



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
LEGCO TO HEAR ABOUT POWER MONITORING SCHEME STUDY	1
FINANCE COMMITTEE TO MEET REGULARLY IN PUBLIC	2
KMB FRANCHISE EXTENDED	2
NEED TO UPGRADE PRODUCTS STRESSED	3
MINISTER RETURNING TO UK	4
GOVERNMENT'S GOODWILL NEEDED IN FINANCIAL TALKS	4
UC BIDS FAREWELL TO TWO COUNCILLORS	5
POLICY ON CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS EXPLAINED	6
PROVISION OF AUDITORIA TO MEET LOCAL NEEDS	7
LIBRARY PLANS FOR EASTERN, WAN CHAI	7
COST-EFFECTIVENESS STRESSED IN STADIA MANAGEMENT	8
MAXIMISE USAGE OF COLISEUM BEING EXPLORED	9
COUNCIL NOT AUTHORITY TO CENSOR MATERIAL	10
ALIENATION OF UC FACILITIES SATISFACTORY	11
PUBLIC BOWLING GREENS UNDER-UTILIZED	12
HAWKER POLICIES NOT FINALISED, SAYS MRS ELLIOTT	12
SWIMMING POOL LICENCE FEE REVISED	13
AN ABNORMAL FEBRUARY FOR HONG KONG	14
SPECIAL STAMP ISSUE OUT THURSDAY	17
35 MORE SPECIAL CAR NUMBERS OFFERED	18
BOARD TO HOLD END-OF-TERM MEETING	19
ANOTHER BIG PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE FOR TAI PO	19
MORE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES FOR KWAI CHUNG	20
SUNDAY FUN FOR 1 500 CHILDREN	20
IMMIGRATION INCREASES VISITS TO TUEN MUN	21
DRAINAGE WORK IN YUEN LONG	21
D'AGUILAR STREET TRAFFIC CHANGE	22
TRAFFIC CHANGES	22

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1985

- 1 -

LEGO TO HEAR ABOUT POWER MONITORING SCHEME STUDY
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A STATEMENT ON THE CONSULTANCY TO REVIEW THE GOVERNMENT MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS OF THE POWER COMPANIES WILL BE MADE BY THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, THE HON PIERS JACOBS, IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

TWO OTHER STATEMENTS, ONE BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE HON SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, ON THE GOVERNMENT MINUTE IN RESPONSE TO THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE REPORT AND THE OTHER BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBER, THE HON JOHN SWAINE, ON THE REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY AND POLYTECHNIC GRANTS COMMITTEE OF HONG KONG, WILL ALSO BE MADE. BOTH DOCUMENTS WILL BE TABLED AT THE MEETING.

IN ADDITION, FOUR MOTIONS WILL BE DEALT WITH. TWO OF THEM, DEALING WITH THE PUBLIC FINANCE ORDINANCE AND THE RATING ORDINANCE, WILL BE MOVED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON SIR JOHN BREMRIDGE.

OTHER MATTERS TO BE DEALT WITH INCLUDED 12 QUESTIONS FROM UNOFFICIALS AND FIVE BILLS - THREE TO BE INTRODUCED AND TWO DUE FOR RESUMED DEBATE AND FINAL READING.

THE QUESTIONS WILL COVER A WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS, INCLUDING U.S. OFFICIALS' REQUESTS TO INSPECT FACTORY DOCUMENTS, GUIDANCE ON DISCLOSURE OF GOVERNMENT INFORMATION, THE EFFECT OF INCREASES IN ANNUAL LICENCE FEES AND FIRST REGISTRATION TAX AND THE PASSENGER TRAFFIC AT THE KOWLOON-MACAU FERRY TERMINAL.

THE THREE NEW BILLS ARE:

- * THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (ELECTORAL PROVISIONS) BILL 1985
- * THE TRIAL OF COMMERCIAL CRIMES BILL 1985
- * THE PROTECTION OF WAGES ON INSOLVENCY BILL 1985

DUE FOR COMMITTEE STAGE AND FINAL READINGS ARE:

- * PENSIONS (SPECIAL PROVISIONS) (CUSTOMS OFFICERS) BILL 1985
- * THE INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985

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/2

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1985

- 2 -

FINANCE COMMITTEE TO MEET REGULARLY IN PUBLIC
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THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL HOLD ITS FIRST REGULAR MEETING IN PUBLIC TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AFTERNOON, IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING.

IT HAS JUST CONDUCTED FOUR SPECIAL MEETINGS TO EXAMINE IN PUBLIC THE DRAFT ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE 1985-86.

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KMB FRANCHISE EXTENDED
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THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO THE KOWLOON MOTOR BUS COMPANY HAS BEEN EXTENDED FOR A FURTHER TWO YEARS TO AUGUST 31, 1991.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT UNDER THE PUBLIC BUS SERVICES ORDINANCE, FRANCHISES FOR BUS COMPANIES ARE NORMALLY ONLY EXTENDED FOR UP TO TWO YEARS AT A TIME SO THAT THEIR PERFORMANCE CAN BE CLOSELY MONITORED.

A REPORT ON THE PERFORMANCE OF KMB SHOWS THAT THE COMPANY HAS COMPLIED SATISFACTORILY WITH THE AGREED ROUTE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES.

IMPROVEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE COMPANY IN COMPLYING WITH THE SCHEDULES OF SERVICE, IN MAKING AVAILABLE TO THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC AN ADEQUATE FLEET OF BUSES, AND IN SETTING UP ADDITIONAL DEPOT FACILITIES AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN KOWLOON AND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE COMPANY HAS ALSO STEPPED UP ITS TRAINING OF DRIVERS AT VARIOUS LEVELS AND HAS EXPANDED ITS ENQUIRY HOT-LINE AND OTHER INFORMATION SERVICES, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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/3

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1985

- 3 -

NEED TO UPGRADE PRODUCTS STRESSED

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HONG KONG MUST UPGRADE ITS PRODUCTS, METHODS AND SKILLS FOR ITS INDUSTRY TO SURVIVE, THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR JOHN YAXLEY, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

ADDRESSING THE LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG, MR YAXLEY SAID: +I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT OUR INDUSTRIAL INVESTORS, BOTH LOCAL AND OVERSEAS, RENOWNED FOR THEIR FORESIGHT, RESILIENCÉ, RESOURCEFULNESS AND FLEXIBILITY WILL RESPOND APPROPRIATELY TO THIS NEW CHALLENGE BY CONTINUING TO EXPAND THEIR PRODUCT BASE AND BY INCORPORATING NEW TECHNOLOGIES INTO THEIR PRODUCTION PROCESSES.+

GIVING ASSURANCE OF GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO PLAY ITS PART IN THIS PROCESS, MR YAXLEY SAID THAT THE GROWTH OF GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR THE APPLICATION OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN INDUSTRY WOULD BECOME INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT IN THE FUTURE.

+NOT ONLY ARE WE CONCERNED WITH ENSURING THAT THERE IS, IN THE CONVENTIONAL SENSE, AN APPROPRIATE INFRASTRUCTURE WITHIN WHICH INDUSTRY CAN PROSPER BUT ALSO THAT CERTAIN INDUSTRIAL SUPPORT SERVICES AND TECHNICAL BACK-UP SERVICES ARE PROVIDED AT PUBLIC EXPENSE.

