



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1979

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1979

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HONG KONG SPENDS \$182 MILLION A YEAR IN FIGHTING
NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING AND ABUSE
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THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT IS SPENDING ABOUT \$182 MILLION A YEAR IN REAL TERMS IN FIGHTING NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING AND ABUSE, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS (ACAN), SIR ALBERT RODRIGUES SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

ADDRESSING THE OPENING OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION'S (WHO) FIRST INTER-REGIONAL COURSE FOR PHYSICIANS ON THE TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION OF DRUG DEPENDENT PERSONS IN HONG KONG, SIR ALBERT SAID THAT IN A COMMUNITY OF ABOUT FIVE MILLION PEOPLE THIS MIGHT GIVE ONE SOME CAUSE FOR SURPRISE.

+BUT THE REAL SHOCK COMES WHEN YOU REFLECT UPON THE AMOUNT OF MONEY WHICH CHANGES HANDS BETWEEN ADDICTS AND PUSHERS ON THE STREETS OF HONG KONG IN ANY ONE YEAR. WE ESTIMATE THIS, CONSERVATIVELY, TO BE IN THE REGION OF \$459 MILLION.

+NO COMMUNITY CAN REMAIN INDIFFERENT TO A FINANCIAL DRAIN OF THIS MAGNITUDE, BUT IT IS THE POTENTIAL FOR SOCIAL DISRUPTION WHICH CAUSES US MOST CONCERN.

+THE IMPLICATIONS ARE OBVIOUSLY SHOCKING, BUT WE SEE NO VIRTUE IN CONCEALING THE REALITIES EITHER FROM OURSELVES OR FROM OTHERS,+ SIR ALBERT SAID.

THE OPENING AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER WAS ALSO OFFICIATED BY THE WHO CONSULTANT FOR THE COURSE, PROFESSOR JOSEPH WESTERMEYER, THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR. LEWIS DAVIES, AND THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR. PETER LEE.

TWENTY PHYSICIANS FROM EGYPT, AFGHANISTAN, BURMA, THAILAND, MALAYSIA, INDONESIA AND THE PHILIPPINES ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE MONTH-LONG TRAINING COURSE.

SIR ALBERT SAID THAT HONG KONG HAS AN ESTIMATED 35 000 TO 50 000 DRUG ADDICTS, THE VAST MAJORITY OF WHOM ARE MALES IN THE LOWER INCOME GROUPS WHOSE DRUG OF ABUSE IS FUME-INHALED HEROIN, ALTHOUGH THE USE OF INTRAVENOUS INJECTIONS HAS INCREASED RAPIDLY.

ALTHOUGH 64 PER CENT OF ADDICTS HERE WERE OVER 30 YEARS OF AGE, AND ONLY 3.7 PER CENT UNDER 20, A DISTURBING 32.5 PER CENT WERE IN THE 20 TO 30 AGE GROUP, SIR ALBERT SAID.

+ALTHOUGH ON THE FACE OF IT THIS WOULD APPEAR TO BE ALARMING, WE DERIVE A DEGREE OF CONSOLATION FROM INDICATIONS THAT FOR THE MOMENT THE PROBLEM APPEARS TO BE CONTAINED, AS EXEMPLIFIED BY THE DRAMATICALLY DIMINISHING NUMBERS OF YOUNG ADDICTS AND THE EQUALLY DRAMATICALLY INCREASING NUMBERS OF THOSE UNDER CARE.

+I HASTEN TO ADD THAT THIS SATISFACTION MUST NOT BE THOUGHT TO INDICATE ANY DEGREE OF COMPLACENCY.

+BITTER EXPERIENCE HAS TAUGHT US THAT PROGRESS IS INEVITABLY SLOW AND THAT WHATEVER ADVANCES HAVE BEEN MADE, HAVE ONLY BEEN ACHIEVED AT ENORMOUS COST, EFFORT AND FRUSTRATION ON THE PART OF THOSE IN THE FIELD.

/+WE HAVE

+WE HAVE, HOWEVER, A REPUTATION FOR DEALING EFFECTIVELY WITH OUR PROBLEMS AS THEY ARISE, WHICH IS HIGHLY REGARDED AT AN INTERNATIONAL LEVEL,+ HE SAID.

