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CONTENTS PAGE NO.

HONG KONG'S MAJOR SHIPPING ROLE STRESSED 1
HK-TRAINED SEAMEN GET PANAMA EXEMPTION 3
BUSY YEAR AGAINST COUNTERFEITERS 4
YOUTH LEADERS SET GOOD EXAMPLE 4
STUDENTS URGED +TO PREPARE FOR FUTURE+ 5
JUNK BAY WORK GOES ON 6
SHORT TERM TENANCY SOUGHT 7
INTELPOST REACHES IRISH REPUBLIC 7
WATER COMPLAINTS : CALL 5-757789 8
CAREERS SEMINARS TO OPEN 8
PART-TIME LIFE GUARDS NEEDED 8
'EYE CARE FOR ELDERLY' DRIVE STARTING 9
900 SIGN UP FOR BUILDING CARE TALKS 9
TELEMATCH GAMES ENTER SEMI-FINALS 10
PERFORMERS MEET 11
SHA TIN HOLDS FESTIVE LIGHTING PHOTO CONTEST 11
LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIR STALLS AVAILABLE AT UPSET PRICES 11
YUK WAH STREET BUS SERVICE 12
TEMPORARY VEHICLE RESTRICTION 13
ROAD EXTENSION TO OPEN 13

HONG KONG'S MAJOR SHIPPING ROLE STRESSED

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HONG KONG BASED SHIPOWNERS NOW CONTROL ABOUT 60 MILLION DEADWEIGHT TONS OR NEARLY 12 PER CENT OF THE WORLD MERCHANT FLEET, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR MICHAEL THOMAS SAID TODAY.

+ALTHOUGH PRESENTLY THEY REGISTER THEIR SHIPS UNDER MORE THAN 20 DIFFERENT FLAGS, THEY PROBABLY CONTROL THE SECOND BIGGEST MERCHANT FLEET IN THE WORLD, AFTER JAPAN,+ MR THOMAS TOLD THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED SHIPBROKERS AT A LUNCH MEETING TODAY.

POINTING OUT THAT UNDER THE ANNEX TO THE SINO-BRITISH AGREEMENT ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG, THE POSITION OF HONG KONG AS A MAJOR SHIPPING CENTRE WOULD BE MAINTAINED, HE SAID.

+THE SYSTEMS OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND SHIPPING REGULATION WILL CONTINUE. PRIVATE SHIPPING BUSINESSES AND SHIPPING-RELATED BUSINESS INCLUDING CONTAINER TERMINALS MAY CONTINUE TO OPERATE FREELY IN THE PROPOSED HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION.

+IT WILL HAVE ITS OWN SHIPPING REGISTER AND WILL ISSUE CERTIFICATES IN THE NAME OF 'HONG KONG, CHINA'. MERCHANT SHIPPING WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE FREE ACCESS TO THE PORTS OF HONG KONG,+ HE SAID.

THESE ARRANGEMENTS, MR THOMAS SAID, PRESENTED FORMIDABLE TASKS IN THE FUTURE FOR THOSE IN THE GOVERNMENT.

+CLEARLY THE PROVISIONS OF THE ANNEX WILL DEMAND THAT CHANGES BE MADE TO THE PRESENT SET UP. AT THE PRESENT, HONG KONG OPERATES AS A BRITISH PORT OF REGISTRY. THIS CANNOT CONTINUE BEYOND 1997. SO HONG KONG WILL HAVE TO HAVE, INDEPENDENTLY OF UNITED KINGDOM LEGISLATION, ITS OWN LAWS GOVERNING MERCHANT SHIPPING.

+THESE WILL HAVE TO HAVE EXTRA-TERRITORIAL EFFECT. FOR THIS LAWS OF THE FLAG MUST FOLLOW THE SHIP WHEREVER SHE SAILS,+ HE SAID.

HONG KONG'S LEGISLATION AT PRESENT HAD NO POWER TO LEGISLATE EXTRA-TERRITORIALLY, BUT THE PARLIAMENTARY BILL GIVEN A SECOND READING IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS LAST MONDAY PROVIDED FOR ORDERS IN COUNCIL TO BE MADE TO ENABLE HONG KONG TO MAKE SUCH LAWS, HE SAID.

