DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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CONTENTS PAGE NO.

DEATH PENALTY : HONG KONG MAKES REPRESENTATIONS TO BRITAIN 1

10-YEAR OVERALL DEVELOPMENT PLAN TO ASSESS TOTAL NEEDS OF HONG KONG FOR LAND, MONEY AND OTHER RESOURCES 3

FIGHT AGAINST CRIME REMAINS TOP PRIORITIES 5

ECONOMIC RECESSION LEVELLING OFF, SAYS DIRECTOR OF C AND 8 9

FILM CLASSIFICATIONS TO BE REVISED 11

CENTRALISED POLLUTION CONTROL UNIT TO BE SET UP 13

REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONIES 14

TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS 16

CHRISTMAS AEROGRAMMES ON SALE NEXT MONDAY 17

WATER CUTS 17

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DEATH PENALTY: HONG KONG
MAKES REPRESENTATIONS TO BRITAIN
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, HAS AGAIN MADE REPRESENTATIONS IN THE STRONGEST TERMS TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE ABOUT HONG KONG'S WISH FOR A RESTORATION OF THE DEATH PENALTY IN CASES WHERE THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE CRIME LEAVE NO REASONABLE JUSTIFICATION FOR CLEMENCY.

THIS WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY BY THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, THE HON. SIR DENYS ROBERTS, IN WINDING UP THE DEBATE ON A MOTION OF THANKS FOR THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS AT THE OPENING OF THE COUNCIL'S 1975/76 SESSION.

SIR DENYS SAID THE GOVERNOR FULLY RECOGNISED THE FIERCENESS OF CONVICTION WITH WHICH SO MANY RESIDENTS OF HONG KONG HELD THE VIEW THAT, UNLESS THE DEATH PENALTY WAS CARRIED OUT IN APPROPRIATE CASES, THE FLOOD OF CRIME AND VIOLENCE WILL NOT BE TURNED BACK.

THE GOVERNOR, HE ADDED, ALSO ACCEPTED THE FACT THAT PUBLIC OPINION ON THIS ISSUE WAS SO STRONG AND SO UNIVERSAL +THAT A CHANGE TO CURRENT PRACTICE MUST BE MADE IN TERMS WHICH GO SOME WAY TO MEET THE GENUINE FEELINGS OF THE COMMUNITY, WHICH CLEARLY SEES THIS ISSUE AS A TEST OF DETERMINATION OF THE GOVERNMENT TO TACKLE VIOLENT CRIME WITH DETERMINATION.+

IN FUTURE, SIR DENYS SAID, THE GOVERNOR WOULD, WHENEVER HE COMMUTES A DEATH PENALTY, IMPOSE THE ALTERNATIVE PUNISHMENT OF LIFE IMPRISONMENT, UNLESS, IN EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES, HE FEELS ABLE TO ACCEPT ADVICE FROM EXECUTIVE COUNCIL THAT A LESSER SENTENCE SHOULD BE IMPOSED.

HE ADDED THAT THE ONLY EXCEPTION WHICH MIGHT BE MADE TO THIS PRINCIPLE IS WHERE, AFTER ANY LONG PERIOD OF IMPRISONMENT, STRONG HUMANITARIAN CONSIDERATIONS MIGHT HAVE EMERGED SUCH AS WOULD JUSTIFY THE EARLIER RELEASE OF A PARTICULAR OFFENDER.

SIR DENYS SAID HE WELL UNDERSTOOD THE SENSE OF FRUSTRATION OF UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS — AND THIS WAS SHARED BY THE GOVERNMENT — BUT HE EXPLAINED THAT, WHILE THE REALITIES WERE UNDERSTOOD, THE QUESTION OF THE DEATH PENALTY DID NOT END THERE.

HE POINTED OUT THAT ANY PRISONER SENTENCED TO DEATH IN HONG KONG HAD A RIGHT TO PETITION THE QUEEN FOR CLEMENCY. IN REACHING HER DECISION, THE QUEEN WAS ADVISED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS WHOSE ADVICE MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE LIKELY REACTION IN THE UK PARLIAMENT TO WHICH HE IS ANSWERABLE.

/+RECENT SECRETARIES .....

+RECENT SECRETARIES OF STATE HAVE BEEN OF THE OPINION THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE SUPPORTED IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS IF THEY WERE TO ADVISE THAT DEATH SENTENCES SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT IN HONG KONG,+ HE SAID. +MOREOVER, THERE ARE NO SIGNS THAT THIS ATTITUDE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS IS LIKELY TO CHANGE IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.+

HOWEVER, HE APPRECIATED THAT THERE WERE DIFFERENT ATTITUDES ON THE DEATH PENALTY BETWEEN HONG KONG AND THE UNITED KINGDOM AND SAID THESE DIFFERENT ATTITUDES MAY SUGGEST THAT CAPITAL PUNISHMENT COULD BE A MORE EFFECTIVE DETERRENT HERE THAN IN OTHER PLACES.

+THEY DEFINITELY DO MEAN THAT THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THE HONG KONG POPULATION ARE CONVINCED THAT THE DEATH PENALTY WOULD SERVE AS A SUBSTANTIAL DETERRENT TO VIOLENT CRIME,+ HE ADDED.

ON THE LEVEL OF SENTENCES PASSED BY HONG KONG COURTS, SIR DENYS SAID THE ATTORNEY GENERAL HAD REPRESENTED HIS CONCERN TO THE CHIEF JUSTICE THAT CURRENT SENTENCES ARE NOT SEVERE ENOUGH TO CONTRIBUTE EFFECTIVELY IN HONG KONG'S PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES TO THE RESTORATION OF LAW AND ORDER.

THE COURTS, HE SAID, HAD A VERY DIFFICULT TASK IN HOLDING A BALANCE BETWEEN THE STATE AND THE INDIVIDUAL, PARTICULARLY IN A PERIOD OF LAWLESSNESS.

+BUT THEY ARE NOT, AND SHOULD NOT BE, INSENSITIVE TO THE FEELINGS AND CONVICTIONS OF THE SOCIETY IN WHICH THEY OPERATE,+ HE STRESSED.

HE HAD NO DOUBTS THAT THE CHIEF JUSTICE AND THE MEMBERS OF THE JUDICIARY WOULD HAVE TAKEN DUE AND CAREFUL NOTE OF THE STRENGTH OF THE VIEWS PRESSED BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS.

