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DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1, 1976

C.A.S. MEM LEARN MOUNTAIN TECHNIQUES IN U.K. * * * * *

THE TEMPERATURE WAS SOARING TO 35 DEGREES CENTIGRADE ON A SUMMER AFTERNOON WITH SWELTERING HEAT ENGULFING THE PICTURESQUE SNOWDONIA IN NORTH WALES. MOST WOULD HAVE STAYED INDOORS TO EVADE THE INTENSE HEAT, BUT FIVE MEN FROM HONG KONG BRAVED THE BLAZING SUN AND FOUGHT THEIR WAY UP THE 3,262-FOOT MOUNT TREFAN.

A SENSE OF KEEN INTEREST AND VIGOUR WAS WRITTEN ON THEIR SUN-TANNED FACES AS THEY SCRAMBLED UP THE MOUNTAIN. THERE WAS DISCIPLINE IN THEIR MOVEMENT—EVERYONE CHARTING THEIR MOVES WITH MILITARY PRECISION.

IT WAS ONE OF THEIR STRENUOUS DAYS IN BRITAIN. FOR TWO MONTHS, THEY MOVED UP AND DOWN THE HILLY SLOPES AND MOUNTAIN RANGES OF SCOTLAND AND NORTH WALES, PICKING UP THE LATEST TECHNIQUES IN TAMING THE MOUNTAINS.

THE FIVE ROBUST MOUNTAINEERS WERE, IN FACT, MEMBERS FROM THE MOUNTAIN RESCUE UNIT OF HONG KONG'S CIVIL AID SERVICES (CAS) WHO ARRIVED IN BRITAIN ON MAY 20 TO ATTEND A TWO-MONTH INTENSIVE TRAINING COURSE IN MOUNTAIN CRAFT AS WELL AS SEARCH AND RESCUE TECHNIQUES.

IT WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT THE CAS SENT THEIR MOUNTAIN RESCUERS ABROAD FOR FURTHER TRAINING.

+THE TRAINING WAS HARSH AND INTENSIVE, BUT WE GOT A LOT OUT OF OUR TWO MONTHS HERE+, MR. CHENG SUNG-NGAR, A SENIOR TRAINING OFFICER OF THE CAS, REMARKED ON COMPLETION OF THE COURSE.

TO MR. LUK CHEUNG-CHUEN, A VOLUNTEER MEMBER, THE TWO-MONTH PROGRAMME CONSOLIDATED HIS KNOWLEDGE IN THE FIELD OF MOUNTAIN SEARCH AND RESCUE WHILE AT THE SAME TIME TAUGHT HIM A GREAT DEAL IN MOUNTAIN LEADERSHIP AND CRAFT.

+THE COURSE NOT ONLY GAVE US A COMPREHENSIVE GROUNDING IN THE PRACTICAL SKILLS IN MOUNTAIN RESCUE BUT ALSO AFFORDED US AN INVALUABLE UNDERSTANDING OF MOUNTAINEERING AS AN ART,+ SAID MR. WONG SHUT-YING, A FULL-TIME CAS TRAINING OFFICER. +WE ARE NOW BETTER ABLE TO CARRY OUR DUTIES IN THE HILLS OF HONG KONG.+

INSTRUMENTAL IN ARRANGING THE TRAINING PROGRAMME WERE THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND THE UNITED KINGDOM CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR PHYSICAL RECREATION.

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DURING THE FIRST MONTH TRAINING, THE CAS TEAM WAS TRAINED ALONG WITH THE LOCAL BRITISH MOUNTAIN RESCUERS UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE LAND RESCUE SERVICE OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE.

THE PROGRAMME CONSISTED MAINLY OF RESCUE AND SEARCH TECHNIQUES, METHODS IN RADIO COMMUNICATION TOGETHER WITH SEVERAL OVERNIGHT CAMPING AND RESCUE EXERCISES IN THE STEEP MOUNTAINS OF GRANTOWN-ON-SPEY, KINLOSS IN SCOTLAND AND VALLEY IN WALES. THEY WERE ALSO TAUGHT HOW TO RESCUE SURVIVORS FROM AIR CRASHES IN REMOTE AREAS.

THE SECOND PART OF THE TRAINING WAS CARRIED OUT IN THE WORLD FAMOUS NATIONAL MOUNTAINEERING CENTRE IN PLAS Y BRENIN IN NORTH WALES.

THE FOUR-WEEK COMPREHENSIVE MOUNTAIN CRAFT COURSE WAS CONDUCTED BY A FULLY-QUALIFIED PERMANENT STAFF AT THE CENTRE.

