



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1977

CONTENTS

PAGE NO.

GREEN PAPER ON SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY PUBLISHED	1
INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT PROMOTION MISSION LEAVES FOR EUROPE TOMORROW	4
TEXTILE NEGOTIATING TEAM RETURNING TO HONG KONG	5
HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE FOR JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER	6
EXTENSION OF INJURY COVERAGE TO MORE NON-MANUAL WORKERS PROPOSED	10
GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR AUGUST	12
ABERDEEN GETS NEW FIRE FIGHTING BOAT	12
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR PROTECTION OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY APPLIES TO H.K.	13
BOARD TO INVESTIGATE SHIPS COLLISION	13
BUILDING AT BONHAM STRAND DECLARED DANGEROUS	14
MONEY EXCHANGE SHOP TO LET AT HONG KONG AIRPORT	14
COLLECTOR'S CABINET FOR GOLD COINS BEING CONSIDERED	15
MORE SAI KUNG FLATS FOR AUCTION	16
DSW TO OFFICIATE AT SCOUTS DAY	17
ANNUAL TEACHERS' CONFERENCE TO BE HELD TOMORROW	17
TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT IN TIN LOK LANE	17

GREEN PAPER ON SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY
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A GREEN PAPER WHICH OUTLINES RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DEVELOPING SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY IN HONG KONG IN THE NEXT 10 YEARS IS PUBLISHED TODAY (FRIDAY) FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.

ANY VIEWS AND SUGGESTIONS EXPRESSED ON THEM BY THE PUBLIC AND PROFESSIONAL BODIES WILL BE STUDIED CAREFULLY BEFORE ANY DECISION IS TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT.

IT IS HOPED THAT A FIRM PROGRAMME FOR THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT ON THIS FIELD WILL BE PREPARED EARLY NEXT YEAR IN THE FORM OF A WHITE PAPER.

THE GREEN PAPER SUMMARISES THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF A 'PROGRAMME PLAN FOR SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY' SUBMITTED IN JULY THIS YEAR BY AN INTER-DEPARTMENTAL WORKING GROUP IN WHICH THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE WAS ALSO REPRESENTED.

IT CONTAINS SOME 50 RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH FALL MAINLY INTO THE FOLLOWING SERVICE AREAS:-

SERVICES IN CASH

VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS IN THE EXISTING SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES ARE PROPOSED TO ENSURE A DEGREE OF ECONOMIC SECURITY FOR THE ELDERLY SO THAT THEIR BASIC AND SPECIAL NEEDS CAN BE MET WITHOUT UNDUE HARDSHIP. THESE INCLUDE: AN OLD AGE SUPPLEMENT WITHIN THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCALE OF ALLOWANCE= TO LOWER THE QUALIFYING AGE FOR THE INFIRMITY ALLOWANCE FROM 75 TO 73 AND THEN TO 70= AND TO EXTEND OLD AGE ALLOWANCE TO THOSE IN INSTITUTIONS AND HOSPITALS.

HEALTH SERVICES

PROVIDING ADEQUATE HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT AS PEOPLE ARE MORE LIKELY TO GET SICK AS THEY AGE. IT IS RECOMMENDED TO EXPAND THE PREVENTIVE, OUT-PATIENT, AND IN-PATIENT SERVICES FOR OLD PEOPLE.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

PERSONAL SUPPORT SERVICES WILL ENABLE OLD PEOPLE TO LOOK AFTER THEMSELVES ADEQUATELY AND TO REMAIN RELATIVELY INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF SOCIETY RATHER THAN TO SEEK INSTITUTIONAL CARE. THE RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDE EXPANDING THE HOME-HELP SERVICE= TO REORGANISE THE HOME VISITING SERVICE= AND TO ESTABLISH DAY-CARE CENTRES AND MULTI-SERVICE CENTRES FOR THE ELDERLY.

HOUSING

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S OFFER TO ACCOMMODATE UP TO 10,000 OLD PEOPLE, INCLUDING 5,000 IN NEW HOSTELS OVER THE NEXT TEN YEARS SHOULD BE ACCEPTED BUT IT IS NECESSARY TO REVIEW THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY 'CHAI-TONGS' - LITERALLY VEGETARIAN HALLS OPERATED BY RELIGIOUS BODIES OR INDIVIDUALS, IN ACCOMMODATING OLD PEOPLE.

OTHER SUPPORT SERVICES

THE GREEN PAPER RECOMMENDS THAT SUPPORT SERVICES SHOULD BE PROVIDED IN THE SPHERES OF EMPLOYMENT, TRANSPORT, AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES. THESE SERVICES WILL HELP OLD PEOPLE TO PLAY AS ACTIVE A ROLE WITHIN THE COMMUNITY AS IS POSSIBLE.

INSTITUTIONAL CARE

THE CONCEPT OF 'CARE IN THE COMMUNITY' DOES NOT DO AWAY WITH THE NEED FOR INSTITUTIONAL CARE. MANY OLD PEOPLE, BECAUSE OF INCREASING FRAILTY OR THE LACK OF ANYONE TO LOOK AFTER THEM, MAY FIND CARE IN THE COMMUNITY NEITHER VIABLE NOR SATISFACTORY. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT BY 1986/87 THERE SHOULD BE 10 PLACES PER THOUSAND AGED 60 OR OVER IN HOMES FOR THE AGED, AND FOUR PLACES PER THOUSAND AGED 60 OR OVER IN CARE-AND-ATTENTION HOMES.