+AS A RESULT OF THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD SINCE IT WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1980, A NUMBER OF NEW PROJECTS RELATING TO INDUSTRIAL SUPPORT SERVICES AND TECHNICAL BACK-UP FACILITIES HAVE RECENTLY BEEN INTRODUCED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

+THESE INCLUDE A SERIES OF TECHNO-ECONOMIC STUDIES IN THE FIELDS OF ELECTRONICS, METALS PROCESSING, TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND AUTOMATION. THEY ARE LIKELY TO RESULT IN INCREASED LEVELS OF SUBVENTION TO THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL WHICH IS THE GOVERNMENT'S MAIN EXECUTIVE ARM IN TERMS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT FOR INDUSTRY.

+IN ADDITION, WE ARE FUNDING THREE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AT OUR TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS, TWO IN RESPECT OF INTEGRATED CIRCUIT MANUFACTURING PROCESSES AND THE THIRD IN THE FIELD OF COMPUTER-AIDED DESIGN AND MANUFACTURE.+

MR YAXLEY SAID THAT TO IMPROVE QUALITY CERTIFICATION SERVICES, THE GOVERNMENT OPENED A STANDARDS AND CALIBRATION LABORATORY LAST OCTOBER AT A CAPITAL COST OF \$20 MILLION, AND IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS YEAR WILL ESTABLISH A LABORATORY ACCREDITATION SYSTEM WHICH WILL ENABLE COMMERCIAL TESTING LABORATORIES TO GAIN INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION.

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/4

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1985

- 4 -

MINISTER RETURNING TO UK

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LORD YOUNG, MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO, WILL LEAVE FOR LONDON THIS (TUESDAY) EVENING AFTER A FOUR-DAY STAY IN HONG KONG.

LORD YOUNG WILL BE TRAVELLING ON FLIGHT BR 381, ETD 8.50 PM.

THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, WILL SEE HIM OFF.

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GOVERNMENT'S GOODWILL NEEDED IN FINANCIAL TALKS

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MR. H.M.G. FORSGATE, ACTING CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, TODAY CALLED ON THE GOODWILL OF THE GOVERNMENT TO HELP THE COUNCIL REMOVE THE FINANCIAL CLOUD NOW HANGING OVER IT.

MR. FORSGATE, IN HIS CAPACITY AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FINANCE SELECT COMMITTEE, IS TO LEAD A THREE-MAN TEAM TO JOIN IN TALKS WITH THE GOVERNMENT ON THE FUTURE OF THE COUNCIL'S FINANCES. THE OTHER TWO MEMBERS ARE MR. STEPHEN LAU AND MR. PETER C.K. CHAN.

MR. KWAN LIM-HO HAS AGREED TO ACT AS AN ALTERNATIVE MEMBER ON BEHALF OF THE ELECTED COUNCILLORS SHOULD THE NEED ARISE.

ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL MEETING TODAY, MR. FORSGATE SAID: +I AM SURE WE WILL BE OF ONE MIND IN TRYING TO PROVE TO THE GOVERNMENT THAT THE PRESENT FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS, DRAWN UP IN THE EARLY 70'S, MUST BE STREAMLINED AND UPDATED TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE FINANCIAL AND POLITICAL REALITIES OF THE MID-80'S, PARTICULARLY AS THE COUNCIL'S COMMITMENTS HAVE FOR SOME YEARS EXCEEDED ITS INCOME.

+WE HAVE SO FAR MANAGED TO MAINTAIN AND IN SOME CASES UPGRADE SERVICES, AND TO CONTINUE OUR CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME OF BUILDING MORE FACILITIES AND AMENITIES, SOLELY BY DIPPING INTO OUR RESERVES.

+BUT THESE RESERVES ARE SHRINKING FAST, AND IT IS ONLY PLAIN COMMONSENSE TO ACT NOW BEFORE WE FIND OURSELVES IN THE RED, WITH NO RESERVES BUT STILL WITH OUR COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY TO PROVIDE THE SERVICES THEY EXPECT AND ARE ENTITLED TO.+

/MR FORSGATE

MR. FORSGATE REMARKED THAT TO WHAT EXTENT THE FINANCIAL TALKS WILL RESULT IN ALTERATION TO THE MEMORANDUM OF ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENT WHICH GOVERNS THE COUNCIL'S RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE GOVERNMENT, REMAINS TO BE SEEN.

BUT HE EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT THE THREE-MAN TEAM WILL USE EVERY VIABLE ARGUMENT TO GET A PRACTICAL AND WORKABLE ARRANGEMENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT.

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UC BIDS FAREWELL TO TWO COUNCILLORS

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THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG HAVE GREATLY BENEFITTED FROM THE LONG YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE OF URBAN COUNCILLORS MR KENNETH LO AND MR SHUM CHOI-SANG, SAID THE ACTING CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, MR H.M.G. FORSGATE, TODAY.

ON BEHALF OF ALL URBAN COUNCILLORS, MR FORSGATE OFFICIALLY BADE FAREWELL AND PAID TRIBUTE TO MR LO AND MR SHUM, WHO WILL STEP DOWN FROM THE COUNCIL BY THE END OF THIS MONTH.

+KENNETH LO IN HIS 19 YEARS ON THE COUNCIL HAS GIVEN UNSTINTINGLY OF HIS TIME IN MANY ROLES AND ON MANY SELECT COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES,+ SAID MR FORSGATE.

HE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH MR LO IS STEPPING DOWN FROM THE COUNCIL, HE WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN +SINCE THE MANY SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES TO BE FOUND ON EITHER SIDE OF THE HARBOUR WILL SERVE AS A CONSTANT REMINDER OF THE DRIVING FORCE HE DISPLAYED IN PUSHING THROUGH WITH THESE PROJECTS THAT HAVE DONE SO MUCH TO IMPROVE THE LIFESTYLE, NOT ONLY OF OUR YOUNG, BUT OF OUR OLDER CITIZENS, TOO.+

TURNING TO MR SHUM, MR FORSGATE COMMENDED HIM FOR HAVING DEVOTED 11 YEARS OF SERVICE TO TACKLING THE HAWKER PROBLEM.

+MR SHUM THREW HIMSELF INTO THE TRIALS AND TURMOIL OF THE HAWKER SITUATION, AND STANDING AS MILESTONES TO HIS DEDICATED SERVICE ARE THE MANY NEW MARKETS TO BE FOUND IN OUR URBAN AREA, SOME OF THEM IN THE MOST MODERN MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDINGS,+ HE SAID.

HE DESCRIBED MR SHUM AS A VERY COMMUNITY-CONSCIOUS PERSON WHO HAS FOR MANY YEARS FOUND PRACTICAL WAYS IN WHICH TO DEMONSTRATE HIS GENUINE CIVIC MINDEDNESS.

+I AM SURE HE WILL LONG CONTINUE TO GIVE UNSPARINGLY OF HIS TIME IN THOSE MANY OTHER WORTHY FIELDS IN WHICH HE STILL SERVES,+ MR FORSGATE ADDED.