SIR ALBERT SAID HONG KONG'S ANTI-NARCOTICS PROGRAMMES HAVE VERY CLEAR AND UNAMBIGUOUS OBJECTIVES - TO STOP THE IMPORT OF ILLICIT DRUGS INTO HONG KONG, AND TO ELIMINATE DRUG ABUSE FROM THE POPULATION.

TO ADVISE ON WAYS OF ACHIEVING THESE LONG TERM AIMS HONG KONG HAS THE ACAN, WHICH IS THE SOLE CHANNEL OF ADVICE TO THE GOVERNMENT ON ALL ASPECTS OF ANTI-NARCOTICS WORK HERE. ITS MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES THE HEADS OF ALL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES WHO HAVE RESPONSIBILITIES IN THIS FIELD.

THE ACAN MEETS REGULARLY AT MONTHLY OR BI-MONTHLY INTERVALS AS THE SITUATION DICTATES, AND WORKS TO +POSITION+ PAPERS PREPARED BY THE NARCOTICS SECRETARIAT AFTER CONSULTATION WITH ALL THOSE CONCERNED.

ALL THE RECOMMENDATIONS THE ACAN HAD MADE SINCE IT WAS RECONSTITUTED IN 1973 HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED AND ACTED UPON BY THE GOVERNMENT.

+THIS HIGH LEVEL SUPPORT TO WELL-DESIGNED AND CONSIDERED POLICY PROPOSALS BACKED UP BY AN EFFECTIVE SYSTEM OF MONITORING, ASSESSING AND EVALUATING THE RESULTS OF ALL PROGRAMMES, IS, I VENTURE TO SAY, OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO ANY ANTI-NARCOTICS PROGRAMMES WHICH ASPIRE TO MAKE AN IMPACT ON THE PROBLEM.

+IT IS ENCOURAGING TO NOTE THAT, WITH THE BURGEONING INCREASE IN DRUG TRAFFICKING AND ABUSE THROUGHOUT MOST REGIONS OF THE WORLD, MORE AND MORE GOVERNMENTS ARE BECOMING INVOLVED AT CABINET AND HIGH ADMINISTRATIVE AND EXECUTIVE LEVELS, AND THAT THIS IN TURN IS PRODUCING NOTABLE RESULTS IN INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION, AND IN THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, EXPERIENCE AND KNOW-HOW,+ HE SAID.

HONG KONG'S ANTI-NARCOTICS STRATEGY IS BASED ON FOUR MAIN PROGRAMMES.

+FIRST, AS HONG KONG GROWS NO OPIUM POPPIES, AND AS ALMOST ALL THE DRUGS WHICH COME HERE ILLICITLY DO SO FROM THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE, WHERE THE BORDERS OF BURMA, THAILAND AND LAOS MEET, WE ARE COMMITTED TO INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION WITH ALL THOSE COUNTRIES WITH PROBLEMS SIMILAR TO OUR OWN, AND WHO HAVE A COMMON INTEREST IN SUPPRESSING THIS EVIL TRADE.

+THE OTHER THREE PROGRAMMES ARE LAW ENFORCEMENT, TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION, AND THE LAST BUT CERTAINLY NOT LEAST, PREVENTIVE EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY.

+COST-EFFECTIVENESS IS OUR GUIDELINE, AND WE SEE THIS AS A RESPONSIBILITY NOT ONLY TO THE COMMUNITY IN GENERAL, BUT TO THE TAX-PAYER, THE FIELD WORKER AND TO THE PATIENTS THEMSELVES,+ HE SAID.

