



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1974

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DAILY GUIDE TO WHOLESALE PRICES AND SUPPLIES OF BASIC FOOD
COMMODITIES

FINANCIAL SECRETARY EXPLAINS DECISION TO FLOAT H.K. DOLLAR
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THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR. PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, TODAY SAID HE SAW NO REASON WHY THE TEMPORARY FLOAT OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR AGAINST THE U.S. CURRENCY SHOULD UNDERMINE HONG KONG'S TRADING PERFORMANCE IN THE AMERICAN MARKET.

IN OPTING FOR THE FLOAT, HE EXPLAINED AT A ROTARY CLUB LUNCHEON, HE HAD FOLLOWED THE VIEW TAKEN BY ONE AUTHORITY AFTER ANOTHER AROUND THE WORLD THAT IF THE RATE WAS GOING TO GO EVENTUALLY, +THEN THE SOONER THE BETTER.+

+I TOOK THIS VIEW ALSO, BELIEVING THAT WITH THE SPECULATION OUT OF THE WAY THE RATE WOULD SOON MOVE BACK TO A POINT NOT VERY FAR FROM WHERE IT STARTED,+ HE SAID, ADDING +AND I AM OF THE VIEW THAT THIS BELIEF WILL BE JUSTIFIED.+

MR. HADDON-CAVE NOTED THAT SOME HAD ACCUSED THE GOVERNMENT OF BAD FAITH IN NOT FULFILLING — AT LEAST FOR A LONGER PERIOD — THAN IT DID — ITS STATED OBLIGATION TO MAINTAIN THE RATE WITHIN THE FIXED MARGINS. THE FACT WAS, HE SAID, THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD NOT WAITED FOR THE RATE TO REACH THE UPPER LIMIT AND HAD BEEN BUYING U.S. DOLLARS LAST WEEK IN AN ATTEMPT TO TURN THE MARKET ROUND. THIS HAD APPEARED SUCCESSFUL AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS LAST FRIDAY.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD NEVER FORMALLY UNDERTAKEN TO MAINTAIN THIS COMMITMENT INDEFINITELY, WHATEVER THE CIRCUMSTANCES.

THE CIRCUMSTANCES THE GOVERNMENT FOUND ITSELF IN LAST MONDAY WERE THAT SPECULATIVE PRESSURE SEEMED TO BE BUILDING UP QUITE FAST, AND NO MONETARY AUTHORITY CAN THESE DAYS WITHSTAND FOR EVER THE SHEER WEIGHT OF FUNDS THAT CAN BE BROUGHT TO BEAR ON A CURRENCY, HE SAID.

HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE SPECULATION WAS, IN EFFECT, AGAINST THE U.S. DOLLAR, WHICH HAD WEAKENED SHARPLY DURING THE PREVIOUS WEEK IN WORLD MARKETS, RATHER THAN IN FAVOUR OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR.

MR. HADDON-CAVE NOTED THAT THE HONG KONG DOLLAR CONTINUED TO BE FIRM. BUT WHILE ITS APPRECIATION AGAINST THE U.S. DOLLAR — SINCE THE SMITHSONIAN SETTLEMENT IN DECEMBER 1971 HAD BEEN NEARLY 12 PER CENT IN TERMS OF A TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX, THE APPRECIATION WAS ACTUALLY ONLY SEVEN PER CENT.

+AND SO, DESPITE THE SHARP FALL IN THE U.S. DOLLAR RATE RECENTLY THE EFFECTIVE APPRECIATION OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR IS NO HIGHER TODAY THAN IT WAS ELEVEN MONTHS AGO.+

EARLIER, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY REVIEWED THE CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION IN RELATION TO THE PAST THREE YEARS.

ALTHOUGH DOMESTIC EXPORTS HAD DROPPED, IN QUANTITY TERMS, BY ABOUT ONE-AND-A-HALF PER CENT IN THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, THE ENCOURAGING THING ABOUT THE LATEST TRADE FIGURES, HE SAID, WAS THAT +THEY CONFIRM THAT THE TERMS OF TRADE ARE NOW MOVING IN OUR FAVOUR AGAIN, WITH DOMESTIC EXPORT PRICES REMAINING FIRM, AND WITH IMPORT PRICES FOR RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES LEVELLING-OFF FOR THE FIRST TIME IN NEARLY THREE YEARS.+

THE FACT WAS, HE SAID, THAT 1973 WAS A RECORD YEAR FOR WORLD TRADE AND ONE OF OUR BEST TRADING YEARS AS WELL. +IT COULD BE ARGUED, THEREFORE, THAT IT WOULD BE NO MEAN ACHIEVEMENT -- GIVEN THE TRAUMAS OF THE PAST THREE YEARS OR SO AND AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF THE PRESENT HIGHLY UNCERTAIN TRADING ENVIRONMENT -- IF OUR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, IN QUANTITY TERMS FOR 1974 AS A WHOLE WERE TO BE ONLY A LITTLE HIGHER, OR EVEN A LITTLE LOWER THAN LAST YEAR'S.+

IMPORT PRICES FOR FOODSTUFFS AND CONSUMER GOODS HAVE ALSO BEEN LEVELLING OFF AND THIS HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE EASING OF CONSUMER PRICE INFLATION IN RECENT MONTHS, HE SAID. IN FACT, CONSUMER PRICE INFLATION IN HONG KONG WAS NOW LOWER THAN IN NEARLY ALL OTHER MAJOR ASIAN CITIES AND COMPARED FAVOURABLY WITH THE SITUATION IN MOST OF THE INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD.

SUMMING UP THE ECONOMIC CLIMATE, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY SAID THE SITUATION GENERALLY IS OVERCAST, BUT WITH BRIGHTER SPOTS HERE AND THERE.

