



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1977

## CONTENTS

## PAGE NO.

MORE THAN \$70M APPROVED FOR COUNTRY PARK DEVELOPMENT .....	1
SITE INVESTIGATION OF NORTH LANTAU .....	2
PIG BREEDERS HELP TO PRODUCE BETTER QUALITY PORK .....	3
GROWTH OF COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS IN TSUEN WAN .....	4

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1977

- 1 -

MORE THAN \$70M APPROVED FOR COUNTRY PARK DEVELOPMENT  
\* \* \* \*

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HAS APPROVED NEARLY \$71 MILLION IN RECURRENT AND NON-RECURRENT EXPENDITURES TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF COUNTRY PARKS IN HONG KONG OVER A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD.

A SUM OF \$46.4 MILLION IN NON-RECURRENT EXPENDITURE WILL BE USED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF 11 MAJOR MANAGEMENT CENTRES AND SIX SUB-CENTRES WITH ASSOCIATED FACILITIES. THE REMAINDER OF THE SUM WILL BE RECURRENT ON FULL DEVELOPMENT FOR THE MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF THE CENTRES AND COUNTRY PARKS, PUBLICITY, AND THE PROMOTION OF COUNTRYSIDE CONSERVATION.

IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT BY APRIL 1981 THERE WILL BE 19 COUNTRY PARKS, PRINCIPALLY IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

SINCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COUNTRY PARKS BOARD IN AUGUST 1976, COUNTRY PARKS HAVE BEEN DESIGNATED IN SHING MUN, LION ROCK, KAM SHAN, ABERDEEN AND TAI TAM AND A SPECIAL AREA WAS DESIGNATED AT TAI PO KAU. TWO COUNTRY PARKS IN SAI KUNG ARE ALSO CURRENTLY GAZETTED.

OTHER AREAS INCLUDED IN THE MASTER PLAN ARE SCHEDULED FOR PLOVER COVE, PAT SIN, LANTAU (NORTH AND SOUTH) TAI LAM/PAT HEUNG, TAI MO SHAN, MA ON SHAN, CAPE D'AGUILAR, CLEAR WATER BAY, SOUTH LAMMA AND NORTH LAM TSUEN.

THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, MR. E.H. NICHOLS, WHO IS ALSO THE COUNTRY PARK AUTHORITY, SAID TODAY THAT COUNTRYSIDE RECREATION HAD BECOME INCREASINGLY POPULAR AND POSITIVE STEPS WERE NECESSARY TO PROTECT HONG KONG'S REMAINING COUNTRYSIDE FROM THE HAZARDS OF FIRE AND DESPOILATION.

THE NUMBER OF VISITOR-DAYS TO THE DEPARTMENT'S MANAGED AREAS ALSO INCREASED FROM ABOUT 500,000 IN 1970/71 TO 1.86 MILLION IN 1975/76 AND 2.5 MILLION IN 1976/77. THE NUMBER OF VISITORS IS ESTIMATED TO RISE BY ABOUT 10 PER CENT ANNUALLY DURING THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.

THE CAPITAL EXPENDITURE APPROVED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE INCLUDES \$14.15 MILLION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE 11 MANAGEMENT CENTRES= \$4.2 MILLION FOR THE SIX SUB-CENTRES= \$1.5 MILLION FOR OPEN AIR PARKING AREAS= \$8.13 MILLION FOR FIRE LOOKOUTS, PAVILIONS, PUBLIC TOILETS, CONCESSIONAIRE KIOSKS, HAWKER STANDS AND PREFABRICATED OFFICES= \$10.75 MILLION FOR ROADS AND EQUIPMENT= AND \$7.62 MILLION FOR MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT NEEDED FOR BUILDING THE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.

MR. NICHOLS SAID THAT THE OVERALL OBJECTIVE OF THE PROGRAMME IS TO CONSERVE THE COUNTRYSIDE AS A NATIONAL ASSET FOR THE USE OF THE PUBLIC.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1977

- 2 -

THE COUNTRY PARKS WILL BE ADMINISTERED FROM MANAGEMENT CENTRES WHOSE MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES WILL BE TO CREATE AND MAINTAIN RECREATIONAL FACILITIES FOR THE PUBLIC, IN PARTICULAR BARBECUE AND PICNIC AREAS, HIKING PATHS AND CAMPSITES.

+OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES WILL INCLUDE PROVIDING FIRST LINE FIRE FIGHTING CREWS, KEEPING THE COUNTRYSIDE CLEAN, AS WELL AS ASSISTING IN THE EDUCATION IN THE USE OF THE COUNTRYSIDE= AND PREVENTING MISUSE OF THE COUNTRYSIDE BY ENFORCING COUNTRY PARKS REGULATIONS.

THE PROGRAMME HAS ALREADY STARTED, AND SITE FORMATION IS CURRENTLY UNDER WAY AT KEI LING HA AND HOI HA MANAGEMENT SITES, IN THE SAI KUNG PENINSULA.

- - - - 0 - - - -

#### SITE INVESTIGATION OF NORTH LANTAU

\* \* \* \*

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS TO CARRY OUT A MAJOR SITE INVESTIGATION ON THE NORTHERN SIDE OF LANTAU ISLAND.

