

**HONG KONG  
GOVERNMENT  
INFORMATION  
SERVICES**

---

**DAILY  
INFORMATION  
BULLETIN**

---

Thursday, July 13, 1972

TAI PO SQUATTER AREA TO BE CLEARED

\*\*\*\*\*

A temporary licensed area with huts built by the Government will be established in Shuen Wan, Tai Po for people whose huts are in a most dangerous position at the Yuen Chau Tsai squatter area.

Some 470 families comprising about 4,500 people are living in this squatter area, which has always been exposed to danger during typhoons, as well as presenting serious fire and health risks.

In the absence of permanent rehousing in the locality at present, the Government has decided, as an immediate and interim measure, to establish a licensed area to enable some of these families to move out of this squalid area into a cleaner and safer place before the onslaught of further typhoons or fire.

A fire occurred in the area on November 29, 1971, rendering 257 people of 31 families homeless. Since then they have been temporarily housed in huts built for them by the New Territories Administration on a site at Shuen Wan.

Mr. H.S. Grewal, District Officer, Tai Po said today that the licensed area, an extension of the site where the fire victims have been accommodated, will cover about 230,000 square feet.

/It will .....

Thursday, July 13, 1972

- 2 -

It will be provided with water, drainage, latrines, communal bathhouse and cleansing facilities. Negotiations for electricity supply are being conducted with the China Light & Power Co., Ltd.

Site formation work for the licensed area is expected to start shortly and will take about one month to complete.

Under the clearance plan, Mr. Grewal said, those huts in the most dangerous position at Yuen Chau Tsai will be cleared first and the people affected will be accommodated in huts built for them free by the Government in the licensed area.

This will involve all the huts on the seaward side of the main causeway and those which have to be demolished to make way for a further fire lane.

Altogether, some 59 families (about 558 people) are required to move first.

At the same time, the Government will encourage as many as possible of the remaining squatters to move to the licensed area on a voluntary basis.

Instead of government-built huts, families who move voluntarily to the licensed area will receive an ex-gratia grant of \$1,000 each for the purchase of materials to build their own huts, on condition that their structures at Yuen Chau Tsai are demolished.

Under a long-term plan, all the huts in the Yuen Chau Tsai squatter area will be cleared in stages and the people from the licensed area will be accommodated in a low-cost housing estate to be built at Tai Po Market in due course.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/3 .....

Thursday, July 13, 1972

- 3 -

TRIBUTE TO RAINSTORM VOLUNTEERS

\*\*\*\*\*

The head of the Social Welfare Department's Group and Community Work Division, Mr. Stephen Law Chi-kin, today praised hundreds of volunteers for helping with relief work in disaster areas following last month's rainstorms.

He was referring in particular to members of departmental community centres, including students, factory workers, and housewives, who had made themselves available for odd jobs in Wong Tai Sin, Tai Hang Tung, Kwun Tong and Tsuen Wan at all hours of the day and night.

Their offers of help ranged from fetching and carrying for the dispossessed to making tea on the spot for tired workers.

One group of housewives in Kwun Tong came regularly to the district's centre soon after daybreak every morning to attend to the needs of landslide victims being temporarily housed there.

Students in Wong Tai Sin, Kwun Tong, and Tsuen Wan performed a variety of services. They helped in the removal of rubble, assisted victims to set up temporary accommodation, or register for aid.

In other cases, they volunteered to effect contact between lone survivors and relatives elsewhere, and took part in the transportation of salvaged household items.

Mr. Law said as soon as news of the disaster spread, volunteers came forward with offers of help. Their eagerness to be of service profoundly impressed professional social workers who were moved by this "massive demonstration of public concern at fellow suffering."

"I cannot thank each volunteer by name, since they were so numerous, but I hope all will regard this general expression of appreciation as directed at them personally," he commented.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/4 .....