IN 1984, MR THOMAS SAID, SOME 11 883 OCEAN GOING VESSELS CALLED HERE, NEARLY FOUR PER CENT OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR, AND TRADED AND DISCHARGED MORE THAN 41.5 MILLION TONNES OF CARGO, A 12 PER CENT INCREASE. IN ADDITION MORE THAN 8.79 MILLION PASSENGERS WERE CARRIED BY JET FOILS, HYDROFOILS AND IN FERRIES BETWEEN HONG KONG AND MACAU, 10 PER CENT UP IN 1983.

ANOTHER 689 827 PASSENGERS WERE CARRIED TO AND FROM GUANGZHOU -- 6.5 PER CENT UP. AND IN 1984, THE PORT OF HONG KONG HANDLED A TOTAL OF 2.1 MILLION TEU'S (20 FT EQUIVALENT UNITS).

/HONG KONG .....

HONG KONG RANKED AMONG THE TOP THREE CONTAINER PORTS IN THE WORLD, AND THERE WERE PLANS FOR FURTHER EXPANSION. RECLAMATION WORK AT KWAI CHUNG CONTAINER PORT WOULD INCREASE THE WORKING CAPACITY OF THE TERMINAL TO OVER TWO MILLION TEU'S A YEAR.

HONG KONG LIVED ITS TRADING CAPACITY AND HAD ALWAYS DONE SO, HE SAID.

+WE HAVE TO MAKE THE FULLEST USE OF OUR DEEP WATER PORT IN AID OF TRADE AND COMMERCE. WE HAVE DEVELOPED OUR CAPACITY TO HANDLE CARGOES BY UP-TO-DATE METHODS IN RECENT YEARS. AND WE MUST CONTINUE TO MODERNISE OUR PORT FACILITIES AND KEEP HONG KONG IN THE FOREFRONT OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC ACTIVITY.

MR THOMAS SAID THAT THE DRAFTING OF AN UP-TO-DATE CODE TO COVER THE OWNERSHIP AND REGISTRATION OF SHIPS IN HONG KONG, AND TO DEVISE AND ENFORCE STANDARDS OF CERTIFICATION FOR THEIR SEAWORTHINESS AND SAFE OPERATION PROVIDED THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE LAW DRAFTSMEN WITH A DAUNTING BUT CHALLENGING TASK.

+GOVERNMENT HAS ALREADY BEGUN A DIALOGUE WITH THE HONG KONG SHIPOWNERS ASSOCIATION TO DEFINE THE SCOPE OF THE TASK AND THE BEST WAY FORWARD,+ MR THOMAS SAID.

IF SUITABLE LEGISLATIVE ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE MADE TO PROVIDE THEM WITH MODERN AND EFFICIENT FACILITIES FOR REGISTRATION, HE COULD SEE A FUTURE FOR HONG KONG AS A SHIPPING CENTRE THAT WOULD DEMONSTRATE THE REALITY OF ITS CONTRIBUTION TO SEA TRANSPORT THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

MR THOMAS SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT IT WOULD TAKE FIVE YEARS FOR THE ADMINISTRATORS AND THE DRAFTSMEN TO PROVIDE THE LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL FRAMEWORK WITHIN WHICH HONG KONG COULD ESTABLISH AN INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION AND STANDING AS A SEPARATE SHIPPING REGISTER.

REFERRING TO ANOTHER TOPIC OF INTEREST, MR THOMAS RECALLED THAT THE GOVERNMENT INTENDED TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION BY THE MIDDLE OF THIS YEAR TO PROVIDE FOR COMPULSORY PILOTAGE OF CERTAIN VESSELS IN HONG KONG WATERS.

ALTHOUGH PILOTAGE SERVICES WERE AT PRESENT EMPLOYED ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS BY A LARGE PERCENTAGE OF OCEAN GOING VESSELS, COMPULSORY PILOTAGE WAS NOW NECESSARY TO ENSURE CONSISTENCY IN SAFETY STANDARDS FOR ALL SHIPS, HE SAID.

THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG AS A MAJOR SHIPPING CENTRE WAS A BRIGHT ONE, MR THOMAS SAID.

+WITH THE JOINT DECLARATION CLEARLY POINTING THE WAY TO INCREASED AUTONOMY IN THE SHIPPING FIELD TO THE MIDDLE OF THE 21ST CENTURY THERE SEEMS AMPLE SCOPE FOR THE CREATION OF A SUCCESSFUL HONG KONG FLEET OF SHIPS.

