



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1980

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
HK PLAYS IMPORTANT ROLE IN CHINA'S MODERNISATION	1
\$300 000 DONATION TO FIRE SERVICES WELFARE FUND	2
CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE'S EFFORTS IN STAMPING OUT RECORDING PIRACY RECOGNISED	3
SEMINAR FOR SCHOOL LIBRARIANS	4
DECEMBER WEATHER SUNNY AND DRY	4
SCHOOL HEADS MEET TO DISCUSS TEACHING CHILDREN WITH LEARNING DIFFICULTIES	5
HAPPY VALLEY TRAMS TO STOP EARLIER	6
TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN CENTRAL DISTRICT	6

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1980

- 1 -

HK PLAYS IMPORTANT ROLE IN CHINA'S MODERNISATION

* * * *

THE ACTING GOVERNOR, SIR JACK CATER SAYS IT IS NOW CLEAR THAT THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT SEES HONG KONG AS PLAYING AN IMPORTANT PART IN ITS MODERNISATION AND ECONOMIC PROGRAMMES.

SPEAKING AT THE DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON OF THE HONG KONG BRANCH OF THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED SHIPBROKERS TODAY (WEDNESDAY), SIR JACK SAID HONG KONG WAS NO LONGER JUST A DOT ON THE MAP, BY VALUE OF EXPORTS IT WAS AMONGST THE 18 LEADING TRADERS OF THE WORLD.

+IN A WORLD WHICH WAS SEEMINGLY BECOMING MORE AND MORE PROTECTIONIST, HONG KONG'S PERFORMANCE OVER THE LAST DECADE HAS ONCE MORE VINDICATED OUR BELIEF IN FREE TRADE.

+IN A PERIOD WHEN THE WORLD HAS BEEN FULL OF DOUBTS AND ANXIETIES EXACERBATED BY OIL CRISES, HONG KONG HAS RECORDED A SUSTAINED HIGH LEVEL OF GROWTH, ILLUSTRATED BY A 119 PER CENT INCREASE IN CARGO HANDLING THROUGH THE PORT, FROM 13.7 MILLION TONS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SEVENTIES TO ALMOST 30 MILLION TONS TODAY,+ HE SAID.

SIR JACK ALSO NOTED THAT OUR SUCCESS AS A PORT AND AS A MANUFACTURING CENTRE +IS DUE NOT ONLY TO THE FACILITIES WE PROVIDE AND TO THE QUALITY OF THE GOODS WHICH WE PRODUCE, BUT ALSO TO THE ATMOSPHERE WHICH WE HAVE SOUGHT TO ENCOURAGE, AN ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH THE DEVELOPER, THE TRADER, THE INDUSTRIALIST AND THE BUSINESSMAN WILL FLOURISH.

+HE WILL FLOURISH BECAUSE HE KNOWS THAT HE IS WANTED HERE, BECAUSE HE IS OPERATING IN A COMMUNITY WHICH BELIEVES IN INITIATIVE, IN HARD WORK AND THINKS IT RIGHT THAT A MAN SHOULD RETAIN A FAIR PROPORTION OF THE FRUITS OF HIS LABOUR AND INGENUITY, BECAUSE HE KNOWS THAT WE REGARD THE FREE MOVEMENT OF CAPITAL AND GOODS AS ESSENTIAL TO OUR GROWTH, BECAUSE HE MAY FEEL CONFIDENT THAT WE SHALL MAINTAIN OUR FREE PORT STATUS AND OUR LOW TAX STRUCTURE.

+ABOVE ALL, HE IS AWARE THAT WE BELIEVE FIRMLY IN THE BENEFITS OF VIGOROUS TRADE, FREE FROM ARTIFICIAL BARRIERS,+ HE ADDED.

SIR JACK ALSO POINTED OUT THAT MUCH OF THE SUCCESS OF OUR BUSINESS ENTERPRISES WAS DUE TO THE HARD WORK, FLEXIBILITY AND GOOD SENSE OF THE ORDINARY WORKING PEOPLE OF HONG KONG AND THEY DESERVED A FAIR SHARE OF THE INCREASING PROSPERITY. +THE BUSINESSMAN - INDUSTRIALIST OR TRADER - FORGETS THAT AT HIS, AND OUR PERIL,+ HE CAUTIONED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/2

\$300 000 DONATION TO FIRE SERVICES WELFARE FUND

* * * * *

A REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER, MR. PETER LEUNG, TODAY (WEDNESDAY) DONATED \$300 000 TO THE FIRE SERVICES WELFARE FUND TO BE USED SPECIFICALLY FOR THE BENEFIT OF WIDOWS AND DEPENDANTS OF FIRE OFFICERS AND FIREMEN KILLED ON DUTY.

