



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

THURSDAY, JULY 4, 1985

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
GOVERNOR LEAVES FOR UK	1
SIR DAVID SWORN IN	1
+UNFAIR FOR BOAT BRIDES TO JUMP QUEUE+	1
DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES' REGISTRATION REVOKED	3
REGISTRATION REVOKED	5
NEW ORIGIN RULES PROMPT SPECIALISED KNITWEAR TRAINING	5
MAY MONETARY STATISTICS RELEASED	6
REPORT ON SHIPPING OUT	8
TURKISH PM ON VISIT	10
OVERSEAS TRAINING VISITS GET APPROVAL	11
DEPARTMENT TO RUN NEW-TYPE HOUSING	11
ROOFTOP STRUCTURES TO BE CLOSED	13
PROVISIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS VISIT BOARD	13
CONTRACTS AWARDED FOR ROADS, DRAINAGE WORKS	14
PRIZES FOR BOOKMARK DESIGN WINNERS	14
YUEN LONG TREAT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE	15
NEW AMBULANCE DEPOT FOR TSING YI	16

THURSDAY, JULY 4, 1985

- 1 -

GOVERNOR LEAVES FOR UK
* * * *

THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, LEFT FOR LONDON ON LEAVE TONIGHT (THURSDAY).

HE WAS SEEN OFF AT THE AIRPORT BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, THE SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, SIR S.Y. CHUNG, AND THE SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, SIR ROGER LOBO.

WHILE IN LONDON, SIR EDWARD WILL TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET MINISTERS FOR CONSULTATION ON HONG KONG AFFAIRS.

HE IS EXPECTED TO RETURN TO HONG KONG IN MID-AUGUST.

- - - - 0 - - - -

SIR DAVID SWORN IN
* * *

THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, WAS SWORN IN AS ACTING GOVERNOR THIS (THURSDAY) EVENING.

THE OATHS WERE ADMINISTERED BY THE ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE, SIR ALAN HUGGINS, IN THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER.

THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, WILL DEPART HONG KONG LATER TONIGHT ON LEAVE AND IS EXPECTED TO RETURN IN MID-AUGUST.

- - - - 0 - - - -

+UNFAIR FOR BOAT BRIDES TO JUMP QUEUE+
* * * * *

TO ALLOW A SMALL GROUP OF +BOAT BRIDES+ TO JUMP THE QUEUE AND SETTLE IN HONG KONG WOULD NOT ONLY SET A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT, BUT WOULD ALSO BE GROSSLY UNFAIR TO THE VAST MAJORITY WHO ARE WAITING PATIENTLY IN CHINA FOR ONE-WAY PERMITS, THE ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION, MR JOHN YEUNG, SAID THIS (THURSDAY) MORNING.

THERE WAS AN ESTIMATED QUEUE IN CHINA WHICH COULD BE AS LONG AS 180 000 OR EVEN UP TO 200 000 PEOPLE WAITING TO COME TO HONG KONG LEGALLY THROUGH THE ONE-WAY PERMIT SYSTEM, HE SAID.

MR YEUNG WAS SPEAKING ON RTHK'S +OPEN LINE+ OVER THE ISSUE OF THE 14 +BOAT BRIDES+ WHO HAD BEEN ASKED TO LEAVE HONG KONG BECAUSE THEY HAD BREACHED THEIR CONDITIONS OF STAY.

/+WHAT WE

+WHAT WE ARE NOW ASKING THESE BOAT BRIDES TO DO IS TO RETURN TO THE PLACE FROM WHERE THEY CAME AND APPLY TO COME TO HONG KONG LEGALLY,+ HE SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT STATISTICS COMPILED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT IN 1983-84 SHOWED THAT ABOUT 60 PER CENT OF ALL PEOPLE WHO CAME TO HONG KONG ON ONE-WAY PERMITS WERE WIVES AND CHILDREN -- SOME 30 PER CENT WIVES AND 30 PER CENT CHILDREN.

+THAT MEANS ABOUT 8 000 WIVES COME IN EACH YEAR UNDER THE ONE-WAY PERMIT SCHEME.+

HE SAID IT HAD BEEN MADE VERY CLEAR TO FISHERMEN AND THEIR ASSOCIATIONS THAT ARRANGEMENTS UNDER WHICH +BOAT BRIDES+ WERE TOLERATED IN HONG KONG WATERS ONLY APPLIED TO FISHERMEN.

+IF THEY WERE NOT FISHERMEN, THEY SHOULD FOLLOW THE PROPER PROCEDURES,+ HE SAID.

+IN FACT I THINK FISHERMEN'S WIVES ARE IN A SLIGHTLY BETTER POSITION THAN WIVES OF OTHER PEOPLE IN THAT IF THEY HAD APPLIED FOR ONE-WAY PERMITS DURING THE TIME THEY WERE FISHERMEN, THEY COULD IN FACT BE STAYING WITH THEIR HUSBANDS ALL THE TIME UNTIL THE PERMIT IS ISSUED; AND THEY COULD IN FACT COME TO HONG KONG EVEN WITHOUT A TWO-WAY PERMIT, WHICH IS REQUIRED BY WIVES OF OTHER HONG KONG RESIDENTS,+ HE SAID.

MR YEUNG SAID HE DID NOT THINK REPORTS THAT THE 14 +BOAT BRIDES+ HAVE HAD THEIR NAMES STRUCK OFF THE PROVINCIAL REGISTER IN CHINA WERE ACCURATE.

