



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1976

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SENIOR GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS

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MR. D.C. BRAY, SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, IS TO BE POSTED AS HONG KONG'S COMMISSIONER IN LONDON. MR. BRAY WILL TAKE OVER FROM MR. S.T. KIDD WHO WILL RETIRE FROM THE PUBLIC SERVICE IN SEPTEMBER 1977.

THE NEW SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS WILL BE MR. F.K. LI WHO WILL ASSUME THE POST IN MAY OF NEXT YEAR.

COMMENTING ON THE APPOINTMENT, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID :
+THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. BRAY, ONE OF THE MOST SENIOR OFFICERS IN THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, REFLECTS THE IMPORTANCE PLACED ON THE HONG KONG COMMISSIONER'S POST.

+IN LONDON, MR. BRAY WILL CO-ORDINATE THE MANY ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT IN BRITAIN, INCLUDING THE DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON HONG KONG= LIAISON WITH HONG KONG RESIDENTS IN BRITAIN, AND THE REVIEW OF COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENTS AND THEIR POSSIBLE EFFECT ON HONG KONG'S INTERESTS,+ HE EXPLAINED.

MR. BRAY, WHO IS 50 YEARS OF AGE, JOINED THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT IN 1950. HE HAS PREVIOUSLY WORKED IN THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT AND THE SECRETARIAT FOR HOME AFFAIRS (NOW HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT).

HE WAS COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT FROM 1965 TO 1966= DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS FROM 1968 TO 1970, AND ACTING SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS FROM JULY 1970 TO JANUARY 1971 AFTER WHICH HE BECAME DISTRICT COMMISSIONER, NEW TERRITORIES BEFORE BEING APPOINTED AS SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS IN NOVEMBER 1973.

MR. F.K. LI IS 54 AND JOINED THE GOVERNMENT IN 1954. HE HAS SERVED IN VARIOUS POSTS IN THE RESETTLEMENT, HOME AFFAIRS, LABOUR, AND COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENTS AND THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT.

HE ACTED AS FINANCIAL SECRETARY ON TWO OCCASIONS IN 1967 AND 1968 AND WAS SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS FROM AUGUST TO OCTOBER 1972. HE WAS APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE IN NOVEMBER THE SAME YEAR. HE BECAME SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER 1973. SINCE THEN HE HAS SERVED AS SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, ONCE IN 1974 AND ONCE IN 1975.

MR. S.T. KIDD AGED 51, BECAME COMMISSIONER OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICE IN LONDON IN 1973. HE FIRST JOINED THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT IN 1950 AND BECAME DEPUTY DISTRICT COMMISSIONER, NEW TERRITORIES IN 1959. HE WAS APPOINTED PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT COLONIAL SECRETARY IN 1965 AND ESTABLISHMENT SECRETARY IN 1970. HE HAD ALSO ACTED AS DEPUTY COLONIAL SECRETARY AND COLONIAL SECRETARY (NOW CHIEF SECRETARY) ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS.

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EIGHTEEN NEW SECONDARY SCHOOLS FOR TSUEN WAN NEW TOWN

THE GOVERNMENT IS TO BUILD 18 NEW SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN TSUEN WAN NEW TOWN IN THE NEXT FOUR YEARS, THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID TODAY.

THIS CRASH BUILDING PROGRAMME REFLECTED THE GOVERNMENT'S DETERMINATION TO CARRY OUT THE TREMENDOUS TASK OF MAKING UP THE DEFICIENCIES IN COMMUNITY FACILITIES IN TSUEN WAN, HE ADDED.

MR. AKERS-JONES WAS SPEAKING AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S MOBILE CAREERS EXHIBITION AT THE SHA TSUI PLAYGROUND IN TSUEN WAN TO MARK THE START OF A SEVEN-WEEK PROGRAMME OF VISITS TO FIVE NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICTS BY THE UNIT.

MORE THAN 400 SECONDARY SCHOOL CHILDREN FROM THE NEW TOWN, ALONG WITH COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. IAN PRICE, AND LOCAL DIGNITARIES INCLUDING THE TSUEN WAN RURAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR. PETER YEUNG, ATTENDED THE CEREMONY.

MR. AKERS-JONES SAID THAT WORK HAD STARTED ON EIGHT NEW SECONDARY SCHOOLS THIS YEAR, AND A SITE HAD BEEN ALLOCATED FOR A NINTH SCHOOL.

