERTAINTIES AND DIFFICULTIES. TWO SYSTEMS IN ONE COUNTRY IS AN AMAZINGLY DIFFICULT OBJECTIVE TO REALISE BUT ALSO AN ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY ONE. BUT WHAT HAS CHANGED IN HONG KONG IN THE PERIOD I'VE BEEN FOREIGN SECRETARY HAS BEEN THAT THE UNCERTAINTIES WHICH REMAIN, OF COURSE THEY DO, THE DOUBTS WHICH EXIST, NO LONGER DOMINATE THE LIFE OF HONG KONG. THERE IS A MUCH GREATER STABILITY OF OPINION AND THERE IS MUCH MUCH LESS FEVERISHNESS THAN THERE USED TO BE WHEN I FIRST CAME HERE. THIS IS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME, I MAY SAY, IT IS SIMPLY THE CONFIDENCE WHICH PEOPLE HERE HAVE IN THE SUCCESS OF HONG KONG AND INDEED IN THE CONTRIBUTION WHICH HONG KONG IS ALREADY MAKING DAY BY DAY TO THE LIFE OF CHINA AND IN PARTICULAR TO THE SOUTHERN PART. THE SPECIAL AUTONOMOUS REGION WILL COMPRISE 23% ON PRESENT FIGURES, 23% OF THE GNP OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

SO THAT IS WHAT I MEAN BY A SHARED INTEREST. IT IS IN CHINA'S INTEREST, BRITAIN'S INTEREST, IN HONG KONG'S INTEREST THAT THIS WORK SHOULD SUCCEED. PATIENCE AND PERSEVERANCE ARE NEEDED, BOTH OF THEM. PATIENCE IS NOT ENOUGH IF YOU ARE INACTIVE. PERSEVERANCE IS NOT ENOUGH IS YOU ARE SIMPLY HOPING FOR IMMEDIATE RESULTS TOMORROW. PATIENCE AND PERSEVERANCE ON ALL SIDES WILL SEE US, I BELIEVE, TO A SUCCESSFUL END OF THIS WORK. SO I GO AWAY NOT DEPRESSED OR DISCOURAGED BUT REINFORCED IN THE BELIEF THAT WE IN LONDON, LIKE YOU IN HONG KONG, HAVE TO ACCELERATE OUR COMMITMENT TO THIS TASK AND GET IT TO ITS SUCCESS.

GOVERNOR: QUESTIONS? CAN YOU GIVE YOUR NAME AND THE MEDIA ORGANISATION THAT YOU COME FROM AND WE'LL GET IN AS MANY QUESTIONS AS WE CAN.

QUESTION (EASTERN EXPRESS): HOW USEFUL DO YOU THINK THE MEETING YOU JUST HAD WITH THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP? DID YOU PUT ANY ENCOURAGEMENT TO THEM?

FOREIGN SECRETARY: IT WAS NOT AN OPERATIONAL MEETING. IT WAS A MEETING WHICH I INITIATED BECAUSE IT SEEMED TO ME A USEFUL OCCASION SIMPLY TO EMPHASISE DIRECT FROM LONDON THE IMPORTANCE WHICH WE ATTACH TO THE WORK OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP. JOINT LIAISON GROUP WORK IS NOT A LUXURY, IT'S NOT AN ADD-ON, IT'S NOT AN OPTION. IT'S ESSENTIAL. IF HONG KONG IS TO PROCEED UNDER THE CHINESE FLAG FULLY EQUIPPED WITH THE LEGAL AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS NECESSARY FOR SUCCESS, IF HONG KONG IS NOT FULLY EQUIPPED AS IT MOVES INTO ITS NEW STATUS, THEN ITS PROSPECTS OF SUCCESS WILL TO SOME EXTENT BE FRAYED AT THE EDGES. SO THAT IS A SHARED INTEREST. I WANTED TO IMPART THAT TO AMBASSADOR GOU. WE DID NOT DISCUSS PARTICULAR ITEMS. HE EXPRESSED THE VIEW, HE SHARED THE VIEW THAT THE JLG SHOULD NOT ONLY CONTINUE BUT SHOULD INTENSIFY ITS WORK.

QUESTION (SCMP): I HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT THE WORK OF THE JLG. AT THIS STAGE YOU SIMPLY HAVE NOT ENOUGH TIME TO COMPLETE ALL THE OUTSTANDING PROGRAMMES BEFORE 1997, THAT YOU NEED TO INTRODUCE SOME MEASURES UNILATERALLY TO IMPLEMENT THOSE NECESSARY FOR THE CHANGE-OVER?

FOREIGN SECRETARY: NO, WE'VE NOT YET REACHED THAT STAGE AND I'VE DISCUSSED THIS POINT WITH THE GOVERNOR SO I KNOW HIS VIEW. NO, WE'VE NOT REACHED THAT STAGE. WE NEED TO BE IMAGINATIVE IN THE WORK OF THE JLG IF PRESENT PROCEDURES NEED ADAPTATION. IF WORK CAN BE DONE IN A DIFFERENT WAY IN ORDER TO ACCELERATE IT, IN ORDER THAT PURELY TECHNICAL MATTERS CAN BE DEALT WITH WITHOUT A POLITICAL OVERTONE, WELL THIS IS SOMETHING THAT THE TWO SIDES CAN DISCUSS. WE SHOULD NOT BE AFRAID OF BEING IMAGINATIVE IN THIS FIELD. BUT WE DO NEED THE JLG BECAUSE AT THE END OF THE DAY INFORMALITY IS NOT ENOUGH. WE ARE TALKING ABOUT ACTUAL AGREEMENTS AND PROCEDURES WHICH HONG KONG WILL NEED. IT WILL NEED TO BE PUBLIC. THE COURTS WILL NEED TO INTERPRET, AS SERVICES AGREEMENT, LOCALISATION OF LAWS, THESE THINGS NEED TO BE OUT THERE IN THE OPEN, DEFINED, AND THAT IS DONE, THAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE JLG AND IT REMAINS ESSENTIAL.

QUESTION (ASIA BUSINESS NEWS): MARTIN LEE SAID THIS MORNING THAT THE TIME WILL SOON COME WHEN ESSENTIALLY BRITAIN WILL HAVE TO REALISE THAT THE SITUATION IS HOPELESS REGARDING GETTING AGREEMENTS WITH CHINA AND BASICALLY REACH ITS OWN AGREEMENTS AND CARRY ON AND DO WHATEVER'S NECESSARY. WHAT'S YOUR REPLY TO MARTIN LEE?

FOREIGN SECRETARY: WELL, I DON'T THINK THE RECORDS SHOW THAT. THESE THINGS TAKE LONG, THEY TAKE LONGER THAN YOU'D EXPECT. YOU RUN INTO DIFFICULTIES, YOU PERSEVERE. THINK OF DEFENCE LANDS. ANYONE SITTING DOWN FIVE OR SIX YEARS AGO AND SAYING "WELL, WHICH IS THE MOST DIFFICULT ISSUE?" MIGHT WELL HAVE DECIDED THAT DEFENCE LANDS WOULD BE THE MOST DIFFICULT, AND YET IT'S BEEN SOLVED. SO I DON'T. I UNDERSTAND MARTIN LEE'S SENSE OF FRUSTRATION BUT HE'S WRONG TO DESPAIR BECAUSE THE BEST WAY IS THROUGH CO-OPERATION AND AGREEMENT.