+THE GOVERNMENT IS DETERMINED TO PLAY ITS PART IN THE WAY I HAVE DISCUSSED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ALL THESE OPPORTUNITIES,+ MR THOMAS SAID.

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HK-TRAINED SEAMEN GET PANAMA EXEMPTION

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EXEMPTION FROM CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION IS TO BE GRANTED BY THE PANAMANIAN AUTHORITIES TO LOCAL RATINGS WHO HAVE COMPLETED TRAINING AT THE SEAMEN'S TRAINING TEMPORARY CENTRE OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL.

MR FRANK CHAO, CHAIRMAN OF THE MERCHANT NAVY TRAINING BOARD, SAID THAT THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA WOULD FORMALLY APPROVE THE TRAINING OFFERED AT THE CENTRE.

RATINGS WHO HAD COMPLETED THE FULL +STANDARDS OF TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND WATCHKEEPING+ TRAINING COURSE THERE WOULD BE EXEMPTED FROM THE PANAMANIAN CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION AND WOULD BE IMMEDIATELY QUALIFIED TO SERVE ON SHIPS FLYING THE PANAMANIAN FLAG, HE ADDED.

DR HUGO TORRIJOS, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE CONSULAR AND SHIPPING AFFAIRS IN PANAMA, WHO WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MR CHAO ON AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE CENTRE THIS MORNING (THURSDAY) SAID THAT HE WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE TRAINING FACILITIES AND COURSES OFFERED AT THE CENTRE.

THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA WAS SETTING UP AN EXAMINATION SYSTEM TO IMPROVE THE STANDARD OF CREWS MANNING THE PANAMANIAN-REGISTERED FLEET.

DR TORRIJOS SAID THAT PANAMA WOULD ALSO BECOME A SIGNATORY STATE TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON STANDARDS OF TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND WATCHKEEPING FOR SEAFARERS 1978 (STCW).

LIKEWISE, THE PANAMANIAN EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS ALSO HAD TO BE EXTENDED TO COMPLY WITH THE STCW.

DR TORRIJOS IS VISITING VARIOUS TRAINING CENTRES AROUND THE WORLD TO ASSESS THEIR STANDARD WITH A VIEW TO APPROVING THE TRAINING OF THOSE CENTRES WHICH CAN MEET THEIR EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS.

HE ALSO HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH LOCAL SHIPOWNERS REGARDING THE NEW PANAMANIAN CERTIFICATION SCHEME AND ON MARITIME AFFAIRS GENERALLY.

THE SEAMEN'S TRAINING TEMPORARY CENTRE, SITUATED IN LITTLE SAI WAN, CHAI WAN, WAS ESTABLISHED TO PROVIDE TRAINING TO HONG KONG SEAMEN TO MEET STCW STANDARDS, TO ENABLE THEM TO OBTAIN THE NECESSARY CERTIFICATES AND IMPROVE THEIR EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS.

THE CENTRE CAN TURN OUT ABOUT 1 900 TRAINED RATINGS EVERY YEAR.

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BUSY YEAR AGAINST COUNTERFEITERS

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OFFICERS OF THE TRADE CONTROLS INVESTIGATION BRANCH (TCIB) OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT HAD ANOTHER BUSY YEAR FIGHTING AGAINST THE MARKETING AND DISTRIBUTION OF COUNTERFEIT GOODS, THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRY OFFICER OF THE BRANCH, MR JOHN HOWARD, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

REVIEWING THE BRANCH'S WORK OVER 1984 AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY, MR HOWARD SAID THAT HIS BRANCH HAD COMPLETED 752 INVESTIGATIONS, REPRESENTING A 13 PER CENT INCREASE OVER 1983. THE SEIZURES OF OFFENDING GOODS IN 1984 ROSE TO 731 FROM 603 IN 1983, AN INCREASE OF 21 PER CENT.

+IN TERMS OF VALUE, $32.2 MILLION WORTH OF COUNTERFEIT GOODS WERE SEIZED AS COMPARED WITH $20.8 MILLION IN 1983, AN INCREASE OF 55 PER CENT.

+A TOTAL OF 469 PERSONS OR FIRMS WERE PROSECUTED RESULTING IN FINES OF $2.2 MILLION AND SEVEN OFFENDERS WERE GIVEN JAIL SENTENCES,+ HE SAID.

COPIED GOODS SEIZED MAINLY WERE FASHIONWARE, WATCHES, CHINESE MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, FOODSTUFFS AND COMPUTERS AND THEIR ACCESSORIES.