THE COURSE COVERED A WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS, INCLUDING ORIENTEERING, MOUNTAIN NAVIGATION AND WALKING, CAMPING AND PARTY LEADERSHIP, ROPE HANDLING, ROCK CLIMBING, SKI-ING, TENSION CLIMBING AS WELL AS MOUNTAIN RESCUE AND SURVIVAL. THE HEAVILY-PACKED PROGRAMME ALSO CONSISTED OF SELECTION, CARE AND IMPROVISATION OF EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING IN INSTITUTIONAL METHODS. A STUDY OF LAND FORMATION, MOUNTAINS, SCENERY AND FORESTRY WAS ALSO INCLUDED.

THE GOVERNMENT TRAINING ADVISER OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICE IN LONDON, MR. G.N. VAN LANGENBERG, CAME AWAY VERY IMPRESSED WITH THE PERFORMANCE OF THE CAS TEAM AFTER PAYING A THREE-DAY VISIT TO THE TRAINEES IN THE NATIONAL MOUNTAINEERING CENTRE AND WATCHED AT CLOSE QUARTERS THE TRAINING THEY UNDERWENT.

WITH MORE AND MORE HONG KONG PEOPLE TURNING TO HIKING AND MOUNTAINEERING THESE DAYS, THE TECHNIQUES AND EXPERTISE THE FIVE OFFICERS BRING HOME WILL HELP CONTRIBUTE TO THE EFFICIENCY OF THE 56-MAN CAS MOUNTAIN RESCUE UNIT IN COPING WITH ANY EVENTUALITIES AND EMERGENCY SITUATION WHICH MIGHT ARISE.

THEY ARE ALSO EXPECTED TO PASS ON THEIR KNOWLEDGE TO THEIR CONTEMPORARIES AND HELP ORGANISE COURSES FOR YOUTH LEADERS IN MOUNTAIN CRAFT.

COMMENTING ON THE ROLE OF MOUNTAIN RESCUE UNITS IN GENERAL, SQUADRON LEADER JOHN VERNON, INSPECTOR OF LAND RESCUE, ROYAL AIR FORCE, WHO CO-ORDINATED THE TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR THE CAS TEAM, NOTED THAT AS WAS THE CASE THE WORLD OVER, MANY HOLIDAYMAKERS WHO SET OFF ON NOTHING MORE THAN A PLEASURE CAR RIDE TO ENJOY THE BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPE OF THE HILL OFTEN ENDED UP BEING TRAPPED IN THE MOUNTAINS SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY WERE ILL-PREPARED FOR SUCH AN EXPEDITION.

+THE ATTRACTIONS OF NATURAL BEAUTY AND FASCINATING LANDSCAPE ARE NO DOUBT IRRESISTIBLE, BUT THE DANGER INHERENT IN THE PURSUIT OF SUCH TEMPTATIONS IS OFTEN NOT RECOGNISED,+ HE OBSERVED.

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THE FIVE CAS MEMBERS CONSIST OF THREE FULL-TIME OFFICERS AND TWO VOLUNTEERS. THEY ARE SENIOR TRAINING OFFICER, MR. CHENG SUNG-NGAR= TRAINING OFFICERS, MR. CHOW KA-PO AND MR. WONG SHUT-YUNG AS WELL AS VOLUNTEERS MR. LUK CHEUNG-CHUEN, DEPUTY COMMANDER (GRADE V) AND MR. LEE CHUN-WAN, ACTING ASSISTANT COMMANDER.

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NOTE TO EDITORS :

COPIES OF A PHOTOGRAPH SHOWING THE FIVE C.A.S. MEN AND THE GOVERNMENT TRAINING ADVISER AT THE NATIONAL MOUNTAINEERING CENTRE IN NORTH WALES ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION IN THE GIS PRESS ROOM.

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SURVEYS TO HELP TECHNICAL INSTITUTES PLAN THEIR COURSES

THE COMMITTEES OF THE HONG KONG TRAINING COUNCIL WILL CONDUCT SURVEYS THIS MONTH TO COLLECT INFORMATION TO ENABLE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AND SCHOOLS PLAN THEIR COURSES TO MEET THE NEEDS OF INDUSTRY.

A LABOUR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT THE TRAINING COUNCIL DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT AND THE SOCIAL RESEARCH CENTRE OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY WILL ASSIST THE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT THE SURVEYS WHICH WILL RUN FROM AUGUST 5 TILL AUGUST 31.

THE COMMITTEE ON TECHNICAL TRAINING IN INSTITUTIONS AIMS TO FIND OUT INDUSTRY'S REQUIREMENT FOR PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE COURSES.

IT WOULD HELP ASCERTAIN THE TYPES OF COURSES TO BE RUN IN TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AND THE NUMBER OF TRAINEES OR APPRENTICES LIKELY TO BE SPONSORED BY EMPLOYERS TO THESE COURSES, HE ADDED.

IN THE OTHER SURVEY, THE COMMITTEE ON VOCATIONAL TRAINING WILL SEEK EMPLOYERS' ASSESSMENT OF THEIR WORKERS RECRUITED FROM VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRES, PREVOCATIONAL AND SECONDARY MODERN SCHOOLS.

ABOUT 1,000 MAJOR EMPLOYERS IN MANUFACTURING, COMMERCIAL AND SERVICING SECTORS HAVE BEEN SELECTED TO BE COVERED BY THESE SURVEYS. THEY WILL BE VISITED BY INTERVIEWERS OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

INFORMATION COLLECTED FROM THE SURVEYS WILL BE TREATED WITH STRICT CONFIDENCE AND ONLY BE RELEASED IN SUMMARY WITHOUT REFERENCE TO ANY INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYER.

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TUEN MUN NEW TOWN BOOKLET
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MAJOR DEVELOPMENT WORKS ARE RAPIDLY CHANGING THE FACE OF TUEN MUN WHERE THE PLANNED NEW TOWN FOR SOME 480,000 PEOPLE IS ALREADY BEGINNING TO TAKE SHAPE.

BUILDING AND ENGINEERING WORKS, SPEARHEADED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, ARE PROGRESSING ON A WIDE FRONT AND WITHIN THE NEXT TEN YEARS TUEN MUN WILL EMERGE AS A FULLY SELF-CONTAINED TOWNSHIP PROVIDING ITS RESIDENTS WITH A COMPLETE RANGE OF COMMUNITY AND OTHER ESSENTIAL FACILITIES.

DETAILS OF HOW THIS IS TO BE ACHIEVED ARE OUTLINED IN A COMPREHENSIVE COLOUR BOOKLET JUST PUBLISHED BY THE P.W.D.'S NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (N.T.D.D.).

THE PUBLICATION, WHICH IS VIVIDLY ILLUSTRATED WITH COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHS AND MAPS, IS THE SECOND PRODUCED BY THE N.T.D.D. -- A CONSTITUENT DEPARTMENT OF THE P.W.D. RESPONSIBLE FOR CO-ORDINATING THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE THREE NEW TOWNS AT TUEN MUN, SHA TIN AND TSUEN WAN.

THE FIRST BOOKLET, DETAILING THE DEVELOPMENT OF SHA TIN NEW TOWN, WAS PUBLISHED IN MAY THIS YEAR AND PROVED IMMENSELY POPULAR. A THIRD, ON TSUEN WAN NEW TOWN, IS NOW BEING PREPARED AND SHOULD BE AVAILABLE SHORTLY.

MR. J.R. WHITAKER, DIRECTOR OF THE N.T.D.D., SAID TODAY THAT ONE OF THE MAIN REASONS FOR PUBLISHING THE BOOKLETS WAS TO KEEP THE PUBLIC INFORMED OF THE GOVERNMENT'S PLANS FOR THE NEW TOWNS.

+WITH UNDERTAKINGS OF SUCH IMPORTANCE AND COMPLEXITY, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THE POPULATION AS A WHOLE IS KEPT AWARE OF, AND FULLY UNDERSTANDS, WHAT IS BEING PLANNED FOR THEM,+ HE SAID.

+THE BOOKLETS REPRESENT THE MOST COMPLETE AND COMPREHENSIVE DOCUMENTS YET MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC ON THESE MAJOR SCHEMES,+ HE SAID, +AND SHOULD UNDERLINE THE EXHAUSTIVE AND CAREFUL PLANNING THAT IS GOING INTO THE BUILDING OF THE NEW TOWNS.+

MR. WHITAKER SAID COPIES OF THE TUEN MUN BOOKLET WOULD BE DISTRIBUTED TO COMMUNITY LEADERS IN TUEN MUN AS WELL AS TO DEVELOPERS AND INDUSTRIALISTS IN HONG KONG AND OVERSEAS WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN INVESTING IN THE NEW TOWN.

COPIES WOULD ALSO BE PUT ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT STAR FERRY CONCOURSE, AND THROUGH ALL CITY DISTRICT OFFICES.

AS OUTLINED IN THE BOOKLET, TUEN MUN NEW TOWN IS TO BE DEVELOPED IN A SERIES OF BALANCED PACKAGES, DESIGNED TO BE SELF-SUPPORTING WITH ALL NECESSARY FACILITIES SUCH AS SCHOOLS, CLINICS, OPEN SPACES AND PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES.

