



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1984

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1984

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MINISTER OF STATE TO VISIT HK

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THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS, MR RICHARD LUCE, WILL VISIT HONG KONG FROM FEBRUARY 25 TO 28.

THIS WILL BE MR LUCE'S SECOND VISIT TO HONG KONG SINCE TAKING UP HIS APPOINTMENT AS MINISTER OF STATE. HE LAST VISITED THE TERRITORY IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR.

WHILE IN HONG KONG, MR LUCE WILL MEET THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR TO PEKING, SIR RICHARD EVANS, AND OTHER SENIOR OFFICIALS.

ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 27), MR LUCE WILL MEET UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS, DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND OTHER COMMUNITY LEADERS.

ON TUESDAY (FEBRUARY 28) MORNING, HE WILL VISIT TAI KOO SHING AND LAI TAK TSUEN OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT. THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A PRESS CONFERENCE IN THE GIS THEATRE AT NOON, BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR KUALA LUMPUR AT 3.30 PM ON THE SAME DAY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

A FACILITY HAS BEEN ARRANGED FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS AND CAMERAMEN TO COVER MR LUCE'S ARRIVAL ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25. HE WILL BE TRAVELLING ON FLIGHT SQ 2, ETA 6.55 PM.

PLEASE ADVISE THOSE ASSIGNED TO COVER THE EVENT TO ASSEMBLE AT THE AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM NOT LATER THAN 5.45 PM. GIS OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

AMBASSADOR EVANS ARRIVING

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A FACILITY HAS BEEN ARRANGED FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS AND CAMERAMEN TO COVER THE ARRIVAL OF THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR TO PEKING, SIR RICHARD EVANS, IN HONG KONG ON SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 25).

SIR RICHARD WILL BE TRAVELLING ON FLIGHT CA 101, ETA 11.45 AM.

PLEASE ADVISE THOSE ASSIGNED TO COVER THE EVENT TO ASSEMBLE AT THE AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM NOT LATER THAN 10.45 AM ON SATURDAY. GIS OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1984

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

GOVERNOR RETURNING TOMORROW
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, WILL RETURN FROM PEKING TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AFTER ATTENDING ANOTHER TWO DAYS OF SINO-BRITISH TALKS ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG.

HE WILL BE TRAVELLING ON FLIGHT CA 103, ETA 1.55 PM.

A FACILITY HAS BEEN ARRANGED FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS AND CAMERAMEN TO COVER SIR EDWARD'S RETURN. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO USE THE FACILITY SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM NOT LATER THAN 1 PM. GIS OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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SIR PHILIP TOURS YAU MA TEI
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THE DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, THIS AFTERNOON TOURED YAU MA TEI TO SEE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT WORKS THERE.

AT EAST TSIM SHA TSUI, SIR PHILIP WAS BRIEFED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR WILFRED WONG, ON A COMPREHENSIVE SCHEME BEING IMPLEMENTED TO IMPROVE AND REGULATE TRAFFIC FLOW.

PROJECTS IN THE SCHEME INCLUDE THE PROVISION OF LAY-BYS TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS AT MAJOR ROAD JUNCTIONS.

SIR PHILIP WAS ALSO SHOWN THE URBAN COUNCIL'S CENTENARY GARDEN WHICH HAS BECOME A POPULAR AMENITY AREA.

EIGHT OTHER AREAS OF OPEN SPACE AND REST GARDENS ARE DUE TO BE COMPLETED IN EAST TSIM SHA TSUI BY THE MIDDLE OF THIS YEAR.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR ALBERT LAM, SIR PHILIP VISITED CHUNG KING MANSION ON NATHAN ROAD AND LEE SHING MANSION ON JORDAN ROAD.

THE TWO BUILDINGS, COMPLETED IN THE EARLY 1960'S, HAVE FOR MANY YEARS SUFFERED FROM A LACK OF PROPER MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE AND POOR SANITARY CONDITIONS.

THEY HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS TARGET BUILDINGS IN THE YAU MA TEI BUILDING MANAGEMENT PILOT SCHEME, AND AN INTERDEPARTMENTAL OPERATION HAS BEEN UNDERTAKEN TO CLEAR REFUSE AND REMOVE OBSTRUCTIONS ON STAIRCASES AND COMMON AREAS.

