



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1979

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
SWD PAYS OUT \$310 MILLION IN 1978 AS SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS	1
SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR SWD'S JOB PLACEMENT UNIT	2
DECLARATION OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS	3
OBJECTIONS TO PROPERTY TAX DEADLINE	4
COVERED FOOTBRIDGE FOR CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL	5
AIRBORNE FIREFIGHTERS	6
IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT PLANS STAFF INCREASES	8
HONG KONG YOUTH ORCHESTRA TO PERFORM IN MACAU	9
TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR 1979 HK ARTS FESTIVAL GALA OPENING	9

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1979

- 1 -

SWD PAYS OUT \$310 MILLION IN 1978 AS
SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS
* * * *

THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT PAID OUT \$310 MILLION AS SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS TO THE NEEDY IN 1978 AMID CONTINUED EXPANSION IN OTHER FIELDS OF WELFARE SERVICES.

THE AMOUNT REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF \$72 MILLION OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR AND WAS DISTRIBUTED AS NON-CONTRIBUTORY CASH GRANTS TO NEEDY FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS, THE ELDERLY AND THE DISABLED.

THE MONEY WENT TO 300,000 PEOPLE AS MEANS-TESTED PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AS WELL AS NON-MEANS TESTED OLD AGE AND DISABILITY ALLOWANCES ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S SOCIAL SECURITY DIVISION.

MR. CHENG KWAN-KUEN, HEAD OF THE DIVISION, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT OF THE \$310 MILLION, \$184.1 MILLION WERE PAID OUT AS PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, \$79.4 MILLION AS OLD AGE ALLOWANCE AND \$45.3 MILLION AS DISABILITY ALLOWANCE.

MR. CHENG SAID PUBLIC ASSISTANCE IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE A GUARANTEED INCOME TO NEEDY HOUSEHOLDS OR INDIVIDUALS ENABLING THEM TO MEET THE COST OF ESSENTIALS SUCH AS GOODS AND CLOTHING WITHOUT SUFFERING HARDSHIP.

OLD AGE AND DISABILITY ALLOWANCES, HE SAID, PROVIDE CASH ASSISTANCE ON TOP OF ANY PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PAYMENT TO ENCOURAGE THE ELDERLY AND THE SEVERELY DISABLED TO REMAIN WITHIN THE COMMUNITY AND AMONG THEIR FAMILIAR SURROUNDINGS.

HE SAID HIS DIVISION'S 26 FIELD UNITS WERE HANDLING AROUND 47,000 PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CASES, 128,000 OLD AGE ALLOWANCE CASES AND 21,000 DISABILITY ALLOWANCE CASES.

MR. CHENG SAID THAT OF THE 128,000 OLD AGE ALLOWANCE CASES, 58,500 WERE MADE BY APPLICANTS AGED BETWEEN 70 AND 74 YEARS AS A RESULT OF THE QUALIFYING AGE BEING REDUCED FROM 75 TO 70 ON OCTOBER 1 LAST YEAR.

HE ATTRIBUTED THE INCREASE IN LAST YEAR'S PAYMENTS TO THE SERIES OF IMPROVEMENTS INTRODUCED TO THE SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES IN APRIL LAST YEAR WHICH PROVIDED NEW OR INCREASED BENEFITS.

THESE IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDED THE PROVISION OF LONG-TERM SUPPLEMENT AND OLD-AGE SUPPLEMENT TO ELIGIBLE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS, AND THE EXTENSION OF THE OLD AGE AND DISABILITY ALLOWANCES TO PEOPLE LIVING IN INSTITUTIONS, HE SAID.

----- 0 -----

/2

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1979

- 2 -

SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR SWD'S JOB PLACEMENT UNIT

* * * *

DISABLED PEOPLE IN SEARCH OF OPEN EMPLOYMENT HAVE CONTINUED TO TURN TO THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S JOB PLACEMENT UNIT FOR ASSISTANCE.