SIR ALBERT SAID HE HOPED THE PRESENTATION OF THE HONG KONG SITUATION WOULD PROVIDE PHYSICIANS PARTICIPATING IN THE COURSE WITH A SOURCE OF TECHNICAL INFORMATION AND IMAGINATIVE INSPIRATION IN THEIR FUTURE PLANNING. +FOR YOU CAN LEARN AS MUCH, IF NOT MORE, FROM OUR ERRORS AS FROM OUR SUCCESS.+

THE INTENSIVE TRAINING COURSE WILL PROVIDE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PARTICIPATING PHYSICIANS TO TAKE A FIRST-HAND LOOK AT THE ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT OF HONG KONG'S MULTI-MODALITY TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES AND TO DISCUSS THEM WITH THE HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS STAFF OF THE INSTITUTIONS CONCERNED. THE COURSE ENDS ON NOVEMBER 28 THIS YEAR.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION TO BE STRENGTHENED
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THE GOVERNMENT MUST SEEK TO ACHIEVE A BALANCE BETWEEN THE EXPANSION OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, THE GOVERNMENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ADVISER, DR. STUART REED SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

+WHAT WE HAVE TO PERFORM IS SOME SORT OF 'ENVIRONMENTAL BALANCING ACT' WHICH WILL ENSURE THAT THE INCREASING BENEFITS AND THE HIGHER STANDARD OF LIVING THAT WE ALL HOPE, AND MANY EXPECT, WILL FLOW FROM THE CONTINUED EXPANSION OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE IN HONG KONG, WILL NOT BE MARRED BY A STEADILY DETERIORATING ENVIRONMENT,+ HE TOLD A LUNCHEON GIVEN BY THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES.

+AN IMPORTANT AID TO GOVERNMENT IN CARRYING OUT THE 'ENVIRONMENTAL BALANCING ACT' IS THE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS. IN ORDER TO WIDEN THIS PROCESS OF CONSULTATION, THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EPCOM) WAS STRENGTHENED DURING ITS 1978/79 TERM BY THE INCLUSION OF NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR,+ HE SAID.

PRIOR TO THAT, EPCOM HAD BEEN MADE UP SOLELY OF OFFICIALS ON THE ONE HAND AND ON THE OTHER PEOPLE DRAWN FROM THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE WHO WERE APPOINTED TO EPCOM IN A PURELY PERSONAL CAPACITY.

DR. REED FELT THAT THIS INNOVATION HAD BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL AND THAT THE NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATIONS HAD STRUCK A FINE BALANCE BETWEEN PUTTING FORWARD FORCEFULLY, THE PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES LIKELY TO BE FACED BY INDUSTRIALISTS IN MEETING THE NEW POLLUTION CONTROL REQUIREMENTS WHILST AT THE SAME TIME ACKNOWLEDGING THE WIDER INTERESTS AND NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY.

HE HOPED THAT THE COMPOSITION OF FIVE NEW EPCOM SPECIAL COMMITTEES COULD BE ANNOUNCED SHORTLY. THESE COMMITTEES WOULD WIDEN FURTHER THE CONSULTATION PROCESS AND INCLUDE A GREATER NUMBER OF NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVES BOTH FROM INDUSTRY AND FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL LOBBY.

+A MAJOR PREOCCUPATION OF THESE COMMITTEES+, HE SAID +WILL BE THE DETAILED REGULATIONS WHICH FLOW FROM THE NEW ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BILLS WHICH ARE NOW BEING FORMULATED.+

HE OBSERVED THAT A STATUTORY PROVISION WOULD BE INCLUDED IN THESE BILLS TO THE EFFECT THAT EPCOM MUST BE CONSULTED BEFORE ANY NEW REGULATIONS ARE PROMULGATED.

DR. REED POINTED OUT THAT THE NEW ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BILLS WERE AT DIFFERENT STAGES OF PREPARATION- THE WASTE DISPOSAL BILL IS CURRENTLY BEFORE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THE WATER AND AIR BILLS ARE AT AN ADVANCED STAGE OF DRAFTING AND THE NOISE ABATEMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT BILLS ARE AT ONLY AN EARLY STAGE.

HE SAID THE VARIOUS BILLS WERE EXPECTED TO INCLUDE A NUMBER OF COMMON FEATURES SUCH AS THE STATUTORY REFERENCE TO EPCOM OF ALL REGULATIONS MADE UNDER THE BILLS AND THAT ALL THE PROVISIONS IN THE LEGISLATION WOULD APPLY TO GOVERNMENT JUST AS MUCH AS TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR. AN +OUTWARD SIGN OF INWARD GRACE+ HE COMMENTED.