HOUSEHOLD VISITS HAVE ALSO BEEN MADE TO BRIEF TENANTS AND OWNERS ON THE OBJECTIVES OF THE SCHEME.

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STUDENTS TOLD TO PREPARE FOR ROLE IN SOCIETY
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WITH INITIATIVE AND IMAGINATION, STUDENTS WILL BE READY TO TAKE ON THE RESPONSIBILITIES TO BE THE PILLARS OF SOCIETY, THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR DENIS BRAY, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE BUDDHIST WONG WAN TIN COLLEGE IN SHA TIN, MR BRAY SAID THAT FREEDOM CARRIED RESPONSIBILITY FOR FELLOW CITIZENS.

+HONG KONG'S PROSPERITY IS BUILT ON FREEDOM AND YOU WILL BE EXPECTED TO MAKE HONG KONG MORE PROSPEROUS AND STABLE,+ HE SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT SHA TIN DISTRICT HAS A POPULATION OF 260 000 PEOPLE, ONE THIRD OF THEM UNDER THE AGE OF 15.

THE OPENING OF THE NEW SCHOOL, HE ADDED, WOULD MAKE A +VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION+ TOWARDS MEETING EDUCATIONAL NEEDS IN THE DISTRICT.

HE SAID THAT THE PURSUIT OF EDUCATION MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY INTEREST IN SPORTS, RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL PURSUITS.

THE GOVERNMENT IN ITS DEVELOPMENT PLANS HAS INCLUDED FIVE NEW FACILITIES IN SHA TIN TO MEET RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL NEEDS.

+IN ADDITION TO THE RECENT OPENING OF A SPORT GROUND, OTHER PROJECTS NOW UNDER PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT INCLUDE AN ARTIFICIAL TURF FOOTBALL PITCH, A TOWN PARK, AN INDOOR GAMES HALL AND A MAJOR CULTURAL COMPLEX WITH AUDITORIUM.+

HE SAID THESE FACILITIES WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL TO YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE IN COMPLEMENTING THEIR MENTAL, PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

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STRATEGIC STUDY RESULTS READY THIS YEAR
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THE RESULTS OF GOVERNMENT'S DELIBERATIONS ON THE STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG WILL BE RELEASED WITHIN THIS YEAR, THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, MR NICKY CHAN, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

MR CHAN, WHO WAS BRIEFING MEMBERS OF CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD ON THE WORK OF THE SIX DEPARTMENTS UNDER THE LANDS AND WORKS BRANCH, SAID IF THE GOVERNMENT DECIDED TO GO AHEAD WITH LARGE-SCALE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE URBAN AREA, IT MIGHT BE NECESSARY TO EXPAND THE URBAN AREA DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION OR EVEN TURN IT INTO A SEPARATE DEPARTMENT AND ENLARGE ITS RESPONSIBILITIES.

HE SAID THAT, AS SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, IT WAS HIS DUTY TO ENSURE THAT ALL WORKS AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN EACH DISTRICT WERE PROPERLY CARRIED OUT AND THAT ALL SUGGESTIONS ON LANDS AND WORKS MATTERS WHICH AFFECTED THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT OF RESIDENTS WERE REFERRED TO DISTRICT BOARDS FOR DISCUSSION AND THEIR ADVICE.

/MR CHAN

MR CHAN SAID THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD HAD IN THE PAST BEEN GIVEN OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPRESS VIEWS ON VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS WITHIN THE DISTRICT.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE MEETING WOULD BE BRIEFED LATER ON THE CENTRAL AND MID-LEVELS TRANSPORTATION REQUIREMENTS STUDY AND CONSULTATION TOOK PLACE ON VARIOUS OTHER LARGE DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AFFECTING THE DISTRICT SUCH AS THOSE ON HARBOUR RECLAMATIONS AND URBAN GROWTH, URBAN RENEWAL AND LAND DEVELOPMENT.

ON THE HARBOUR RECLAMATIONS AND URBAN GROWTH STUDY, MR CHAN SAID IT WAS A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF THE URBAN AREA.

+IT WOULD HAVE MANY FAR-REACHING EFFECTS ON CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT AND FORM AN ESSENTIAL PART OF FUTURE STRATEGIC PLANNING IF IMPLEMENTED.