SIR DENYS NOTED THAT THERE WAS WIDESPREAD CONCERN THAT THE COURTS WERE NOT AFFORDING TO INNOCENT CITIZENS THE MEASURE OF PROTECTION AGAINST CRIMINAL CONDUCT WHICH THE PUBLIC EXPECTED.

+THIS RELIEF,+ HE SAID, +IS FOUNDED ON THE CONVICTION THAT THE PUBLIC IS PROPERLY PROECTED ONLY IF OFFENDERS ARE PUNISHED IN A MANNER WHICH MANIFESTS THE OUTRAGE OF SOCIETY AT THE GREED AND WICKEDNESS THAT MOTIVATE THE MAJORITY OF CRIMES AND WHICH ACTS AS A REAL DETERRENT TO WRONG-DOERS.+

ON ANOTHER ASPECT, THE COLONIAL SECRETARY SAID THERE WAS NO INDISCRIMINATE RELEASE OF PRISONERS THROUGH THE AGENCY OF THE BOARD OF REVIEW WHICH CONSIDERS ALL LONG-TERM SENTENCES AT SPECIFIED INTERVALS AND HAS POWER TO RECOMMEND EARLY RELEASE TO THE GOVERNOR IN EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES.

IN PRACTICE, SIR DENYS SAID, SUCH RECOMMENDATIONS ARE RARE. IN THE PAST FOUR YEARS, THE GOVERNOR HAD ORDERED THE RELEASE OF ONLY FIVE PRISONERS AS A RESULT OF RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE BOARD. THREE OF THOSE RELEASED HAD SHOWN GREAT COURAGE IN GIVING EVIDENCE AGAINST PRISON WARDERS OR FELLOW PRISONERS IN RELATION TO OFFENCES COMMITTED IN PRISON, ONE WAS SUFFERING FROM A GRAVE ILLNESS AND ONE WAS AN OLD MAN.

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10-YEAR OVERALL DEVELOPMENT PLAN
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AN OVERALL DEVELOPMENT PLAN WHICH WILL ATTEMPT TO ASSESS THE TOTAL NEEDS OF HONG KONG FOR LAND, MONEY AND OTHER RESOURCES DURING A 10-YEAR PERIOD IS TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT.

DISCLOSING THIS TODAY, THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, THE HON. SIR DENYS ROBERTS SAID THAT DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS SOME PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE ON THE BETTER USE OF PLANNING PROCESSES.

+PROGRAMME PLANS COVERING ACTIVITIES WHICH ABSORB ABOUT 50 PERCENT OF PUBLIC EXPENDITURE HAVE BEEN COMPLETED OR ARE IN THE COURSE OF PREPARATION.+

IN ADDITION TO THE FIRST PLANS FOR SECONDARY EDUCATION AND MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, THE GOVERNMENT HAS EMBARKED ON PLANS TO COVER LAW AND ORDER, HOUSING, FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES, THE CO-ORDINATION OF THE SERVICES IN THE NEW TOWNS AND SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES.

HOWEVER, SIR DENYS SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THESE PLANS ARE COMPREHENSIVE IN THEIR APPROACH TO A GIVEN ACTIVITY THEY HAVE NOT BEEN LINKED TOGETHER.

THE OVERALL DEVELOPMENT PLAN WILL EMBODY THE VARIOUS PROGRAMME PLANS AND ATTEMPT TO ASSESS THE TOTAL NEEDS OF HONG KONG FOR LAND, MONEY AND OTHER RESOURCES. WORK ON THE PLAN HAS JUST BEGUN.

REFERRING TO ONE OF THE CHANGES INTRODUCED IN 1973 - THE REDEFINITION OF THE RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE SECRETARIAT AND DEPARTMENTS - THE COLONIAL SECRETARY SAID THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT CHANGE WAS THE CREATION OF BRANCHES IN THE SECRETARIAT WHICH ASSUMED GREATER RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FORMATION OF POLICY AND ITS EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT.

BASED ON LESSONS LEARNT DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS, THE DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONSIBILITIES BETWEEN SECRETARIES HAS BEEN REVISED RECENTLY TO REMOVE OVERLAPPING AND TO ENABLE THEM TO PERFORM THEIR DUTIES MORE EFFECTIVELY.

+A REVIEW OF ALL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEES IS UNDER WAY, WITH EACH SECRETARY RESPONSIBLE FOR ASSESSING BOTH THE USEFULNESS AND MEMBERSHIP OF THOSE WHICH FALL WITHIN HIS AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY,+ HE ADDED.

/REVIEWING .....

REVIEWING PROGRESS ON THE DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY, SIR DENYS SAID THAT MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE, AS IN ANY LARGE ORGANIZATION MANY DECISIONS TEND TO BE TAKEN AT A HIGHER LEVEL THAN IS JUSTIFIED BY THEIR IMPORTANCE OR DIFFICULTY.

HE NOTED THAT IN GENERAL TERMS DECISIONS TAKEN AT THE LOWEST REASONABLE LEVEL ARE +REACHED MORE QUICKLY AND LESS EXPENSIVELY+.

SIR DENYS POINTED OUT THAT ONE OF THE EARLY TASKS FOR THE NEWLY APPOINTED SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATION WILL BE TO CONTINUE THE ASSESSMENTS OF THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE REFORMS INTRODUCED IN 1973 HAVE FUNCTIONED PROPERLY.

HE ALSO GAVE AN ASSURANCE THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO PURSUE VIGOROUSLY THE TASK OF STRENGTHENING AND ADAPTING THE MACHINERY OF GOVERNMENT TO MEET HONG KONG'S EVOLVING REQUIREMENTS.

