



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1977

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FACTORY BOOM IN TUEN MUN NEW TOWN

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AT LEAST 50 TO 60 NEW FACTORIES WILL BE BUILT IN TUEN MUN IN THE NEAR FUTURE, THE NEW TOWN'S DISTRICT OFFICER, MR. PETER NG, SAID TODAY.

SPEAKING ON THE FIRST EDITION OF RTHK'S NEW MAGAZINE PROGRAMME +NEW TERRITORIES WEEKLY+ ON THE CHINESE SERVICE, MR. NG SAID THAT 20 FACTORIES WERE ALREADY OPERATING IN TUEN MUN.

+MOST OF THESE FACTORIES ARE LIGHT INDUSTRIAL, BUT THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT MANY MORE FACTORIES WILL SPRING UP IN THE TOWN,+ HE SAID. +WE EXPECT TO SEE 50 TO 60 NEW FACTORIES OF VARIOUS SIZES IN THE NEAR FUTURE.+

TURNING TO JOB OPPORTUNITIES, MR. NG SAID WITH TUEN MUN BEING DEVELOPED AS A SATELLITE INDUSTRIAL TOWN, NEW ESTATES WILL BE CONSTRUCTED AND DEVELOPERS URGED TO BUILD MORE AND MORE COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL BLOCKS IN ORDER TO COPE WITH INDUSTRIAL NEEDS.

+IN OTHER WORDS, IT WON'T BE TOO DIFFICULT FOR PEOPLE LIVING IN TUEN MUN TO FIND JOBS,+ HE ADDED.

IN FACT, MR. NG SAID THERE WAS ALREADY A GREAT DEMAND FOR WORKERS FROM FACTORIES ALREADY OPERATING IN THE TOWN.

MR. NG SAID PEOPLE WORKING IN THE TOWN WERE TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY ON THE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S WAITING LIST.

+IF THEIR EMPLOYERS ARE WILLING TO CERTIFY THIS, THE HOUSING AUTHORITY WILL THEN CONSIDER GIVING THEM PRIORITY TO LIVE IN EITHER TAI HING OR SUN FAT ESTATES,+ HE SAID.

+A NUMBER OF WORKERS FROM A LARGE JAPANESE FIRM IN TUEN MUN HAVE ALREADY MOVED INTO TAI HING ESTATE UNDER THIS PRIORITY SYSTEM.+

MR. NG SAID THERE WERE ALSO PLANS TO ALLOCATE SOME BIGGER UNITS IN TAI HING ESTATE TO A VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION TO RUN A NON-PROFIT MAKING HOSTEL FOR SINGLE MALE AND FEMALE WORKERS.

THE POPULATION IN TUEN MUN IS EXPECTED TO GROW FROM THE PRESENT FIGURE OF 50,000 TO 500,000 BY 1985. AN INCREASE OF ABOUT 30,000 PEOPLE IS EXPECTED IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS AS PHASE I OF THE TAI HING ESTATE HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND PEOPLE HAVE ALREADY STARTED TO MOVE IN, MR. NG ADDED.

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WARNINGS AGAINST ILLEGAL ALTERATION TO BUILDINGS

SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR. ROBERT UPTON, TODAY WARNED OWNERS AND OCCUPIERS OF FLATS AND HOUSES IN THE DISTRICT AGAINST MAKING UNAUTHORISED EXTENSIONS OR ALTERATIONS TO THEIR PROPERTIES.

MR. UPTON SAID HE WAS BECOMING INCREASINGLY CONCERNED THAT MANY PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICT APPARENTLY DID NOT REALISE THAT OFFICIAL APPROVAL WAS REQUIRED FOR ALL ALTERATIONS.

+MORE AND MORE CASES ARE COMING TO LIGHT WHERE ILLEGAL EXTENSIONS AND MODIFICATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE TO BUILDINGS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF SAI KUNG,+ HE SAID.

+IN MANY CASES, THE MODIFICATIONS NOT ONLY BREACH LEASE CONDITIONS, BUT ALSO THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE.+

MR. UPTON EXPLAINED THAT IN SOME RECENT CASES, BALCONIES HAD BEEN EXTENDED, STRUCTURES ADDED AND, IN SOME OF THE WORST CASES, ADDITIONAL STOREYS HAD BEEN BUILT ON TOP OF THE APPROVED BUILDINGS.