+THEREFORE, THERE MUST BE CONSULTATION WITH THE BOARD TO ENSURE THAT LOCAL VIEWS ARE HEARD ON THE PROPOSALS BEFORE FINAL DECISIONS ARE REACHED ON THE DEVELOPMENT PATTERN,+ HE SAID.

MOREOVER, HE SAID, DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS COULD ALWAYS EXPRESS VIEWS THROUGH THEIR OWN PLANS AND WORKS COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS AND THEIR PRIORITY, AND ALSO ON STATUTORY PLANS AND OUTLINE DEVELOPMENT PLANS.

MR CHAN SAID THE TIMING OF CONSULTING THE DISTRICT BOARDS WAS IMPORTANT, BUT IT MIGHT BE PREMATURE TO DO THIS BEFORE PROJECTS HAD RECEIVED PRIOR AGREEMENT BETWEEN INTERESTED GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS. DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS SHOULD NOT, THEREFORE, FEEL DISAPPOINTED AT NOT HAVING A CHANCE TO KNOW ABOUT PROJECTS AT THEIR VERY EARLY STAGE OF PLANNING.

HE TOLD BOARD MEMBERS THAT THE LANDS AND WORKS GROUP OF DEPARTMENTS HAD ALREADY ESTABLISHED AN ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER DEPARTMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPROVING THE ENVIRONMENT IN DISTRICTS, AS WELL AS FOR CO-ORDINATING DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, BUT THE VALUABLE AND CONSTRUCTIVE VIEWS OF DISTRICT BOARDS' MEMBERS WOULD BE SERIOUSLY CONSIDERED BEFORE ANY DECISIONS WERE MADE.

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MOST HK BUSINESSMEN ARE HONEST - JORDAN

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THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE, MR DOUGLAS JORDAN, TODAY (THURSDAY) DENIED ALLEGATIONS THAT HONG KONG WAS ONE OF THE TERRITORIES MANUFACTURING FAKE COMPONENTS FOR CARS AND AIRCRAFT.

ADDRESSING THE DINNER MEETING OF THE KIWANIS CLUB, MR JORDAN STRESSED THERE WAS +ABSOLUTELY NO EVIDENCE+ THAT SUCH PARTS WERE MADE IN HONG KONG.

HE SAID THAT THE VAST MAJORITY OF HONG KONG'S BUSINESSMEN WERE HONEST AND WERE NOT INVOLVED IN COUNTERFEITING OPERATIONS.

+BUT OUR HONEST BUSINESSMEN RECEIVE NO PUBLICITY. THERE IS NEITHER NEWS VALUE NOR POLITICAL CAPITAL TO BE MADE OF LEGITIMATE TRANSACTIONS,+ HE ADDED.

HE NOTED THAT THERE WAS A STRONG TENDENCY AMONG HONG KONG'S TRADING PARTNERS TO GROUP THE TERRITORY WITH OTHERS, PARTICULARLY SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES, WITH REGARD TO COUNTERFEITING ACTIVITIES.

HE SAID THAT SOME OF THE MISREPRESENTATIONS AROSE BECAUSE HONG KONG WAS AN ENTREPOT THROUGH WHICH COUNTERFEIT GOODS FROM OTHER PLACES WERE TRANSHIPPED.

+SUCH GOODS ARE INVARIABLY DESCRIBED BY OUR OVERSEAS CRITICS AS FROM HONG KONG EVEN THOUGH GIVEN THE NATURE OF TRANSHIPMENTS, WE CAN HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF THEIR BEING COUNTERFEITS AS THEY PASS THROUGH OUR PORT.

+WHERE IN EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES WE DO HAVE SUCH KNOWLEDGE WE DEAL WITH THEM SUITABLY BY SEIZURE. BUT OUR OPPORTUNITIES FOR KNOWING ABOUT AND DEALING WITH SUCH TRANSHIPMENTS ARE RARE,+ MR JORDAN SAID.

ON LAW ENFORCEMENT, HE SAID THAT HONG KONG HAD STRONG AND EFFECTIVE LEGISLATION TO COUNTER THE ILLICIT ACTIVITIES.

HE EXPLAINED THAT IN MANY PLACES AROUND THE WORLD, INCLUDING THE UNITED KINGDOM, PROSECUTION OF THOSE ENGAGED IN COUNTERFEITING TRADE MARKS RESTS LARGELY ON CIVIL LEGAL ACTION AND CIVIL JURISDICTION, AND SUCH AVENUES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE TO TRADE MARK OWNERS IN HONG KONG.