TENDERS FOR THE WORK ARE BEING INVITED BY THE CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE OF THE P.W.D.

MR. WONG WAN-MING, ACTING CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND AIRPORT DIVISION OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE, SAID THE INVESTIGATION, COVERING THE AREA BETWEEN THE KAP SHUI MUN CHANNEL AND TUNG CHUNG, WOULD BEGIN IN FEBRUARY AND WOULD TAKE ABOUT 10 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE INVESTIGATION, HE SAID, FORMED THE FIRST STEP IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSALS TO EXPLORE THE FEASIBILITY OF DEVELOPING THE NORTH LANTAU COAST.

RESULTS OBTAINED WOULD BE USED TO COMPILE COMPREHENSIVE SOILS INFORMATION IN THE AREA NECESSARY FOR DETAILED ENGINEERING STUDIES.

THE SOIL EXPLORATION HAS BEEN PLANNED AND THE CONTRACT WILL BE SUPREVISED BY THE DEVELOPMENT AND AIRPORT DIVISION OF THE P.W.D.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/3 .....

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1977

- 3 -

BETTER QUALITY PORK THROUGH CROSS-BREEDING

\* \* \* \* \*

LOCAL PIG BREEDERS ARE NOW ABLE TO SUPPLY BETTER QUALITY PORK TO CONSUMERS -- THANKS TO THE EFFORTS OF EXPERTS OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, WHO ARE ENGAGED IN PIG ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION SERVICES WHICH FULLY UTILISE THE POTENTIAL OF GENETICALLY SUPERIOR BOARS.

UNDER AN EXPERIMENTAL SCHEME DESIGNED TO IMPROVE THE PIG QUALITY OF THE LOCAL PIG INDUSTRY, EXPERTS AT TA KWU LING ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION CENTRE HAVE FOR MANY YEARS SUCCESSFULLY CARRIED OUT ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION ON LOCAL PIGS WITH SEMEN COLLECTED FROM HIGH PEDIGREE BREEDS OF LARGE WHITE AND LANDRACE WHICH WERE SPECIALLY INTRODUCED TO HONG KONG FROM BRITAIN AND AUSTRALIA FOR CROSS-BREEDING PURPOSE.

EXPERTS COLLECT SEMEN FROM IMPORTED PIGS AT TA KWU LING ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION CENTRE AND EXAMINE THE SEMEN BY CHECKING THE SPERM ACTIVITY, DENSITY AND FOR ABNORMALITIES.

THE SEMEN IS THEN DILUTED AND STORED AT A TEMPERATURE OF BETWEEN 15 AND 20 DEGREES CELSIUS FOR USE. THE DILUTED SEMEN IS ALSO DELIVERED TO CASTLE PEAK, SAI KUNG AND SILVER MINE BAY ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION SUB-CENTRES.

A SPOKESMAN OF THE CENTRE SAID THAT THE VIABLE PERIOD OF COLLECTED SEMEN IS ABOUT THREE DAYS. THE PROCESS TO INSEMINATE SOW IS SIMPLE, QUICK AND ECONOMICAL.

THE LARGE WHITE AND LANDRACE BREEDS HAVE BETTER MEAT QUALITY, HIGHER FOOD CONVERSION RATE WHILE THE LOCAL PIGS SHOW A HIGHER CONCEPTION RATE, ARE MORE PROLIFIC AND MORE ADAPTABLE TO LOCAL CONDITIONS.

THE SCHEME HAS PROVED TO BE SUCCESSFUL AND POPULAR AMONG LOCAL PIG BREEDERS SO MUCH THAT 10,000 ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION SERVICES WERE PERFORMED LAST YEAR.

THE DEMAND FOR THIS SERVICE IS ON THE INCREASE, AND DURING THE LAST FOUR MONTHS, OVER 4,000 REQUESTS WERE RECEIVED.

IN ADDITION, LARGE WHITE AND LANDRACE PIGS WERE SOLD TO PIG BREEDERS AT A SUBSIDIZED PRICE FOR BREEDING. MORE THAN 700 HEADS WERE SOLD LAST YEAR, AN ALMOST 100 PERCENT INCREASE OVER THE 1975 FIGURE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/4 .....

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1977

- 4 -

GROWTH OF COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS IN TSUEN WAN  
\* \* \* \*

RURAL COMMITTEES IN TSUEN WAN HAVE FOR LONG BEEN PLAYING A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FAST-GROWING NEW TOWN.

IN RECENT YEARS, NEW COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS HAVE SPRUNG UP IN THE DISTRICT TO DEAL WITH SOCIAL PROBLEMS THAT ARE OUTSIDE THE SCOPE OF THE RURAL COMMITTEES.

THESE ORGANISATIONS, LIKE THE RURAL COMMITTEES, PROVIDE USEFUL VENUES THROUGH WHICH THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE HAS BEEN ABLE TO ESTABLISH MORE CONTACTS AND INVOLVE MORE RESIDENTS IN GETTING AT THE ROOT OF THE PROBLEMS.

