



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, JUNE 7, 1976

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CONTRACT FOR GIANT TUEN MUN RECLAMATION SIGNED

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS ABOUT TO BEGIN WORK ON A GIANT \$46 MILLION RECLAMATION SCHEME AT CASTLE PEAK BAY TO FORM MORE LAND FOR HOUSING AND INDUSTRY.

THE RECLAMATION WILL PROVIDE ABOUT 60 HECTARES (148 ACRES) OF ADDITIONAL LAND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TUEN MUN NEW TOWN WHICH WILL HOUSE SOME 480,000 PEOPLE BY 1985.

THE CONTRACT FOR THE RECLAMATION WORKS -- THE LARGEST ENGINEERING CONTRACT SO FAR FOR THE NEW TOWN -- HAS BEEN AWARDED TO UNIVERSAL DOCKYARD LTD. AND WAS OFFICIALLY SIGNED IN THE P.W.D. HEADQUARTERS TODAY.

THE WORKS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED AND WILL BE SUPERVISED BY CONSULTING ENGINEERS, SCOTT WILSON KIRKPATRICK AND PARTNERS, UNDER THE OVERALL SUPERVISION OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

MR. G.B. O'RORKE, PROJECT MANAGER OF THE P.W.D.'S TUEN MUN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, SAID TODAY THE RECLAMATION MARKED ANOTHER IMPORTANT PHASE IN THE NEW TOWN'S DEVELOPMENT.

+WHEN COMPLETED, THE RECLAMATION WILL PROVIDE EXTRA SPACE FOR RESIDENTIAL, WORK AND PLAY FACILITIES FOR SOME 98,000 PEOPLE -- ABOUT ONE-FIFTH OF THE NEW TOWN'S EVENTUAL POPULATION,+ HE SAID.

+DEVELOPMENT HAS UP TILL NOW BEEN CONCENTRATED AROUND THE NORTH END OF THE BAY AND ALREADY PROVIDES FOR MORE THAN 50,000 PEOPLE,+ HE ADDED. +THE NEW DEVELOPMENT WILL BE SITED NEAR THE NEW TRUNK ROAD FROM TSUEN WAN WHICH WILL BE OPENED NEXT YEAR.+

OF THE 60 HECTARES (148 ACRES) OF LAND TO BE RECLAIMED, MR. O'RORKE SAID, 36.7 HECTARES (91 ACRES) WOULD BE FOR PUBLIC HOUSING, 9.5 HECTARES (23.5 ACRES) FOR PRIVATE HOUSING AND VARIOUS DEPARTMENT USES, AND 13.8 HECTARES (34 ACRES) FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

+IN VIEW OF THE PRESSING NEED FOR BETTER HOUSING, WE HAVE PROGRAMMED THE RECLAMATION IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE NEW LAND REQUIRED FOR PUBLIC HOUSING WILL BE FORMED FIRST SO AS TO ENABLE THE HOUSING PROGRAMME TO PROCEED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID ONE OF THE PUBLIC-HOUSING SITES IN THE SOUTH-EASTERN PART OF THE BAY NEAR THE TUEN MUN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET, WOULD BE RECLAIMED FIRST AND SHOULD BE READY BY THE END OF THE YEAR FOR WORK TO START ON A HOUSING ESTATE FOR 7,500 PEOPLE.

+THE LARGER PUBLIC-HOUSING SITES ON THE CENTRAL PART OF THE RECLAMATION SHOULD BE READY LATE NEXT YEAR, AND THE INDUSTRIAL LAND THE FOLLOWING YEAR,+ HE SAID.

/MR. O'RORKE

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MR. O'RORKE SAID TWO PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES WOULD BE BUILT ON THE CENTRAL PART OF THE RECLAMATION. THESE WOULD PROVIDE HOMES FOR NEARLY 80,000 WITH A FULL RANGE OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES, INCLUDING SCHOOLS, OPEN SPACE, COMMUNITY HALLS, SHOPS AND MARKETS.

P.W.D. PLANNERS ALSO INTENDED TO PROVIDE A NETWORK OF PEDESTRIAN FOOTPATHS AND CYCLE TRACKS LINKING THE RESIDENTIAL AREAS WITH THE COMMERCIAL CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL CENTRES IN THE TOWN.