+ANOTHER COMMON THEME RUNNING THROUGH THE BILLS IS THAT EXISTING INDUSTRY WILL IN GENERAL BE SUBJECT ONLY TO SOME FORM OF REGISTRATION OF EXISTING EMISSIONS AND ANY NEW EMISSION LIMITS WILL APPLY ONLY TO NEW INDUSTRY OR WHERE A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE TAKES PLACE IN THE PROCESSES USED BY EXISTING INDUSTRY OR WHERE, AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION, IT BECOMES APPARENT THAT THE EMISSIONS CONCERNED ARE CAUSING A CLEARLY IDENTIFIABLE HEALTH HAZARD.+

DR. REED WENT ON TO STRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING ADEQUATE RESOURCES IN TERMS OF STAFF AND EQUIPMENT TO ENFORCE THE NEW LEGISLATION AND TO DEVELOP POLICIES SUITABLE FOR THE SPECIAL CONDITIONS IN HONG KONG.

A DETAILED PROGRAMME OF THE RESOURCES REQUIRED HAD BEEN PREPARED, HE SAID, AND THIS SHOULD LEAD TO A PHASED BUILD-UP OVER A THREE-YEAR PERIOD TO A RECURRENT EXPENDITURE OF \$15 MILLION A YEAR AND \$6 MILLION ON EQUIPMENT OVER THE SAME PERIOD. \$2 MILLION HAVE ALREADY BEEN AGREED FOR THE PURCHASE, DURING FISCAL 1980/81, OF EQUIPMENT TO MONITOR LEVELS OF AIR, WATER AND NOISE POLLUTION IN HONG KONG.

DR. REED SAID HE WAS HOPEFUL THAT AGREEMENT WILL BE REACHED IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE ON THE STAFFING LEVELS FOR 1980/81.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THIS LEVEL OF EXPENDITURE IS AROUND 50 PER CENT OF THAT COMMONLY DEVOTED TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IN MANY WESTERN CITIES OF COMPARABLE SIZE TO HONG KONG YET WHICH HAVE A MUCH SLOWER PACE OF DEVELOPMENT.

THE RESOURCES WOULD BE USED ON THE ONE HAND TO STRENGTHEN THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION UNIT, WHICH WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MONITORING AND THE FORMULATION OF POLICY, AND ON THE OTHER HAND TO SET UP A NUMBER OF POLLUTION CONTROL UNITS IN EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS TO CARRY OUT THE IMPLEMENTATIONS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION LEGISLATION.

DR. REED SAID, +THE APPROACH THAT WE ARE ADOPTING IS AIMED AT BRINGING THE SITUATION UNDER CONTROL AND ACHIEVING IMPROVEMENTS IN THOSE AREAS WHERE URGENT ACTION IS NEEDED WHILST AT THE SAME TIME CAUSING THE ABSOLUTE MINIMUM OF DISRUPTION TO EXISTING INDUSTRY.+

+THIS BALANCING OF COMPETING NEEDS WILL REQUIRE BOTH A SOUND TECHNICAL APPROACH AS WELL AS FULL CO-OPERATION FROM ALL THOSE CONCERNED,+ DR. REED ADDED.

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HYF SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS AND CHANGES

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE HONG KONG AND YAUMATI FERRY COMPANY WILL INTRODUCE A NUMBER OF IMPROVEMENTS AND CHANGES TO ITS FERRY SERVICE FROM THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 1) TO COPE WITH THE RAPID PASSENGER DEMAND IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THAT 16 SUPPLEMENTARY SAILINGS WOULD BE INTRODUCED ON THE EXISTING HOVERFERRY SERVICE BETWEEN SAI WAN HO AND JUBILEE STREET IN ORDER TO HELP RELIEVE THE PRESSURE ON ROAD TRANSPORT.