MR BROOK BERNACCHI WHO ALSO SPOKE ON THE OCCASION, WELCOMED THE REAPPOINTMENTS OF MR FORSGATE, MR STEPHEN LAU AND MR HOWARD YOUNG TO THE COUNCIL FOR ANOTHER THREE YEARS.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1985

- 6 -

POLICY ON CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS EXPLAINED
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THE VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE CULTURE SELECT COMMITTEE, MR FREDERICK FUNG, SAID THE URBAN COUNCIL IN DRAWING UP THE ANNUAL CULTURAL PROGRAMMES HAS PLACED EMPHASIS ON DIFFERENT PERFORMING ARTS AS WELL AS A BALANCE BETWEEN OVERSEAS AND LOCAL PRESENTATIONS.

THIS IS AIMED AT INCREASING THE ACCESSIBILITY OF A VARIETY OF PROGRAMMES TO THE PUBLIC, HE ADDED.

REPLYING TO QUESTIONS BY MR STEPHEN LAU, MR FUNG SAID THAT IN 1983/84, 283 OR 71.3 PER CENT OF THE REGULAR CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS WERE BY LOCAL PERFORMERS WHILE 114 OR 28.7 PER CENT WERE BY OVERSEAS ARTISTS.

AS FOR 1984/85, 357 EVENTS OR 80.4 PER CENT ARE LOCAL PROGRAMMES AND 87 OR 19.6 PER CENT ARE OVERSEAS ONES.

HE EXPLAINED THAT IN SELECTING OVERSEAS PERFORMING GROUPS AND ARTISTS, SEVERAL FACTORS HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED. THESE INCLUDE THEIR ARTISTIC MERITS, THE LIKELY AUDIENCE APPEAL OF THE PROPOSED PROGRAMMES, THE FINANCIAL VIABILITY OF BRINGING THEM TO HONG KONG AND THE AVAILABILITY OF SUITABLE VENUES DURING THE PROPOSED PERIOD.

+IT HAS BEEN THE NORMAL PRACTICE TO CONSIDER ONLY THOSE OVERSEAS GROUPS AND ARTISTS ON ASIAN TOUR AS THE SHARING OF EXPENSES ON AIR PASSAGE AND FREIGHT AMONG PRESENTERS IN THE ASIAN REGION WOULD REDUCE COSTS TO THE COUNCIL,+ MR FUNG SAID.

+BUT HIGH ARTISTIC STANDARD AND A WELL-BALANCED OVERALL PROGRAMME REMAIN THE DOMINANT FACTORS IN DETERMINING THE ENGAGEMENT OF PERFORMING GROUPS AND ARTISTS.

+EFFORTS WILL CONTINUE TO BE MADE TO ENSURE THAT THE SUBSIDY LEVEL OF THE OVERALL CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS PROGRAMME WILL NOT EXCEED 30 PER CENT.+

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TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1985

- 7 -

PROVISION OF AUDITORIA TO MEET LOCAL NEEDS
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TO CATER FOR LOCAL NEEDS FOR CULTURAL CENTRES, A SMALL AUDITORIUM WITH 400-500 SEATS WILL BE PROVIDED IN EACH OF THE FIVE URBAN COUNCIL COMPLEXES NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN NGAU CHI WAN, WESTERN, MONG KOK, SHAM SHUI PO AND HUNG HOM.

THIS WAS DISCLOSED BY MR FREDERICK FUNG, VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE CULTURE SELECT COMMITTEE, WHEN REPLYING TO QUESTIONS BY MR STEPHEN LAU AT THE COUNCIL'S OPEN MEETING TODAY.

MR FUNG ALSO TOLD THE MEETING THAT THE FEASIBILITY OF PROVIDING CULTURAL CENTRES IN KWUN TONG AND EASTERN DISTRICT IS NOW BEING STUDIED AND THAT REPORTS ARE EXPECTED TO BE READY FOR DISCUSSION BY HIS COMMITTEE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

+THESE CULTURAL CENTRES UNDER PLANNING OR STUDY, COUPLED WITH EXISTING FACILITIES AND THOSE UNDER CONSTRUCTION, WILL PROVIDE AN EVEN SPREAD OF PERFORMING VENUES SUFFICIENT TO MEET THE NEEDS OF ALL URBAN DISTRICTS,+ HE SAID.

+THE ABOVE PLANS HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN THE COUNCIL'S DISTRICT WORKS PROGRAMME FOR REGULAR CONSULTATION WITH DISTRICT BOARDS.+

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LIBRARY PLANS FOR EASTERN, WAN CHAI
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THE URBAN COUNCIL IS PLANNING TO PROVIDE TWO DISTRICT LIBRARIES AND A SMALL LIBRARY FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT AND A FULL SCALE DISTRICT LIBRARY FOR WAN CHAI, SAID MRS ELSIE ELLIOTT, CHAIRMAN OF THE LIBRARIES SELECT COMMITTEE.

REPLYING TO QUESTIONS BY MR SHUM CHOI-SANG AT THE URBAN COUNCIL OPEN MEETING TODAY, MRS ELLIOTT POINTED OUT THAT THE PLANS ARE MAPPED OUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S POLICY TO PROVIDE A DISTRICT LIBRARY OF 1 500 SQUARE METRES FOR EVERY 200 000 PEOPLE.

+AS FAR AS POSSIBLE, ALL PERMANENT LIBRARIES WILL BE HOUSED IN COUNCIL BUILDINGS AND THE INTENTION IS TO PHASE OUT INTERIM LIBRARIES IN RENTED PREMISES,+ SHE SAID.

/MRS ELLIOTT

MRS ELLIOTT NOTED THAT THE EASTERN DISTRICT, WITH A POPULATION OF ABOUT 489 000, IS NOW SERVED BY A DISTRICT LIBRARY IN COUNCIL PREMISES IN CHAI WAN AND TWO SMALL LIBRARIES, ONE IN COUNCIL PREMISES AT THE NORTH POINT MARKET BUILDING AND THE OTHER IN RENTED PREMISES IN TAI KOO SHING.

THE CHAI WAN LIBRARY WILL BE RETAINED AND REFURBISHED AS A PERMANENT DISTRICT LIBRARY AND THE ONE IN TAI KOO SHING WILL BE REPLACED BY A FULL SCALE DISTRICT LIBRARY AT THE QUARRY BAY UC COMPLEX IN 1987. THE NORTH POINT LIBRARY WILL ALSO BE KEPT TO SUPPLEMENT THE SERVICES OF THE DISTRICT LIBRARIES IN CHAI WAN AND QUARRY BAY.

TURNING TO WAN CHAI WHERE THERE ARE SOME 226 000 PEOPLE, MRS ELLIOTT SAID IT IS AT PRESENT SERVED BY A DISTRICT LIBRARY OF ABOUT 1 100 SQUARE METRES AND A SMALL LIBRARY, BOTH OF WHICH ARE IN RENTED PREMISES.

PLANS ARE IN HAND TO REPLACE THESE TWO INTERIM LIBRARIES BY A FULL SCALE DISTRICT LIBRARY AT THE LOCKHART ROAD UC COMPLEX IN 1986.