+THE OUTLOOK IS UNCERTAIN,+ HE SAID, +AND IS LIKELY TO REMAIN SO FOR A WHILE YET.

HOWEVER, THERE WAS NO NEED FOR DISMAY AS THE SITUATION COULD AND WOULD HAVE BEEN A LOT WORSE IF IT HAD NOT BEEN FOR THE FLEXIBILITY, BOTH UPWARDS AND DOWNWARDS, OF HONG KONG'S INTERNAL COST/PRICE STRUCTURE.

THE LESSON, MR. HADDON-CAVE SAID, WAS CLEAR. +JUST AS WE WERE ABLE, THROUGH OUR ADJUSTMENT PROCESS, TO PREVENT THE EROSION OF OUR EXTERNAL COMPETITIVENESS IN 1971 AND HENCE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF RENEWED EXPANSION OF WORLD TRADE IN 1972 AND 1973, SO WE MUST BE ABLE TO DO SO NOW.

+AND WE ARE DOING SO, WHICH IS WHY, IN SPITE OF PRESENT DIFFICULTIES, WE CAN VIEW THE FUTURE WITH CONFIDENCE.+

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

COPIES OF THE FULL TEXT OF THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S SPEECH ARE BOXED FOR COLLECTION.

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OCTOBER EXPORTS DOWN BY NEARLY 15 PER CENT

THE VALUE OF HONG KONG'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS LAST MONTH DROPPED BY \$275 MILLION TO \$1,625 MILLION, A DECREASE OF 14.5 PER CENT OVER OCTOBER 1973.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS ALSO WENT DOWN BY \$548 MILLION OR 18.3 PER CENT TO \$2,455 MILLION WHILE RE-EXPORTS DECREASED BY \$225 MILLION OR 30.2 PER CENT TO \$521 MILLION OVER THE FIGURES FOR OCTOBER LAST YEAR.

HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES ISSUED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY, FIGURES FOR THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY TO OCTOBER THIS YEAR SHOW INCREASES BY VALUE OVER THE SAME PERIOD IN 1973 OF 24.3 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, 26.7 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS AND 14.9 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS.

THE 12-MONTH PERIOD FROM NOVEMBER 1973 TO OCTOBER 1974 SHOWS AN INCREASE BY VALUE OVER THE PREVIOUS 12-MONTH PERIOD OF 28.3 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, 31 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS AND 20.7 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE GIVES A LIST OF COMPARATIVE FIGURES :

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

	OCTOBER 1974		OCTOBER 1973		INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$	MN	\$	MN	\$	MN %
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	1,625	(75.7%)	1,900	(71.8%)	- 275	- 14.5
IMPORTS	2,455		3,003		- 548	- 18.3
RE-EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	521	(24.3%)	746	(28.2%)	- 225	- 30.2
	AUG-OCT 1974		AUG-OCT 1973		INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$	MN	\$	MN	\$	MN %
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	5,797		5,766		+ 31	- 0.5
IMPORTS	8,099		8,192		- 93	- 1.1
RE-EXPORTS	1,743		2,171		- 429	- 19.7

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	JAN-OCT 1974		JAN-OCT 1973		INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$	MN	\$	MN	\$	MN %
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	19,369 (76.3%)		15,580 (74.8%)		+ 3,789	+ 24.3
IMPORTS	29,005		22,899		+ 6,106	+ 26.7
RE-EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	6,031 (23.7%)		5,249 (25.2%)		+ 783	+ 14.9

	NOV1973 TO OCT1974		NOV1972 TO OCT1973		INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$	MN	\$	MN	\$	MN %
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	23,263		18,136		+ 5,127	+ 28.3
IMPORTS	35,111		26,798		+ 8,313	+ 31.0
RE-EXPORT	7,308		6,055		+ 1,252	+ 20.7

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H.K. SUCCEEDS IN REDUCING NATURAL GROWTH OF POPULATION

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THE GOVERNMENT IS WELL AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF FAMILY PLANNING, AND ITS VALUE BOTH IN THE WIDER CONTEXT OF POPULATION GROWTH AND AS A COMMUNITY MEASURE.

THIS WAS STATED TODAY BY THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR. DENIS BRAY WHILE ADDRESSING THE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

HE NOTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT DECIDED 18 MONTHS AGO TO PARTICIPATE DIRECTLY BY THE PROVISION OF FAMILY PLANNING FACILITIES IN ITS OWN CLINICS, THEREBY ENABLING THE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION TO DIVERT AND EXPAND INTO AREAS NOT COVERED BY GOVERNMENT CLINICS.

HE SAID HE BELIEVED HONG KONG HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN REDUCING THE NATURAL GROWTH OF POPULATION.

LATER MARRIAGES, MORE WORKING WOMEN AND IMPROVED EDUCATION PARTLY EXPLAINED THIS ACHIEVEMENT, HE SAID. BUT SUCCESS ALSO OWED GREATLY TO THE CONCERTED EFFORTS OF THE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION AND MORE RECENTLY TO THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, HE ADDED.

HOWEVER, THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS CAUTIONED THAT THERE WAS NO ROOM FOR COMPLACENCY.

+HONG KONG IS A CITY OF YOUNG PEOPLE, MANY OF WHOM TEND TO FAVOUR LARGER FAMILIES. THE NUMBER OF YOUNG WOMEN OF AN AGE WHEN THEY HAVE BABIES IS INCREASING, + HE SAID.

+THE GREAT SUCCESS THAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED IN REDUCING THE NUMBERS OF BABIES THAT YOUNG WOMEN HAVE IS NOW THREATENED BY AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBERS OF YOUNG WOMEN THEMSELVES, + HE WARNED.