QUESTION (DAILY TELEGRAPH): I NOTE THAT YOU SAID THAT YOU HAD COME HERE TO ENCOURAGE CO-OPERATION. I'M AFRAID THAT ONE OR TWO OF US WHO HAVE FOLLOWED THESE EVENTS RATHER CLOSELY OVER RECENT YEARS WILL REMEMBER THE MESSAGE IN THAT VEIN THAT YOU TOOK TO PEKING IN APRIL 1991 ON THE AIRPORT. AND LAST YEAR AT PEKING ON THE MATTER OF NEGOTIATIONS FOR POLITICAL ARRANGEMENTS HERE AND WE HAVE NOT PROCEEDED VERY FAR IN EITHER AREA. SO, IS IT NOT THE CASE THAT BRITISH POLICY TOWARDS HONG KONG IS AN UNACCEPTABLE ONE, WITH A VIEW TO A SMOOTH TRANSITION AT THE MOMENT, AND ONE INDEED THAT'S NOT IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST OF BRITAIN WITH REGARD TO COMMERCIAL INTEREST IN THE UK? IS IT NOT IN OTHER WORDS, TIME TO CHANGE TACK?

FOREIGN SECRETARY: I'M NOT QUITE SURE IN WHICH DIRECTION YOU'RE PROPOSING WE SHOULD CHANGE TACK, BUT THEN YOU DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION.

NO, I DON'T AGREE WITH THAT. THE AIRPORT IS BEING BUILT. A FEW YEARS AGO IT WAS A DREAM AND THEN A BLUEPRINT. THE ELECTIONS ARE BEING HELD. OF COURSE, NOT BY AGREEMENT AND WE DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT THE CHINESE, WHAT EXACT ACTION THEY WILL TAKE AFTER '97. BUT THERE YOU HAVE FIVE CANDIDATES IN SHA TIN AND OBVIOUSLY AN UNPRECEDENTED DEGREE OF DEMOCRATIC INTEREST. THIS IS GOOD. OTHER MATTERS HAVE BEEN SETTLED BY AGREEMENT AND I'VE JUST GIVEN YOU A RATHER IMPORTANT EXAMPLE. I BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD SEEK AGREEMENT AND WE ARE DETERMINED TO DO SO. I DON'T SEE A SATISFACTORY ALTERNATIVE. THERE ARE CERTAIN CHARACTERISTICS OF HONG KONG WHICH NEED TO BE PRESERVED. AN OBJECTIVE CIVIL SERVICE USING ITS PROFESSIONAL SKILLS TO PROVIDE A VERY HIGH STANDARD OF ADMINISTRATION, IS ONE SUCH ASSET, PART OF THE CHARACTER OF HONG KONG WHICH NEEDS TO BE PRESERVED. I USE THAT AS AN EXAMPLE BECAUSE I THINK IT'S AN IMPORTANT ONE. WE DO NEED TO SEEK AGREEMENT WITH CHINA ON THE FUTURE OF THE CIVIL SERVICE. THIS IS PARTLY A MATTER OF INDIVIDUAL CAREERS AND PARTLY A MATTER OF GOVERNMENT POLICIES. THAT IS AN EXAMPLE, I THINK A GOOD EXAMPLE, WHERE IT MUST BE RIGHT TO SEEK SUCH AGREEMENT. WHERE TO DESPAIR OF AGREEMENT IS TO OPT FOR SOMETHING WHICH IS VERY MUCH AN INFERIOR CHOICE.

QUESTION: THE CHINESE SIDE SAYS THAT THEY ALWAYS WANT THE BRITISH SIDE TO FULLY COOPERATE WITH THEM AND I UNDERSTAND THAT WHAT THEY MEAN IS THAT THEY WANT THE BRITISH SIDE TO DISCUSS ALL THE IMPORTANT ISSUES OF HONG KONG WITH THEM, INCLUDING MAYBE SOME MAJOR CHANGES OF THE LAW, AMENDMENTS OF THE LAW AND THAT WOULD MEAN THAT IT WOULD SOMEWHAT INTERFERE WITH HONG KONG'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS. THE SECOND THING THEY WANT, WHAT THEY MEAN IS THAT THEY WANT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO HAVE FORMAL CONTACTS WITH THE PWC TO ASSIST IN THE TRANSITIONAL MATTERS. SO DOES THE BRITISH SIDE WANT TO CO-OPERATE WITH THIS?

FOREIGN SECRETARY: WELL, I THINK THIS IS SOMETHING WHICH I'D BETTER LEAVE TO THE GOVERNOR TO COMMENT ON AND HE MAY NOT WANT TO DO SO TODAY BUT ON A LATER OCCASION. THERE IS NO BAR OF COURSE FROM HONG KONG CIVIL SERVANTS DISCUSSING MATTERS WITH INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF THE PWC, MANY MANY OF WHOM HAVE IMPORTANT POSTS OF RESPONSIBILITY IN THE EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS IN HONG KONG. SO THERE'S NO DIFFICULTY ABOUT THAT. ACROSS THE RANGE OF POLICY MATTERS THERE IS A VERY WIDE DEGREE OF CO-OPERATION ALREADY. MORE SO THAN IS GENERALLY REALISED, EXEMPLIFIED, I THINK, BY THE VERY RECENT AGREEMENTS COVERING CO-OPERATION WITH SHENZHEN AND THE 24 HOUR OPENING OF THE FRONTIER. THESE SHOW THAT WHEN YOU MOVE AWAY FROM THE POLITICAL SPHERE, AND DON'T ALLOW POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES TO DOMINATE A DISCUSSION, WHEN YOU ACTUALLY IDENTIFY THE SHARED INTEREST AND ACT ON IT, THEN IT'S POSSIBLE TO REACH AGREEMENT REALLY WITHOUT TOO MUCH DIFFICULTY. THAT'S THE KIND OF EXAMPLE WE NEED TO FOLLOW.

/QUESTION:

QUESTION: FOREIGN SECRETARY, I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU ABOUT THE VIETNAMESE IN THE CAMPS HERE. I UNDERSTAND THAT THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT REGARDED AS REFUGEES NOW, BUT THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF VIETNAMESE WHO SAY THEY'RE NOT GOING TO GO VOLUNTARILY AT ALL. NOW I WANT TO KNOW IS THERE A KIND OF AN UNDERSTANDING WITH CHINA OF SOME KIND ABOUT THE VIETNAMESE BEING SENT BACK BEFORE 1997? AND IF THERE ISN'T, WHY IS IT NECESSARY TO RUN THE RISK OF ANOTHER WHITEHEAD? WHY CAN'T THE VIETNAMESE IN THE CAMPS EITHER BE OFFERED A CHANCE TO GO, AS IT WERE QUIETLY AND NICELY, OR BE TOLD THAT THE CHINESE WILL REMOVE THEM IN THEIR OWN WAY AFTER 1997? WHY DO THE BRITISH HAVE TO TAKE SUCH FORCIBLE METHODS WITH THESE PEOPLE IF THEY REALLY DON'T WANT TO GO? IN THREE YEARS IT WILL BE SOMEBODY ELSE WHO HAVE TO DO THAT, WHY CAN'T THEY BE OFFERED THE CHOICE?

