



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, JULY 21, 1981

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GOVERNMENT ACTS ON GAS CONSULTANTS REPORT

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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT, FOLLOWING CONSIDERATION OF A PRELIMINARY REPORT BY ITS GAS SAFETY CONSULTANTS, THE GOVERNMENT HAD TAKEN SOME DECISIONS TO PREPARE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE SUBMITTED BY THE CONSULTANTS LATER IN THE YEAR. THESE INCLUDED THE CREATION OF A POST OF GAS ADVISER WITH SOME SUPPORTING STAFF AND THE PUBLICATION OF THE CONSULTANTS' PRELIMINARY COMMENTS ON GAS APPLIANCES.

ACTION HAD ALREADY BEEN PUT IN HAND, HE ADDED, ON THE CORONER'S RIDERS AT THE INQUEST INTO FIVE GAS WATER-HEATER-RELATED DEATHS LAST MONTH.

THE INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANCY SERVICE OF THE BRITISH GAS CORPORATION WAS APPOINTED BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT IN APRIL TO UNDERTAKE A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF THE TOWN GAS AND LPG INDUSTRIES AND TO ADVISE ON LEGISLATIVE AND OTHER CONTROL MEASURES WHICH THEY MIGHT CONSIDER TO BE NECESSARY.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE FULL REPORT OF THE CONSULTANTS WAS EXPECTED IN OCTOBER. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE CONSULTANCY, THEY HAD ALREADY SUBMITTED A PRELIMINARY REPORT TO THE GOVERNMENT IN JUNE, WHICH OUTLINED THE WORK DONE SO FAR AND IDENTIFIED AREAS FOR FURTHER STUDY.

IN THE FIRST WEEKS OF THEIR CONSULTANCY, THE CONSULTANTS HAD UNDERTAKEN A GENERAL SURVEY OF THE INDUSTRY AND HAD PAID PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE SUBJECT OF GAS WATER HEATERS. THEY HAD SUBMITTED TO GOVERNMENT THEIR PRELIMINARY FINDINGS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT IN VIEW OF PUBLIC INTEREST AND CONCERN, THE SECTION WHICH DEALT WITH GAS WATER HEATERS WAS BEING PUBLISHED FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION.

THE CONTENTS OF THIS SECTION COVERED THE BACKGROUND TO THE USE OF WATER HEATERS, AND WENT ON TO MAKE CERTAIN PRELIMINARY PROPOSALS DESIGNED TO ENSURE THE SAFE USE OF TOWN GAS AND LPG WATER HEATERS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT DETAILED RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW THE SAFETY OF GAS APPLIANCES COULD BE ENFORCED WOULD NEED TO BE INTEGRATED WITH OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS ON ALL OTHER ASPECTS OF GAS SAFETY. THE CONSULTANTS WERE NOW CONSIDERING THESE MATTERS IN DETAIL WITH A VIEW TO PRODUCING POSITIVE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THEIR FINAL REPORT.

THE AREAS WHICH THE CONSULTANTS HAD IDENTIFIED AS REQUIRING FURTHER STUDY INCLUDED THE METHOD OF CONTROLS, THEIR LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK, THE ENFORCEMENT MACHINERY AND A RANGE OF TECHNICAL ASPECTS COVERING THE MANUFACTURE OR IMPORTATION, STORAGE, TRANSPORTATION, DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF TOWN GAS AND LPG IN HONG KONG.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD TAKEN STEPS IN LINE WITH THE CONSULTANTS' PRELIMINARY FINDINGS. ACTION WAS IN TRAIN TO APPOINT A GAS EXPERT WHO WOULD ULTIMATELY TAKE UP RESPONSIBILITY FOR CARRYING OUT THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS, WITH THE HELP OF A SUPPORTING INSPECTORATE.