MR. BRAY FELT THAT EFFORTS TO REDUCE THE NATURAL RATE OF GROWTH IN HONG KONG WERE ALSO ENDANGERED BY THE CONCENTRATION OF POPULATION THAT WAS TAKING PLACE.

THIS PROBLEM, HE SAID, WAS FURTHER COMPOUNDED BY THE INFLUX OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS FROM THE RURAL AREAS OF CHINA.

+THE FLOOD OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS TODAY IS NOT A FLOOD OF PEOPLE FLEEING FROM OPPRESSION BUT OF PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE THE STREETS OF HONG KONG ARE PAVED WITH GOLD, + MR. BRAY POINTED OUT.

+THE WORLD-WIDE TENDENCY OF PEOPLE IN RURAL AREAS TO MOVE TO THE CITIES IS REINFORCED IN OUR CASE BY A BELIEF THAT EVERYONE IN HONG KONG IS WELL OFF. THE TALES OF THE DISILLUSIONED WHO COME AND CANNOT GET JOBS HAVE NOT YET COUNTERACTED THE ALMOST FAIRY TALE REPUTATION OF HONG KONG, + HE SAID.

/HE SAID

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HE SAID THAT THIS WAS NOT A PROBLEM THAT THE ASSOCIATION OR EVEN THE GOVERNMENT ALONE COULD TACKLE BUT +IT IS A PROBLEM THAT AUTHORITIES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BORDER APPRECIATE AND ONE WHICH MUST BE SOLVED BEFORE THE PRESSURE ON RESOURCES BECOMES INTOLERABLE.+

HE WARNED THAT THE HOUSING, EDUCATIONAL, WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES WOULD BE TOTALLY INADEQUATE +IF WE FAIL TO LIMIT POPULATION GROWTH.+

MR. BRAY FELT THAT THE PRIMARY AIM OF THE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION OF ASSISTING PARENTS TO MAKE A DELIBERATE DECISION ON FAMILY SIZE WAS AN EXCELLENT FOUNDATION ON WHICH TO BUILD A POPULATION POLICY.

HE NOTED THAT HONG KONG WAS FACED WITH TWO ASSOCIATED POPULATION PROBLEMS -- POPULATION GROWTH ARISING FROM PEOPLE HAVING MORE BABIES AND POPULATION CONCENTRATION RESULTING BASICALLY FROM A MOVE FROM THE COUNTRY TO THE CITY.

THE STEPS TAKEN BY THE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION WHICH ENABLE PARENTS TO TAKE A DELIBERATE DECISION ON HAVING BABIES WERE DESCRIBED BY MR. BRAY AS BY FAR +THE MOST HUMANE FORM OF POPULATION CONTROL.+

HE NOTED THAT ANOTHER WAY OF POPULATION CONTRAL WAS TO CONVINCEN PEOPLE THAT IF EVERYBODY DECIDED TO HAVE LARGE FAMILIES THEN THE DEMANDS ON RESOURCES - BOTH FAMILY AND COMMUNITY -- WOULD MEAN AN EROSION OF THE STANDARD OF LIVING.

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HELPFUL DISCUSSIONS ON NUCLEAR PLANTS

THE SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, MR. JAMES ROBSON, SAID TODAY THAT HIS RECENT TRIP TO SOUTH KOREA WHERE HE HAD DISCUSSIONS ON THE SETTING UP OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS HAD BEEN +MOST HELPFUL+.

THE FOUR-DAY VISIT WAS AT THE INVITATION OF THE KOREA ELECTRIC COMPANY. DURING THE FIRST TWO DAYS, MR. ROBSON WAS SHOWN AROUND THE KOREA ELECTRIC COMPANY SITE AT KORI WHERE THE SOUTH KOREANS ARE CONSTRUCTING THE COUNTRY'S FIRST NUCLEAR POWER PLANT.

A CONTRACT FOR A SECOND PLANT, WHICH WILL ALSO BE BUILT AT KORI, IS IN THE PROCESS OF BEING COMPLETED.

MR. ROBSON SAID HE HAD RECEIVED VALUABLE INFORMATION FROM THE KOREAN TECHNICAL EXPERTS ON THE SITE WHERE THE FIRST REACTOR HAS ALREADY BEEN COMPLETED AND WHERE THE GENERATORS AND TURBINES ARE NOW BEING INSTALLED.

HE ADDED THAT HE WAS GREATLY IMPRESSED WITH THE COMPETENCE AND ABILITY OF THE PEOPLE IN CHARGE OF THE KORI SITE, AS WELL AS THE STANDARD OF WORKMANSHIP. THE SITE WORK IS UNDER THE CONTROL OF SOUTH KOREAN ENGINEERS.

AFTER THE INSPECTION, MR. ROBSON RETURNED TO SEOUL FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH SENIOR KOREAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ON THE LEGISLATION WHICH HAD TO BE INTRODUCED BEFORE NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS COULD BE ESTABLISHED.

AMONG THE OFFICIALS HE SAW WAS THE MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MR. CHOI HYUNG-SUB, THE DIRECTOR OF THE ATMOIC ENERGY BUREAU, DR. LEE BYING-WHEE, AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE KOREA ATMOIC ENERGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE, DR. YOON YONG-KOO.

MR. ROBSON SAID THAT AS A RESULT OF THESE DISCUSSIONS HE HAD LEARNT THAT THREE BASIC TYPES OF LEGISLATION HAD BEEN OR WERE IN THE PROCESS OF BEING APPROVED FOR THE OPERATION OF ATMOIC POWER FOR GENERATING ELECTRICITY.

THESE WERE THE KOREAN ATMOIC ENERGY LAW, SETTING OUT THE LICENSING REGULATIONS AND REGULATORY PATTERNS WHICH WERE BASED ON THOSE IN THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN= THE NUCLEAR DAMAGE COMPENSATION LAW, WHICH ENSURES ADEQUATE FINANCIAL PROTECTION FOR THIRD PARTIES IN THE EVENT OF NUCLEAR ACCIDENTS= AND THE NUCLEAR INDEMNITY LAW WHICH IS ABOUT TO BE ENACTED.

