



THE HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BULLETIN

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New Seacom Cable Link Inaugural Call By The Chairman



The Hon. G. R. Ross, Chairman of the Chamber, speaks to Mr. J. Hamm, Chairman of the Hong Kong Section of the London Chamber of Commerce, over the new cable link.

Arrangements for two groups of businessmen from Britain to visit Hong Kong were among the topics discussed by the Hon. G.R. Ross, Chairman of the Chamber, when he spoke on the new SEACOM cable link.

Mr. Ross who spoke direct to Mr. J. Hamm, in London on the new link, was taking part in the inauguration of the 2,000 mile cable laid between Hong Kong

and Guam. This phase is the third link of the \$428 million Commonwealth SEACOM system.

In congratulating those responsible for the completion of the Hong Kong — Guam connection, Mr. Ross told Mr. Hamm, who is Chairman of the Hong Kong section of the London Chamber of Commerce, that arrangements would be made to give every assistance to the British businessmen when they visited Hong Kong.

The new cable link was opened with the first telephone call to the Governor of Guam. A connection was afterwards made on the same cable to London, and later the same evening, to the United States.

At present SEACOM connects Guam with existing telephone cables to Hawaii, the United States and the Philippines. The Hong Kong — Guam SEACOM cable makes it possible for operators to dial directly to distant subscribers and reduce call delays to a minimum.

From Guam, SEACOM will be extended via New Guinea to Cairns and then overland to Sydney where it would be connected with the transpacific COMPAC telephone cable.

The SEACOM project should be completed in 1967 when Hong Kong and South East Asia would have high quality and high capacity telephone outlets to all parts of the world.

The Chamber extends its congratulations to Cable and Wireless on this latest achievement. C & W have been members for almost 20 years.

Members are reminded that the contents of the Bulletin are confidential.

Cargo Containerisation

NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR HONG KONG

Recently a special committee has been appointed by Government which will be asked to consider the implications for Hong Kong's trade and industry, and to make recommendations on the need for suitable container handling facilities for the port of Hong Kong.

This committee will be under the Chairmanship of the Director of Marine.

Other members representing industry and Government will be representatives of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, Federation of Hong Kong Industries, Chinese Manufacturers' Association, wharf and godown interests, liner shipping companies, Department of Commerce & Industry, Crown Lands & Survey Office and the Deputy Economic Secretary.

A cargo container is a large box. Its sizes range from ten feet to 40 feet in length with sectional dimensions of about 8 x 8 feet. It is a logical development of the unit load principal whereby efforts are made to package cargo in larger units in order to reduce handling costs.

One of the major problems of the ship operator is the fact that under the present system of working a cargo liner spends half of its life in port. This means that port and cargo handling charges absorb a disproportionate amount of earning.

It also results in transportation costs, which in the modern efficient liner should be low, being unduly inflated by handling charges. If goods are packed into containers at the point of manufacture and unpacked at the premises of the consignee a higher state of efficiency and lower rate of cost will result.

In order to derive maximum benefits of containerisation it is necessary to build or adapt ships specially for container carriage. Full development of container services require ships designed solely for the purpose of transporting containers and several such ships are already in service in other parts of the world.

To a certain extent small containers are being handled at the

present time in Hong Kong. These are carried in conventional vessels and many of the economic advantages which container services can offer are nullified by the inability of these vessels to discharge and load the containers with the speed which is expected and achieved by container vessels specially designed for the purpose.

Containers are bulky, heavy, and require lifting equipment and specialised land transport within the port terminal area capable of handling units which in the 20 foot size could weigh up to 20 tons. It follows that the layout of terminal facilities at ports must also be specialised.

Opinions in different parts of the world vary as to the amount of land required to serve a single container berth but it is of the order of 15 acres. This in Hong Kong may create problems because of land shortage and the high price of potential sites.

The Hong Kong Container Committee will be concerned with making recommendations for providing for the time when the Far East routes attract a substantial amount of container traffic and, in particular, the advent of the specialised and exclusively container ship with its particular demand for prompt berthing and turn round.

Mr. William J. Young, representing the Virginia State Ports Authority, Far East Bureau, with headquarters in the Hotel New Japan, Tokyo, called at the Chamber recently to meet the Secretary, Mr. J. B. Kite.

Mr. Young provides a free trade promotion and shipping advisory service for importers, exporters, shippers and others in the Far East wishing to engage in or increase their trade with the United States and he is now

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KNITWEAR TALKS END

Meeting between representatives of the German Government and the Hong Kong Government, which have been taking place in Hong Kong have now been included.