HE SAID THAT THE REMARKABLE GROWTH IN SECONDARY SCHOOL FACILITIES IN THE NEW TOWN HIGHLIGHTED THE NEED FOR SERVICES SUCH AS THOSE PROVIDED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S YOUTH EMPLOYMENT ADVISORY SERVICE.

MR. AKERS-JONES EMPHASISED TO THE SCHOOL CHILDREN THAT THE CHOICE OF A CAREER WAS VERY IMPORTANT.

+A CAREERS ADVISORY SERVICE TO PROVIDE USEFUL AND UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION IS A NECESSARY HELP TO OUR YOUNG PEOPLE, AND THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT MOBILE EXHIBITION UNIT IS SERVING A VERY USEFUL PURPOSE IN THIS RESPECT,+ HE SAID.

+THERE ARE ABOUT 50,000 YOUNG PEOPLE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 12 AND 15 IN TSUEN WAN, AND I AM SURE THEY WILL FIND THIS EXHIBITION INVALUABLE TO THEM, IN MAKING THEM AWARE OF JOB OPPORTUNITIES THAT ARE OPEN TO THEM.+

SPEAKING AT THE SAME CEREMONY, MR. PRICE SAID THE SEVEN-WEEK PROGRAMME IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WAS A CONCERTED EFFORT BY ALL CONCERNED - THE DISTRICT OFFICES, THE LOCAL RURAL COMMITTEES AND HIS DEPARTMENT'S YOUTH EMPLOYMENT ADVISORY SERVICE.

MR. PRICE ADDED: +BECAUSE OF THE RAPID DEVELOPMENT IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IS PLANNING THE EXTENSION OF MANY OF ITS SERVICES TO THE NEW TOWNS OVER A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS.

/+AS FAR

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+AS FAR AS EMPLOYMENT SERVICES ARE CONCERNED, NEW OFFICES OF THE LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE WILL SOON BE SET UP IN TUEN MUN AND LATER ON IN SHA TIN, WHILE THE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT ADVISORY SERVICE WILL HAVE AN OFFICE IN TSUEN WAN, PROBABLY BY 1978-79, AND LATER IN TUEN MUN.

+IN THE MEANTIME, THIS SPECIALLY-DESIGNED VEHICLE WILL HELP PROVIDE A CAREERS ADVISORY SERVICE TO YOUNG PEOPLE WHO OTHERWISE MAY NOT BE AWARE OF SUCH FACILITIES AT ALL.+

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TEST OF ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE
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THE NEXT TEST OF ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE (T.O.E.F.L.) IS TO BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 26 NEXT YEAR.

COPIES OF THE BULLETIN OF INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION FORM MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE EXAMINATIONS DIVISION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 393 CANTON ROAD, 10TH FLOOR, KOWLOON= OR THE OVERSEAS STUDENTS AND SCHOLARSHIP SECTION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, BONAVENTURE HOUSE, 91 LEIGHTON ROAD, 2ND FLOOR, HONG KONG= OR THE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION, 408 J. HOTUNG HOUSE, 5-15 HANKOW ROAD, 4TH FLOOR, KOWLOON.

CANDIDATES ARE ADVISED TO READ THE BULLETIN CAREFULLY FOR INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING THE REGISTRATION PROCEDURE.

COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORMS, TOGETHER WITH PASSPORT OR HONG KONG IDENTITY CARD AND TWO RECENT IDENTICAL PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE APPLICANTS (SIZE 2-1/2" X 2"), MUST BE TAKEN IN PERSON TO THE EXAMINATIONS DIVISION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 10TH FLOOR, KOWLOON BETWEEN 9 A.M. AND 4 P.M. FROM DECEMBER 13 TO DECEMBER 17.

LACK OF IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING STANDARD PHOTOGRAPHS WILL DISQUALIFY A CANDIDATE FROM REGISTERING AND REGISTRATION BY MAIL AND LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

THE TEST FEE OF HK\$95 PER CANDIDATE MUST BE PAID ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 20 AT THE EXAMINATIONS DIVISION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 11TH FLOOR, 393 CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON.

FEES MAY BE PAID BY CROSSED CHEQUE PAYABLE TO THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT SENT THROUGH THE POST TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS.

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EXTRA FIRE PRECAUTIONS NEEDED
IN PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT PLACES

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WITH THE APPROACH OF THE CHRISTMAS AND LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS, THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT TODAY CALLED ON THE MANagements OF ALL PUBLIC PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT TO TAKE EXTRA FIRE PRECAUTIONS.