+IT HAS BEEN A LONG STANDING PRACTICE FOR HONG KONG TO REPATRIATE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS TO CHINA. SOME OF THESE MIGHT HAVE BEEN HERE FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS.

+THEY HAVE ALL BEEN ACCEPTED BACK READILY AND AS A MATTER OF FACT, SIX BOAT WIVES WHO VIOLATED THEIR CONDITIONS OF REMAINING IN HONG KONG WATERS WERE ALSO REPATRIATED TO CHINA EARLY THIS YEAR.

+THEY WERE ALSO READILY ACCEPTED BACK.+

COMMENTING ON REPORTS THAT MARRIAGE TO FOREIGNERS MAY CAUSE A WOMAN'S NAME TO BE DELETED FROM THE REGISTER, MR YEUNG SAID HE AGAIN DID NOT BELIEVE THEY WERE ACCURATE.

+BECAUSE THERE ARE OTHER WIVES IN CHINA -- WE ESTIMATE THE NUMBER IS ABOUT 80 000.

+HONG KONG RESIDENTS CONTINUE TO GET MARRIED IN CHINA AS EVIDENCED BY THE FACT THAT WE ISSUE ABOUT 15 000 CERTIFICATES OF ABSENCE OF MARRIAGE IN HONG KONG PER YEAR.

/+IF ALL

+IF ALL THESE WIVES ARE WAITING PATIENTLY IN CHINA FOR ONE-WAY PERMITS, THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT THEY HAVE BEEN STRUCK OFF THEIR REGISTRATION OR WHATEVER THE TERM IS AFTER THEIR MARRIAGE.+

MR YEUNG SAID HE COULD NOT SAY HOW LONG IT TOOK FOR SOMEONE TO GET A ONE-WAY PERMIT.

+BUT WE HAVE INFORMATION THAT THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE OBTAINING ONE-WAY PERMITS IN A FEW MONTHS, SOME PEOPLE OBTAINING IT IN A FEW YEARS.

+I CAN ONLY SAY THAT THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES MUST BE EXAMINING EACH CASE ON ITS MERITS AND GRANTING THE PRIORITY THAT THE CASE IS DUE,+ HE SAID.

EXPLAINING THE BACKGROUND OF THE +BOAT BRIDE+ ISSUE, MR YEUNG SAID THE GOVERNMENT RECOGNISED SEVERAL YEARS AGO THAT BECAUSE OF THE SPECIAL NATURE OF THE JOBS OF FISHERMEN -- THERE WAS A PRACTICAL NEED FOR THEM TO PLY FREQUENTLY BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINA AND THERE WERE DIFFICULTIES IN POLICING THE ENTRY AND EXIT OF THEIR BOATS -- THE PRESENCE OF THESE +BOAT BRIDES+ WERE TOLERATED IN HONG KONG WATERS AS LONG AS THEY WERE ENGAGED IN FISHING AND AS LONG AS THEY DID NOT COME ASHORE.

HE SAID THEY WERE TREATED AS THE CREW OF THE FISHING BOATS.

+ALTHOUGH THEY DO NOT HAVE TRAVEL DOCUMENTS, WE ALLOW THEM TO COME IN AND WORK ON THE BOATS.

+THIS IS NORMAL PRACTICE ON HOW WE TREAT CREW MEMBERS FROM EVEN OCEAN-GOING VESSELS.

+CREW MEMBERS WHO HAVE TRAVEL DOCUMENTS WHICH QUALIFY THEM FOR LANDING WILL BE LANDED ACCORDING TO THEIR DOCUMENTS.

+THOSE WHO DO NOT HAVE VALID TRAVEL DOCUMENTS FOR HONG KONG WILL BE CONFINED ON BOARD AND WILL HAVE TO LEAVE WHEN THE VESSELS LEAVE,+ HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES' REGISTRATION REVOKED
* * * * *

THE COMMISSIONER OF DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES HAS REVOKED THE REGISTRATION OF 14 DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES WHICH HAD EFFECTIVELY CEASED BUSINESS AND HAD STOPPED TAKING ANY DEPOSITS.

THE COMMISSIONER'S ACTION WAS TAKEN IN THE COURSE OF A REVIEW INTO THE OPERATION OF DTCS IN HONG KONG TO ENSURE THAT THEY COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ORDINANCE.

SECTION 14(1) OF THE ORDINANCE PROVIDES THAT THE COMMISSIONER MAY REVOKE THE REGISTRATION OF A REGISTERED DTC IF THE COMPANY HAS CEASED TO CARRY ON A BUSINESS OF TAKING DEPOSITS.

PRIOR TO REVOCATION, THE COMMISSIONER CONSULTED THE BANKING AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ADVISORY COMMITTEES. BOTH COMMITTEES SUPPORTED THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE COMMISSIONER.

THE COMMISSIONER IS NOT ALLOWED UNDER THE LAW TO DISCLOSE THE AMOUNT OF DEPOSITS HELD BY EACH OF THE 14 COMPANIES, BUT HE HAS CONFIRMED THAT THE TOTAL WAS QUITE SMALL, AMOUNTING TO ABOUT SIX MILLION DOLLARS. IN ANY EVENT UNDER THE TERMS OF THE ORDINANCE THE COMPANIES MAY CONTINUE TO HOLD UNTIL MATURITY ANY DEPOSITS TAKEN PRIOR TO REVOCATION.

