

HONG KONG STANDARD
16 OCT 1993

Allowance raised

IN the run-up to 1997, Fire Services Department divers will take over the Royal Navy's deep sea rescue duties.

Legislators yesterday approved an increased special allowance for the extra responsibilities.

The allowance has been raised from \$439 to \$839 per month and will cost taxpayers \$468,720 per year. A total of 90 divers in five squads have undergone a four-week advanced diving course and are qualified to work at a depth of 42 metres as well as in deep water operations which include the use of heavy hand-held cutting tools.