AT A PRESENTATION CEREMONY HELD TODAY AT THE FIRE SERVICES HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH POINT, MR. LEUNG PRESENTED A CHEQUE FOR \$300 000 TO THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES, MR. M.K. LANE.

+LAST NOVEMBER, THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES SET UP A SPECIAL FUND WITHIN THE WELFARE FUND TO ASSIST WIDOWS AND DEPENDANTS OF MEMBERS KILLED IN ACTION,+ SAID A FIRE SERVICES SPOKESMAN.

+THE \$300 000 WILL BE PLACED IN THE ACCOUNT OF THIS SPECIAL FUND AND THE INTERESTS EARNED WILL BE USED TO PAY WIDOWS OR DEPENDANTS A MONTHLY GRANT TO SUBSIDISE THEIR OTHER INCOME,+ HE SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY MR. LEUNG RECALLED THE INCIDENT LAST SEPTEMBER IN WHICH A SENIOR FIREMAN LOST HIS LIFE AS A RESULT OF INJURIES AND BURNS SUFFERED WHILE FIGHTING A FIRE IN A DANGEROUS GOODS STORE IN LAI CHI KOK.

+HIS COURAGE AND TRAGIC DEATH STRUCK A SYMPATHETIC CHORD AMONG THE PUBLIC WHO DONATED VARIOUS SUMS IN RESPONSE,+ SAID MR. LEUNG.

ON THE DEATH OF ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE SERVICE WHO WAS KILLED LAST WEEK WHILE RACING TO RESCUE A DRIVER IN A CAR ACCIDENT, MR. LEUNG SAID: +THIS SAD CASE RECEIVED LITTLE PUBLICITY BUT THE CONSEQUENCES TO THE WIDOW AND CHILDREN ARE EQUALLY DISTRESSING AND SERIOUS AS IN THE FIRST CASE.+

+THEREFORE,+ HE SAID, +I ASKED THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES TO DEVOTE MY CONTRIBUTION TO THE BENEFIT OF THE DEPENDANTS OF THE UNSUNG HEROES OF THE FIRE SERVICES — THOSE WHO QUIETLY GIVE THEIR LIVES IN THE PURSUIT OF THEIR PROFESSION.+

+AND IN PARTICULAR, I WISHED TO MAKE A FITTING GESTURE TO RECOGNISE THE MANY HAZARDS FACED BY HONG KONG'S 5 000 FIRE OFFICERS AND MEN IN GOING ABOUT THEIR DAILY DUTIES,+ MR. LEUNG ADDED.

MR. LEUNG POINTED OUT THAT THE REPORTED MONETARY LOSSES FROM THE RAVAGES OF FIRE IN 1978 AMOUNTED TO \$113.1 MILLION AND HE ANTICIPATED THAT THE LOSSES IN 1979 WOULD BE EVEN GREATER.

+THIS IS A VERY HIGH LOSS IN REAL TERMS AND EVEN DISCOUNTING THE HUMAN SUFFERING AND DEPRIVATION WHICH ALSO RESULTED FROM THOSE SAME FIRES AND THE MUCH HIGHER VALUE OF PROPERTY AT RISK, THIS IS TOO HIGH A PRICE,+ SAID MR. LEUNG.

HE URGED ALL MEMBERS OF THE BUSINESS, COMMERCIAL AND PRIVATE SECTORS TO INCREASE THEIR AWARENESS OF THE FIRE RISK IN THEIR OWN SURROUNDINGS AND CO-OPERATE WITH THE FIRE SERVICES.

FINALLY, HE CALLED ON MANAGEMENT OF FACTORIES AND OFFICES TO TRY THEIR BEST TO MINIMISE THE OUTBREAK OF FIRE IN THEIR BUILDINGS AND NOT TO USE THEIR COMMON AREAS AND STAIRCASES FOR THE STORAGE OF COMBUSTIBLE GOODS OR WORK PROCESSES BECAUSE SUCH ANTI-SOCIAL ACTS WOULD RESTRICT OR OBSTRUCT THE DESIGNED EXITS IN THE EVENT OF FIRE AND ENDANGERING THE LIVES OF THEIR WORKERS AND THEMSELVES.