DEALING WITH THE QUESTION OF A POPULATION POLICY, THE COLONIAL SECRETARY SAID THAT A WORKING PARTY HAS BEEN STUDYING THE QUESTION IN DETAIL AND ITS CONCLUSIONS WILL BE INCORPORATED IN A PAPER TO BE PRESENTED TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

HE ADDED THAT SO FAR THE APPROACH HAS BEEN TO ENCOURAGE VOLUNTARY LIMITATION OF FAMILY SIZE RATHER THAN THE MORE COERCIVE METHODS WHICH HAVE BEEN ADOPTED ELSEWHERE, +THOUGH IT MUST BE RECOGNISED THAT THERE MAY COME A TIME WHEN IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO INTRODUCE MEASURES WHICH WILL OPERATE AS A POSITIVE DISCOURAGEMENT TO LARGE FAMILIES.+

IN CONCLUSION, SIR DENYS ASSURED COUNCIL THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS IN NO WAY DISCOURAGED BY THE SET-BACKS OF THE PAST TWO YEARS OR WEAKENED IN ITS DETERMINATION TO PROVIDE A BETTER STANDARD OF LIFE FOR THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

HE ALSO PAID WARM TRIBUTE TO UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL WITHOUT WHOSE KNOWLEDGE, INTEGRITY AND WISE GUIDANCE, THE GOVERNMENT'S TASK OF LEADING HONG KONG SAFELY THROUGH THE MYRIAD TRIALS OF THE DAY WOULD BE FAR MORE DIFFICULT.

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FIGHT AGAINST CRIME REMAINS TOP PRIORITIES
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THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME WILL CONTINUE TO BE ONE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S TOP PRIORITIES AND WILL BE PRESSED FORWARD VIGOROUSLY, THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, THE HON. LEWIS DAVIES, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

SOUND PROGRESS WAS ALREADY BEING MADE WITH THE VARIOUS MEASURES ADOPTED, HE SAID, AND FURTHER STEPS WERE PLANNED TO TACKLE THE PROBLEM.

AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT, HE SAID, WERE PLANS TO BRING THE POLICE FORCE UP TO STRENGTH NEXT YEAR AND TO INCREASE THE ESTABLISHMENT WITH THE INTENTION THAT REPORTED CRIME BE PURSUED EVEN MORE INEXORABLY, AND EVEN STRONGER PREVENTIVE MEASURES IMPLEMENTED.

HE EXPECTED THAT BEAT POLICE OFFICERS IN URBAN STREETS WOULD BE EQUIPPED WITH RADIOS IN LITTLE OVER A YEAR. +NOT ONLY WILL THE SCHEME INSPIRE GREATER CONFIDENCE IN THE POLICE AND ENGENDER GREATER PUBLIC CO-OPERATION -- IT WILL ALSO GREATLY IMPROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE FORCE,+ HE SAID.

MR. DAVIES SAID THAT WHILE CRIME APPEARED TO HAVE LEVELLED OFF, THERE WAS NO EASY OR QUICK SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM. BUT WITH SUFFICIENT DETERMINATION, HE ADDED, THE TIDE WILL TURN.

THE SECRETARY REJECTED THE ASSERTION THAT THERE WAS MOUNTING RELUCTANCE TO REPORT CRIME. +FAR FROM IT, THERE IS INCREASED WILLINGNESS AND INCREASED OPPORTUNITY.+

CONTACTS AND FEEDBACKS FROM KAIFONGS, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND POLICE OFFICERS IN DAY-TO-DAY CONTACT WITH MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, HE SAID, INDICATED A GREATER WILLINGNESS ON THE PART OF THE PEOPLE TO ACT AGAINST CRIME. THIS RANGED FROM ORGANISED COMMUNITY RESISTANCE TO REPORTING CRIME TO THE INCREASING NUMBER OF REPORTING CENTRES, POLICE STATIONS AND NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING UNITS.

NOR WAS PUBLIC CO-OPERATION CONFINED TO DETERRING CRIMINALS. OUT OF EVERY TEN PEOPLE ARRESTED FOR COMMITTING A CRIME THIS YEAR, HE NOTED, ONE WAS APPREHENDED BY A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC. LAST YEAR IT WAS ONE IN 12 AND THREE YEARS AGO IT WAS ONE IN 20.

+THESE FIGURES REFLECT A TREND OF INCREASED PUBLIC WILLINGNESS TO ASSIST ACTIVELY IN FIGHTING CRIME. IT CERTAINLY DOES NOT SUGGEST FEAR OR APATHY,+ HE SAID.

ONE AREA WHERE NEW POLICE CONCEPTS APPEARED TO BE PROVING SUCCESSFUL, MR. DAVIES SAID, WAS THE NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING SCHEME WHICH MAINLY AIMED AT HELPING TO REDUCE THE ABSOLUTE LEVEL OF CRIME THROUGH CLOSER POLICE INVOLVEMENT WITH THE COMMUNITY.

/NEIGHBOURHOOD .....

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING UNITS HAD AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN POLICING DENSELY POPULATED ESTATES, HE SAID, AND THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE WAS PLANNING TO EXPAND THE UNITS AS FAR AS ESTABLISHMENT WOULD ALLOW.

MR. DAVIES SAID THAT IN ADDITION TO THEIR PRIMARY DUTIES OF ESTABLISHING GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE PUBLIC AND GIVING EFFICIENT SERVICE AND ADVICE, CAREFULLY SELECTED OFFICERS VISITED SCHOOLS TO TALK ON ROAD SAFETY AND OTHER POLICE RELATED SUBJECTS, HELPED YOUTH RECREATION, AND TOOK PART IN COMMUNITY PROJECTS ORGANISED BY CITY DISTRICT OFFICES, ESTATE MANAGEMENTS OR KAIFONGS.

THERE WAS ALSO INCREASING INVOLVEMENT OF THE POLICE IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS AND GREATER CO-OPERATION BY THE PUBLIC IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME WHERE THERE IS A PERMANENT POLICE PRESENCE. THIS WAS PARTICULARLY SO WHERE ACTIVE MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES HAVE BEEN MOBILISED.

THE SUCCESS OF THE MAC'S IN ELIMINATING CRIME IN BUILDINGS HAD PRODUCED A DEMAND FOR MORE COMMITTEES, AND ADDITIONAL STAFF HAD BEEN DEPLOYED IN THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT TO FORM NEW COMMITTEES AND LIAISON.

HE NOTED THAT THE POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS SCHEME WAS ALSO WORKING WELL AND THERE HAD BEEN ENCOURAGING RESULTS FROM THE JUNIOR POLICE CALL SCHEME WHICH NOW HAD 130,000 MEMBERS. INFORMATION FROM JPC MEMBERS, HE SAID, HAD LED TO THE ARREST OF ROBBERS, TO CONVICTIONS FOR DRUG PUSHERS, TO MISSING VEHICLES BEING TRACED AND TO VALUABLE LOST PROPERTY BEING RETURNED.

