

\$23.9m scheme to speed up localisation of police

THE police have put forward a \$23.9 million scheme to expand its secondment arrangements with Britain which will help accelerate the localisation program of the police force over the next eight years.

The exchange program aims at equipping local superintendents with the necessary experience for them to qualify for the rank of assistant commissioner and above before 1997, when Hongkong reverts to Chinese rule.

The department currently has 23 posts at and above assistant commissioner level. The police force will have to take over the British Army's present border duties after 1997.

The secondment scheme was scheduled for approval at Legco's Finance Committee meeting after the Budget debate yesterday but the session was cancelled because the debate went on much longer than expected.

The package was instead circulated to Legco members for written approval and is expected to be endorsed next week.

Under the scheme three local superintendents will be seconded to Britain every two years until 1994. The same number of British officers will work in Hongkong.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Reports by ANDY HO

A \$3.6 million system of mutual secondments between Hongkong and various British police forces was first introduced four years ago.

In December 1985, the Finance Committee agreed to spend a further \$4.1 million to extend the scheme for another two years until this year. A review of the program was recently concluded and it was recommended that the arrangement be further expanded.

The police have asked for \$23.9 million to fund the fu-

ture secondment program, which will be completed by 1996.

A total of \$13.9 million will be spent on the local officers going to Britain, while the remaining \$10 million will go on the British officers coming to Hongkong.

The amount will cover, among other items, the costs of accommodation, air tickets, baggage allowances and overseas education allowance for the officers' children.

Bid to keep temporary ICAC post

THE Independent Commission Against Corruption has recommended that a temporary directorate post which was created specially for the Hongkong Stock Exchange investigation be retained for another year.

An Assistant Director (Hongkong Stock Exchange Investigation) was appointed on a supernumerary basis last November to head the ICAC's task force on a sensitive corruption case which involved the senior management of the Stock Exchange.

The assistant director's tenure, if not extended, will expire on May 2. The Commissioner Against Corruption, Mr David Jeaffreson, proposed that the post be retained until March 31 next year.

The Finance Committee was yesterday asked to accept the financial implications of retaining the \$470,400-a-year post.

Mr Jeaffreson predicted that the Stock Exchange investigation would not be completed before the first quarter of 1989 and the subsequent criminal proceedings would involve multiple charges against several defendants.

As the investigation is now sub judice, Legco members were not given details.

The assistant director has been assigned to conduct interviews with suspects and key witnesses and commands 41 officers of various ranks. He is required to be available 24 hours for reports by members of his task force.

More staff are expected to be deployed as the scope of the investigation widens.

Academics in line for pay rise

BAPTIST College president Dr Daniel Tse will be given a 5.6 per cent pay rise if a proposal to adjust the salary scale of the institution's staff is accepted by legislators.

The proposed pay increment for Dr Tse, a member of both the Executive and Legislative Councils, is part of a package to improve the college's employment terms for its senior administrators.

The \$2,900 proposed pay rise for Dr Tse will be backdated to April 1, if the package is approved by the Legco Finance Committee. The cost of the overall package is estimated at \$905,000 a year.

Dr Tse's current \$51,700 monthly salary is equivalent to that of a Directorate Grade 4 Government officer. The pay rise will bring his remuneration to \$54,600 a month, which is the same as that for a Directorate Grade 5 official.

Other staff members to benefit from the package include the institution's vice-presidents, college secretary, faculty deans, controller and librarian.

The Baptist College became the fourth higher institution to be funded by the Government's University and Polytechnic Grants Committee in late 1983.

The present pay rise proposal will bring the college's conditions of service in line with those for staff at the Hongkong Polytechnic.

In the past three years, the college's student population has jumped from less than 2,000 to about 2,640. The figure is expected to reach 3,000 by the end of the 1988-91 triennium.

\$2.3m to stabilise slopes

THE Government is to spend \$2.3 million on a civil engineering project to stabilise the slopes at the Methodist College in Gascoigne Road.

The long-term remedial work was recommended by a geotechnical consultant commissioned by the Buildings Ordinance Office.

The surface of the slopes at the northwestern boundary of the school was damaged in a typhoon in August 1979 and emergency remedial repairs were carried out.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTH

QUINN - Ian & Kristee are delighted to announce the birth of Sam on 15th of April. Brother for Natasha. Thanks to doctor and staff at Matilda Hospital.

BIRTHS

BREDBURY - Tim & Gill are delighted to announce the early arrival of Jessica Lauren on April 19. Special thanks to doctor and the excellent staff at the Matilda Hospital.

MOTIRAM - To Hemant and Bhavna a baby boy on 19/4/88 and grandson to Mr. & Mrs. Chunilal Motiram. Thanks to doctors and nurses at Adventist Hospital.

Donations

THE *South China Morning Post* has received the following donations:

Leung's Family
\$2,000 by the Zonta Club of the New Territories.

China Coast Community
\$1,000 by Mr and Mrs Jack Eng in memory of Mr B. C. Tavadia.

Hongkong Community Chest
\$200 by Friends in the American Women's Association in memory of Charles Edward Butler.

RSPCA
\$100 by Arnold Graham in memory of Mr Fred Madar.

Little Sisters of the Poor
\$200 by Mrs Ruby Tang and family in memory of Mr Johnstone Wong.

ns in office space.

ty in office design because of its simple core
ration. Sun Plaza will be ready for
ition in early summer. For more information
flexible leasing terms being offered, ring
Commercial Department of **Richard Ellis**;
1393.