



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 1986

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
STATISTICS ON IMPACT OF MTR ISLAND LINE RELEASED	1
NOVEMBER ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT, PAYROLL FIGURES OUT	3
OVERSEAS PROMOTION OF HK PRODUCTS STRESSED	6
NEW CHAIRMAN APPOINTED	7
LORDS' DEBATE TO BE BROADCAST LIVE	7
ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY NEEDS SKILLED WORKERS	7
APPLY EARLY FOR TRAVEL DOCUMENTS	8
CAREERS CONVENTIONS FOR STUDENTS ORGANISED	9
DRIVE TO INOCULATE FISHERMEN'S DOGS	10
REGIONAL COUNCIL SELECT COMMITTEE TO MEET	11
FINALS OF MATHEMATICS OLYMPIAD ON SATURDAY	11
PUBLIC SESSION MEETING	12
SPECIAL STAMP SET ON HALLEY'S COMET	12
INSPECTION OPERATION TO BE CONDUCTED	13
NON-URBAN BATHING SHEDS FOR LEASE	13
EXHIBITION ON WAN CHAI DEVELOPMENT OPENS	14
CONTRACT FOR LIFT, FIRE SERVICES INSTALLATION	14
CHINESE BAZAAR NIGHT FOR WAN CHAI	15
FIRE STATION SITE FORMATION WORK TO START	15
WATER STORAGE FIGURES	16
MID-LEVELS WATER CUT	16

MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 1986

- 1 -

STATISTICS ON IMPACT OF MTR ISLAND LINE RELEASED
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THE PASSENGER DECLINE ON VARIOUS PUBLIC TRANSPORT MODES AS A RESULT OF THE OPENING OF THE MTR ISLAND LINE TAPERED OFF IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER LAST YEAR BUT THE PATRONAGE LOSS ON EXPRESS BUS SERVICES OPERATED BY CMB ALONG THE NORTHERN CORRIDOR OF HONG KONG ISLAND REMAINED WELL OVER 40 PER CENT.

THIS WAS REVEALED IN A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT REPORT ON THE IMPACT OF THE ISLAND LINE IN THE MONTHS AUGUST TO NOVEMBER, 1985. THE STATISTICS WERE BASED LARGELY ON TRAFFIC RETURNS SUBMITTED BY OPERATORS AND SUPPLEMENTED BY SURVEYS CONDUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, TOTAL PASSENGERS ON THE MTR NUMBERED AROUND 1.4 MILLION PASSENGERS PER DAY IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER, REPRESENTING INCREASES OF ABOUT 27 PER CENT OVER THE MARCH AVERAGE. IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER, THE AVERAGE DAILY RIDERSHIP LEVELLED OFF TO 1.38 MILLION PASSENGERS.

THE RATE OF PASSENGER DECREASE ON BUS AND FERRY SERVICES IN NOVEMBER COMPARED WITH THE MARCH LEVEL WAS THE LOWEST RECORDED SINCE THE OPENING OF THE ISLAND LINE. AS FOR TRAMS, THE PASSENGER VOLUMES IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER EXCEEDED THE MARCH FIGURES.

EVEN SO, CMB CORRIDOR EXPRESS SERVICES, WHICH INCLUDE SUCH ROUTES AS NO. 10B, 20, 21, 22, 80 AND 81M, CONTINUED TO SUFFER AN AVERAGE PATRONAGE LOSS OF 42 PER CENT IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER AND AN AVERAGE LOSS OF 47 PER CENT IN THE PRECEDING TWO MONTHS.

THE AVERAGE DECREASE REGISTERED BY CMB BUS SERVICES VIA THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR WAS 32 PER CENT IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER, AND 27 PER CENT IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER.

CORRIDOR URBAN BUS SERVICES, SUCH AS ROUTES NO. 2, 16 AND 82 WHICH RUN PARALLEL TO THE ISLAND LINE REPORTED AN AVERAGE DROP OF 21 PER CENT IN DAILY PASSENGER VOLUME IN AUGUST AND 10 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER. FOR ROUTES WHICH ARE ONLY PARTLY PARALLEL WITH THE ISLAND LINE, SUCH AS NO. 5, 10, 24 AND 81, THE PASSENGER LOSS ALSO EASED FROM THE 17 PER CENT RECORDED IN AUGUST TO SEVEN PER CENT IN NOVEMBER.

HOWEVER CMB'S FEEDER ROUTES TO MTR STATIONS CONTINUED TO SHOW OVERALL INCREASES OF 28 PER CENT IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER COMPARED WITH MARCH.