STARTING FROM TODAY, FIRE OFFICERS WILL BE VISITING HOTELS, DEPARTMENT STORES, CINEMAS, THEATRES, RESTAURANTS, NIGHT CLUBS AND OTHER ESTABLISHMENTS WHERE THE PUBLIC ARE LIKELY TO ASSEMBLE IN LARGE NUMBERS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID : +THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT IS TWOFOLD: TO GIVE ADVICE ON HOW TO PREVENT FIRE AND TO ENSURE THAT FIRE SAFETY STANDARDS IN SUCH PLACES ARE PROPERLY MAINTAINED.

+DURING THE VISITS, FIRE OFFICERS WILL PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE MEANS OF ESCAPE AND COMMON AREAS TO SEE THAT THEY ARE NOT OBSTRUCTED.

+AS FOR DEPARTMENT STORES, THE PERSON IN CHARGE SHOULD DEVISE A METHOD TO SAFELY DISPOSE OF ALL EMPTY CARTONS AND LOOSE PACKAGE MATERIALS.+

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT VARIOUS KINDS OF MATERIALS IN PREMISES BEHAVED DIFFERENTLY IN FIRES.

HE URGED MANagements OF THESE ESTABLISHMENTS TO RE-EXAMINE AND WHERE NECESSARY, IMPROVE THE STANDARD OF FIRE PREVENTION.

THE SPOKESMAN GAVE THE FOLLOWING ADVICE ON HOW TO PREVENT FIRES :

- * ENSURE THAT ALL STAFF, INCLUDING THOSE ON TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT, KNOW THE LOCATION AND OPERATION OF FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT.
- * EXITS AND EXIT SIGNS MUST NOT BE OBSTRUCTED. EXIT ROUTES MUST BE MAINTAINED AND CLEARED AT ALL TIMES.
- * ADDITIONAL ELECTRICAL WIRING SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT BY A COMPETENT ELECTRICIAN.
- * PROVIDE PLENTY OF ASH TRAYS AND BAN SMOKING IN PLACES SUCH AS STOREROOMS.
- * +FULL HOUSE+ SIGNS SHOULD BE PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED TO AVOID OVERCROWDING.

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RECORD PRICE FOR INDUSTRIAL LAND IN TUEN MUN

THE GOVERNMENT TODAY SOLD TWO LOTS OF INDUSTRIAL LAND IN TUEN MUN FOR NEARLY \$4.8 MILLION.

BOTH LOTS FETCHED LOCAL RECORD PRICES AT THE PUBLIC AUCTION CONDUCTED BY THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION.

THE BIGGEST LOT, COMPRISING 8,678 SQ. FT., WAS SOLD FOR \$2.8 MILLION AFTER SPIRITED BIDDING WHICH STARTED AT EXACTLY HALF THE SALE PRICE -- \$1.4 MILLION.

THE BUYERS, REACO ENTERPRISES LTD., PAID \$322 PER SQUARE FOOT FOR THE LAND.

THE SECOND LOT OF 5,320 SQ. FT., FETCHED \$1.97 MILLION AFTER BIDDING HAD STARTED AT \$850,000.

THE BUYERS WERE ALLIED AND ASSOCIATED ENTERPRISES (HK) LTD., -- WHO PAID \$370 PER SQUARE FOOT.

THE PREVIOUS HIGHEST PRICE PAID FOR INDUSTRIAL LAND IN TUEN MUN AT PUBLIC AUCTION WAS \$208 PER SQUARE FOOT LAST AUGUST.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE SAID TODAY'S SALE REFLECTED A GROWING INTEREST BY INVESTORS AND INDUSTRIALISTS IN TUEN MUN NEW TOWN.

+THE FACT THAT THERE WERE 150 PEOPLE AT THE AUCTION AND THAT BIDDING WAS SO STRONG IS AN INDICATION OF THIS,+ HE SAID.

+THIS CONTINUES A PATTERN OF INTEREST IN THE NEW TOWN WHERE 10 FACTORY BUILDINGS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED, ANOTHER 17 ARE UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND WORK IS TO BEGIN SOON ON SEVERAL OTHERS,+ HE ADDED.

HE SAID THAT THE TWO LOTS SOLD TODAY CARRIED BUILDING COVENANTS WHICH STIPULATE THAT A TOTAL OF \$2.1 MILLION MUST BE SPENT ON DEVELOPING THE SITES FOR INDUSTRIAL AND GODOWN PURPOSES WITHIN 30 MONTHS.

