DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1980

CONTENTS PAGE NO.

GREEN LIGHT FOR MTR ISLAND LINE 1

LEASE ENFORCEMENT ACTION TO BE TAKEN IN TUEN MUN NEW TOWN ... 3

AMENDMENTS TO TRADE CLASSIFICATION LIST 4

NEW FACILITIES FOR TRAINING OF MENTALLY RETARDED 5

REMINDER ON EMPLOYEE IDENTITY RECORDS 6

HOLIDAY OPENING HOURS 7

GREEN LIGHT FOR MTR ISLAND LINE

* * * * * *

THE GOVERNMENT HAS GIVEN THE GO-AHEAD FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE ISLAND LINE OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY BETWEEN WESTERN MARKET AND CHAI WAN AS PART OF A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY TO MEET THE CURRENT AND GROWING DEMAND FOR PUBLIC PASSENGER TRANSPORT IN THE ISLAND CORRIDOR, SUBJECT TO THE NECESSARY FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS BEING SATISFACTORILY RESOLVED.

ANNOUNCING THE DECISION TODAY, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE INTENTION WAS TO COMPLETE THE SECTION FROM ADMIRALTY STATION TO CHAI WAN BY MID-1985 AND FROM WESTERN MARKET TO ADMIRALTY BY THE END OF 1986. +A FURTHER WESTWARD EXTENSION TO KENNEDY TOWN WOULD BE CONSTRUCTED AS AND WHEN DEMAND REQUIRED AND FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS PERMITTED,+ HE SAID.

THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE WAS CONSULTED ABOUT THE PROPOSED STRATEGY AND HAS AGREED THAT THE ISLAND LINE WOULD CERTAINLY BE REQUIRED BY THE LATE 1980'S.

THERE WILL BE 13 STATIONS ON THE LINE (EXCLUDING THE KENNEDY TOWN EXTENSION) TO SERVE THE NEEDS OF PEOPLE LIVING AND WORKING ON THE NORTH SIDE OF HONG KONG ISLAND WITH PROVISION FOR AN ADDITIONAL STATION AT FINNIE.

THE UNDERGROUND SECTION OF THE RAILWAY WILL MOSTLY BE BUILT BY THE BORED TUNNEL METHOD WITH STATION CONCOURSES LOCATED IN ADJACENT DEVELOPMENT SITES.

SOME DISRUPTION AND NOISE WOULD BE INEVITABLE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, BUT WITH THE BORED TUNNELLING TECHNIQUE PROPOSED FOR THE ISLAND LINE THE SCALE OF SUCH PROBLEMS WOULD BE CONSIDERABLY LESS THAN THOSE ENCOUNTERED ON EITHER THE MODIFIED INITIAL SYSTEM OR THE TSUEN WAN EXTENSION.

+MOST OF THE PROPOSED WORK SITES WOULD BE OFF-STREET. OF THE REMAINDER ONLY THREE WOULD BE ON MAIN ROADS AND A SMALL NUMBER WOULD BE ON SIDE STREETS. IN ONE OR TWO CASES THERE WILL BE COMPETING REQUIREMENTS OF PEDESTRIANS, TRAFFIC AND CONSTRUCTION VEHICLES,+ THE SPOKESMAN CONTINUED.

ONLY ABOUT 5 500 PEOPLE WOULD REQUIRE REHOUSING, OF WHOM ABOUT 2 400 ARE IN THE CHAI WAN TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA.

+REHOUSING OF THESE PEOPLE WILL BE CARRIED OUT BY THE GOVERNMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

EXPLAINING THE NEED FOR AN MTR ISLAND LINE, THE SPOKESMAN DREW ATTENTION TO THE DETERIORATING TRAFFIC CONDITIONS ALONG THE ISLAND CORRIDOR.

+SURFACE MODES OF TRANSPORT CANNOT BE SUFFICIENT. TRAMS, BUSES AND PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES WILL NOT BY THEMSELVES MEET ALL THE EXPECTED DEMAND FOR THE MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE EVEN IF THEIR SERVICES WERE EXPANDED. THE NEED TO INTRODUCE AN ADDITIONAL UNDERGROUND FACILITY IS VERY CLEAR,+ HE SAID.

/WHEN THE .....