OVERALL, HONG KONG ISLAND INTERNAL BUS ROUTES RECORDED A PATRONAGE DECLINE OF 20 PER CENT IN AUGUST COMPARED WITH THE MARCH VOLUME. THE FIGURES FOR SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER WERE 16 PER CENT, 11 PER CENT AND NINE PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

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MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 1986

- 2 -

AS FOR CMB AND KMB CROSS-HARBOUR SERVICES RUNNING IN THE EASTERN PART OF THE ISLAND, INCLUDING ROUTES NO. 102, 106, 112 AND 116, THE DECREASE IN PASSENGER VOLUME DURING THE FOUR MONTHS UNDER REVIEW RANGED FROM 12 TO 37 PER CENT.

AS PART OF ITS ON-GOING EXERCISE TO STREAMLINE BUS OPERATIONS FOLLOWING THE OPENING OF THE ISLAND LINE, CMB HAS REDUCED THE FREQUENCY OF SERVICES ON ROUTES NO. 5 AND 23B AND SUSPENDED THE SATURDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE OF ROUTE NO. 16.

MEANWHILE, THE PASSENGER VOLUMES FOR TRAMS IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER WERE UP BY FIVE PER CENT AND TWO PER CENT RESPECTIVELY OVER THE MARCH FIGURES. HOWEVER, IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER, DECREASES OF FOUR PER CENT AND THREE PER CENT WERE REGISTERED RESPECTIVELY.

IN SEPTEMBER, HYF'S CROSS-HARBOUR FERRY ROUTES RECORDED THE LOWEST PATRONAGE SINCE THE ISLAND LINE COMMENCED OPERATION, WITH THE DAILY PASSENGER FIGURES DROPPING TO 12 PER CENT BELOW THE MARCH VOLUME. ALTHOUGH A MARKED IMPROVEMENT IN PATRONAGE WAS NOTED IN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS, THE RATE OF DECREASE STILL STOOD AT SEVEN PER CENT IN NOVEMBER. THE NORTH POINT - HUNG HOM SERVICE REMAINED THE HARDEST HIT, FOLLOWED BY THE SAI WAN HO - KOWLOON CITY AND THE SAI WAN HO - KWUN TONG SERVICES.

THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW SAW GREAT FLUCTUATIONS IN PATRONAGE ON STAR FERRY SERVICES. IN SEPTEMBER, THE DECLINE IN PASSENGERS COMPARED WITH MARCH WAS NINE PER CENT BUT IN NOVEMBER, PATRONAGE CLIMBED BACK TO THE PRE-ISLAND LINE OPENING LEVEL.

AS FOR THE KCR, RIDERSHIP HAD INCREASED STEADILY. BETWEEN AUGUST AND OCTOBER, THE RISE IN PATRONAGE WAS AROUND 12 PER CENT OVER THE FIGURES IN MAY, AND BY NOVEMBER, THE INCREASE ROSE TO 15 PER CENT.

THE GROWTH IN PATRONAGE ON GREEN MINIBUS SERVICES WAS ALSO SUSTAINED. IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER, THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAILY PASSENGERS CARRIED BY GREEN MINIBUSES ON HONG KONG ISLAND WAS EIGHT PER CENT HIGHER THAN THE MARCH FIGURES WHILE IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER, THE INCREASE WAS 15 PER CENT.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT THE PATRONAGE CHANGES RECORDED MIGHT NOT BE WHOLLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE OPENING OF THE ISLAND LINE. OTHER FACTORS SUCH AS SEASONAL VARIATIONS IN DEMAND, POPULATION CHANGES AND SERVICE CHANGES MIGHT ALSO HAVE PLAYED A PART IN AFFECTING THE PASSENGER VOLUMES.

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/3

MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 1986

- 3 -

NOVEMBER ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT,
PAYROLL FIGURES OUT

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THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND (IN TERMS OF MONTHS) IN THE 200 LARGEST FIRMS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR DECLINED SLIGHTLY IN NOVEMBER 1985 COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH, ACCORDING TO THE RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE WEARING APPAREL, PLASTIC PRODUCTS, AND ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES REPORTED A DECLINE IN THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS, WHEREAS THE OTHER MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES REPORTED NO CHANGE.

THE LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR AS A WHOLE ALSO FELL SLIGHTLY AS SOME FIRMS LAID OFF WORKERS. DECREASES IN EMPLOYMENT MAINLY OCCURRED IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY AND, TO A LESSER EXTENT, IN THE FOOD AND DRINKS INDUSTRY.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE WEARING APPAREL, TEXTILES, FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS, AND ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES REPORTED A STABLE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION.

INCREASES IN BOTH PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS WERE REPORTED BY THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS, AND ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES, MAINLY DUE TO THE SEVERANCE PAY GIVEN BY SOME FIRMS TO LAID-OFF WORKERS.

THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY HAD A NOTABLE DECLINE IN PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS.

IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR, THE NUMBER OF OPERATIVES DECLINED AS SOME PROJECTS WERE COMPLETED.

BOTH PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN THE SERVICES SECTORS DECLINED AS THERE HAD BEEN PAYMENT OF BONUSES BY SOME FIRMS IN OCTOBER.

THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS FOR THE LAST THREE MONTHS ARE SHOWN IN THE TABLES BELOW.

THE SURVEY COVERED A PANEL OF THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES AND THE 50 LARGEST COMPANIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND SELECTED SERVICES SECTORS CHOSEN BY REFERENCE TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH 1983.

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MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 1986

- 4 -

AS THE SAMPLE WAS NOT DRAWN ON A RANDOM BASIS, THE DEPARTMENT CAUTIONED THAT RESULTS ON MAGNITUDE OF CHANGE MIGHT NOT REFLECT THE EXPERIENCE OF THE ECONOMY AS A WHOLE, ALTHOUGH THEY SHOULD GIVE A USEFUL INDICATION OF THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE FOR A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ECONOMY IN THE SHORT TERM.

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 1985 IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, AND THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER, KAI TAK COMMERCIAL BUILDING, AT \$1.50 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE MADE TO THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT AT 3-7212854.

A. ORDERS-ON-HAND IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

<u>INDUSTRY</u>	(% CHANGE OVER THE PRECEDING MONTH)			ORDERS-ON-HAND (IN TERMS OF MONTHS) FOR NOVEMBER 1985
	SEPT. 1985	OCT. 1985	NOV. 1985	
WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR	-2	*	-2	4.32
TEXTILES, EXCEPT WEARING APPAREL	*	8	*	2.37
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	-7	-5	-2	3.71
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	-5	-3	*	3.15
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	-3	-2	-1	4.83
OTHERS	*	*	*	4.41
<u>ALL ABOVE INDUSTRIES</u>	<u>-3</u>	<u>-1</u>	<u>-1</u>	<u>4.12</u>

/B. EMPLOYMENT AND

B. EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS

INDUSTRY/ SERVICES	PERSONS ENGAGED BY THE COMPANIES SURVEYED			PER CAPITA EARNINGS			PER CAPITA EARNINGS FOR NOVEMBER 1985 HK \$
	(% CHANGE OVER THE PRECEDING MONTH)						
	SEPT. 1985	OCT. 1985	NOV. 1985	SEPT. 1985	OCT. 1985	NOV. 1985	
<u>MANUFACTURING</u>	-3	-1	-1	-1	2	1	3 095
FOOD AND DRINKS	*	-1	-1	-2	*	-4	3 644
WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR	*	*	*	-5	5	*	2 622
TEXTILES, EXCEPT WEARING APPAREL	*	*	*	1	3	1	3 162
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	-11	-2	-3	-7	1	-5	2 581
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	-4	-1	*	6	7	6	3 142
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	-3	-3	*	*	*	2	2 906
OTHERS	-2	-1	-2	-1	2	5	4 317
<u>CONSTRUCTION **</u>	-2	-1	-2	2	-4	1	4 426
<u>SERVICES</u>	*	*	*	4	-4	-2	5 367
BANKS	*	*	*	1	-1	*	4 918
HOTELS	1	1	1	-1	2	-3	3 519
PUBLIC UTILITIES	*	*	*	12	-6	-6	5 444
OTHERS	*	1	*	-8	-1	-1	6 533

* CHANGES WITHIN + 0.5 PER CENT

** PERSONS ENGAGED COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY= SITE WORKERS
EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS NOT INCLUDED.

MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 1986

- 6 -

OVERSEAS PROMOTION OF HK PRODUCTS STRESSED
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AN EFFICIENT GARMENT INDUSTRY ALONE WAS NOT SUFFICIENT TO ENSURE SUCCESS AND MUCH WOULD DEPEND ON THE EXTENT TO WHICH ITS PRODUCTS WERE PROMOTED AND GIVEN ACCESS TO OVERSEAS MARKETS, THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR E.P. HO, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

ADDRESSING THE OPENING OF THE CASUAL APPAREL SHOW ORGANISED BY THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AT THE HONG KONG EXHIBITION CENTRE, MR HO PAID TRIBUTE TO THE TDC FOR ITS EFFORTS IN PROMOTING HONG KONG'S OVERSEAS MARKETS.

+CREDIT MUST BE DUE TO THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, WHICH HAS OVER THE YEARS BEEN CONSISTENTLY PUTTING UP EFFECTIVE AND IMPRESSIVE TRADE PROMOTION PROGRAMMES TO ASSIST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR TRADE.

+THAT THE COUNCIL IS RESPONDING EFFECTIVELY TO CHANGING NEEDS IS WELL ILLUSTRATED BY THE COUNCIL'S EFFORTS IN THE AREA OF GARMENTS PROMOTION.

+THE COUNCIL'S FAMOUS READY-TO-WEAR FESTIVAL WAS A PROMINENT FEATURE IN THE INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR OF FASHION BETWEEN 1968 AND 1979.+

MR HO SAID AS THE COUNCIL ENTERED THE 1980'S, AND TO MEET THE INCREASINGLY SOPHISTICATED AND DISCRIMINATING DEMAND OF APPAREL BUYERS WORLDWIDE, A NEW APPROACH EMPHASISING SPECIALITY HAD BEEN ADOPTED.