THE APPOINTMENT WOULD BE AN IMPORTANT ONE, AND WOULD BE AT DIRECTORATE LEVEL. ARRANGEMENTS WERE IN HAND TO CREATE THE POST AND TO ADVERTISE IT INTERNATIONALLY.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS RESPONDING TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE CORONER. HE POINTED OUT THAT MANY OF THESE RECOMMENDATIONS REQUIRED ACTION BY THE GAS COMPANY, AND THE SUPPLIERS OF LPG AND THEIR AUTHORISED AGENTS AND DEALERS. THE CORONER HAD ALREADY CONVEYED HIS RIDERS IN WRITING TO THE GAS AND OIL COMPANIES CONCERNED.

ALTHOUGH IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE AT PRESENT, WITHOUT LEGISLATIVE CONTROLS, TO REQUIRE THE GAS AND LPG INDUSTRIES TO IMPLEMENT THE RIDERS, THE GOVERNMENT WAS ENLISTING THEIR VOLUNTARY COOPERATION AND PLANNED TO HOLD EARLY DISCUSSIONS WITH ALL INTERESTED PARTIES.

ACCOUNT HAD BEEN TAKEN OF THOSE RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH APPLIED TO PUBLICITY, AND THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT WAS PRODUCING A PRINTED LEAFLET DESIGNED TO MAKE CLEAR TO CHILDREN THE PRECAUTIONS THAT HAD TO BE TAKEN, THERE WERE PLANS TO PROMOTE GAS WATER HEATER SAFETY THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION AND FURTHER WIDESPREAD PUBLICITY WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN IN DUE COURSE, INCLUDING FURTHER ADVERTISEMENTS ON TELEVISION. IN DRAWING UP THESE PROGRAMMES, THE DEPARTMENT WOULD SEEK EXPERT ADVICE.

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AMNESTY RUMOURS SPIKED

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A NUMBER OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS FROM CHINA WHO HAVE BEEN APPREHENDED RECENTLY ATTEMPTING TO ENTER HONG KONG ACROSS THE LAND BORDER OR BY BOAT, HAVE SAID THEY DECIDED TO SET OFF FROM THEIR VILLAGES AND COMMUNES AFTER HEARING RUMOURS ABOUT A POSSIBLE RELAXATION OF POLICIES BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT.

ONE RUMOUR CIRCULATING ALLEGED THAT THERE WOULD BE AN AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS TO MARK THE MARRIAGE OF PRINCE CHARLES. ANOTHER SUGGESTED THAT THERE WOULD BE AN ISSUE OF IDENTITY CARDS ON THE SAME OCCASION. YET ANOTHER SUGGESTED THAT ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS WOULD BE ALLOWED TO STAY IN HONG KONG WHEN THE GOVERNOR RETURNED FROM LONDON AFTER HIS SUCCESSFUL OPERATION.

COMMENTING ON THESE RUMOURS, THE SECRETARY FOR INFORMATION, MR ALAN SCOTT, SAID THAT AS HAS BEEN REPEATEDLY STATED, THERE WILL BE NO CHANGE IN THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY TOWARDS ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION. +IT IS A PITY THAT PEOPLE BELIEVE THESE RUMOURS AND IN SOME CASES, ARE PERSUADED TO PART WITH MONEY IN THE HOPE THAT THEY CAN ENTER HONG KONG ILLEGALLY.+ HE SAID.

+MANY OF THESE RUMOURS ARE STARTED DELIBERATELY BY AIDERS AND ABETTORS - THE SNAKEHEADS, WHO OF COURSE HAVE A VESTED INTEREST IN ENCOURAGING WOULD-BE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS TO PAY UP.+

+I REPEAT YET AGAIN. ANY PERSON WHO IS FOUND TO HAVE ENTERED HONG KONG ILLEGALLY WILL BE RETURNED TO WHERE HE OR SHE CAME FROM,+ MR SCOTT SAID.

AN IDENTITY CARD IS NECESSARY TO GET A JOB AND EMPLOYERS ARE FULLY AWARE OF THE PENALTIES UNDER THE LAW FOR EMPLOYING AN ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT, HE ADDED.

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WHITE PAPER ON PRIMARY EDUCATION TO BE TABLED AT LEGCO
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THE WHITE PAPER ON PRIMARY EDUCATION AND PRE-PRIMARY SERVICES WILL BE TABLED BY THE SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, THE HON ERIC HO, AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

DEBATE ON THE PAPER WILL BE ADJOURNED.