MR. ROBSON SAID HE HAD MADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS OF THE APPROPRIATE KOREAN LEGISLATION TO BE SENT TO HIM SOON.

/ON THE QUESTION

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ON THE QUESTION OF SAFETY, THE SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT SAID THAT THE KOREANS HAD ADOPTED THE AMERICAN AND JAPANESE STANDARDS, WHICH PROVIDED VERY HIGH LEVELS OF SAFETY.

MR. ROBSON ADDED THAT THE INFORMATION HE HAD OBTAINED FROM HIS VISIT WOULD BE VALUABLE IN ASSISTING THE GOVERNMENT IN ITS PRELIMINARY STUDIES ON THE FEASIBILITY OF A NUCLEAR POWER PLANT FOR HONG KONG.

AT PRESENT, THE GOVERNMENT IS LOOKING INTO THE ECONOMICS OF SUCH A PLANT IN CONSULTATION WITH THE POWER COMPANIES. IF THIS PROVES FAVOURABLE THE NEXT STEP WILL BE TO EMPLOY CONSULTANTS TO CARRY OUT A PROPER FEASIBILITY STUDY ON PROVING SITES WHICH ARE THOUGHT TO BE SUITABLE FOR A NUCLEAR POWER PLANT AND THEN PROCEEDING WITH THE DETAILED DESIGN AND LAYOUT FOR THE SITE AND PLANT.

MR. ROBSON SAID IT WOULD BE A LONG TIME BEFORE A DECISION WAS TAKEN. +THIS IS ONLY NATURAL+, HE SAID, +WHEN WE ARE TALKING ABOUT A PROJECT WHICH COULD COST EVEN MORE THAN THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY AND ONE IN WHICH WE ARE NOT SURE YET WOULD BE ENVIRONMENTALLY ACCEPTABLE TO HONG KONG.+

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CONTRIBUTION TO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BY
TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

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THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE HAS MANY ACHIEVEMENTS AND HAS MADE COMMENDABLE BASIC CONTRIBUTION TO HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, MR. SZETO WAI, A MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, SAID THIS AFTERNOON.

ADDRESSING THE GATHERING AT THE INSTITUTE'S SPEECH DAY, MR. SZETO SAID : +THIS IS EVIDENCED BY ITS LARGE STUDENT ENROLMENT, ITS COMPREHENSIVE CURRICULUM OF TECHNICAL, VOCATIONAL AND COMMERCIAL COURSES, THE WIDE GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF ITS EVENING COURSES AND ITS CLOSE LINK WITH INDUSTRY TO ASCERTAIN THE LATTER'S CHANGING NEEDS THROUGH LIAISON WITH THE APPRENTICESHIP UNIT OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.+

MR. SZETO WAS ESPECIALLY IMPRESSED BY THE REGIONAL APPROACH WHICH THE INSTITUTE HANDLED ITS EVENING COURSES.

+IT IS HEARTENING,+ HE SAID, +THAT SUCH A LARGE NUMBER OF STUDENTS CHOOSE TO BETTER THEMSELVES BY ATTENDING EVENING STUDIES RATHER THAN OPTING FOR RECREATION. THIS REGIONAL APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM IS AN EFFECTIVE SOLUTION VIS-A-VIS HONG KONG'S CONDITIONS AND THE GOOD RESPONSE IT RECEIVES IS IN ITSELF AN ENCOURAGING SIGN OF THE CHANGING SOCIAL ATTITUDE TO INDUSTRIAL TRAINING.+

SINCE 1969, THE YEAR WHEN THE INSTITUTE WAS OPENED, HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIES HAVE MADE GREAT STRIDES WITH ATTENDANT EXPANSION IN EXTERNAL TRADE, THEREBY GAINING FOR HONG KONG AN INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION IN MANUFACTURE AND COMMERCE.

DURING THIS SAME PERIOD, MR. SZETO SAID, +GREAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN THE EXPANSION AND ADVANCEMENT OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN HONG KONG CULMINATING IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE POLYTECHNIC, WHICH IN 1972 TOOK OVER THE WORK OF THE FORMER HONG KONG TECHNICAL COLLEGE AND CONTINUED TO IMPROVE AND EXPAND THE TRAINING OF TECHNOLOGISTS AND HIGH-LEVEL TECHNICIANS TO MEET THE NEEDS, BOTH QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE, OF OUR EXPANDING INDUSTRIES.+

MR. SZETO SAID THAT IN HIS VIEW EDUCATION +IS THE MOST IMPORTANT OF OUR SOCIAL SERVICES AT THE PRESENT JUNCTURE OF TIME. A NEW ORIENTATION IS NEEDED IN ITS MAKE-UP WHICH MUST BE GEARED TO MEET THE DEMANDS OF A CHANGING TECHNOLOGICAL WORLD BROUGHT ABOUT BY WORLD-WIDE INFLATION, SHORTAGE OF RAW MATERIALS AND ECONOMIC CHAOS. THE CHALLENGE MUST BE MET IF WE WERE TO SURVIVE AS AN INDUSTRIAL NATION AND TO MAINTAIN OUR ECONOMIC STABILITY.+

IN HIS SPEECH, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (TECHNICAL), MR. ANDREW KINGWELL SPOKE ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF TECHNICAL INSTITUTES IN THE NEW STRUCTURE FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION WHICH THE TECHNICAL BRANCH OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WAS PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING.