Thursday, July 13, 1972

- 4 -

TENDERS BEING CALLED FOR RESETTLEMENT SHOPS

\*\*\*\*\*

The Government is to invite tenders for the renting of some 26 resettlement shops in six estates situated on Hong Kong Island and in Kowloon.

Tenancies will be for a term of three years, renewable for another three years.

It is the first group of shops to be let by tender since the Resettlement Department introduced the scheme on an experimental basis last year.

Although part of the shop premises may be used for domestic purposes, there can be no sub-letting.

Each shop to be let has been designated to a particular trade in order to provide a balanced shopping centre for the estates.

Successful tenderers will not be allowed, under normal circumstances, to change their trade and in case of a breach of the lease conditions, the lease will be terminated.

A spokesman for the Resettlement Department said today: "Anyone can tender for these shops, but the final decision will rest with the Central Tender Board."

A deposit of \$500 will be required as a pledge of the bona fide of the person submitting the tender, but will be refunded if he is unsuccessful.

Anyone who wants further details may call personally at the Resettlement Department Office, No. 692 Prince Edward Road, San Po Kong Government Offices, fourth floor, Kowloon.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/5 .....

Thursday, July 13, 1972

- 5 -

NEW IMMIGRATION OFFICE OPENING

\*\*\*\*\*

The Director of Immigration Mr. W.E. Collard will personally issue the first travel document during the opening next week of a new Immigration branch office in Mong Kok.

The new office will replace the existing one in Sham Shui Po which will close at 1 p.m. on Saturday (July 15).

The work previously done by the Sham Shui Po office will now be handled by the new Mong Kok branch until alternative premises can be found for a larger office in the Sham Shui Po area.

However, the Mong Kok office will remain in operation to provide an improved immigration service to residents of north-west Kowloon, even after the other branch office has been set up.

The new Mong Kok office, which is situated at 201A-205, Fa Yuen Street, will be formally opened by the Chairman of the Mong Kok Kaifong Assication, Mr. Cho Shiu-chung, M.B.E. at 10.30 a.m. next Monday (July 17).

A number of Kaifong leaders have been invited to the opening ceremony and both Mr. Collard and Mr. Cho will address the gathering.

\*\*\*\*\*

Note to Editors: You are cordially invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to cover the ceremony which will take place at 10.30 a.m. on Monday, July 17, 1972. The event is expected to last one hour.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/6 .....

Thursday, July 13, 1972

- 6 -

ASSISTANCE FOR FIRE GUTTED FACTORY

\*\*\*\*\*

The Labour Department is concerned that the payment of wages should not be unduly delayed in the case of a factory damaged by a recent fire in Kowloon.

Officers of the Labour Relations Service visited the factory building shortly after the fire, to determine the number of factories and workers affected and to advise managements and workers of the provisions of the Employment Ordinance.

However of the five establishments visited, only one knitting factory employing 75 workers was directly affected.

The management of this factory has been advised to follow the provisions of the ordinance and to refer workers to the Labour Department for assistance if required.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/s/ .....

Thursday, July 13, 1972

- 7 -

ANTI-MOSQUITO CAMPAIGN

\*\*\*\*\*

Note to Editors: Details of a nine-day "Anti-Mosquito Campaign" will be announced at a press conference to be held at the 16 mm Cinema of the Information Services Department at 3 p.m. next Monday (July 17).

The press conference will be chaired by Dr. Denny Huang, Chairman of the Environmental Hygiene Select Committee of the Urban Council.

The campaign is aimed at urging members of the public to play an active role in eradicating breeding grounds for mosquitoes within their premises.

You are cordially invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to cover the conference.

- - - - 0 - - - -

MR. H.J.C. BROWNE CEASES TO ACT ON EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

\*\*\*\*\*

A Government spokesman announced today that the Honourable H.J.C. Browne, an Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council, ceased to be temporarily an Unofficial Member of the Executive Council, with effect from July 11, 1972, on the return to Hong Kong of the Honourable Sir Douglas Clague.

- - - - 0 - - - -

Release Time: 7.30 p.m.