WITH 119 SUCCESSFULLY PLACED IN JOBS FROM SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER, A TOTAL OF 396 DISABLED PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT CATEGORIES HAVE FOUND WORK THROUGH THE UNIT LAST YEAR.

THIS BRINGS TO 3,395 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SUCCESSFUL PLACEMENTS SINCE THE DEPARTMENT SET UP THE UNIT IN 1967 AS AN EMPLOYMENT AGENCY FOR THE DISABLED.

MR. CHAN SIU-WING, IN CHARGE OF THE UNIT, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) LAST YEAR'S FIGURE SHOWED A GENERAL IMPROVEMENT OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR BECAUSE OF EMPLOYERS' INCREASING ACCEPTANCE OF THE ABILITY OF THE DISABLED.

HE SAID MORE EMPLOYERS HAVE COME TO REALISE THAT DISABLED PEOPLE ARE RELIABLE WORKERS IF PLACED IN JOBS MATCHING THEIR QUALIFICATIONS AND POTENTIALS.

+THIS HAS GREATLY FACILITATED OUR EFFORTS IN FINDING SUITABLE AND GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT FOR OUR CLIENTS,+ HE SAID.

MR. CHAN SAID THAT OF THE 396 PLACED IN JOBS LAST YEAR, 182 WERE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED, 55 BLIND, 67 DEAF, 50 MENTALLY RETARDED, 38 EX-MENTAL PATIENTS, TWO EX-T.B. PATIENTS AND TWO EX-LEPERS.

THEY WERE GENERALLY ENGAGED IN THE INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL FIELDS AS MACHINE SEWING WORKERS, ASSEMBLERS AND LIFT OPERATORS WHILE OTHERS WERE EMPLOYED AS CLERKS, TYPISTS, MESSENGERS AND TELEPHONE OPERATORS, HE SAID.

THEY WERE PAID EITHER AT DAILY RATES RANGING FROM \$20 TO \$28 OR ON A MONTHLY BASIS BETWEEN \$450 AND \$1,100, HE ADDED.

MR. CHAN SAID HIS UNIT LAST YEAR SCORED AN UNUSUAL PLACEMENT BY MATCHING A PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED YOUNG PERSON TO A JOB WITH A MONTHLY SALARY OF \$1,700 -- THE HIGHEST PAY FOR A JOB FOUND FOR THE DISABLED BY THE UNIT.

+HE WAS HIRED IN JULY BY THE BANK OF CANTON IN CENTRAL AS AN ANALYSIS SUPERVISOR ANALYSING THE FINANCIAL DATA OF THE BANK AND ITS OVERSEAS BRANCHES,+ HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/3

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1979

- 3 -

DECLARATION OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS
* * * *

IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS ARE REMINDED TO LODGE TRADE DECLARATIONS AND PAY AD VALOREM CHARGES ON ALL IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OTHER THAN GOODS EXEMPTED UNDER THE IMPORT AND EXPORT (REGISTRATION) REGULATIONS WITHIN 14 DAYS OF IMPORTATION AND EXPORTATION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT TODAY (WEDNESDAY) WARNED THAT PROSECUTIONS WILL BE INITIATED AGAINST THOSE WHO, WITHOUT REASONABLE EXCUSE, FAIL TO LODGE THE NECESSARY TRADE DECLARATIONS.

TRADE DECLARATIONS SUBMITTED OUTSIDE THE PRESCRIBED 14 DAYS WILL BE LIABLE, WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE, TO PENALTY CHARGES WHICH RISE AFTER TWO MONTHS TO A MAXIMUM OF \$100 PER DECLARATION WHERE THE TOTAL VALUE OF ARTICLES SPECIFIED DOES NOT EXCEED \$20,000 AND TO A MAXIMUM OF \$200 PER DECLARATION WHERE THE TOTAL VALUE OF ARTICLES SPECIFIED EXCEEDS \$20,000, HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/4

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1979

- 4 -

OBJECTIONS TO PROPERTY TAX DEADLINE

* * * *

THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT REMINDED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THEY SHOULD LODGE THEIR OBJECTIONS TO PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENTS WITHIN ONE MONTH AFTER THE DATE OF THE NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT.