THE COMMISSIONER SAID THAT THE REVOCATION WOULD NOT HAVE ANY EFFECT WHATSOEVER ON THE OPERATION OF THE DEPOSIT-TAKING BUSINESS IN HONG KONG, HAVING REGARD TO THE FACT THAT THE COMPANIES WHOSE REGISTRATION HAS BEEN REVOKED HAD CEASED TO CARRY ON BUSINESS.

A NOTICE OF REVOCATION WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE. A SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE COMPANIES INVOLVED ARE AS FOLLOWS:-

FOREST OCEAN FINANCE LIMITED

KIAN NAN FINANCIAL LIMITED

THE GREAT EAGLE FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED

EUROPA FINANCE (INTERNATIONAL) LIMITED

HIND FINANCE AND INDUSTRIES LIMITED

COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE LIMITED

PAN SEAS FINANCE AND INVESTMENT LIMITED

MAN SUN FINANCE (INTERNATIONAL) CORPORATION LIMITED

SHARIKAT SAFETY FINANCE COMPANY (HONG KONG) LIMITED

MULTI-CREDIT FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED

PHILMONT FINANCE AND INVESTMENT COMPANY LIMITED

KING CHONG (FINANCE) LIMITED

CROWN PRINCE FINANCE LIMITED

BEACONS FINANCE LIMITED

THURSDAY, JULY 4, 1985

- 5 -

REGISTRATION REVOKED

* * *

THE COMMISSIONER OF DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ANNOUNCED THAT THE REGISTRATION OF UNIPACIFIC FINANCE (INTERNATIONALE) LIMITED AS A DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY HAS BEEN REVOKED AT ITS OWN REQUEST UNDER SECTION 14(2) OF THE DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ORDINANCE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

NEW ORIGIN RULES PROMPT SPECIALISED KNITWEAR TRAINING

* * * * *

ABOUT 30 TRAINEES ARE NOW RECEIVING SPECIALISED TRAINING IN THE USE OF COMPUTERISED KNITTING MACHINES AT THE TRAINING CENTRE RUN BY THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY AT KOWLOON BAY.

THIS FOLLOWS A RECENT MOVE BY LOCAL MANUFACTURERS TO ACQUIRE A LARGE NUMBER OF AUTOMATIC KNITTING MACHINES TO PRODUCE KNITTED SWEATERS IN HONG KONG WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW U.S. COUNTRY-OF-ORIGIN RULES IN APRIL THIS YEAR.

THESE RULES AFFECT THE IMPORT OF KNITTED PANELS FROM CHINA WHICH WERE MADE UP INTO FINISHED GARMENTS HERE FOR EXPORT.

AS MORE HOME-MADE KNITTED PANELS ARE REQUIRED UNDER THE NEW RULES, THE DEMAND FOR TRAINED WORKERS TO OPERATE THE NEW MACHINES HAS INCREASED.

IN RESPONSE TO THE URGENT NEED FOR TRAINING IN THE USE OF THESE MACHINES, THE AUTHORITY HAS ACQUIRED A MACHINE FROM THE JAPANESE SHIMA SEIKI MANUFACTURING COMPANY LIMITED ON LOAN, FREE OF CHARGE, TO TRAIN LOCAL WORKERS, THE CENTRE'S MANAGER, MR CHING LICK-SUN, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

MR CHING SAID THAT TRAINING IN THE USE OF THE NEW MACHINE WAS ACTUALLY SUPPLEMENTARY TO THE TRAINING FOR THOSE ALREADY TAKING COURSES IN KNITWEAR PROCESSING AND POWER-FLAT KNITTING.

HE SAID THE DEMAND FOR LOCAL WORKERS IN THE KNITWEAR INDUSTRY HAD FLUCTUATED DURING THE PAST FEW YEARS BECAUSE A NUMBER OF MANUFACTURERS HAD MOVED THEIR PRODUCTION LINES FOR KNITTED PANELS TO CHINA.

+TIMES HAVE CHANGED AS A RESULT OF THE NEW U.S. ORIGIN RULES AND THE JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNGSTERS WHO WISH TO WORK IN THE KNITWEAR INDUSTRY HAVE GREATLY IMPROVED,+ MR CHING SAID.

IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR, IT WAS REPORTED THAT SOME 300 MACHINES HAD BEEN ORDERED BY THE LOCAL KNITTERS AND IT IS ESTIMATED THAT BY THE END OF THIS YEAR THE NUMBER OF UNITS INSTALLED WOULD INCREASE TO 600.

- - - - 0 - - - -

THURSDAY, JULY 4, 1985

- 6 -

MAY MONETARY STATISTICS RELEASED

* * * * *

BOTH HONG KONG DOLLAR AND FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS CONTINUED TO INCREASE IN MAY, ACCORDING TO MONETARY STATISTICS PUBLISHED TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE INCREASE IN FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS WAS MORE RAPID, AS SOME DEPOSITORS TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE STRENGTH OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR AND THE HIGHER INTEREST RATES FOR THE U.S. DOLLAR TO SWITCH FROM HONG KONG DOLLARS TO U.S. DOLLARS. THE INCREASE IN FOREIGN CURRENCY SWAP DEPOSITS SLOWED DOWN DURING THE MONTH.

MONEY SUPPLY ON ALL DEFINITIONS INCREASED FURTHER, WITH THE HONG KONG DOLLAR COMPONENTS SHOWING SLOWER GROWTH.

LOANS TO FINANCE VISIBLE TRADE OF HONG KONG FELL IN MAY, AFTER RISING SIGNIFICANTLY IN THE PREVIOUS THREE MONTHS. OTHER LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG SHOWED SOME INCREASE.