COMMENTING ON THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF SEIZURES, MR HOWARD SAID THIS COULD BE MAINLY ATTRIBUTED TO INCREASED AWARENESS BY TRADEMARK OWNERS, INCREASED VIGILANCE AT THE CUSTOMS ENTRY AND EXIT POINTS AS WELL AS CLOSER LIAISON WITH THE POLICE, THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, THE CONSUMER COUNCIL, THE HONG KONG TOURIST ASSOCIATION, THE WATCH INDUSTRY AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED IN FIGHTING COUNTERFEITING.

+TRADING IN COUNTERFEIT GOODS IS A CRIMINAL OFFENCE AND THE OFFENDERS ARE LIABLE TO HEAVY PENALTIES,+ MR HOWARD WARNED.

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YOUTH LEADERS SET GOOD EXAMPLE

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YOUTH LEADERS OF THE 1984 SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME HAD SET VERY GOOD EXAMPLES OF HOW TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY THROUGH ACTIVE PARTICIPATION, THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

MR AKERS-JONES, WHO IS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME POLICY COMMITTEE, SAID HE HOPED THOSE INVOLVED IN THE PROGRAMME WOULD CONTINUE TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY AND TO ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO FOLLOW THEIR EXAMPLE TO MAKE THE 1985 SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME ANOTHER SUCCESS.

/+THE THEMES .....

+THE THEMES FOR THIS YEAR WILL BE 'PARTICIPATION, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE' WHICH ARE ALSO THE THEMES FOR THE UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR,+ HE SAID.

MR AKERS-JONES WAS SPEAKING AT THE PRESENTATION OF THE JOCKEY CLUB OUTWARD BOUND SCHOLARSHIPS FOR THE 1984 SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME. THREE YOUTH LEADERS WERE AWARDED THE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING WORK IN THE PROGRAMME.

+THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE SUMMER TO JOIN IN SOCIAL, RECREATIONAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES,+ SAID MR AKERS-JONES.

+THE PROGRAMME OWES ITS SUCCESS TO THE GENEROUS FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB AND THE REMARKABLE EFFORTS OF VARIOUS YOUTH ORGANISATIONS AND COMMUNITY-SPIRITED INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED ACTIVELY IN THE PLANNING AND RUNNING VARIOUS EVENTS,+ HE ADDED.

+THE OUTWARD BOUND SCHOLARSHIP IS TO SHOW APPRECIATION OF THE INVALUABLE SERVICES DEDICATED INDIVIDUALS HAVE RENDERED TO THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME,+ HE SAID.

THE RECIPIENTS OF THE SCHOLARSHIPS ARE MISS KATHLEEN WONG, A 22-YEAR-OLD ESTATE AGENT, MR KWOK WING-CHOW, A 25-YEAR-OLD FIREMAN, AND MR TANG SAI-PUN, A 20-YEAR-OLD STUDENT.

THEY WILL TAKE AN 18-DAY OUTWARD BOUND DIPLOMA COURSE, WHICH INCLUDES SAILING ON THE JI FUNG TO LEARN ABOUT SAILING. OTHER ACTIVITIES WILL INCLUDE NAVIGATION, SMALL BOAT SAILING EXPEDITIONS, CANOEING, SWIMMING, INITIATIVE GAMES, FIRST AID TRAINING AND WALKING AND CAMPING EXPEDITIONS.

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STUDENTS URGED +TO PREPARE FOR FUTURE+

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THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR ADOLF HSU, TOLD 182 SCHOOL LEAVERS TODAY THAT CHOOSING A SPOKESMAN TO REPRESENT THEIR INTERESTS AND TO MANAGE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS ON THEIR BEHALF WAS NOT A TASK TO BE TAKEN LIGHTLY.

SPEAKING AT THE 35TH SPEECH DAY OF THE YUEN LONG PUBLIC MIDDLE SCHOOL, MR HSU SAID: +IF YOU ARE TO FULFIL YOUR PROPER RESPONSIBILITY TO SOCIETY, YOU MUST PREPARE YOURSELF IN ADVANCE BY STUDYING AND PARTICIPATING IN THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OF EVERY-DAY LIFE,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID THAT ALL YOUNG PEOPLE SHOULD SHARE A COMMON RESPONSIBILITY - TO SOCIETY AND THE MANAGEMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS.