FOREIGN SECRETARY: NO, THERE'S NO UNDERSTANDING WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC ON THIS ISSUE. WHAT THERE IS IS A BRITISH COMMITMENT TO HONG KONG DATING A LONG TIME BACK THAT WE WOULD SEEK TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM. WHEN I BECAME FOREIGN SECRETARY IT WAS JUST ABOUT THE MOST DIFFICULT PROBLEM ON MY LAP. AND WE BEGAN THE PROGRAMME OF VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION AND ORDERLY REPATRIATION WITH SOME DIFFICULTY BUT IT HAS WORKED. IT'S NOT COMPLETE, IT'S HALF WAY, AS YOU CLEARLY KNOW. I DISCUSSED IT IN HANOI YESTERDAY WITH THE VIETNAMESE AND THEY ARE WILLING TO CONTINUE TO CO-OPERATE AND THE ORP FLIGHTS WILL, I THINK, RESUME PRETTY SOON FROM WHAT I HEAR. SO I THINK WE HAVE TO PERSEVERE WITH THIS. OF COURSE WE'RE NOT THROUGH ALL THE DIFFICULTIES BUT I THINK WE HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO HONG KONG. PEOPLE IN HONG KONG WERE VERY RELUCTANT TO SEE THE BOAT PEOPLE COME IN THE FIRST PLACE AND I THINK IF WE WERE TO ABANDON THE PROGRAMME HALFWAY THROUGH THE RESENTMENT HERE WOULD BE UNDERSTANDABLE AND STRONG.

QUESTION: THERE ARE GOING TO BE PENALTIES FOR THIS ON ALL SIDES. IT MAY BE VERY, VERY UNPLEASANT IN THE NEXT MOVES.

FOREIGN SECRETARY: THERE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN DIFFICULTIES WITH THE ORP BUT THEY HAVE BEEN OVERCOME IN THE PAST AND WE NEED TO PERSEVERE. OTHERWISE, ONE IS SIMPLY GIVING UP AND CEASING TO TRY TO TACKLE A PROBLEM WHICH LOOMED LARGE AND COULD LOOM LARGE AGAIN. YOU HAVE TO TRY AND CONTINUE TO TACKLE IT. WE'VE FOUND A WAY OF DOING SO, WE HAVE TO CONTINUE.

QUESTION (ORIENTAL DAILY): IN WHAT WAY WILL YOU PUT FORWARD A PEOPLE RULING HONG KONG CONCEPT TO MR QIAN QICHEN WHEN YOU TWO MEET OR THE FORMATION OF THE SAR GOVERNMENT?

FOREIGN SECRETARY: IN WHAT WAY WILL WE

QUESTION (ORIENTAL DAILY): IN WHAT WAY WILL YOU PUT FORWARD THE CONCEPT OF HONG KONG PEOPLE RULING HONG KONG AND THE FORMATION OF THE SAR GOVERNMENT, TO MR QIAN?

/FOREIGN SECRETARY:

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FOREIGN SECRETARY: WELL, WHAT I WILL BE DOING WITH MR QIAN IS NOT PUTTING FORWARD ADDITIONAL OR DIFFERENT BLUEPRINTS FOR THE FUTURE BUT SIMPLY REHEARSING, THOUGH IN GREATER DETAIL AND IN A CONFIDENTIAL CONVERSATION, BASIC POINTS THAT I'VE BEEN MAKING HERE AND THAT PEOPLE HAVE MADE TO ME HERE, THAT WE NEED TO GET ON WITH THE WORK DEFINED IN THE JOINT DECLARATION. NOT DODGE AWAY FROM THE JOINT DECLARATION BUT HONOUR IT. AND THE COMPULSION BEHIND THAT IS NOT JUST THE SIGNATURES ON THE DECLARATION, NOT JUST THE LEGAL OBLIGATION, BUT THE SHARED INTEREST. IT IS NOT A CHINESE INTEREST THAT THIS WORK SHOULD BE INCOMPLETE. IT NEEDS TO BE AS COMPLETE AND AS OF HIGH QUALITY AS POSSIBLE. IT'S OBVIOUSLY NOT A BRITISH INTEREST AND ABOVE ALL IT'S NOT A HONG KONG INTEREST. SO IF ONE GOES THROUGH THE DIFFERENT SECTORS AND ANALYSES THE SHARED INTEREST SECTOR BY SECTOR, THE RESULT AT ANY RATE SEEMS TO ME TO BE CLEAR. MR QIAN QICHEN WILL EXPLAIN HIS POINT OF VIEW. OUR MEETINGS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN, THEY'VE ALWAYS BEEN OF A WORKMAN-LIKE KIND. WE'VE NEVER SHOUTED AT EACH OTHER. WE HAVEN'T ALWAYS AGREED, OBVIOUSLY, BUT I'VE ALWAYS FELT AT THE END OF THE MEETING THAT IT WAS WORTHWHILE HAVING ONE, WHICH IS NOT MY EXPERIENCE AFTER ALL MEETINGS THAT I ATTEND. BUT WITH MR QIAN QICHEN THAT HAS ALWAYS BEEN MY FEELING AND I BELIEVE IT WILL BE SO AGAIN.

GOVERNOR: A COUPLE MORE QUESTIONS, UNLESS THERE'S ONLY ONE?

QUESTION (UNITED DAILY): AS AROUND THOSE DAYS THE CHINESE SIDE STILL ATTACK JARDINE'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE CT9. SO HOW COULD YOU ASK, TELL MR QIAN AND ENSURE THE FUTURE CO-OPERATION IN HONG KONG, FOR EXAMPLE, SOMETIMES INVOLVING BRITISH BUSINESSMEN CAN GO THROUGH SMOOTHLY, JUST LIKE CT9 WITH SOME DIFFICULTY?

FOREIGN SECRETARY: YES, BUT ON CT9 I DON'T WANT TO ADD TO WHAT THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY SAID. I THINK WHAT HE SAID SUMMARISED THE POSITION VERY CLEARLY. THE QUALITY AND HIGH STANDARDS OF ADMINISTRATION IN HONG KONG ARE ONE OF ITS MAIN ASSETS AND THAT'S NOT AN ASSET WHICH SHOULD BE DISSIPATED OR UNDERMINED.

QUESTION (TVB): FOREIGN SECRETARY, SINCE YOU'VE BEEN HERE YOU'VE USED THIS NEW CATCH PHRASE, SHARED INTEREST, BUT YOU'VE ALSO SAID THAT THE BRITISH HAVE NOTHING NEW TO OFFER THE CHINESE TO BREAK THE STALEMATE. WHY DO YOU THINK THE CHINESE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO BREAK THIS DEADLOCK JUST BECAUSE WE HAVE A NEW CATCH PHRASE, SHARED INTEREST? SURELY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT MUST OFFER SOMETHING NEW?