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NEW CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING CENTRE
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THE TOPPING-OFF CEREMONY OF THE NEW CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING CENTRE, THE FIRST OF ITS KIND NOW BEING BUILT IN HONG KONG, WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT TAI YIP STREET, KWUN TONG.

MR. M.T. GEOFFREY YEH, CHAIRMAN OF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CEREMONY.

THE NEW CENTRE WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO COME INTO OPERATION IN APRIL NEXT YEAR WILL BE SIX STOREYS HIGH AND WILL ACCOMMODATE WORKSHOPS, LECTURE ROOMS, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES AND A CANTEEN.

IT WILL PROVIDE ONE-YEAR FULL-TIME BASIC TRAINING FOR ABOUT 660 CRAFT TRAINEES IN THE KEY CONSTRUCTION TRADES.

AFTER COMPLETING THE BASIC TRAINING COURSES, THE TRAINEES WILL BE PLACED WITH BUILDING CONTRACTORS AS CRAFT APPRENTICES FOR TWO YEARS TO OBTAIN SITE EXPERIENCE BEFORE BECOMING QUALIFIED CRAFTSMEN.

ON COMING INTO OPERATION THE CENTRE WILL PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY BY PROVIDING THE NECESSARY CRAFTSMEN REQUIRED.

THE SCHEME WILL ALSO PROVIDE AN AVENUE FOR HONG KONG'S YOUNG PEOPLE TO BE TRAINED FOR A CAREER.

BUILT ON A SITE OF ABOUT 59,000 SQUARE FEET GRANTED BY GOVERNMENT AT NIL PREMIUM, THE CENTRE WILL COST ABOUT \$6.5 MILLION. ITS CAPITAL AND RECURRENT COSTS ARE FINANCED BY A TRAINING LEVY PAYABLE BY THE CONTRACTORS CONCERNED AT THE RATE OF 0.25 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF ALL CONSTRUCTION WORKS UNDERTAKEN IN HONG KONG.

NOTE TO EDITORS :

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND A REPORTER AND/OR PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE CEREMONY WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE CONSTRUCTION SITE IN TAI YIP STREET, (KOWLOON BAY) KWUN TONG, AT 10 A.M. TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

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USE OF CALCULATORS IN CLASSROOMS ADVOCATED

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THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS), MR. ARTHUR BROWN TODAY ADVOCATED THE USE OF THE ELECTRONIC CALCULATOR IN THE CLASSROOM.

ADDRESSING THE SPEECH DAY OF LAM WOO MEMORIAL SECONDARY SCHOOL, MR. BROWN SAID, HOWEVER, THAT WHEN THE MODERN STUDENT WAS ALLOWED TO BRING HIS CALCULATOR INTO THE CLASSROOM IT WOULD NOT MEAN THAT IT WAS NO LONGER NECESSARY TO LEARN ARITHMETIC.

+ONE OF THE PROBLEMS WITH A CALCULATOR IS THAT IT IS VERY EASY TO PRESS THE WRONG BUTTONS AND GET A RIDICULOUS ANSWER.

+THERE ARE ONLY TWO WAYS OF AVOIDING THIS - EITHER YOU MUST BE SO GOOD AT ARITHMETIC THAT YOU CAN ESTIMATE THE ANSWER ROUGHLY BEFORE YOU DO IT ON THE CALCULATOR, OR YOU MUST BE AGAIN SO GOOD AT ARITHMETIC THAT YOU CAN DO THE PROBLEM TWICE IN TWO COMPLETELY DIFFERENT WAYS TO ENSURE YOU GET THE SAME ANSWER,+ HE SAID.

IN ILLUSTRATING THE PROGRESS BEING MADE ON THE USE OF CALCULATORS IN SCHOOLS, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR SAID THE LONDON G.C.E. BOARD HAD JUST ISSUED A NOTICE THAT FROM 1978 ELECTRONIC CALCULATORS COULD BE USED IN ALL APPROPRIATE SUBJECTS OF THEIR 'A' OR 'O' LEVEL EXAMINATIONS HELD IN BRITAIN UNLESS SPECIFICALLY FORBIDDEN FOR ANY PARTICULAR PAPER OR QUESTION.

+SO STUDENTS MIGHT BE USING CALCULATORS QUITE A BIT IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE,+ MR. BROWN SAID.

SPEAKING ABOUT CHANGES IN EDUCATION, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR ASKED PARENTS, STUDENTS AND TEACHERS THESE QUESTIONS : +ARE YOU READY FOR ALL THE CHANGES THAT ARE GOING TO CONTINUE TO HAPPEN? ARE WE PREPARED TO ADAPT TO THEM, TO ACCEPT CHANGE AND TO MAKE THE BEST OF EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS AROUND US?+

EDUCATION, HE SAID, HAD BEEN SLOW IN CHANGING TO MEET THESE CHALLENGES.

