HONG KONG AIR CADET CORPS Report of the Chairman of the Executive Board for the period of April 2012 to March 2013

The Financial Year 2012/13 can be best described as one full of challenges, but with the typical devotion and perseverance demonstrated by all ranks, such challenges also gave rise to ground breaking feats. On the recommendation of the UK International Air Cadet Training (IACT), the Headquarters, People's Liberation Army Air Force (HQ PLAAF) and the Shandong Aviation Industry Association (SDAIA) organized a formal fact finding visit to Hong Kong from 28 July to 31 July 2012, during which the Corps lent experience and knowledge which were proven useful for the setting up for an air cadet organization in Shangdong province. The air force contingent of Hong Kong Garrison fully supported this project and certain senior officers from the Garrison also joined the visit. Very much similar to what Hong Kong did in the late 1970's and early 1980's to facilitate China's formal entry to the international sports arena and Olympic Games, the Corps is playing a unique role as China's intermediary and advocate to gain membership of the International Air Cadet Exchange (IACE) Association. Colleagues may be interested to note that good progresses are being made on this front as China has begun limited participation in IACE and assigned observers to the IACEA Conference of September 2013 held in Istanbul, Turkey.

Another major breakthrough was the Gala Dinner held on 14 January 2013 at Hotel InterContinental, Tsim Sha Tsui, with Dr Connie Yuk Yee CHENG, wife of Hon Wg Cdr Charles CHAN, served as the Organizing Committee Chair who aptly steered the complex project to an unqualified success. Professor Timothy TONG, President of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, a renowned academic with close ties to the local Aviation Industry, was the Guest of Honour. A record \$2.3m was raised by the Gala Dinner and a \$1.48m surplus was achieved after deducting direct expenditures, of which \$880K went to support the Corps' general operations. The remaining \$600K was earmarked as seed fund for the HKACC Youth Development in Aviation Fund to support events, functions and activities which generate values to youth development in aviation.

As I last reported, endowed with a generous \$6.5m grant from the Yuen Yuen Institute, capital works associated with the Ha Fa Shan Campsite project went full swing during the year, and is expected to complete within 2013. Topping this up is a \$3.6m application submitted in May 2012 under the "Youth Anti-Adversity Project" to the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust to acquire an obstacle course, training equipment, furniture, supporting vehicles, and to cover operating costs of the Ha Fa Shan Campsite for three years. I am most pleased to report that this landmark fund application met with the Trust's approval in June 2013.

Highlights of the Period

As the activities of the Corps are detailed in the Commanding Officer's Reports submitted before each Executive Board Meeting and copies of such Reports are available upon request from the Headquarters, I shall only highlight below the more noteworthy events and accomplishments:

- (a) An Indian curry evening was organized by the Training Group on 10 May 2012 to raise seed money for the proposed powered glider project. \$132,180 was raised through the charity auction and sales of admission tickets.
- (b) A Regional Flag Day took place in the Hong Kong Island on Saturday, 16 June 2012. \$234,562 was raised from flag selling on the street and \$242,187 from the gold flag scheme, for a total of \$476,749.
- (c) The Corps was invited to nominate a contingent of 50 members to the event 「慶祝中華人民解放軍進駐香港十五周年檢閱儀式」on 30 June 2012, with National President HU as the reviewing officer. The parade was unfortunately rescheduled at the last moment due to forecast of inclement weather hence uniformed groups were unable to take part.
- (d) The Mess Dinner to celebrate the 15th Anniversary of the Founding of the Honorary Officers Scheme was held on 15 July 2012 at Helena May, Central.
- (e) The 10,000 Miles Friendly Trek(同心同根萬里行) was held in the Guizhou (貴州) province from 21 to 29 July 2012 with 23 members took part in the programme.
- (f) The International Air Cadet Exchange (IACE) Programme was held from 17 July to 1 August 2012, and featured an excursion to the City of Guangzhou. 22 members represented the Corps as outgoing candidates to Australia, Canada, France, Israel, the Netherlands, Czech, Turkey, UK, and USA. In exchange, HKACC played host to delegates from those countries save Czech, whose incoming slots were not taken up and filled instead by additional UK cadets.
- (g) The Summer Camp was held from 13 to 19 August 2012 at the Sai Kung Outdoor Recreation Centre with 150 participants. Although interrupted by typhoon, the camp staff carried out orderly evacuation and resumption with commendable high efficiency.
- (h) The United Kingdom Air Cadet Leadership Course (ACLC) and the RAF Central Gliding School (CGS) Scholarship Course were held in July 2012, attended in both cases by 2 cadets and 1 escort. 2 cadets and 1 escort joined the US Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Hawk Mountain Rescue School course from 5 to 17 July 2012.
- (i) HKACC members were actively engaged in supporting public events during the Hong Kong visits of Senzhou 9 astronauts and the National Olympic Team Gold Medalists.
- (j) The Commanding Officer and the Officer Commanding International Exchange Unit represented the Corps at the IACEA Annual Conference held in Toulouse, France, from 16 to 21 September 2012.