FOREIGN SECRETARY: THIS IS NOT A QUESTION OF WHERE WE MAKE CONCESSIONS OR INDEED THE CHINESE MAKE CONCESSIONS. IT'S NOT THAT KIND OF PROBLEM. IT'S NOT A CATCH PHRASE, IT'S A REALITY. IF EITHER SIDE SITS BACK AND SAYS, WELL THIS IS ALL TOO DIFFICULT, THEN THE SHARED INTEREST WILL SUFFER. IT WON'T BE ONE SIDE SUCCESSFULLY INSULTS OR HUMILIATES THE OTHER, THAT'S NOT AN OPTION. THE SHARED INTEREST WILL SUFFER. HONG KONG WILL SUFFER AND IT'S A SHARED INTEREST THAT HONG KONG SHOULD SUCCEED.

/NOW, I'M

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NOW, I'M NOT GOING TO SAY THAT ONE MEETING IN NEW YORK OR ONE MEETING OF THE JLG OR TWO MEETINGS OF THE JLG, ALL THAT SITUATION IS GOING TO BE TRANSFORMED AND ALL THE POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES WHICH HAVE OBSCURED THE SHARED INTEREST WILL DISAPPEAR. IT MAY TAKE LONGER THAN THAT WHICH IS WHY I TALKED OF PATIENCE AND PERSEVERANCE. BUT SHARED INTEREST IS NOT A CATCH PHRASE, IT'S A REALITY. IT LAY AT THE HEART OF THE JOINT DECLARATION AND WE NEED TO RETURN TO THAT SENSE OF SHARED REALITY BECAUSE ALL THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE DAMAGING TO EVERYBODY, NOT JUST TO ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER BUT TO EVERYBODY.

GOVERNOR: THANK YOU VERY MUCH INDEED.

FOREIGN SECRETARY: THANKS A LOT.

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TRANSCRIPT OF BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY'S MEDIA SESSION

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FOLLOWING IS THE TRANSCRIPT OF THE MEDIA SESSION GIVEN BY THE BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY, THE RT HON DOUGLAS HURD, THIS (FRIDAY) MORNING FOLLOWING HIS MEETING WITH LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLORS IN HONG KONG:

MR DOUGLAS HURD: CAN I JUST SAY A QUICK WORD ABOUT THE MEETING WITH LEGCO, I'VE GOT A FULL PRESS CONFERENCE THIS AFTERNOON BUT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL JUST TO HAVE A VERY QUICK WORD.

THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, THEY GROUPED THEIR QUESTIONS. I THINK MOST OF THE ISSUES ARE FAMILIAR TO YOU. THERE WERE QUESTIONS ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS, ABOUT THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION. I SAID THAT NOBODY CAN BE AMBIVALENT ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS. THE QUESTION IS HOW THEY ARE BEST ENTRENCHED AND FORTIFIED AND WE HAD A DISCUSSION ABOUT THAT.

NATIONALITY ISSUES - AGAIN IT'S A FAIRLY FAMILIAR SUBJECT AND I UNDERSTAND ITS SENSITIVITY HERE. I BELIEVE THAT THE MEASURES TAKEN BY PARLIAMENT IN 1990 REMAIN THE BEST AVAILABLE FOR THE PURPOSE. THEY'VE BEEN FAIRLY WIDELY WELCOMED HERE, THOUGH OF COURSE PEOPLE WOULD LIKE TO GO FURTHER. AS REGARDS THE WAR WIDOWS, THEN YOU KNOW THE POSITION THAT EACH OF THESE LADIES HAS RECEIVED A LETTER FROM THE HOME SECRETARY AND THAT I THINK DEALS WITH THOSE PARTICULAR CASES.

THERE WAS A GOOD DEAL OF DISCUSSION ABOUT THE WORK OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP. ABOUT CONTACTS BETWEEN CIVIL SERVANTS HERE IN HONG KONG AND THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES AND I EMPHASISED OUR DESIRE TO UNBLOCK THE WORK OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP. TO TAKE POLITICS OUT OF SOME OF THESE VERY PRACTICAL, EVEN TECHNICAL AND LEGAL DISCUSSIONS SO THAT THE WORK OF THE JLG CAN PROCEED, SO THAT WHEN THE TIME FOR THE TRANSFER OF SOVEREIGNTY COMES THERE WILL BE NO WEAKNESSES, NO GAPS IN THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK WITH WHICH HONG KONG WILL MOVE INTO ITS NEW STATUS.

THOSE WERE THE MAIN ISSUES. THERE WERE ONE OR TWO OTHERS. ANY QUICK QUESTIONS?

/QUESTION:

QUESTION: CAN YOU TELL US YOUR REACTION TO PRESIDENT CLINTON'S PLANS ON HAITI?

MR DOUGLAS HURD: YES, WELL WE SUPPORT THE UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTION, THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION UNDER WHICH PRESIDENT CLINTON IS ACTING. WE'VE MADE THAT CLEAR, WE BELIEVE IT'S JUSTIFIED AND THAT THE REGIME IN HAITI IS ILLEGAL. IT'S BEEN GIVEN PLENTY OF TIME TO CORRECT THE POSITION, IT'S NOT DONE SO.

QUESTION: ...EXPECT BREAKTHROUGH AT JLG MEETING...?

MR DOUGLAS HURD: NO, I DON'T EXPECT A BREAKTHROUGH AT THIS MEETING. IT JUST SEEMED TO ME SENSIBLE TO TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET BOTH SIDES OF THE JLG. FOR THE REASON I'VE GIVEN, THE JLG, JOINT LIAISON GROUP, IS AN IMPORTANT BODY, IT'S AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE MACHINERY SET UP BY THE JOINT DECLARATION. IT'S RUN INTO SOME DIFFICULTIES, IT'S DONE SOME VERY USEFUL WORK, FOR EXAMPLE ON DEFENCE LANDS, BUT IT HAS PROBLEMS AHEAD OF IT AND I WOULD LIKE JUST TO MEET BOTH SIDES OF THE JLG AND ENCOURAGE THEM IN THEIR WORK.

QUESTION:SPEED UP THE PROGRESS OF JLG....?

MR DOUGLAS HURD: IT'S A SHARED INTEREST OF CHINA AND HONG KONG AND BRITAIN THAT HONG KONG SHOULD MOVE INTO IT'S NEW STATUS IN 1997, FULLY EQUIPPED. BY THAT I MEAN THAT IT HAS IN PLACE THE FRAMEWORK OF LAWS WHICH ENABLE HONG KONG TO SUCCEED. THAT IS THE WORK OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP, SO WE ARE NOT ASKING FAVOURS OF CHINA. WE'RE SIMPLY SAYING, PLEASE CONSIDER THE WORK OF THIS GROUP, WHAT IT HAS TO DO AND THE SHARED INTEREST IN ITS SUCCESS. ANY MORE, ONE MORE?

QUESTION:ATMOSPHERE OF MEETING IN LEGCO....?