+IT IS FELT THAT THE PLANNED PROVISION FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT AND WAN CHAI IS COMPARABLE TO THAT FOR THE OTHER EIGHT URBAN DISTRICTS, AND THERE ARE NO PLANS AT PRESENT TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL STATIC LIBRARIES IN SHAU KEI WAN AND CAUSEWAY BAY,+ MRS ELLIOTT ADDED.

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COST-EFFECTIVENESS STRESSED IN STADIA MANAGEMENT
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TO FURTHER ENHANCE EFFICIENCY AND COST-EFFECTIVENESS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE 3 500-SEAT QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM AND THE 12 500-SEAT HONG KONG COLISEUM, A PROPOSAL HAS RECENTLY BEEN DRAWN UP TO POOL THEIR STAFF TO FORM ONE +STADIA OFFICE+.

THIS WILL NOT ONLY RESULT IN AN ANNUAL SAVING OF NEARLY HALF A MILLION DOLLARS IN STAFF COSTS AND BETTER DEPLOYMENT OF MANPOWER RESOURCES BETWEEN THE TWO VENUES BUT WILL ALSO ENABLE PLANNING OF MARKETING STRATEGY FOR BOTH STADIA.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF ENTERTAINMENT SELECT COMMITTEE, MR STEPHEN LAU, WHEN REPLYING TO QUESTIONS BY MR SAMUEL WONG AT TODAY'S OPEN MEETING OF THE URBAN COUNCIL.

+THE CULTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO COST-EFFECTIVENESS IN THE OPERATION OF THE STADIA AND BE ALERT TO OPPORTUNITIES FOR OPENING UP NEW MARKETS FOR HIRING, ADVERTISING AND OTHER REVENUE-GENERATING FACILITIES,+ SAID MR LAU.

+MEASURES ARE ALSO IN HAND TO PROMOTE AND PUBLICISE THEM MORE WIDELY HERE IN HONG KONG AND OVERSEAS.+

ACCORDING TO STATISTICS, THE HONG KONG COLISEUM WILL ACHIEVE A USAGE RATE OF ABOUT 45 PER CENT AND A BREAK-EVEN FINANCIAL SITUATION IN 1984/85. THE USAGE OF THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM WILL BE AROUND 51 PER CENT, WITH A SUBSIDY LEVEL IN THE REGION OF 58 PER CENT.

MR LAU SAID THE EXISTING POLICIES AND GUIDELINES ON THE MANAGEMENT OF THE TWO STADIA ARE LARGELY BASED ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXPERTS ENGAGED BY THE COUNCIL IN 1982 FROM THE CAPITAL CENTRE OF U.S.A.

VARIOUS MEASURES HAVE ALREADY BEEN IMPLEMENTED TO MINIMIZE EXPENDITURE AND MAXIMISE REVENUE. BUT THESE WILL BE KEPT UNDER REGULAR REVIEW TO CATER FOR THE DEVELOPING CIRCUMSTANCES, HE ADDED.

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MAXIMISE USAGE OF COLISEUM BEING EXPLORED
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THE URBAN COUNCIL IS CURRENTLY REVIEWING THE HIRING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OF THE HONG KONG COLISEUM WITH A VIEW TO PROMOTE GREATER OVERALL USAGE.

AT THE SAME TIME, WAYS AND MEANS OF ATTRACTING MORE BOOKINGS FOR CONVENTIONS AND EXHIBITIONS, INCLUDING TRADE FAIRS, ARE ALSO BEING ACTIVELY EXPLORED.

THIS WAS STATED BY MR STEPHEN LAU, CHAIRMAN OF THE ENTERTAINMENT SELECT COMMITTEE, WHEN REPLYING TO QUESTIONS BY MR SAMUEL WONG AT THE COUNCIL'S OPEN MEETING TODAY.

MR LAU SAID THE COLISEUM WHICH HAS A 1 680-SQUARE-METRE ARENA AND A MAXIMUM SEATING CAPACITY OF 12 500 IS SUITABLE FOR BOTH LARGE-SCALE CONFERENCES AND EXHIBITIONS.

IN ADDITION, THE 2 875-SQUARE-METRE PIAZZA THAT SURROUNDS IT ALSO OFFERS AN IDEAL OUTDOOR DISPLAY SPACE.

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1985

- 10 -

BUT HE ADMITTED THAT THE USAGE OF THE VENUE FOR HOLDING CONVENTIONS AND EXHIBITIONS HAS SO FAR BEEN LOW.

+THIS IS PROBABLY BECAUSE GREATER EMPHASIS HAS BEEN PLACED ON ENTERTAINMENT AND SPORTS EVENTS AS THE PRIMARY FUNCTIONS OF THE VENUE, AND WITH REGARD TO EXHIBITIONS BECAUSE OF THE RELATIVELY LOW PROPORTION OF EXHIBITION SPACE IN RELATION TO THE SEATING AREA,+ HE SAID.

MEANWHILE, MR LAU SAID THE COLISEUM HAS BEEN BOOKED FOR A TRADE FAIR TO PROMOTE THE EXPORT OF GIFTS AND HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS OF HONG KONG IN APRIL NEXT YEAR - THE FIRST EVER TO BE HELD AT THE VENUE SINCE IT WAS OFFICIALLY OPENED IN APRIL 1983.

THE HONG KONG TOURIST ASSOCIATION WHICH HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN BRINGING A LARGE NUMBER OF INTERESTED OVERSEAS VISITORS TO THE COLISEUM WILL ALSO HOST A SEMINAR ON CONVENTION FACILITIES THIS MONTH IN WHICH THE COLISEUM AND OTHER COUNCIL FACILITIES WILL BE COVERED.

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COUNCIL NOT AUTHORITY TO CENSOR MATERIAL
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IT WOULD BE BEYOND THE POWERS OF THE URBAN COUNCIL TO CENSOR THE MATERIAL EXPOSED FOR SALE BY LICENSED NEWSPAPER HAWKERS, SAID THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MARKETS AND STREET TRADERS SELECT COMMITTEE, MR SHUM CHOI-SANG, TODAY.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY MRS MARGARET LI AT THE OPEN MEETING, MR SHUM POINTED OUT THAT UNDER THE OBJECTIONABLE PUBLICATIONS ORDINANCE, ONLY THE POLICE HAVE THE DUTY OF TAKING ACTION AGAINST THE SALE OF ANY MATERIAL OF AN INDECENT, OBSCENE OR REVOLTING NATURE FROM A LICENSED NEWSPAPER HAWKER STALL OR ELSEWHERE.

+THE COUNCIL'S ONLY DUTY IN SUCH CASES IS TO URGE ALL CITIZENS TO OBEY THE LAW,+ HE SAID.

AS FOR MATERIAL WHICH IS NOT ILLEGAL UNDER THE SAME ORDINANCE, BUT MERELY TASTELESS, OR OF A GENERALLY EROTIC OR SENSUOUS FLAVOUR, THERE ARE NO LEGAL CONTROLS ON THE SALE OR EXPOSURE FOR SALE OF SUCH MATERIAL.