THE TIME LIMIT ON CLAIMS FOR PROPERTY TAX REFUND IS 90 DAYS AFTER THE END OF THE RELEVANT YEAR OF ASSESSMENT OR AFTER THE NOTICE TO PROPERTY TAX IS GIVEN, WHICHEVER IS THE LATER.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID OBJECTIONS AND CLAIMS IN CONNECTION WITH OWNER-OCCUPIED PROPERTY AND UNOCCUPIED PREMISES SHOULD BE MADE IN WRITING TO THE COMMISSIONER OF INLAND REVENUE.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE TIME LIMIT WILL BE EXTENDED IF THE COMMISSIONER IS SATISFIED THAT, OWING TO ABSENCE FROM HONG KONG, SICKNESS OR OTHER REASONABLE CAUSES, THE PEOPLE OBJECTING TO ASSESSMENTS AND CLAIMING FOR REFUNDS WERE PREVENTED FROM DOING SO WITHIN THE SPECIFIED TIME.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID VACANCY CLAIMS CAN ALWAYS BE MADE WITHOUT SUPPORTING EVIDENCE TO MEET THE TIME-LIMIT, BUT PROPERTY OWNERS, AGENTS AND OCCUPIERS OF DOMESTIC FLATS SHOULD BE PREPARED TO FORWARD SUCH EVIDENCE AS ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER BILLS TO SUPPORT THEIR CLAIMS.

FOR NON-DOMESTIC PREMISES, HE SAID, THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT WOULD ISSUE VACANCY CERTIFICATES IN ALL APPROPRIATE CASES AND THESE FORMS MUST BE PRODUCED TO SUPPORT CLAIMS FOR PROPERTY TAX REFUND IN RESPECT OF VACANCY CLAIMS ON NON-DOMESTIC PREMISES.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION THE PUBLIC ARE ADVISED TO CONTACT THE ASSESSOR (PROPERTY TAX) OF THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT AT 5-761635, EXTENSIONS 31 TO 36, OR WRITE TO THE DEPARTMENT, G.P.O. BOX 132, HONG KONG.

ADVICE, IN PERSON, IS ALSO OBTAINABLE FROM INLAND REVENUE OFFICES AT THE WORLD TRADE CENTRE, 20TH FLOOR, 280 GLOUCESTER ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG= 664 NATHAN ROAD, FIRST FLOOR, REAR PORTION, KOWLOON= AND ON YUE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, 132 TSUEN WAN MARKET STREET, NEW TERRITORIES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/5

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1979

- 5 -

COVERED FOOTBRIDGE FOR CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL
* * * *

WORK ON THE COVERED FOOTBRIDGE SYSTEM FOR CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL, THE BIGGEST PROJECT OF ITS KIND UNDERTAKEN IN HONG KONG, IS NOW IN PROGRESS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY): +PILING WORK, INVOLVING THE SINKING OF ABOUT 200 PILES, IS NEARLY COMPLETED.

+QUITE A FEW COLUMNS TO SUPPORT THE MAIN ELEVATED WALKWAY HAVE BEEN BUILT AT THE WESTERN END OF THE FOOTBRIDGE NEAR GILMAN STREET.+

IN THE MEANTIME, EXCAVATION WORK FOR THE STAIRCASES AND ESCALATORS OUTSIDE THE INTERNATIONAL AND FIRE BRIGADE BUILDINGS ARE UNDERWAY.

A CASTING YARD, SET UP ON THE CENTRAL RECLAMATION WEST TO THE MACAU FERRY TERMINAL, HAS STARTED PRODUCING BEAMS AND SLABS FOR THE FOOTBRIDGE SYSTEM.