+THESE MODIFICATIONS CAN BE STRUCTURALLY DANGEROUS, FIRE HAZARDS OR DETRACT FROM THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT.

+DISTRICT OFFICE STAFF ARE CURRENTLY MAKING A SURVEY OF ALL HOUSES AND FLATS ON RURAL BUILDING LOTS WITHIN THE DISTRICT SO THAT WE HAVE ACCURATE RECORDS TO MAKE CHECKS FOR UNAUTHORISED MODIFICATIONS MUCH SIMPLER.

+WE ARE ALREADY MAKING REGULAR CHECKS AND WE EXPECT THAT WITH THE NEW RECORDS, WE WILL BE ABLE TO TIGHTEN UP CONSIDERABLY ON THESE UNAPPROVED WORKS.+

MR. UPTON SAID THAT THE COURSES OF ACTION OPEN TO THE GOVERNMENT INCLUDED DEMOLITION OF THE ILLEGAL WORKS BY GOVERNMENT STAFF OR LEGAL ACTION TO REPOSSESS THE PROPERTY.

AND, HE ADDED, THE GOVERNMENT DID NOT NORMALLY CONSIDER GRANTING RETROSPECTIVE APPROVAL FOR UNAUTHORISED WORKS.

+EVEN IF WE WANTED TO MODIFY THE LEASE CONDITIONS, ONCE BUILDING WORKS HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT AN ARCHITECT WILL NOT NORMALLY SIGN PLANS AND THEREFORE THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE CANNOT APPROVE THEM,+ MR. UPTON SAID.

+EACH CASE DISCOVERED IN THE CURRENT SURVEY WILL BE CONSIDERED INDIVIDUALLY, BECAUSE LEASE CONDITIONS VARY FROM CASE TO CASE.

+BUT WE MUST TAKE FIRM ACTION TO STOP THIS PROBLEM.+

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CHEUNG SHA WAN SPORTS GROUND

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WILL BEGIN WORK SHORTLY ON A 40,000 SQUARE METRE SPORTS GROUND AT CHEUNG SHA WAN IN KOWLOON.

NAMED CHEUNG SHA WAN SPORTS GROUND, IT IS LOCATED AT A SITE BOUNDED BY LAI CHI KOK ROAD, HING WAH STREET AND CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD.

MR. S.C. KWAN, ACTING CHIEF P.W.D. ARCHITECT, SAID THAT THE SPORTS GROUND WOULD BE BUILT IN TWO STAGES.

+STAGE ONE, COVERING AN AREA OF 20,000 SQ. METRES AT THE SOUTH SIDE OF LAI CHI KOK ROAD, WILL CONSIST OF A MINI-SOCCER PITCH, TWO BASKETBALL COURTS, ONE BASKET-CUM-VOLLEYBALL COURT, A SERVICE BUILDING AND SITTING-OUT AREAS WITH PAVILION AND WOODEN ARBOURS.

+THE SECOND STAGE WILL INCLUDE A FULL-SIZED TURFED FOOTBALL PITCH, A 400-METRE RUNNING TRACK, AND FACILITIES FOR SHOT PUT AND HIGH JUMP. SPECTATORS' STAND AND CHANGING ROOMS WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED,+ MR. KWAN SAID.

TENDERS FOR STAGE ONE OF THE PROJECT ARE BEING INVITED BY THE P.W.D.

WORK ON THIS STAGE WILL BEGIN EARLY IN NOVEMBER AND WILL TAKE ABOUT EIGHT MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

+ON COMPETITION, THE PROJECT, FINANCED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL, WILL PROVIDE THE MUCH-NEEDED SPORTS FACILITIES FOR RESIDENTS OF THE DENSELY POPULATED AREA,+ MR. KWAN SAID.

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GROWING INTEREST IN KITE FLYING
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KITE-FLYING, AN OUTDOOR GAME WITH A POPULARITY THAT HAS NEVER WANED FOR CENTURIES, IS BEING PROMOTED IN HONG KONG BY THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

+BY CONDUCTING LESSONS ON THE DIFFERENT TYPES AND CONSTRUCTION OF KITES, AND THE PROPER WAY TO FLY THEM, WE HOPE TO STIMULATE THE VERY POTENTIAL INTEREST IN THIS HEALTHY AS WELL AS INVIGORATING GAME,+ SAID MISS EDITH LAU, RECREATION AND SPORT OFFICER (TAI PO).