- (k) The first ever HKACC Management Retreat was organized in Zhongshan from 12 to 14 October to come up with a road map for the next five years. We are proud to have Executive Board Member Mr Alan WONG joining the event in full. Mr Hogan LOH, Vice-Chairman of the Executive Board, and Mr Eric WONG, renowned businessman/writer, are key note speakers.
- (1) The Annual Parade was held on 4 November 2012 at the Police College, Wong Chuk Hang, inspected by Mr SIN Yat Kin, Commissioner of Correctional Services.
- (m)Twenty-four Dragonair Aviation Certificate Programme mentees who successfully completed the 2012 programme were honoured at a ceremony on 30 November 2012, officiated by the Director-General of Civil Aviation. It is worthy to note that half of the mentees were HKACC members, whereas the remainders were recruited from among the general public.
- (n) The Annual Beating Retreat took place in Luk Yeung Sun Chuen, Tseun Wan, on the evening of 8 December 2012. Dr TANG Kam Hung, MH, 1st Vice President, Yuen Yuen Institute, was the Guest of Honour.
- (o) The Ceremonial Squadron choreographed and conducted a Flag Raising Ceremony at the new Civil Aviation Department Headquarters on 15 December 2012. The ceremony was well attended by senior leaders of Hong Kong uniformed groups.
- (p) One officer and four cadets represented the Corps at "Operation Unicorn", the annual New Zealand Cadet Forces adventure and leadership development programme held in Dip Flat, New Zealand, from 7 to 20 January 2013.
- (q) Operation Kingbird, the New Zealand Flying Scholarship programme, was successfully held from 3 to 16 March 2013 in New Zealand. A total of seven candidates (one officer trainee and six cadet members) took part, of which three qualified for solo flight, and three other aged below 16 achieved supervised solo standard.
- (r) The inaugural ceremony of Dragonair Aviation Certificate Programme 2013 was held on 15 March. Director-General of Civil Aviation was the officiating guest. This latest intake saw the number of mentees increased from 24 to 30, the highest ever, to allow more young people to benefit from this unique opportunity. Sixteen of the mentees appointed are HKACC members.
- (s) Competitions held during FY 2012/13:
 - The Albatross Award Footdrill Competition: 2 December 2012
 - The PMCO Outdoor Activities and Expedition Competition: 23 and 24 February 2013.

Appointments

Mr Peter C C CHAU, BBS, MBE, QPM, CPM was elected Chairman of the Executive Board at the first Executive Board Meeting held on 25 October 2012 for a term of two years. He was subsequently appointed to such office by majority vote at the Annual General Meeting held on the same date.

At the first Executive Board Meeting of 25 October 2012, Mr Edwin W C LAU, AE, was elected Honorary Treasurer for a term of one year. He was appointed to the same office by majority vote at the ensuing Annual General Meeting.

Mr Hogan LOH was appointed Vice-Chairman of the Executive Board *cum* Honorary Secretary at the second Executive Board Meeting held on 25 October 2012, for a term of one year.

Honorary Group Captain CHAN Kwok Chiu, MH, JP, Senior Honorary Officer, was appointed member of the Executive Board at its meeting of 29 March 2012 to fill a casual vacancy left by the resignation of Hon Gp Capt Alexander YEUNG, former Senior Honorary Officer. Hon Gp Capt CHAN was elected a member of the Board at the Annual General Meeting of 25 October 2012.

Air Commodore Peter Dicky YIP, BBS, MBE, AE, JP, Honorary Commandant, was elected member of the Executive at the Annual General Meeting of 25 October 2012.

Raymond Y K TSE & Co CPA Limited was appointed Auditor for the Financial Year 2012/13.