WHEN THE ENTIRE LINE FROM WESTERN MARKET TO CHAI WAN COMES INTO OPERATION IN 1986, THERE WOULD BE AN ESTIMATED 0.6 MILLION BOARDINGS A DAY WHICH WOULD EXPAND TO ABOUT 1.4 MILLION BOARDINGS BY THE LATE 1990'S AND TAKE UP THE ESTIMATED FULL CAPACITY. +THE RAILWAY WOULD PROVIDE A FAST AND EFFICIENT SERVICE FOR MEDIUM AND LONG DISTANCE PASSENGERS AND A BETTER ALTERNATIVE THAN TRAVELLING BY ROAD,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

AS PART OF THE GOVERNMENT'S OVERALL STRATEGY FOR THE ISLAND CORRIDOR, THE SPOKESMAN WENT ON, THE ISLAND LINE MUST BE BUILT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND FOR SEVERAL REASONS BE ENTIRELY COMPLETED BY 1986. +BY 1986,+ HE EXPLAINED, +THE DEMAND FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN THE CORRIDOR WILL BE SUCH THAT THE EXISTING MODES COULD NOT ADEQUATELY COPE.+

+SECONDLY, THE PRESENT WORLD SITUATION FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING CONTRACTORS AND FOR MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING SUPPLIERS, TOGETHER WITH THE FACT THAT A NUMBER OF SPECIALIST INTERNATIONAL CONTRACTORS ARE PRESENTLY HERE IN HONG KONG, FAVOURS AN EARLIER RATHER THAN A LATER START,+ THE SPOKESMAN CONTINUED.

THIRDLY, DELAY WOULD MEAN THAT SOME OF THE SITES REQUIRED FOR CONSTRUCTING THE STATIONS MIGHT NO LONGER BE AVAILABLE.

IN THE SHORT TERM SOMETHING MUST BE DONE TO EASE CONGESTION AND HELP MEET INCREASED DEMAND FOR TRAVEL IN THE CORRIDOR OVER THE NEXT FOUR AND A HALF YEARS BEFORE THE NEW MTR LINE BECOMES OPERATIONAL. DISCUSSIONS WILL BE CONTINUED WITH THE BUS, TRAM AND FERRY COMPANIES TO CONSIDER THE PART THEY WILL PLAY IN THE IMPROVED TRANSPORT FACILITIES BEING PLANNED FOR THE CORRIDOR.

INCREASED BUS CAPACITY WILL BE PROVIDED, IN PART, BY BUS-ONLY LANES AND, IN PART, BY ADDITIONAL BUSES.

MEANWHILE, TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEMES IN THE CORRIDOR ARE ALREADY UNDERWAY, INCLUDING BUS AND TRAM ONLY LANE SCHEMES IN KING'S ROAD, DUE FOR COMPLETION BY THE END OF THIS YEAR AND ANOTHER BUS-ONLY LANE TO BE INTRODUCED IN CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL NEXT YEAR. BY 1983, AN AREA TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM IS PLANNED TO BE IN OPERATION IN THE CORRIDOR TO SPEED UP THE FLOW OF TRAFFIC.

THE GOVERNMENT IS ACCELERATING ITS ROAD PLANS FOR THE CORRIDOR AND NOW EXPECTS TO COMPLETE THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR ROAD TO SHAU KEI WAN BY MID-1985.

+TO LINK THIS FAST SIX, AND IN PART EIGHT, LANE ROAD TO CENTRAL, THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO BUILD AN ELEVATED ROAD ALONG CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL AND GLOUCESTER ROAD BY THE END OF THE DECADE,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE ESTIMATED COST OF BUILDING THE ISLAND LINE, AT 1980 PRICES AND EXCLUDING INTEREST AND OTHER FINANCING CHARGES, IS IN THE ORDER OF $7 000 MILLION, COVERING RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION, COMPENSATION, LAND ACQUISITION AND ADMINISTRATION.

/THE MASS .....

THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION HAS BEEN ASKED TO BUILD AND OPERATE THE ISLAND LINE. IT WILL DEVELOP PROPERTIES ALONG THE ROUTE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PRIVATE COMPANIES OF ITS CHOOSING. THE PROFITS FROM THESE DEVELOPMENTS WILL MAKE A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO THE COST OF THE PROJECT.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT BUILDING THE RAILWAY STRUCTURES WOULD PRESENT AN OPPORTUNITY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SOME OF THE SITES REQUIRED FOR CONSTRUCTION.

+THERE IS SUCH A SIGNIFICANT RAILWAY CONTENT IN ALL THE SITES THAT ONLY THE CORPORATION COULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DEVELOPMENT, IN ORDER TO AVOID INTERFACE PROBLEMS BETWEEN BUILDING THE RAILWAY AND DEVELOPING THE SITES,+ HE SAID.

