



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
BRITAIN'S HOUSING MINISTER LEADS TOP-LEVEL BRITISH PARTY ON PENETRATING HOUSING VISIT	1
LABOUR MP VISITS FRUIT MARKET	2
PETER SHORE TO MEET THE MEDIA	2
PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR APRIL, 1981	2
SUMMARY OF 1979 SURVEY OF TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	5
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SEMINAR IN SHA TIN	7
RISE IN BUILDING PLAN APPROVALS	8
NEW TSUEN WAN CLEARWAY	9
REMINDER ON WAGE PAYMENTS	9
BISHOP KWONG VISITS STANLEY PRISON	9

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 1981

- 1 -

BRITAIN'S HOUSING MINISTER LEADS TOP-LEVEL
BRITISH PARTY ON PENETRATING HOUSING VISIT
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BRITAIN'S MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION, MR JOHN STANLEY, TODAY (TUESDAY) LED A HIGH-LEVEL PARTY OF BRITISH BUILDERS ON A PENETRATING VISIT TO VARIOUS PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECTS.

THE PARTY WAS EARLIER BRIEFED BY THE SECRETARY FOR HOUSING, MR DONALD LIAO, AND THE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING, MR BERNARD WILLIAMS, ON THE SCOPE OF HONG KONG'S HOUSING PROBLEM, AND THE PUBLIC HOUSING PROGRAMME WHICH HAS ALREADY HOUSED MORE THAN TWO MILLION PEOPLE.

MR STANLEY'S PARTY INCLUDES REPRESENTATIVES OF THE BIGGEST BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING COMPANIES IN BRITAIN.

THE PROGRAMME BEGAN AT HOUSING AUTHORITY HEADQUARTERS, THEN MOVED TO THE MEI LAM ESTATE PROJECT AT SHA TIN NEW TOWN, WHERE THE PARTY SAW THE SEMI-MECHANISED METHOD BEING USED BY THE SITE CONTRACTOR TO PUT UP SPEEDILY THE DOMESTIC BLOCKS.

THE PARTY THEN MOVED ON TO SHA KOK ESTATE, TO SEE THE TRADITIONAL HONG KONG METHODS OF BUILDING MULTI-STOREY BLOCKS, THEN VISITED THE IMPOSING SUI WO COURT HOME OWNERSHIP ESTATE, PAYING A BRIEF CALL ON A FAMILY IN THEIR NICELY DECORATED 14TH-FLOOR HOME.

A HOUSING AUTHORITY SPOKESMAN SAID: +TODAY'S VISIT HAS GIVEN REPRESENTATIVES OF BRITAIN'S CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY A REALISTIC INSIGHT NOT ONLY INTO OUR PROBLEMS, BUT HOW WE ARE GOING ABOUT SOLVING THEM.

+WE HAVE SO MUCH STILL TO DO THAT THERE IS ROOM FOR NEW BLOOD AND FRESH IDEAS IN OUR CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.

+THE CHALLENGE IS THERE, AND IT IS UP TO OUR DISTINGUISHED VISITORS TO SHARPEN THEIR PENCILS AND DECIDE WHAT PART THEY MIGHT LIKE TO PLAY, EITHER IN A DIRECT ROLE OR AS PARTNERS IN JOINT VENTURES WITH ESTABLISHED LOCAL FIRMS.+

YESTERDAY (MONDAY) MORNING, MR STANLEY AND THE OTHER UK VISITORS, CALLED ON THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

THEY WERE BRIEFED BY MR JACK STEAN, ACTING DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, AND DIRECTORS OF VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS WITH THE PWD, ON EXISTING AND FUTURE MAJOR PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS.

THE VISITORS ALSO WATCHED AN AUDIO VISUAL SHOW ON +SHA TIN NEW TOWN,+ WHICH TELLS THE DEVELOPMENT OF ONE OF THE SEVEN NEW TOWNS AND THE PWD INVOLVEMENT IN IT.

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LABOUR MP VISITS FRUIT MARKET

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THE VISITING LABOUR MP, THE RT HON PETER SHORE, TOURED THE WHOLESALE FRUIT MARKET IN WESTERN THIS (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON.