THE \$14.4 MILLION SCHEME CONSISTS OF A 480-METRE-LONG ELEVATED WALKWAY RUNNING FROM PEDDER STREET TO GILMAN STREET AND TWO FOOTBRIDGES ACROSS CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL.

TO FACILITATE PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENT 12 COVERED ESCALATORS AND COVERED STAIRWAYS WILL BE PROVIDED.

THE FOOTBRIDGE, THE LONGEST IN HONG KONG, WILL PROVIDE A SAFE AND DIRECT PEDESTRIAN ACCESS BETWEEN THE CENTRAL BUSINESS AREA AND THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT TERMINALS WHEN COMPLETED IN THE SECOND HALF OF NEXT YEAR.

THE PWD SPOKESMAN SAID THE PROJECT REPRESENTED ONLY PART OF THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE'S CONTINUOUS EFFORT TO PROVIDE PEDESTRIANS WITH A SAFE MEANS OF CROSSING THE ROAD.

+AT PRESENT,+ HE ADDED, +THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HAS 70 FOOTBRIDGES AND SUBWAYS IN THE PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME.+

OF THESE, 21 ARE ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 28 IN KOWLOON AND 20 IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

IN ADDITION, THERE ARE 44 OTHERS UNDER EARLY STAGES OF PLANNING AND CONSIDERATION.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT HONG KONG NOW HAS A TOTAL OF 131 FOOTBRIDGES AND SUBWAYS -- 40 ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 75 IN KOWLOON AND 16 IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

76

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1979

- 6 -

AIRBORNE FIREFIGHTERS
* * * *

THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT IS TRAINING ITS PERSONNEL TO BECOME +AIRBORNE FIREFIGHTERS.+

BEING AIRLIFTED TO A FIRE SCENE, IN A ROYAL AIR FORCE OR AUXILIARY AIR FORCE HELICOPTERS, WILL GREATLY SHORTEN THE TIME IT TAKES TO ARRIVE AT DIFFICULT TERRAIN SO THAT ANY FIRE CAN BE QUICKLY STOPPED FROM SPREADING.

+THIS WILL DEFINITELY HELP REDUCE DAMAGE TO THE COUNTRYSIDE,+ SAID MR. SING-LAI CHONG, COUNTRY PARKS PROTECTION OFFICER.

THE HELICOPTERS, APART FROM SHUTTLING FIREFIGHTERS AND THEIR EQUIPMENT TO A FIRE SCENE, WILL ALSO RUN +WATER BOMBING+ MISSIONS.

+TO GET THE FULLEST BENEFITS, SPECIAL TRAINING SESSIONS HAVE BEEN ORGANISED TO PREPARE OUR FIRE CREWS FOR THE AIRBORNE OPERATIONS,+ MR. CHONG SAID.

TRAINING INCLUDES SAFETY PRECAUTIONS WHEN GETTING ON OR ALIGHTING FROM A HELICOPTER, THE MOST SPEEDY AND BEST WAY TO GET THE FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT ON BOARD THE AIRCRAFT AND RADIO COMMUNICATION.

THERE ARE NOW TWO 10-MAN FIRE CREWS BASED AT EACH OF THE 10 CENTRES IN THE PLANTATION AND MANAGEMENT AREAS. THEY WILL BE CALLED OUT IMMEDIATELY BY THE KOWLOON HILLS FIRE CONTROL CENTRE WHEN THERE IS AN OUTBREAK OF FIRE.

THE CENTRE HAS REPORTS OF ALL OUTBREAKS OF HILL FIRES RELAYED TO IT BY FIELD TELEPHONE FROM FIRE WATCHERS AT FIRE LOOKOUTS.

MR. CHONG SAID THE FIRE LOOKOUTS ARE STRATEGICALLY LOCATED USUALLY ON HILLTOPS OVERLOOKING A LARGE AREA.

THERE ARE NOW 10 FIRE LOOKOUTS BUT THE NUMBER WILL GRADUALLY INCREASE AS MORE AND MORE COUNTRY PARKS ARE DESIGNATED.