BUT UNLIKE MANY OTHER PLACES, THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS COUNTERFEITING A CRIMINAL ACT, MR JORDAN SAID.

IT HAS PROVIDED LEGISLATION IN THE TRADE DESCRIPTIONS ORDINANCE TO COUNTER FALSE TRADE DESCRIPTIONS, FALSE TRADE MARKS, AND MISREPRESENTATION, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE GOODS ARE MADE LOCALLY, IMPORTED OR EXPORTED.

OUTLINING THE SUCCESSES OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT IN SUPPRESSING COUNTERFEITING, MR JORDAN SAID THAT IN 1978 THE DEPARTMENT HANDLED 213 INVESTIGATIONS, TAKING 56 CASES TO COURT AND SEIZING \$1-MILLION WORTH OF GOODS.

IN 1983, THERE WERE 213 INVESTIGATIONS, 421 CASES PROSECUTED AND SEIZED \$21-MILLION WORTH OF GOODS.

+SADLY SOMETIMES OUR OVERSEAS CRITICS MISINTERPRET OUR SUCCESS. THEY MISCONSTRUE OUR DETECTION FIGURES AND MISREPRESENT THEM AS AN INDICATION OF THE GROWTH OF THE COUNTERFEIT PROBLEM IN HONG KONG.

+NO-ONE KNOWS THE FULL EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM IN HONG KONG OR ANYWHERE ELSE WITH COMPLETE ACCURACY - NEITHER OUR CRITICS NOR OURSELVES.

+BUT CERTAINLY IN THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT WE HAVE VARIOUS AVENUES OF INTELLIGENCE OPEN TO US WHICH ENABLE US TO ASSESS THE SIZE OF THE PROBLEM TO A REASONABLE DEGREE.

+AND FROM THIS INTELLIGENCE WE KNOW WE ARE MAKING NOT INCONSIDERABLE INROADS INTO THE PROBLEM,+ MR JORDAN SAID.

DISTRICT BOARDS HELP SHAPE TRANSPORT POLICY
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DISTRICT BOARDS HAVE MUCH INFLUENCE OVER THE WAYS TRANSPORT POLICIES AND MEASURES ARE IMPLEMENTED IN HONG KONG, MR JAMES SO, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, SAID TODAY (FEBRUARY 23).

ADDRESSING THE Y'S MEN'S CLUB OF HONG KONG ON +TRANSPORT ADMINISTRATION+, MR SO SAID THAT DISTRICT BOARDS WERE ALSO CONSULTED ON NEW POLICY PROPOSALS, AND COULD CHALLENGE THE APPROPRIATENESS OF EXISTING POLICIES AND REQUEST CHANGES.

HE STRESSED THAT THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WAS ORGANISED ON A REGIONAL BASIS TO ENABLE IT TO RESPOND MORE QUICKLY AND EFFICIENTLY TO DEMAND FOR TRANSPORT IMPROVEMENT AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL.

+SENIOR OFFICERS FROM THE DEPARTMENT SIT ON ALL 18 DISTRICT BOARDS AND THEIR ASSOCIATED TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEES,+ MR SO SAID.

+THROUGH THESE FORUMS, DISTRICT NEEDS AND ASPIRATIONS ON TRANSPORT MATTERS ARE BEING FED BACK THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT TO THE TRANSPORT BRANCH, THUS HELPING TO INFLUENCE AND SHAPE POLICY FORMULATION BY THE BRANCH.+

THIS ENABLES THE VIEWS AND OPINIONS OF THE MAN-IN-THE-STREET TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT WHEN NEW POLICY MEASURES ARE CONSIDERED, HE ADDED.

MR SO SAID THAT DISTRICT BOARDS ARE ONE OF THE CHECKS AND BALANCES TO WHICH THE FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSPORT POLICIES AND MEASURES IN HONG KONG ARE SUBJECT. ANOTHER BODY WHICH SERVES AS A CHECK IS THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE, CHAIRED BY AN UNOFFICIAL WITH NINE OTHER APPOINTED UNOFFICIALS AND SIX OFFICIAL MEMBERS, WHICH ADVISES THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL ON ALL MAJOR ISSUES OF TRANSPORT POLICY.