/REMINDING PARTICIPANTS .....

REMINDING PARTICIPANTS ABOUT THE FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS, MR HSU SAID: +ON MARCH 7, THROUGHOUT HONG KONG, ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD FOR THE 19 DISTRICT BOARDS, INCLUDING YUEN LONG.+

ALTHOUGH THIS YEAR IT WILL BE THE STUDENTS' PARENTS AND THEIR ELDER BROTHERS AND SISTERS WHO WOULD CAST THEIR VOTES, MR HSU URGED THE STUDENTS TO MAKE USE OF EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP AN INTEREST IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND TO PREPARE THEMSELVES FOR THE TIME WHEN THEY WOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE NEXT ELECTION.

THE YUEN LONG PUBLIC MIDDLE SCHOOL'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS PLANNING TO FURTHER DEVELOP THE SCHOOL'S PREMISES TO PROVIDE MORE FACILITIES FOR STUDENTS.

THE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT INCLUDES BUILDING AN EXTENSION OF 12 CLASSROOMS, A BIOLOGY LABORATORY, A CHEMISTRY LABORATORY, A WOODWORK ROOM, A NEW LIBRARY AND RENOVATING THE ASSEMBLY HALL.

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JUNK BAY WORK GOES ON

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WORK WILL START NEXT MONTH ON A $34.2 MILLION CONTRACT FOR RECLAMATION AND ROAD CONSTRUCTION WORK IN JUNK BAY.

THE CONTRACT IS PART OF THE CONTINUING PROGRAMME FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW TOWN. IT COVERS LAND FORMATION AND ROAD CONSTRUCTION WORKS AT YAU YUE WAN IN NORTHERN JUNK BAY, FOR NEW HOMES FOR YAU YUE WAN VILLAGERS AND FOR USE BY GOVERNMENT.

WORK WILL ALSO INVOLVE THE FORMATION OF ABOUT TWO HECTARES OF PLATFORMS WITH RETAINING WALLS, THE RECLAMATION OF ABOUT SIX HECTARES OF LAND, AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF ABOUT 800 METRES OF ACCESS ROADS WITH TWO ASSOCIATED SUBWAYS FOR PEDESTRIANS AND CYCLISTS.

THE WORK, WHICH WILL TAKE ABOUT TWO YEARS TO COMPLETE, WAS AWARDED TO GAMMON (HK) LIMITED BY THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

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SHORT TERM TENANCY SOUGHT

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THE LANDS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SHORT TERM TENANCY OF TWO SITES, TOTALLING 5 874 SQUARE METRES, IN YUEN LONG.

THE SITES ARE AT MA TIN ROAD, AND AT THE JUNCTION OF TAI YUK ROAD AND MA TIN ROAD. THEY ARE FOR OPEN STORAGE, INCLUDING THE PARKING OF CARS, OR FOR USE AS A MOTOR VEHICLE TRADING CENTRE OR BOTH.

THE TENANCY IS FOR ONE YEAR, RENEWABLE QUARTERLY AFTERWARDS.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING TENDERS IS NOON ON FEBRUARY 8.

TENDER FORM, NOTICE AND CONDITIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM, AND PLANS MAY BE INSPECTED AT:

* LANDS DEPARTMENT, SURVEY DIVISION, MURRAY BUILDING, 5TH FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG;

* DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, KOWLOON, YAU MA TEI CAR PARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON; AND

* DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, YUEN LONG, YUEN LONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND TAI KIU MARKET, 2 KIU LOK SQUARE, YUEN LONG, NEW TERRITORIES.

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INTELPOST REACHES IRISH REPUBLIC

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THE INTELPOST NETWORK FROM HONG KONG WILL BE EXTENDED TO INCLUDE SERVICES TO THE IRISH REPUBLIC FROM JANUARY 28, A POST OFFICE SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY.

INTELPOST ITEMS POSTED IN HONG KONG BEFORE 6 PM WILL BE DELIVERED THE SAME DAY IN DUBLIN CITY, DUBLIN COUNTY AND CORK CITY AND IN OTHER AREAS IN THE IRISH REPUBLIC THE NEXT DAY.