ALSO AT TOMORROW'S MEETING, THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ASKED BY THE HON F.W. LI TO MAKE A STATEMENT ON THE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE ECONOMY OF THE CONTINUING FALL IN VALUE OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR.

FOUR OTHER QUESTIONS WILL BE ASKED.

THE HON S.L. CHEN WILL ASK ABOUT CONTROLS BEING TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT SO THAT EXHAUST FANS AND AIR-CONDITIONING COOLING TOWERS WILL NOT CAUSE NOISE NUISANCE AND WILL NOT AFFECT THE STRUCTURAL SAFETY OF BUILDINGS.

GOVERNMENT WILL ALSO BE ASKED BY THE HON PETER C. WONG IF IT WILL CONSIDER REQUIRING TRAMS TO HAVE REAR AND BRAKE LIGHTS.

IN REFERENCE TO THE APPOINTMENT OF A PANEL OF VISITORS TO REVIEW HONG KONG'S EDUCATION SYSTEM, THE HON CHAN KAM-CHUEN WILL ASK HOW GOVERNMENT WILL ENSURE THAT THE CHARACTERISTICS AND PROBLEMS OF OUR BILINGUAL SYSTEM ARE TAKEN FULLY INTO ACCOUNT AND EXAMINED.

HE WILL ALSO ASK IF THE REPORT BY THE VISITORS WILL BE INCORPORATED IN A GREEN PAPER FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.

DR THE HON HO KAM-FAI WILL ASK WHEN WORK ON THE NEW STATION COMPLEX AT LO WU WILL START AND BE COMPLETED, AND WHAT IMPROVEMENTS WILL BE MADE TO IMMIGRATION, CUSTOMS, PASSENGER AND POLICE FACILITIES TO COPE WITH THE CHANGE.

AT THE MEETING, DEBATE ON THE ROAD TRAFFIC (DRIVING-OFFENCE POINTS) BILL 1981 WILL BE FURTHER ADJOURNED.

ELEVEN BILLS ARE EXPECTED TO GO THROUGH THEIR COMMITTEE STAGE AND THIRD READINGS. THEY ARE: GAMBLING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1981, REGISTRATION OF PERSONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1981, FIRE SERVICES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1981, FIXED PENALTY (TRAFFIC CONTRAVENTIONS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1981, FIXED PENALTY (CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1981, MEDICAL CLINICS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1981, CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) BILL 1981, LEGAL AID (AMENDMENT) BILL 1981, MAINTENANCE ORDERS (RECIPROCAL ENFORCEMENT) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1981, MERCHANT SHIPPING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1981, AND THE MERCHANT SHIPPING (SAFETY) BILL 1981.

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MANUFACTURERS URGED TO SUPPORT PERFORMING ARTS

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THERE WAS 'AN EXPLOSION OF INTEREST' IN THE PERFORMING ARTS IN HONG KONG AND MANUFACTURERS COULD HELP IN THIS FIELD OF ACTIVITY BY GIVING THEIR SUPPORT THROUGH SPONSORSHIP, MR DENIS BRAY, SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS SAID TODAY, AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES.

AND, BECAUSE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY EMPLOYS 40 PER CENT OF THE WORK FORCE, AND THE WORKERS ARE AMONG THE PEOPLE IN 'THE EXPLOSION OF INTEREST' IN THE PERFORMING ARTS, THE SUBJECT ON WHICH HE WAS SPEAKING TO MANUFACTURERS WAS 'NOT AS ODD AS ONE MIGHT HAVE THOUGHT', MR BRAY TOLD HIS AUDIENCE.

THE GOVERNMENT WAS HELPING THE PEOPLE IN PROMOTING THE ARTS AND HE FELT THAT AS THE BIGGEST EMPLOYERS OF HONG KONG PEOPLE, THE MANUFACTURERS MIGHT ALSO LIKE TO HELP.

AS A RESULT OF THIS SURGE OF INTEREST, AND THE GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT, AN ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS WOULD SHORTLY BE FORMED TO ADVISE GOVERNMENT ON HOW IT SHOULD ASSIST, MR BRAY EXPLAINED.