- 2 -

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE'S EFFORTS
IN STAMPING OUT RECORDING PIRACY RECOGNISED

* * * * *

THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE HAS WORKED INTENSIVELY TO DEFEAT THOSE WHO WOULD ATTEMPT TO ROB LEGITIMATE RECORDING COMPANIES AND ARTISTS OF THEIR PROPERTY, SAID THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND CONTROLS, MR. DOUGLAS JORDAN TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

+THERE IS NOTHING ROMANTIC ABOUT THESE MODERN DAY PIRATES. THEY ARE OUT AND OUT ROGUES ROBBING THE INDUSTRY, AND DECEIVING THE PUBLIC WITH THEIR INFERIOR PRODUCTS,+ HE SAID.

MR. JORDAN WAS SPEAKING AT A CEREMONY AT THE SERVICE'S HEADQUARTERS WHEN DONATIONS TOTALLING \$34 500 WERE MADE BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE RECORDING INDUSTRY TO THE SERVICE'S WELFARE FUND.

AT THE CEREMONY, THE MANAGING DIRECTOR OF FUNG HANG RECORDS COMPANY, MR. CHUNG KAM PUI, ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP, ALSO PRESENTED A BANNER TO MR. JORDAN IN APPRECIATION OF THE SUCCESS OF THE SERVICE'S COPYRIGHT PROTECTION UNIT IN STAMPING OUT RECORDING PIRACY IN HONG KONG.

THANKING THE ORGANISATIONS FOR THEIR GENEROUS DONATIONS, MR. JORDAN SAID : +IT IS A MATTER OF PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE, AND IS SAID TO BE AN EXAMPLE TO OTHER ADMINISTRATIONS THAT THE COPYRIGHT PROTECTION UNIT OF THE HONG KONG CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE HAS ACHIEVED NOTABLE RESULTS IN REDUCING TO A MINIMUM, IF NOT COMPLETELY STAMPING OUT RECORDING PIRACY IN THE TERRITORY.+

ASSURING THE RECORDING INDUSTRY OF THE CONTINUING VIGILANCE AND CLOSE ATTENTION OF THE COPYRIGHT PROTECTION UNIT TO THEIR INTERESTS, HE SAID : +OUR INTERESTS COINCIDE BECAUSE HARM DONE TO YOUR INDUSTRY IS HARM DONE TO THE LEGITIMATE TRADE OF HONG KONG.+

+IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT, OF WHICH THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE FORMS SUCH AN IMPORTANT PART, TO DO EVERYTHING IN ITS POWER TO MAINTAIN THE TRADING INTEGRITY OF HONG KONG.

+IT IS ENCOURAGING TO THE SERVICE TO KNOW THAT THEIR EFFORTS IN CONNECTION WITH YOUR INDUSTRY HAVE BEEN BOTH RECOGNISED AND APPRECIATED TO THE EXTENT THAT YOU ARE TODAY MAKING THESE GENEROUS DONATIONS.+

MR. JORDAN EXPLAINED THAT THE SERVICE'S WELFARE FUND, TO WHICH THE INDUSTRY HAD CONTRIBUTED BEFORE, EXISTED BY LAW TO PROVIDE VARIOUS BENEFITS AND COMFORTS FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE SERVICE.

+SUCH BENEFITS AND COMFORTS DO MUCH TO ENABLE OFFICERS OF THE SERVICE TO RELAX PROPERLY AND ENJOY THEIR LEISURE IN OFF-DUTY MOMENTS, WHICH IN TURN CONTRIBUTES TO THE BETTER PERFORMANCE OF THEIR WORK,+ HE SAID.

DONATIONS TO THE SERVICE'S WELFARE FUND WERE MADE BY :
H.K. GROUP OF IFPI (INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PRODUCERS OF
PHONOGRAMS AND VIDEOGRAMS)= FUNG HANG RECORDS LTD.= SUN HING
PANSONIC LTD.= MAN CHI RECORDS CO.= WING CHEUNG RECORDS CO.
LTD.= CROWN RECORD CO.= HONG KONG KING YOKO LTD.= WING HANG
RECORD TRADING CO.= TIEN SHING RECORDS CO.= BAILEY RECORD CO.=
SING TAO PANSONIC LTD. AND MOUTRIES AND CO. (HK LTD).