DEPOSITS

HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS ROSE BY 1.3 PER CENT IN MAY, FOLLOWING A RISE OF 1.2 PER CENT IN APRIL. THESE DEPOSITS INCREASED BY 3.9 PER CENT IN THE THREE MONTHS TO MAY, AND BY 22.2 PER CENT OVER THE 12 MONTHS. FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS GREW BY 2.5 PER CENT IN MAY, COMPARED WITH 1.2 PER CENT IN APRIL. THESE DEPOSITS WERE 8.7 PER CENT HIGHER IN THE THREE MONTHS TO MAY AND 20.4 PER CENT HIGHER OVER THE 12 MONTHS.

FOREIGN CURRENCY SWAP DEPOSITS GREW BY A RELATIVELY SLOW RATE OF 0.5 PER CENT IN MAY, TO \$25.2 BILLION AT THE END OF MAY. ADJUSTED TO INCLUDE THESE DEPOSITS, HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS GREW BY 1.2 PER CENT IN MAY AND 4.4 PER CENT OVER THE THREE MONTHS TO MAY. FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS, ON THE OTHER HAND, GREW BY 2.8 PER CENT IN MAY AND 8.8 PER CENT OVER THE THREE MONTHS TO MAY.

TOTAL DEPOSITS WITH BANKS ROSE BY 2.3 PER CENT IN MAY, COMPARED WITH 1.3 PER CENT IN APRIL WHILE TOTAL DEPOSITS WITH DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES WERE VIRTUALLY UNCHANGED AFTER A MODEST INCREASE OF 0.5 PER CENT IN APRIL.

OVER THE THREE MONTHS TO MAY, THE GROWTH RATE OF TOTAL DEPOSITS WITH BANKS, AT 6.5 PER CENT, WAS HIGHER THAN THAT WITH DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES, AT 5.0 PER CENT.

HONG KONG DOLLAR MONEY SUPPLY

THE HONG KONG DOLLAR MONEY SUPPLY ON THE NARROWEST DEFINITION, HK\$M1, ROSE BY 2.0 PER CENT IN MAY, AFTER FALLING MARGINALLY BY 0.2 PER CENT IN APRIL. ON THE BROADER DEFINITIONS, HK\$M2 AND HK\$M3 ROSE BY 1.4 PER CENT AND 1.3 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

/THE CORRESPONDING

THE CORRESPONDING INCREASES IN APRIL WERE 0.9 PER CENT AND 1.0 PER CENT.

OVER THE THREE MONTHS, HK\$M1 FELL BY 4.0 PER CENT WHILE HK\$M2 AND HK\$M3 ROSE BY 2.4 PER CENT AND 3.0 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. OVER THE 12 MONTHS THE CORRESPONDING INCREASES WERE 23.9 PER CENT, 24.7 PER CENT AND 21.7 PER CENT.

THE GROWTH RATES OF HK\$M2 AND HK\$M3 AFTER ADJUSTING FOR SWAP DEPOSITS WERE 1.3 PER CENT AND 1.2 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN MAY, AND 3.0 PER CENT AND 3.5 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY FOR THE THREE MONTHS TO MAY.

TOTAL MONEY SUPPLY

TOTAL MONEY SUPPLY ON ALL DEFINITIONS CONTINUED TO INCREASE. TOTAL M1 ROSE BY 2.4 PER CENT, TOTAL M2 BY 2.2 PER CENT AND TOTAL M3 BY 1.8 PER CENT. THE CORRESPONDING GROWTH RATES IN APRIL WERE 0.2 PER CENT, 1.2 PER CENT AND 1.0 PER CENT.

IN THE THREE MONTHS TO MAY, TOTAL M1 FELL BY 3.7 PER CENT WHILE TOTAL M2 AND TOTAL M3 INCREASED BY 5.5 PER CENT AND 5.4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. OVER THE 12 MONTHS, THE GROWTH RATES WERE 24.4 PER CENT, 22.6 PER CENT AND 21.2 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

LOANS AND ADVANCES

LOANS AND ADVANCES EXTENDED BY BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES CONTINUED TO REGISTER SOME INCREASE, BY 0.9 PER CENT IN MAY AFTER A RISE OF 0.5 PER CENT IN THE PREVIOUS MONTH. OVER THE THREE MONTHS TO MAY, THESE GREW BY 2.1 PER CENT AND OVER THE 12 MONTHS BY 7.1 PER CENT.

WITHIN THE TOTAL, LOANS TO FINANCE VISIBLE TRADE FELL BY 2.0 PER CENT, AFTER A RISE OF 3.7 PER CENT IN APRIL. OVER THE THREE MONTHS TO MAY, THESE GREW BY 4.3 PER CENT BUT ONLY BY 1.9 PER CENT OVER THE 12 MONTHS, LARGELY REFLECTING DECREASES IN THE SECOND HALF OF 1984.

OTHER LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG ROSE BY 0.7 PER CENT IN MAY FOLLOWING A 0.9 PER CENT RISE IN APRIL. OVER THE THREE MONTHS TO MAY, THEY ROSE BY 1.6 PER CENT AND OVER THE 12 MONTHS BY 7.5 PER CENT. ABOUT 83 PER CENT OF THESE LOANS WERE DENOMINATED IN HONG KONG DOLLARS.

REFLECTING RELATIVELY LOW HONG KONG DOLLAR LENDING RATES, THERE WAS IN MAY A SWITCH FROM FOREIGN CURRENCY LENDING TO HONG KONG DOLLAR LENDING. THOSE OTHER LOANS DENOMINATED IN HONG KONG DOLLARS INCREASED IN MAY BY 1.9 PER CENT WHILE THOSE DENOMINATED IN FOREIGN CURRENCIES FELL BY 4.7 PER CENT.