/HE SAID: +IN THIS

HE SAID: +IN THIS NEW STRUCTURE, EACH PART HAS ITS PLACE AND ITS OWN PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE AND EACH HELPS AND SERVES THE OTHER. THE TECHNICAL BRANCH OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN HONG KONG OUTSIDE OF THE UNIVERSITIES AND THE POLYTECHNIC.+

MR. KINGWELL STATED THAT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES IN THIS STRUCTURE COULD NOT BE OVER EMPHASISED.

+THEY WILL BE VERY LARGELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TRAINING AND EDUCATION OF THE CRAFTSMEN AND TECHNICIANS WHO WILL SERVE HONG KONG DURING THE LATE 1970'S AND THROUGHOUT THE 1980'S.+

THE PRINCIPAL OF THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, MR. LINCOLN LIEU, REFERRED TO HIS INSTITUTE'S IMPORTANT ROLE IN PROVIDING PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE TRAINING FOR BOTH CRAFT AND TECHNICIAN APPRENTICES.

THIS WAS THE RESULT OF THE EFFORTS AND CO-OPERATION OF THE APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING UNIT OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND THE ENCOURAGING RESPONSE AND INTEREST SHOWN BY INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE.

MR. LIEU DISCLOSED THAT DURING THE 1973/74 SESSION, THE INSTITUTE ENROLLED OVER 1,300 REGISTERED APPRENTICES SPONSORED BY INDUSTRY, A REMARKABLE 30 PER CENT INCREASE IN STUDENT INTAKE OVER 1973.

HE SAID THAT DURING THE LAST SESSION, A TOTAL OF 98 COURSES WERE PROVIDED FOR MORE THAN 13,700 CRAFT AND POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS INVOLVING 85 FULL-TIME AND 544 PART-TIME TEACHING STAFF IN 19 CENTRES.

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CHILDREN'S CHESS COMPETITION

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CHILDREN LIVING IN THE SHEK LEI HOUSING ESTATE WILL GET A CHANCE TO SHOW JUST HOW GOOD THEY ARE IN CHESS ON SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 30) IN A COMPETITION TO BE HELD AT THE ESTATE COMMUNITY WORK OFFICE.

THE TOURNAMENT, BEGINNING AT 2 PM UNTIL 5 PM, IS DIVIDED INTO A JUNIOR GROUP FOR THOSE IN PRIMARY THREE OR BELOW AND A SENIOR GROUP FOR PRIMARY FOUR AND ABOVE.

SOME 200 CHILDREN ARE EXPECTED TO PARTICIPATE. EACH WILL HAVE TO PLAY THREE DIFFERENT GAMES STARTING WITH MARBLE CHESS THEN ANIMAL CHESS AND FINALLY CHINESE CHESS.

PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED TO THE FOUR BEST PLAYERS IN EACH GROUP WHILE THOSE WHO REACH THE SEMI-FINALS WILL ALSO BE GIVEN CONSOLATION PRIZES.

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FIVE MORE SYMBOLIC TRAFFIC SIGNS NEXT WEEK

ANOTHER FIVE SYMBOLIC TRAFFIC SIGNS, INCLUDING ONE WHICH PROHIBITS THE OVERTAKING OF MOTOR VEHICLES, WILL BE INTRODUCED FAIRLY WIDELY NEXT WEEK.

THE "NO OVERTAKING" SIGN, CIRCULAR WITH RED BORDER AND DIAGONAL AND BLACK SYMBOL ON WHITE BACKGROUND, MAY BE USED WITH SUPPLEMENTARY PLATES.

THE OTHER FOUR SIGNS INDICATE EITHER A TRAFFIC MERGE AHEAD, ONE-WAY ROUTING OR THE DISTANCE TO A HAZARD.

OF THESE FOUR SIGNS, TWO CONCERN TRAFFIC MERGE. ONE IS THE "TRAFFIC MERGES" SIGN WHICH INDICATES TO MOTORISTS THAT ALTHOUGH THEY ARE PROCEEDING ALONG A MAJOR ROUTE, THEY ARE APPROACHING A POINT WHERE TRAFFIC WILL BE MERGING FROM RIGHT OR LEFT ONTO THEIR ROUTE.

THE OTHER IS THE "MERGING INTO TRAFFIC" SIGN WHICH INDICATES TO MOTORISTS THAT THEY ARE APPROACHING A MAJOR ROUTE AND WILL BE EXPECTED TO MERGE WITH MOVING TRAFFIC ON THE MAJOR ROUTE.

THE SYMBOL ON BOTH SIGNS MAY BE REVERSED TO INDICATE ON WHICH SIDE OF THE ROAD AHEAD THE MERGE WILL TAKE PLACE. BOTH SIGNS ARE TRIANGULAR IN SHAPE WITH RED BORDER AND BLACK SYMBOL ON WHITE BACKGROUND, AND MAY BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH SUPPLEMENTARY PLATES.

THE "ONE MILE" SIGN IS FOR USE WITH OTHER SIGNS TO INDICATE THE DISTANCE TO A HAZARD. THE NUMERALS MAY BE VARIED OR QUOTED IN IMPERIAL UNITS. THE "ONE WAY" SIGN IS ALSO FOR USE WITH OTHER SIGNS. BOTH ARE RECTANGULAR IN SHAPE WITH BLACK BORDER, LETTERS AND CHARACTERS ON WHITE BACKGROUND.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

COPIES OF A PHOTOGRAPH SHOWING THE FIVE SYMBOLIC TRAFFIC SIGNS ARE BOXED FOR COLLECTION THIS EVENING.

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RETIREMENT OF DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION

THE DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION, MR. BILL COLLARD, IS TO PROCEED ON PRE-RETIREMENT LEAVE ON MONDAY (DECEMBER 1) AFTER 25 YEARS' SERVICE WITH THE GOVERNMENT.

MR. COLLARD, WHO IS 55, JOINED THE COLONIAL SERVICE AS AN EXECUTIVE OFFICER IN HONG KONG IN DECEMBER 1949.