+THE SUCCESS OF THIS APPROACH HAS BEEN WELL ILLUSTRATED BY THE WIDE ACCEPTANCE OF THE TWO PREVIOUS SPECIALISED GARMENT SHOWS ORGANISED BY THE COUNCIL - ONE ON WOOL KNITWEAR AND THE OTHER ON WOMEN'S SPORTSWEAR.+

SPEAKING ON GOVERNMENT'S ROLE, MR HO SAID IT HAD ALWAYS PROVIDED AN ADEQUATE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE INDUSTRY TO GROW AND PROSPER.

+ON THE ADVICE OF THE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD, PLANS ARE ON HAND FOR A TECHNO-ECONOMIC AND MARKETING RESEARCH STUDY IN TEXTILES AND CLOTHING TO BE CARRIED OUT IN 1986.+

+THE FINDINGS OF SUCH A STUDY SHOULD ASSIST MANUFACTURERS IN PLANNING FOR EXPANSION AND MOVING UPMARKET,+ MR HO SAID.

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MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 1986

- 7 -

NEW CHAIRMAN APPOINTED

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THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SIR JOHN BREMRIDGE, ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY) THAT THE GOVERNOR HAS APPOINTED MR WONG CHUNG-HIN TO BE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SECURITIES COMMISSION AND COMMODITIES TRADING COMMISSION WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT UNTIL AUGUST 31, 1986.

MR WONG, AGED 52, IS A SENIOR PARTNER IN P.C. WOO AND CO, SOLICITORS. HE HAS SERVED ON THE SECURITIES COMMISSION FROM 1974 TO 1984 AND IS PRESENTLY A MEMEBER OF THE COMMODITIES TRADING COMMISSION TO WHICH HE WAS FIRST APPOINTED IN 1977.

MR WONG IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMPANY LAW REFORM AND HAS A DISTINGUISHED RECORD OF PUBLIC SERVICE.

MR WONG SUCCEEDS THE LATE MR A. ZIMMERN WHO PASSED AWAY ON DECEMBER 20, 1985.

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LORDS' DEBATE TO BE BROADCAST LIVE

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RTHK'S RADIO 3 WILL BROADCAST LIVE THE HOUSE OF LORDS DEBATE ON THE DRAFT HONG KONG (BRITISH NATIONALITY) ORDER WHICH WILL START AT ABOUT 1.30 AM ON TUESDAY (JANUARY 21) HONG KONG TIME.

EDITORS OF THE ELECTRONIC MEDIA ARE REMINDED THAT THE DEBATE CANNOT BE RECORDED AND RE-BROADCAST BECAUSE OF CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS OF RTHK.

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ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY NEEDS SKILLED WORKERS

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THE LOCAL ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY IS GENERALLY MOVING UP-MARKET WITH INCREASED APPLICATION OF MODERN MACHINERY AND THUS REQUIRES A MORE SKILLED WORKFORCE, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THIS WAS REFLECTED IN THE FINDINGS OF A SURVEY PUBLISHED BY THE ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL, IN WHICH THE NUMBER OF TECHNICAL PERSONNEL AT CRAFT, TECHNICIAN AND TECHNOLOGIST LEVELS IN THE INDUSTRY INCREASED FROM 34 000 IN 1983 TO 36 000 IN 1985.

DURING THE SAME PERIOD, THE NUMBER OF OPERATIVES AND UNSKILLED WORKERS DROPPED BY ABOUT 2 000 FROM 23 000 TO 21 000.

/THE TOTAL

THE TOTAL WORKFORCE OF THE INDUSTRY STOOD AT ABOUT 58 000, ALMOST THE SAME AS THAT IN 1983.

ACCORDING TO THE SURVEY, THE CONTRACTING BRANCH OF THE ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY EMPLOYED MORE TECHNOLOGISTS AND TECHNICIANS IN 1985 THAN THE PREVIOUS TWO YEARS, FROM 460 TO 630 FOR TECHNOLOGISTS AND FROM 1 400 TO 1 800 FOR TECHNICIANS.

THE BOARD ATTRIBUTED THE PHENOMENON TO THE COMMISSIONING OF MORE CONTRACTING WORKS OF COMPLEXITY AND SOPHISTICATION WHICH REQUIRED MORE TECHNOLOGISTS AND TECHNICIANS TO HANDLE.

HOWEVER, MANPOWER OF THE INDUSTRY'S MANUFACTURING BRANCH, WHICH AFTER A NOTABLE GROWTH IN EXPORT OF ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE YEARS, DECLINED FROM 25 000 IN 1983 TO 22 000 IN 1985 BECAUSE OF THE RECENT SLUGGISH ECONOMY IN MAJOR WORLD MARKETS.