MR DOUGLAS HURD: THERE WAS A LITTLE RHETORIC FROM TIME TO TIME BUT LESS THAN ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS. RHETORIC IS NOT HELPFUL IN DEALING WITH THE KIND OF ISSUES WE DISCUSSED. WE ARE DEALING WITH THESE ISSUES IN GOOD FAITH, I THINK THAT THAT IS RECOGNISED. WHERE THERE ARE DIFFERENCES OF OPINION, THAT'S INEVITABLE IN A LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THIS KIND BUT WE HAD A GOOD AND I WOULD SAY A WORKMAN-LIKE DISCUSSION.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

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LAND REGISTRY RELEASES FIGURES FOR AUGUST

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THE NUMBER OF SALE AND PURCHASE AGREEMENTS FOR RESIDENTIAL AND NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING UNITS RECEIVED FOR REGISTRATION IN THE LAND REGISTRY LAST MONTH WAS 6,355, REPRESENTING DECREASES OF 8.3 PER CENT AND 56.7 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY COMPARED WITH JULY 1994 AND AUGUST 1993.

THE TOTAL CONSIDERATION OF THE AGREEMENTS AMOUNTS TO \$20.6 BILLION, DOWN 17.3 PER CENT AND 45.2 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY FROM THE FIGURES FOR JULY 1994 AND AUGUST 1993.

/THE FIGURES

THE FIGURES ARE CONTAINED IN THE MONTHLY STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE LAND REGISTRY ON DEEDS RELATING TO PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS RECEIVED FOR REGISTRATION IN THE URBAN AND NEW TERRITORIES LAND REGISTRIES LAST MONTH.

RELEVANT STATISTICS FOR JULY 1994 AND AUGUST 1993 WERE PROVIDED FOR COMPARISON. FIGURES ON SALE AND PURCHASE AGREEMENTS RECEIVED FOR THE PAST 12 MONTHS AND THE YEAR-ON-YEAR RATE OF CHANGE WERE ALSO RELEASED.

THESE STATISTICS GENERALLY RELATE TO LAND TRANSACTIONS EXECUTED UP TO FOUR WEEKS PRIOR TO THEIR SUBMISSION FOR REGISTRATION, AS THERE IS USUALLY A TIME LAG BETWEEN THE EXECUTION OF DEEDS AND THEIR LODGMENT FOR REGISTRATION.

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SOCIAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE SCHEME

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IN RESPONSE TO PRESS ENQUIRIES ABOUT AN ARTICLE IN AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER TODAY (FRIDAY), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SAID:

"THE MONTHLY PAYMENT OF \$5,600 RECEIVED BY THE FAMILY AS REPORTED IN THE ARTICLE REFERS ONLY TO THE STANDARD RATES UNDER THE COMPREHENSIVE SOCIAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE (CSSA) SCHEME."

"IN ADDITION TO THE STANDARD RATES, A WIDE RANGE OF SPECIAL GRANTS ARE PAID TO RECIPIENT FAMILIES, ACCORDING TO THEIR NEEDS AND CIRCUMSTANCES."

"THE SPECIAL GRANTS ARE FOR THE FAMILIES TO MEET EXPENSES SUCH AS RENT, WATER CHARGE; SCHOOL UNIFORMS AND FEES, NURSERY FEES, TEXTBOOKS, STATIONERY, AFTER-SCHOOL CARE PROGRAMME; OPTICAL AND MEDICAL FEES, TELEPHONE BILLS AND TRANSPORTATION TO SCHOOLS AND CLINICS."

"FOR A FAMILY OF FIVE MADE UP OF ONE ABLE-BODIED APPLICANT AND FOUR CHILDREN, THE MONTHLY STANDARD RATE WILL AMOUNT TO \$5,685 PLUS AN AVERAGE AMOUNT OF SPECIAL GRANTS WHICH MAY COME UP TO AROUND \$2,300 TO \$3,300 A MONTH."

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UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT
STATISTICS FOR MAY TO JULY

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THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR MAY TO JULY THIS YEAR WAS 1.9 PER CENT, AND THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE WAS 1.2 PER CENT, ACCORDING TO THE LATEST LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE PROVISIONAL SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR THE PERIOD OF JUNE TO AUGUST 1994 WAS 2.1 PER CENT, WHILE THE PROVISIONAL UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE WAS 1.1 PER CENT.

THE LATEST FIGURES SUGGEST THAT THE LABOUR MARKET CONDITIONS REMAINED GENERALLY TIGHT IN RECENT MONTHS.

DURING THE PERIOD OF MAY TO JULY 1994, THE NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, ADJUSTED FOR VARIATIONS IN THE NUMBER OF FIRST-TIME JOB-SEEKERS, WAS ESTIMATED AT 57,800, WHILE THE NUMBER OF UNDEREMPLOYED PERSONS WAS ESTIMATED AT 35,900.

THE UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT STATISTICS WERE OBTAINED FROM A CONTINUOUS GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE SURVEY FOR MAY TO JULY 1994 COVERED A QUARTERLY SAMPLE OF SOME 12,300 HOUSEHOLDS OR 42,500 PERSONS, SELECTED SCIENTIFICALLY TO REPRESENT THE LAND-BASED CIVILIAN NON-INSTITUTIONAL POPULATION IN HONG KONG.

RELEVANT DATA WERE OBTAINED FROM THE SURVEY BY INTERVIEWING EACH INDIVIDUAL MEMBER AGED 15 AND ABOVE IN THE HOUSEHOLDS SAMPLED.

IN THE SURVEY, THE DEFINITIONS USED IN MEASURING UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT FOLLOW CLOSELY THOSE RECOMMENDED BY THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION.

DETAILED ANALYSIS OF LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS IS GIVEN IN THE REPORT ON THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY WHICH IS PUBLISHED FOUR TIMES A YEAR.

THE NEXT REPORT COVERING THE QUARTER ENDING JUNE 1994 WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE BY THE END OF SEPTEMBER AT \$24 A COPY.

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HIGH COURT JUDGE APPOINTED

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THE JUDICIARY ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT MR JAMES KERR FINDLAY, QC, WILL BE APPOINTED A JUDGE OF THE HIGH COURT WITH EFFECT FROM SEPTEMBER 23, 1994.

MR FINDLAY WAS BORN IN 1936 IN SCOTLAND. HE WAS CALLED TO THE BAR IN 1963. HE WAS APPOINTED QUEEN'S COUNSEL IN 1986 AND AWARDED THE HONOUR OF OFFICER OF HER MAJESTY'S MOST EXCELLENT ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE (OBE) IN 1991 FOR SERVICES TO THE CROWN.

MR FINDLAY SERVED AS A MAGISTRATE IN RHODESIA FROM 1961 TO 1964.

HE WAS IN PRIVATE PRACTICE IN RHODESIA BETWEEN 1964 AND 1977 BEFORE BEING APPOINTED AS PROCURATOR FISCAL IN SCOTLAND.

IN 1978 HE WAS APPOINTED PARLIAMENTARY COUNSEL IN THE LORD ADVOCATE'S CHAMBERS IN LONDON WHERE HE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DRAFTING OF SCOTTISH LEGISLATION, ADAPTING UNITED KINGDOM LEGISLATION TO SCOTLAND, AND ADVISING THE LORD ADVOCATE AND SOLICITOR GENERAL FOR SCOTLAND.

IN 1981, MR FINDLAY CAME TO HONG KONG AS A DEPUTY PRINCIPAL CROWN COUNSEL AND WAS APPOINTED DEPUTY LAW DRAFTSMAN WITHIN A YEAR.

MR FINDLAY BECAME SOLICITOR GENERAL IN 1984 AND THEN DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS IN 1986. IN 1990, HE ASSUMED DUTIES AS LAW DRAFTSMAN.

