



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 1979

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SURVEY ON SQUATTER INDUSTRIES

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THE GOVERNMENT IS PLANNING TO CARRY OUT A SURVEY TO ESTABLISH THE TRUE EFFECTS OF ITS CLEARANCE PROGRAMME ON SQUATTER FACTORIES THAT CANNOT NORMALLY OPERATE IN MULTI-STOREY FLATTED FACTORIES.

THE SURVEY IS TO BE CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT IN JUNE OR JULY THIS YEAR AND THE RESULTS STUDIED BY GOVERNMENT TO SEE IF ANY SPECIAL MEASURES ARE NEEDED TO COPE WITH THE SITUATION.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT TODAY (SUNDAY) THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, PARTICULARLY IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, WOULD MEAN ABOUT 9,000 SQUATTER FACTORIES WOULD HAVE TO BE CLEARED OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

MOST OF THESE FACTORIES, HE SAID, OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO FIND ALTERNATIVE ACCOMMODATION IN EITHER GOVERNMENT OR PRIVATE FLATTED FACTORIES.

+AMONG THE FACTORIES TO BE CLEARED, HOWEVER, WOULD BE A PROPORTION OF SO-CALLED INADMISSIBLE TRADES — THOSE TRADES WHICH, BECAUSE OF THE NATURE OF THEIR PRODUCTS OR PROCESSES, GOVERNMENT CANNOT ACCEPT IN ITS OWN FLATTED FACTORIES AND GENERALLY ARE NOT SUITABLE FOR OPERATION IN MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+THE AIM OF THE SURVEY WILL BE TO SEE HOW MANY OF THESE FACTORIES THERE ARE AND TO PINPOINT AS ACCURATELY AS POSSIBLE THE EFFECT OF CLEARANCE ON THEM, AND THE TERRITORY'S INDUSTRY GENERALLY.+

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT POINT WAS TO IDENTIFY HOW MANY SQUATTER INDUSTRIES WHICH WERE AN ESSENTIAL LINK IN THE PRODUCTIVE CHAIN OF HONG KONG'S EXPORT INDUSTRIES COULD NOT BE REACCOMMODATED IN PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SECTOR MULTI-STOREY INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS.

THE SURVEY WOULD TRY TO ESTABLISH THE RELATIONSHIP OF SUCH OPERATIONS WITH THE MAJOR PRODUCERS IN HONG KONG INDUSTRY, HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE QUESTIONNAIRE DRAWN UP FOR THE SURVEY HAD BEEN KEPT SIMPLE, BUT THE INFORMATION OBTAINED WOULD PROVIDE THE BASIC DATA WHICH WOULD CONCENTRATE ON THESE +PROBLEM TRADES+.

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS AS ANXIOUS AS INDUSTRY TO DISCOVER THE TRUE EXTENT OF THE POTENTIAL PROBLEM AND THAT THE REQUEST FOR THE SURVEY HAD ORIGINATED AT +A VERY HIGH LEVEL IN THE GOVERNMENT.+

/HE POINTED

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD ALREADY OFFERED ENCOURAGEMENT TO INDUSTRIES WITH SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS BY THE RECENT SALE OF TWO INDUSTRIAL SITES AT FO TAN IN SHA TIN NEW TOWN WHICH CARRIED CONDITIONS REQUIRING THE PROVISION OF HEAVY FLOOR LOADINGS AND HIGH CEILINGS IN THE COMPLETED FACTORY PREMISES.

+IT WAS PLEASING TO NOTE THAT THE SITES WERE BOUGHT BY AN INDUSTRIALIST FROM THE SILK-WEAVING TRADE,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID, +WHICH HAS BEEN ON OUR LIST OF POSSIBLE PROBLEM TRADES.+

HE ALSO NOTED THAT TRADES USING SPECIAL PROCESSES CLEARLY ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE ECONOMY, HIGH TECHNOLOGY CAPABLE OF BROADENING OUR INDUSTRIAL BASE OR OF EXCEPTIONAL EXPORT POTENTIAL COULD ALSO BE ELIGIBLE FOR LAND AT THE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE AT TAI PO OR, IN THE NOT-SO-DISTANT FUTURE, THE SECOND ESTATE BEING CONSTRUCTED AT YUEN LONG.