THE ADOPTION OF AUTOMATION TO RAISE PRODUCTIVITY AND THE MOVING OF SOME FACTORIES TO THE SHENZHEN ECONOMIC ZONE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE CHEAPER OPERATING COST THERE ALSO REDUCED THE EMPLOYMENT SIZE IN THE MANUFACTURING BRANCH, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

NEVERTHELESS, THE BOARD CONCLUDED THAT THE GROWING USE OF MODERN MACHINERY COUPLED WITH THE ANTICIPATED EXPANSION OF THE INDUSTRY AS A RESULT OF INCREASING BUILDING ACTIVITIES IN BOTH THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS WOULD BRING ABOUT A STEADY DEMAND FOR WELL-TRAINED TECHNICAL PERSONNEL FOR THE WHOLE INDUSTRY IN THE YEARS TO COME.

IT FORECAST THAT UP TO THE YEAR 1991 THE INDUSTRY WOULD NEED AT LEAST AN ADDITION OF 220 TECHNOLOGISTS, 380 TECHNICIANS AND 1 350 CRAFTSMEN ANNUALLY TO MEET ITS MANPOWER REQUIREMENT.

COPIES OF THE SURVEY REPORT ARE NOW FOR SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE AT \$15 EACH.

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APPLY EARLY FOR TRAVEL DOCUMENTS
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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC INTENDING TO TRAVEL ABROAD DURING THE COMING LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS SHOULD APPLY FOR TRAVEL DOCUMENTS NOW, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE TRAVELLING OUTSIDE HONG KONG WOULD BE GREATLY INCREASED DURING THIS TIME OF THE YEAR. +IN ORDER TO AVOID LAST MINUTE RUSH, PEOPLE ARE ADVISED TO APPLY FOR PASSPORT AND CERTIFICATE OF IDENTITY WELL IN ADVANCE OF THE DATE ON WHICH THEY INTEND TO TRAVEL,+ HE SAID.

/+IT NORMALLY

+IT NORMALLY TAKES 10 WORKING DAYS TO ISSUE THESE DOCUMENTS IF APPLICATIONS ARE MADE IN THE IMMIGRATION HEADQUARTERS BUT LONGER IF MADE IN THE BRANCH OFFICES.

+RE-ENTRY PERMIT AND DOCUMENT OF IDENTITY FOR VISA PURPOSES ARE NORMALLY ISSUED ON THE SAME DAY BUT DELAY IS LIKELY IF TOO MANY APPLICANTS COME AT THE SAME TIME,+ HE SAID.

+BY APPLYING EARLY, IT WILL NOT ONLY SPREAD THE WORKLOAD OF THE DEPARTMENT BUT WILL ALSO GIVE APPLICANTS EXTRA TIME TO MEET ANY FURTHER VISA PROCESSING REQUIREMENTS WHERE NECESSARY,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO MAKE ENQUIRIES MAY TELEPHONE 3-7333111.

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CAREERS CONVENTIONS FOR STUDENTS ORGANISED
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THE FIRST OF SIX TWO-DAY REGIONAL CAREERS CONVENTIONS FOR SECONDARY STUDENTS WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AT THE YU CHUN KEUNG MEMORIAL COLLEGE IN CHI FU FA YUEN, POK FU LAM.

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF CAREERS MASTERS, THE CONVENTIONS WILL FEATURE A CAREERS DISPLAY PREPARED BY STUDENTS OF PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS AND TALKS ON SELECTED CAREERS BY SPECIALISTS AND PROFESSIONALS.

SENIOR LABOUR OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT ADVISORY SERVICE, MR LEUNG LIT-CHEONG, SAID STUDENTS WOULD BE ABLE TO ACQUIRE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE CAREERS AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO THEM THROUGH THE CONVENTIONS.

IN PREPARING THE DISPLAY PROJECTS, STUDENTS WERE DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN OBTAINING AND PRESENTING CAREERS INFORMATION, HE SAID.

+THE COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND SERVICES SECTORS, TRAINING INSTITUTES AS WELL AS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS SUPPORT THE FUNCTION BY SENDING REPRESENTATIVES TO GIVE CAREERS TALKS ON VARIOUS TOPICS,+ MR LEUNG SAID.

+THESE INCLUDE HOTEL AND TOURISM, ADVERTISING AND PUBLIC RELATIONS, BROADCASTING, ACCOUNTANCY, JOURNALISM, MASS COMMUNICATION, COMPUTER, NURSING, CIVIL SERVICE OPENINGS, BANKING, AIRLINE, DESIGN, TRANSPORT, VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND FURTHER STUDIES.+

HE ADDED THAT THE CONVENTIONS WOULD BE HELD OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS IN DIFFERENT REGIONS FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF STUDENTS.