MR. DAVIES STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT THE DRIVE AGAINST CRIME DID NOT REST SOLELY ON INCREASED PUBLIC SUPPORT OR IMPROVED FRIENDLINESS WITH THE COMMUNITY. OPERATIONAL METHODS WERE AN IMPORTANT PART AND THESE HAD BEEN MODERNISED.

HE NOTED THAT THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE CID HAD BEEN EXTENDED TO ALL URBAN AREAS AND ITS STRENGTH HAD BEEN INCREASED BY 700 MEN. TRAINING FACILITIES HAD ALSO BEEN EXPANDED.

DESPITE THIS, HOWEVER, THE WORKLOAD REMAINED HEAVY AND A FURTHER EXAMINATION WAS BEING UNDERTAKEN TO ASSESS THE PRECISE MANPOWER STRENGTH NEEDED BY THE CID.

THIS REVIEW, HE SAID, WOULD INCLUDE THE NEEDS OF THE SPECIALISED UNITS SET UP TO TACKLE SPECIAL PROBLEMS SUCH AS NARCOTICS, THUGS, SPECIAL CRIMES AND COMMERCIAL CRIMES.

MR. DAVIES SAID THERE WERE DEFINITE INDICATIONS OF IMPROVED INTELLIGENCE RESULTS, PARTICULARLY IN THE PREVENTIVE FIELD, AND DESPITE THE BURDEN THE CID HAD MAINTAINED ITS DETECTION RATE.

ON THE QUESTION OF RECRUITING REDUNDANT ARMY PERSONNEL TO THE POLIC FORCE, MR. DAVIES SAID APPLICATIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL REDUNDANT LOCALLY EMPLOYED SERVICEMEN WOULD BE CONSIDERED. BUT HE ADDED THAT IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO POST THEM TO COMPANIES OF THE POLICE TACTICAL UNIT UNLESS THE PRESENT PRACTICE BY WHICH ALL POLICEMEN ARE REQUIRED TO TRAIN BOTH IN INTERNAL SECURITY AND NORMAL DUTIES WERE MODIFIED. SO FAR, HE SAID, THE GOVERNMENT WAS NOT PERSUADED THAT THIS WAS DESIRABLE.

/REFERRING TO .....

REFERRING TO A SUGGESTION BY THE HON. HILTON CHEONG-LEEN TO SET UP FIGHT VIOLENT CRIME COMMITTEES IN ALL CITY DISTRICTS, MR. DAVIES SAID SUCH COMMITTEES ALREADY EXISTED IN A DIFFERENT FORM. THESE ARE THE CITY DISTRICT COMMITTEES CHAIRED BY CITY DISTRICT OFFICERS AND COMPRISING REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND LEADING MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT COMMUNITY.

HOWEVER, IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE DAY-TO-DAY CO-ORDINATION OF THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME, HE SAID, PROPOSALS HAD BEEN EVOLVED TO ENABLE THE CITY DISTRICT COMMITTEES TO APPOINT STANDING SUB-COMMITTEES WITH SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE DETAILED PLANNING, CO-ORDINATION AND MONITORING OF DISTRICT FIGHT VIOLENT CRIME ACTIVITIES.

HE EXPECTED THAT THESE STANDING SUB-COMMITTEES WOULD BE SET UP IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE AND ITS MEMBERS WOULD INCLUDE POLICE REPRESENTATIVES, UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE CITY DISTRICT COMMITTEES AND, WHERE APPROPRIATE, REPRESENTATIVES FROM OTHER DEPARTMENTS.

ON 'THE STANDARD OF LIVING' IN PRISONS, MR. DAVIES ASSURED COUNCIL THAT THE PRISON AUTHORITIES WERE ALIVE TO THE NECESSITY OF ENSURING THAT INMATES ARE PROPERLY SUPERVISED IN A DISCIPLINED ENVIRONMENT, WORK HARD AND ARE NOT PROVIDED WITH FACILITIES ABOVE THOSE WHICH ARE THE MINIMUM ESSENTIAL.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THERE WAS A VARIETY OF RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED ON PRISONERS, AND THESE SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT WHEN COMPARING STANDARDS GENERALLY.

+ANY PERSON WHO HAS VISITED STANLEY WHICH HOUSES 43 PER CENT OF THE PRISON POPULATION, WILL NOT HAVE DEPARTED WITH A FEELING THAT THE STANDARDS ARE UNDULY HIGH,+ HE SAID.

THE AVERAGE CELL IN STANLEY PRISON, HE SAID, WAS 54 SQUARE FEET AND ON MONDAY NIGHT 1,700 OR 68 PER CENT OF THE 2,494 PRISONERS WERE IN CELLS ACCOMMODATING THREE PRISONERS, GIVING AN AVERAGE OF 18 SQUARE FEET PER PRISONER.

THE TOILET FACILITIES THERE, HE ADDED, CONSISTED OF A BUCKET IN A CORNER AND PRISONERS ARE LOCKED UP WITH THESE 'FACILITIES' FOR TWELVE HOURS A DAY.

IN STANLEY WHERE THE CONDITIONS ARE OVERCROWDED, HE POINTED OUT, THREE OUT OF FOUR PRISONERS RELEASED IN 1971-73 HAVE RETURNED TO SERVE A FURTHER SENTENCE.

IN VICTORIA REMAND CENTRE, HE WENT ON, MORE THAN HALF THOSE IN REMAND ARE THREE TO A CELL, THE DIMENSIONS OF WHICH VARY FROM 40 SQ. FT. TO 60 SQ. FT. IN THE NEW INSTITUTIONS, INCLUDING THE VERY SUCCESSFUL DETENTION CENTRES, THE FLOOR AREAS PER DETAINEE ARE GREATER BUT THE SUCCESS RATE IS ALSO GREATER, HE ADDED.

HE POINTED OUT THAT IN THE CASE OF DETENTION CENTRES FOR YOUNG OFFENDERS, PRISON ROUTINE WAS DELIBERATELY MADE MORE DEMANDING.

REFERRING TO THE DIET SCALES IN PRISON INSTITUTIONS, MR. DAVIES SAID THESE WERE MONITORED BY THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND TOOK INTO ACCOUNT THE FACT THAT PRISONERS AND INMATES PERFORM PHYSICAL LABOUR.