+ANOTHER IMPORTANT FEATURE ON THE RECLAMATION,+ MR. O'RORKE SAID, +WILL BE A LARGE TOWN CENTRE WHICH WILL BE THE FOCUS FOR THE NEW TOWN'S ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CIVIC ACTIVITIES.

+THIS WILL INCLUDE A SERIES OF BUILDINGS HOUSING A PUBLIC LIBRARY, A STUDY CENTRE, A THEATRE, AN ART GALLERY AND STUDIO, EXHIBITION HALL AND MEETING ROOMS.

+IT WILL ALSO PROVIDE THE MAIN COMMERCIAL AREA WITH SHOPS, BANKS, RESTAURANTS AND OFFICES FRONTING A CENTRAL PEDESTRIAN PRECINCT.+

A LARGE PARK, SIMILAR TO VICTORIA PARK ON HONG KONG ISLAND, WAS ALSO PLANNED NEXT TO THE TOWN CENTRE WITH A SWIMMING POOL COMPLEX, HE ADDED.

ILLUSTRATING THE SCOPE OF THE RECLAMATION, MR. O'RORKE SAID THAT SOME FOUR MILLION CUBIC METRES (5.2 MILLION CUBIC YARDS) OF FILL WOULD BE REQUIRED TO FORM THE 60 HECTARES (148 ACRES) OF NEW LAND.

NEARLY HALF THIS VOLUME WOULD BE OBTAINED FROM THE SEABED NEAR LUNG KWU CHAU AND SHA CHAU -- TWO OUTLYING ISLANDS TO THE WEST OF TUEN MUN -- WHILE OTHER FILL MATERIAL WOULD BE EXCAVATED MOSTLY FROM THE SOUTH-WESTERN FOOTHILLS OF THE CASTLE PEAK PROMONTORY.

AS PART OF THE RECLAMATION PROJECT, HE SAID, A TEMPORARY BREAKWATER WOULD BE CONSTRUCTED BETWEEN THE CENTRAL AND EASTERN PARTS OF THE RECLAMATION TO FORM A SHELTERED AREA OF ABOUT 11 HECTARES (27 ACRES) FOR USE AS A TEMPORARY TYPHOON SHELTER FOR BOATS PLYING IN THE AREA.

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+BUS ONLY+ LANE IN LEIGHTON ROAD
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STARTING FROM 10 A.M. ON WEDNESDAY (JUNE 9) ALL OMNIBUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO USE THE SECTION OF THE 'BUS ONLY' LANE WESTBOUND BETWEEN MATHESON STREET AND CANAL ROAD EAST.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE PUT UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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LEGCO MEETING ON WEDNESDAY

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TWO ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE PUBLIC - INJURY CAUSED TO PASSERS-BY BY OBJECTS THROWN OUT OF HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS AND LEAKAGE OF PUBLIC EXAMINATION PAPERS - WILL BE AMONG QUESTIONS RAISED BY THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (JUNE 9).

THE HON. MISS S.W. KO WILL ASK IF THE GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE STEPS PERHAPS WITH THE HELP OF MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC, ESPECIALLY IN THE CROWDED PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES, FROM INJURY CAUSED BY OBJECTS THROWN OUT OF HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS.

THE HON. MRS. JOYCE SYMONS WILL ASK WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT WILL TIGHTEN SECURITY MEASURES SO AS TO PREVENT LEAKAGE OF PUBLIC EXAMINATION PAPERS.

A QUESTION WILL BE RAISED BY THE HON. F.W. LI ON WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT WILL INSTITUTE A SYSTEM OF ADVANCE COMPENSATION PAYMENTS TO SMALL TRADES AND BUSINESSES WHICH LOSE CUSTOMERS AND CANNOT PAY THEIR WAY DUE TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY.

OTHER QUESTIONS WILL INCLUDE THE INTERNAL PROCEDURE IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS FOR OBTAINING MEDICINES AND DRUGS FOR EMERGENCY TREATMENT, MEASURES TO PREVENT CASES OF INDECENT ASSAULT IN PUBLIC BATHROOMS IN THE OLDER PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES AND THE PROVISION OF FUNDS REQUIRED TO ENABLE THE POLICE RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN TO BE MAINTAINED.