AMONG THE MANY PROJECTS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY ARE THE CONSTRUCTION BY THE P.W.D.'S ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF TAI HING ESTATE (STAGE 1) FOR 28,000 PEOPLE, THE \$300 MILLION TUEN MUN ROAD WHICH NEXT YEAR WILL PROVIDE A DIRECT LINK BETWEEN TUEN MUN AND TSUEN WAN, THE WIDENING OF SAN HUI BRIDGE, AND VARIOUS OTHER INTERNAL ROAD AND ENGINEERING WORKS.

A TOTAL OF 93 HECTARES OF LAND HAS ALREADY BEEN FORMED AND SERVICED, AND A MODERN SEWERAGE SYSTEM IS BEING PROGRESSIVELY INSTALLED.

IN ADDITION, WORK IS PROGRESSING ON A NUMBER OF RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS BY PRIVATE INTERESTS, INCLUDING A FABRICS PRINTING PLANT USING THE MOST UP-TO-DATE TECHNOLOGY.

WORK IS ALSO UNDERWAY ON FURTHER MASSIVE RECLAMATION WHICH WILL PROVIDE SOME 60 HECTARES OF ADDITIONAL LAND FOR HOUSING AND INDUSTRY.

THE RECLAMATION, WHICH COVERS A LARGE PORTION OF CASTLE PEAK BAY, WILL PROVIDE SITES FOR THREE PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES FOR A TOTAL OF ABOUT 88,000 PEOPLE, AS WELL AS SCHOOLS, SHOPS, MARKETS AND LARGE OPEN SPACES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS :

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H.K. TO ATTEND I.C.A.O. MEETING IN BANGKOK
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MR. ROGER AYERS, SENIOR OPERATIONS OFFICER OF THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT, LEFT FOR BANGKOK TODAY TO ATTEND THE SECOND MEETING OF THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN REGIONAL SSR (SECONDARY SURVEILLANCE RADAR) PLANNING GROUP OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANISATION.

THE FIVE-DAY MEETING WHICH BEGINS TOMORROW (MONDAY) IS TO DISCUSS AND PRODUCE A PLAN FOR THE ALLOCATION OF DISCRETE SSR CODES TO AIRCRAFT WITHIN THE I.C.A.O. SOUTHEAST ASIAN REGION.

MR. AYERS REPRESENTS THE UNITED KINGDOM AND HONG KONG. OTHER COUNTRIES ATTENDING THE MEETING INCLUDE JAPAN, THE PHILIPPINES, AUSTRALIA, THAILAND, MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE AND THE UNITED STATES.

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 1, 1976

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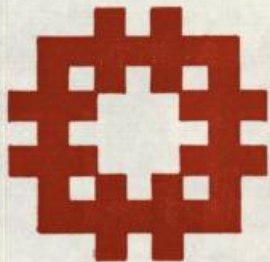
WATER CUT
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WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN TSUEN WAN, NEW TERRITORIES WILL BE INTERRUPTED FOR NINE HOURS, STARTING FROM 9 P.M. ON TUESDAY (AUGUST 3).

THE TEMPORARY WATER STOPPAGE WILL ENABLE STAFF OF THE WATERWORKS OFFICE TO CONNECT WATER PIPES IN THE AREA.

PREMISES IN SHA TSUI ROAD AND TAK WAH STREET BETWEEN KWUN MUN HAU STREET AND HAM TIN STREET WILL BE AFFECTED.

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HONG KONG HOUSING AUTHORITY 香港房屋委員會

PRESS
RELEASE

新聞稿

Sunday, 1 August 1976.

FLATS EXCHANGE NOW POSSIBLE
New Office Now Set Up To Assist Tenants

Tenants of public housing estates will be able to exchange their tenancies by mutual consent provided that flat sizes, rent and other criteria being suitable.

This is being made possible through the setting up of the Tenants Mutual Exchange Bureau. This new office, located on the lower ground floor of the Housing Authority Headquarters at Princess Margaret Road, will come into operation on Tuesday, August 3.

Tenants may register with the bureau by completing a form and returning it in person. A fee of \$10 is payable by the applicant and his application will be valid for two years. Unsuccessful applicants may renew their registration for a similar period on payment of another \$10.

Explaining the function of the bureau, a spokesman for the Housing Department said:

"The bureau provides public housing tenants with a registration facility whereby they can seek to move to other estates of their choice through exchanging their existing tenancies with other tenants who want to move in the opposite direction without involving vacant accommodation and therefore without affecting the prospects of applicants on the waiting list."

Leaflets explaining the scheme together with registration forms are available at all estate offices and the Applications Section of the Housing Department.

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