HE WAS APPOINTED SECRETARY, HOUSING AUTHORITY (THEN IN ITS INFANCY) IN AUGUST 1955.

AFTER SUCCESSIVE PROMOTIONS HE BECAME THE FIRST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION IN 1961.

MR. COLLARD ACTED AS DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION FROM DECEMBER 1962. SHORTLY AFTER HE HAD ASSUMED THIS APPOINTMENT THE +GREAT EXODUS+ FROM CHINA TOOK PLACE.

IN 1965 HE WAS PROMOTED TO DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION. SINCE THEN HE HAS REPRESENTED HONG KONG AT A NUMBER OF OVERSEAS CONFERENCES, INCLUDING THOSE OF THE PACIFIC AREA TRAVEL ASSOCIATION (PATA). HE IS CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG PATA CHAPTER COMMITTEE.

BEFORE COMING TO HONG KONG, MR. COLLARD SERVED IN THE ROYAL NAVY IN WORLD WAR TWO, INITIALLY IN DESTROYERS, LATER IN CRUISERS, ON STAFF OF VARIOUS FLAG OFFICERS, PRINCIPALLY ON CONVOY DUTY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, AND ATLANTIC AND INDIAN OCEANS.

HE TOOK PART IN THE INVASIONS OF NORTH AFRICA, SICILY, AND ITALY AND THROUGHOUT THE OPERATIONS CULMINATING IN THE SINKING OF THE GERMAN BATTLESHIP +BISMARCK+.

TO MARK HIS RETIREMENT, MEMBERS OF THE STAFF HAVE ORGANISED A FAREWELL DINNER IN HIS HONOUR AT PEARL CITY RESTAURANT, PATERSON STREET, TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

AT THE DINNER, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION, MR. D.C. READMAN, WILL PRESENT HIM WITH A RETIREMENT GIFT AT ABOUT 9 P.M.

ON SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 30), A FAREWELL PARADE WILL BE HELD AT THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY POLICE HEADQUARTERS, QUEENSWAY, AT NOON.

MR. COLLARD WILL INSPECT THE PARADE COMPRISING SENIOR IMMIGRATION OFFICER RANK AND BELOW FROM ALL SECTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

THE PARADE WILL BE UNDER THE COMMAND OF MR. GORDON CHU WING-SHING, CHIEF IMMIGRATION OFFICER (TRAINING).

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO HAVE BOTH EVENTS COVERED.

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1974

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TWELVE-WEEK EXTENSION FOR PROPERTY TAX PAYERS

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PROPERTY OWNERS IN TSUEN WAN AND TSING YI HAVE BEEN GIVEN AN EXTENSION OF THE TIME LIMIT - TILL DECEMBER 23, 1974 - TO PAY THEIR PROPERTY TAX. THEY WERE ORIGINALLY ASKED TO PAY BY THE END OF SEPTEMBER.

THE 12-WEEK EXTENSION WAS CONTAINED IN THE REPLY TO THE PREPROPERTY OWNERS' PETITION TO GOVERNMENT HOUSE ON OCTOBER 15.

THE REPLY, SIGNED BY THE DEPUTY COLONIAL SECRETARY, MR. MICHAEL CLINTON, SAID IN PART :

+IN VIEW OF THE CONCERN FELT BY YOUR COMMITTEE AND THE TIME TAKEN TO CONSIDER AND REPLY TO YOUR PETITION, AN EXTENSION OF THE TIME LIMIT BY WHICH PROPERTY TAX FOR 1974-75 SHOULD BE PAID IN RESPECT OF PROPERTIES IN TSUEN WAN HAS BEEN GRANTED.

+I MUST HOWEVER MAKE IT QUITE CLEAR THAT THIS WILL APPLY TO THE CURRENT YEAR ONLY AND THAT ANY TAX NOT PAID WITHIN THIS PERIOD WILL HAVE A 5-1/2 PER CENT SURCHARGE ADDED AND OTHER ACTION PRESCRIBED BY LAW WILL FOLLOW IF NECESSARY.+

REFERRING TO THE PETITION'S MENTION OF INFLATIONARY EFFECTS OF THE EXTENSION OF RATES AND PROPERTY TAX TO TSUEN WAN AND TSING YI, PARTICULARLY IN THE PRESENT ECONOMIC SITUATION, THE LETTER SAID :

+OWNERS AND OCCUPIERS OF PROPERTIES IN THE MAIN URBAN AREAS HAVE BEEN PAYING THESE TAXES AT THE FULL RATE FOR MANY YEARS, BUT IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE BURDEN OF PAYING FOR THE SERVICES, SOCIAL PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMUNITY SHOULD BE SPREAD AND BE SHARED AS WIDELY AS POSSIBLE, INDEED THIS IS MORE PARTICULARLY THE CASE WHEN WE ALL ARE HAVING TO TIGHTEN OUR BELTS.+

THE LETTER ALSO REMINDED PROPERTY OWNERS THAT PROPERTY TAX (WHICH IS A TAX IN INCOME FROM PROPERTY AND IS NOT RELATED TO THE PROVISION OF SERVICES) IS NOT PAYABLE ON OWNER-OCCUPIER PREMISES.

A PROPERTY OWNER WHO IS NOT AN OWNER-OCCUPIER BUT WHO IS MARRIED AND WHOSE TOTAL TAXABLE INCOME DOES NOT EXCEED \$20,000 A YEAR WILL NOT HAVE TO PAY THIS TAX IF HE OPTS FOR PERSONAL ASSESSMENT.

MOREOVER, IT ADDED, OWNERS OF BUSINESS CONCERNS MAY HAVE THEIR PROFITS TAX REDUCED BY THE AMOUNT OF PROPERTY TAX THEY HAVE PAID IN RESPECT OF PREMISES USED FOR BUSINESS PURPOSES.