+IT IS ESTABLISHED GOVERNMENT POLICY TO ALLOW THE MTRC TO DEVELOP SUCH SITES,+ HE ADDED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID A LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM AND OTHER ALTERNATIVES FOR THE CORRIDOR HAD BEEN CAREFULLY EXAMINED, BUT THE STUDIES HAD SHOWN THAT NONE OF THESE SYSTEMS WOULD BE ABLE TO MEET THE PASSENGER DEMAND AND PROVIDE REASONABLE SERVICE IN THE CROWDED TRAFFIC CONDITIONS OF THE CORRIDOR.

+AS SAID EARLIER, SURFACE MODES OF TRANSPORT ALONE ARE NOT ENOUGH. WE MUST GO UNDERGROUND,+ THE SPOKESMAN CONCLUDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

LEASE ENFORCEMENT ACTION TO BE TAKEN IN TUEN MUN NEW TOWN

* * * * * *

THE GOVERNMENT IS TO TAKE TOUGH ACTION AGAINST CASES OF ILLEGAL ADDITIONS AND EXTENSIONS TO BUILDINGS IN TUEN MUN NEW TOWN.

AN ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL UNIT HAS BEEN SET UP IN THE LOCAL DISTRICT OFFICE TO ENFORCE LEASE CONDITIONS.

THE UNIT ALSO AIMS TO CONTROL UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORK ON LEASED LAND AND UNLAWFUL OCCUPATION OF CROWN LAND.

STAFF OF THE UNIT HAVE BEEN CONDUCTING A SURVEY SINCE THE BEGINNING OF NOVEMBER ON THE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM AND IT IS EXPECTED THAT ENFORCEMENT ACTION WILL START IN FEBRUARY.

OF 1 749 DOMESTIC UNITS IN 39 BUILDINGS SURVEYED SO FAR, 424 CASES OF ILLEGAL ALTERATIONS OR ADDITIONS HAVE BEEN FOUND.

A TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID SINCE TUEN MUN NEW TOWN WAS RAPIDLY GROWING IT WAS OPPORTUNE TO ENFORCE CONDITIONS OF GRANT OR LEASE OR ELSE THE PROBLEM COULD BECOME INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO CONTROL.

WAYS TO DEAL WITH THE SITUATION WOULD INCLUDE PHYSICAL DEMOLITION AND CLEARANCE, AND PROSECUTION.

/A JOINT .....

A JOINT OPERATION BY VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS TO DEMOLISH ILLEGAL ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS IN THE NEW TOWN WILL BE CARRIED OUT AFTER WARNING LETTERS HAVE BEEN SENT TO OWNERS AND OCCUPIERS.

THE SPOKESMAN URGED ALL MULTI-STOREY BUILDING RESIDENTS AND OWNERS TO OBSERVE LEASE CONDITIONS IN FUTURE AND TO PUT RIGHT AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE BREACHES WHICH HAVE OCCURRED IN THE PAST.

+THEY CAN APPROACH THE DISTRICT OFFICE IF THEY HAVE QUERIES REGARDING THE MACHINERY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL UNIT,+ HE SAID.

LETTERS HAVE BEEN SENT TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS SEEKING THEIR SUPPORT IN TACKLING THE GROWING PROBLEM.

----0----

AMENDMENTS TO TRADE CLASSIFICATION LIST

******

THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS REMINDS IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS THAT A NUMBER OF AMENDMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE +CLASSIFICATIONS OF COUNTRIES/TERRITORIES AND COMMODITIES+ CONTAINED IN THE HONG KONG IMPORTS AND EXPORTS CLASSIFICATION LIST, REVISED EDITION, JANUARY 1978.

THESE AMENDMENTS WILL BE PUBLISHED IN SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT NO 4 OF THE GAZETTE TO BE ISSUED TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AND WILL COME INTO FORCE ON JANUARY 1, 1981.

TRADE DECLARATIONS FOR SHIPMENTS MADE ON OR AFTER THIS DATE MUST BE COMPLETED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMENDED CLASSIFICATION.

FROM THAT DATE, IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS OF GARMENTS WILL HAVE TO CLASSIFY SILK GARMENTS SEPARATELY ON THE TRADE DECLARATIONS, IN THE SAME WAY AS THEY DO NOW FOR GARMENTS MADE OF COTTON, WOOL OR MAN-MADE FIBRES. IN ADDITION, THERE WILL BE SOME NEW CODES TO COVER FURTHER BREAKDOWNS OF CERTAIN ITEMS OF UNDERGARMENTS AND INFANTS' GARMENTS.