ACCOMPANIED BY MR DENIS BRAY, THE ACTING CHIEF SECRETARY, AND MR GRAHAM BARNES, DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS, HE WAS MET ON ARRIVAL BY MR A.R. CLARK, CITY DISTRICT COMMISSIONER (HK) AND MR EDDY CHAN, CITY DISTRICT OFFICER (CENTRAL AND WESTERN).

BEFORE STARTING ON HIS TOUR, MR SHORE WAS BRIEFED BY MR CHAN ON THE HISTORY OF THE WHOLESALE FRUIT MARKET AND ITS DAILY OPERATIONS.

MR SHORE WAS TOLD THAT THE WHOLESALE FRUIT MARKET WILL MOVE TO A SITE IN WESTERN RECLAMATION STAGE ONE BY THE MIDDLE OF NEXT YEAR, AND THE EXISTING SITE WILL BE TAKEN OVER BY THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY AND REDEVELOPED.

MR SHORE ALSO VISITED THE NEARBY WESTERN MARKET, WHERE HE SPOKE TO SEVERAL STALL OPERATORS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

PETER SHORE TO MEET THE MEDIA

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THE RT. HON. PETER SHORE, LABOUR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, WILL MEET THE MEDIA IN THE GIS THEATRE AT 4.45 PM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

YOU ARE INVITED TO HAVE THE PRESS CONFERENCE COVERED. TV CREWS ARE ADVISED TO ARRIVE EARLY TO SET UP THEIR EQUIPMENT.

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PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR APRIL 1981

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) PUBLISHED THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR HONG KONG'S VISIBLE TRADE IN APRIL 1981.

THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS FOR APRIL WAS \$9 172 MILLION, MADE UP OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AT \$5 844 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS AT \$3 328 MILLION. WITH IMPORTS AT \$11 398 MILLION, THE VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT FOR APRIL WAS \$2 226 MILLION.

COMPARED WITH APRIL 1980, THERE WERE THE FOLLOWING INCREASES BY VALUE: \$455 MILLION OR 8.5 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, \$1 026 MILLION OR 44.6 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS, \$1 481 MILLION OR 19.3 PER CENT FOR TOTAL EXPORTS AND \$1 861 MILLION OR 19.5 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS.

THE VISIBLE TRADE +GAP+, THAT IS THE PROPORTION OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS NOT COVERED BY THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS, WAS 19.5 PER CENT IN APRIL THIS YEAR, THE SAME AS THAT IN APRIL 1980.

COMMENTING ON THE FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT, ALTHOUGH THE GROWTH RATE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS FOR APRIL APPEARED TO BE LOW COMPARED WITH PREVIOUS MONTHS, THE VISIBLE TRADE ACCOUNT CONTINUED TO SHOW A FAIR DEGREE OF STABILITY. THE GROWTH RATE OF TOTAL EXPORTS WAS ROUGHLY THE SAME AS THAT OF IMPORTS AND THE VISIBLE TRADE +GAP+ DID NOT SHOW ANY TENDENCY TO WIDEN. THE ENTREPOT TRADE ALSO CONTINUED TO EXPAND RAPIDLY.

A COMPARISON BETWEEN THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF THIS YEAR WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD IN 1980 SHOWED THE SAME PATTERN.

THE GROWTH RATE OF THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS, AT 26.7 PER CENT, WAS SLIGHTLY HIGHER THAN THE GROWTH RATE OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS AT 26 PER CENT.

THE VISIBLE TRADE +GAP+ IN THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, AT 18.2 PER CENT, WAS SLIGHTLY NARROWER THAN IN THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD IN 1980 AT 18.7 PER CENT.

THE GROWTH RATE OF THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS WAS HIGH AT 54.2 PER CENT, MUCH HIGHER THAN THE GROWTH RATE OF THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WHICH, AT 14.7 PER CENT, WAS BY ITSELF QUITE IMPRESSIVE.