THEY INCLUDE THE RECREATION AND AMENITIES (ADVISORY) COMMITTEE, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, AREA COMMITTEES, FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE AND CULTURAL AND RECREATION ASSOCIATIONS AND SPORTS ASSOCIATION.

WITH HEAVY LOCAL COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION, THEY ARE INVOLVED IN THE PROVISION OF RECREATIONAL AND AMENITY FACILITIES, THE MANAGEMENT OF MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS AND CRIME PREVENTION.

+THESE ORGANISATIONS DID NOT JUST SPRING UP AT RANDOM BUT WERE, LIKE THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE SYSTEM FOR URBAN AREAS, A DIRECT RESPONSE TO THE PROBLEMS AFFECTING THE SOCIAL SYSTEM AS A RESULT OF HIGH-DENSITY LIVING, INDUSTRIALISATION AND IDEAS FROM THE WORLD OUTSIDE HONG KONG,+ THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICER (TOWN MANAGEMENT), MR. DAVID TSUI, SAID.

MR. TSUI POINTED OUT THAT THEIR FORMATION WAS NOT TO REPLACE THE RURAL COMMITTEES WHICH CONTINUED TO PROVIDE A VALUABLE SERVICE IN THEIR PARTICULAR AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY, BUT TO DEAL WITH THE EXISTENCE OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS OUTSIDE THEIR SCOPE.

+IN ADDITION, IT HELPS TO ENCOURAGE A SENSE OF COMMUNITY IN THE NEW TOWN AND PROMOTE THE RAPID GROWTH OF A LOCAL IDENTITY,+ HE SAID.

THE RECREATION AND AMENITIES (ADVISORY) COMMITTEE WAS SET UP IN MARCH LAST YEAR, IN WHICH LOCAL COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES SAT IN MAJORITY AND DISCUSSED WITH OFFICIAL MEMBERS ABOUT THE RECREATION AND AMENITY NEEDS OF THE NEW TOWN AS A WHOLE.

THEIR WORK INCLUDED ADVISING ON THE CONTENT AND LAYOUT OF PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND SITTING-OUT AREAS, SPONSORING A SCHEME TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS IN SOME OF THE OLDER TOWN SQUARES IN CENTRAL TSUEN WAN, AND PUTTING FORWARD SUGGESTIONS ON THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES IN THE \$19.2 MILLION MULTI-PURPOSE AUDITORIUM FOR TSUEN WAN.

/THE MUTUAL AID .....

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1977

- 5 -

THE MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE SYSTEM IN TSUEN WAN HAS EXPANDED RAPIDLY. WITH THE FIRST SET UP FOUR YEARS AGO, THE NUMBER OF MAC'S HAS MUSHROOMED TO OVER 150, AND THERE ARE AT LEAST A DOZEN MORE IN THE FORMATION STAGE.

THROUGH BETTER ORGANISED MANAGEMENT, THE MAC'S HELP BRING ABOUT A MORE COHERENT NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BETTER SECURITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS IN PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS, PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES AND INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS IN THE DISTRICT.

APART FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD SECURITY PATROLS, THEY ORGANISE A WIDE RANGE OF SOCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING PICNICS, SPORT GAMES, VARIETY SHOWS AND CHESS COMPETITIONS.

A VIVID EXAMPLE THAT REFLECTS THE COMMUNITY SPIRIT OF THE MAC SYSTEM WAS THE MOBILISATION OF VOLUNTEERS OF THE KWAI HING ESTATE BLOCK 5 MAC TO ASSIST IN REMOVING DEBRIS FROM THE SQUATTER AREA OF KWAI SHING CIRCUIT IN JUNE THIS YEAR.

AS REGARDS AREA COMMITTEES, THERE ARE NOW SIX IN THE NEW TOWN TWO IN TSUEN WAN AND FOUR IN KWAI CHUNG -- IN WHICH BOTH OFFICIALS AND LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES DISCUSS VARIOUS NEEDS OF THEIR AREAS.

RECENT IDEAS DISCUSSED HAVE INCLUDED TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENT, BLACK-SPOT CLEANUPS, PAVEMENT REPAIR AND TREE PLANTING, AS WELL AS THE PROVISION OF COMMUNITY SERVICES.

ON THE FIGHT-CRIME SIDE, A FIGHT VIOLENT CRIME COMMITTEE WAS FORMED EARLY LAST YEAR AND HAS ALREADY TURNED UP POSITIVE RESULTS BY INVOLVING VERY CLOSELY THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.

ONE WAY IN WHICH THE COMMITTEE HAS BEEN ABLE TO INVOLVE LOCAL PEOPLE WAS BY CO-OPTING THEM TO A SERIES OF SUB-COMMITTEES WHICH ARE GIVEN THE TASK OF TACKLING THE PROBLEM AT GRASS-ROOT LEVEL BY IDENTIFYING BLACK SPOTS IN PARTICULAR AREAS.

LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES HAVE NOW BEEN INVOLVED IN THESE SUB-COMMITTEES DEALING WITH CRIME IN THE HOUSING ESTATES, SCHOOLS AND INDUSTRIAL AND RURAL AREAS.

- - - - 0 - - - -