FOREIGN CURRENCY ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

THE SPOT FOREIGN CURRENCY POSITION OF THE MONETARY SECTOR SHOWED A FURTHER DECREASE IN NET ASSETS FROM \$5.9 BILLION AT THE END OF APRIL, TO \$4.5 BILLION AT THE END OF MAY.

SIMILAR STATISTICS COLLECTED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES (ON THE BASIS OF SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT DEFINITIONS) SHOWED A SUBSTANTIAL DECREASE IN NET SPOT FOREIGN CURRENCY ASSETS OF \$3.1 BILLION TO \$0.7 BILLION. NET FORWARD FOREIGN CURRENCY ASSETS, HOWEVER, ROSE BY \$2.1 BILLION TO \$26.2 BILLION OVER THE SAME PERIOD.

LIQUIDITY RATIO

THE AVERAGE LIQUIDITY RATIO (AS DEFINED IN S. 18 OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE) FOR ALL BANKS WAS SLIGHTLY LOWER, AT 49.3 PER CENT IN MAY, COMPARED WITH 49.7 PER CENT IN THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

THE AVERAGE LIQUIDITY RATIO (AS DEFINED IN S. 24A OF THE DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ORDINANCE) FOR ALL DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES WAS HIGHER, AT 45.1 PER CENT, COMPARED WITH 44.7 PER CENT A MONTH EARLIER.

NUMBER OF REPORTING INSTITUTIONS

THE NUMBER OF OPERATING LICENSED BANKS AND THE NUMBER OF OPERATING LICENSED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES REMAINED UNCHANGED AT 140 AND 33 RESPECTIVELY. THE NUMBER OF REPORTING REGISTERED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ROSE BY 1 TO 307.

- - - - 0 - - - -

REPORT ON SHIPPING OUT

* * *

LAST YEAR, 11 695 SHIPS WITH A TOTAL CAPACITY OF 68.7 MILLION NRT (NET REGISTERED TONNAGE) ARRIVED IN HONG KONG, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 500 OR 0.8 PER CENT IN CAPACITY OVER 1983, ACCORDING TO THE 1984 ANNUAL REPORT ON +HONG KONG SHIPPING STATISTICS+ PUBLISHED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CARGO DISCHARGED IN HONG KONG FROM INCOMING SHIPS OVER THE SAME PERIOD, INCREASED BY 7 PER CENT AND THE NUMBER OF CONTAINERS (MEASURED IN TEUS) DISCHARGED IN HONG KONG INCREASED BY 12 PER CENT.

WHEN ANALYSED BY SHIP TYPE, NOTABLE INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE NUMBER OF CONTAINER VESSELS (+261), ROLL-ON/ROLL-OFF VESSELS (+138) AND SEMI-CONTAINER VESSELS (+133), WHILE THERE WAS A SIGNIFICANT DROP IN THE NUMBER OF CONVENTIONAL CARGO VESSELS (-388).

INCREASES IN NUMBER WERE NOTED FOR SHIPS REGISTERED IN CHINA (+250), IN PANAMA (+149) AND IN TAIWAN (+119), BUT DECLINES WERE RECORDED FOR LIBERIAN SHIPS (-113) AND SINGAPOREAN SHIPS (-78). THE NUMBER OF SHIPS WITH CAPACITY UNDER 10 000 DWT INCREASED (+524).

LAST YEAR, THERE WERE 11 716 DEPARTING SHIPS, WITH A TOTAL CAPACITY OF 68.8 MILLION NRT, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 514 IN NUMBER AND ONE PER CENT IN CAPACITY OVER 1983.

THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CARGO LOADED ONTO OUTGOING SHIPS ROSE BY 15 PER CENT, AND THE NUMBER OF CONTAINERS (MEASURED IN TEUS) LOADED IN HONG KONG ALSO ROSE BY 15 PER CENT. ABOUT 65 PER CENT OF THE DEPARTING VESSELS HAD STAYED IN HONG KONG FOR LESS THAN TWO DAYS.

BASED ON INFORMATION EXTRACTED FROM OCEAN CARGO MANIFESTS, 89 PER CENT IN TERMS OF GROSS WEIGHT OF THE INWARD SEABORNE CARGO WAS IMPORTS AND 11 PER CENT WAS FOR TRANSHIPMENT.

OF THE OUTWARD SEABORNE CARGO, 60 PER CENT WAS EXPORTS (INCLUDING RE-EXPORTS) AND 40 PER CENT WAS FOR TRANSHIPMENT.

THE MAJOR COUNTRIES OF LOADING FOR SEABORNE IMPORTS WERE JAPAN (20 PER CENT IN TERMS OF GROSS WEIGHT), SINGAPORE (16 PER CENT) AND CHINA (13 PER CENT), AND THE MAJOR COUNTRIES OF DISCHARGE FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS WERE THE U.S. (22 PER CENT), TAIWAN (13 PER CENT) AND CHINA (11 PER CENT).

TRANSHIPMENT CARGO WAS MAINLY LOADED FROM CHINA (30 PER CENT) AND THE U.S. (26 PER CENT), AND TRANSHIPPED TO THE U.S. (17 PER CENT) AND CHINA (9 PER CENT).