COMMENTING ON THESE PROPOSALS IN THE GREEN PAPER, MR. JIMMY SWEETMAN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, SAID THAT THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ANY SERVICE FOR THE ELDERLY MUST RELY ON THE EXISTENCE OF A 'CARING COMMUNITY'.

THE GOVERNMENT AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES ARE THE 'FORMAL PROVIDERS' OF A RANGE OF SERVICES BUT THE ELDERLY INDIVIDUAL COMES IN CONTACT WITH MANY OTHERS IN THE COURSE OF HIS DAY-TO-DAY LIFE - HIS FAMILY, HIS NEIGHBOURS, THOSE WITH WHOM HE WORKS, ORGANISATIONS SUCH AS CHURCHES OR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS WHICH INVOLVE THEMSELVES IN LOOKING AFTER THE ELDERLY.

+THESE PEOPLE CAN DO A GREAT DEAL TO SUSTAIN OLD PEOPLE'S SELF-RESPECT AND SOCIAL INTEGRATION AND THUS TO ENABLE THE ELDERLY TO RETAIN A GENERAL SENSE OF SATISFACTION AND FULFILMENT IN THE EVENING OF THEIR LIVES,+ HE ADDED.

MR. SWEETMAN NOTED THAT THE OVERALL OBJECTIVE OF THIS GREEN PAPER IS THEREFORE +TO PROMOTE THE WELL-BEING OF THE ELDERLY IN ALL ASPECTS OF THEIR LIVING BY PROVIDING SERVICES THAT WILL ENABLE THEM TO REMAIN MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY FOR AS LONG AS POSSIBLE= AND TO THE EXTENT NECESSARY, TO PROVIDE RESIDENTIAL CARE SUITED TO THE VARYING NEEDS OF THE ELDERLY+.

/HE EXPLAINED

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1977

- 3 -

HE EXPLAINED THAT THE GREEN PAPER WAS PUBLISHED IN ORDER THAT THE GENERAL PUBLIC MAY BE AWARE OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND MAY EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE CONCLUSIONS REACHED AND THE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE VARIOUS PROPOSALS.

+THE GOVERNMENT WILL NOT MAKE A DEFINITE DECISION ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS UNTIL IT HAS CONSIDERED THE REACTION OF THE COMMUNITY AND THE VARIOUS PROFESSIONAL BODIES INTERESTED IN SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY,+ HE SAID.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO COMMENT ARE ASKED TO DO SO BEFORE THE MIDDLE OF FEBRUARY NEXT YEAR TO ENABLE THE GOVERNMENT TO REACH AN EARLY DECISION SO THAT A DEFINITE PROGRAMME CAN BE DRAWN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE ELDERLY.

COMMENTS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO: THE SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, MAIN WING, 7TH FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG.

COPIES OF THE GREEN PAPER IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE WILL BE OBTAINABLE AT THE VARIOUS CITY DISTRICT OFFICES ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND IN KOWLOON= DISTRICT OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES AND THE MARKETING OFFICE, GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES AT 1A, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

A PAMPHLET SUMMARISING THE MAIN PROPOSALS OF THE GREEN PAPER HAS BEEN PUBLISHED FOR EASY REFERENCE OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC. COPIES OF THE PAMPHLET ARE NOW OBTAINABLE FROM ALL CITY DISTRICT OFFICES IN THE URBAN AREA, DISTRICT OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, AND ALL FAMILY SERVICES CENTRES OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

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/4

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1977

- 4 -

HK TEAM BID TO ATTRACT OVERSEAS INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT

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MR. ROY PORTER, THE ACTING COMMISSIONER OF INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS LEAVES TOMORROW (SATURDAY) FOR EUROPE WHERE HE IS TO LEAD ANOTHER INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT PROMOTION MISSION.

MR. PORTER WILL BE HOLDING DISCUSSIONS WITH THE TOP MANagements OF A NUMBER OF COMPANIES IN THE LIGHT AND MEDIUM HEAVY ENGINEERING FIELDS. HE DECLINED TO REVEAL THE NAMES OF THE COMPANIES AS +MANY COMPANIES DO NOT LIKE IT TO BE KNOWN THAT THEY ARE CONSIDERING ESTABLISHING FACTORIES OVERSEAS AND WE MUST RESPECT THEIR WISH FOR PRIVACY. HOWEVER, THERE ARE SOME WELL KNOWN NAMES AMONG THEM.+

AN ASSISTANT TRADE OFFICER, MR. EDMUND CHEUNG, IS ALREADY IN EUROPE ARRANGING THE MISSION'S PROGRAMME.

MR. PORTER WILL START WORK ON MONDAY IN MUNICH. HE WILL THEN MOVE ON TO STUTTGART WHERE, BESIDES HOLDING DISCUSSIONS WITH INDIVIDUAL COMPANIES, HE WILL HOLD A SEMINAR FOR INDUSTRIAL MEMBERS OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE MISSION WILL THEN TRAVEL TO GENEVA, BERNE AND ZURICH, HOLDING DISCUSSIONS WITH COMPANIES IN EACH CITY. IN ZURICH THE MISSION WILL ALSO JOIN UP WITH OTHER DELEGATES TO HOLD A SEMINAR JOINTLY HOSTED BY THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS AND THE SWISS TRADE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE.