MR BRAY SAID THE GOVERNMENT'S ROLE IN PERFORMING ARTS WAS +TO PROMOTE THEIR DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH+. THE HOME AFFAIRS BRANCH AT PRESENT OPERATED THE MUSIC OFFICE, WHICH PROVIDES INSTRUMENTAL TRAINING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE. AND IN ADDITION, GOVERNMENT ALSO GAVE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO A NUMBER OF ORGANISATIONS, SUCH AS THE HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL, THE PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA, THE CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC 'TO ENSURE THAT THEIR SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE AT A PRICE THE PUBLIC CAN REASONABLY AFFORD'.

THE GOVERNMENT DID NOT PAY FOR EVERYTHING, BUT IT ENCOURAGED THE COOPERATION AND SHARING OF RESOURCES BETWEEN ARTS ORGANISATIONS, PROVIDED A LINK WITH LOCAL AND OVERSEAS SOURCES OF EXPERTISE, AND PROVIDED A CENTRAL POINT FOR COLLABORATION AND CONTACT. IT SAW ITS JOB, THEREFORE, AS PROVIDING THE NECESSARY INFRA-STRUCTURE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PERFORMING ARTS, BY HELPING TO PROVIDE AS FAVOURABLE CONDITIONS AS POSSIBLE, BY OFFERING FINANCIAL HELP, PROVIDING VENUES, ASSISTING WITH ACCESS TO EXPERTISE, AND ENCOURAGING COOPERATION.

AS THE GOVERNMENT WAS GETTING MORE INVOLVED IN THE PERFORMING ARTS, IT WAS FELT 'HIGH TIME' ITS ACTIVITIES IN THIS AREA WERE BROUGHT UNDER THE SCRUTINY OF A PUBLIC BODY -- THE PLANNED ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS.

/MR BRAY

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MR BRAY SAID, HOWEVER, THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD NOT PLAY TOO DOMINANT A ROLE IN SUPPORTING THE PERFORMING ARTS.

THE PERFORMING ARTS ARE POPULAR, AND AN INCREASE IN ACTIVITY IN THIS FIELD WOULD NOT HAVE TAKEN PLACE IF THE PEOPLE DID NOT WANT IT.

MR BRAY SAID THAT 'THINGS COULD GO BETTER WITH A BIT OF EXTRA FINANCIAL HELP' -- AND HE FELT THAT HONG KONG INDUSTRY WOULD FIND IT ADVANTAGEOUS TO THINK IN TERMS OF SPONSORING THE PERFORMING ARTS.

ALTHOUGH THE BULK OF HONG KONG PRODUCTS ARE EXPORTED, MANUFACTURERS SHOULD NOT FORGET THEIR ROLE AS EMPLOYERS. MANUFACTURERS WHO SPONSORED THE ARTS WOULD RECEIVE PUBLICITY IN RETURN.

+EVERYONE LIKES TO WORK FOR A FIRM WITH A GOOD NAME AND SPONSORSHIP OF THE ARTS DOES HELP TO CREATE THIS IMAGE,+ MR BRAY TOLD THEM.

THERE WERE VARIOUS FORMS OF SPONSORSHIP OPEN TO THEM, MR BRAY SAID.

THEY COULD MAKE CAPITAL GRANTS FOR FACILITIES OR FOR GENERATING INCOME, THEY COULD SPONSOR EVENTS, SUCH AS CONCERTS, BALLET SHOWS, OR DRAMA PERFORMANCES, OR THEY COULD SPONSOR TRAINING PROGRAMMES AT ALL LEVELS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE. THEY COULD ALSO HELP WITH THE COST OF TOURS OVERSEAS BY HONG KONG YOUTH, AND THEY COULD SPONSOR BY DONATING EQUIPMENT, SUCH AS INSTRUMENTS, BALLET MATS, VEHICLES FOR TRANSPORT, OR GIVING CASH.

+SPONSORSHIP OF THE ARTS HELPS THE SPONSOR AS WELL AND WHAT COULD BE MORE SATISFYING THAN THAT,+ MR BRAY SAID.