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MORE THAN 3 MILLION PEOPLE ENTITLED TO LEGAL AID

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RECENTLY, A GRIEF-STRICKEN MOTHER OF TWO APPROACHED THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT FOR HELP AND UNFOLDED A TRAGIC STORY THAT COULD EASILY HAVE BEEN AVOIDED.

ALTHOUGH SEPARATED FROM HER HUSBAND, SHE ALLOWED HIM ACCESS TO THE CHILDREN — ONE AGED FOUR AND THE OTHER TWO — SO AS NOT TO DENY THEM THE AFFECTIONS OF THEIR FATHER.

ONE DAY, HE COLLECTED THE CHILDREN AND TOOK THEM OUT FOR TEA. HE NEVER RETURNED.

THE FRANTIC 30-YEAR-OLD WOMAN LATER DISCOVERED THAT HE HAD TAKEN THE CHILDREN WITH HIM TO BRAZIL.

+HAD SHE APPROACHED US IN TIME, WE COULD EASILY HAVE PREVENTED HIM FROM TAKING THE CHILDREN OUT OF HONG KONG THROUGH A COURT ORDER,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT SAID.

+WE COULD ALSO HAVE OBTAINED A 'STOP ORDER' TO PREVENT THE CHILDREN FROM BEING TAKEN OUT OF HONG KONG THROUGH THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT,+ HE SAID.

HE ALSO SAID THAT DURING THE INVESTIGATION, IT WAS FOUND THAT THE HUSBAND HAD MADE A FALSE DECLARATION WHICH IS A CRIMINAL OFFENCE.

HE EXPLAINED: +A HUSBAND CAN ENTER THE NAMES OF HIS CHILDREN IN HIS PASSPORT WITHOUT THE PRIOR CONSENT OF HIS WIFE BUT THE WIFE CANNOT DO THE SAME WITHOUT FIRST GETTING PERMISSION FROM THE HUSBAND.+

+NO EXTRADITABLE OFFENCE WAS COMMITTED BY THE HUSBAND, AND NOTHING CAN BE DONE TO FIND A REMEDY THROUGH THE COURTS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+ONE UNDERSTANDS ONLY TOO WELL THE WOMAN'S GRIEF ON THE LOSS OF HER CHILDREN. POSSIBLY FUTURE TRAGEDIES CAN BE AVOIDED IF MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TAKE HEED OF THIS CASE.+

THE SPOKESMAN SAID HE HIGHLIGHTED THIS PARTICULAR WOMAN'S PLIGHT BECAUSE LIKE MANY OTHERS, SHE MAY HAVE THOUGHT SHE WAS NOT ENTITLED TO LEGAL AID BECAUSE OF HER MONTHLY MAINTENANCE.

+THIS IS INDEED A MISCONCEPTION,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID, ADDING: +THE FACT IS THAT MORE THAN THREE MILLION PEOPLE IN HONG KONG ARE ELIGIBLE FOR LEGAL AID.+

+IN OTHER WORDS, MANY OF THESE PEOPLE, INCLUDING SOME OF THE MORE WEALTHY WIVES, LOCAL AND EXPATRIATES OF ALL NATIONALITIES, CAN APPROACH THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT FOR EITHER A FREE SERVICE OR FOR ONE COSTING NOT MORE THAN \$2,000 INSTEAD OF PAYING HIGH FEES FOR PRIVATE SERVICES.

+MANY OF THEM,+ HE ADDED, +ARE PERHAPS MISLED BY OUR MEANS TEST OF NOT HAVING MORE THAN \$1,000 INCOME A MONTH AND \$10,000 IN DISPOSABLE CAPITAL.+

+WHAT THEY PROBABLY DO NOT REALISE IS THAT FOR NON-WORKING WIVES MAINTENANCE DOES NOT COME WITHIN THE MEANING OF INCOME UNDER THE LEGAL AID ORDINANCE, THE SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED.