AT THE SAME TIME, HE SAID, THE SERVICE WOULD BE DIVERTED FROM JUBILEE STREET TO CENTRAL HARBOUR SERVICES PIER, AND THE REVISED TIMETABLE FOR FERRY RUNS DURING MORNING AND AFTERNOON PEAK HOURS WOULD BE DISPLAYED AT BOTH FERRY PIERS AT SAI WAN HO AND CENTRAL. THE FARE WOULD BE \$3 FOR BOTH ADULTS AND CHILDREN AND NO FREIGHT WILL BE ALLOWED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID A SUPPLEMENTARY SAILING WOULD BE OPERATED FROM HONG KONG TO SILVERMINE BAY VIA PENG CHAU AT 10 P.M. FOR A TRIAL PERIOD OF TWO MONTHS, AND WOULD BE REVIEWED LATER DEPENDING ON PASSENGER DEMAND. NO FREIGHT WOULD BE ALLOWED.

THE EXISTING JUBILEE STREET TO TAI KOK TSUI FERRY SERVICE WOULD BE DIVERTED FROM JUBILEE STREET PIER TO BLAKE PIER WITH NO CHANGE IN THE TIMETABLE, HE SAID.

THE JUBILEE STREET TO KWUN TONG FERRY SERVICE, NOW BEING OPERATED WITH DOUBLE AND TRIPLE DECK VESSELS BEFORE 9 A.M., WOULD CONTINUE TO BE SERVED BY THESE LARGE VESSELS UNTIL 10 A.M., THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HOWEVER, HE SAID, HOVERFERRIES WOULD STILL BE USED DURING NON-PEAK HOURS, AND SUPPLEMENTARY SAILINGS WOULD BE OPERATED ON TRAFFIC DEMAND.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE NEW FARES FOR THE ROUTE WOULD BE \$1 FOR ORDINARY CLASS, \$1.50 FOR DE LUXE CLASS AND \$3 FOR HOVERFERRY SERVICES. THERE WOULD BE NO HALF FARE FOR CHILDREN FOR DE LUXE AND HOVERFERRY SERVICES, BUT HALF FARE FOR CHILDREN AT 50 CENTS WOULD REMAIN FOR ORDINARY CLASS.

MEANWHILE, THE WAN CHAI TO JORDAN ROAD FERRY SERVICE, WHICH HAD TEMPORARILY BEEN SUSPENDED SINCE AUGUST DUE TO THE DAMAGE TO THE JORDAN ROAD FERRY PIER BY TYPHOON, WOULD BE RESUMED ON NOVEMBER 5. THE SERVICE WOULD OPERATE BETWEEN 6.20 A.M. AND MIDNIGHT AT A 20-MINUTE FREQUENCY.

+THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE LEVEL AND STANDARD OF FERRY SERVICES PROVIDED TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED WHEN REQUIRED,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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NO CHANGE IN PAY COMMISSION REPORT
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A LETTER TO ALL HONG KONG NURSING ASSOCIATIONS WAS SENT TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE, MR. JAMES SO.

THE LETTER REITERATED THAT THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE FIRST REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMISSION ON CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE COULD NOT BE CHANGED.

BUT IT STRESSED THE GOVERNMENT'S VIEW THAT LINES OF COMMUNICATION SHOULD BE KEPT OPEN WITH STAFF AT ALL TIMES.

MR. SO CONFIRMED THAT THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE, MR. MARTIN ROWLANDS WOULD BE WILLING TO MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF STAFF ASSOCIATIONS OF NURSES AND ALLIED GRADES TO LISTEN TO WHAT THEY HAVE TO SAY AND TO EXPLAIN THE STANDING COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS TO THEM AND ITS ROLE IN THE FUTURE.

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LEGCO TO DEBATE ON GOVERNOR'S POLICY SPEECH
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A TWO-DAY DEBATE ON THE MOTION OF THANKS FOR THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS TO BE MOVED BY THE ACTING CHIEF SECRETARY, THE HON. PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, WILL BEGIN IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

A TOTAL OF 21 UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS WILL SPEAK ON THE MOTION TOMORROW AND ON THURSDAY.

LEADING OFF THE DEBATE TOMORROW WILL BE SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER, THE HON. OSWALD CHEUNG, FOLLOWED BY THE HON. ROGER LOBO, THE HON. LI FOOK-WO, DR. THE HON. HARRY FANG, THE HON. T.S. LO, THE HON. FRANCIS TIEN, THE REV. THE HON. JOYCE M. BENNETT, THE HON. CHEN SHOU-LUM, THE HON. LYDIA DUNN, THE HON. LEUNG TAT-SHING, AND THE REV. THE HON. PATRICK MCGOVERN.