/THE VENUES

THE VENUES OF THE OTHER FIVE CONVENTIONS ARE C.C.C. KWEI WAH SHAN COLLEGE AT CLOUD VIEW ROAD (JANUARY 24 AND 25), POOI TUN SECONDARY SCHOOL AT HAMMER HILL ROAD (JANUARY 31 AND FEBRUARY 1), BUDDHIST KOK KWONG SECONDARY SCHOOL IN SHA TIN (FEBRUARY 4 AND 5), TSUEN WAN GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL AT HOI PA STREET (FEBRUARY 21 AND 22) AND CARMEL ENGLISH COLLEGE IN HOMANTIN (FEBRUARY 28 AND MARCH 1).

STUDENTS INTERESTED IN VISITING ANY OF THE CONVENTIONS MAY CONTACT THE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT ADVISORY SERVICE AT TELEPHONE 5-7956051.

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DRIVE TO INOCULATE FISHERMEN'S DOGS
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A SPECIAL INOCULATION DRIVE WILL BE LAUNCHED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT BEFORE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR FOR FISHERMEN WISHING TO GET THEIR DOGS INOCULATED AGAINST RABIES.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE DRIVE, THE FOURTH SINCE 1983, WAS PART OF GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUING EFFORTS TO PREVENT THE RE-INTRODUCTION OF THE DISEASE IN HONG KONG.

IT WOULD TAKE THE FORM OF BOAT-TO-BOAT VISITS AND WOULD LAST FOR SIX WORKING DAYS BETWEEN JANUARY 27 AND FEBRUARY 4 FROM 10 AM TO 4 PM DAILY.

THE DEPARTMENT'S MOBILE INOCULATION TEAM WOULD BE VISITING THE FISHING PORTS OF ABERDEEN AND SAM MUN TSAI, TAI PO, ON JANUARY 27 AND 28, AND SAI KUNG AND SHAU KEI WAN ON JANUARY 30 AND 31.

THE TEAM WOULD ALSO CALL ON FISHING VESSELS IN CASTLE PEAK BAY, CHEUNG CHAU AND SHA TAU KOK ON FEBRUARY 3 AND 4.

+THE PERIOD IS SPECIALLY CHOSEN BECAUSE MOST FISHERMEN WOULD BE BACK FROM FISHING TRIPS FOR THE LUNAR NEW YEAR,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE URGED FISHERMEN TO MAKE FULL USE OF THIS SPECIAL SERVICE TO HAVE THEIR DOGS INOCULATED.

+THE INOCULATIONS ARE FREE AND AT THE TIME OF INOCULATION, THEY WILL BE ISSUED WITH A DOG LICENCE WHICH IS VALID FOR THREE YEARS.+

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT ALL DOGS OVER FIVE MONTHS OLD WERE REQUIRED TO BE LICENSED, INOCULATED AGAINST RABIES AND KEPT UNDER CONTROL AT ALL TIMES.

FAILURE TO OBSERVE THESE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS MAY RESULT IN A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$5 000 AND SIX-MONTH IMPRISONMENT, HE WARNED.

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MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 1986

- 11 -

REGIONAL COUNCIL SELECT COMMITTEE TO MEET
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THE RECREATION AND CULTURE SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL WILL HOLD A MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

IT WILL DISCUSS THE CURRENT FEE AND CHARGES FOR THE USE OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES MANAGED BY THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, THE PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS PROGRAMMES ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT, THE IMPROVEMENT WORKS TO THE SHEUNG YIU FOLK MUSEUM, AND A PROPOSED SIX MONTHS' TRIAL SCHEME TO SELL TICKETS FOR REGIONAL COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS AT RSD TOWN HALLS AND CIVIC CENTRES THROUGH THE URBAN COUNCIL'S COMPUTERISED TICKETING SYSTEMS IN THE URBAN AREA.

THE MEETING WILL START AT 2.30 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK AND GOVERNMENT OFFICE BUILDING, SECOND FLOOR, 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING. SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION SERVICE WILL BE PROVIDED.

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FINALS OF MATHEMATICS OLYMPIAD ON SATURDAY
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FORTY FINALISTS WILL CONTEST IN THE FINALS OF THIS YEAR'S HONG KONG MATHEMATICS OLYMPIAD, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE NORTHCOTE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 25) MORNING.

THE FINALS WILL BE HELD AT THE SCHOOL HALL OF THE NORTHCOTE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AT SASSOON ROAD, POKFULAM.

AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT RESULTS OF THE HEAT EVENTS ON DECEMBER 14 WERE SATISFACTORY.

+OUT OF A FULL SCORE OF 100, THE MEAN SCORE OF ALL PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS WAS 31 AND THE BEST WAS 61,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+FORTY OUT OF 166 SCHOOLS WITH THE HIGHEST SCORES IN THE HEAT EVENTS WILL TAKE PART IN THE FINALS. EACH TEAM WILL CONSIST OF SIX MEMBERS WHO ARE STUDENTS OF FORM 4 OR BELOW,+ HE ADDED.