HE WOULD BE ONLY TOO GLAD TO HELP ANY SPONSOR FIND A SUITABLE FIELD FOR THEIR SUPPORT, HE SAID.

IN CONCLUDING, MR BRAY SAID: +THE PERFORMING ARTS ARE ON THE UPSWING BECAUSE PEOPLE LIKE THEM AND HAVE MORE LEISURE TO ENJOY THEM. THEIR DEVELOPMENT CAN BE ENHANCED BY COOPERATIVE EFFORT WITH HONG KONG INDUSTRY -- AND BELIEVE ME IT WILL HELP HONG KONG INDUSTRY, TOO+.

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VOLUNTARY WORK ESSENTIAL IN HONG KONG, SAYS SNT

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VOLUNTARY WORK, SERVICE AND CHARITY ARE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF HONG KONG'S SOCIAL FABRIC, THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE LUNCH MEETING OF BEACON HILL LIONS CLUB.

AS MR F.K. HU HAD OBSERVED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DEBATE, HONG KONG IS FAMOUS FOR THE PHILANTHROPY OF ITS CITIZENS, MR AKERS-JONES SAID.

THE ANNUAL WALKS FOR MILLIONS RAISED EVER LARGER SUMS FOR THE COMMUNITY CHEST AND HONG KONG HOLDS THE WORLD RECORD FOR THE GREATEST AMOUNT RAISED BY A SINGLE WALK.

IN THEIR FIRST YEAR, 1970, THEY RAISED JUST \$1 MILLION- 10 YEARS LATER \$7 MILLION WAS RAISED.

THE WALKS HAD ATTRACTED DONATIONS LARGE AND SMALL AND INVOLVED OVER EIGHT MILLION PEOPLE IN RAISING FUNDS FOR OVER 77 COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS SUPPORTED BY THE COMMUNITY CHEST.

+THE SIGHT OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE OF ALL AGES, IN COLOURFUL CLOTHES ON A BRIGHT MORNING IN WINTER, STRIDING OUT TO MAKE THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THIS GREAT COLLECTION OF FUNDS FOR CHARITY, IS A HEARTWARMING AND MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE,+ HE SAID.

SOMETIMES WEALTHIER PEOPLE DONATED A MILLION OR SEVERAL MILLIONS TO A PARTICULAR PROJECT: THESE LARGE GIFTS WERE A STIMULUS AND OFTEN ENABLED PROJECTS TO GET STARTED WHICH MIGHT OTHERWISE HAVE TO WAIT FOR YEARS BEFORE THE FULL AMOUNT OF PUBLIC FUNDS COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE.

IN THE LAST TWO YEARS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES SUCH GIFTS HAD ENABLED MAJOR SPORTS GROUNDS IN TUEN MUN AND SAI KUNG, SQUASH COURTS IN YUEN LONG AND FANLING, AND A GAMES HALL CENTRE IN NORTH KWAI CHUNG TO BE BUILT.

THESE WERE MAJOR RECREATIONAL PROJECTS BUT ONE DONATION WAS ENOUGH TO GET THEM GOING.

MOST OF THEM WERE ALREADY PLANNED BUT THEY WERE PROJECTS FOR WHICH THE FULL AMOUNT OF PUBLIC FUNDS WAS NOT AVAILABLE AND WORK WAS HELD UP.

NOW THEY WERE GOING AHEAD AND WOULD BRING PLEASURE TO THOUSANDS UPON THOUSANDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

+PRIVATE INITIATIVE IN THIS FIELD IS ANOTHER ASPECT OF OUR WAY OF DOING THINGS,+ MR AKERS-JONES SAID.

/+SOMETIMES THE

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+SOMETIMES THE PEOPLE OF A PLACE THEMSELVES DECIDE THAT THEY NEED SOMETHING WHICH GOVERNMENT IS NOT GOING TO PROVIDE AND WHICH THEY WANT TO BUILD FOR THEIR OWN BENEFIT BY THEIR OWN ENTERPRISE.+

GOOD EXAMPLES WERE THE SPORTS CENTRES, ONE OF WHICH HAD ALREADY BEEN BUILT AT YUEN LONG, AND TWO OF WHICH WERE BEING CONSTRUCTED AT TUEN MUN AND TAI PO, ONE COSTING \$35 MILLION AND THE OTHER \$12 MILLION.