COMPARING LAST YEAR WITH 1983, THERE WAS A SLIGHT INCREASE IN THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF SEABORNE IMPORTS (+8 PER CENT). SMALL INCREASES WERE REGISTERED IN IMPORTS FROM JAPAN (+7 PER CENT) AND SINGAPORE (+3 PER CENT), WHILE IMPORTS FROM CHINA DROPPED (-8 PER CENT).

AMONG THE PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES, INCREASES IN TONNAGE WERE RECORDED IN THE IMPORTS OF CHEMICAL MATERIALS AND PRODUCTS, N.E.S. (+64 PER CENT); INORGANIC CHEMICALS (+49 PER CENT); AND PAPER, PAPERBOARD AND ARTICLES OF PAPER PULP, OF PAPER OR OF PAPERBOARD (+35 PER CENT). SEABORNE IMPORTS OF VEGETABLES AND FRUIT, HOWEVER, DROPPED BY 12 PER CENT.

/OVER THE

THURSDAY, JULY 4, 1985

- 10 -

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, SEABORNE EXPORTS TO MOST COUNTRIES INCREASED IN TERMS OF TONNAGE; WITH THE MAIN INCREASE RECORDED IN EXPORTS TO CHINA (+286 PER CENT). HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED IN EXPORTS TO THE PHILIPPINES (-26 PER CENT) AND SINGAPORE (-5 PER CENT).

AMONG THE PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES, SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE RECORDED FOR INORGANIC CHEMICALS (+163 PER CENT), MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, N.E.S. (+60 PER CENT) AND TOYS (+43 PER CENT), WHILE EXPORTS OF CANNED FOOD DROPPED (-21 PER CENT).

SHIPPING STATISTICS ARE COMPILED PRIMARILY FROM GENERAL DECLARATIONS SUBMITTED TO THE MARINE DEPARTMENT BY SHIPOWNERS OR AUTHORISED SHIPPING AGENTS, AND COVER ALL OCEAN-GOING VESSELS ENTERING AND LEAVING HONG KONG, EXCLUDING YACHTS AND PLEASURE CRAFT.

PORT AND CARGO STATISTICS ARE COMPILED FROM OCEAN CARGO MANIFESTS SUPPLIED BY SHIPPING COMPANIES OR AGENTS TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT. BECAUSE OF RESOURCE CONSTRAINTS, A SAMPLE OF ALL CONSIGNMENTS LISTED IN THE MANIFESTS IS USED FOR COMPILING THE STATISTICS. THE SAMPLING METHODS IS DESCRIBED IN THE EXPLANATORY NOTES OF THE REPORT.

MORE DETAILS ARE CONTAINED IN THE +HONG KONG SHIPPING STATISTICS, 1984+ WHICH IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATION CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, AT \$19 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE SHIPPING STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, AT 5-452701 OR 5-455422.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TURKISH PM ON VISIT

* * * *

THE PRIME MINISTER OF TURKEY, MR TURGUT OZAL, AND HIS WIFE WILL VISIT HONG KONG BETWEEN JULY 5 AND 7 FOLLOWING THEIR OFFICIAL VISIT TO CHINA.

PHOTOGRAPHIC FACILITIES HAVE BEEN ARRANGED FOR THE PRESS TO COVER THEIR ARRIVAL AT TAI KOK TSUI PIER AT 4 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THERE WILL BE A FIXED PRESS POSITION INSIDE THE RESTRICTED AREA OF THE PIER.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/11

- 11 -

OVERSEAS TRAINING VISITS GET APPROVAL
* * * *

THE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED OVERSEAS VISITS BY VARIOUS AMENITIES GRADE STAFF TO ATTEND TRAINING COURSES THAT WILL GREATLY ENHANCE THEIR SKILLS.

ONE AMENITIES OFFICER WILL BE SENT TO CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA, TO ATTEND THE 10-MONTH GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN RECREATION COURSE.

ANOTHER AMENITIES OFFICER WILL GO TO BRITAIN TO TAKE PART IN THE ADVANCED NATIONAL CERTIFICATE IN HORTICULTURE COURSE WITH POST-COURSE STUDIES IN HORTICULTURAL TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT. THIS WILL ALSO INVOLVE ABOUT 10 MONTHS' OVERSEAS TRAINING.

FOUR AMENITIES ASSISTANTS WILL BE SENT TO BRITAIN TO TAKE PART IN OTHER COURSES AS FOLLOWS:

- + ONE TO THE NATIONAL CERTIFICATE IN HORTICULTURE (NURSERY PRACTICE) COURSE WITH POST-COURSE STUDIES IN COMMERCIAL NURSERIES.
- + TWO TO THE NATIONAL CERTIFICATE IN HORTICULTURE (LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION) COURSE WITH POST-COURSE STUDIES IN LANDSCAPE GARDENS.
- + ONE ON A 12-MONTH TRAINING ATTACHMENT TO VARIOUS ZOOS.

ATTENDANCE AT THESE OVERSEAS TRAINING COURSES WAS AGREED AT THE LAST MEETINGS OF THE RECREATION, ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE SELECT COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL.

- - - - 0 - - - -

DEPARTMENT TO RUN NEW-TYPE HOUSING
* * * *

THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT WILL RUN A NEW TYPE OF HOUSING WITH WARDEN SERVICE FOR ABLE-BODIED ELDERLY PEOPLE IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

THIS WAS DECIDED TODAY AT A MEETING OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY.