+IT IS THIS FACTOR -- AND NOT GENEROSITY OR SOFTNESS -- WHICH ACCOUNTS FOR THE FACT THAT THE BASIC DIET IN PRISONS DEPARTMENT INSTITUTIONS COSTS $6.29 PER DAY COMPARED WITH THE CHEAPEST HOSPITAL DIET OF $4.63,+ HE SAID.

HE ADDED: +IT MUST ALSO BE REMEMBERED THAT THE PRISON SCALE PROVIDES THE SOLE FORM OF NOURISHMENT AND THAT THERE IS A RESPONSIBILITY PLACED ON THE PRISONS DEPARTMENT TO KEEP PRISONERS IN GOOD HEALTH.+

IN ADDITION, HE WENT ON, THERE WAS A PUNISHMENT DIET OF 99 CENTS PER DAY AND IN THE LAST 21 MONTHS 660 PRISONERS IN STANLEY PRISON WERE AWARDED 2,959 DAYS DIETARY PUNISHMENT AND 817 PRISONERS IN OTHER INSTITUTIONS WERE AWARDED 3,506 DAYS.

MR. DAVIES ALSO STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF EXPANDING THE SCOPE AND COVERAGE OF PRISON INDUSTRIES SO THAT A GREATER NUMBER OF THOSE WHO ARE INCARCERATED CAN BE USEFULLY AND PRODUCTIVELY EMPLOYED AND TRAINED IN A WIDE VARIETY OF TASKS FOR A LONGER PERIOD A DAY. PLANS TO ACHIEVE THIS, HE SAID, WERE NOW BEING CONSIDERED.

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ECONOMIC RECESSION LEVELLING OFF, SAYS C & I DIRECTOR

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THE DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, THE HON. DAVID JORDAN, SAID TODAY THAT MOST OF THE AVAILABLE ECONOMIC STATISTICS POINT TO THE END OF HONG KONG'S RECESSION, AND IT WAS REASONABLE TO HOPE THAT THE IMPROVEMENT WOULD CONTINUE.

MR. JORDAN WAS SPEAKING AT THE RESUMED DEBATE IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

+EVEN THOUGH WE CANNOT BE SURE OF HOW FAR OR HOW FAST WE SHALL MOVE, THE SIGNS CERTAINLY ARE THAT WE ARE MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION AND THIS IS REFLECTED IN AN AIR OF CONFIDENCE THAT IS SPREADING AGAIN IN HONG KONG,+ HE SAID.

MR. JORDAN SAID THE SEPTEMBER FIGURES -- UP BY 18 PER CENT ON THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR -- LOOKED VERY GOOD= BUT ADDED THAT THERE.WERE SOME UNUSUAL FACTORS IN THAT MONTH. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE IMPORTANT THING WAS THE SLOWING DOWN IN RECENT MONTHS OF THE EXPORT DECLINES WHICH OCCURED AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR.

MR. JORDAN CONTINUED : +AND INDEED THANKS TO THE SURPRISINGLY HIGH SEPTEMBER FIGURE, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE THREE MONTHS TO SEPTEMBER WAS UP BY 3 PER CENT ON 1974. IMPORTS, TOO ARE UP AND THIS IS EVEN MORE ENCOURAGING THAN THE EXPORT FIGURES.

+THERE ARE, I AM GLAD TO SAY, SIGNS THAT THE DECLINE IN MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT HAS STOPPED TOO.+

ON TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS, MR. JORDAN POINTED OUT THAT THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT HAD HAD TO CONDUCT MORE AND MORE NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT THESE HAD TO BE CONDUCTED IN AN ATMOSPHERE THAT WAS 'FRANKLY INIMICAL' TO THE BASIC PURPOSE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENT REGARDING TRADE IN TEXTILES.

+I THINK SOME PEOPLE HAVE LOST SIGHT OF THE DECLARED PURPOSE OF THAT ARRANGEMENT -- ''TO PROMOTE ON A SOUND BASIS THE DEVELOPMENT OF PRODUCTION AND EXPANSION OF TRADE IN TEXTILE PRODUCTS AND PROGRESSIVELY TO ACHIEVE THE REDUCTION OF TRADE BARRIERS AND THE LIBERALISATION OF WORLD TRADE IN THESE PRODUCTS'',+ HE SAID.

REFERRING TO THE HON. FRANCIS TIEN'S CONCERN ABOUT THE DIFFICULTIES D.C. AND I. FACED IN THIS SITUATION, MR. JORDAN ASSURED MR. TIEN THAT THERE WAS NO FEAR THAT THE DEPARTMENT WOULD BECOME UNWIELDY AND LOSE ITS FLEXIBILITY EVEN THOUGH THE WORK CONTINUED TO GROW IN VOLUME AND COMPLEXITY. +WHAT WORRIES ME,+ MR. JORDAN SAID, +IS THE PRESSURE OF WORK.+

+MANY MEN AND WOMEN IN THE DEPARTMENT HAVE WORKED VERY LONG HOURS THIS YEAR -- AND WITHOUT EXTRA PAY, SINCE NO ONE ABOVE THE RANK OF CLERICAL OFFICER QUALIFIES FOR OVERTIME PAY -- AND I CAN SEE NO LIGHT AT THE END OF THIS TUNNEL,+ HE REMARKED.

/ON THE SUGGESTION .....

ON THE SUGGESTION THAT THE D.C. AND I. SHOULD BE SPLIT INTO TWO NEW DEPARTMENTS, A TEXTILES DEPARTMENT AND AN OTHER INDUSTRIES DEPARTMENT, TO BE CO-ORDINATED BY A SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR. JORDAN SAID HE RECALLED THAT A SIMILAR SUGGESTION WAS MADE IN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL A YEAR AGO BY MR. Q.W. LEE AND SUPPORTED BY OTHER MEMBERS= BUT HE POINTED OUT THAT THIS WAS MORE A QUESTION FOR THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, AS HEAD OF THE CIVIL SERVICE.

BUT THERE WAS ONE ASPECT OF MR. TIEN'S PROPOSALS ON WHICH MR. JORDAN SAID HE DISAGREED WITH MR. TIEN. THIS CONCERNED THE DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITIES BETWEEN HIS TWO PROPOSED DEPARTMENTS.