Under discussion was the shipment from Hong Kong to Germany of knitted woollen outer garments, mainly women's sweaters. An earlier agreement about this trade, arrived at in January this year, had failed to achieve its full objective because of a rapid and substantial increase in shipments re-exported through third countries.

The question of such shipments had not been covered in the January agreement and the German authorities had requested further discussions with a view to reaching a supplementary agreement about this aspect of the trade.

A joint official statement issued at the conclusion of the meeting indicated that a formula had been worked out upon which such an agreement could be based and this would be submitted to the authorities in Bonn and in Hong Kong.

So far as Hong Kong was concerned, the advice of the Trade and Industry Advisory Board would be sought in the first instance, after which the proposed formula would be considered by the Hong Kong Government.

Commenting upon the position, the Director of Commerce and Industry said that the question of shipments via third countries had been discussed during the January talks in Bonn, but that neither side had expected such shipments to increase so substantially.

The proposed formula would effect a compromise which he hoped would be regarded by both sides as equitable. Although he could give no details or figures, he was able to state that if the formula proved acceptable, its application would not necessitate the withdrawal of any quota allocations or export authorisations already issued.



The Korean Mission explain their views to members of the Chamber secretariat when they met in the boardroom.

KOREANS VISIT TO CHAMBER

A promise of support for Hong Kong businessmen visiting South Korea was made by members of the Korean Mission to Vietnam and South East Asia, when they visited the Chamber recently.

Mr. Yong Il Kim, leader of the mission, said Korea had 33 Chambers of Commerce with a total membership of 32,000. These Chambers, he said, were affiliated to the Korean General Chamber of Commerce in Seoul. Hong Kong businessmen who intended to visit Korea should contact the Korean General Chamber and arrangements would be made for them.

The mission explained to the Chamber's secretariat their wish to increase trade with Hong Kong and added that Korea was now approaching the conclusion of their first Five Year Plan. By the end of their second Five Year plan in 1971 they hoped to boost Korea's exports to the value of US\$1,000 million.

In reply to a question by Mr. A.C.W. Blaauw, Mr. Kim said they were interested in promoting the export of raw materials, textiles and p.v.c. to Hong Kong.

NEW IMAGE FOR H.K. AT BANGKOK FAIR

The theme for Hong Kong's participation in the 1st. Asian Trade Fair to be held in Bangkok (17th. November — 10th. December) will be, "Industrial Hong Kong."

The reason for this is that a survey among Bangkok businessmen revealed they considered Hong Kong only as an increasingly expensive show window for imported products as opposed to an important manufacturing centre.

It is expected that Hong Kong products on show at Bangkok will not only attract the attention of Thai buyers, but also buyers from Europe and the Middle East.

The Trade Development Office, which is organising the fair, will once again offer subsidies to Hong Kong firms wishing to take part. This time the subsidy will total approximately 40 per cent of individual participation. This compares with a 41 per cent subsidy given to exhibitors at the Barcelona fair and 37 per cent for those taking part in the Stockholm fair.

The T.D.O. has estimated that the total cost of individual participation in Bangkok, including the T.D.O. subsidy, will be approximately \$7,906. This figure includes stand rent (\$520) stand design, construction and dressing

(\$4,595), air fare (\$943), and representative's allowance (\$4,050). The total subsidy on this amount would be \$2,352.

The representatives allowance is estimated at \$150 a day for the 27 days of the fair.

The Hong Kong pavilion will occupy an area of approximately 4,300 square feet and it is proposed to air-condition the pavilion with Hong Kong equipment and to floodlight the facade. Space has been allocated for 15 commercial booths, general displays and administration offices.

Members who wish to send samples to the Bangkok fair should contact Mr. R. Hallard at the Trade Development Office (Tel: 670151, extension 24 or 51). Details of samples must be declared on a Sample Specification Form, obtainable from the T.D.O. Samples should also be covered by a certificate of origin. Closing date for the receipt of samples is August 31st.

Members who wish to take part in the Bangkok fair should inform the Trade Development Office before August 25th.

LIBERALISATION OF DANISH IMPORTS

The Government of Denmark has notified the G.A.T.T. Secretariat of a liberalization of imports from the Danish free list area, according to information received in Hong Kong.

The new measure came into effect on July 1.

Items which are of interest to Hong Kong are: basketwork and other articles of plaiting materials; footwear with uppers of rubber, and footwear on which outer soles are vulcanised except with uppers of leather or composition leather.

Hong Kong's exports of these items to Denmark in 1965 were valued at \$371,645.

Prospects for the Future

According to the feasibility survey of mass transport systems in Hong Kong, the Colony's population is expected to grow to 6,871,000 by 1986 with 42 per cent residing in the New Territories.