MR. PORTER ALSO INTENDS TO VISIT A NUMBER OF COMPANIES IN VARIOUS CITIES THROUGHOUT BRITAIN BEFORE RETURNING TO HONG KONG IN ABOUT THREE WEEKS' TIME.

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1977

- 5 -

TEXTILE TEAM RETURNING TO HONG KONG

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THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS, MR. BILL DORWARD, SAID TODAY THAT, AS ANTICIPATED IN HIS STATEMENT IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON THURSDAY, THE HONG KONG NEGOTIATING TEAM HAS NOW LEFT BRUSSELS AND WILL BE BACK IN HONG KONG TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AFTERNOON.

MR. DORWARD STRESSED THAT THIS DID NOT REPRESENT A BREAK-OFF IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. THE EEC ANNOUNCED THEIR INDEFINITE SUSPENSION ON NOVEMBER 8 AND THIS HAS PROVIDED A CHANCE FOR THE NEGOTIATORS TO RETURN FOR SOME REST AFTER FIVE WEEKS OF CONTINUOUS AND DEMANDING WORK.

+IT WILL ALSO OFFER AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE TEAM TO ELABORATE IN PERSON ON THE MANY REPORTS THEY HAVE TELEGRAPHED AND TO DISCUSS THEM WITH THEIR COLLEAGUES IN HONG KONG.+

MR. DORWARD ADDED THAT THE TEAM WOULD BE READY TO RETURN TO BRUSSELS AT SHORT NOTICE AS SOON AS IT APPEARED THAT MEANINGFUL NEGOTIATIONS COULD BE RESUMED.

+THE PAUSE WILL, I TRUST, BE USED BY THE EEC TO REFLECT ON THEIR POSITION AND THE VERY REAL AND SUBSTANTIAL CONCESSIONS HONG KONG HAS ALREADY OFFERED.+

NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE NEGOTIATING TEAM HEADED BY MR. LAWRENCE MILLS WILL HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE UPON ARRIVAL AT KAI TAK AIRPORT AT 3.20 P.M. TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO COVER THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

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HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE FOR JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER
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HONG KONG EXPORTED \$25,471 MILLION WORTH OF GOODS DURING THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, IMPORTS WERE \$35,182 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS \$7,089 MILLION.

ACCORDING TO TRADE FIGURES RELEASED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY, DOMESTIC EXPORTS GREW BY 6.9 PER CENT OR \$1,649 MILLION COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD LAST YEAR. IMPORTS INCREASED BY 11.4 PER CENT OR \$3,604 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS UP BY 9.2 PER CENT OR \$598 MILLION.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE SHOWS HONG KONG'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO ITS TEN MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS:

	JAN.-SEPT. 1976 (HK\$ MN)	JAN.-SEPT. 1977 (HK\$ MN)	INCREASE/ DECREASE (HK\$ MN)	PERCENTAGE INCREASE/ DECREASE
U.S.A.	8,303	10,035	+ 1,732	+ 20.9%
F.R. OF GERMANY	2,900	2,575	- 325	- 11.2%
UNITED KINGDOM	2,374	2,100	- 275	- 11.6%
JAPAN	1,044	1,002	- 42	- 4.1%
AUSTRALIA	1,017	949	- 68	- 6.7%
CANADA	1,039	870	- 168	- 16.2%
SINGAPORE	564	645	+ 81	+ 14.4%
NETHERLANDS	530	538	+ 7	+ 1.4%
SWEDEN	512	466	- 46	- 8.9%
SWITZERLAND	486	419	- 67	- 13.8%

DECLINING RATES WERE RECORDED IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO SEVERAL MAJOR MARKETS, SUCH AS FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, U.K. AND CANADA BECAUSE OF THE CONTINUED SLOWDOWN IN THE DEMAND FOR CLOTHING AND TEXTILE PRODUCTS.

IN CONTRAST TO THESE DECREASES, DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES MAINTAINED A BUOYANT GROWTH RATE SO FAR THIS YEAR.

EXPORTS SALES PERFORMANCE OF CLOTHING (+\$461 MILLION OR +12.9%), PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS (+\$297 MILLION OR + 46.0%), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (+ \$119 MILLION OR + 50.9%), ALL TRANSISTORIZED RADIOS (+ \$133 MILLION OR + 22.8%), AND ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS AND PARTS FOR COMPUTERS (+ \$133 MILLION OR + 50.0%) REMAINED FAVOURABLE.

AN ANALYSIS OF THE SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS IS PRESENTED AS FOLLOWS :

	<u>JAN.- SEPT. 76 (HK\$ MN)</u>	<u>JAN.- SEPT. 77 (HK\$ MN)</u>	<u>INCREASE/ DECREASE (HK\$ MN)</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE CHANGE</u>
CLOTHING	10,722	10,155	- 567	- 5.3%
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS)	3,407	4,442	+1,035	+30.4%
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (MAINLY TRANSISTORIZED RADIOS AND ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS)	2,917	3,762	+ 845	+29.0%
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	2,298	1,921	- 377	-16.4%
PROFESSIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CONTROLLING INSTRUMENTS, PHOTOGRAPHIC AND OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	1,055	1,441	+ 386	+36.6%
MANUFACTURES OF METAL, N.E.S. (MAINLY TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES)	607	710	+ 104	+17.1%

THE MORE REMARKABLE INCREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS OCCURED LARGELY IN PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS (+ \$560 MILLION OR + 44.3%), ALL TRANSISTORIZED RADIOS (+ \$253 MILLION OR + 19.1%), ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS AND PARTS FOR COMPUTERS (+ \$167 MILLION OR + 50.1%), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (+ \$296 MILLION OR + 36.9%).