ON THURSDAY, 10 OTHER UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS WILL SPEAK ON THE MOTION. THEY ARE THE HON. PETER C. WONG, THE HON. WONG LAM, DR. THE HON. RAYSON HUANG, THE HON. CHARLES YEUNG, DR. THE HON. HO KAM-FAI, THE HON. ALLEN LEE, THE HON. DAVID NEWBIGGING, THE HON. ANDREW SO, THE HON. HU FA-KUANG AND THE HON. WONG PO-YAN.

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PUBLIC ENQUIRIES SERVICE CENTRE IN TUEN MUN OPENS TODAY

THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION WILL OPEN ITS FIRST PUBLIC ENQUIRIES SERVICE CENTRE IN TUEN MUN NEW TOWN THIS (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON.

THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE OFFICIATED BY MR. LEUNG KUEN, VICE-CHAIRMAN OF TUEN MUN RURAL COMMITTEE- MR. NG CHEUK-TAI, DIRECTOR OF TUEN MUN CARITAS SOCIAL SERVICE CENTRE- MR. KONG CHI-SHING, DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN YOUTH AND CHILDREN SOCIAL SERVICE CENTRE- AND MR. LAI YUE, CHAIRMAN OF HING CHEONG HOUSE MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE, TAI HING ESTATE.

KNOWN AS THE TAI HING PUBLIC ENQUIRIES SERVICE CENTRE, IT IS SITUATED ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF UNIT 42, HING SHING HOUSE, TAI HING ESTATE.

THE CENTRE WILL BE OPEN FROM 8.45 A.M. TO 5.15 P.M. ON WEEKDAYS AND FROM 8.45 A.M. TO NOON ON SATURDAYS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE SAID TODAY THAT THE CENTRE WOULD PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN PROVIDING ADVICE AND INFORMATION TO THE 24 000 RESIDENTS OF TAI HING ESTATE AND NEARBY VILLAGES.

BESIDES DEALING WITH GENERAL ENQUIRIES, IT WOULD ALSO HANDLE STATUTORY DECLARATIONS FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS AND ADMINISTER THE NEW TERRITORIES RESIDENTS' PRIORITY SCHEME FOR PUBLIC HOUSING.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO COVER THE OPENING OF THE TAI HING PUBLIC ENQUIRIES SERVICE CENTRE ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF UNIT 42, HING SHING HOUSE, TAI HING ESTATE AT 3 P.M. TODAY (TUESDAY).

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BRAY ATTENDS RECEPTION FOR CHAIRMAN HUA

HONG KONG COMMISSIONER IN LONDON, MR. DENIS BRAY, WAS AMONG THE GUESTS AT A LUNCHEON GIVEN BY THE FOREIGN SECRETARY, LORD CARRINGTON, FOR CHAIRMAN HUA GUOFENG AT THE FISHMONGERS HALL, IN THE CITY OF LONDON, YESTERDAY (MONDAY).

THE COMMISSIONER WAS ALSO A GUEST AT A RECEPTION GIVEN FOR THE CHAIRMAN BY PRIME MINISTER MRS. MARGARET THATCHER, AT THE BANQUETING HALL, WHITEHALL, IN THE EVENING. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MRS. MARJORIE BRAY.

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COMMEMORATIVE STONE RESITED

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WHEN HIRAM'S HIGHWAY WAS BUILT SHORTLY AFTER THE WAR, A STONE COMMEMORATING THE EVENT WAS LAID BY SOLDIERS OF THE 42ND COMMANDO, ROYAL MARINES WHO HAD CONSTRUCTED THE HIGHWAY WITH THE HELP OF LOCAL LABOUR AND JAPANESE WAR PRISONERS.

WITH SAI KUNG NOW OPENING UP INCREASINGLY FOR RECREATION, THE NEED FOR NEW ROADS HAS DEVELOPED AND A SECTION OF ONE SUCH ROAD IS TO RUN PARALLEL WITH THE EXISTING CLEARWATER BAY ROAD FROM PIK UK TO ITS JUNCTION WITH THE HIRAM'S HIGHWAY.