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1980

- 4 -

SEMINAR FOR SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

* * * *

ABOUT 120 RECENTLY APPOINTED TEACHER LIBRARIANS ATTENDED A SEMINAR ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S LIBRARY SECTION AT THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY EXTRA-MURAL TOWN CENTRE AT WING ON CENTRE TODAY.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, MRS. LOUISE MOK, DEPUTY CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS SAID THE AIM OF THE SEMINAR WAS TO ACQUAINT PARTICIPANTS WITH DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF SCHOOL LIBRARIANSHIP, BROADEN THEIR OUTLOOK ON LIBRARIES, RESOURCES AND RELATED TOPICS SUCH AS PUBLISHING.

+YOU WILL ALSO KNOW ABOUT THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCHOOL LIBRARIES IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD, TO ENABLE YOU TO SHARE THE RICH EXPERIENCE OF FELLOW LIBRARIANS OVERSEAS AND TO LEARN FROM THEIR WISDOM,+ SHE SAID.

A GROUP OF 15 EDUCATIONISTS AND SCHOOL LIBRARIANS FROM THE UNITED STATES NOW VISITING HONG KONG ALSO ATTENDED THE SEMINAR - AND GAVE THEIR VIEWS ON THE ROLE OF SCHOOL LIBRARIES AND THEIR IMPACT ON STUDENTS.

MRS. DONNA HARSH TOGETHER WITH TWO COLLEAGUES FROM THE GROUP SPOKE ON +CHILDREN'S LITERATURE IN THE UNITED STATES+.

THREE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GROUP SPOKE ON SCHOOL LIBRARIES IN THE UNITED STATES.

ALSO SPEAKING AT THE SEMINAR WERE MISS CHRISTINA LEE, CHIEF EDITOR OF THE RED APPLE MAGAZINE, WHO SPOKE ON +READING AND PUBLISHING IN HONG KONG+ AND MRS. KATE CHIANG, SCHOOL LIBRARIAN OF THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, ON +AMERICAN SCHOOL LIBRARIES IN HONG KONG+.

- - - - 0 - - - -

DECEMBER WEATHER SUNNY AND DRY

* * * * *

THE WEATHER IN DECEMBER WAS MILD, SUNNY AND DRY, ACCORDING TO THE MONTHLY WEATHER SUMMARY ISSUED BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THERE WAS ONLY ONE DAY (DECEMBER 18) WITH MEASURABLE RAIN AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY AND THE TOTAL RAINFALL REGISTERED FOR THE MONTH WAS 0.2 MM, MAKING IT THE SEVENTH LOWEST ON RECORD FOR DECEMBER.

TOTAL SUNSHINE FOR THE MONTH AMOUNTED TO 230.4 HOURS WHICH WAS 58.5 HOURS MORE THAN NORMAL WHILE THE MEAN TEMPERATURE OF 18.6 DEGREES CELSIUS WAS 1.1 DEGREES HIGHER THAN AVERAGE.

/THERE WAS

THERE WAS A TRACE OF RAIN ON DECEMBER 3 APART FROM WHICH THE WEATHER REMAINED FINE AND SUNNY FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE MONTH UNTIL DECEMBER 17. ON THE AFTERNOON OF DECEMBER 5, TEMPERATURE ROSE TO A MAXIMUM OF 25.3 DEGREES CELSIUS - THE HIGHEST IN THE MONTH.

IT WAS RATHER HUMID FROM DECEMBER 18 TO 22 WHEN A MOIST EASTERLY AIRSTREAM COVERED SOUTH CHINA AND THERE WERE REPORTS OF MIST AND FOG ALONG THE COAST DURING THIS PERIOD WITH VISIBILITIES REDUCED TO A MINIMUM OF 200 METRES AT WAGLAN ISLAND AND 800 METRES AT CHEUNG CHAU.

A COLD FRONT PASSED THROUGH HONG KONG EARLY ON DECEMBER 23 AND WAS ACCOMPANIED BY A FEW PATCHES OF VERY LIGHT RAIN. HOWEVER, THE WEATHER IMPROVED VERY RAPIDLY DURING THE DAY.

AFTER THE PASSAGE OF THE COLD FRONT, CONDITIONS BECAME COOLER AND LESS HUMID AND THE REST OF THE MONTH WAS FINE AND SUNNY. TEMPERATURES FELL STEADILY AND ON THE MORNING OF DECEMBER 25 THE MONTH'S MINIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 11.4 DEGREES CELSIUS WAS RECORDED. FRESH TO STRONG WINDS WERE EXPERIENCED FROM DECEMBER 23 TO 25.