AT THE MEETING, TEN BILLS WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST READING. THESE INCLUDE THE LANDLORD AND TENANT (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1976 WHICH SEEKS TO EXTEND RENT CONTROLS ON POST-WAR DOMESTIC PREMISES FOR A FURTHER THREE YEARS.

DEBATE WILL BE RESUMED ON SEVEN BILLS. THEY ARE THE ESTATE DUTY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1976, THE INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1976, THE STAMP (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1976, THE DUTIABLE COMMODITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1976, THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1976, THE MAGISTRATES' (AMENDMENT) BILL 1976 AND THE POLICE FORCE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1976.

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PRINCESS ALEXANDRA TO VISIT HK NEXT YEAR

PRINCESS ALEXANDRA HAS ACCEPTED AN INVITATION TO VISIT HONG KONG DURING THE OPENING WEEK OF THE 1977 FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS IN FEBRUARY.

THE PROGRAMME FOR THE VISIT WILL BE INFORMAL BUT, IN ADDITION TO OPENING THE FESTIVAL AND ATTENDING SOME OF THE PERFORMANCES, THE PRINCESS WILL MEET MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE OF WHICH HER ROYAL HIGHNESS IS HONORARY COMMANDANT GENERAL.

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CALL FOR EARLY REGISTRATION OF DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES

THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING, MR. A.D. OCKENDEN, TODAY DREW ATTENTION TO THE PUBLICATION IN LAST FRIDAY'S GAZETTE OF THE NAMES OF 76 COMPANIES WHICH WERE REGISTERED DURING APRIL AND MAY AS DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES UNDER THE NEW DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ORDINANCE.

+THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD FOR APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF DEPOSIT-TAKING BUSINESSES EXISTING ON APRIL 1, 1976 EXPIRES AT THE END OF JUNE+, THE COMMISSIONER SAID.

+WE HAVE SO FAR RECEIVED 104 APPLICATIONS, OF WHICH 76 WERE REGISTERED DURING APRIL AND MAY,+ MR. OCKENDEN SAID. +TIME IS RUNNING OUT AND I HAVE NO POWERS TO EXTEND THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD BEYOND THE END OF THIS MONTH.+

ANYONE WHO IS IN DOUBT AS TO WHETHER HE NEEDS TO REGISTER SHOULD MAKE AN APPOINTMENT TO SEE THE COMMISSIONER BY CONTACTING HIS SECRETARY ON TEL. NO. 5-242141 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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BOOK TO PROMOTE PORT OF HONG KONG

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A BOOK, AIMED AT PROMOTING THE PORT OF HONG KONG, IS BEING PRODUCED BY THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE WITH THE HELP OF THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MARINE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY THAT THE MAIN IMPACT OF THE PUBLICATION WOULD BE VISUAL, AND IT WAS INTENDED TO INCLUDE ALL THE LATEST INNOVATIONS AND FACILITIES RELATED TO THE OPERATION OF THE PORT.

THE BOOK WILL INCLUDE ITEMS SUCH AS OCEAN-GOING SHIPPING, BERTHS AND TERMINALS, LOCAL CRAFT, SHIPYARDS AND SLIPWAYS, WAREHOUSING, CARGO HANDLING OPERATIONS, CARGO HANDLING GEAR AND SPECIALISED CRAFT IN USE IN AND AROUND HONG KONG. IT WILL ALSO COVER ALL OTHER OPERATIONS OR SERVICES WHICH COULD ENHANCE THE IMAGE OF THE PORT AS A MODERN, EFFICIENT AND VIABLE ASSET.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE TWO DEPARTMENTS WOULD UNDERTAKE PHOTOGRAPHY RELATED TO OVERALL PRESENTATION OF THE PORT AND SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

HOWEVER, TO ENSURE THAT AS FAR AS POSSIBLE NO PORT OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES ARE OMITTED, HE CALLED ON COMPANIES INVOLVED UNDER THE GENERAL HEADINGS ABOVE TO CO-OPERATE BY FORWARDING COLOUR TRANSPARENCIES OF THEIR OPERATIONS WITH, IF POSSIBLE, A COVERING CAPTION TO MR. G.A. MILWARD, SENIOR MARINE OFFICER (PLANNING), MARINE DEPARTMENT, 102 CONNAUGHT ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG. IN ORDER NOT TO DELAY THE PUBLICATION OF THE BOOK, MATERIALS SHOULD BE FORWARDED NOT LATER THAN JUNE 30.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE PROMOTIONAL BOOK WOULD NOT BE AN ADVERTISING EXERCISE FOR INDIVIDUAL COMPANIES.