TO INITIATE LEGAL AMENDMENTS TO ACHIEVE SUCH CONTROL WOULD BE EXTRMEMELY DIFFICULT.

+IT IS IN PARTICULAR IMPOSSIBLE TO DEFINE ADEQUATELY WHAT DOES OR DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN 'ADULT PUBLICATION' WHICH IS UNDESIRABLE, BUT NOT ACTUALLY INDECENT,+ MR SHUM NOTED.

/+EVEN,

+EVEN, HOWEVER, IF ADEQUATE DEFINITIONS COULD BE
WORDED, IT WOULD APPEAR INAPPROPRIATE FOR SUCH CONTROLS TO
BE EXERCISED BY THE COUNCIL.

+CONTROL COULD ONLY BE IMPOSED BY THE COUNCIL IN THE
FORM OF ADDITIONAL STATUTORY LICENSING CONDITIONS UNDER THE
PUBLIC HEALTH AND URBAN SERVICES ORDINANCE.

+THAT ORDINANCE IS CONCERNED WITH PUBLIC HEALTH AND
PUBLIC SAFETY, AND TO EXTEND ITS RESPONSIBILITY TO COVER
THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE MORAL FIBRE OF YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD
SEEM TO CONSTITUTE AN EXTENSION OF THE COUNCIL'S AUTHORITY
AS FRAMED IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND URBAN SERVICES ORDINANCE
AND EXTENSION OF THE COUNCIL'S AUTHORITY INTO AREAS QUITE
OUTSIDE ITS HISTORIC AREAS OF CONCERN.+

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ALIENATION OF UC FACILITIES SATISFACTORY
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THE PRESENT PROCEDURES FOR THE ALIENATION OF URBAN
COUNCIL FACILITIES, INCLUDING OPEN SPACE, PARKS AND
PLAYGROUNDS, ARE SATISFACTORY.

THIS WAS STATED BY MR KENNETH LO, CHAIRMAN OF THE
RECREATION SELECT COMMITTEE AT TODAY'S OPEN MEETING OF THE
URBAN COUNCIL WHEN REPLYING TO MRS MARGARET LI'S QUESTIONS.

EXPLAINING THE PROCEDURES, MR LO SAID: +EACH CASE IS
CONSIDERED ON ITS OWN MERITS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE
OVERALL INTEREST OF THE PUBLIC, THE EFFECT OF THE
ALIENATION ON THE FACILITIES, THE SUITABILITY OF THE
COMPENSATORY LAND GRANT, IF ANY, AND THE PERIOD OF THE
ALIENATION.

+IF THE COUNCIL IS SATISFIED THAT THE ALIENATION IS
JUSTIFIED, THEN THE REQUEST IS ALLOWED.+

HOWEVER, HE POINTED OUT, ANY ALIENATION THAT INVOLVES
THE FELLING OF TREES OR THE LOSS OF GREENERY, WILL BE
EXAMINED MOST CAREFULLY BY THE RECREATION SELECT COMMITTEE
TO ENSURE THAT AS FEW TREES AS POSSIBLE ARE LOST.

WHERE POSSIBLE, TRANSPLANTING OF THE TREES OR
REPROVISION OF THE GREENERY IS REQUIRED AS A CONDITION FOR
THE ALIENATION.

THE EFFECT SUCH ALIENATION HAS ON KEEPING HONG KONG
GREEN IS THEREFORE KEPT TO A MINIMUM, MR LO SAID.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1985

- 12 -

PUBLIC BOWLING GREENS UNDER-UTILIZED

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THE URBAN COUNCIL DOES NOT PRESENTLY SEE THE PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL PUBLIC LAWN BOWLING GREENS AS A HIGH PRIORITY ITEM FOR USE OF ITS SCARCE RESOURCES, SAID MR KENNETH LO, CHAIRMAN OF THE RECREATION SELECT COMMITTEE.

BUT IF THERE IS AN INCREASE IN THE USE OF THE EXISTING TWO GREENS AT VICTORIA PARK, HE SAID, CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO DEVELOPING MORE OF THESE FACILITIES.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY MRS NELLIE FONG, MR LO NOTED THAT THE TWO GREENS ARE AT PRESENT UNDER-UTILIZED. STATISTICS SHOW THAT DURING THE PERIODS SEPTEMBER 1982/AUGUST 1983 AND SEPTEMBER 1983/AUGUST 1984 WHEN ONLY ONE GREEN WAS AVAILABLE, THE USAGE RATE RECORDED WAS 44.41 PER CENT AND 29.15 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

AND BETWEEN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR AND JANUARY THIS YEAR WHEN ANOTHER GREEN WAS OPENED, THE USAGE RATE OF THE TWO GREENS WAS 11.51 PER CENT.

+THE USAGE PATTERN WILL BE CAREFULLY MONITORED,+ SAID MR LO.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE HONG KONG LAWN BOWLS ASSOCIATION, IS AT PRESENT LOOKING INTO MEANS TO PROMOTE THE USAGE OF THE TWO GREENS INCLUDING THE NEED FOR INSTALLING FLOODLIGHTING AT THE EXISTING GREENS TO EXTEND THE HOURS OF USE AFTER DUSK.

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HAWKER POLICIES NOT FINALISED, SAYS MRS ELLIOTT

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THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE URBAN COUNCIL'S WORKING PARTY TO REVIEW HAWKER AND RELATED POLICIES, MRS ELSIE ELLIOTT, SAID TODAY THAT NO DECISIONS HAVE YET BEEN TAKEN ON THE COUNCIL'S FUTURE POLICIES ON HAWKERS.

+ANYTHING THAT HAS BEEN SAID SO FAR IS PURE SPECULATION,+ SHE STRESSED.

CLARIFYING THE ACTUAL POSITION CONCERNING THE WORK OF THE WORKING PARTY AT THE COUNCIL'S OPEN MEETING TODAY, MRS ELLIOTT POINTED OUT THAT THE PARTY COULD ONLY MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS, AND NOT FINAL DECISIONS, ON HAWKER MATTERS.

/AND BEFORE

AND BEFORE MAKING ANY RECOMMENDATIONS, THE WORKING PARTY WILL PRESENT A COMPREHENSIVE CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT ON HAWKER ISSUES TO SEEK THE VIEWS OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, THE NEW DISTRICT BOARDS, THE HAWKER ASSOCIATIONS, GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, THE PRESS AND THE PUBLIC AT LARGE.

+WE HAD HOPED TO REPORT OUR FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COUNCIL PROPER AT THE END OF LAST YEAR, OR EARLY THIS YEAR, BUT THE HAWKER PROBLEM IS A COMPLEX ONE AND WE HAVE BEEN AT PAINS TO STUDY IT FROM EVERY ANGLE, AND TO CONSULT OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS BESIDES THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT,+ SHE SAID.