SHOULD THE FIRE CREWS FIND OUT AT THE SCENE THAT THEY ARE UNABLE TO COPE WITH THEIR FIRE BEATERS AND HAND-OPERATED PUMPS, THEY COULD USE THEIR WALKIE-TALKIES TO CONTACT THE CONTROL CENTRE AND ASK FOR REINFORCEMENT.

AT THIS STAGE, MR. CHONG EXPLAINED, THE CONTROL CENTRE WILL CALL IN FIRE SERVICES PERSONNEL AND EVEN DEPLOY A HELICOPTER FROM SEK KONG TO CARRY OUT THE WATER BOMBINGS.

/THE HELICOPTER.....

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1979

- 7 -

THE HELICOPTER WILL GET THE WATER FROM THE RESERVOIR OR THE SEA NEAREST TO THE FIRE SCENE.

+THE RHKAAF HELICOPTER CAN CONVEY 80 TO 100 GALLONS OF WATER WHEREAS THE RAF WESSEX HELICOPTER CAN CARRY AS MUCH AS 250 TO 400 GALLONS.

+THE PILOT WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY A SENIOR FIELD OFFICER WHO WILL ADVISE HIM WHERE TO DROP WATER AS AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES PERSONNEL ARE EXPERTS IN FIGHTING HILL FIRES,+ MR. CHONG SAID.

+WATER BOMBINGS WILL HELP REDUCE THE INTENSITY OF THE HEAT TO ALLOW OUR FIRE CREWS TO CONTROL THE FIRE,+ HE ADDED.

IF THE FIRE BECOMES SERIOUS, THEN MEMBERS FROM THE CIVIL AID SERVICES, OR EVEN FROM THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT (THE VOLUNTEERS) MAY BE MOBILISED TO BACK UP THE FIRE CREWS AND FIRE SERVICES PERSONNEL.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/8

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1979

- 8 -

IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT PLANS STAFF INCREASE
* * * *

THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT IS TO TRAIN MORE ASSISTANT IMMIGRATION OFFICERS THIS YEAR IF FUNDS FOR THE STAFF INCREASE ARE APPROVED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT FURTHER RECRUITMENT IS NEEDED TO COPE WITH THE INCREASING WORKLOAD IMPOSED ON THE SERVICES OF THE DEPARTMENT FROM OUTSIDE.

HE EXPLAINED THAT THIS WAS MAINLY DUE TO MORE PEOPLE SEEKING PASSPORTS TO TRAVEL AND STUDY ABROAD, MORE TOURISTS VISITING HONG KONG AND AN ANTICIPATED FURTHER INCREASE IN TRAVEL FROM HONG KONG TO CHINA AND MACAU.

TO EXPEDITE IN-COMING ARRIVALS FROM OVERSEAS, THE NUMBER OF PASSENGER CLEARANCE COUNTERS WILL BE INCREASED AT KAI TAK AIRPORT.

TURNING TO THE TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR ASSISTANT IMMIGRATION OFFICERS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID: +ALL NEW RECRUITS WILL HAVE TO UNDERGO A THREE-MONTH FULL-TIME INDUCTION COURSE.

+THE TRAINING IS COMPREHENSIVE, COVERING THE IMMIGRATION LAWS OF HONG KONG AND HOW TO ENFORCE THEM.

+THEY WILL HAVE TO FAMILIARISE THEMSELVES WITH THE TYPES OF TRAVEL DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND PROCEDURES TO DEAL WITH APPLICATIONS.+

THE COURSE INCLUDES VISA REGULATIONS, ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE PROCEDURES FOR IMMIGRATION CLEARANCE AT KAI TAK, MACAU WHARF AND LO WU, GIVING EVIDENCE IN COURT, THE POWER OF ARRESTING AND DETAINING SUSPECTS, TAKING STATEMENTS AND THE LEGAL SYSTEM OF HONG KONG.