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1974

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STUDENTS FORM COMMUNITY SERVICE TEAM

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A GROUP OF 60 STUDENTS IN TSUEN WAN HAVE FORMED A SERVICE TEAM TO CARRY OUT COMMUNITY PROJECTS IN THE DISTRICT.

THE STUDENTS, ALL OF WHOM HAD PARTICIPATED AS VOLUNTEERS IN THIS YEAR'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMMES, DECIDED TO ORGANISE THEMSELVES INTO A TEAM TO CONTINUE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN HELPING PEOPLE OF THEIR OWN AGE.

ONE OF THE FIRST PROJECTS THEY WILL UNDERTAKE IS TO +ADOPT+ A HOUSING ESTATE IN TSUEN WAN. IN SO DOING, THEY WILL CONCENTRATE INITIALLY ON HELPING PRIMARY 6 GRADUATES LIVING IN THE ESTATE TO ADJUST TO SECONDARY SCHOOL LIFE BY COACHING THEM IN THE MORE DIFFICULT SUBJECTS SUCH AS SCIENCE, GEOGRAPHY, ETC.

THE TEAM WILL BE WORKING UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICE IN TSUEN WAN AND HAS THE BACKING OF MANY LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADERS.

COMMENTING ON THEIR MOVE, THE C.Y.O., MR. ALEXANDER FUNG, SAID IT WOULD BE A GOOD CHANCE TO HAVE THEM BECOME MORE AWARE OF THEIR COMMUNITY'S SOCIAL PROBLEMS. ADULTS TOO WOULD BE INVOLVED AS ADVISORS OR SPONSORS TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN YOUNG PEOPLE AND GROWN-UPS.

ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 1), THE TEAM WILL BE FORMALLY INAUGURATED AT A CEREMONY TO TAKE PLACE AT THE PRINCESS ALEXANDRA COMMUNITY CENTRE IN TAI HO ROAD, TSUEN WAN.

OFFICIATING WILL BE MR. J.S. WARREN, DISTRICT OFFICER, TSUEN WAN= MR. CHAN PO-FONG, A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE AND MR. FUNG TOGETHER WITH OTHER ADVISORS TO THE TEAM.

SPEED LIMIT IN CASTLE PEAK ROAD

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MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED THAT, WITH EFFECT FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 30), A SECTION OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD NEAR SHAM TSENG, NEW TERRITORIES, WILL BE A RESTRICTED ROAD AND NO VEHICLES SHOULD BE DRIVEN ON IT AT A SPEED EXCEEDING 30 MILES PER HOUR.

THIS SECTION OF ROAD, ABOUT ONE MILE LONG, STRETCHES FROM A POINT ABOUT 460 YARDS TO THE WEST OF 12-MILESTONE TO A POINT ABOUT 365 YARDS WEST OF THE ANGLER'S BEACH PIER.

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1974.

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WARNING AGAINST BOGUS LABOUR OFFICERS

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. LAO MOU-CHI, TODAY WARNED FACTORY PROPRIETORS TO BE ON THEIR GUARD AGAINST PEOPLE POSING AS LABOUR DEPARTMENT OFFICERS AND SEEKING MONEY FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN A PURPORTED DEPARTMENTAL PUBLICATION CALLED A GUIDE TO WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION LEGISLATION.

MR. LAO SAID THE DEPARTMENT HAD RECENTLY RECEIVED SEVERAL SUCH COMPLAINTS.

+NO LABOUR DEPARTMENT OFFICER IS AUTHORISED TO SOLICIT MONEY FOR ANY PURPOSE WHATSOEVER,+ HE STRESSED.

MR. LAO ADVISED THAT ANY PROPRIETOR WHO WAS APPROACHED FOR MONEY BY ANYONE PURPORTING TO BE A MEMBER OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SHOULD IMMEDIATELY REPORT THE MATTER EITHER TO THE NEAREST POLICE STATION OR TO THE SENIOR LABOUR OFFICER (INDUSTRY) AT TELEPHONE NUMBER 3-688842.

THE GUIDE TO WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION LEGISLATION, LIKE ALL OTHER PUBLICATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT, IS AVAILABLE FREE AT THE OFFICES OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, MR. LAO ADDED.

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LIBRARY MANAGEMENT SEMINAR

A TWO-DAY SEMINAR ON HOW TO OPERATE AND MANAGE A LIBRARY WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AND SATURDAY FOR STUDENTS OF THE HO FUK TONG SCHOOL IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

IT HAS BEEN ORGANISED FOR THEM BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S LIBRARY AND RURAL MOBILE SERVICE UNIT AND WILL BE HELD IN THEIR SCHOOL IN CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TUEN MUN, NEW TERRITORIES.

THE SEMINAR WILL INCLUDE TALKS BY MR. CHAN CHE-SANG OF THE UNIT ON THE QUALIFICATIONS AND DUTIES OF LIBRARIANS.

AFTER COMPLETING THE SEMINAR IT IS EXPECTED THE STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO TAKE OVER THE OPERATION OF THEIR SCHOOL LIBRARY.

ANY OTHER SCHOOLS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WHICH ARE INTERESTED IN HAVING SUCH A SEMINAR ORGANISED FOR THEIR STUDENTS SHOULD CONTACT THE UNIT AT THE TAI HANG TUNG COMMUNITY CENTRE (TEL. 3-809825, 3-954476).

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1974

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MR. CLAUDE BURGESS HERE ON STUDY VISIT

MR. CLAUDE BURGESS, WHO WAS RECENTLY APPOINTED MINISTER FOR HONG KONG COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS IN BRUSSELS, IS CURRENTLY IN HONG KONG ON A TWO-WEEK STUDY VISIT.