IN CONTRAST WITH THESE GROWTH RATES, DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF CLOTHING AND TEXTILES DECLINED BY 5.3% (- \$567 MILLION) AND 16.4% (- \$377 MILLION) RESPECTIVELY.

THE CHANGES OF IMPORTS FROM TEN MAJOR SOURCES ARE SUMMARIZED BELOW :-

	<u>JAN.- SEPT. 76 (HK\$ MN)</u>	<u>JAN.- SEPT. 77 (HK\$ MN)</u>	<u>INCREASE/ DECREASE (HK\$ MN)</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE INCREASE/ DECREASE</u>
JAPAN	6,781	8,221	+1,440	+21.2%
CHINA	5,469	5,702	+ 234	+ 4.3%
U.S.A.	3,920	4,428	+ 508	+13.0%
TAIWAN	2,229	2,375	+ 146	+ 6.6%
SINGAPORE	1,852	2,172	+ 320	+17.3%
UNITED KINGDOM	1,358	1,568	+ 210	+15.4%
SOUTH KOREA	1,185	1,177	- 8	- 0.7%
F.R. OF GERMANY	959	1,049	+ 89	+ 9.3%
SWITZERLAND AND LIECHTENSTEIN	827	922	+ 95	+11.5%
AUSTRALIA	665	698	+ 33	+ 4.9%

AMONG HONG KONG'S MAJOR SUPPLIER, JAPAN ACCOUNTED FOR A SIGNIFICANT PART OF THE INCREASE IN TOTAL IMPORTS. THIS WAS MAINLY ATTRIBUTED TO INCREASE IN THE IMPORTS OF TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT (+ \$312 MILLION OR + 132.8%), MACHINERY, OTHER THAN ELECTRIC (+ \$188 MILLION OR + 28.9%), ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (+ \$149 MILLION OR + 15.8%), AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS (+ \$252 MILLION OR + 59.5%).

THE INCREASE IN IMPORT FROM CHINA WAS MAINLY DUE TO GROWING IMPORTS OF PETROLEUM AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS (+ \$114 MILLION OR + 56.6%), CRUDE ANIMAL AND VEGETABLES MATERIALS, NOT ELSEWHERE STATED (N.E.S.) (+ \$112 MILLION OR + 52.9%), AND CLOTHING (+ \$105 MILLION OR + 54.6%).

INCREASES OF IMPORTS FROM U.S.A. WERE MAINLY ACCOUNTED FOR BY THE GROWTH IN IMPORTS OF TEXTILE FIBRES (+ \$289 MILLION OR + 118.4%), A REMARKABLE 310.7% (+ \$82 MILLION) INCREASE IN TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT AND A MODERATE GROWTH OF 10% (+ \$75 MILLION) IN THE IMPORTS OF ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES.

/THE FOLLOWING

THE FOLLOWING TABLE SHOWS THE IMPORTANT CHANGES IN IMPORTS BY COMMODITY SECTIONS:

	JAN.- SEPT. 1976 (HK\$ MN)	JAN.- SEPT. 1977 (HK\$ MN)	INCREASE/ DECREASE (HK\$ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL (MAINLY TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, AND DIAMONDS)	9,864	10,423	+ 559	+ 5.7%
MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	5,566	6,727	+1,160	+20.8%
FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS	4,818	5,286	+ 468	+ 9.7%
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY WATCHES)	3,531	4,584	+1,053	+29.8%
CHEMICALS	2,551	2,662	+ 111	+ 4.3%
CRUDE MATERIALS, INEDIBLE EXCEPT FUEL (MAINLY TEXTILE FIBRES)	2,527	2,466	- 60	- 2.4%

THE RISE IN IMPORTS WAS MAINLY CONSISTED OF SIGNIFICANT GROWTH IN THE IMPORTS OF ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (+ \$534 MILLION OR + 17.3%), TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT (+ \$436 MILLION OR + 80.3%), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (+ \$396 MILLION OR + 35.0%), NON-METALLIC MANUFACTURES, N.E.S. (+ \$369 MILLION OR + 19.1%), PETROLEUM AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS (+ \$285 MILLION OR + 15.1%).

ON THE OTHER HAND, IMPORTS OF TEXTILE FIBRES (- \$239 MILLION OR - 15.0%), TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS (- \$312 MILLION OR - 6.2%) DROPPED CONSIDERABLY.

HONG KONG RE-EXPORTS IN VALUE TERMS DURING THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR CONTINUED TO SHOW AN UPWARD TREND DESPITE A SIGNIFICANT DROP OF 10% OR \$111 MILLION OF RE-EXPORTS TO ITS MAJOR MARKET, JAPAN.

THE DROP IN RE-EXPORTS TO JAPAN WAS OFFSET BY THE FAVOURABLE RE-EXPORT LEVELS TO INDONESIA (+ \$188 MILLION OR + 36.2%), SINGAPORE (+ \$94 MILLION OR + 13.9%), SOUTH KOREA (+ \$52 MILLION OR + 17.8%), THE PHILIPPINES (+ \$42 MILLION OR + 21.2%), CHINA (+ \$37 MILLION OR + 45.2%) AND TAIWAN (+ \$41 MILLION OR 7.1%).