MEMBERS OF THE AUTHORITY AGREED THAT THE AUTHORITY COULD ASSUME MORE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE HOUSING OF ABLE-BODIED ELDERLY PERSONS, THUS ENABLING THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND THE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES TO DEVOTE THEIR VALUABLE EXPERTISE AND RESOURCES TO THE CARE OF THOSE ELDERLY PERSONS WHO REQUIRE MORE INTENSIVE CARE AND ATTENTION SERVICE.

/+IN FUTURE,

+IN FUTURE, THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT WOULD TAKE OVER THE RUNNING OF THE HOSTEL TYPE OF ACCOMMODATION NOW NORMALLY PROVIDED ON HOUSING ESTATES,+ A HOUSING SPOKESMAN SAID.

IN ADDITION, HE SAID A NEW TYPE OF SHELTERED HOUSING WOULD BE BUILT TO MEET THE SHORTFALL OF HOUSING FOR ELDERLY.

+IN THIS WAY A VARIETY OF TYPES OF HOUSING, RANGING FROM SINGLE AND SHARED UNITS TO SHELTERED HOUSING AND HOSTELS, WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR LETTING TO ELDERLY PERSONS ACCORDING TO THEIR CHOICE.

+THE SCALE OF PROVISION WOULD BE ONE GROUP OF SHELTERED HOUSING IN A NEW ESTATE WITH MORE THAN 3 000 FLATS.

+EACH GROUP WOULD HAVE A CAPACITY FOR ABOUT 150 ELDERLY PERSONS, WITH A COMMUNAL RECREATION ROOM.+

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT AS ELDERLY PERSONS LIVING IN SHELTERED HOUSING WOULD GENERALLY BE CAPABLE OF LOOKING AFTER THEMSELVES, ONLY MINIMUM MANAGEMENT CARE WOULD BE PROVIDED, SUCH AS A PANIC ALARM SYSTEM CONNECTED TO A WARDEN.

HE SAID THE ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR SHELTERED HOUSING WOULD BE THE SAME AS FOR ELDERLY PERSONS APPLYING FOR PUBLIC HOUSING.

+CONSIDERATION WILL ALSO BE GIVEN TO CREATE SUCH SHELTERED HOUSING ON EXISTING ESTATES IF SUITABLE ACCOMMODATION WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE.+

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE PROVISION OF SHELTERED HOUSING WOULD BE IN ADDITION TO THE 1 000 SHARED FLATS AND 300 SINGLE-PERSON HOUSING UNITS NOW ALREADY MADE AVAILABLE FOR HOUSING THE ELDERLY EACH YEAR.

+THE SCALE OF THESE PROVISIONS WILL BE REVISED IN THE LIGHT OF THE OVERALL REVIEW ON SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY TO BE CARRIED OUT BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.+

THE SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED THAT IT WAS NOT THE INTENTION THAT THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT WOULD TAKE OVER THE HOSTELS AND HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY AT PRESENT RUN BY VOLUNTARY AGENCIES IN EXISTING ESTATES.

+THESE HOSTELS AND HOMES WILL CONTINUE TO BE OPERATED BY THE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES WHICH ARE PROVIDING VERY GOOD SERVICE TO OUR SENIOR CITIZENS.+

THURSDAY, JULY 4, 1985

- 13 -

ROOFTOP STRUCTURES TO BE CLOSED

* * *

THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING THE CLOSURE OF ILLEGAL STRUCTURES ON THE ROOF OF 58A TO D, YEN CHOW STREET, KOWLOON, TO ENABLE THE DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURES WITHOUT DANGER TO PEOPLE.

THE CLOSURE IS PART OF THE EXERCISE TO ENFORCE THE ORDERS ISSUED UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE ON SEPTEMBER 22, 1984 REQUIRING THE DEMOLITION OF THESE ILLEGAL STRUCTURES.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR CLOSURE ORDERS FROM THE KOWLOON DISTRICT COURT AT 9.30 AM ON AUGUST 5 WAS POSTED ON THE STRUCTURES TODAY (THURSDAY).

DEMOLITION WORK WILL BE CARRIED OUT IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CLOSURE ORDERS ARE MADE.

----- 0 -----

PROVISIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS VISIT BOARD

* * *

THE PROVISION OF A SPORTS GROUND FOR TRACK AND FIELD EVENTS ON LANTAU ISLAND WAS AMONG THE TOPICS DISCUSSED AT AN INFORMAL MEETING THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON BETWEEN MEMBERS OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL AND THE ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD.

THE MEETING WAS HELD DURING A VISIT BY THE COUNCIL MEMBERS, WHO ARE CURRENTLY CALLING ON DISTRICT BOARDS IN THE NON-URBAN AREA FOR DISCUSSIONS OF MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST.

THE MEETING WAS CO-CHAIRED BY MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG, CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL AND MR LAM WAI-KEUNG, CHAIRMAN OF THE ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD.

ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD WAS THE THIRD BOARD VISITED BY THE COUNCIL MEMBERS, WHO WILL BE CALLING ON THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD TOMORROW.

----- 0 -----

/14

CONTRACTS AWARDED FOR ROADS, DRAINAGE WORKS

THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT HAS AWARDED A \$20 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF SEVEN DUAL SINGLE-LANE CARRIAGEWAYS ON RECLAIMED LAND NEAR PILLAR POINT, TUEN MUN.

THESE NEW ROADS ARE TO PROVIDE LOCAL ACCESS TO SITES PLANNED FOR BOATYARDS, MARINE WORKSHOPS, A PUBLIC WATERFRONT AND A LOG STORAGE AREA FOR SAWMILL OPERATORS.