+THERE ARE SCORES OF ORGANISATIONS WHICH CAME INTO BEING AS A RESULT OF PRIVATE INITIATIVE AND DONATIONS, AND WHICH RECEIVE SUBSTANTIAL HELP FROM THE GOVERNMENT BUT WHICH STILL RELY FOR THEIR INNER STRENGTH AND INDEPENDENT SPIRIT ON PRIVATE DONATIONS AND PUBLIC SUPPORT,+ HE SAID.

+OF COURSE ONE CAN LOOK ON ALL THIS IN A PURELY CYNICAL WAY AND REGARD GIVING AS GRATITUDE FOR OUR LOW LEVEL OF TAXATION, A KIND OF CONSCIENCE PAYMENT, A THANKS-OFFERING.

+BUT THERE IS MORE TO IT THAN THAT.

+HERE IN HONG KONG THE INDIVIDUAL HAS GREAT FREEDOM TO PURSUE HIS OWN AFFAIRS AS HE PLEASURES AND SOCIETY, THE COLLECTION OF INDIVIDUALS, HAS A SIMILAR FREEDOM TO PURSUE ITS AFFAIRS WITH MINIMUM INTERFERENCE BY AUTHORITY.

+BUT, JUST AS INDIVIDUALS WE GUARD OUR HEALTH, SO AS A GROUP WE HAVE A COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THE HEALTH AND HAPPINESS OF ALL PARTS OF SOCIETY, FOR, IF ONE PART IS NEGLECTED, IT CAN SICKEN AND INFECT THE WHOLE.

+GIVING, SERVICE TO OTHERS AND CHARITY ARE AN ESSENTIAL COROLLARY OF THE FREEDOM WE ENJOY AS INDIVIDUALS.+

BUT THERE WAS MORE TO GIVING THAN SELF-INTEREST, MORE TO KEEPING SOCIETY HEALTHY THAN SELF-PRESERVATION.

+WE DERIVE OUR STRENGTH FROM COUNTLESS ORGANISATIONS SUCH AS YOURS, WHICH BIND OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER IN A SPIRIT OF SERVICE, IN A COMMON DETERMINATION TO IMPROVE AND PROGRESS, REFORM AND INNOVATE.

+SOCIETY IS A LIVING ORGANISM AND HELP TO ONE ANOTHER AN ESSENTIAL PART OF OUR LIFE AS INDIVIDUALS AND AS MEMBERS OF SOCIETY,+ MR AKERS-JONES SAID.

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PUBLIC HELP SOUGHT FOR MISSING PLANE PARTS
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THE ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION SECTION OF THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT IS TRYING TO RETRIEVE TWO MISSING TURBINE DISCS WHICH BECAME DETACHED FROM AN ENGINE OF AN A 300 AIRBUS AIRCRAFT ABOUT TO TAKE OFF FROM KAI TAK RUNWAY AT ABOUT 4.30 PM ON JULY 3, 1981.

A LOUD BANG WAS HEARD AND SOME PARTS OF THE LEFT SIDE ENGINE OF THE AIRCRAFT DROPPED, MOST OF THEM ON TO THE RUNWAY AND THE SURROUNDING GRASS AREA. BUT TWO LARGE PIECES, BELIEVED TO BE THE TURBINE DISCS, MAY HAVE ROLLED INTO KOWLOON BAY ON THE SOUTH WESTERN SIDE (KOWLOON CITY) OF THE RUNWAY.

ROYAL NAVY DIVERS HAVE SO FAR FAILED TO LOCATE THE LOST PIECES AS NO LOCATION COULD BE PINPOINTED. IT IS BELIEVED THAT A NUMBER OF PEOPLE AT THE KOWLOON CITY FERRY PIER AND ALONG THE WATER FRONT IN THE VICINITY MIGHT HAVE SEEN THE INCIDENT.