+IN SHORT, THE MORE WE STUDIED THE RAMIFICATIONS OF THE PROBLEM, THE WIDER WE HAD TO CAST OUR NET TO ENSURE THAT ALL RELEVANT POINTS WERE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

+BECAUSE WE MUST NOW ENTER A FRESH ROUND OF CONSULTATIONS WITH THE NEWLY ELECTED DISTRICT BOARDS, OUR FINDINGS WILL NECESSARILY BE FURTHER DELAYED -- BUT THE HAWKER PROBLEM HAS BEEN WITH US FOR MANY DECADES, AND IN THE LONG TERM A FEW MONTHS EITHER WAY WILL NOT MATTER MUCH IF THE END RESULT IS A SATISFACTORY ONE WHICH, HOPEFULLY, IT WILL BE.+

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SWIMMING POOL LICENCE FEE REVISED
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THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE SELECT COMMITTEE, DR DENNY HUANG, MOVED A MOTION AT THE URBAN COUNCIL OPEN MEETING TODAY TO INCREASE THE ANNUAL LICENSING FEE FOR SWIMMING POOLS.

THE NEW FEE WHICH WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE ON APRIL 1, WILL BE \$2 000 AS COMPARED WITH THE EXISTING \$1 680.

DR HUANG SAID THE SWIMMING POOL LICENCE FEE WAS LAST REVISED IN APRIL 1983.

+SINCE THEN, THE FEE FOR TESTING WATER SAMPLES FOR MONITORING POOL WATER QUALITY, WHICH IS CHARGED TO THE COUNCIL BY THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, HAS RISEN BY 240 PER CENT,+ HE SAID.

+THIS HAS RESULTED IN A SUBSTANTIAL DEFICIT IN THE COST FOR ADMINISTERING THIS TYPE OF LICENCE.+

DR HUANG SAID THAT DUE CONSIDERATION HAS BEEN GIVEN TO ALL THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE INCREASE BY HIS COMMITTEE AND THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE URBAN COUNCIL.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1985

- 14 -

AN ABNORMAL FEBRUARY FOR HONG KONG

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FEBRUARY WAS ABNORMAL, CHANGEABLE AND UNSETTLED, THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY REPORTS.

HAIL WAS REPORTED ON FEBRUARY 7, WHICH WAS THE EARLIEST DATE ON RECORD FOR HAIL OCCURRENCE IN HONG KONG.

THE MEAN ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE OF 1 013.9 MILLIBARS WAS THE LOWEST ON RECORD FOR FEBRUARY. THE MONTH'S RAINFALL OF 218.8 MM WAS THE SECOND HIGHEST ON RECORD FOR FEBRUARY COMPARED WITH THE HIGHEST RECORD OF 241.0 MM SET IN FEBRUARY 1983.

DURING THE MONTH, RAIN OCCURRED ON 25 DAYS WHICH WAS ALSO THE SECOND HIGHEST ON RECORD FOR FEBRUARY, AFTER THE RECORD NUMBER OF 26 SET IN 1959.

THE MONTH'S MEAN RELATIVE HUMIDITY OF 86 PER CENT AND THE MEAN AMOUNT OF CLOUD OF 92 PER CENT RANKED THE SIXTH AND THE EIGHTH HIGHEST ON RECORD FOR FEBRUARY RESPECTIVELY.

THE TOTAL DURATION OF BRIGHT SUNSHINE WAS 27.9 HOURS WHICH RANKED THE SIXTH LOWEST ON RECORD FOR FEBRUARY.

THE WEATHER WAS FINE AND SUNNY ON THE FIRST TWO DAYS OF THE MONTH UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF CONTINENTAL ANTICYCLONE OVER CHINA. AS THE ANTICYCLONE MOVED EAST ACROSS THE EAST CHINA COAST ON FEBRUARY 3, THE WEATHER BECAME CLOUDY ALTHOUGH THERE WERE STILL SUNNY INTERVALS.

FOR THE REST OF THE MONTH, THE WEATHER WAS OVERCAST MOST OF THE TIME AND THERE WERE LESS THAN 10 HOURS OF BRIGHT SUNSHINE IN 25 DAYS.

AN ACTIVE TROUGH OF LOW PRESSURE FORMED OVER SOUTH CHINA ON FEBRUARY 4 AND WAS ALMOST STATIONARY FOR THE FOLLOWING TWO DAYS. WEATHER ON FEBRUARY 4 WAS CLOUDY WITH LIGHT RAIN AND PERIODS OF HEAVY RAIN AND ISOLATED THUNDERSTORMS SET IN ON FEBRUARY 5. AS A RESULT, A SECTION OF TUEN MUN ROAD NEAR TAI LAM WAS CLOSED IN THE EVENING OF FEBRUARY 5 DUE TO A LANDSLIP NEARBY. FLOODING WAS REPORTED IN TSING LUNG TAU AND SHA TIN.

ISOLATED THUNDERSTORMS AGAIN OCCURRED ON FEBRUARY 6.

THE TROUGH OF LOW PRESSURE STARTED TO MOVE SOUTH ON FEBRUARY 7, AND FOG FORMED IN THE EARLY MORNING LASTED UNTIL LATE IN THE EVENING. MORE WIDESPREAD THUNDERY SHOWERS WERE EXPERIENCED ON THAT DAY, CAUSING LANDSLIPS IN SAU MAU PING AND KWUN TONG, WHERE 40 RESIDENTS WERE EVACUATED. MINOR FLOODING WAS REPORTED IN WAN CHAI. THERE WERE ALSO REPORTS OF MARBLE-SIZE HAILSTONES IN KWUN TONG AND THE EASTERN PART OF THE NEW TERRITORIES, INCLUDING SAI KUNG, HIGH ISLAND, SHAP SZ HEUNG ANG TAP MUN, AND MIRS BAY.

/THUNDERY SHOWERS

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1985

- 15 -

THUNDERY SHOWERS CONTINUED ON FEBRUARY 8, GIVING RISE TO FLOODING IN YAU TONG AND WONG TAI SIN WHERE 20 PEOPLE WERE EVACUATED.

THERE WERE PRESS REPORTS THAT SEVERE WEATHER WITH THUNDERSTORMS, SQUALLS, TORNADOES AND EGG-SIZE HAILSTONES OCCURRED IN THE WESTERN PART OF GUANGDONG PROVINCE AND HAINAN ISLAND ON FEBRUARY 7 AND 8. THERE WERE ALSO REPORTS OF HAIL TO THE SOUTH OF TAIPEI.

THE ACTIVE TROUGH OF LOW PRESSURE EVENTUALLY PASSED TO THE SOUTH OF HONG KONG EARLY ON FEBRUARY 9 AND THE WEATHER WAS OVERCAST WITH THUNDERSTORMS AND FOG IN THE MORNING. THE TEMPERATURE ROSE TO A MAXIMUM OF 21.7 DEGREES CELSIUS IN THE AFTERNOON, THE HIGHEST OF THE MONTH.

A SURGE OF THE WINTER MONSOON ARRIVED ON FEBRUARY 10 AND THERE WERE PERIODS OF HEAVY RAIN. HOWEVER, THE RAIN BECAME LIGHT AND INTERMITTENT ON FEBRUARY 11 AND 12.

ANOTHER SURGE OF THE WINTER MONSOON ARRIVED EARLY ON FEBRUARY 13 AND PERIODS OF HEAVY RAIN AGAIN OCCURRED.