THE CHARGE FOR THE SERVICE TO THE IRISH REPUBLIC WILL BE :

FOR THE FIRST SIDE OF AN A4 SHEET OF PAPER	$65
FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT A4 SIDE SENT TO THE SAME ADDRESSEE AT THE SAME TIME	$30

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT INTELPOST WAS ALSO AVAILABLE TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES, ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, BELGIUM, BRAZIL, DENMARK, FRANCE, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, JAPAN, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, LUXEMBOURG, MACAU, MALAYSIA, THE NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, PORTUGAL, QATAR, SINGAPORE AND SWEDEN.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE SERVICE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE INTELPOST REPRESENTATIVE ON TELEPHONE 5-2671148.

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WATER COMPLAINTS : CALL 5-757789

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A NEW DIRECT TELEPHONE LINE FOR TECHNICAL COMPLAINTS ON WATER SUPPLY MATTERS FOR HONG KONG ISLAND WILL COME INTO USE AT THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT'S HONG KONG TECHNICAL COMPLAINT CENTRE AT BULLOCK LANE DEPOT, WAN CHAI, FROM TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE NEW NUMBER IS 5-757789.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT SAID THE NEW TELEPHONE LINE WOULD EASE THE LOAD ON THE CURRENT MAIN EXCHANGE, AND IMPROVE SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC.

HOWEVER, ALL TECHNICAL COMPLAINTS BETWEEN MIDNIGHT AND 7 AM, THE NEXT DAY SHOULD STILL BE DIRECTED TO THE EXISTING EXCHANGE 5-726311.

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CAREERS SEMINARS TO OPEN

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THE CAREERS SEMINARS AND WORK ORIENTATION PROGRAMME WILL BE OPENED TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT KEI CHI MIDDLE SCHOOL, 20 SHUI NING STREET, KWUN TONG, AT 9.40 AM.

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S YOUTH EMPLOYMENT ADVISORY SERVICE AND THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD'S KWUN TONG YOUTH FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE, THE PROGRAMME IS AMONG ACTIVITIES LAUNCHED TO MARK INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR.

THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR DAVID LIN AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR EDDIE LAMB, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CEREMONY.

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PART-TIME LIFE GUARDS NEEDED

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IS RECRUITING PART-TIME LIFE GUARDS FOR THE CITY SERVICES AND THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENTS.

THE LIFE GUARDS WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR DUTY AT GAZETTED BEACHES AND SWIMMING POOLS, A SPOKESMAN SAID.

APPLICANTS, PREFERABLY AGED 35 OR UNDER, SHOULD HAVE AT LEAST PRIMARY 6 EDUCATION AND HOLD A BRONZE MEDALLION CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY THE ROYAL LIFE GUARD SOCIETY, AND A VALID FIRST AID CERTIFICATE.

THE JOB, WHICH OFFERS A MONTHLY SALARY OF $2 755, OR A DAILY WAGE OF $109, IS OPEN TO BOTH MEN AND WOMEN.

PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE POST MAY APPROACH ANY BRANCH OFFICE OF THE LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT. ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE AT TELEPHONES : 3-666615, 3-695525, 3-265123, 0-420154 OR 5-270622.

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'EYE CARE FOR ELDERLY' DRIVE STARTING

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THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR BARRIE WIGGHAM, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENIN OF THE +EYE CARE CAMPAIGN FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE OF CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT+ TOMORROW (FRIDAY) MORNING.

THE CAMPAIGN IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD AND THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE HONG KONG OPTIOMETRIC ASSOCIATION AND SEVEN CENTRES FOR THE ELDERLY IN THE DISTRICT.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR LAM KAM-KWONG; THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS, MR CHRISTOPHER MOK; THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CAMPAIGN'S ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR CHOW WAI-KEUNG; AND EIGHT DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS.

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900 SIGN UP FOR BUILDING CARE TALKS

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ABOUT 900 REPRESENTATIVES FROM MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, OWNERS' CORPORATIONS, AREA COMMITTEES AND THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD WILL TAKE PART IN A SEMINAR ON MULTI-STOREY BUILDING MANAGEMENT TOMORROW (FRIDAY) NIGHT.

THE SEMINAR IS ORGANISED BY THE EASTERN DISTRICT FEDERATION OF MULTI-STOREY BUILDING ORGANISATIONS AND SPONSORED BY THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE AND THE POLICE WILL GIVE TALKS ON HOME SAFETY, FIRE AND CRIME PREVENTION, AND THE SAFE INSTALLATION OF GATES IN MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS.

THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR LUI HAU-TUEN AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FEDERATION, MR SHUM CHOI-SANG WILL OFFICIATE AT AN OPENING CEREMONY AT 7.30 PM IN THE DR SEAKER CHAN'S MEMORIAL HALL IN JAVA ROAD, NORTH POINT.

THE SEMINAR WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A TWO-HOUR VARIETY SHOW PRODUCED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL.

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TELEMATCH GAMES ENTER SEMI-FINALS

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THE INTER-DISTRICT TELEMATCH GAMES ORGANISED TO PROMOTE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION ENTERS THE SEMI-FINALS ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 26) AFTERNOON.

TEAMS FROM 18 DISTRICTS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY HAVE BEEN COMPETING IN THE FIRST ROUND OF THE GAMES OVER THE PAST TWO MONTHS, NINE TEAMS HAVE ADVANCED TO THE SEMI-FINALS.

THE TELEMATCH GAMES ARE PART OF A TELEVISION DOCUMENTARY SERIES ENTITLED +INTER-DISTRICT GAMES SHOW+ JOINTLY PRODUCED BY RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG AND THE 18 DISTRICT OFFICES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION SAID TODAY THAT THE GAMES AIM AT PROMOTING DISTRICT SPIRIT AND PUBLICISING THE DISTRICT BOARDS WORK.

THE PROGRAMME, WHICH COMPRISE THE TELEMATCH GAMES, DISTRICT PERFORMANCES AND DOCUMENTARIES ON THE CHARACTERISTICS OF EACH DISTRICT, IS BEING SCREENED ON TVB JADE EVERY SUNDAY AT 12 NOON. THE TV PROGRAMME HAS PROVED TO BE VERY POPULAR AMONG YOUTHS AND HAS RECEIVED VERY GOOD RATINGS.

IN THE SEMI-FINALS, THREE TEAMS WILL COMPETE IN A TELEMATCH GAME. THEY WILL BE JOINED BY WELL-KNOWN ARTISTES.

THE DOCUMENTARIES TO BE SCREENED OVER THE NEXT THREE WEEKS WILL INTRODUCE THE CHANGING ROLE OF DISTRICT BOARDS AND THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS YEAR'S DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS.

THE COMPETITION SCHEDULE FOR THE SEMI-FINALS OF THE INTER-DISTRICT GAMES SHOW ARE AS FOLLOWS:-

DATE	PARTICIPATING DISTRICT	VENUE
JAN. 26	TSUEN WAN, TAI PO AND WONG TAI SIN	JUNCTION ROAD SPORTS GROUND
FEB. 2	ISLANDS, KWUN TONG AND YAU MA TEI	KO SHAN ROAD PARK
FEB. 9	EASTERN, SAI KUNG AND WAN CHAI	JUNCTION ROAD SPORTS GROUND

THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE GAMES AND CHEER THEIR TEAMS. TICKETS FOR THE TELEMATCH GAMES CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE RESPECTIVE DISTRICT OFFICES ONE WEEK BEFORE EACH SHOW.

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PERFORMERS MEET

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PERFORMING ARTISTS IN THE FIRST EASTERN DISTRICT ARTS FESTIVAL, MEMBERS OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE AND THE EASTERN DISTRICT ARTS COUNCIL WILL GET TOGETHER TOMORROW (FRIDAY) EVENING AT A RECEPTION TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON ARTS AND CULTURE.

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SHA TIN HOLDS FESTIVE LIGHTING PHOTO CONTEST

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PEOPLE WHO LIVE, WORK OR STUDY IN SHA TIN ARE BEING INVITED TO TAKE PART IN THE DISTRICT'S FESTIVE LIGHTING PHOTO COMPETITION.

THE FIRST +SHA TIN FESTIVE LIGHTING PHOTO CONTEST+ IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE FESTIVE LIGHTING SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD AND THE KODAK (FAR EAST) LTD, WHICH WILL DONATE ATTRACTIVE PRIZES.

PARTICIPANTS MAY SUBMIT PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE RECENT CHRISTMAS FESTIVE LIGHTINGS OR THE FORTHCOMING LUNAR NEW YEAR FESTIVE LIGHTS.

THEY SHOULD SEND IN THEIR PHOTOGRAPHS ON OR BEFORE FEBRUARY 26.

THE PANEL OF JUDGES WILL COMPRISE MR CHOY KAN-PUI, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE; MR PAUL TANG, ASSISTANT SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICER; MR LAM HUNG-CHIU, MR YEUNG SIU-WAH AND MR FUNG PUI-LAM, THE CHAIRMEN OF THE AREA COMMITTEES, AND MR MICHAEL HUI, SENIOR REPORTER OF THE COMMUNITY STAR.