THE MAJOR INCREASES IN RE-EXPORTS WERE RECORDED IN ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (+ \$130 MILLION OR + 28.2%), TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (+ \$86 MILLION OR + 57.1%), MACHINERY, OTHER THAN ELECTRIC (+ \$81 MILLION OR + 22.3%), TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT (+ \$69 MILLION OR + 116.4%).

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ALSO ANNOUNCED THE TRADE INDEX (1973 = 100) FOR AUGUST AS FOLLOWS :

	VALUE INDEX	UNIT VALUE INDEX	QUANTUM INDEX
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	204	134	152
IMPORTS	156	136	115

THE TERMS OF TRADE INDEX (I.E. EXPORT PRICES OVER IMPORT PRICES) FOR AUGUST WAS 99.

NOTE: ALL VALUE FIGURES WERE ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST MILLION DOLLAR.

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BILL PROPOSED TO EXTEND INJURY COVERAGE
TO MORE NON-MANUAL WORKERS
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MORE NON-MANUAL WORKERS WILL BE ENTITLED TO COMPENSATION BENEFIT WHEN INJURED AT WORK IF A PROPOSED BILL TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHORTLY WERE PASSED.

THE BILL WHICH IS PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY, WILL WIDEN THE COVERAGE OF THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ORDINANCE TO INCLUDE THOSE NON-MANUAL WORKERS EARNING UP TO \$5,000 A MONTH INSTEAD OF THE PRESENT LIMIT COVERING ONLY THOSE EARNING UP TO \$2,000 A MONTH.

THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ORDINANCE, AS IT NOW STANDS, COVER ALL MANUAL WORKERS IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR EARNINGS AND THOSE NON-MANUAL EMPLOYEES EARNING NOT MORE THAN \$2,000 A MONTH.

THE BILL WILL ALSO AMEND THE EXISTING LEGISLATION SO THAT ASSESSMENT OF NON-SCHEDULED INJURIES CAUSING PARTIAL PERMANENT INCAPACITIES SHOULD BE MADE BY REFERENCE TO THE FIRST SCHEDULE TO THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ORDINANCE WHICH LISTS OUT THE PERCENTAGE OF LOSS OF EARNING POWER DUE TO THE LOSS OF VARIOUS PARTS OF A WORKER'S BODY.

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1977

- 11 -

UNDER THE PROPOSED BILL, THE TIME LIMIT WITHIN WHICH APPLICATIONS FOR COMPENSATION HAVE TO BE MADE WILL ALSO BE EXTENDED FROM THE EXISTING PERIOD OF 12 MONTHS TO 24 MONTHS.

A SURCHARGE OF FIVE PER CENT OR \$50, WHICHEVER IS THE GREATER, ON LATE PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION MADE 21 DAYS AFTER THE DUE DATE STIPULATED IN THE AGREEMENT IS ALSO PROPOSED.

EXPLAINING THE EXTENDED COVERAGE OF NON-MANUAL WORKERS, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT POINTED OUT THAT NON-MANUAL WORKERS EARNING MORE THAN \$2,000 PER MONTH AT PRESENT WERE AT A DISADVANTAGE IN THAT THEY COULD NOT CLAIM WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION UNDER THE ORDINANCE AND WERE LIABLE TO HAVE TO PAY THE COSTS OF ANY PROCEEDING FOR RECOVERY OF CIVIL DAMAGES.

FURTHERMORE THEY HAD TO PROVE THAT THEIR EMPLOYER HAD A CIVIL LIABILITY TO PAY DAMAGES IN THE EVENT OF A COMPENSATION CLAIM.

ON THE PROPOSAL TO MAKE ASSESSMENT OF NON-SCHEDULED INJURIES BASED ON THE FIRST SCHEDULE OF THE ORDINANCE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE MOVE WAS TO ACHIEVE UNIFORMITY BETWEEN ASSESSMENTS FOR INJURIES SPECIFIED IN THE FIRST SCHEDULE AND ASSESSMENTS FOR INJURIES OF A LIKE NATURE NOT SO SPECIFIED.

THE EXTENSION OF THE TIME LIMIT TO 24 MONTHS IN WHICH TO APPLY FOR COMPENSATION WAS PROPOSED TO ALLOW WORKERS WITH INJURIES THAT NEEDED MORE THAN 12 MONTHS TO HEAL.

THE OTHER AMENDMENT TO IMPOSE A SURCHARGE ON LATE COMPENSATION PAYMENT WAS INTENDED TO MAKE EMPLOYERS PAY THEIR WORKERS WITHOUT DELAY.

EXPERIENCE HAD SHOWN, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, THAT IN A LARGE NUMBER OF CASES WHERE EMPLOYERS INVOLVED HAD INSURED THEIR WORKERS AGAINST LIABILITY UNDER THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ORDINANCE THEY WISHED TO AWAIT REIMBURSEMENT FROM INSURANCE COMPANIES BEFORE MAKING PAYMENTS TO THE WORKERS CONCERNED.

IN A NUMBER OF OTHER CASES, THE DELAY WAS CAUSED BY QUERIES RAISED BY THE INSURER WITH THE EMPLOYERS ON THE ACCURACY OF THE CALCULATION OR THE SUFFICIENCY OF THE INSURANCE COVERAGE TAKEN OUT.