+THERE IS NO DEFINITION OF 'INCOME' IN THE LEGAL AID ORDINANCE. ACCORDINGLY, WE GIVE INCOME ITS NORMAL NATURAL MEANING, NAMELY, PROCEEDS FROM A PROFESSION, TRADE OR BUSINESS.+

+AND ON THE QUESTION OF DISPOSABLE CAPITAL,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID, +WE DON'T COUNT THE OCCASIONAL DIAMOND RING OR PEARL NECKLACE BECAUSE THESE ARE 'PERSONAL EFFECTS' WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE LEGAL AID SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION. WE ONLY COUNT JEWELLERY WHERE IT HAS BEEN PURCHASED AS AN INVESTMENT. IN ARRIVING AT DISPOSABLE CAPITAL, APPLICANTS GET VERY SUBSTANTIAL ALLOWANCES IN RESPECT OF DEPENDANTS. IF THEY OWN A FLAT, WE DEDUCT \$40,000 AS AN ALLOWANCE.+

WHAT ABOUT WIVES, WHO IN ADDITION TO RECEIVING MAINTENANCE, WORK IN ORDER TO GET A BETTER LIVELIHOOD?

+IN SUCH CASES,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID, +THE MAINTENANCE IS DISREGARDED BUT THEIR SALARIES ARE ASSESSED. DEDUCTIONS ARE MADE IN RESPECT OF RENT AND DEPENDANTS AND SO ON.+

+IF A BROKEN MARRIAGE CANNOT BE RECONCILED, THERE IS NO REASON WHY A WOMAN SHOULD NOT BE ABLE TO AFFORD A DIVORCE THROUGH FREE OR CONTRIBUTORY LEGAL AID,+ HE SAID.

+INDEED, FAR FROM INCITING WIVES TO DIVORCE THEIR HUSBANDS - IF THE WOMAN KNEW SHE HAS THIS INDEPENDENCE, IT MAY WELL PROLONG MARRIAGE INSTEAD OF DESTROYING IT,+ HE ADDED.

ALTHOUGH MOST OF THOSE WHO APPLY FOR DIVORCE ARE WOMEN, THE SAME PRIVILEGES ARE EXTENDED TO MEN.

THOSE WHO SUFFER MOST WHEN A MARRIAGE BREAKS DOWN ARE THE CHILDREN AND +WE WANT TO ENSURE THAT THEY WILL BE WELL TAKEN CARE OF,+ THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT.

+SO ANYONE WHO NEEDS HELP, BE IT A CIVIL OR CRIMINAL CASE, SHOULD NOT HESITATE TO APPROACH THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT. AFTER ALL, IT DOESN'T COST A CENT TO MAKE AN APPLICATION.+

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+THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT IS PERFORMING A PUBLIC SERVICE,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID. +MANY PEOPLE DO NOT KNOW SUFFICIENTLY WELL THEIR RIGHT TO LEGAL AID. LEGAL AID IS NOT A MATTER OF CHARITY -- YOU DON'T HAVE TO BEG FOR IT. IT PROVIDES A FIRST-CLASS SERVICE. IT IS YOURS FOR THE ASKING, AS A STATUTORY RIGHT, IF YOU COME WITHIN SECTION 10 OF THE ORDINANCE.+

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TWIN-ENGINEED TITAN AIRCRAFT FOR RHKAAF
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A NEW TWIN-ENGINEED AIRCRAFT IS EXPECTED TO JOIN THE EXISTING FLEET OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY AIR FORCE -- HONG KONG'S OWN AIR CORPS -- IN AUGUST THIS YEAR.

THE NEW AMERICAN-MADE TITAN WITH A CAPACITY FOR 12 PEOPLE WILL BE USED MAINLY FOR AERIAL SURVEILLANCE AND SURVEYS, ACCORDING TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE RHKAAF, WING COMMANDER R.G. PENLINGTON.

HE SAID THE NEW AIRCRAFT COST ABOUT \$4 MILLION, INCLUDING EQUIPMENT AND SPARE PARTS.

HE SAID THE VERY HEAVY DEMAND FOR SURVEILLANCE FLIGHTS HAD RENDERED THE PURCHASE OF ANOTHER AIRCRAFT ESSENTIAL.

AT PRESENT, THE RHKAAF HAS A FLEET OF SEVEN AIRCRAFT -- A TWIN-ENGINEED BRITTEN-NORMAN ISLANDER, TWO SCOTTISH AVIATION BULL DOG TRAINERS, THREE ALOUETTE MARK III HELICOPTERS AND A BEECHCRAFT MUSKETEER LIGHT AIRCRAFT.

THE BEECHCRAFT MUSKETEER IS TO BE SOLD AFTER HAVING BEEN IN SERVICE FOR ABOUT EIGHT YEARS.