A RIDGE OF HIGH PRESSURE BECAME ESTABLISHED OVER THE SOUTHEASTERN COAST OF CHINA ON FEBRUARY 14, THE WEATHER IMPROVED SLIGHTLY AND RAIN BECAME LIGHT.

ALTHOUGH MIST WAS REPORTED IN THE MORNING OF FEBRUARY 15, SOME SUNNY INTERVALS OCCURRED IN THE AFTERNOON. HOWEVER, FOG AND DRIZZLE SET IN DURING THAT EVENING.

FOG BECAME WIDESPREAD ON FEBRUARY 16, DISRUPTING BOTH FERRY AND AIR TRAFFIC SERVICES, AND THERE WAS ALSO SOME RAIN.

WHILE A COLD FRONT WAS FORMING OVER SOUTH CHINA ON FEBRUARY 17, FOGGY WEATHER WITH DRIZZLE CONTINUED LOCALLY.

THE COLD FRONT PASSED HONG KONG EARLY ON FEBRUARY 18, CLEARING THE FOG BUT BRINGING RAIN WHICH WAS HEAVY AT TIMES.

PATCHES OF LIGHT RAIN CONTINUED ON FEBRUARY 19 AND 20.

A SURGE OF THE WINTER MONSOON ARRIVED EARLY ON FEBRUARY 21 AND THE WEATHER BECAME COLD WITH PERIODS OF RAIN FROM FEBRUARY 21 TO 24. THE TEMPERATURE DROPPED TO A MINIMUM OF 8.9 DEGREES CELSIUS ON FEBRUARY 23, THE LOWEST OF THE MONTH.

IT WAS CLOUDY WITH DRIZZLE FROM FEBRUARY 25 TO 28. IN ADDITION, THERE WERE ALSO MIST AND FOG ON FEBRUARY 26 AND 28.

THERE WERE NO TROPICAL CYCLONES OVER THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC AND THE SOUTH CHINA SEA DURING THE MONTH.

/DURING THE

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1985

- 16 -

DURING THE MONTH, 10 AIRCRAFT WERE DIVERTED FROM HONG KONG DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER. THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS WERE ISSUED FROM FEBRUARY 7 TO 9. A FLOOD WARNING WAS ISSUED ON FEBRUARY 8. THE YELLOW FIRE DANGER WAS IN EFFECT ON FEBRUARY 1, 2, 3 AND 20.

SIGNALS HOISTED DURING THE MONTH WERE AS FOLLOWS:

<u>WEATHER SYSTEM</u>	<u>SIGNAL</u>	<u>DATE AND TIME OF HOISTING</u>	<u>DATE AND TIME OF LOWERING</u>
WINTER MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	FEBRUARY 10 11.15 PM	FEBRUARY 11 10.15 AM
WINTER MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	FEBRUARY 16 7.40 PM	FEBRUARY 17 9.05 AM
WINTER MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	FEBRUARY 25 1 AM	FEBRUARY 25 9.10 AM

THE MONTH'S FIGURES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL WERE:

SUNSHINE	27.9 HOURS= 80.8 HOURS BELOW NORMAL
RAINFALL	218.8 MM= 176.9 MM ABOVE NORMAL
CLOUDINESS	92 PER CENT= 21 PER CENT MORE THAN NORMAL
RELATIVE HUMIDITY	86 PER CENT= 8 PER CENT HIGHER THAN NORMAL
MEAN MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE	17.6 DEGREES CELSIUS= 1.2 DEGREES CELSIUS BELOW NORMAL
MEAN TEMPERATURE	15.8 DEGREES CELSIUS= 0.1 DEGREE CELSIUS BELOW NORMAL
MEAN MINIMUM TEMPERATURE	14.2 DEGREES CELSIUS= 0.5 DEGREE CELSIUS ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DEW POINT	13.4 DEGREES CELSIUS= 1.7 DEGREES CELSIUS ABOVE NORMAL
TOTAL EVAPORATION	35.8 MM= 48.8 MM BELOW NORMAL

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 21.7 DEGREES CELSIUS WAS RECORDED ON FEBRUARY 9

MINIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 8.9 DEGREES CELSIUS WAS RECORDED ON FEBRUARY 23

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/17

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1985

- 17 -

SPECIAL STAMP ISSUE OUT THURSDAY

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THE POST OFFICE WILL BE SETTING UP ADDITIONAL COUNTERS FOR NORMAL BUSINESS WHEN THE SPECIAL SET OF STAMPS WITH THE THEME +HISTORICAL BUILDINGS OF HONG KONG+ ARE ISSUED ON THURSDAY, MARCH 14.

ADDITIONAL COUNTERS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

POST OFFICES ON HONG KONG ISLAND

GENERAL POST OFFICE

BEACONSFIELD HOUSE

CAUSEWAY BAY

HENNESSY ROAD

MORRISON HILL

NORTH POINT

QUEEN'S ROAD

SHEUNG WAN

POST OFFICES IN KOWLOON AND NEW TERRITORIES

KOWLOON CENTRAL

CHEUNG SHA WAN

GILLIES AVENUE

KOWLOON CITY

KWUN TONG

MONG KOK

SHAM SHUI PO

TSIM SHA TSUI

TSUEN WAN

/A POST

- 18 -

A POST OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HONG KONG THE ARTWORK USED IN THE PRODUCTION OF THESE STAMPS HAVE ALSO BEEN REPRODUCED IN SETS OF HIGH QUALITY A4 SIZE PRINTS WITH MATCHING STAMPS.

EACH SET IS CONTAINED IN A LUXURIOUS RED AND GOLD PRESENTATION FOLDER AND WILL BE ON SALE AT \$50 PER SET AT THE PHILATELIC COUNTERS OF GENERAL POST OFFICE, TSIM SHA TSUI, GRANVILLE ROAD, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, PEAK AND AIRPORT POST OFFICES AS FROM MARCH 15.

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35 MORE SPECIAL CAR NUMBERS OFFERED
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THIRTY-FIVE MORE SPECIAL CAR REGISTRATION NUMBERS WILL BE OFFERED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT IN AN AUCTION ON SATURDAY (MARCH 16), STARTING AT 10 AM IN THE CITY HALL RECITAL HALL.

THEY ARE:

DD 6686	DD 3218	DE 2800	DD 9188	AB 500
AZ 6636	DD 3231	AS 14	AS 738	DD 6838
DC 8	DD 8288	DE 1638	DE 118	DE 1118
DD 6663	DD 69	DD 6338	HK 808	DD 9951
DD 3928	DD 8983	280	DE 6838	CH 38
DE 501	DD 100	DD 9668	AT 8722	DD 8863
DC 888	DE 280	DE 233	DD 7187	DB 18

PAYMENT MUST BE IN CASH OR BY CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BIDDING, A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

AND THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBER WOULD BE ASSIGNED ONLY TO A VEHICLE REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE AUCTION, HE SAID.

PROCEEDS OF THE AUCTION WILL, AS USUAL, GO TO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND.

THE AUCTION WILL BE THE 96TH ORGANISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SINCE MAY 1973.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1985

- 19 -

BOARD TO HOLD END-OF-TERM MEETING

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THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD WILL HOLD ITS FINAL MEETING OF THE CURRENT TERM ON THURSDAY (MARCH 14) AFTERNOON.