HOWEVER, THERE WAS A SMALL PROBLEM - THE COMMEMORATIVE STONE LAID DIRECTLY IN THE PATH OF THIS PLANNED NEW ROAD. SO A NEW LOCATION HAD TO BE FOUND FOR IT.

THIS (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON, A CEREMONY MARKING THE RESITING OF THE STONE A SHORT DISTANCE AWAY WAS HELD AT THE HIRAM'S HIGHWAY, ATTENDED BY THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR. COLIN BOSHER - COMMANDING OFFICER OF 42ND COMMANDO, ROYAL MARINES, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL HENRY BEVERLEY - OFFICIALS OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT AND SOME OF THE OLD RESIDENTS OF SAI KUNG WHO HAD WORKED WITH THE COMMANDO AND THE JAPANESE ON CONSTRUCTING THE HIGHWAY.

ALSO PRESENT WAS POLICE INSPECTOR CHRISTOPHER WYNNE-POTTS, WHOSE FATHER, MAJOR JOHN WYNNE-POTTS, SUPERVISED THE BUILDING WORK.

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DEATH SENTENCE COMMUTED

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, AFTER TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE ADVICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, TODAY (TUESDAY) COMMUTED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT THE DEATH SENTENCE PASSED ON KWAN KWOK-TSUN, ALIAS JACKSON KWAN, AGED 29, ON JULY 25, 1978.

KWAN, AN EXECUTIVE WITH AN INSURANCE COMPANY, WAS FOUND GUILTY OF MURDERING TSE WAI-WAH, ALIAS NANCY TSE, 36, AT HER FLAT IN CHE KEE BUILDING, KING'S ROAD, NORTH POINT ON DECEMBER 2, 1977.

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FIRE SERVICES ANNUAL MOUNTAIN RUN
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THE ANNUAL FEI NGO SHAN MOUNTAIN RUN ORGANISED BY THE KOWLOON FIRE COMMAND WILL BE HELD AT 3.30 P.M. TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE 2.2 KILOMETRE RUN WILL START FROM FEI NGO SHAN ROAD, ABOUT 182 METRES FROM THE CLEARWATER BAY ROAD JUNCTION TO THE GILWELL CAMPSITE.

MORE THAN 100 FIREMEN ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE PART IN THE RACE.

THE ACTING CHIEF FIRE OFFICER OF KOWLOON, MR. MIKE KINGDOM WILL PRESENT PRIZES TO WINNERS AFTER THE EVENT.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE FIRE SERVICES ANNUAL MOUNTAIN RUN. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES COVERING THE EVENT ARE REQUESTED TO ASSEMBLE AT NGAU CHI WAN FIRE STATION, 1 CLEARWATER BAY ROAD AT 2.30 P.M. WHERE THEY WILL BE TAKEN TO THE STARTING POINT.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN SAI YING PUN
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT A NUMBER OF TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN SAI YING PUN FROM THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 1) TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SEA WATER MAIN.

THE ARRANGEMENTS ARE:

- * FROM NOVEMBER 1 TO DECEMBER 1, EASTERN STREET BETWEEN HOUSE NO. 6 AND ITS JUNCTION WITH QUEEN'S ROAD WEST, AND ITS SOUTHBOUND SECTION BETWEEN FIRST STREET AND SECOND STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC-
- * DURING THE SAME PERIOD, EASTERN STREET BETWEEN HOUSE NO. 6 AND ITS JUNCTION WITH DES VOEUX ROAD WEST WILL ALSO BE CLOSED TO ALL VEHICLES EXCEPT THOSE REQUIRING ACCESS TO PREMISES IN THE ROAD- AND
- * FROM NOVEMBER 1, FOR ABOUT FOUR MONTHS, THE TERMINAL POINT OF CMB ROUTE 77 WILL BE MOVED FROM CENTRE STREET BETWEEN DES VOEUX ROAD WEST AND QUEEN'S ROAD WEST TO CENTRE STREET BETWEEN CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST AND DES VOEUX ROAD WEST.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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