THE TRANSPORT TRIBUNAL TOO HAS POWERS TO REVIEW THE DECISIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT ON MOST LICENSING MATTERS. IT IS CHAIRED BY AN UNOFFICIAL APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR AND HAS TWO OTHER MEMBERS, ONE OFFICIAL AND ONE UNOFFICIAL, SITTING WITH HIM.

MR SO ALSO SPOKE ABOUT THE PROCESS AND MECHANISM BY WHICH TRANSPORT POLICY PROPOSAL IS FORMULATED BY THE TRANSPORT BRANCH FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL. HE EXPLAINED THAT AFTER A DECISION IS TAKEN, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR EXECUTING THE POLICY.

HE ALSO SAID THAT THE TRANSPORT BRANCH, IN FORMULATING TRANSPORT POLICY, WORKS WITHIN BROAD GUIDELINES LAID DOWN IN THE WHITE PAPER ON INTERNAL TRANSPORT POLICY, +KEEPING HONG KONG MOVING+. APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL IN 1979, THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF SUCH POLICY IS TO MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE THE MOBILITY OF BOTH PEOPLE AND GOODS THROUGH AN INTEGRATED, MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORT SYSTEM, HE ADDED.

HONG KONG RACING TO THE TOP IN CONTAINER TRADE
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IN THE RACE FOR SUPREMACY IN GLOBAL CONTAINER TRADE, HONG KONG IS FAST CLOSING THE GAP WITH NEW YORK, THE WORLD'S SECOND LARGEST CONTAINER PORT AFTER ROTTERDAM.

WITH THE RESURGENCE OF ITS EXTERNAL TRADE, HONG KONG HANDLED 1.84 MILLION TWENTY EQUIVALENT UNITS (TEU'S) OF CONTAINER CARGO LAST YEAR, UP 10.7 PER CENT ON 1982, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY BY THE MARINE DEPARTMENT.

+WHILE 1983 FIGURES FOR NEW YORK ARE NOT AVAILABLE YET, A CHART PLOTTING THE ANNUAL GROWTH RATES FOR THE TWO PORTS SHOWS THAT HONG KONG COULD OVERTAKE NEW YORK IN A MATTER OF MONTHS, + THE DEPARTMENT'S SENIOR MARINE OFFICER, MR T.J. FRAWLEY, SAID.

A RECENT PUBLICATION BY CONTAINERISATION INTERNATIONAL IN LONDON POINTS OUT THAT OF THE WORLD'S TOP 10 CONTAINER PORTS, HONG KONG HAS CONSISTENTLY SHOWN THE HIGHEST TRAFFIC GROWTH RATES OVER THE PAST 10 YEARS.

IN 1978, HONG KONG WITH A THROUGHPUT OF 1.22 MILLION TEU'S STILL TRAILED FAR BEHIND NEW YORK WITH 1.78 MILLION TEU'S, HE RECALLED.

BUT SINCE THEN, FOLLOWING MAJOR EXPANSION OF ITS KWAI CHUNG CONTAINER PORT IN THE MID-1970'S, HONG KONG HAS KEPT UP ITS GROWTH MOMENTUM WHILE NEW YORK HAS SHOWN SIGNS OF SLOWING DOWN. FROM THAT YEAR TO 1982, HONG KONG'S AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH RATE WAS ABOVE EIGHT PER CENT, AGAINST NEW YORK'S AVERAGE RATE OF LESS THAN 1.9 PER CENT.

DESPITE THE SPREADING GLOBAL RECESSION, HONG KONG NOTCHED A 6.9 PER CENT INCREASE IN CONTAINER TRAFFIC IN 1981 WHILE NEW YORK'S THROUGHPUT WAS DOWN BY 4.6 PER CENT.

HONG KONG'S MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH CAME IN 1980 WHEN IT OVERTOOK KOBE AS THE WORLD'S THIRD LARGEST CONTAINER PORT BY A PAPER-THIN MARGIN -- 1.46 MILLION TEU'S AGAINST KOBE'S 1.45 MILLION TEU'S.

OVER THE YEARS HONG KONG IN ITS RAPID ASCENT TO THE TOP HAS LEFT KOBE FAR BEHIND.