+IT IS EXCITING TO BE ABLE TO SEND A KITE UP IN THE AIR. THIS IS ESPECIALLY SO WHEN IT SWOOPS FREELY ACROSS THE SKY, SWAYS GENTLY IN A BREEZE OR SPINS OR DIVES UNDER YOUR CONTROL,+ SHE EXPLAINED.

+THE SPORT CAN ONLY BE PLAYED PROPERLY AND SAFELY IN LARGE OPEN GROUND AND REQUIRES A LOT OF CO-ORDINATED BODY MOVEMENTS. THE PLAYER NOT ONLY ENJOYS THE FRESH AIR AND SCENIC BEAUTY AROUND HIM, BUT AT THE SAME TIME EXERCISES HIS BODY.+

FLYING A KITE IS NOT AS SIMPLE AS IT SEEMS, HOWEVER.

THE PLAYER MUST BE ABLE TO TACKLE HIS KITE IN DIFFERENT WIND SPEEDS AND DIRECTIONS AND KNOW PRECISELY WHEN AND AT WHAT ANGLE TO LAUNCH IT. HE MUST ALSO BE ACQUAINTED WITH THE AREA ABOUT HIM WHILE MOVING AND MANOEUVRING ON THE GROUND.

DURING THE SIX-WEEK KITE-FLYING COURSE, THE YOUNG PARTICIPANTS ARE TAUGHT HOW TO FLY HOBBY KITES AND ARE SHOWN THE SPECIAL TECHNIQUES OF FLYING OTHER TYPES OF KITES, FOR SPORT OR FRIENDLY COMBAT.

ALL THESE KITES HAVE A PLASTIC SPAN AND A WOODEN KEEL. THEY CAN BE IN A VARIETY OF SHAPES, COLOURS, AND SIZES AND CAN BE AS WIDE AS EIGHT FEET.

NYLON LINES ARE COMMONLY USED. THE LENGTH OF THESE LINES ALSO VARIES. FOR A CHILD OF EIGHT TO THIRTEEN, A ROLL OF 120 FEET IS GOOD ENOUGH.

THE LENGTH VARIES WITH THE KITE-FLYER BECAUSE A SMALL CHILD IS ONLY ABLE TO COUNTER AND MANIPULATE THE AMOUNT OF FORCE EXERTED ON HIM BY A KITE AT CERTAIN HEIGHT IN NORMAL WINDSPEED.

AT ALTITUDES, AS HIGH AS 2,000 FEET, THE KITE MAY HURTLE ACROSS THE SKY AT 100 FEET A SECOND.

MEMBERS OF THE KITE-FLYING CLASSES ARE ALSO TAUGHT HOW TO USE BODYWEIGHT TO DIRECT THE MOVEMENT OF THE KITE IN THE AIR, TO MAINTAIN ITS ALTITUDE BY MEANS OF A STABILIZER, AND TO FORESTALL DIFFICULTIES AND OBSTACLES IN ITS WAY.

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INSTRUCTIONS ON SAFETY PRECAUTIONS, SUCH AS NOT FLYING KITES WITHIN THREE MILES OF THE AIRPORT, NEAR POWER PYLONS AND RAILWAY LINES AND NOT ON ROOFTOPS OR ON HIGH GROUND WHERE THERE IS AN ABRUPT DROP, ARE ALSO GIVEN.

THE CLASSES ARE AT PRESENT CONDUCTED ON SUNDAYS IN TAI PO. +CHILDREN LIVING IN THE AREA WERE SO ENTHUSIASTIC THAT ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS, MANY NEWCOMERS APPLIED TO JOIN THERE AND THEN,+ MISS LAU SAID.

+AS THE CLASSES ARE HELD AS A PILOT PROJECT, ONLY 72 YOUNGSTERS AGED BETWEEN 11 AND 22, INCLUDING FOUR GIRLS WERE ACCEPTED.

+BECAUSE OF THIS OVERWHELMING RESPONSE, THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE IS PLANNING TO OPEN NEW CLASSES ON SUNDAYS IN THE COUNTRY PARKS TO ENABLE VISITORS FROM URBAN AREAS TO SHARE IN THIS FASCINATING GAME,+ SHE SAID.

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