+I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD HAVE ONE POLICY AND SERVICE FOR AND ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY AND A DIFFERENT ONE FOR OTHER INDUSTRIES, AND THIS WOULD UNAVOIDABLY BE THE WAY THINGS WOULD TEND TO GO,+ MR. JORDAN WARNED.

REFERRING TO DR. THE HON. S.Y. CHUNG'S EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD EXERT EVERY EFFORT TO REMOVE ANY DISCRIMINATORY RESTRICTIONS ON HONG KONG'S TRADE, MR. JORDAN SAID : +WE WILL DO WHAT WE CAN BUT WE HAVE NOT THE RESOURCES TO DO ALL OF IT. FINANCIAL STRINGENCY MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE. AS IT IS, WE ARE PRETTY SEVERELY STRETCHED TO DEAL WITH ALL THE MATTERS THAT DEMAND ATTENTION : THOSE THAT CAN WAIT HAVE TO DO SO.+

IN THE FIELD OF GENERALISED SCHEMES OF PREFERENCES, FOR EXAMPLE, MR. JORDAN POINTED OUT THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAD CONCENTRATED ITS EFFORTS ON SEEKING IMPROVEMENT IN HONG KONG'S POSITION IN THE EEC AND JAPANESE SCHEMES AND ON SEEKING INCLUSION IN THE US SCHEME.

FIVE OTHER COUNTRIES, HE ADDED, OPERATED SCHEMES FROM WHICH HONG KONG WAS WHOLLY OR PARTLY EXCLUDED AND THE DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN ABLE TO DO VERY LITTLE ABOUT THIS IN THE PAST YEAR.

ON TEXTILES QUOTAS, MR. JORDAN SAID : +OUR QUOTA SYSTEM IS NOT PERFECT, WE KNOW, AND WE HAVE LONG INTENDED TO MAKE A THOROUGH-GOING REVIEW OF IT, BUT HAVE BEEN PREVENTED BY THE PRESSURE OF IMMEDIATE NEEDS TO KEEP THE SYSTEM WORKING. NEVERTHELESS WE HOPE OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS TO COMPLETE THIS REVIEW, AND WE ARE GIVING EVERYONE WHO IS INTERESTED THE OPPORTUNITY TO PUT THEIR VIEWS TO US.+

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FILM CLASSIFICATIONS TO BE REVISED

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THE GOVERNMENT IS LOOKING INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF INTRODUCING A NEW CLASSIFICATION FOR FILMS CONSIDERED UNSUITABLE FOR CHILDREN EXCEPT WHERE THEY ARE SEEN IN THE COMPANY OF AN ADULT.

SPEAKING IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL THIS AFTERNOON, THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, THE HON. DENIS BRAY, SAID HE BELIEVED AN EXTENDED ADVISORY SYSTEM SUCH AS THIS WOULD BE HELPFUL TO CINEMA AUDIENCES GENERALLY AND PARENTS IN PARTICULAR.

HE EXPLAINED THAT THE MOVE WAS BEING CONSIDERED BECAUSE ABOUT HALF THE FILMS CLASSIFIED AS 'UNSUITABLE FOR CHILDREN' WOULD NOT BE UNSUITABLE FOR THEM PROVIDED THE CHILDREN SAW THEM IN THE COMPANY OF ADULTS WHO COULD TELL THEM ABOUT SEQUENCES WHICH THEY MIGHT OTHERWISE FIND DISTURBING.

MR. BRAY ADDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS, IN THE PAST, REJECTED FOR PRACTICAL REASONS AND PROBLEMS OF ENFORCEMENT, PROHIBITING THE ADMISSION OF CHILDREN WHEN ADULT FILMS ARE BEING SHOWN.

+IT IS THEREFORE THOUGHT RIGHT THAT PARENTS SHOULD REMAIN RESPONSIBLE FOR DECIDING WHAT THEIR CHILDREN MAY OR MAY NOT SEE ON THE SCREEN.+

THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS ALSO DISCLOSED THAT AMENDMENTS ARE BEING PREPARED TO THE FILM CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS WHICH WOULD ALLOW PEOPLE, OTHER THAN THE CENSORS, TO BE PRESENT AT CENSORSHIP SESSIONS AND INCREASE THE FILM BOARD OF REVIEW TO INCLUDE TWO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

DEALING WITH THE TELEVISION ADVISORY BOARD, MR. BRAY SAID THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERSHIP HAD ONLY RECENTLY BEEN INCREASED FROM TWO TO THREE MEMBERS AND IT WAS FELT THAT THERE WAS NO NEED FOR CHANGES AT THE PRESENT.

HE ALSO DID NOT BELIEVE THAT THERE WAS ANY JUSTIFICATION FOR A CHANGE IN CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE BOARD OR THE MAJOR ALTERATIONS TO THE TELEVISION ORDINANCE WHICH THIS WOULD REQUIRE.

ON THE USE OF HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES, MR. BRAY SAID THE COUNCIL FOR RECREATION AND SPORT HAD ACCEPTED, WITH EXTREME RELUCTANCE, THAT SUCH USE OF THE RESERVOIRS WOULD LEAD TO COSTLY CAPITAL WORKS TO MAINTAIN THE PRESENT HIGH STANDARD OF PURITY OF THE WATER SUPPLY.

+WE COULD NOT JUSTIFY THIS SORT OF SPENDING WHEN SMALLER SUMS SPENT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF OTHER RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES WOULD BE FAR MORE WORTHWHILE.+

/HE EXPLAINED .....

HE EXPLAINED THAT IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT TO RESTRICT TO A SUFFICIENTLY LOW LEVEL THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO WOULD SEEK TO USE THE RESERVOIRS FOR RECREATION.

PART OF HONG KONG'S WATER PURIFICATION SYSTEM RELIES ON THE FACT THAT THE RESERVOIRS ARE NOT HEAVILY POLLUTED AND +WE COULD NOT TAKE THE RISK OF HAVING TO CLOSE DOWN A RESERVOIR AND REDUCE OUR WATER SUPPLY BECAUSE OF POLLUTION.+

HOWEVER, HE SAID IT MAY STILL BE POSSIBLE TO ALLOW A STRICTLY LIMITED AMOUNT OF SPORTING USE - AS DISTINCT FROM RECREATIONAL USE - OF ONE RESERVOIR.