THE NEW RANKING WILL BE OF MORE THAN SYMBOLIC IMPORTANCE.

+INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING GIANTS OFTEN SET THEIR SIGHTS ON PORTS WITH LARGE AND GROWING TRAFFIC TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE ECONOMIES OF SCALE. AND THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT HONG KONG IS OFFERING, + MR FRAWLEY SAID.

SHIPS, INCLUDING THE THIRD-GENERATION TYPES OF 59 000 GROSS TONS, UNLOADED EMPTY CONTAINERS TOTALLING 217 562 TEU'S LAST YEAR, 4.5 PER CENT MORE THAN IN 1982.

/+MORE IMPORTANTLY,

+MORE IMPORTANTLY, THE NUMBER OF EMPTY CONTAINERS DISCHARGED CLIMBED FROM MONTH TO MONTH, INDICATING THAT THE SHIPPING COMPANIES EXPECT TO PICK UP STILL MORE CONTAINER CARGO IN THE MONTHS AHEAD,+ HE SAID.

ABOUT 90 PER CENT OF THE TERRITORY'S CONTAINER CARGO IS HANDLED AT THE THREE GIANT TERMINALS IN KWAI CHUNG, WITH THE REST ACCOMMODATED ELSEWHERE IN THE PORT OF HONG KONG.

BESIDES SERVING ITS OWN GROWING EXPORTS AND IMPORTS, HONG KONG IS ALSO THE LARGEST TRANSHIPMENT CENTRE IN ASIA FOR CONTAINER CARGO, WITH ABOUT 30 PER CENT OF ITS TRAFFIC REPRESENTING TRANSHIPMENT THROUGHPUTS.

A THREE-PHASE EXPANSION PROGRAMME FOR KWAI CHUNG WILL POSITION HONG KONG TO MEET THE RISING NEEDS FOR CONTAINER SERVICES FOR THE REST OF THIS DECADE AND INTO THE NEXT, MR FRAWLEY SAID.

UNDER THE FIRST PHASE, 25.5 HECTARES OF SEABED IN THE KWAI CHUNG CREEK WILL BE RECLAIMED WITHIN THE NEXT THREE YEARS AT A COST OF OVER \$655 MILLION TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL BACK-UP AREAS FOR THE EXISTING TERMINALS.

+BESIDES IMPROVING EXISTING KWAI CHUNG TRAFFIC, THE RECLAMATION WILL RAISE THE CONTAINER PORT'S EFFICIENT WORKING CAPACITY BY 40 PER CENT TO 2.2 MILLION TEU'S,+ MR FRAWLEY SAID.

IN THE SECOND PHASE, A NEW TERMINAL WITH THREE BERTHS WILL BE BUILT TO THE SOUTH OF THE RECLAMATION, RAISING THE CAPACITY BY ANOTHER 45 PER CENT UPON ITS COMPLETION BY 1988.

TWO ADDITIONAL TERMINALS ARE PLANNED AS A THIRD PHASE OF THE EXPANSION.

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VALUE OF RECREATION STRESSED

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THE GROWING AFFLUENCE AND INCREASED LEISURE TIME OF THE COMMUNITY HAS LED TO UNPRECEDENTED DEMAND FOR MORE RECREATION AND SPORTING OPPORTUNITIES, THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR RECREATION AND SPORTS, MR DICKEN YUNG SAID THIS EVENING (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF RECREATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PERSON, MR YUNG SAID IT IS GOVERNMENT'S ACCEPTED POLICY TO ENCOURAGE AND PROMOTE RECREATION FOR THE COMMUNITY.

MR YUNG, WHO WAS THE GUEST OF HONOUR AT THE ANNUAL SPEECH DAY OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE IN CAUSEWAY BAY EXHORTED STUDENTS TO TAKE UP RECREATION AND SPORT ACTIVITIES WHICH HE SAID WOULD BENEFIT THEM PHYSICALLY, INTELLECTUALLY AND SOCIALLY.

+SPORTS AND GAMES ARE GENERALLY CONSIDERED A USEFUL MEANS TO OVERCOME STRESS AND RELIEVE TENSION,+ HE SAID.

/+THESE ACTIVITIES,

+THESE ACTIVITIES, TOO, PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR INTELLECTUAL AND COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT.