<u>Finance</u>

The Corps continues to rely on subventions through the Home Affairs Bureau and the Community Chest as its principal funding for capital and recurrent expenditures. Additional funding was available in the form of corporate, personal and charitable trust donations, as well as Honorary Officer endowments. In order to balance the budget, the Corps also generates income from membership fees, course fees, and sales of stock items.

The Corps' audited accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2013 will be presented later at the meeting.

Votes of Thanks

I would like to express my gratitude to donors and sponsors for their financial assistance which is crucial to the continuation of our work. The following individuals and organizations deserve special mention for their long-standing support to the Air Cadets:

- (a) The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for recurrent and one-off subventions released through the Home Affairs Bureau, and for policy support to our key projects by the Home Affairs Bureau, Home Affairs Department, Planning Department, Lands Department, Civil Aviation Department, and Government Flying Service.
- (b) The Community Chest, for its recurrent subvention.
- (c) The Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators, for continuing to offer its generous "GAPAN Fanny LI Youth Flying Scholarships" to promising young members of the Corps to gain full Private Pilot Licenses (Aeroplane) in Scotland.
- (d) The Hong Kong Dragon Airlines, for offering the Dragonair Aviation Certificate Programme.
- (e) The Cathay Pacific Airways, for their support to the Advanced Aviation Education Programme.
- (f) Dr Y C CHOW, GBS, OBE, Honorary Adviser, for his unflagging help in terms of resources and social connections.
- (g) The Honorary Officers, for their financial contributions and personal involvement in supporting events, projects, programmes and units.
- (h) The Flying Squadron, under the able charge of Wing Commander John K H LI, MH, AE, Deputy Commanding Officer, Flying, for organizing rotary and fixed wing flying activities for members and friends of the Corps.

As Executive Board Chairman, I would like to conclude my report by once again expressing my sincerest gratitude to all members: Executive Board, uniformed and non-uniformed, for their dedications and continued efforts to make the Corps a thriving organization always ready to meet the needs of the Hong Kong Community. With the promised increasing support to uniformed groups from the HKSAR Government, the growing manpower need of the local Aviation Industry, and the anticipated completion of our large scale capital projects, we can all be confident that what lies ahead is a bright and promising future.

(Peter C C CHAU)
Chairman of the Executive Board
Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps

HONG KONG AIR CADET CORPS Executive Board as at 31 March 2013

Chairman

Mr Peter C C CHAU, BBS, MBE, QPM, CPM

- Merchant
- Honorary Commandant, Hong Kong Auxiliary Police Force

Commandant

Air Commodore Norman S M LO, AE, Médaille de l'Aéronautique, JP

- Director-General of Civil Aviation

Vice-Chairman and Honorary Secretary

Mr Hogan LOH

- Merchant
- Former President, Hong Kong Aviation Club

Honorary Treasurer

Mr Edwin W C LAU, AE

- Area Manager, Hong Kong & North East Asia, Emirate Airlines

Commanding Officer

Group Captain LEE Kwok Wing

- Senior Manager, Hongkong Land

Members

Mr Edmund W C CHOW, AE

- Civil Servant

Mr Steve H W LAU, SBS, BEM, CStJ, JP

- Merchant
- Former Commissioner, Road Safety Patrol
- Former Deputy Commissioner, Auxiliary Medical Service

Ms Scarlett O L PONG, JP

- Merchant
- Shatin District Councillor

Captain Joe Y C FUNG

Pilot, Cathay Pacific Airways

Mr Kelvin S Y PANG, SBS, CSDSM

- Former Commissioner of Correctional Services

Mr Alan K L WONG

- Former Senior Executive, Cathay Pacific Airways

HONG KONG AIR CADET CORPS Executive Board as at 31 March 2013 (cont'd)

Group Captain Leonard K P LEUNG, MH, AE

- Commanding Officer Emeritus and Special Adviser
- Former Air Crewman Officer I, Government Flying Service

Honorary Group Captain CHAN Kwok Chiu, MH, JP

- Senior Honorary Officer

Air Commodore Peter Dicky YIP, BBS, MBE, AE, JP

- Honorary Commandant
- Former Commanding Officer, Royal Hong Kong Auxiliary Air Force
- Retired Banker

Air Cadet Liaison Officer (Government Flying Service)

Mr Mason W C NG, MBB, AE

- Air Crewman Officer I, Government Flying Service