THE MATTER WAS STILL BEING EXAMINED, BUT IF IT COULD BE ARRANGED IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO THE HONG KONG CANOEISTS TAKING PART IN THE FORTHCOMING MONTREAL GAMES TO GET IN SOME PRACTICE ON FRESH STILL WATER.

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CENTRALISED POLLUTION CONTROL
UNIT TO BE SET UP
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THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SMALL CENTRALISED POLLUTION CONTROL UNIT IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT RECOMMENDATIONS MADE IN THE FIRST REPORT OF THE CONSULTANTS APPOINTED TO ADVISE THE GOVERNMENT ON ALL ASPECTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION LEGISLATION.

THE SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, THE HON. JAMES ROBSON, TOLD LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL THIS AFTERNOON THAT THE PROPOSED UNIT WOULD SET ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES, CO-ORDINATE ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING PROGRAMMES AND OVERSEE THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE LEGISLATION BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

+INSTEAD OF A SYSTEM OF RIGID ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS, THE CONSULTANTS HAVE RECOMMENDED A FLEXIBLE APPROACH TO POLLUTION CONTROL WHICH WOULD ALLOW THE CONTROL UNIT TO JUDGE THE BEST METHOD OF PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT IN EACH AREA, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL NEEDS AS WELL AS ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS,+ HE SAID.

MR. ROBSON POINTED OUT THAT SUCH AN APPROACH WOULD PROTECT EXISTING INDUSTRIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT, BECAUSE ENACTMENT OF THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION AND THE SETTING UP OF A CONTROL UNIT SHOULD LEAD TO BETTER CONTROL OF ALL TYPES OF POLLUTION. IT WOULD ALSO ESTABLISH CLEAR BUT PRACTICAL ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDELINES WITHIN WHICH INDUSTRY COULD DEVELOP WITHOUT DETRIMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENT.

THE CONSULTANTS' REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS ARE NOW BEING CONSIDERED IN DEPTH BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION. IT IS HOPED THAT BY EARLY NEXT YEAR, THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE IN A POSITION TO INSTRUCT THE CONSULTANTS TO BEGIN WORK ON THE FINAL STAGE OF THE PROGRAMME WHICH IS TO PREPARE FORMAL DRAFTING INSTRUCTIONS FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ORDINANCE.

ON THE QUESTION OF SUBSIDISING SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS TRAVELLING ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT, MR. ROBSON CORRECTED THE IMPRESSION THAT THE SCHEME WAS BEING ABUSED AND THAT MORE SEASON TICKETS WERE BEING ISSUED THAN THERE WERE STUDENTS.

HE EXPLAINED THAT THERE WERE DIFFERENT TYPES OF SEASON TICKET - ANNUAL AND MONTHLY - AND THE STATISTICS WERE EASILY MISUNDERSTOOD. IN THE MONTH OF JUNE, THERE WERE 257,100 STUDENT TICKETS ISSUED COMPARED WITH THE FIGURE OF 370,573 STUDENTS QUOTED BY MR. HILTON CHEONG-LEEN.

MR. CHEONG-LEEN HAD INDICATED THAT SOME 403,966 SEASON TICKETS WERE IN USE BUT, MR. ROBSON SAID, THIS PROBABLY INCLUDED SOME 10 MONTHS OF DOUBLE ACCOUNTING OF THE MONTHLY SEASON TICKETS SOLD BY THE CHINA MOTOR BUS COMPANY.

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REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONIES
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SPECIAL REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONIES WILL BE HELD THROUGHOUT HONG KONG ON SUNDAY (NOVEMBER 9) IN HONOUR OF THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN THE TWO WORLD WARS.

THE MAIN MEMORIAL SERVICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE CENOTAPH IN STATUE SQUARE.

AMONG THOSE ATTENDING WILL BE THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, SIR DENYS ROBERTS= THE THREE SERVICE COMMANDERS LED BY THE ACTING COMMANDER, BRITISH FORCES, MAJOR GEN. R.W.L. MCALISTER= THE CHIEF JUSTICE, MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMANDING OFFICERS' COMMITTEE, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MERCHANT NAVY, COMMONWEALTH COMMISSIONERS, THE DOYEN OF THE CONSULAR CORPS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION, SERVICE UNITS AND EX-SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS.

TWO HONOUR GUARDS WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT (THE VOLUNTEERS) AND THE 1ST BATTATION THE ROYAL HAMPSHIRE REGIMENT. THE BAND OF THE ROYAL HAMPSHIRE REGIMENT WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE.

THE GOVERNOR WILL ARRIVE AT 10.58 A.M. AND, ACCOMPANIED BY THE SERVICE COMMANDERS, WILL TAKE HIS PLACE AT THE CENOTAPH. FOLLOWING THE PLAYING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND THE SOUNDING OF THE LAST POST, A TWO-MINUTE SILENCE WILL BE OBSERVED AT 11 A.M. THE BEGINNING AND ENDING OF WHICH WILL BE MARKED BY THE FIRING OF A GUN IN H.M.S. TAMAR.

DURING THIS PERIOD, ALL SHIPOWNERS, SHIPMASTERS AND PEOPLE IN CHARGE OF SMALL CRAFT ARE REQUESTED TO CO-OPERATE IN REDUCING TO THE MINIMUM THE SOUNDING OF WHISTLES, HORNS OR SIRENS IN THE VICINITY OF THE CENOTAPH.

AFTER THE CEREMONY AT THE CENOTAPH, THE GOVERNOR WILL ATTEND A REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE IN ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND ALL SERVICE OFFICERS, APART FROM THOSE OFFICIALLY INVITED, WHO WISH TO LAY WREATHS AT THE CENOTAPH MAY DO SO AFTER THE GUARDS AND BAND HAVE MOVED OFF AND THE SENTRIES HAVE STOOD DOWN.

PRIOR TO THE CENOTAPH TRIBUTE, A SHORT CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT 10 A.M. AT THE CHINESE WAR MEMORIAL IN THE ZOOLOGICAL AND BOTANIC GARDENS.

THE GOVERNOR AND THE ACTING COMMANDER, BRITISH FORCES, WILL LAY WREATHS THERE. THEY WILL BE FOLLOWED BY THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, CHINESE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS, AND CHINESE MEMBERS OF THE URBAN COUNCIL.

/AT SEK KONG .....