AFTER THEIR CLASSROOM INSTRUCTIONS THE NEW RECRUITS ARE SENT OUT FOR FIELD TRAINING WITH ATTACHMENTS AT KAI TAK, MACAU WHARF AND LO WU WHERE THEY PERFORM DUTIES UNDER CLOSE SUPERVISION OF SENIOR OFFICERS.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED: +GENERALLY SPEAKING, AFTER SERVING AT THE PASSENGER CLEARANCE COUNTERS, THE YOUNG OFFICERS ARE USUALLY TRANSFERRED TO EITHER DOCUMENTS OR INVESTIGATION DIVISIONS TO ENABLE THEM TO LEARN MORE ABOUT IMMIGRATION DUTIES.+

IN THE DOCUMENTS DIVISION, THEY ARE TAUGHT HOW TO HANDLE VISA APPLICATIONS, PASSPORTS, NATURALISATION AND EXTENSIONS OF STAY.

THOSE SENT TO THE INVESTIGATION DIVISION ARE TRAINED IN THE TECHNIQUES FOR DEALING WITH ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS AND FORGED PASSPORT HOLDERS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THERE ARE GOOD PROSPECTS OF PROMOTION TO IMMIGRATION OFFICER AND MORE SENIOR POSTS AFTER PASSING PROMOTION EXAMINATIONS AND GAINING THE NECESSARY EXPERIENCE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/9

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1979

- 9 -

HONG KONG YOUTH ORCHESTRA TO PERFORM IN MACAU
* * * *

THE HONG KONG YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA WILL GIVE ITS FIRST CONCERT IN MACAU EARLY NEXT MONTH.

THE 75 YOUNG MUSICIANS WILL BE LED BY THEIR CONDUCTOR, MR. DAVID JONES. THE ORCHESTRA WILL PERFORM AT MACAU'S CATHOLIC CENTRE ON FEBRUARY 2.

THE PROGRAMME WILL INCLUDE +SPRING FESTIVAL OVERTURE+ BY LEE WOON-CHI, +HENRY V SUITE+ BY WILLIAM WALTON, +SYMPHONY NO. 1 IN C MAJOR+ BY BALAKIREV AND +PROMENADE IN PORTUGAL+ BY RUY COELHO.

FREE ADMISSION CARDS TO THE CONCERT ARE AVAILABLE AT LIVRARIA S. PAULO IN MACAU.

+THIS VISIT IS TO LET MEMBERS GAIN EXPERIENCE IN PERFORMING OUTSIDE HONG KONG SO AS TO BETTER EQUIP THEM FOR THEIR FORTHCOMING VISIT TO THE UNITED KINGDOM IN AUGUST,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

- - - - 0 - - - -

TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR 1979 HK ARTS FESTIVAL GALA OPENING
* * * * *

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT A NUMBER OF TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED NEAR EDINBURGH PLACE IN CENTRAL THIS SATURDAY AND SUNDAY FOR REHEARSALS AND THE GALA OPENING OF THE 1979 HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL.

THE SECTION OF EDINBURGH PLACE EAST IMMEDIATELY IN FRONT OF QUEEN'S PIER WILL BE CLOSED TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC FROM 8 A.M. ON FEBRUARY 3 TO 5 P.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY.

FROM 5 P.M. TO MIDNIGHT ON FEBRUARY 4, THE SECTION OF EDINBURGH PLACE EAST BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH HARCOURT ROAD AND QUEEN'S PIER WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC.

IN ADDITION, THE TWO MAXICAB STANDS IN EDINBURGH PLACE EAST WILL BE RESITED TO LAMBETH WALK IN FRONT OF GAMMON HOUSE FROM 5 P.M. TO MIDNIGHT ON FEBRUARY 4.

FROM 8 A.M. TO MIDNIGHT ON FEBRUARY 4, PARKING SPACE NOS. 1-5 AND 8 ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE CITY HALL CAR PARK WILL BE ALSO CLOSED TO PUBLIC USE.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

- - - - 0 - - - -