THE LIGHT AIRCRAFT IS, IN THE WING COMMANDER'S WORDS, +STILL IN GOOD CONDITION.+

TENDERS HAVE BEEN INVITED FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE BEECHCRAFT MUSKETEER.

FORMS OF TENDER AND FURTHER PARTICULARS ARE OBTAINABLE AT EITHER THE PROCUREMENT DIVISION OF THE GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IN OIL STREET, NORTH POINT- THE ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (CENTRAL) IN THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (WEST WING), OR THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (MONG KOK).

TENDERS SHOULD BE PLACED IN THE TENDER BOX AT THE MAIN GATE OF THE GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS, OIL STREET, NORTH POINT, BEFORE 9 A.M. ON MAY 18.

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EXHIBITION ON WAYS TO TEACH CHINESE LANGUAGE AT PRIMARY LEVEL
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AN EXHIBITION TO ILLUSTRATE THE EFFECTIVE WAYS AND MEANS OF IMPLEMENTING THE NEW +SYLLABUS FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS -- CHINESE LANGUAGE+ WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY AND FRIDAY AT THE FARM ROAD GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL, KOWLOON.

MRS. RUBY LAU, PRINCIPAL CURRICULUM PLANNING OFFICER (PRIMARY) OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE EXHIBITION ON +PRIMARY PUPILS' WORK AND LEARNING MATERIALS OF THE CHINESE LANGUAGE.+

THE EXHIBITION WILL HAVE ON DISPLAY PUPILS' WORK ON COMPOSITION, DICTATION AS WELL AS LANGUAGE EXERCISES.

+VISITORS MAY ALSO FIND USEFUL INFORMATION ON CONDUCTING SUPPLEMENTARY READING, SETTING EXAMINATION PAPERS, PRODUCING TEACHING-AIDS AND PREPARING TEACHING MATERIALS,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

THE EXHIBITION, ORGANISED BY THE CHINESE SECTION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, AND SIX PRIMARY SCHOOLS, WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FROM 11 A.M. TO 4 P.M. ON THURSDAY AND FROM 9 A.M. TO 4 P.M. ON FRIDAY.

THE SIX PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS ARE THE FARM ROAD GOVERNMENT PRIMARY A.M. SCHOOL, YAN KOW PRIMARY A.M. SCHOOL, KEI WAN PRIMARY A.M. SCHOOL, TAI KOK TSUI CATHOLIC PRIMARY A.M. SCHOOL, THE ENDEAVOURERS' FUNG SHUI CHEUNG MEMORIAL PRIMARY A.M. SCHOOL AND T.W.G.HS. LO YU CHIK PRIMARY A.M. SCHOOL.

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EXTENSION TO TUEN MUN WATER TREATMENT WORKS
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WILL SHORTLY BUILD AN EXTENSION TO THE EXISTING PUMPING STATION IN THE TUEN MUN WATER TREATMENT WORKS.

TENDERS FOR THE WORK ARE BEING INVITED BY THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT OF THE PWD.

THE NEW PUMPING STATION WILL FORM PART OF THE PROPOSED GENERAL EXTENSION OF TUEN MUN WATER TREATMENT WORKS.

IT AIMS TO COPE WITH THE INCREASED DEMAND FROM THE TUEN MUN NEW TOWN AND YUEN LONG DISTRICT.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN JULY AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 16 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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IMPROVEMENT WORK ON TING KOK ROAD
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IMPROVEMENT WORK ON TING KOK ROAD IN TAI PO IS MAKING GOOD PROGRESS AND SHOULD BE COMPLETED THIS AUTUMN.

MR. LEE SHU-CHU, SENIOR ENGINEER OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THE \$16.4 MILLION PROJECT INVOLVED THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 3.5 KILOMETRE-LONG DUAL CARRIAGEWAY ALONG THE COAST WITH A CYCLE TRACK ON EACH SIDE.

THE FIRST STAGE, CONSISTING OF A SINGLE CARRIAGEWAY AND A CYCLE TRACK, WAS COMPLETED AND OPENED TO TRAFFIC EARLY THIS YEAR.

THE SECOND STAGE, WHICH DUPLICATES THE FIRST STAGE, IS ABOUT 40 PER CENT COMPLETE. IT SHOULD BE READY IN SEPTEMBER.

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