ALSO INCLUDED IN THE 18-MONTH CONTRACT ARE THE PROVISION OF A 260-METRE LONG, FOUR-CELL REINFORCED CONCRETE CULVERT, A CAR PARK IN KIN ON STREET AND PROTECTION WORKS TO SLOPES ACROSS LUNG MUN ROAD.

MEANWHILE, A \$15 MILLION CONTRACT HAS ALSO BEEN AWARDED TO IMPROVE STORMWATER DRAINAGE IN THE LOW-LYING AREAS OF YUEN LONG.

THE PROJECT INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF ABOUT 900 METRES OF BOX CULVERTS, 400 METRES OF PIPES AND 2 200 METRES OF CHANNELS AT YAU TIN AND LAM HAU.

WORK HAS STARTED AND WILL BE COMPLETED IN 17 MONTHS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

PRIZES FOR BOOKMARK DESIGN WINNERS

WINNERS OF THE BOOKMARK DESIGN COMPETITION ORGANISED BY THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT PUBLIC LIBRARIES WILL RECEIVE THEIR AWARDS ON SATURDAY (JULY 6).

THE COMPETITION, DIVIDED INTO THREE AGE GROUPS, ATTRACTED 4 000 ENTRIES.

THE WINNERS ARE:

OPEN GROUP (AGE 18 AND OVER): MS TANG YIN-YEE, WINNER; MR TAM KAM-HUNG, 1ST RUNNER-UP; AND MR CHAN KIN-HING, 2ND RUNNER-UP.

STUDENT GROUP (AGE 14 - 17): MISS LAU KIU-YIN, WINNER; MISS LAM LAI-KAI, 1ST RUNNER-UP; AND MISS LO PUI-MAY, 2ND RUNNER-UP.

CHILDREN'S GROUP (AGE 13 AND UNDER): MISS MA PUI-LIN, WINNER; MR CHENG KAR-CHEONG, 1ST RUNNER-UP; AND MR TSUI WING-CHIU, 2ND RUNNER-UP.

THURSDAY, JULY 4, 1985

- 15 -

THE 15 PUBLIC LIBRARIES MANAGED BY THE RSD HAVE A TOTAL REGISTERED MEMBERSHIP OF ABOUT 280 000. THE COMPETITION IS PART OF THE RSD'S ON-GOING LIBRARY EXTENSION ACTIVITIES TO ATTRACT MORE READERS.

LAST YEAR, 3.5 MILLION BOOKS WERE ISSUED FROM THE RSD LIBRARIES FOR HOME USE, AND 5.8 MILLION WERE READ IN THE LIBRARIES.

PRIZES WILL BE PRESENTED BY THE CHIEF LIBRARIAN OF THE RSD, MR ALEX NG, AT A CEREMONY AT SOUTH KWAI CHUNG PUBLIC LIBRARY AT 11 AM ON SATURDAY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

YUEN LONG TREAT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

* * * *

A +MIDSUMMER NIGHT CONCERT+ WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (FRIDAY) EVENING TO LAUNCH THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME.

THE POP AND FOLK CONCERT, STAGED AT THE LUT SAU HALL, WILL PROVIDE FREE ENTERTAINMENT FOR ABOUT 900 PEOPLE.

MORE THAN HALF OF THE DISTRICT'S 118 ACTIVITIES THIS SUMMER WILL BE FREE OF CHARGE.

THE TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR THE ACTIVITIES IS ABOUT \$300 000, OF WHICH ONE THIRD IS DONATED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB FUND, AND THE REST CONTRIBUTED BY ABOUT 29 PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS.

THE TWO-MONTH-LONG YUEN LONG SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME HAS A WIDE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES SUCH AS STUDY CAMPS, PICNICS, VISITS, EXHIBITIONS, CONCERTS, MOVIES, SPORTS AND FUN-FAIRS.

FOLLOWING TOMORROW'S OPENING CEREMONY, VARIOUS ACTIVITIES WILL BE HELD IN YUEN LONG TOWN AS WELL AS IN THE RURAL AREAS. IT IS EXPECTED THAT MORE THAN 30 000 YOUNG PEOPLE AGED BETWEEN SIX AND 25 WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAMME.

+THE PROGRAMME IS A COMMUNITY BUILDING EXERCISE AIMED AT PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO LEARN THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN SOCIAL, RECREATIONAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE SAID.

/+THE ACTIVITIES

THURSDAY, JULY 4, 1985

- 16 -

+THE ACTIVITIES ARE DESIGNED TO ENABLE YOUNG PEOPLE TO DEVELOP THEIR SKILLS AND INTERESTS, TO UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE INTER-HUMAN RELATIONSHIP, TO GET TO KNOW THE COMMUNITY, AND TO ENHANCE THEIR SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY,+ HE ADDED.

THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR JAMES WILSON, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT BOARD, MR TAI KUEN, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE DISTRICT'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME AT 7.30 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT LUT SAU HALL, TAI YUK ROAD, YUEN LONG.

- - - - 0 - - - -

NEW AMBULANCE DEPOT FOR TSING YI
* * * *

A NEW AMBULANCE DEPOT SERVING RESIDENTS OF TSING YI ISLAND WILL BE OFFICIALLY OPENED TOMORROW (FRIDAY) BY THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER OF NEW TERRITORIES, MR CHEUNG SHU-SHING.

THE NEW DEPOT, WITH EIGHT AMBULANCES AND 76 AMBULANCE PERSONNEL, IS THE 13TH AMBULANCE DEPOT LOCATED STRATEGICALLY THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

- - - - 0 - - - -