HE EMPHASISED THAT IT COULD NOT BE GUARANTEED THAT ANY MATERIAL FORWARDED WOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE BOOK, BUT IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF SUCH MATERIAL COULD BE RETAINED BY THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE FOR OTHER PUBLICATIONS AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION.

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DIFFERENT TREATMENT METHODS FOR DIFFERENT TYPES OF DRUG ADDICTS
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THE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, DR. G.H. CHOA, HAS CALLED FOR A MULTIPLICITY OF TREATMENT METHODS AND PROGRAMMES TO TREAT DIFFERENT TYPES OF DRUG ADDICTS IN HONG KONG WHERE THERE IS A LARGE ADDICT POPULATION.

SPEAKING AT A RECEPTION THIS AFTERNOON TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE DEPARTMENT'S FIRST METHADONE DETOXIFICATION CENTRE AT VIOLET PEEL CLINIC, HE STRESSED THAT METHADONE TREATMENT IS BUT ONE OF MANY TYPES OF TREATMENT METHODS TO HELP ADDICTS KICK THEIR HABIT.

DR. CHOA EXPLAINED WHY IT WAS NECESSARY TO USE METHADONE IN TWO DIFFERENT WAYS AND WHY DIFFERENT FORMS OF TREATMENT MUST BE PROVIDED FOR DRUG ADDICTS.

+THIS IS BECAUSE THE ADDICTS HAVE DIFFERENT MOTIVES AND REASONS FOR TAKING DRUGS, THEY BELONG TO DIFFERENT AGE-GROUPS, THEY HAVE BEEN TAKING DRUGS FOR VARIOUS PERIODS OF TIME AND THEY TAKE VARIOUS KINDS AND QUANTITIES OF DRUGS,+ HE SAID.

+A METHOD MAY BE SUITABLE FOR SOME BUT NOT OTHERS,+ SAID DR. CHOA, +FOR INSTANCE, METHADONE MAINTENANCE IS USUALLY PRESCRIBED FOR THE OLD ONES WHO HAVE BEEN ADDICTED FOR SOME TIME BUT NOT THE YOUNGER ONES WHO HAVE ONLY JUST STARTED, FOR WHOM PHYSICAL REHABILITATION IS THE TREATMENT OF CHOICE.+

+DIFFERENT APPROACHES HAVE TO BE USED IN TREATING DIFFERENT TYPES OF ADDICTS, AND IT IS THEREFORE IMPORTANT THAT THERE BE A MULTIPLICITY OR CHOICE OF TREATMENT METHODS AND PROGRAMMES FOR A LARGE ADDICT POPULATION SUCH AS OURS,+ HE SAID.

DR. CHOA POINTED OUT THAT RESULTS OF MEDICAL TREATMENT OF DRUG ADDICTION COULD NOT BE ASSESSED BY THE NUMBER OF +CURES+ BECAUSE IT IS DIFFICULT TO DEFINE WHAT A CURE IS, NOR BY WHAT IS CALLED THE +RETENTION RATE+.

BECAUSE OF THE WIDE DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN DIFFERENT PROGRAMMES TOO MUCH EMPHASIS SHOULD NOT BE PLACED ON EVEN THE RETENTION RATE WHICH COULD BE AS HIGH AS 70 PER CENT IN SOME COUNTRIES OR AS LOW AS 20 PER CENT IN OTHERS, HE SAID.

THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO MAKE FACILITIES VERY EASY FOR THOSE WHO DROP OUT TO RE-ENTER TREATMENT, HE ADDED.

THE DIRECTOR SAID THAT METHADONE, WHETHER USED FOR LONG-TERM MAINTENANCE OR SHORT-TERM DETOXIFICATION, IS NO PANACEA, NOR A +CURE ALL+ FOR DRUG ADDICTS.