IN VIEW OF THE RAPID DEVELOPMENTS IN THE WATCHES INDUSTRY, THE PRESENT CLASSIFICATION FOR ELECTRONIC WATCHES WILL BE REPLACED BY A NEW ONE, SEPARATELY IDENTIFYING DIGITAL, ANALOG AND DIGITAL-ANALOG WATCHES. ON THE OTHER HAND, IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS OF MECHANICAL WATCHES WILL HAVE TO SPECIFY ON THE TRADE DECLARATIONS THE NUMBER OF JEWELS, AND ALSO WHETHER THE WATCHES ARE MADE OF PRECIOUS MATERIALS.

APART FROM THESE EXAMPLES, THERE ARE OTHER AMENDMENTS TO CERTAIN FOOD ITEMS, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS, MACHINERY, TOYS AND GAMES.

COPIES OF THE FULL LIST OF AMENDMENTS MAY BE OBTAINED ON REQUEST, FREE OF CHARGE, AT THE FOLLOWING OFFICES :

/# GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS .....

* GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, HONG KONG-

* TRADE INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT, TRADE DECLARATION RECEIVING COUNTERS, GROUND FLOOR, OCEAN CENTRE, CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON, AND GROUND FLOOR, 46 CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG-

* CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, TRADE CLASSIFICATION SECTION, KAI TAK COMMERCIAL BUILDING, 3RD FLOOR, 317 DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS ARE URGED TO ENSURE THAT THEIR EMPLOYEES RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPLETING TRADE DECLARATIONS ARE AWARE OF THESE AMENDMENTS TO PREVENT DELAYS AND INCONVENIENCE TO THEMSELVES.

ENQUIRIES ON THE AMENDMENTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO MR S.Y. TUNG (TEL. NO. 5-450835), STATISTICIAN OF THE TRADE CLASSIFICATION SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

----0----

NEW FACILITIES FOR TRAINING OF MENTALLY RETARDED

******

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR SELWYN ALLEYNE, TODAY OPENED A TRAINING CENTRE FOR MENTALLY RETARDED ADULTS FOR WHICH THE GOVERNMENT HAD EARMARKED $8.1 MILLION FROM THE LOTTERIES FUND AS CAPITAL AND RECURRENT GRANTS.

THE LAI YIU ADULT TRAINING CENTRE IN KWAI CHUNG IS THE SECOND OF ITS KIND RUN BY THE SOCIETY OF HOMES FOR THE HANDICAPPED. THE FIRST, HING WAH CENTRE, WAS OPENED IN MAY THIS YEAR IN CHAI WAN.

OCCUPYING AN AREA OF 1 820 SQUARE METRES IN LAI YIU ESTATE, THE CENTRE CAN ACCOMMODATE 100 TRAINEES AGED BETWEEN 16 AND 40 — 70 IN THE RESIDENTIAL SECTION AND 30 IN THE DAY CARE SECTION.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, MR ALLEYNE SAID THE REHABILITATION PROGRAMME PLAN HAD SET AMBITIOUS TARGETS TO INCREASE SERVICES FOR THE DISABLED TO HELP INTEGRATE THEM INTO THE COMMUNITY.

IN THE 1979 REVIEW OF THE PLAN, HE SAID, IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT 790 DAY CARE PLACES AND 400 RESIDENTIAL PLACES WOULD BE PROVIDED BY 1984 FOR LOW MODERATE AND SEVERE GRADE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED ADULTS.

THE RESIDENTIAL AND DAY CARE PLACES PROVIDED IN THE NEW CENTRE ARE AN IMPORTANT PART OF THAT PROVISION AND WILL MEET A GENUINE AND URGENT NEED, HE SAID.

/HOWEVER, MR .....

HOWEVER, MR ALLEYNE POINTED OUT, +WE HAVE YET A LONG WAY TO GO IN MEETING OUR PLANNED TARGETS AND THERE IS A CONTINUING NEED TO EXPAND AND IMPROVE FACILITIES AND SERVICES FOR THIS GROUP.+

HE UNDERLINED THE IMPORTANCE OF JOINT EFFORTS BY VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND THE GOVERNMENT IN ACHIEVING THE TARGETS, AND OF THE ROLE THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR MUST PLAY.

HE SAID IT WAS A CREDIT TO THE HARD WORK OF THE SOCIETY THAT, IN LESS THAN A YEAR, TWO RESIDENTIAL CENTRES HAD BEEN BROUGHT INTO OPERATION TO PROVIDE A SERVICE MUCH NEEDED BY THE LESS FORTUNATE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY.