/THERE WILL

MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 1986

- 12 -

THERE WILL BE 10 EVENTS DIVIDED INTO FIVE INDIVIDUAL EVENTS AND FIVE GROUP EVENTS.

THE TOP THREE SCHOOLS WILL BE AWARDED PRIZES AND TROPHIES, WHICH MAY BE KEPT UNTIL THE NEXT HONG KONG MATHEMATICS OLYMPIAD.

THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS), MR SO FAI-CHO, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE FINAL TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY MORNING.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE FINALS OF THE HONG KONG MATHEMATICS OLYMPIAD AT 21, SASSOON ROAD, POKFULAM, AT 9.30 AM. THE PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY IS EXPECTED TO BE HELD AT 11.30 AM.

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PUBLIC SESSION MEETING

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THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON COMPLEX COMMERCIAL CRIMES, CHAIRED BY MR PETER C. WONG, WILL MEET WITH THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT IN A PUBLIC SESSION AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AT 5.15 PM.

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL, MR JAMES FINDLAY, AND TWO CROWN PROSECUTORS FROM THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT, MESSRS. DANIEL MARASH AND JOHN SULAN, WILL GIVE A PRESENTATION EXPLAINING THE PROBLEMS AND THE DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED IN PROSECUTING COMPLEX COMMERCIAL CRIME CASES.

MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA AND THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO OBSERVE FROM THE PUBLIC GALLERY.

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SPECIAL STAMP SET ON HALLEY'S COMET

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A SPECIAL SET OF FOUR STAMPS TO COMMEMORATE THE RETURN OF HALLEY'S COMET WILL BE ISSUED BY THE POST OFFICE ON FEBRUARY 26.

THE STAMPS, SHOWING DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES OF THE COMET, ARE:

- * PATH OF HALLEY'S COMET IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM -- 50 CENTS.
- * HALLEY'S COMET VIEWED FROM SPACE -- \$1.30. A PORTRAIT OF EDMUND HALLEY IS ALSO DEPICTED.

/* HALLEY'S COMET

* HALLEY'S COMET OBSERVED IN THE SOUTHERN SKY OF HONG KONG
-- \$1.70.

* HALLEY'S COMET VIEWED ABOVE THE ATMOSPHERE -- \$5.

THE STAMPS, DESIGNED BY MR ANTHONY CHAN YUK-TONG, A DESIGNER FOR THE SPACE MUSEUM, ARE PRINTED IN FRANCE BY CARTOR S.A. SECURITY PRINTERS LIMITED.

A SOUVENIR SHEET OF A FULL SET OF THE STAMPS WOULD ALSO BE ISSUED, A POST OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID.

OFFICIAL FIRST DAY COVERS AT 50 CENTS EACH WILL BE ON SALE AT ALL POST OFFICES ON FEBRUARY 12.

FURTHER DETAILS WOULD BE ANNOUNCED CLOSER TO THE DAY OF ISSUE, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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INSPECTION OPERATION TO BE CONDUCTED

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AN OPERATION TO CHECK FOR ILLEGAL AND EXCESSIVE STORAGE OF DANGEROUS GOODS AT IDENTIFIED LOCATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED BY OFFICERS OF THE SOUTH DIVISION OF KOWLOON FIRE COMMAND AND KOWLOON REGIONAL OFFICE OF FIRE PROTECTION BUREAU TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

A SERIES OF CHECKS WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN HUNG HOM, TO KWA WAN AND THE KOWLOON CITY AREAS INCLUDING KOWLOON WALLED CITY.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPERATION. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE REQUESTED TO ASSEMBLE AT THE MA TAU CHUNG FIRE STATION IN MA TAU CHUNG ROAD TOMORROW BEFORE 9.15 AM.

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NON-URBAN BATHING SHEDS FOR LEASE

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A TOTAL OF NINE BATHING SHEDS IN THE NON-URBAN AREAS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR LEASE FOR TWO YEARS STARTING APRIL 1.

OF THESE, SEVEN ARE AT APPROACH BEACH AND ONE EACH AT LIDO BEACH AND OLD CAFETERIA BEACH, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID.

/THE SHEDS

MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 1986

- 14 -

THE SHEDS WILL BE LEASED BY A BALLOT WHICH WILL BE HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE RSD'S TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE ON FEBRUARY 21 AT 10 AM.

THE ANNUAL PERMIT FEE OF THE SHEDS RANGES FROM \$2 500 TO \$3 000. ONLY REGISTERED COMPANIES, CLUBS AND ASSOCIATIONS WILL BE ALLOWED TO TAKE PART IN THE BALLOT.

APPLICATION FORMS, COSTING \$50 EACH, ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE ACCOUNTS OFFICE OF THE RSD, FIFTH FLOOR, GOLDEN GATE COMMERCIAL BUILDING, 136-138 AUSTIN ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI, BEFORE JANUARY 31.

COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED IN PERSON OR BY POST TO THE RSD'S TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE, SECOND FLOOR, FAR EAST BANK BUILDING, 135 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN, BEFORE 1 PM ON FEBRUARY 7. LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

ENQUIRER MAY CALL 0-444281 EXT. 431 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

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EXHIBITION ON WAN CHAI DEVELOPMENT OPENS

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A ONE-WEEK EXHIBITION ON THE HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF WAN CHAI AND ON CIVIC EDUCATION OPENED TODAY (MONDAY) AT THE HENNESSY CENTRE IN CAUSEWAY BAY.

AS PART OF THE 1986 WAN CHAI FESTIVAL, IT IS AIMED AT HELPING THE PUBLIC GAIN A BETTER KNOWLEDGE OF THE DISTRICT.

THE EXHIBITION TRACES THE DEVELOPMENT OF WAN CHAI FROM ITS EARLY HISTORY TO ITS LATEST PROJECTS SHOWING HOW THE DISTRICT HAS CHANGED FROM A PREDOMINANTLY RESIDENTIAL AREA INTO A COMMERCIAL-RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT.

ANOTHER PART OF THE EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS THE FUNCTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD, VARIOUS FACILITIES PROVIDED IN THE DISTRICT AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.

THE EXHIBITION IS OPEN DAILY FROM 10.30 AM TO 9 PM UNTIL JANUARY 26. THE PUBLIC IS WELCOME TO ATTEND. ADMISSION IS FREE.

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CONTRACT FOR LIFT, FIRE SERVICES INSTALLATION

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A CONTRACT HAS BEEN AWARDED FOR THE LIFT AND ESCALATOR INSTALLATION FOR FA YUEN STREET MARKET COMPLEX.

WORK WILL INCLUDE 10 ESCALATORS, FOUR PASSENGER LIFTS AND TWO GOODS LIFTS.

/THE \$9.67

THE \$9.67 MILLION CONTRACT WAS AWARDED BY THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

ANOTHER CONTRACT VALUED AT \$1.76 MILLION HAS BEEN AWARDED FOR THE MARKET'S FIRE SERVICES INSTALLATION.

THE EQUIPMENT TO BE INSTALLED WILL INCLUDE AN ALARM SYSTEM, HOSE REELS, FIRE-HYDRANTS, SPRINKLERS, FIRE EXTINGUISHERS, AS WELL AS SMOKE AND FIRE DETECTORS.

WORK ON BOTH PROJECTS IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN DECEMBER 1987.

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CHINESE BAZAAR NIGHT FOR WAN CHAI
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WAN CHAI RESIDENTS CELEBRATED THE WAN CHAI FESTIVAL AT A CHINESE BAZAAR NIGHT AT THE SOUTHORN PLAYGROUND THIS (MONDAY) EVENING.

THE MAIN ATTRACTION WAS A VARIETY OF STALLS CONSISTING OF CHINESE HANDICRAFT SUCH AS FAN PAINTING, SHADOW CUTTING AND SKETCHING, AND MAKING FLOUR FIGURINES.

CROWDS GATHERED AT THE FORTUNE TELLING STALLS TO HAVE THEIR PALM READ, WHILE OTHERS WATCHED CHINESE CHESS GAMES, KUNG FU SHOWS, SINGING AND DANCING PERFORMANCES AND A BICYCLE DEMONSTRATION.

MEANWHILE, A CANTONESE OPERATIC PERFORMANCE WILL BE HELD AT 7.30 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AT THE SOUTHORN PLAYGROUND AND ADMISSION IS FREE.

BOTH EVENTS ARE ORGANISED BY THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD AND THE WAN CHAI FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE, WITH ASSISTANCE FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE URBAN COUNCIL.

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FIRE STATION SITE FORMATION WORK TO START
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SITE FORMATION WORK FOR A SUB-DIVISIONAL FIRE STATION AT AP LEI CHAU BRIDGE ROAD, AP LEI CHAU, WILL START NEXT MONTH.

THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT RECENTLY AWARDED A \$1.35 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE PROJECT.

THE TOTAL AREA OF LAND TO BE FORMED IS ABOUT 3 600 SQUARE METRES, OF WHICH ABOUT 1 673 SQUARE METRES WILL BE FOR THE FIRE STATION AND THE REST FOR A SECTION OF NEW ROAD.

THE WORK, WHICH ALSO INCLUDES ASSOCIATED DRAINAGE WORK, IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN JULY.

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MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 1986

- 16 -

WATER STORAGE FIGURES

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 64.7 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 379.522 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 414.104 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 70.7 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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MID-LEVELS WATER CUT

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN THE MID-LEVELS WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 11 PM ON THURSDAY (JANUARY 23) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR LEAKAGE TEST.

THE AFFECTED PREMISES ARE BOUNDED BY CONDUIT ROAD, ROBINSON ROAD, CASTLE ROAD AND SEYMOUR ROAD, INCLUDING SEYMOUR TERRACE.

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