+BUT IT IS CERTAINLY BEGINNING TO CHANGE NOW, HERE IN HONG KONG. AT FIRST PEOPLE USED TO THINK EDUCATION WAS JUST LEARNING THINGS, JUST SOAKING UP KNOWLEDGE LIKE A SPONGE= BUT THERE IS SO MUCH KNOWLEDGE IN EXISTENCE NOW, THAT IF YOU STARTED SOAKING IT UP AND KEPT ON UNTIL YOU DIED YOU WOULD BARELY HAVE SAMPLED IT.

+OF COURSE WE DO NEED KNOWLEDGE, WITHOUT ANY KNOWLEDGE WE SHOULD BE HELPLESS AND THERE ARE MANY THINGS THAT WE SIMPLY MUST JUST LEARN.

/+HOWEVER

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+HOWEVER SINCE WE CANNOT LEARN EVERYTHING IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE DON'T EVEN ATTEMPT TO KEEP UP WITH THE GROWTH OF KNOWLEDGE SINCE IF WE DO WE SHALL BE OVERWHELMED BY IT AND SCHOOL LIFE WILL BECOME A BURDEN. I WOULD EVEN GO SO FAR AS TO SAY THAT IN HONG KONG THERE HAS BEEN A TENDENCY TO PILE ON MORE AND MORE LEARNING OF KNOWLEDGE IN JUST SUCH AN ATTEMPT TO KEEP UP WITH ITS GROWTH,+ MR. BROWN SAID.

HE STATED THAT WHAT MUST BE DONE WAS TO ANALYSE WHAT WAS TO BE LEARNT AND PICK THE KNOWLEDGE THAT WAS MOST ESSENTIAL AND USEFUL.

+HOWEVER, WHAT IS EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN GAINING KNOWLEDGE IS LEARNING TO FIND OUT THINGS FOR OURSELVES, HOW TO USE BOOKS, HOW TO STUDY, SO THAT WE CAN ALWAYS LOOK UP WHAT WE DON'T KNOW.

+THIS WILL HELP US TO KEEP ABREAST OF CHANGE, BECAUSE KNOWLEDGE ITSELF CAN GO OUT OF DATE AND IF WE ARE TO FIND OUT WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE WORLD WE MUST CONTINUE LEARNING AFTER WE LEAVE SCHOOL. WE MUST ALSO LEARN TO LEARN FROM EXPERIENCE, TO BE CURIOUS AND SO TO AVOID MAKING THE SAME MISTAKES TWICE,+ THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR SAID.

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WATER CUT
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WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN WAN CHAI WILL BE SUSPENDED BETWEEN 1 A.M. AND 6 A.M. ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 9) TO ALLOW THE WATERWORKS OFFICE TO CARRY OUT A NIGHT LEAKAGE TEST IN THE AREA.

PREMISES AFFECTED ARE THOSE BOUNDED BY CANAL ROAD EAST, HENNESSY ROAD, HEARD STREET, WAN CHAI ROAD, TIN LOK LANE, MORRISON HILL ROAD AND LEIGHTON ROAD.

DURING THE SAME PERIOD ON THURSDAY, SALT WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN SHAM SHUI PO WILL ALSO BE TURNED OFF.

THE AREA AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY TAI HANG TUNG ROAD, INCLUDING TAI HANG TUNG ESTATE, BLOCK NOS. 1-14 AND TO YUEN STREET.

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REPLICAS OF H.K.'S ANCIENT ROCK CARVINGS
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THE PRODUCTION OF REPLICAS OF HONG KONG'S UNIQUE ANCIENT ROCK CARVINGS, BELIEVED TO BE AROUND 3,000 YEARS OLD, IS IN ITS FINAL STAGES.

SO FAR, THE URBAN COUNCIL'S MUSEUM OF HISTORY HAS, THROUGH A MOULDING PROCESS, PRODUCED REPLICAS OF FIVE OF THE SIX CARVINGS FOUND ON HONG KONG AND SEVERAL OTHER OUTLYING ISLANDS.

WORK ON THE SIXTH ONE ON TUNG LUNG ISLAND BEGAN TODAY. THE LOCATIONS OF THE FIVE OTHER CARVINGS ARE IN BIG WAVE BAY, SHEK PIK ON LANTAU, PO TOI ISLAND, CHEUNG CHAU AND KAU SAI CHAU.