SUCH DELAYS IN PAYMENT CAUSED SERIOUS HARDSHIP TO THE INJURED EMPLOYEES AND THEIR DEPENDANTS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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/12

- 12 -

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR AUGUST

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GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 1977, SHOW A DEFICIT OF \$168.7 MILLION, COMPARED WITH A DEFICIT OF \$134.0 MILLION IN AUGUST LAST YEAR.

THIS HAS RESULTED IN AN ACCUMULATED DEFICIT OF \$222.5 MILLION FOR THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR, COMPARED WITH A DEFICIT OF \$299.9 MILLION FOR THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

TOTAL EXPENDITURE, AT \$670.8 MILLION, WAS \$194.5 MILLION MORE THAN IN AUGUST, 1976.

TOTAL REVENUE AND RECEIPTS, AT \$502.1 MILLION, WERE \$159.8 MILLION MORE THAN THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR.

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MODERN FIRE FIGHTING BOAT FOR ABERDEEN

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THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS PUT IN OPERATION A NEW \$1.5 MILLION FIREBOAT TODAY (FRIDAY) TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE FIRE PROTECTION TO THE FISHING FLEET AND FLOATING RESTAURANTS IN ABERDEEN.

THE NEW FIREBOAT IS SPECIALLY DESIGNED TO SUIT THE NARROW AND SHALLOW WATERWAYS IN THE HARBOUR AND TO MANOEUVRE CLOSE IN SHORE TO FIGHT SHORE-BASED FIRES IF NECESSARY.

IT HAS AN OPERATING SPEED OF ABOUT 12 KNOTS AND CAN CARRY A CREW OF EIGHT.

THE VESSEL HAS A NUMBER OF MODERN FEATURES - AN AUTOMATIC AND MANUAL HYDRAULIC STEERING SYSTEM, AN ELECTRIC ECHO SOUNDER, A RUDDER INDICATOR, WIND DIRECTION AND SPEED INDICATORS AND A PUBLIC ADDRESS AND INTER-COMMUNICATION SYSTEM.

THE FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT INCLUDES THREE DECK MONITORS AND TWO MAJOR PUMPS CAPABLE OF DRAWING 4,000 GALLONS OF WATER PER MINUTE.

IT IS ALSO EQUIPPED WITH A FOAM COMPOUND STORAGE TANK OF 350 GALLONS CAPACITY AND A PORTABLE FOAM CANNON, CONNECTABLE TO ANY DECK MONITORS, WITH AN OUTPUT OF 2,500 GALLONS OF FOAM PER MINUTE.

THE NEW FIREBOAT IS DESIGNED BY THE MARINE DEPARTMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S SPECIFICATIONS AND IS BUILT BY A LOCAL SHIPYARD.

IT REPLACES THE PRESENT NO. 3 FIREBOAT WHICH HAS BEEN BASED AT ABERDEEN SINCE 1950.

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1977

- 13 -

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR PROTECTION OF
INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY APPLIES TO H.K.
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THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT WITH EFFECT FROM NEXT WEDNESDAY (NOVEMBER 16) THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY (THE 'PARIS CONVENTION') WILL APPLY TO HONG KONG.

THE EXTENSION OF THE CONVENTION TO HONG KONG WILL FACILITATE THE REGISTRATION OF PATENTS, DESIGNS AND TRADE MARKS IN CERTAIN CONVENTION COUNTRIES.

SIGNATORIES OF THE CONVENTION INCLUDE THE UNITED STATES, JAPAN, GERMANY AND BRITAIN WHICH ARE HONG KONG'S MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT SAID, +BASICALLY, THE CONVENTION PROVIDES THAT NATIONALS OF A CONVENTION COUNTRY SHALL, AS REGARDS THE PROTECTION OF PATENTS, DESIGNS AND TRADE MARKS, ENJOY IN ALL OTHER CONVENTION COUNTRIES THE ADVANTAGES THAT THEIR RESPECTIVE LAWS GRANT TO THEIR OWN NATIONALS.+

+INTERESTED PARTIES SHOULD CONTACT THEIR PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER THE NEW SITUATION WILL BE OF ANY ASSISTANCE TO THEM,+ HE ADDED.

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BOARD TO INVESTIGATE SHIPS COLLISION
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THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE HAS ORDERED A BOARD OF INVESTIGATION TO FURTHER INVESTIGATE THE COLLISION BETWEEN TWO VESSELS, +PRESIDENT TAFT+ AND +AMERICAN MING+, AFTER CONSIDERING THE REPORT OF A PRELIMINARY INQUIRY INTO THE INCIDENT.

ON JULY 7 THIS YEAR, THE AMERICAN FLAG VESSEL +PRESIDENT TAFT+ WHILE BEING PILOTED BY A HONG KONG LICENSED PILOT INTO BERTH NO. 4 OF THE KWAI CHUNG CONTAINER TERMINAL STRUCK THE WHARF AT BERTH NO. 6 AND COLLIDED WITH THE STERN OF THE VESSEL +AMERICAN MING+ LYING ALONGSIDE THERE, RESULTING IN DAMAGE TO THE WHARF AND BOTH VESSELS.

THE BOARD OF INVESTIGATION, WHICH IS CONVENED UNDER THE PILOTAGE ORDINANCE, WILL BE CHAIRED BY ASSISTANT CROWN SOLICITOR, MR. KENNETH MOK WAH-KO, LT. CDR. S.H.G. JOHNSTON OF THE ROYAL NAVY AND CAPTAIN J. MAYO OF THE MARINE DEPARTMENT HAVE BEEN APPOINTED AS MEMBERS.