<u>MERCHANDISE</u> :	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	:	\$ 5 844 MILLION
	RE-EXPORTS	:	\$ 3 328 MILLION
	TOTAL EXPORTS	:	\$ 9 172 MILLION
	IMPORTS	:	\$11 398 MILLION
	TRADE BALANCE	:	\$ 2 226 MILLION (IN DEFICIT)

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

<u>LATEST 3 MONTHS</u>	<u>FEBRUARY-APRIL 1981</u>	<u>FEBRUARY-APRIL 1980</u>	<u>INCREASE OR DECREASE</u>	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	15 562	14 096	+1 467	+10.4
RE-EXPORTS	9 525	6 289	+3 236	+51.5
TOTAL EXPORTS	25 088	20 385	+4 703	+23.1
IMPORTS	31 793	25 594	+6 200	+24.2
TRADE BALANCE	- 6 705	- 5 209	-1 496	

/SAME MONTH

<u>SAME MONTH LAST YEAR</u>	APRIL 1981	APRIL 1980	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	5 844 (63.7%)	5 389 (70.1%)	+ 455	+ 8.5
RE-EXPORTS	3 328	2 302	+1 026	+44.6
TOTAL EXPORTS	9 172	7 690	+1 481	+19.3
IMPORTS	11 398	9 537	+1 861	+19.5
TRADE BALANCE	- 2 226	-1 847	- 379	
<u>LAST MONTH</u>	APRIL 1981	MARCH 1981	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	5 844 (63.7%)	5 784 (63.5%)	+ 60	+ 1.0
RE-EXPORTS	3 328	3 326	+ 1	+ 0.03
TOTAL EXPORTS	9 172	9 111	+ 61	+ 0.7
IMPORTS	11 398	11 326	+ 72	+ 0.6
TRADE BALANCE	- 2 226	- 2 215	- 11	
<u>CALENDAR YEAR TO-DATE</u>	JANUARY- APRIL 1981	JANUARY-APRIL 1980	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	21 908 (63.0%)	19 092 (69.6%)	+2 816	+14.7
RE-EXPORTS	12 853	8 337	+4 517	+54.2
TOTAL EXPORTS	34 761	27 429	+7 332	+26.7
IMPORTS	42 479	33 726	+8 753	+26.0
TRADE BALANCE	- 7 718	- 6 297	-1 421	
<u>LAST 12 MONTHS</u>	MAY 1980 TO APRIL 1981	MAY 1979 TO APRIL 1980	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	70 986	60 734	+10 252	+16.9
RE-EXPORTS	34 589	22 564	+12 025	+53.3
TOTAL EXPORTS	105 575	83 298	+22 277	+26.7
IMPORTS	120 403	94 887	+25 516	+26.9
TRADE BALANCE	- 14 828	-11 589	- 3 239	

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 1981

- 5 -

SUMMARY OF 1979 SURVEY OF TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TO-DAY (TUESDAY) RELEASED SUMMARY RESULTS OF THE 1979 SURVEY OF WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS.

THIS SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED DURING THE PERIOD APRIL 1980 TO FEBRUARY 1981 TO COLLECT INFORMATION ON THE PERFORMANCE OF THE SECTOR IN 1979 AND TO ENABLE ANALYSIS OF THE CHANGES SINCE THE 1977 BENCHMARK CENSUS.

DATA COLLECTED IN THE FOLLOW-UP SURVEY INCLUDED TYPE OF OWNERSHIP- NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED- LABOUR COST- OPERATING EXPENSES- PURCHASES OF GOODS FOR SALE- STOCKS- SALES AND OTHER RECEIPTS- AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURE. A SUMMARY OF THE SURVEY RESULTS TOGETHER WITH COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR 1977 IS SHOWN IN THE ATTACHED TABLE.

THE SURVEY SHOWED A TOTAL OF 60 206 WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT ESTABLISHMENTS, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS WERE IN OPERATION DURING THE WHOLE OR PART OF 1979, WITH A WORKFORCE OF 412 094 PERSONS, REPRESENTING INCREASES OF 19 PER CENT AND 13 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY OVER 1977. THE CONCERNS GENERATED \$181 606 MILLION IN SALES AND OTHER RECEIPTS, AND PAID OUT \$8 013 MILLION IN LABOUR COST AND \$13 657 MILLION IN OPERATING EXPENSES. THESE FIGURES, COMPARED WITH 1977, SHOWED INCREASES OF 67 PER CENT, 58 PER CENT AND 83 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

VALUE ADDED, COMPRISING LABOUR COST, INTEREST PAYMENTS AND OPERATING SURPLUS, GREW FROM \$11 014 MILLION IN 1977 TO \$19 762 MILLION IN 1979, AN INCREASE OF 79 PER CENT. THIS VALUE ADDED REPRESENTS THE SECTOR'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT OF THE ECONOMY.