+IN FACT, INTELLECTUAL AND PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENTS ARE VIEWED AS INSEPARABLE PROCESSES AND THE SIGNIFICANT ROLE OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES AND GAMES IN INTELLECTUAL AND PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT HAS LONG BEEN RECOGNISED BY MANY PSYCHOLOGISTS AND EDUCATORS.+

MR YUNG SAID A SURVEY OF 17 000 UNIVERSITY GRADUATES OVER A 15-YEAR PERIOD SHOWED THAT FEWER OF THOSE WHO ENGAGED IN SOME FORM OF PHYSICAL RECREATION SUFFERED HEART ATTACKS THAN THOSE WHO DID NOT.

RESEARCH HAD ALSO SHOWN, THAT INACTIVE PERSONS WERE TWO-AND-HALF-TIMES MORE SUSCEPTIBLE TO HEART DISEASES, HE ADDED.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

PRESS CONFERENCE

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MRS SHIRLEY WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY, CURRENTLY VISITING HONG KONG, WILL GIVE A PRESS CONFERENCE IN THE GIS THEATRE AT 10 AM ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27.

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

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MATHS WHIZ KIDS TO COMPETE

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STUDENTS FROM 40 SECONDARY SCHOOLS WILL COMPETE IN THE FINAL OF THE HONG KONG MATHEMATICS OLYMPIAD AT THE NORTHCOTE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION IN SASSOON ROAD, HONG KONG ON SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 25) AT 9.30 AM.

THE COMPETITION IS BEING JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S ADVISORY INSPECTORATE AND NORTHCOTE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION TO PROMOTE, ENCOURAGE AND SUSTAIN STUDENTS' INTEREST IN MATHEMATICS.

A TOTAL OF 122 SECONDARY SCHOOLS HAD ORGINALLY TAKEN PART IN THE PRELIMINARY ROUND OF THE COMPETITION ON DECEMBER 10 LAST YEAR.

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AFTER THE FINAL ROUND TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR JOHN WINFIELD, AND THE PRINCIPAL OF NORTHCOTE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, MR S.L. HO, WILL PRESENT PRIZES TO THE WINNERS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS :

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE FINAL OF THE HONG KONG MATHEMATICS OLYMPIAD AT THE NORTHCOTE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, SASSOON ROAD, HONG KONG ON SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 25,) STARTING AT 9.30 AM, AND THE PRIZE-PRESENTATION AT 12 NOON.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

PRIZES FOR YOUTH PROJECT WINNERS

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THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE (OPERATIONS), MRS EVELYN DOE, WILL PRESENT PRIZES ON SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 25) TO WINNERS OF A YOUTH PROJECTS AWARD SCHEME ORGANISED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT TO PROMOTE THE INTEGRATION OF THE DISABLED INTO THE COMMUNITY.

THE SCHEME WAS LAUNCHED LAST SEPTEMBER AS PART OF THE DEPARTMENT'S 1983-84 PUBLICITY PROGRAMME ON PUBLIC EDUCATION IN REHABILITATION AND 16 YOUTH GROUPS TOOK PART IN THE SCHEME.

IT AIMS TO ENCOURAGE ABLED AND DISABLED PEOPLE TO WORK TOGETHER FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY.

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT, WHICH WILL START AT 10.30 AM AT THE HENRY G. LEONG YAU MA TEI COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 60 PUBLIC SQUARE STREET.

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OPEN DAY AT YUEN LONG MUSIC CENTRE

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THE YUEN LONG MUSIC CENTRE WILL HOLD ITS OPEN DAY TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AND ON SATURDAY, FROM 10 AM TO 8 PM.

THE OPEN DAY WILL INCLUDE AN EXHIBITION OF WESTERN AND CHINESE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, VISUAL-AID DEMONSTRATIONS AND PERFORMANCES BY MUSICIANS AND TRAINEES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE, RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT.

LOCATED ON THE SECOND AND THIRD FLOORS OF YUEN LONG CENTRE AT SAU FU STREET, THE MUSIC CENTRE CONSISTS OF SIX PRACTICE ROOMS, ONE REHEARSAL ROOM FOR BAND AND ORCHESTRA, A LIBRARY-CONFERENCE ROOM, GENERAL OFFICE AND A TEACHING STAFF COMMON ROOM.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

NEW BRANCH OFFICE
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THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION UNIT OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAS SET UP A NEW BRANCH OFFICE IN SHA TIN TO SERVE THE AREAS OF SHA TIN, TAI PO, FANLING AND SHEUNG SHUI.