DURING THE MONTH NO AIRCRAFT WERE DIVERTED FROM HONG KONG DUE TO WEATHER.

THREE TROPICAL CYCLONES WERE REPORTED OVER THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC AND THE SOUTH CHINA SEA BUT NONE AFFECTED HONG KONG.

THE STRONG MONSOON SIGNAL WAS HOISTED ON THREE OCCASIONS TO WARN OF STRONG WINDS OF THE WINTER MONSOON.

THE RED FIRE DANGER WARNING WAS EFFECTIVE ON 12 DAYS WHILE THE YELLOW FIRE DANGER WARNING WAS IN FORCE ON 15 DAYS. NO THUNDERSTORM OR HEAVY RAIN WARNINGS WERE ISSUED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

SCHOOL HEADS MEET TO DISCUSS
TEACHING CHILDREN WITH LEARNING DIFFICULTIES
* * * * *

MORE THAN 100 HEADS OF AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS ARE MEETING THIS WEEK FOR DISCUSSIONS ON TEACHING CHILDREN WITH LEARNING DIFFICULTIES IN SPECIAL OR RESOURCE CLASSES.

THE FIRST MEETING WAS HELD THIS (WEDNESDAY) MORNING AT THE WAN CHAI KAIFONG ASSOCIATION PRIMARY SCHOOL AT OI KWAN ROAD AND ATTENDED BY 44 SCHOOL HEADS ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THEY DISCUSSED THE AIMS, NATURE AND ORGANISATION OF SPECIAL CLASSES AND RESOURCE CLASSES, AND THE CRITERIA OF SELECTING PUPILS FOR PLACEMENT IN THESE CLASSES.

FOLLOWING THE DISCUSSIONS THE GROUP VISITED SPECIAL AND RESOURCE CLASSES IN SESSION AT THE WAN CHAI KAIFONG ASSOCIATION PRIMARY SCHOOL.

HEADS FROM AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN KOWLOON AND TSUEN WAN WILL BE ATTENDING SIMILAR DISCUSSIONS TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AND FRIDAY RESPECTIVELY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1980

- 6 -

HAPPY VALLEY TRAMS TO STOP EARLIER
* * * *

TRAM SERVICES FROM HAPPY VALLEY TO KENNEDY TOWN AND SHAU KEI WAN WILL STOP AT 11.30 PM ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY (JANUARY 11 AND 12) TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CANAL ROAD FLYOVER.

ON THESE TWO DAYS THE LAST TRAM FROM HAPPY VALLEY FOR SHAU KEI WAN WILL BE AT 11.24 PM AND THAT FOR KENNEDY TOWN WILL LEAVE WITHIN SECONDS.

THE LAST TRAMS FROM SHAU KEI WAN AND KENNEDY TOWN FOR HAPPY VALLEY WILL BE AT 10.26 PM AND 10.46 PM RESPECTIVELY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID EVERY EFFORT WOULD BE MADE TO COMPLETE THE NIGHT WORK SO AS NOT TO CAUSE DISRUPTION TO THE NORMAL TRAM SERVICE IN HAPPY VALLEY ON THE FOLLOWING MORNINGS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

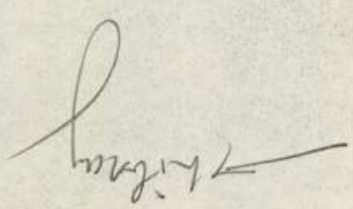
TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN CENTRAL DISTRICT
* * * * *

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT TODAY (WEDNESDAY) ANNOUNCED THAT BOTH JACKSON ROAD AND CLUB STREET AT THEIR JUNCTION WITH CHATER ROAD IN CENTRAL DISTRICT WILL REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL JANUARY 31 FOR ROAD WORKS.

ALSO BECAUSE OF ROAD WORKS, THE SERVICE LANE BETWEEN SUTHERLAND HOUSE AND FURAMA HOTEL AT ITS JUNCTION WITH CHATER ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM FRIDAY (JANUARY 11) TO JANUARY 24.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

- - - - 0 - - - -





DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SUPPLEMENT

Wednesday, January 9, 1980

ACTING GOVERNOR ATTENDS CHARTERED SHIPBROKERS LUNCHEON

The following is the full text of speech by the Acting Governor, Sir Jack Cater, at the Diamond Anniversary Luncheon of the Hong Kong Branch of the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers on Wednesday January 9, 1980.