THIS MORNING, THE ROYAL NAVY, THE GURKHA ENGINEERS, A HELICOPTER FROM THE R.A.F. AND THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT (THE VOLUNTEERS) HELPED STAFF OF THE MUSEUM OF HISTORY TO GAIN ACCESS TO THE TUNG LUNG ISLAND CARVING SITE BY AIRLIFTING MATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTING A SCAFFOLDING ON A ROCKY CLIFF AT THE EASTERN EDGE OF THE ISLAND.

ACCORDING TO THE CURATOR OF THE MUSEUM, MR. BRIAN PEACOCK, THE MOULDING PROCESS ENTAILED PAINTING ON THE SURFACE OF THE CARVING WITH LIQUID RUBBER LATEX, TOPPING IT WITH A SHEET OF COTTON GAUZE.

+FOLLOWING THIS, PLASTIC RESIN IS APPLIED ON THE TOP OF THE GAUZE TO GIVE THE MOULD GREATER RIGIDITY AND STRENGTH,+ HE SAID.

+WHEN THE VARIOUS LAYERS HAVE DRIED WHICH TAKES ABOUT A DAY, THE MOULD IS REMOVED AND TAKEN TO THE CONSERVATION LABORATORY OF THE MUSEUM OF HISTORY, WHERE IT IS USED TO PRODUCE AN EXACT REPLICA IN THE FORM OF A CAST,+ HE ADDED.

MR. PEACOCK REVEALED THAT WHEN THE ENTIRE MOULDING AND CASTING WORK HAD BEEN COMPLETED, AN EXHIBITION OF THE REPLICAS OF THE CARVINGS WOULD BE HELD IN THE MUSEUM OF HISTORY.

APART FROM MAKING A PERMANENT RECORD OF THE CARVINGS, HE CONTINUED, MOVES WERE ALSO BEING TAKEN TO PROTECT THEM FROM BEING DESTROYED BY NATURAL EROSION AND VANDALISM.

+VANDALISM HAS ALREADY TAKEN PLACE,+ HE POINTED OUT, +AND THERE ARE PLANS TO PUT UP TEMPORARY FENCES TO THWART IRRESPONSIBLE PEOPLE FROM DEFACING THEM.+

MR. PEACOCK EXPLAINED THAT THESE CARVINGS, MANY OF WHICH ARE OF GEOMETRIC DESIGN, DID NOT SEEM TO FIGURE SIGNIFICANTLY IN PRESENT DAY LOCAL TRADITIONS.

+TO GIVE THEIR PRECISE AGE IS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT,+ HE STATED.

/+HOWEVER,

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+HOWEVER, AS MANY OF THE DESIGNS IN THE ROCK CARVINGS RESEMBLE PATTERNS ON POTTERY AND METAL ARTEFACTS OF THE BRONZE AGE, IT IS LIKELY THAT THEY ARE CONTEMPORARY.

+IT WOULD NOT THEREFORE BE UNREASONABLE TO ESTIMATE THAT THEY WERE PRODUCED AS EARLY AS THE FIRST MILLENNIUM B.C.

+SINCE THEY ARE THE ONLY VISIBLE MONUMENTS OF HONG KONG'S PREHISTORIC PAST, THEY ARE OF VERY GREAT CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE,+ HE ADDED.

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AUCTION OF +SPECIAL+ CAR NUMBERS

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MOTORISTS WILL HAVE THE CHANCE OF BUYING +SPECIAL+ NUMBERS FOR THEIR CARS AT THE WEEKEND WHILE AT THE SAME TIME HELPING LOCAL CHARITIES.

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD ANOTHER AUCTION OF SPECIAL CAR REGISTRATION NUMBERS ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 11). THE AUCTION WILL START AT 10 A.M. IN THE LECTURE ROOM SOUTH OF THE CITY HALL HIGH BLOCK.

FIFTEEN NUMBERS WILL BE OFFERED TO THE PUBLIC. THEY ARE:

BH 1122	8028	AT 3333
EL 1414	AL 2	AT 3
BM 525	AN 200	BM 1
2613	AR 777	BJ 1122
1913	AS 99	BM 8

SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS MUST PAY IN CASH OR BY CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CLOSE OF BIDDING.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN REMINDED BIDDERS THAT THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBER WILL BE ASSIGNED ONLY TO A VEHICLE REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE AUCTION.

PROCEEDS OF THE AUCTION WILL GO TO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND.

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