MR FINDLAY SAT AS A DEPUTY JUDGE OF THE HIGH COURT FROM MAY 1989 TO APRIL 1990.

MR FINDLAY IS MARRIED WITH THREE DAUGHTERS.

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MR TONY YEN TO ACT AS LAW DRAFTSMAN

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IN RESPONSE TO PRESS ENQUIRIES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT FOLLOWING THE APPOINTMENT OF MR JAMES FINDLAY AS A HIGH COURT JUDGE, DEPUTY LAW DRAFTSMAN MR TONY YEN WILL ACT AS LAW DRAFTSMAN UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

A PROMOTION EXERCISE TO FILL THE POST OF LAW DRAFTSMAN WOULD BE CONDUCTED IN DUE COURSE, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT POLICY, THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT WOULD TRY TO FILL THE VACANCY WITH A LOCAL OFFICER, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR ROUTE 16 TO START

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THE FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR ROUTE 16 BETWEEN WEST KOWLOON AND SHA TIN WILL START THIS MONTH UPON THE SIGNING OF AN AGREEMENT TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE CONSULTANCY AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED BETWEEN THE REGIONAL HIGHWAY ENGINEER/NEW TERRITORIES OF THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT, MR YEUNG YU-CHEONG, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF MOUCHEL ASIA LIMITED, WHO ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE STUDY IN SEPTEMBER NEXT YEAR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT SAID "THE SECOND COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORT STUDY - UPDATE" HAD INDICATED THE NEED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF ROUTE 16 BETWEEN WEST KOWLOON AND SHA TIN.

ROUTE 16 WILL DISTRIBUTE TRAFFIC EFFECTIVELY FROM SHA TIN AND THE AREAS TO ITS NORTH, TO LAI CHI KOK, KWAI CHUNG AND THE FUTURE AIRPORT AT CHEK LAP KOK, OR TO MONG KOK, YAU MA TEI AND THEN HONG KONG ISLAND WEST THROUGH THE FUTURE WESTERN HARBOUR CROSSING.

MOREOVER, IT WILL ALLEVIATE THE TRAFFIC CONGESTION PROBLEM AT THE LION ROCK TUNNEL, TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL AND TAI PO ROAD.

THE PROJECT IS TO CONSTRUCT AN EXPRESSWAY CONNECTING WEST KOWLOON AT LAI CHI KOK AND SHA TIN AT TAI WAI.

IT MAINLY COMPRISES THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 6.2-KILOMETRE LONG EXPRESSWAY, A 2.2-KILOMETRE SECTION OF WHICH IS IN TUNNEL, CONNECTING ROAD T3 (UPGRADED TAI PO ROAD AT TAI WAI) AND THE FUTURE WEST KOWLOON EXPRESSWAY AT LAI WAN INTERCHANGE.

THE OPTIONS OF A DUAL TWO-LANE OR DUAL THREE-LANE CARRIAGEWAY WILL BE INVESTIGATED IN THIS FEASIBILITY STUDY.

THE TENTATIVE PROGRAMME OF THE PROJECT IS TO COMMENCE CONSTRUCTION IN MAY 1997 FOR COMPLETION IN NOVEMBER 2000.

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MR HURD VISITS SHA TIN

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THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS, THE RT HON DOUGLAS HURD, TODAY (FRIDAY) VISITED SHA TIN FOR A FIRST-HAND LOOK AT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE DISTRICT.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN; THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR MICHAEL SUEN; AND THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR DAVID BROWNING, MR HURD FIRST TOURED THE HENG ON ESTATE COMMERCIAL COMPLEX IN MA ON SHAN TO SEE THE DISTRICT OFFICE'S "GET OUT TO VOTE PUBLICITY EFFORTS" FOR THIS SUNDAY'S DISTRICT BOARD POLLS.

/AN ELECTION

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AN ELECTION MASCOT "MR VOTE" AND A PUBLICITY BUS WAS ON HAND TO PROMOTE THE "9.18 VOTE" MESSAGE.

AFTER VISITING A CIVIC EDUCATION EXHIBITION, MR HURD INSPECTED A POLLING STATION AT HENG ON COMMUNITY CENTRE WHERE HE WAS BRIEFED ON THE OPERATION OF THE STATION.

BEFORE ENDING HIS VISIT, MR HURD MET WITH THE DISTRICT BOARD CANDIDATES FOR THE HENG ON CONSTITUENCY.

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CONSULTANCY TO STUDY ECONOMIC MECHANISMS
FOR SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT

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THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS, MR ALEXANDER ARENA, ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT A CONTRACT WORTH \$2.5 MILLION HAD BEEN AWARDED TO DELOITTE TOUCHE TOHMATSU MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS, HONG KONG FOR A CONSULTANCY ON THE INTRODUCTION OF ECONOMIC MECHANISMS TO SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT IN HONG KONG.

UNDER THE CONTRACT, THE FIRM IS TO CARRY OUT THE STUDY IN COLLABORATION WITH NATIONAL ECONOMIC RESEARCH ASSOCIATES.

"THE RADIO SPECTRUM IS THE COMPLETE RANGE OF FREQUENCIES FOR THE SUPPORT OF ALL FORMS OF RADIO COMMUNICATIONS.

"IT IS A LIMITED AND VALUABLE PUBLIC RESOURCE, BUT IS PRESENTLY ALLOCATED AND ASSIGNED TO USERS BASED ON AN ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM WHICH DOES NOT NECESSARILY TAKE THE FULL VALUE OF THE SPECTRUM INTO ACCOUNT," MR ARENA SAID.

"THE EXISTING SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT SYSTEM MAY NOT LEAD TO THE MOST EFFICIENT UTILISATION OF THE RADIO SPECTRUM.

"THE CONSULTANTS WILL REVIEW THE CURRENT SYSTEM AND STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF INTRODUCING ECONOMIC MECHANISMS TO IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY OF SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT FOR THE ULTIMATE BENEFITS OF THE SPECTRUM USERS."

THE CONSULTANCY WILL START ON SEPTEMBER 26 AND WILL BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF JANUARY 1995.

TO ENSURE THAT THE VIEWS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE INDUSTRY ARE FULLY CONSIDERED, THE CONSULTANTS WILL INTERVIEW USERS OF THE RADIO SPECTRUM TO COLLECT THEIR VIEWS AND SUGGESTIONS.

THE CONSULTANTS WILL PRESENT THEIR PRELIMINARY FINDINGS IN A PUBLIC FORUM PRIOR TO PREPARING THEIR REPORT, AND CIRCULATE THEIR DRAFT REPORT FOR DISCUSSION AT A PUBLIC WORKSHOP BEFORE SUBMITTING THE FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS.

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CHANNEL TO ALLEVIATE FLOODING

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TO ALLEVIATE FLOODING IN KAM TIN AREA, THE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO BUILD A CONCRETE DRAINAGE CHANNEL WITHIN AN AREA OF ABOUT 1.7 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED AT THE UPSTREAM OF KAM TIN RIVER.

THE WORK WILL START IN MID-1996 AND BE COMPLETED BY LATE 1998.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA AFFECTED IS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE NOTICE AND ITS RELATED PLAN CAN BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS POSTED NEAR THE SITE.