THE SURVEY ALSO REVEALED THAT IN 1979 OVER 56 PER CENT OF THE 60 206 ESTABLISHMENTS WERE IN RETAIL TRADE, ACCOUNTING FOR 31 PER CENT OF ALL PERSONS ENGAGED, 17 PER CENT OF TOTAL SALES AND OTHER RECEIPTS, AND 22 PER CENT OF TOTAL VALUE ADDED IN THE SECTOR.

THE IMPORT/EXPORT TRADE, REPRESENTING 23 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ESTABLISHMENTS, AND WITH 25 PER CENT OF THE WORKFORCE, RECORDED THE LARGEST SALES AND OTHER RECEIPTS, AT \$118 044 MILLION OR 65 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL, AND CONTRIBUTED 51 PER CENT OF TOTAL VALUE ADDED IN THE SECTOR.

WHOLESALE TRADE ACCOUNTED FOR 13 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ESTABLISHMENTS, 11 PER CENT OF THE SECTOR'S WORKFORCE, 13 PER CENT OF TOTAL SALES AND OTHER RECEIPTS, AND 8 PER CENT OF TOTAL VALUE ADDED IN THE SECTOR.

RESTAURANTS AND HOTEL/BOARDING HOUSES REPRESENTED 7 PER CENT AND 1 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ESTABLISHMENTS, AND 27 PER CENT AND 5 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY OF THE TOTAL WORKFORCE. RESTAURANTS REGISTERED 4 PER CENT OF TOTAL SALES AND OTHER RECEIPTS AND CONTRIBUTED 13 PER CENT OF TOTAL VALUE ADDED WHEREAS HOTELS/BOARDING HOUSES, ACCOUNTED FOR 1 PER CENT OF TOTAL SALES AND OTHER RECEIPTS, AND 5 PER CENT OF TOTAL VALUE ADDED.

/IN TERMS

IN TERMS OF GROWTH IN SALES AND OTHER RECEIPTS SINCE 1977, RETAIL TRADE ATTAINED THE HIGHEST RATE AT 77 PER CENT, FOLLOWED BY IMPORT/EXPORT TRADE AT 74 PER CENT, HOTELS/BOARDING HOUSES AT 68 PER CENT, RESTAURANTS AT 50 PER CENT AND WHOLESALE TRADE AT 35 PER CENT. IMPORT/EXPORT TRADE, ON THE OTHER HAND, RECORDED THE GREATEST GROWTH SINCE 1977 IN TERMS OF VALUE ADDED AT 92 PER CENT, FOLLOWED BY RETAIL TRADE AT 79 PER CENT, HOTELS/BOARDING HOUSES AT 71 PER CENT, RESTAURANTS AT 60 PER CENT AND WHOLESALE TRADE AT 53 PER CENT.

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT IS NOW IN THE PROCESS OF COMPILING A REPORT ON THE 1979 SURVEY, WHICH WILL CONTAIN DETAILED ANALYSIS BY TRADE GROUPS AND ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS. ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WHOLESALE/RETAIL TRADE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT.