AT THE MEETING, HANDOVER STATEMENTS OF THE BOARD'S SIX COMMITTEES, AND THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE BOARD FOR THE YEAR 1984-85 WILL BE TABLED.

A LIST OF PROJECTS TO BE CARRIED OVER TO THE NEXT TERM WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE TO THE BOARD MEMBERS.

ANOTHER ITEM FOR DISCUSSION IS A 10-KILOMETRE FITNESS TRAIL TO BE BUILT IN KWUN TONG, FOR WHICH ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB DONATED \$2.5 MILLION.

NEWLY-ELECTED DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS HAVE BEEN INVITED TO ATTEND THURSDAY'S MEETING.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD MEETING AT 2.30 PM ON THURSDAY (MARCH 14) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE 3RD FLOOR OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING IN TUNG YAN STREET.

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ANOTHER BIG PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE FOR TAI PO

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ANOTHER LARGE PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE IS TO RISE IN TAI PO NEW TOWN, PROVIDING MODERN HOMES FOR 40 000 MORE PEOPLE ON FULL COMPLETION BY 1989.

TAI WO ESTATE, THE FOURTH PUBLIC RENTAL HOUSING PROJECT IN THE DISTRICT, WILL BE DEVELOPED IN FOUR PHASES ON A SITE COVERING 15.7 HECTARES TO THE NORTH OF TAI PO OLD MARKET.

+THE HOUSING AUTHORITY IS NOW INVITING PILING TENDERS FOR ITS FIRST PHASE,+ SAID A HOUSING SPOKESMAN TODAY.

HE SAID WORKS WOULD INCLUDE PILING TO FOUNDATIONS FOR THREE 35-STOREY TRIDENT BLOCKS, A 20-STOREY SLAB BLOCK, A PRIMARY SCHOOL AND A COMMERCIAL CENTRE, AS WELL AS FOOTBRIDGE SUPPORTS.

/+THE FOUR

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1985

- 20 -

+THE FOUR RESIDENTIAL BLOCKS WILL ACCOMMODATE 13 375 PEOPLE IN 2 942 SELF-CONTAINED FLATS WHEN THEY ARE READY BY 1988.+

AT PRESENT, CONSTRUCTION WORK IS WELL UNDERWAY ON THE THIRD RENTAL ESTATE IN TAI PO, FU SHIN ESTATE, WHICH WILL BECOME HOMES FOR 28 000 PEOPLE ON COMPLETION BY 1986.

THE FIRST TWO RENTAL ESTATES IN THE NEW TOWN, TAI YUEN AND KWONG FUK, ARE NOW HOUSING 40 000 PEOPLE, AND KWONG FUK ESTATE WILL SOON TAKE IN ANOTHER 10 000 PEOPLE WHEN ITS FINAL PHASE IS READY.

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MORE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES FOR KWAI CHUNG * * * * *

MORE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES WILL BE PROVIDED FOR RESIDENTS IN THE KWAI CHUNG AREA.

THE GOVERNMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A BASKETBALL AND VOLLEY BALL COURT, SKATING RINK AND PLANTING AREA ON A 5 360-SQUARE METRE LOCAL OPEN SPACE IN WO YI HOP ROAD.

WORK IS TO START IN MAY AND TAKE ABOUT TEN MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE DEADLINE FOR TENDERS IS MARCH 29.

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SUNDAY FUN FOR 1 500 CHILDREN * * * * *

THE GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT WILL BE HOLDING A PARTY FOR MORE THAN 1 500 CHILDREN OF STAFF ON SUNDAY (MARCH 17).

THE PARTY WILL BEGIN WITH THE DOTTING OF A LION'S EYES BY THE DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES, MR ROY KILVERT, FOLLOWED BY A LION DANCE BY MEMBERS OF THE AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICES.

THERE WILL ALSO BE SIDE-SHOWS, GAME STALLS, A TRAIN RIDE, TARGET SHOOTING, MAGIC AND ACROBATIC SHOWS, AS WELL AS A POLICE DOG DEMONSTRATION.

THE AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICES BAND AND THE TAI TAM GIRLS' PIPERS AND MARCHING TEAM WILL PROVIDE MUSIC THROUGHOUT THE PARTY.

/MR KILVERT

MR KILVERT WILL LATER PRESENT PRIZES AND CONDUCT A LUCKY DRAW.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PARTY, WHICH WILL BE HELD IN THE GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT COMPOUND AT 12, OIL STREET, NORTH POINT.

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IMMIGRATION INCREASES VISITS TO TUEN MUN

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FROM MARCH 20, THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT'S MOBILE OFFICE WILL BE MAKING THREE -- INSTEAD OF TWO -- VISITS A WEEK TO TUEN MUN, TO MEET DEMAND FOR SERVICES THERE.

+ANYONE WHO WISHES TO USE THE SERVICES MAY CALL AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE AT ON TING ESTATE BETWEEN 10.15 AM AND 12.30 PM AND BETWEEN 2 PM AND 3.30 PM EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY EXCEPT PUBLIC HOLIDAYS+, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

THE MOBILE OFFICE'S VISITING SCHEDULE TO OTHER DISTRICTS REMAINS UNCHANGED.

PUBLIC ENQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO TELEPHONE 3-7333111.

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DRAINAGE WORK IN YUEN LONG

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ABOUT 900 METRES OF BOX CULVERTS, 400 METRES OF PIPES AND 2 200 METRES OF CHANNELS WILL BE BUILT AT YAU TIN AND LAM HAU IN YUEN LONG.

WORK ON THE PROJECT, WHICH WILL IMPROVE STORMWATER DRAINAGE IN THE LOW-LYING PLACES IN THE AREA, IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN JUNE AND BE COMPLETED IN 17 MONTHS.

THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT BRANCH OF THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT.

TENDERS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY MARCH 29.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1985

- 22 -

D'AGUILAR STREET TRAFFIC CHANGE
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D'AGUILAR STREET BETWEEN WYNDHAM STREET AND WELLINGTON STREET IN CENTRAL WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL VEHICLES EXCEPT THOSE REQUIRING LOCAL ACCESS, FOR ABOUT FOUR MONTHS FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (MARCH 15).

THE CLOSURE IS FOR ROAD WORK.

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NOTE TO TV NEWS EDITORS:

PLEASE BROADCAST THE ABOVE TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN YOUR MORNING TRAFFIC BULLETINS.

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TRAFFIC CHANGES
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TRAFFIC ON THE UNNAMED STREET JOINING NAM SHING STREET AND WAI YI STREET IN TAI PO MARKET WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND, FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (MARCH 15).

AT THE SAME TIME, TRAFFIC ON YAN HING STREET AND SHUN TAK STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED TWO-WAYS, WHILE N.T. MAXICAB 22K WILL BE RE-ROUTED VIA YAN HING STREET AND SHUN TAK STREET ON JOURNEYS TO TAI PO KCR STATION.

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NOTE TO TV NEWS EDITORS:

PLEASE BROADCAST THE ABOVE TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN YOUR MORNING TRAFFIC BULLETINS.

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