+IN USING METHADONE TO TREAT OPIATE ADDICTION WE DO NOT RELY ON ITS PHARMACOLOGICAL ACTION ALONE,+ HE SAID.

+ITS SUBSTITUTION FOR HEROIN OR OPIUM HAS ALSO A CONSIDERABLE PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECT ON THE ADDICTS BECAUSE AFTER DISCARDING THE TIN-FOIL, THE MATCH-BOX, THE SYRING AND NEEDLE, AND THE PIPE, THE ADDICTS LOSE THE STIGMA OF ADDICTION.+

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HOWEVER, DR. CHOA SAID THE MOST IMPORTANT SINGLE FACTOR IN ALL CASES OF ADDICTION TREATMENT IS MOTIVATION AND DETERMINATION ON THE PART OF THE ADDICT HIMSELF.

STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF COUNSELLING AND WELFARE ASSISTANCE TO DRUG ADDICTS, THE DIRECTOR SAID HE HOPED TO PROVIDE CLUB FACILITIES IN THE DETOXIFICATION CENTRE SO THAT THE ADDICTS COULD SPEND SOME OF THEIR SPARE TIME THERE INSTEAD OF FREQUENTING THEIR +OLD HAUNTS+.

SPEAKING AT THE SAME FUNCTION, THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR. E. I. LEE, STRESSED THAT THE GOVERNMENT AND ITS AGENCIES, AND THE VOLUNTARY INSTITUTIONS COULD NOT ALONE ELIMINATE DRUG-ABUSE AND ITS IMPACT ON SOCIETY.

+ULTIMATE SUCCESS CAN ONLY COME THROUGH A CO-OPERATIVE ENDEAVOUR BETWEEN THEM AND THE WIDER COMMUNITY TO WHICH WE ALL BELONG,+ HE SAID.

GOVERNMENT POLICY TOWARDS HONG KONG'S DRUG PROBLEM, HE ADDED, WAS, IN SHORT, TO REDUCE THE SUPPLY OF ILLICIT DRUGS COMING ON TO THE STREETS, AND ALSO THE DEMAND FOR THEM.

MR. LEE SAID THAT +THESE TWO AIMS ARE NOT SEPARATE AND DISTINCT, BUT COMPLEMENTARY AND INTER-DEPENDENT. FOR, WITH EVERY MAJOR SEIZURE AND ARREST BY THE POLICE AND PREVENTIVE SERVICE, THE MORE SCARCE AND EXPENSIVE DRUGS BECOME.+

THIS, HE SAID, PUT PRESSURE ON THE ADDICT EITHER TO OBTAIN MORE MONEY TO SUPPORT HIS HABIT, BY BORROWING OR BY CRIME, OR TO SEEK SOME FORM OF TREATMENT.

+FOR ALL THOSE WHO FALL INTO THIS LATTER CATEGORY, IT IS OUR PURPOSE TO OFFER ALTERNATIVES BY PROVIDING A RANGE OF EASILY AVAILABLE TREATMENT FACILITIES, OF WHICH THIS CLINIC IS THE LATEST.+

BUT MR. LEE POINTED OUT THAT EVEN LAW ENFORCEMENT AND TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION WERE NOT BY THEMSELVES ENOUGH.

+ALLIED WITH THEM, IMAGINATIVE PROGRAMMES OF PREVENTIVE ACTION AND EDUCATION ARE NEEDED TO ENSURE THAT YOUNG PEOPLE HELD TO BE MOST AT RISK, DO NOT JOIN THE ADDICT RANKS.

+IN THIS, OTHER PROGRAMMES, NOT DIRECTLY LINKED WITH NARCOTICS, CAN BE OF MATERIAL ASSISTANCE= THESE INCLUDE HOUSING, EMPLOYMENT AND CAREER GUIDANCE, AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES TO PROVIDE HEALTHY AND CONSTRUCTIVE OUTLETS FOR THEIR ENERGIES.+

IN CONCLUSION, THE COMMISSIONER CALLED FOR PUBLIC SUPPORT IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST DRUG ABUSE.

+THERE IS A NEED FOR COMMUNITY HELP, AT ALL LEVELS, IN ALL OUR PROGRAMMES,+ HE SAID.

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