AT SEK KONG, A REMEMBRANCE SERVICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE LAND FORCES SCHOOL, SEK KONG NORTH CAMP, AT 10.45 A.M.

UNITS OF THE HEADQUARTERS 48 GURKHA INFANTRY BRIGADE, C SQUADRON ROYAL TANK REGIMENT, 20 LIGHT REGIMENT, ROYAL ARTILLERY, 656 SQUADRON ARMY AIR CORPS AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM ALL OTHER BRIGADES WILL BE TAKING PART.

A CHURCH SERVICE WILL BE HELD AT 10.30 A.M. AT ST. BARBARA'S CHURCH IN STANLEY FORT AND A DRUMHEAD SERVICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT 12 NOON AT ST. ELIGIUS CHURCH IN THE GUN CLUB BARRACKS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

CENOTAPH CEREMONY

FOR THIS CEREMONY, THERE WILL BE LIMITED ACCOMMODATION FOR NEWSPAPER REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS AT THE WESTERN END OF THE FIRST FLOOR BALCONY OF THE SUPREME COURT.

THERE WILL BE NO SPECIAL PRESS POSITION WITHIN THE STATUE SQUARE PERIMETER.

PRESS REPRESENTATIVES ARE REQUESTED TO OBSERVE THE SOLEMNITY OF THE OCCASION, PARTICULARLY DURING THE TWO-MINUTE SILENCE.

NEWSPAPERS WISHING TO STATION REPRESENTATIVES ON THE SUPREME COURT BALCONY, SHOULD SUPPLY THEIR NAMES TO THE DUTY OFFICERS, GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES, BY NOON TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

IN VIEW OF THE LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE ON THE SUPREME COURT BALCONY, IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO RESTRICT ACCOMMODATION TO PHOTOGRAPHERS ONLY. SPECIAL LAPEL BADGES WILL BE ISSUED ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON. G.I.S. OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST PRESS REPRESENTATIVES.

CHINESE WAR MEMORIAL CEREMONY

EDITORS ARE ADVISED THAT PRESS REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED INSIDE THE ROPE CORDON AROUND THE CHINESE WAR MEMORIAL IN THE ZOOLOGICAL AND BOTANIC GARDENS.

PRESS REPRESENTATIVES WILL STAND EITHER ON THE EAST OR WEST SIDE OF THE ROPE CORDON. THEY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO STAND ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE MEMORIAL ARCH.

PRESS REPRESENTATIVES ARE PARTICULARLY REQUESTED, IN VIEW OF THE LIMITED ACCOMMODATION, TO OBSERVE THE DIRECTION OF POLICE OFFICERS ON DUTY.

MEMORIAL SERVICES AT SEK KONG,
STANLEY FORT AND GUN CLUB BARRACKS

THE PRESS ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE SERVICES.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS

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MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED TODAY THAT A NEW VEHICULAR UNDERPASS LINKING WAH FU ESTATE WITH THE NEW SHEK PAI WAN ROAD IN ABERDEEN WILL BE OPENED TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT 10 A.M.

THE UNDERPASS WILL SERVE TRAFFIC FROM WAH FU ESTATE PROCEEDING SOUTH ALONG SHEK PAI WAN ROAD AS WELL AS SOUTHBOUND TRAFFIC ON SHEK PAI WAN ROAD GOING INTO THE ESTATE.

IN CONJUNCTION WITH ITS OPENING, THERE WILL BE TEMPORARY TRAFFIC DIVERSIONS AT POKFULAM ROAD, SHEK PAI WAN ROAD AND VICTORIA ROAD JUNCTIONS. APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE POSTED TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

IN CENTRAL DISTRICT, THE SIXTH AND SEVENTH FLOORS OF THE MURRAY ROAD MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED TO PUBLIC PARKING FROM MIDNIGHT ON SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 8) TILL 1 P.M. THE NEXT DAY IN ORDER TO PROVIDE PARKING SPACES FOR GUEST VEHICLES IN CONNECTION WITH REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY ON SUNDAY.

MEANWHILE, IN TAI PO, NEW TERRITORIES, SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED ALONG A SECTION OF WAN TAU STREET IN CONNECTION WITH THE +DRIVER OF THE YEAR+ COMPETITION TO BE HELD ON SUNDAY (NOVEMBER 9).

THE SECTION OF WAN TAU STREET FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH HEUNG SZE WUI STREET TO ITS CUL-DE-SAC AT THE RAILWAY WILL BE CLOSED TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC FROM MIDNIGHT ON SATURDAY UNTIL 6 P.M. THE NEXT DAY.

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CHRISTMAS AEROGRAMMES

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THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT CHRISTMAS PICTORIAL AEROGRAMMES WILL BE ON SALE AT ALL POST OFFICES FROM MONDAY (NOVEMBER 10).

THE DESIGN DEPICTING A SCENE OF VICTORIA HARBOUR WAS DRAWN BY A GOVERNMENT ARTIST.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE POST OFFICE SAID: +CHRISTMAS AEROGRAMMES ARE A CONVENIENT AND INEXPENSIVE WAY OF SENDING CHRISTMAS GREETINGS ABROAD. THEY COMBINE BOTH A PERSONAL LETTER AND A GREETING AND CAN BE POSTED TO ANY PART OF THE WORLD AS FIRST CLASS AIRMAIL FOR ONLY 50 CENTS.+

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WATER CUTS

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WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN NORTH POINT ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND IN YAU MA TEI IN KOWLOON WILL BE INTERUPTED FOR ABOUT FIVE HOURS STARTING FROM 1 A.M. ON SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 8) TO FACILITATE LEAKAGE TEST TO BE CARRIED OUT IN THE AREAS.

ON HONG KONG ISLAND, THE PREMISES AFFECTED ARE BOUNDED BY JAVA ROAD FROM HEALTHY STREET, EAST TO KING'S ROAD HOUSE NO. 865 TO 971, KING'S ROAD, TONG CHONG STREET, HOI WAN STREET, HOI TAI STREET, HOI KWONG STREET AND FINNIE STREET INCLUDING H.K. AND CHINA GAS CO. LTD.

THE AREA AFFECTED IN KOWLOON IS BOUNDED BY JORDAN ROAD, SEA-FRONT, MAN CHEONG STREET, SAIGON STREET AND CANTON ROAD.

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