+THE GOVERNMENT IS PLEASED TO HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ASSIST BY PROVIDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM THE LOTTERIES FUND -- IN THIS CASE, $1.88 MILLION AS CAPITAL SUBVENTION, AND FOUR YEARS' RECURRENT GRANT AT $1.56 MILLION PER ANNUM,+ HE SAID.

AT THE CEREMONY, MR ALLEYNE UNVEILED A PLAQUE TO MARK THE OPENING. THE MOST REV BISHOP JOHN BAPTIST WU BLESSED THE CENTRE.

THE CENTRE PROVIDES TRAINING IN BASIC SELF-HELP, SIMPLE HANDICRAFT, WORK HABITS, AS WELL AS SOCIALIZING AND RECREATIONAL PROGRAMMES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

REMINDER ON EMPLOYEE IDENTITY RECORDS

* * * * * *

EMPLOYERS WERE REMINDED TODAY THAT STARTING FROM JANUARY 1, 1981, THEY ARE LIABLE TO PROSECUTION IF THEY FAIL TO KEEP A RECORD OF THEIR EMPLOYEES AS REQUIRED BY THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT POINTED OUT THAT SINCE THIS REQUIREMENT CAME INTO FORCE LAST MONTH THE DEPARTMENT HAD ISSUED WARNING LETTERS, INSTEAD OF RESORTING TO PROSECUTION, TO EMPLOYERS WHO FAILED TO KEEP EMPLOYEE RECORDS OR WHOSE EMPLOYEE RECORDS WERE NOT KEPT IN A PROPER FORMAT.

+EMPLOYERS BY NOW SHOULD BE FAMILIAR WITH THE NEW REQUIREMENT AND SHOULD HAVE MADE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS IN RESPECT OF EMPLOYEE RECORDS. FROM NEXT MONTH ANY EMPLOYER WHO FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE NEW REQUIREMENT IS LIABLE TO PROSECUTION AND TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF $10 000 ON CONVICTION,+ SAID THE SPOKESMAN.

THE SPOKESMAN REITERATED THAT AN EMPLOYEE RECORD SHOULD CONTAIN THE EMPLOYEE'S FULL NAME AS SHOWN ON HIS IDENTITY CARD OR ANY OTHER APPROVED IDENTITY DOCUMENT AND THE TYPE AND NUMBER OF THE DOCUMENT IN QUESTION.

/IF MORE .....

IF MORE THAN 10 EMPLOYEES ARE EMPLOYED, THE RECORD SHOULD BE IN THE FORM OF A LIST. IN THE CASE OF 10 OR LESS EMPLOYEES, THE RECORD CAN BE KEPT ON SEPARATE SHEETS.

THE SPOKESMAN FURTHER STRESSED THAT THE RECORD SHOULD BE KEPT AT THE EMPLOYEES' PLACES OF WORK.

AN EMPLOYER WHO HAS A BRANCH OFFICE SHOULD ALSO KEEP A SEPARATE RECORD AT THAT OFFICE FOR THE EMPLOYEES THERE.

----0----

HOLIDAY OPENING HOURS

* * * *

EIGHT GOVERNMENT OUT-PATIENT CLINICS WILL REMAIN OPEN DURING THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS (DECEMBER 25 AND 26) FROM 9 AM TO 1 PM. THEY ARE:

* VIOLET PEEL POLYCLINIC	HONG KONG
* SHAU KEI WAN JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC	
* KWUN TONG JOCKEY CLUB HEALTH CENTRE	KOWLOON
* YAU MA TEI JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC	
* ROBERT BLACK HEALTH CENTRE	
* LADY TRENCH POLYCLINIC, TSUEN WAN	NEW TERRITORIES
* YUEN LONG JOCKEY CLUB HEALTH CENTRE	
* SHEK WU HUI JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC	

OTHER OUT-PATIENT CLINICS AND EVENING CLINICS WILL BE CLOSED.

MEANWHILE, THE MARINE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT ITS OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED DURING THE HOLIDAYS. EXCEPTIONS ARE ITS:

* PUBLIC CARGO WORKING AREAS AT WAN CHAI, YAU MA TEI, KWUN TONG AND TSUEN WAN=

* PORT COMMUNICATION CENTRE=

* MACAU FERRY TERMINAL UNIT OFFICES, WHICH WILL BE OPEN FROM 7.30 AM TO 1.30 AM THROUGHOUT THE HOLIDAYS= AND

* VICTORIA SMALL CRAFT LICENSING OFFICE, WHICH WILL BE OPEN FROM 9 AM TO 11 AM ON FRIDAY (DECEMBER 26).

----0----