SUMMARY STATISTICS FOR REPORTING ESTABLISHMENTS
ANALYSED BY ACTIVITY FOR 1977 AND 1979

ACTIVITY		NO OF ESTAB- LISHMENTS	NO OF PERSONS ENGAGED	LABOUR	OPERATING
				COST	EXPENSES
				\$ MILLION	\$ MILLION
WHOLESALE TRADE	1977	7 175	43 280	504	630
	1979	8 122	45 658	737	1 174
	% CHANGE	+13%	+5%	+46%	+86%
RETAIL TRADE	1977	28 417	113 618	1 074	1 519
	1979	33 744	129 694	1 774	2 723
	% CHANGE	+19%	+14%	+65%	+79%
IMPORT/ EXPORT TRADE	1977	10 474	87 955	1 942	3 960
	1979	13 621	104 801	3 004	7 583
	% CHANGE	+30%	+19%	+55%	+91%
RESTAU- RANTS	1977	3 672	101 718	1 305	963
	1979	3 949	113 239	2 112	1 558
	% CHANGE	+8%	+11%	+62%	+62%
HOTELS/ BOARDING HOUSES	1977	655	16 795	251	396
	1979	770	18 702	387	618
	% CHANGE	+18%	+11%	+54%	+56%
TOTAL	1977	50 392	363 365	5 077	7 468
	1979	60 206	412 094	8 013	13 657
	% CHANGE	+19%	+13%	+58%	+83%

/ACTIVITY

ACTIVITY		PURCHASES OF GOODS FOR SALE	CHANGES IN STOCKS	SALES AND OTHER RECEIPTS	VALUE ADDED
		\$ MILLION	\$ MILLION	\$ MILLION	\$ MILLION
WHOLESALE TRADE	1977	15 611	203	17 067	1 089
	1979	20 624	288	23 103	1 668
% CHANGE		+32%	+42%	+35%	+53%
RETAIL TRADE	1977	14 262	651	17 492	2 443
	1979	25 123	1 133	30 934	4 370
% CHANGE		+76%	+74%	+77%	+79%
IMPORT/ EXPORT TRADE	1977	59 962	901	67 788	5 252
	1979	103 479	2 825	118 044	10 086
% CHANGE		+73%	+214%	+74%	+92%
RESTAU- RANTS	1977	2 570	14	5 131	1 622
	1979	3 583	43	7 681	2 600
% CHANGE		+39%	+207%	+50%	+60%
HOTELS/ BOARDING HOUSES	1977	142	2	1 100	607
	1979	220	6	1 845	1 038
% CHANGE		+55%	+200%	+68%	+71%
TOTAL	1977	92 546	1 771	108 578	11 014
	1979	153 029	4 295	181 606	19 762
% CHANGE		+65%	+143%	+67%	+79%

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DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SEMINAR IN SHA TIN

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A SEMINAR ON DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION FEATURING A QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WILL BE HELD IN SHA TIN NEW TOWN ON THURSDAY (MAY 28) EVENING.

THE SESSION WILL TAKE PLACE AFTER SPEECHES BY SHA TIN ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MR AUGUSTINE CHENG, AND CHINESE UNIVERSITY LECTURER IN GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, MR ANDREW WONG.

SLIDES WILL BE SHOWN TO EXPLAIN THE NEW PATTERN OF ADMINISTRATION, WHICH IS TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE.

MR CHENG SAID THE NEW ADMINISTRATION WOULD INVOLVE A MAJORITY OF RESIDENTS AS ANYONE WHO WAS OVER 21 AND WHO HAD LIVED IN HONG KONG FOR SEVEN OR MORE YEARS COULD VOTE IN DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS TO BE HELD IN MARCH NEXT YEAR.

/+THE PURPOSE

+THE PURPOSE OF OUR SEMINAR IS TO INCREASE LOCAL UNDERSTANDING OF THE NEW SYSTEM AND TO ENCOURAGE INTEREST IN REGISTERING AS VOTERS,+ HE SAID. HE HOPED IT WOULD BE WELL ATTENDED.

THE SEMINAR WILL BE HELD IN LEK YUEN COMMUNITY HALL, STARTING AT 8.30 PM.

AS PART OF THE CAMPAIGN TO PUBLICISE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, DISTRICT OFFICE STAFF WILL SOON START VISITING LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, SCHOOLS AND RURAL COMMITTEES TO EXPLAIN THE NEW SCHEME.

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RISE IN BUILDING PLAN APPROVALS

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THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT APPROVED 83 NEW BUILDING PLANS IN APRIL THIS YEAR, COMPARED WITH 55 IN APRIL, 1980.

OF THESE NEW PLANS, 33 WERE FOR BUILDINGS ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 20 FOR KOWLOON AND 30 FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THEY INCLUDED TWO OIL TANKS AT KWUN TONG AND A BARGE BERTH AT CASTLE PEAK.