THE PLAN CAN ALSO BE SEEN AT THE LANDS DEPARTMENT'S SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG AND AT THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, YUEN LONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDINGS, 269 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, YUEN LONG, NEW TERRITORIES.

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 16. IT SHOULD DESCRIBE THE INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT OF THE OBJECTOR AND THE MANNER IN WHICH HE ALLEGES HE WILL BE AFFECTED.

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UNFAIR TREATMENT OF DB CANDIDATES
BY OWNERS' COMMITTEE, HOLFORD GARDEN

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MR HO HAU-CHEUNG MET THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOUNDARY AND ELECTION COMMISSION THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON REGARDING THE PUBLIC CENSURE ON THE UNFAIR TREATMENT OF DISTRICT BOARD ELECTION CANDIDATES BY THE OWNERS' COMMITTEE OF HOLFORD GARDEN, MEI TIN CONSTITUENCY IN SHA TIN.

AT THE MEETING, MR HO POINTED OUT THAT HE ONLY STARTED PUTTING UP BANNERS IN HOLFORD GARDEN ON AUGUST 5, 1994 AFTER HE HAD MADE A DECLARATION REGARDING THE SAME TO THE RETURNING OFFICER.

THEREFORE, IN THIS REGARD, HE HAD NOT ACTED AGAINST SECTION 77 OF THE BOUNDARY AND ELECTION COMMISSION (ELECTORAL PROCEDURE) (GEOGRAPHICAL CONSTITUENCIES) REGULATION.

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NEW ON TING POST OFFICE

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A NEW ON TING POST OFFICE IN TUEN MUN WILL OPEN AT 9.30 AM ON SEPTEMBER 26 (MONDAY), THE POSTMASTER GENERAL, MR MIKE PAGLIARI, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE NEW POST OFFICE WILL BE LOCATED AT SHOP NO. 128-130, GROUND FLOOR, TING LUNG HOUSE, ON TING ESTATE, TUEN MUN.

IT WILL REPLACE THE POST OFFICE AT CARPARKING/MARKET BLOCK, ON TING ESTATE, WHICH WILL CLOSE FOR BUSINESS AT 1 PM ON SEPTEMBER 24 (SATURDAY).

THE BUSINESS HOURS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE NEW OFFICE WILL BE THE SAME AS THOSE OF THE EXISTING ONE.

A SPECIAL HANDBACK SERVICE WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE ON TING POST OFFICE WHEN IT OPENS ON SEPTEMBER 26.

UNREGISTERED FULLY POSTAGE PREPAID COVERS PREPARED PRIVATELY, AND BEARING THE SUPERSSCRIPTION "FIRST DAY COVER" AND A LOCAL ADDRESS, WILL BE ACCEPTED OVER THE COUNTER, IMPRESSED WITH THE NORMAL POST OFFICE DATESTAMP AND HANDED BACK TO THE PERSON PRESENTING THEM.

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WORKS AREA DEFINED FOR LAYING OF STORMWATER OUTFALL PIPE

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TO FACILITATE THE LAYING OF A STORMWATER OUTFALL PIPE, ABOUT 150 SQUARE METRES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED AT YAU KOM TAU, TSUEN WAN, WILL BE USED AS WORKS AREA.

THE WORK WILL START AROUND NOVEMBER THIS YEAR AND TAKE ABOUT SIX MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA AFFECTED IS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE NOTICE AND ITS RELATED PLAN CAN BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS POSTED NEAR THE SITE.

THE PLAN CAN ALSO BE SEEN AT THE LANDS DEPARTMENT'S SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG AND AT THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE, FIRST FLOOR, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING, 174 - 208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN, NEW TERRITORIES.

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 16. IT MUST DESCRIBE THE INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT OF THE OBJECTOR AND THE MANNER IN WHICH HE ALLEGES HE WILL BE AFFECTED.

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VICTORIA ROAD IMPROVEMENT STAGE II PROPOSED

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THE GOVERNMENT IS PROPOSING TO CARRY OUT STAGE II, PHASE I WORKS TO IMPROVE VICTORIA ROAD ON HONG KONG ISLAND.

DETAILS OF THE WORKS WERE GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE PURPOSE OF THE WORKS WAS TO IMPROVE THE PEDESTRIAN AND VEHICULAR TRAFFIC ON THE SECTION OF VICTORIA ROAD BETWEEN MOUNT DAVIES ROAD AND SANDY BAY ROAD BY BRINGING THE ROAD UP TO LATEST STANDARDS.

SECTIONS OF VICTORIA ROAD WILL BE WIDENED AND REALIGNED. NEW FOOTPATHS AND BUS BAYS WILL BE BUILT. TWO NEW VIADUCTS WILL ENABLE TWO SECTIONS OF THE EXISTING ROAD TO BE RETAINED FOR AN AMENITY AREA AND ONE OF THE PROPOSED BUS BAYS.

THE PROPOSED WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO START IN SEPTEMBER 1995 AND BE COMPLETED IN LATE 1997.

THE PLANS AND SCHEME OF THE WORKS MAY BE SEEN AT THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

- * CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG.
- * DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, HONG KONG SOUTH, 20TH FLOOR, SOUTHERN CENTRE, 130 HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG; AND
- * SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE, PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE, SHOP 25, GROUND FLOOR, MEI FUNG COURT, ABERDEEN CENTRE, 7-11 NAM NING STREET, ABERDEEN, HONG KONG.

ANY PERSON WHO WISHES TO OBJECT TO THE WORKS SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 15 THIS YEAR.

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CORRECTIONAL SERVICES LAUNCHES PUBLICITY ON "BEATING RETREAT"

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THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD A BAND DISPLAY AND EXHIBITION AT THE GARDEN PLAZA OF HONG KONG PARK ON SUNDAY (SEPTEMBER 18) TO PROMOTE A "BEATING RETREAT" PERFORMANCE TO BE STAGED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S SCOUTS NEXT MONTH.

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND THE HONG KONG ISLAND 221ST SCOUT GROUP, THE "BEATING RETREAT" WILL BE HELD AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM ON OCTOBER 19 AND 20.

THE MAIN PERFORMERS WILL BE A GROUP OF TRAINING CENTRE INMATES OF THE HONG KONG ISLAND 221ST SCOUT GROUP WHO WILL DEMONSTRATE THEIR MUSIC TALENT AND MAGNIFICENT MARCHING DISPLAY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE DEPARTMENT ALWAYS ENCOURAGED YOUNG INMATES TO TAKE PART IN SCOUTING ACTIVITIES.