I am most grateful to you, Mr Chairman, and to the Fellows, Members and Students of the Hong Kong Branch of the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers for inviting me to this, your Diamond Anniversary luncheon. I congratulate the Institute on the achievements of the last 60 years; your Chairman has with his customary, but quite unwarranted, modesty touched only briefly on these quite remarkable achievements.

Your Institute - The Institute - is a leader in the provision of qualified professional shipbrokers for world chartering markets and agency expertise; and although today you are becoming involved in seemingly far wider and weightier matters, I trust you will never forget that your *raison d'être* is the provision of education and training and the fostering of professional expertise (and as a former Commissioner of the ICAC you would expect me to say this) - importantly integrity. And what a great, inspiring but simple Motto you have "Our Word Our Bond".

It is through the Institute's substantial overseas membership that its standards have come to be accepted as the international yardstick for professional shipbrokers; it is extremely gratifying - but not surprising - to find, not only that Hong Kong as the largest overseas branch of the Institute, but also that the record of Hong Kong students in the Institute's examinations is so outstanding.

/The conception.....

The conception, the birth, the growth to maturity of this remarkable place called Hong Kong have been dominated by our ability to provide a safe haven and efficient, reliable services for trading vessels operating in this part of the world. In the past 30 years we have transformed ourselves from a transshipment port to a major manufacturing centre. Wherever one looks one is reminded that our very existence depends upon the sea and that directly or indirectly, shipping plays a dominant role in the lives of all who live here.

As you have rightly said, Mr Chairman, Hong Kong is no longer just a dot on the map; by value of exports we are amongst the 18 leading traders of the world. In consequence, we have had to develop to the full those facilities which the shipping industry requires. Major container terminals have been built which handle nearly 50 per cent of our imports and exports. Although this percentage may well increase, we shall continue to retain our capacity to deal by traditional methods with the remainder of our cargoes with the skill, speed and economy which have been an outstanding feature of the port for more than 100 years. These facilities and services have been provided largely through the vision and resources of private enterprise, with only gentle guidance from a Government which is reluctant to meddle in matters which are best left to those who both are experienced in them, and willing through professional institutes to ensure the highest standards of operation.

But our success as a port and as a manufacturing centre is due not only to the facilities which we provide and to the quality of the goods which we produce but also to the atmosphere which we have sought to encourage, an atmosphere in which the developer, the trader, the industrialist and the businessman will flourish. He will flourish because he knows that he is wanted here, because he is operating in a community which believes in initiative, in hard work and thinks it right that a man should retain a fair proportion of the fruits of his labour and ingenuity, because he knows that we regard the free movement of capital and goods as essential
/to our

to our growth, because he may feel confident that we shall maintain our free port status and our low tax structure. Above all, he is aware that we believe firmly in the benefits of vigorous trade, free from artificial barriers. For my part I would wish that the businessman will be mindful that much of the success of our **business** - industrialist or trader - forgets that at his, and our peril.

In a world which is seemingly becoming more and more protectionist, Hong Kong's performance over the last decade has once more vindicated our belief in free trade. In a period when the world has been full of doubts and anxieties exacerbated by oil crises, Hong Kong has recorded a sustained high level of growth, illustrated by a 119 per cent increase in cargo handling through the port, from 13.7 million tons at the beginning of the seventies to almost 30 million tons today.

As we enter the eighties the future looks brighter for the shipping industry than it did just a year ago. Freight rates for bulk carriers have improved, laid-up tonnage has gone down and second-hand prices have risen. And locally, it is now clear that the Chinese Government sees Hong Kong as playing an important part in its modernisation and economic development programmes. The challenge is there and I am sure that you ladies and gentlemen of the shipbroking profession, are well prepared to play your vital role in meeting it. The pressure of competition will be there too: and it was therefore most encouraging to me Mr Chairman to hear you say that, as you move into the eighties, it will be your duty to set the example and to enforce the policy "Ethics must come first". There can be no doubt that honest business is good business.

/Ladies and

Ladies and Gentleman the "back of the envelope" has long since passed: I know that the Institute's well established history and tradition of initiative and energy, professionalism and integrity will stand you in good stead in the future: I know beyond doubt that you are well equipped to deal with, and overcome, the many problems which will undoubtedly arise in the years to come: I wish you all success and happiness in the future.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

.... Toast: "The Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers".