



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1974.

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SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1974.

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FIRE HAZARDS MORE COMPLEX

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HONG KONG'S RAPID EXPANSION HAS SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED THE DIVERSITY AND PERPLEXITY OF FIRE HAZARDS, WHICH PRESENT A GROWING MENACE TO THE POPULATION, MR. FRED JACKSON, CHIEF FIRE OFFICER FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, SAID TODAY.

HE WAS ADDRESSING A PARADE AT THE FIRE SERVICES TRAINING SCHOOL, PAT HEUNG, TO MARK THE PASSING OUT, AT THE END OF A 26 WEEK COURSE, OF 20 ASSISTANT STATION OFFICERS.

MR. JACKSON SAID: +HONG KONG, WITH ITS VAST BUILT-UP AREAS, HAS EXPANDED AT A FRIGHTENING PACE IN A RELATIVELY SHORT TIME, SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASING THE DIVERSITY AND PERPLEXITY OF FIRE HAZARDS, WHICH PRESENT AN EVER PRESENT AND GROWING MENACE TO OUR FOUR MILLION-PLUS POPULATION.

+LARGE NUMBERS OF RESIDENTIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL HIGH-RISE PROPERTIES, BADLY OBSTRUCTED STREETS, DIVERSIFICATION OF PRODUCTS AND INDUSTRIES AND THE EVER INCREASING ADVANCE OF TECHNOLOGY OFFER A NEW CHALLENGE EVERY DAY.+

HE WARNED THE OFFICERS THAT THEIR LIVES WOULD NOT BE EASY, ADDING THAT, AT TIMES, THEY WOULD HAVE CAUSE TO WONDER WHAT THEY HAD GOT THEMSELVES INTO.

+LIABLE FOR CALL OUT AT ANY MINUTE OF ANY DAY, NO MATTER WHAT THE WEATHER, OR TYPE OF INCIDENT, YOUR DISCIPLINE, COURAGE AND OBVIOUS DEEP INTEREST WILL TAKE YOU TO A GREAT NUMBER OF DIFFERENT AND DIFFICULT INCIDENTS, AT MOST TIMES TO PEOPLE IN TROUBLE,+ MR. JACKSON SAID. +THEY WILL LOOK TO YOU FOR HELP, GUIDANCE, UNDERSTANDING AND ASSISTANCE, AND THEIR NEEDS IN TIMES OF STRESS AND STRAIN WILL, I KNOW, RECEIVE THE SYMPATHETIC, BUT FIRM RESPONSE WHICH THIS SERVICE HAS BEEN GIVING FOR OVER THE PAST ONE HUNDRED YEARS.+

THE PARADE, THE 18TH FOR OFFICERS SINCE THE SCHOOL OPENED IN 1968, WAS THE LARGEST SO FAR. IN ADDITION TO THE SQUAD OF ASSISTANT STATION OFFICERS, ALSO TAKING PART IN THE CEREMONY WERE SEVEN SQUADS OF TRAINEE FIREMEN AND ONE SQUAD OF TRAINEE AMBULANCEMEN. THEY ARE DUE TO PASS OUT IN A FEW WEEKS.

MR. WONG MAN-CHIU, ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL OFFICER, COMMANDED THE PARADE.

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HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR PROPERTY  
DURING THUNDERSTORMS AND HEAVY RAINS  
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THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY HAS PREPARED A SPECIAL LEAFLET ON THUNDERSTORM AND HEAVY RAIN WARNINGS TO HAVE THE PUBLIC BETTER ACQUAINTED WITH THEIR MEANING AND HOW TO RESPOND TO THEM.

THE LEAFLET, IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE, EXPLAINS WHEN AND HOW THE WARNINGS ARE ISSUED AND WHAT PRECAUTIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO PROTECT LIFE AND PROPERTY.

DURING THE MONTHS FROM APRIL TO SEPTEMBER, AN AVERAGE OF NINE THUNDERSTORMS OCCURS EVERY MONTH, THE LEAFLET POINTS OUT. SUMMER RAINFALL OFTEN EXCEEDS 50 MM IN ANY HOUR AND CAN REACH WELL OVER 100 MM AN HOUR. THE HIGHEST EVER RECORDED INSTANTANEOUS RATE OF RAINFALL IN HONG KONG IS 513 MM PER HOUR.

THE OBJECT OF THE WARNINGS IS TO GIVE SHORT TERM NOTICE OF THE LIKELIHOOD OF THUNDERSTORMS OR HEAVY RAIN (IN THIS CONTEXT 'HEAVY RAIN' IS TAKEN TO BE 50 MM OR MORE IN ANY HOUR) SO THAT MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC CAN TAKE PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES.

A THUNDERSTORM, HEAVY RAIN OR THUNDERSTORM AND HEAVY RAIN WARNING IS ISSUED AS SOON AS IT IS EXPECTED TO OCCUR IN ANY PART OF HONG KONG AND IS LIKELY TO PERSIST AND AFFECT OTHER AREAS.

WARNINGS ARE BROADCAST BY RADIO AND TV STATIONS. THEY CAN ALSO BE PASSED BY THE TELEPHONE COMPANY, FOR AN ANNUAL CHARGE, DIRECTLY TO THOSE WHO NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL ACTION IN THE EVENT OF THUNDERSTORMS OR HEAVY RAIN.

HEAVY RAIN CAN CAUSE LANDSLIDES AND FLOODING, AND THE LEAFLET EMPHASISES THAT ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS, CONTRACTORS AND OTHERS CONCERNED SHOULD TAKE EVERY NECESSARY PRECAUTION. DRAINS AND GUTTERS SHOULD BE CLEARED AND CHECKED FOR DAMAGE.

IT ALSO LISTS SOME SIMPLE SAFETY RULES TO AVOID LIGHTNING WHICH CAN CAUSE DEATH BY ELECTROCUTION, DAMAGE ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS AND CAUSE FIRES.

SOME SAFETY RULES ARE:

- \* STAY INDOOR. DON'T VENTURE OUTSIDE UNLESS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY.
- \* SEEK SHELTER IN BUILDINGS IF YOU HAPPEN TO BE WORKING OUTSIDE.

- \* DO NOT SWIM.
- \* AVOID USING TELEPHONES OR PLUGGED IN ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES.
- \* DON'T TOUCH AERIALS, WATER PIPES, WIRE FENCES AND SIMILAR METAL INSTALLATIONS.
- \* DON'T HANDLE INFLAMMABLE MATERIALS IN OPEN CONTAINERS.
- \* REMEMBER: LIGHTNING USUALLY TAKES THE SHORTEST PATH TO EARTH, SO IT IS VERY DANGEROUS TO STAND ON ANY HILL TOP OR NEAR ANY HIGHLY CONDUCTIVE OBJECT. KEEP AWAY FROM TREES OR MASTS WHICH ARE LIKELY TO BE STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.

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SERVICE CAMPS FOR CITY YOUTH

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THE YOUTH WORK UNIT OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT HAS ORGANISED A SERIES OF SIX CAMPING PROJECTS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE FOR CITY YOUTH.

THE CAMPING TRIPS, WHICH VARY FROM THREE TO SIX DAYS, WILL BE HELD FROM JULY 20 UNTIL AUGUST 25 IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THREE OF THE CAMPS WILL BE OF THE RURAL SERVICE TYPE IN WHICH THE CAMPERS WILL MEET WITH VILLAGERS AND FARMERS AND HELP TO ORGANISE RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR THEM OR BUILD FOOTPATHS AND SO ON.

THE VENUES FOR THESE CAMPS WILL BE TUEN MUN, MA WAN AND TAI PO PING LONG VILLAGE.

TWO OTHER CAMPS WILL BE TO THE CHUEN LUNG FORESTRY AREA AND THE TAI PO KAU FORESTRY AREA IN WHICH PARTICIPANTS WILL PLANT TREES, CLEAN FOOTPATHS AND GENERALLY LEARN ABOUT NATURE.

THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN THESE CAMPS WILL VARY FROM 20 TO 60. THE REMAINING CAMP IS FOR A GROUP OF HANDICAPPED YOUNG PEOPLE AND WILL BE HELD AT THE DEPARTMENT'S ROTARY YOUTH CENTRE IN FANLING.

IN ALL THESE PROJECTS, THE YOUTH WORK UNIT IS BEING ASSISTED BY MEMBERS OF ITS SELF-PROGRAMMING GROUP.

THE CAMPS ARE OPEN TO YOUNG PEOPLE FROM 17 TO 25 YEARS OF AGE AND APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE OFFICES OF THE YOUTH WORK UNIT ON THE TOP FLOOR OF THE KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 405 NATHAN ROAD, (TEL. 3-884111 EXT. 331), OR ROOM 908, CAUSEWAY BAY MAGISTRACY BUILDING, HONG KONG, (TEL. 5-712467).

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SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1974.

H.K. DELEGATION TO ATTEND SOCIAL WELFARE CONFERENCE  
IN NAIROBI  
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MR. THOMAS C.Y. LEE, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, WILL BE LEAVING TOMORROW (SUNDAY) FOR NAIROBI, KENYA, TO ATTEND THE XVIIIITH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL WELFARE. MR. LEE WILL REPRESENT THE HONGKONG GOVERNMENT.

OTHER DELEGATES FROM HONG KONG INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE TWO UNIVERSITIES, THE INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL WORK TRAINING, HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE AND OTHER VOLUNTARY AGENCIES. THERE ARE ALTOGETHER 23 DELEGATES.

THE CONFERENCE BEGINS ON JULY 14 AND WILL CONTINUE UNTIL JULY 20, BUT BEFORE THAT, A NUMBER OF THE DELEGATES WILL ALSO BE ATTENDING THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF SCHOOLS OF SOCIAL WORK FROM JULY 6 TO 9.