ANYONE WHO WITNESSED THE INCIDENT AND CAN GIVE SOME IDEA OF THE LOCATION OF THE MISSING PARTS SHOULD CONTACT THE ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT BY TELEPHONING 5-282424 EXT. 23 OR WRITING TO THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT, NEW RODNEY BLOCK NO. 99 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG.

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TAX EXEMPTION ON INTEREST RAISED TO 12 PER CENT
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INTEREST PAYABLE BY LICENSED BANKS, BY CERTAIN PUBLIC UTILITIES AND BY THE GOVERNMENT AT RATES OF UP TO 12 PER CENT PER ANNUM WILL BE EXEMPTED FROM INTEREST TAX FROM TODAY (TUESDAY), A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED.

HE SAID THIS REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF ONE PER CENT IN THE EXEMPTION LIMIT AND FOLLOWS THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF BANKS ON FRIDAY THAT THE RATE OF INTEREST PAYABLE ON SAVINGS ACCOUNTS WOULD BE SIMILARLY RAISED TO 12 PER CENT ALSO WITH EFFECT FROM TODAY.

SECTION 28 OF THE INLAND REVENUE ORDINANCE HAS TODAY BEEN AMENDED, BY A PUBLIC REVENUE PROTECTION ORDER SIGNED THIS MORNING BY H E THE ACTING GOVERNOR, TO RAISE FROM 11 PER CENT TO 12 PER CENT THE CEILING ON THE POWER OF THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY TO INCREASE THE RATE UP TO WHICH INTEREST IS EXEMPTED FROM INTEREST TAX.

THE PUBLIC REVENUE PROTECTION ORDER, AND THE NOTICE SIGNED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, ARE PUBLISHED IN AN EXTRAORDINARY GAZETTE TODAY.

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IN-SERVICE TRAINING FOR TEACHERS OF HANDICAPPED CHILDREN
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SERVING TEACHERS OF SPECIAL SCHOOLS AND SPECIAL CLASSES IN ORDINARY SCHOOLS CAN NOW APPLY FOR TWO-YEAR IN-SERVICE COURSES FOR TEACHERS OF HANDICAPPED CHILDREN STARTING THIS SEPTEMBER.

THE COURSES WILL BE FOR TEACHERS OF VISUALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN, DEAF AND PARTIALLY-DEAF CHILDREN, PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN, MALADJUSTED AND SOCIALLY DEPRIVED CHILDREN, AND TEACHERS WHO ASSIST IN SPEECH THERAPY WORK.

PARTICIPANTS OF ALL COURSES WILL ATTEND COMMON-CORE LECTURES EVERY MONDAY FROM 5 TO 7 PM AT SIR ROBERT BLACK COLLEGE OF EDUCATION.

SPECIALISED LECTURES FOR INDIVIDUAL COURSES WILL BE HELD AT DIFFERENT TIMES OF THE WEEK AT THE SPECIAL SERVICES CENTRE AT PERTH STREET, KOWLOON.

THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION WILL BE CANTONESE BUT ENGLISH MAY BE USED OCCASIONALLY.

+CERTIFICATED MASTERS/MISTRESSES OR ABOVE ACCEPTED FOR THE COURSES WILL BE AWARDED A SPECIAL EDUCATION ALLOWANCE AT A RATE EQUIVALENT TO ONE INCREMENT NEXT ON THE MASTER PAY SCALE ABOVE THEIR SUBSTANTIVE PAY WHILE UNDERGOING THIS IN-SERVICE TRAINING,+ AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

ON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE COURSES, THEY WILL BE AWARDED A SPECIAL EDUCATION ALLOWANCE EQUIVALENT TO TWO INCREMENTS WHILE CONTINUING THEIR SERVICE AS HEAD, TEACHER OR TEACHER WHO ASSISTS IN SPEECH THERAPY WORK IN SPECIAL SCHOOLS OR SPECIAL CLASSES, HE SAID.

NO FEES WILL BE CHARGED FOR THE COURSES WHICH WILL START IN LATE SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR AND END IN JULY, 1983.

APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED VIA SUPERVISORS OR HEADS OF SCHOOLS TO THE PRINCIPAL EDUCATION OFFICER (SPECIAL EDUCATION), SPECIAL EDUCATION SECTION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, LEE GARDENS, HYSAN AVENUE, HONG KONG ON OR BEFORE JULY 31.

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ACTIVITIES FOR ELDERLY LAUNCHED IN TUEN MUN

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A FEAST, CALLIGRAPHY CONTEST, A TALK ON HEALTH AND A VARIETY SHOW HAVE BEEN ORGANISED FOR THE OLD PEOPLE OF TUEN MUN.

THE ORGANISERS ARE THE NEWLY-FORMED RESPECT FOR THE AGED ASSOCIATION, WHOSE CHAIRMAN IS MR LAU TSZ-YUEN, A MEMBER OF TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE ACTIVITIES TODAY (TUESDAY), THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR BILLY LAM, SAID BESIDES PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT THE FOUNDATIONS OF A PROGRESSIVE AND HARMONIOUS COMMUNITY WERE GOOD HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS AND FAMILY TIES.

THE SERIES OF ACTIVITIES BEING LAUNCHED WOULD HELP PROMOTE RESPECT FOR THE AGED AND PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE TO MAKE FRIENDS.

HE SAID ONE RESPONSIBILITY OF A DISTRICT BOARD WAS TO ENSURE THAT SUFFICIENT RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND SOCIAL SERVICES WERE PROVIDED FOR ALL AGES. THE RECENTLY FORMED SOCIAL SERVICES SUB-COMMITTEE WOULD CLOSELY CARE FOR THE WELFARE OF OLD PEOPLE.

MR LAM OUTLINED THE QUALIFICATION FOR BOTH CANDIDATES AND VOTERS IN THE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS TO BE HELD NEXT MARCH AND APPEALED FOR FULL SUPPORT.

THE CALLIGRAPHY CONTEST AND THE VEGETARIAN FEAST TOOK PLACE AT THE CHING CHUNG MONASTERY IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE OPENING CEREMONY.

MORE THAN 300 PEOPLE AGED OVER 65 ATTENDED.

A MEMBER OF THE STAFF OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT WILL GIVE A TALK ON HEALTH AND HYGIENE FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE LATER THIS WEEK AND THE PROGRAMME WILL END ON MONDAY, JULY 27, WITH A VARIETY SHOW.

THE RESPECT FOR THE AGED ASSOCIATION HAS RAISED \$20 000 TO FUND THE ACTIVITIES.

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MANPOWER STUDY OF METAL WORKERS PUBLISHED
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A REPORT ON THE SIXTH MANPOWER SURVEY OF THE MACHINE SHOP AND METAL WORKING INDUSTRY CONDUCTED LAST SEPTEMBER, HAS BEEN PUBLISHED BY THE MACHINE SHOP AND METAL WORKING INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD OF HONG KONG TRAINING COUNCIL.

THE REPORT CONTAINS STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON THE EMPLOYMENT STRUCTURE OF THE INDUSTRY, FORECAST OF THE FUTURE TRAINING NEEDS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON MEASURES TO COPE WITH THE INDUSTRY'S NEEDS.

PUBLISHED IN CHINESE AND ENGLISH, THE REPORT WILL BE PUT ON SALE TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, AT \$12 A COPY.

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SALT WATER PIPE WORK
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SALT WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN KWUN TONG WILL BE INTERRUPTED FROM 9 AM ON THURSDAY (JULY 23) TO 10 AM ON SATURDAY (JULY 25) FOR WORK TO BE DONE ON WATER PIPES.

PREMISES TO BE AFFECTED ARE THOSE OF SHUN ON ESTATE, SHUN LEE ESTATE, SHUN CHI YUEN, SHUN LEE TSUEN TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA, CHOI WAN ESTATE AND THOSE ALONG LEE ON ROAD, KUNG LOK ROAD, HONG LEE ROAD AND HONG NING ROAD BOUNDED BY HIP WO STREET AND KUNG LOK ROAD.

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