HE WILL MEET REPRESENTATIVES OF THE VARIOUS COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS, CONSULS-GENERAL OF THE EEC MEMBER STATES IN HONG KONG, GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS — IN PARTICULAR THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT — AND LOCAL BUSINESSMEN.

AS PART OF HIS FAMILIARISATION TOUR, HE WILL ALSO VISIT A NUMBER OF FACTORIES.

MR. BURGESS HAD SERVED IN HONG KONG FOR 30 YEARS, AND WAS COLONIAL SECRETARY BEFORE HE RETIRED IN 1963.

HIS PRESENT POST WAS CREATED BECAUSE OF THE INCREASING IMPORTANCE OF THE COMMON MARKET FOR HONG KONG, THE EEC BEING NOW HONG KONG'S SECOND LARGEST BUYER TAKING MORE THAN 30 PER CENT OF OUR DOMESTIC EXPORTS.

THE NEW POST IS ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONDUCT OF HONG KONG'S OVERSEAS COMMERCIAL RELATIONS.

SINCE 1968 HONG KONG HAS BEEN REPRESENTED IN BRUSSELS AT COUNSELLOR LEVEL BY MR. PAT DODGE.

BUT DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY IN THE PAST TWO YEARS, ESPECIALLY THE INCREASED COMPLEXITY AND VOLUME OF WORK WHICH HAVE ARISEN AS A RESULT OF ITS ENLARGEMENT, HAVE LED THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT TO RE-EXAMINE THE QUESTION OF OUR REPRESENTATION.

THE CONCLUSION IS THAT IT IS NO LONGER POSSIBLE FOR MR. DODGE ALONE TO COVER THE MANY ASPECTS THAT REQUIRE ATTENTION.

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WATER CUT

WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN HUNG HOM WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR FIVE HOURS STARTING AT 1 A.M. ON SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 30).

THE TEMPORARY STOPPAGE IS TO ENABLE A LEAKAGE TEST TO BE CARRIED OUT IN THE AREA.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY CHATHAM ROAD, WINSLOW STREET, WHAMPOA STREET AND BULKELEY STREET.

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1974

CONSUMER ADVISORY SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING PRICES WERE REALISED TODAY (THURSDAY) AT SALE UNDER THE RICE CONTROL SCHEME AND AT THE VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKET AND THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKET AT CHEUNG SHA WAN, KOWLOON :

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF RICE

<u>GRADE OF RICE</u>	<u>AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY</u>	<u>WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)</u>
<u>CHINA RICE</u>		
SEE MEW	GOOD	1.89
S.C. JIEN	GOOD	1.73
PO NGAI	GOOD	-
CHU CHO	GOOD	-
<u>THAI RICE</u>		
100% WHOLE	GOOD	1.77
10-15% BROKENS	GOOD	1.64
A1 SUPER EXTRA	GOOD	-
A1 SUPER	GOOD	1.37
WHOLE GLUTINOUS	GOOD	1.72
<u>U.S. RICE</u>		
	GOOD	1.91
<u>AUSTRALIAN RICE</u>		
	GOOD	1.84
<u>PAKISTAN RICE</u>		
	GOOD	-
<u>TAIWAN RICE</u>		
	GOOD	-

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF SWINE

(ALL SOURCES)

AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	-	GOOD
WHOLESALE PRICES OF PORK (\$/PICUL-LIVE WEIGHT)	-	340 (AVERAGE)

/SUPPLIES AND

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1974

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF MARINE FISH
(FMO CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET)

SPECIES	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)		
		HIGH	LOW	MODE
GOLDEN THREAD	NORMAL	4.80	1.40	3.50
BIG-EYES	GOOD	3.00	1.00	1.80
SQUID	NORMAL	5.80	1.40	4.00
HAIR-TAILS	GOOD	1.60	0.70	1.10
LIZARD FISHES	NORMAL	3.80	1.20	2.40
CROAKERS	GOOD	1.80	0.55	1.30
CONGER-PIKE-EELS	NORMAL	2.80	2.00	2.50
MELON COAT	NORMAL	2.50	1.30	1.80
BREAMS	NORMAL	6.00	4.00	5.00
YELLOW BELLY	GOOD	2.00	0.60	1.40
MACKERELS	NORMAL	5.50	2.30	4.20
RED GOAT FISH	LIMITED	4.00	0.45	0.90
FORK-TAIL	NORMAL	1.20	0.60	0.90
HORSE-HEAD	LIMITED	5.50	2.80	4.00
MELON SEED	NORMAL	3.00	1.00	2.40
POMFRETS	SCARCE	8.00	4.50	6.00
GARROUPAS	LIMITED	9.00	4.50	7.00
YELLOW CROAKER	LIMITED	5.80	2.30	4.20

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF LOCALLY PRODUCED VEGETABLES
(V.M.O. CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE VEGETABLE MARKET)

TYPE OF VEGETABLE	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)		
		HIGH	LOW	MODE
FLOWERING CABBAGE	LIMITED	2.40	0.80	1.80
WHITE CABBAGE	NORMAL	0.80	0.30	0.50
CHINESE LETTUCE	LIMITED	1.50	0.60	1.00
WATER SPINACH	SCARCE	0.50	0.20	0.30
CHINESE KALE	LIMITED	2.40	1.00	1.80
STRING BEANS	SCARCE	2.20	1.60	1.80
SPRING ONION	NORMAL	1.50	0.30	1.00
SPINACH	SCARCE	3.00	1.00	2.20
WATER CRESS	LIMITED	2.40	1.00	1.80
LEAF MUSTARD CABBAGE	LIMITED	0.80	0.40	0.60
CHINESE SPINACH	---		NO SALE	
TOMATO	SCARCE	4.50	2.50	3.50

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