THE INVESTIGATION IS EXPECTED TO LAST FOUR DAYS AND IS SCHEDULED TO BE HELD IN THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER IN THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES ON NOVEMBER 14, 17, 21 AND 28.

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/14

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1977

- 14 -

BUILDING DECLARED DANGEROUS

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TODAY DECLARED NO. 74, BONHAM STRAND, HONG KONG TO BE IN A DANGEROUS CONDITION AND NO. 76, BONHAM STRAND, HONG KONG LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS.

IN A STATEMENT ISSUED THIS MORNING THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR SAID THAT THESE 4-STOREY PRE-WAR BUILDINGS WERE THE SUBJECT OF A COMPLAINT.

AN INSPECTION SHOWED THAT A HIGH PROPORTION OF THE STRUCTURAL WOODEN MEMBERS SUPPORTING THE FLOORS AND ROOFS WERE DECAYED AND THAT THE STEEL SECTIONS SUPPORTING THE REAR MAIN WALLS WERE SERIOUSLY CORRODED. THE CONDITION WAS SUCH THAT THERE WAS A DANGER OF COLLAPSE AND THE BUILDINGS SHOULD THEREFORE BE DEMOLISHED.

ACCORDINGLY NOTICES OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR CLOSURE ORDERS IN VICTORIA DISTRICT COURT AT 9.30 A.M. ON DECEMBER 16, 1977 WERE POSTED TODAY.

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MONEY EXCHANGE SHOP TO LET AT HONG KONG AIRPORT

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A MONEY EXCHANGE SHOP IS AVAILABLE FOR LETTING AT THE ARRIVAL HALL OF HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

TENDERS FOR THE TENANCY, WHICH WILL BE FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS COMMENCING ON OR ABOUT JANUARY 15, 1978, ARE BEING INVITED BY THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT.

THE SHOP, NO. 57, WILL BE RE-LOCATED TO THE REDEVELOPED ARRIVAL HALL IN MID-1979.

FORMS OF TENDER AND FURTHER PARTICULARS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT OR THE MANAGEMENT OF HONG KONG AIRPORT.

ALL TENDERS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL TENDER BOARD AND PLACED IN THE TENDER BOX AT THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT BEFORE NOON ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 25, 1977).

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/15

COLLECTOR'S CABINET FOR GOLD COINS BEING CONSIDERED
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THE GOVERNMENT WILL PRODUCE FOR SALE A COLLECTOR'S CABINET FOR HONG KONG GOLD COINS IF THERE IS SUFFICIENT DEMAND FOR IT.

A PROTOTYPE CABINET HAS BEEN PRODUCED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE NEW POST OFFICE BUILDING AT CONNAUGHT PLACE.

IT CONTAINS RECESSES FOR 14 GOLD COINS THREE OF WHICH HAVE SO FAR BEEN ISSUED TO COMMEMORATE THE ROYAL VISIT IN 1975, THE YEAR OF THE DRAGON (1976) AND THE YEAR OF THE SNAKE (1977).

THE NEXT COIN, TO MARK THE YEAR OF THE HORSE, WILL BE ISSUED IN 1978. IT WILL BE FOLLOWED BY NINE FURTHER ANNUAL ISSUES TO COMPLETE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR CYCLE.

THE PROTOTYPE HAS A POLISHED TEAK EXTERIOR WITH A LEATHER INSERT IN THE LID WHICH COULD BE USED TO FEATURE A GOLD-TOOLED DECORATION, PROBABLY OF HONG KONG'S COAT-OF-ARMS.

PLASTIC FORMINGS IN THE LID AND BASE SECTIONS OF THE PROTOTYPE ARE MADE FROM STYRENE WHICH HAS BEEN FLOCKED SPRAYED WITH A RICH BROWN VELVET TEXTURE FINISH.

THE BASE IS PROVIDED WITH 14 COIN WELLS DESIGNED TO TAKE SCREW-TOP CAPSULE COIN CONTAINERS AND A RECESS TO ACCOMMODATE THE BOOKLETS WHICH ARE ISSUED WITH EACH COIN.

THREE OF THESE CAPSULE CONTAINERS WOULD BE PROVIDED WITH THE CABINET FOR THE COINS THAT HAVE ALREADY BEEN ISSUED. ALL FUTURE GOLD COINS WOULD THEN BE ISSUED IN CAPSULE CONTAINERS.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID +A FIRM PRICE FOR THE COLLECTOR'S CABINET HAS NOT YET BEEN DECIDED AS THIS WILL DEPEND ON MANUFACTURING COSTS AND THE NUMBER OF ORDERS PLACED.

+AT A ROUGH GUESS, HOWEVER, THE PURCHASE PRICE WOULD PROBABLY AMOUNT TO BETWEEN \$300 AND \$400.+

FORMS ON WHICH GOLD COIN COLLECTORS CAN INDICATE WHETHER THEY WOULD BE INTERESTED IN PURCHASING A CABINET CAN BE OBTAINED FROM COUNTER STAFF AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE. THESE SHOULD BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED TO THE DIRECTOR OF ACCOUNTING SERVICES, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, HONG KONG.