"THE INMATES CAN DEVELOP THEIR POTENTIAL, CULTIVATE SELF-CONFIDENCE, AND APPRECIATE THE MEANING OF DISCIPLINE AND TEAM WORK THROUGH THE SCOUTING MOVEMENT," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES WILL BE LINED UP TO PUBLICISE THE EVENT. FROM SEPTEMBER 18 TO OCTOBER 9, BAND DISPLAYS AND EXHIBITIONS WILL BE HELD AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS. THE SCHEDULE IS:

DATE ----	PLACE -----	TIME ----
SEPTEMBER 18 (SUNDAY)	GARDEN PLAZA OF HONG KONG PARK	2 PM - 5 PM
SEPTEMBER 24 (SATURDAY)	STAR FERRY PIER (HONG KONG ISLAND)	10 AM - 3 PM
SEPTEMBER 25 (SUNDAY)	TAI CHI GARDEN OF QUARRY BAY PARK	10 AM - 1 PM
OCTOBER 9 (SUNDAY)	BAND STAND OF VICTORIA PARK	3 PM - 6 PM

THE EXHIBITIONS OUTLINE THE SPECIAL FEATURES OF "BEATING RETREAT", THE HISTORY OF THE HONG KONG ISLAND 221ST SCOUT GROUP, AND VARIOUS SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE SCOUTS.

"BEATING RETREAT" IS A FUND-RAISING ACTIVITY FOR CHARITY. ADMISSION TICKETS FOR THE EVENT, AT \$20 EACH, WILL BE ON SALE AT URBIX OUTLETS FROM NEXT MONDAY (SEPTEMBER 19).

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EXHIBITION TO PROMOTE EMPLOYMENT OF DISABLED

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD A THREE-DAY EXHIBITION FROM FRIDAY (SEPTEMBER 23) IN SHA TIN TO ENHANCE PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORKING ABILITIES OF THE DISABLED.

ORGANISED BY THE SELECTIVE PLACEMENT DIVISION (SPD), THE EXHIBITION IS PART OF THE DEPARTMENT'S CONTINUOUS EFFORTS TO PROMOTE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE DISABLED AND CLARIFY PUBLIC MISCONCEPTIONS TOWARDS THEM, SENIOR LABOUR OFFICER (SELECTIVE PLACEMENT) MRS JENNIE CHOR SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

THERE WILL BE VIDEO SHOWS AND THE DISPLAY OF 18 EXHIBITION BOARDS INTRODUCING THE VARIOUS DISABILITIES, JOBS DISABLED EMPLOYEES ARE DOING, THE FREE PLACEMENT SERVICE FOR THE DISABLED AND FREE RECRUITMENT SERVICE OFFERED TO EMPLOYERS.

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AN ENQUIRY COUNTER WILL ALSO BE SET UP AT THE VENUE TO ANSWER PUBLIC ENQUIRIES AND DISTRIBUTE LEAFLETS INTRODUCING THE WORK OF THE SPD.

"DURING THE EXHIBITION, EMPLOYERS WHO WISH TO RECRUIT DISABLED WORKERS CAN GIVE DETAILS OF THEIR VACANCIES TO OUR STAFF ON-THE-SPOT," MRS CHOR SAID.

"MEANWHILE, DISABLED JOB-SEEKERS CAN REGISTER AT THE COUNTER AND OUR STAFF WILL ARRANGE INTERVIEWS FOR BOTH PARTIES AFTERWARDS," SHE ADDED.

THE EXHIBITION, TO BE HELD AT THE ATRIUM GALLERY ON THE GROUND FLOOR, PHASE III OF THE NEW TOWN PLAZA, WILL BE OPEN FROM 10 AM TO 6 PM FROM SEPTEMBER 23 TO 25.

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MINI-CONCERT TO PROMOTE DISTRICT BOARD POLLS

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A FINAL PROMOTION DRIVE TO ENCOURAGE MORE WAN CHAI RESIDENTS TO VOTE IN THIS SUNDAY'S DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS WILL BE LAUNCHED AT 2 PM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT TIMES SQUARE, CAUSEWAY BAY.

ORGANISED BY THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE, A ONE-HOUR MINI-CONCERT WILL BE STAGED TO MARK THE CLIMAX OF THE "GET OUT AND VOTE" CAMPAIGN.

POP SINGERS MISS LAU YUK-TSUI, MISS LAU MAN-KUEN AND MR CHENG KING-KEI WILL GIVE PERFORMANCES. TELEVISION ARTISTES MS YU MAN-SZE AND MR MAK CHUN-KONG WILL COMPERE THE SHOW.

THE GUEST PERFORMERS WILL ALSO TOUR THE DISTRICT TO APPEAL FOR A GREATER VOTER TURN-OUT.

ALL ARE WELCOME.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD ELECTION FINAL PUBLICITY ACTIVITY AT 2 PM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT TIMES SQUARE, 1 MATHESON STREET, CAUSEWAY BAY.

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TWO BRAVE WOMEN COMMENDED BY FIRE SERVICES

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THE BRAVERY AND PUBLIC SPIRIT SHOWN BY TWO WOMEN IN RESCUING ANOTHER WOMAN IN A RECENT SHEUNG SHUI FIRE WAS PUBLICLY RECOGNISED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

AT A CEREMONY IN SHEUNG SHUI FIRE STATION, THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER (NEW TERRITORIES), MR CLEMENT WONG MAN-CHIU, PRESENTED THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER'S COMMENDATIONS TO THEM.

MR WONG PRAISED MRS TSANG TONG LAI-PING AND MRS CHOI KWOK LAI-FONG FOR "THEIR ALTRUISM, COURAGE, PUBLIC-SPIRITED ACTION AND CONCERN FOR THE COMMUNITY."

THE NO.3 ALARM FIRE BROKE OUT SHORTLY BEFORE 11 AM ON AUGUST 24 FOLLOWING AN EXPLOSION IN A DOMESTIC UNIT ON THE 11TH FLOOR OF BLOCK 6, TSUI LAI GARDEN.

SOON AFTER THE BLAST, THERE WAS HEAVY SMOKE, HEAT AND FLAMES SHOOTING FROM THE UNIT.

"WHILE ALL OTHER TENANTS WERE FLEEING TO SAFETY, MRS TSANG AND MRS CHOI CRAWLED INTO THE BLAZING UNIT TO RESCUE THEIR NEIGHBOUR AFTER HEARING HER SCREAM FOR HELP," MR WONG SAID.

"THEIR ACTION WAS BOTH COMMENDABLE AND EXEMPLARY," HE ADDED.

THE INJURED WOMAN, WHO SUSTAINED SEVERE BODILY BURNS, WAS SUCCESSFULLY REMOVED TO A SAFE PLACE BY THE PAIR BEFORE FIREMEN ARRIVED.

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HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	\$ MILLION	TIME (HOURS)	CUMULATIVE CHANGE (\$ MILLION)
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OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,060	0930	+238
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,160	1000	+238
CHANGE ATTRIBUTABLE TO :		1100	+220
MONEY MARKET ACTIVITY	+220	1200	+220
LAF TODAY	-120	1500	+220
		1600	+220
LAF RATE 3.00 BID/5.00 OFFER	TWI 121.9	**+0.0*	16.9.94

/HONG KONG

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HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY

EF BILLS		EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	4.05	17 MONTHS	2602	4.40	98.35	5.71
1 MONTH	4.18	23 MONTHS	2608	6.15	100.15	6.15
3 MONTHS	4.34	28 MONTHS	3701	4.60	96.04	6.53
6 MONTHS	4.60	31 MONTHS	3704	6.15	98.96	6.69
12 MONTHS	5.24	34 MONTHS	3707	6.95	100.52	6.86

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 7,347 MN

CLOSED 16 SEPTEMBER 1994

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