THE THEME OF THE NAIROBI CONFERENCE IS +DEVELOPMENT AND PARTICIPATION - OPERATIONAL IMPLICATIONS FOR SOCIAL WELFARE+, AND IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONFERENCE, HONG KONG WILL BE TAKING PART IN AN EXHIBITION IN NAIROBI TO ILLUSTRATE THE MANY SOCIAL WELFARE ACTIVITIES IN HONG KONG, RELATED TO THIS THEME.

MR. LEE WILL CHAIR ONE OF THE COMMISSIONS ENTITLED: +IMPLICATIONS FOR TRAINING AND EDUCATION IN THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF PARTICIPATION IN DEVELOPMENT+.

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WELFARE (ICSW) ORGANIZES THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE BIENNIALLY IN DIFFERENT CITIES OF THE WORLD. THE ICSW IS A PERMANENT WORLD ORGANIZATION FOR INDIVIDUALS AND AGENCIES CONCERNED WITH THE SOCIAL WELFARE OF PEOPLE. IT IS AN INDEPENDENT, NON-GOVERNMENTAL, NON-POLITICAL AND NON-SECTARIAN BODY WHICH PROVIDES AN INTERNATIONAL FORUM FOR THE DISCUSSION OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND RELATED ISSUES.

HONG KONG HAS BEEN ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN THIS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.

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FURTHER CONSOLIDATION OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES URGED

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THE PROCESS OF CONSOLIDATION IN HONG KONG'S CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT, WHICH HAS REMAINED +REASONABLY HEALTHY+ SINCE ITS BEGINNING IN 1952, SHOULD BE CONTINUED AND IN A VERY LOGICAL PATTERN.

THIS WAS THE OPINION EXPRESSED BY MR. E.H. NICHOLS, DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, WHEN HE ADDRESSED THE GATHERING AT THE CELEBRATION DINNER PARTY OF THE 52ND INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE DAY HELD AT THE GOOD DATES RESTAURANT THIS (SATURDAY) EVENING.

HE STRONGLY ADVOCATED THAT ALL THE PRIMARY PRODUCER SOCIETIES SHOULD EXPAND THEIR SCOPE TO COVER THE WIDEST POSSIBLE AREAS FOR CO-OPERATIVE ACTION, NAMELY, IN THE JOINT PURCHASE OF INPUTS, THE PROVISION OF CREDIT FACILITIES AND ASSISTANCE IN MARKETING AND OTHER SERVICES TO THE FARMER OR FISHERMAN.

+WHOLESALE PURCHASE OF INPUTS, THROUGH THE SOCIETY, CAN ONLY STRENGTHEN THE ECONOMIC STATUS OF THE INDIVIDUAL MEMBER,+ HE SAID.

MR. NICHOLS ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THERE WAS ROOM FOR PHYSICAL AND MANAGERIAL CONSOLIDATION BY THE MERGING OF SOCIETIES. +IN THIS WAY THEY CAN COMMAND BOTH A GREATER CAPITAL BASE AND AN INCREASED MEMBERSHIP.+

THE MANAGERIAL MERGER OF THE FEDERATIONS OF FISHERMEN'S SOCIETIES, BASED ON VARIOUS PORTS, AS +NEW LOOK+ STRENGTHENED SOCIETIES HE SAID, WOULD ECONOMISE IN TERMS OF MANAGEMENT, SERVICES AND SO ON.

HE ADDED THAT IN BOTH THE SPHERES OF FISHERIES AND FARMING, HIS STAFF WOULD ALWAYS BE TOO PLEASED TO ADVISE AND ASSIST IN ANY SUCH ORGANISATION AS THE SOCIETIES MIGHT WISH TO CONTEMPLATE.

MR. NICHOLS WENT ON TO SAY THAT IF THE CHALLENGE OF AMALGAMATION WERE ACCEPTED, THE CREDIT-WORTHINESS OF THE ENLARGED SOCIETY WOULD BE ENHANCED. +IT SHOULD ALSO BECOME POSSIBLE FOR THE SOCIETY TO EMPLOY MORE QUALIFIED AND MORE HIGHLY-PAID MANAGEMENT STAFF TO LOOK AFTER THEIR AFFAIRS WHICH IN ITSELF WOULD ALLEVIATE THE PRESENT PRESSURE ON SOCIETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS.+ HE NOTED.

+IN OTHER WORDS, WELL-MANAGED, SUCCESSFUL SOCIETIES SHOULD ATTRACT NEW MEMBERS, WHO SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED PROVIDING THEY ARE PREPARED TO DO THEIR SHARE IN ADVANCING SOCIETY BUSINESS SO THAT ULTIMATELY THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT HAS A STRONG AND INCREASING VOICE IN LOCAL AFFAIRS,+ SAID MR. NICHOLS.

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