+IT MUST BE EMPHASISED THAT THESE FORMS ARE NOT FOR THE PURPOSE OF PLACING ORDERS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID, +AS THE SOLE INTENTION AT THIS STAGE IS TO ESTABLISH WHETHER THERE IS ENOUGH INTEREST TO MAKE THE PRODUCTION OF A COLLECTOR'S CABINET A VIABLE PROPOSITION.+

HE SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT MIGHT DECIDE TO INVITE ADVANCE ORDERS, IN WHICH CASE AN EQUAL NUMBER OF CABINETS WOULD BE PRODUCED.

- 16 -

IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO ARRANGE, AT AN EXTRA CHARGE, TO HAVE THE NAME OF THE COLLECTOR EMBOSSED IN GOLD ON THE LEATHER LID.

REFERRING TO PROGRESS ON THE YEAR OF THE HORSE COIN THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE MASTER TOOLS WERE NOW BEING MADE AND IT WAS EXPECTED THAT SPECIMEN PRE-PRODUCTION COINS WOULD BE RECEIVED IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.

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MORE SAI KUNG FLATS FOR AUCTION

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THE GOVERNMENT IS TO AUCTION ANOTHER 15 DOMESTIC FLATS IN SAI KUNG TOWN LATER THIS MONTH AND BUYERS WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE THE OPTION OF PAYING HALF OF THE PURCHASE PRICE BY ANNUAL INSTALMENTS.

THE AUCTION WILL BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 30 AT 3 P.M. AT THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE IN THE SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 692 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD.

THE FLATS, EACH OF 692 SQUARE FEET, ARE IN ROWS OF MODERN FIVE-STORY BLOCKS WHICH WERE PRIMARILY BUILT TO REHOUSE LOCAL VILLAGERS AFFECTED BY THE HIGH ISLAND WATER SCHEME.

IT WILL BE THE THIRD SALE IN A SERIES OF AUCTIONS PLANNED BY THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE TO DISPOSE OF THE FLATS WHICH WERE LEFT OVER AS SOME VILLAGERS OPTED FOR CASH COMPENSATION.

THE FIRST TWO AUCTIONS TOOK PLACE IN FEBRUARY AND SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR WHEN A TOTAL OF 14 FLATS WERE SOLD FOR OVER \$1.9 MILLION. IN THE SEPTEMBER AUCTION, FLATS WERE SOLD AT PRICES RANGING FROM \$136,000 TO \$153,000.

THE 15 FLATS COMING UP IN THE NEXT AUCTION ARE ON THE THIRD AND FOURTH FLOORS, EXCEPT FOR ONE WHICH IS ON THE SECOND FLOOR. TWELVE ARE IN MAN NIN STREET AND THREE IN YI CHUN STREET.

EXPLAINING THE SALE CONDITIONS OF THE AUCTION, MR. DEREK DEAR, SENIOR ESTATE SURVEYOR OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE SAID TODAY ALL SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WOULD BE REQUIRED TO PAY A DEPOSIT OF \$10,000 AFTER THE FALL OF THE HAMMER.

WITHIN ONE CALENDER MONTH OF THE SALE, HE SAID, THEY CAN PAY EITHER THE FULL PURCHASE PRICE, OR HALF OF THE PRICE PLUS THE FIRST OF 10 EQUAL ANNUAL INSTALMENTS FOR THE REMAINING HALF.

MR. DEAR SAID BUYERS OPTING FOR INSTALMENT PAYMENT WOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO ASSIGN, UNDERLET OR ENTER INTO ANY AGREEMENT TO DISPOSE OF THE FLATS UNTIL THEY HAD PAID THE WHOLE AMOUNT OF THE PURCHASE PRICE.

COPIES OF THE SALE CONDITIONS CAN BE OBTAINED AND THE PLAN INSPECTED AT ALL DISTRICT OFFICES AND AT THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION HEADQUARTERS AT 101, PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD, KOWLOON.

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1977

- 17 -

SCOUTS DAY AT VICTORIA PARK
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THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE SCOUTS DAY TO BE HELD AT THE VICTORIA PARK, CAUSEWAY BAY THIS SUNDAY (NOVEMBER 13) AT 1 P.M.

THE SCOUTS DAY, SPONSORED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL AND THE EASTERN DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL, IS TO PROMOTE SCOUTING AS WELL AS TO ENTERTAIN THOUSANDS OF PUPILS AND SCOUTS IN THE DISTRICT.

THE PROGRAMME WILL INCLUDE A PARADE, PIPE-BAND AND BRASS-BAND PERFORMANCES, BAMBOO DANCE AND SCOUT CRAFT DEMONSTRATIONS, THERE WILL ALSO BE OBSTACLE RACES AND GAMES.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

ANNUAL TEACHERS' CONFERENCE
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THE HONG KONG TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL TEACHERS' CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT 2.30 P.M. AT GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, GASCOIGNE ROAD, KOWLOON.

MR. A.G. BROWN, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS) WILL GIVE THE OPENING ADDRESS AND SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY INSPECTORATE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL SPEAK AT THE VARIOUS DISCUSSION GROUPS.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE EVENT.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT IN TIN LOK LANE
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A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT SOUTHBOUND TRAFFIC IN TIN LOK LANE, BETWEEN HENNESSY ROAD AND WAN CHAI ROAD, WILL BE RESTRICTED TO FRANCHISED BUSES WITH EFFECT FROM 10 A.M. ON MONDAY (NOVEMBER 14) TO FACILITATE ROAD WORKS.

ALL OTHER VEHICLES WILL BE PROHIBITED TO ENTER TIN LOK LANE FROM HENNESSY ROAD.

TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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