INFORMATION PAMPHLETS ON THE PHOTO COMPETITION CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE AND ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 0-6048078 AND 0-6065489.

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LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIR STALLS AVAILABLE AT UPSET PRICES

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO MISSED THE CHANCE IN RECENT PUBLIC AUCTIONS TO BID FOR A STALL IN ONE OF THE FOUR LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIR SITES PROVIDED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL WILL BE ABLE TO APPLY FOR ONE NOW.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COUNCIL SAID THAT 144 STALLS WILL BE LEASED AT UPSET PRICES ON A FIRST-COME FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

/THEY COMPRISE .....

THEY COMPRISE 43 WET GOODS STALLS (AT $1 013 EACH) AT VICTORIA PARK; 23 DRY GOODS STALLS (AT $338 EACH) AT FA HUI PARK; 38 WET GOODS STALLS (AT $500 EACH) AND 40 DRY GOODS STALLS (AT $250 EACH) AT KOWLOON PARK.

THOSE WHO ARE INTERESTED SHOULD APPROACH THE HAWKER RECORD OFFICES OF THE CITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT EITHER AT THE CAUSEWAY BAY MAGISTRACY BUILDING OR AT THE DEPARTMENT'S KOWLOON REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS IN SAI YEE STREET.

THEY SHOULD BRING ALONG THEIR HONG KONG IDENTITY CARDS, TWO RECENT PASSPORT-SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS, THE COST OF THE STALLS FOR WHICH THEY INTEND TO BID AS WELL AS A TEMPORARY HAWKER LICENCE FEE OF $135.

THIS YEAR, THE URBAN COUNCIL HAS MADE AVAILABLE MORE THAN 1 300 STALLS INCLUDING TWO FAST FOOD CENTRES AT VICTORIA PARK, FA HUI PARK, KOWLOON PARK AND KAI TAK EAST PLAYGROUND WHERE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIRS WILL BE HELD BETWEEN FEBRUARY 11 AND 20.

THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THESE STALLS HAD BEEN LEASED OUT AT PUBLIC AUCTIONS HELD EARLIER THIS MONTH.

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YUK WAH STREET BUS SERVICE

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FROM FRIDAY (JANUARY 25), WITH THE PARTIAL COMPLETION OF ROAD WORKS AT THE JUNCTION OF YUK WAH STREET AND WAN WAH STREET, KMB ROUTES 2F AND 5C WILL RESUME THEIR ORIGINAL ROUTEINGS TO OPERATE VIA YUK WAH STREET, WAN WAH STREET, SHUNG WAH STREET, SHEUNG FUNG STREET AND FUNG TAK ROAD ON THEIR JOURNEYS FROM TSZ WAN SHAN SOUTH.

KMB ROUTES 3A, 3B AND 15A WILL BE RE-ROUTED TO OPERATE VIA TSZ WAN SHAN ROAD, YUK WAH STREET AND WAN WAH STREET BEFORE RESUMING THEIR ORIGINAL ROUTEINGS ON THEIR JOURNEYS FROM TSZ WAN SHAN NORTH.

YUK WAH STREET BETWEEN ITS JUNCTIONS WITH WAN WAH STREET AND YUK WAH CRESCENT WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM TWO-WAY TO ONE-WAY WESTBOUND.

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TEMPORARY VEHICLE RESTRICTION

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ALL VEHICLES OVER 5.5 TONNES GROSS WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING CENTRE STREET IN SAI YING PUN, BETWEEN QUEEN'S ROAD WEST AND DES VOEUX ROAD WEST FROM 8 PM ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 26) UNTIL 6 AM ON MONDAY (JANUARY 28).

THE MEASURE IS TO FACILITATE ROAD WORK.

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ROAD EXTENSION TO OPEN

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THE NEW EXTENSION OF MONG LUNG STREET, LINKING PO MAN STREET WITH THE SHIPYARDS AT ALDRICH BAY IN SHAU KEI WAN, WILL BE OPENED TO TRAFFIC FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 26).

AT THE SAME TIME, THE TEMPORARY ROAD LEADING FROM NAM ON STREET TO THE SHIPYARDS VIA THE MTR WORK AREA WILL BE CLOSED.

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