THE DECLARED COST OF ALL NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED IN APRIL WAS \$899.6 MILLION, COMPARED WITH \$231 MILLION IN APRIL LAST YEAR.

DURING THE MONTH, THE TOTAL USABLE FLOOR AREA OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED AMOUNTED TO 321 749.1 SQUARE METRES, COMPRISING 175 948.7 SQUARE METRES OF NON-DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA AND 145 800.4 SQUARE METRES OF DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA.

THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE ALSO GAVE CONSENT FOR WORK TO START ON 52 PROJECTS, INCLUDING A WELFARE CENTRE AND SCHOOL AT HING FAT STREET, THE GIRL GUIDES HEADQUARTERS AT GASCOIGNE ROAD, A SPORTS CENTRE AT SHATIN AND A STUDENT HOSTEL AT THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

ALTOGETHER, 44 NEWLY-COMPLETED BUILDINGS WERE CERTIFIED FOR OCCUPATION IN APRIL, INCLUDING A GYMNASIUM AND A SCHOOL IN STANLEY, AN OIL STORAGE TANK AT AP LEI CHAU AND THREE HOTELS IN TSIM SHA TSUI EAST.

THE OFFICE ALSO AGREED TO THE DEMOLITION OF 69 BUILDINGS.

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/9

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 1981

- 9 -

NEW TSUEN WAN CLEARWAY
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THE WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF A SECTION OF TSUEN WAN BY PASS STAGE ONE, BETWEEN ITS JUNCTIONS WITH KWAI CHUNG ROAD AND TEXACO ROAD, WILL BE DESIGNATED A 24-HOUR CLEARWAY ZONE FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (MAY 29).

ALL VEHICLES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO STOP WITHIN THIS CLEARWAY.

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REMINDER ON WAGE PAYMENTS
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EMPLOYERS WERE REMINDED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT WAGES MUST BE PAID ON TIME.

THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT ISSUED THE REMINDER FOLLOWING A RECENT COURT CASE IN WHICH THE EMPLOYER OF A FUR GARMENT FACTORY WAS FINED A TOTAL OF \$7 000 ON 14 SUMMONSES FOR DELAYING PAYMENTS OF WAGES.

A SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, WAGES MUST BE PAID TO EMPLOYEES NOT LATER THAN SEVEN DAYS AFTER THEY ARE DUE. ANY EMPLOYER CONTRAVENING THIS PROVISION IS LIABLE TO PROSECUTION AND TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$5 000 ON CONVICTION.

ACCORDING TO THE ORDINANCE, AN EMPLOYER MUST TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO TERMINATE A CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS TERMS IF HE FEELS THAT HE IS UNABLE TO PAY ALL THE WAGES.

FAILURE TO DO SO WITHOUT REASONABLE GROUNDS WILL ALSO RENDER HIM LIABLE TO PROSECUTION.

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BISHOP KWONG VISITS STANLEY PRISON
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THE BISHOP OF HONG KONG, THE RT REV PETER KWONG KONG-KIT, TODAY VISITED STANLEY PRISON, A MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON WITH A COMPREHENSIVE INDUSTRIAL SECTION.

THE VISIT IS THE FIRST OF A NUMBER OF VISITS THE BISHOP WILL MAKE TO LEARN ABOUT THE WORK OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS ADMINISTERED BY THE PRISONS DEPARTMENT.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE PRISONS CHAPLAINS, FATHER STEPHEN EDMONDS, REV A. LEUNG AND REV CHUNG KA LOK, BISHOP KWONG INSPECTED VARIOUS FACILITIES, INCLUDING THE ACCOMMODATION FOR PRISONERS, THE HOSPITAL, KITCHEN, CHAPEL AND THE WORKSHOPS, AND SAW PRISONERS AT WORK.

HE WAS ALSO BRIEFED BY THE SENIOR SUPERINTENDENT IN CHARGE OF THE PRISON, MR FRANCIS WONG, ON THE VARIOUS PROGRAMMES PROVIDED.

EARLIER TODAY, HE MET THE COMMISSIONER OF PRISONS, MR THOMAS GARNER.

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