SITUATED ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE KOWLOON CANTON RAILWAY (KCR) HOUSE, SHATIN STATION, THE NEW OFFICE WILL START OPERATIONS TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION CASES OCCURRING AFTER JANUARY 1 IN THE AREAS WILL BE HANDLED BY THE NEW DISTRICT OFFICE.

THE NEW OFFICE'S TELEPHONES FOR ENQUIRIES ARE 0-6065539 AND 0-6065571.

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FIRE EQUIPMENT FOR SAI KUNG MARKET
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FIRE SERVICE EQUIPMENT COSTING \$381 000 WILL BE INSTALLED AT SAI KUNG MARKET BAZAAR, WHICH IS NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

THE CONTRACT FOR THE EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING INSTALLATION OF HOSE REEL, AUTOMATIC SPRINKLERS, FIRE BOOSTER PUMPS, AND A FIRE ALARM AND DETECTION SYSTEM, HAS BEEN AWARDED TO FORTRESS LIMITED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

WORK WILL START EARLY NEXT MONTH AND BE COMPLETED IN SEVEN MONTHS.

THE TWO-STOREY MARKET IS BEING BUILT ON A 2 200 SQUARE-METRE SITE AT YI CHUN STREET. IT WILL HAVE 220 STALLS AS WELL AS AN ESCALATOR, REFUSE COLLECTION CHAMBER AND ICE STOREROOM.

RAMPS WILL BE CONSTRUCTED SO THAT THE DISABLED CAN USE THE MARKET. THERE WILL ALSO BE A LIFT FOR USE BY THE HANDICAPPED.

THE TOTAL COST OF THE MARKET BAZAAR, WHICH WILL BE READY IN OCTOBER, IS \$6.6 MILLION.

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+ACTIVITY APPROACH+ WORK BEING REVIEWED
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THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE 1983-84 PRIMARY TEACHER RETRAINING COURSE ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL BE DISCUSSED AT A SEMINAR AT THE GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION ANNEXE AT ARGYLE CENTRE, MONG KOK, ON SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 25) MORNING.

+THE SEMINAR ALSO HOPES TO IDENTIFY THE PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES OF OPERATING THE ACTIVITY APPROACH CLASSES AND TO EXPLORE WAYS OF COPING WITH THEM,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

IT WILL BE ATTENDED BY ABOUT 80 PRIMARY SCHOOL HEADS OR THEIR DEPUTIES.

THE PRINCIPAL OF GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, DR KONG YUN-FUN, WILL SPEAK AT THE OPENING OF THE SEMINAR AT 9.15 AM.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

PRIZES FOR POSTER DESIGN WINNERS
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WINNERS OF THE 16TH ANNUAL INDUSTRIAL SAFETY POSTER DESIGN COMPETITION ORGANISED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WILL RECEIVE PRIZES AT 3 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY), IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, TELFORD GARDENS, IN KOWLOON BAY.

THE PRESENTATIONS WILL BE MADE BY MR K.Y. TONGSON, MEMBER OF THE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND ACCIDENT PREVENTION COMMITTEE.

THE WINNING ENTRIES WILL BE ON DISPLAY IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE WHERE A +SAFETY EXTRAVAGANZA+ IS BEING STAGED.

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE FUNCTION.

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CLEARWAYS FOR CAUSEWAY BAY AND WAN CHAI
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A NUMBER OF ROAD SECTIONS IN CAUSEWAY BAY AND WAN CHAI WILL BE DESIGNATED CLEARWAYS FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 25).

THESE SECTIONS ARE:

- * KINGSTON STREET BETWEEN GLOUCESTER ROAD AND PATERSON STREET.
- * THE EASTERN SIDE OF PATERSON STREET BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH KINGSTON STREET AND A POINT ABOUT 25 METRES SOUTH OF THE JUNCTION.
- * FLEMING ROAD BETWEEN LOCKHART ROAD AND HENNESSY ROAD.

WITHIN THE RESTRICTED ZONES, NO MOTOR VEHICLES OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS BETWEEN 7 AM AND 7 PM DAILY.

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