The number of households is expected to grow from about 706,000 to 1,450,000 and with the continuation of government building programmes, over 55 per cent of the people will be living in either Government or Government "aided" housing.

Large increases in employment are also expected by 1986 and a larger portion of the population should be working by that time.

The report states that students are projected to increase about three times but student travel is only expected to rise by 32 per cent because it has been assumed that more students will be able to attend schools within walking distance of their homes by 1986.

Even the area of the Colony is expected to grow by about 2,000 acres during the next 20 years due to planned reclamation projects.

Cargo Containerisation — Contd.

on an extended tour of the Far East speaking to trade groups, chambers of commerce and other organizations.

Mr. Young invites importers and exporters who wish to make new contacts with U.S. companies to write to him in Tokyo.

The following is a condensation of an article Mr. Young sent to the Bulletin.

The greatest revolution since the invention of the steamboat in the carriage of goods by sea and in ships to carry goods — sea-van containers — is now in progress.

U.K. Businessmen

The Chamber has requested full details on the London Chamber of Commerce businessmen's visit to Hong Kong. This information will be passed to members as soon as possible.

The two dates announced for the arrival of the London businessmen are October 2nd and November 13th. It is expected that each flight will carry some 20 to 30 businessmen.

The London Chamber is also organising similar missions to South-East Asia.

Containerization started in the trans-Atlantic trade many years ago and in the trans-Pacific trade since the end of World War II. In both trades it developed quite slowly, but during the last part of 1965 it exploded into a giant in the U.S.-U.K./Continent trade and only this month a similar explosion occurred in the Far East/U.S. trade when the Matson Line announced that it planned to enter the West Coast/U.S./Far East trade with container-ships — ships designed primarily to carry cargo in containers — and the American President Line announced that it had applied to the U.S. Maritime Administration to convert four more of its ships to container-ships, which, with the semi-container-ships now in service will make six ships in the APL Far East/U.S. service.

While there are many problems to be solved in connection

with complete container-ship operation, the major one, that of having a balance of containerizable cargo in both the westbound and eastbound voyage appears to be solved in the Far East/U.S. route. Until recently, the number of containers which could be employed from the Far East to the U.S. has always been much greater than the number for which cargo could be obtained from the U.S. to the Far East. Therefore, since the steamship companies naturally did not want to ship empty containers from the U.S. to meet the needs in the Far East, the amount of containerized shipment has been limited from the Far East to the U.S. Now, that condition is changed. The U.S. military has found containerization so speedy and so efficient, that it is requiring all goods possible to be shipped in containers from the U.S. to the Far East. Since the military shipments are in such great volume there will be plenty of containers available for the eastbound movement of commercial cargo from all Far East export ports.

If this full containerization programme by the Matson Line and the American President Line is successful, and there is every reason to believe that it will be, it is going to have several important, far reaching effects on exporters, importers, ship operators, customs and port authorities.

Three of the most significant of these effects are:

In order to induce commercial cargo for containerization it will be necessary for the steamship lines to offer incentive rates to shippers who containerize their shipments.

This means that the present steamship conferences must recognize this fact and publish special commodity tariffs covering containerized cargo, or member lines engaging in the carriage of containerized cargo will resign from the conference.

Only a month ago APL served notice on the Trans-Pacific Freight Conference of Japan that it was resigning because of delay by TPFCJ in considering this matter.

Every steamship line operating in the trans-Pacific trade is going to have to meet this com-

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Cargo Containerisation — Contd.

petition by increasing the capacities of ships to handle containers or fall by the wayside. The government of Japan is making a serious crash study in relation to what has to be done about Japanese ships in this trade.

Port authorities must awake to the realization that unless they modernize their space, warehouses, and cargo handling equipment to receive, unload, load and deliver containers alongside ships again, that their ports will be in danger of being by-passed in favor of other ports which realize this great transition which is taking place and make the necessary preparations to participate in the container-ship program.

Customs procedures in all maritime countries are also going to have to be streamlined and the present slow, red-tape encumbered procedures now prevalent in most countries eliminated, and this includes the United States, as well.

Necessary Changes

Hong Kong, which has shown such phenomenal growth and energy in developing its foreign trade over such a short number of years, can show its leadership as a foreign trade nation in this hemisphere by being first or among the first, by jumping on the container bandwagon and making the necessary changes promptly to enable it to get the jump on other countries in getting the special benefits and advantages which are available through containerization.

Containerization, including customs, clearance, can be accomplished prior to the arrival of ships, so that as soon as a ship is discharged and ready to receive cargo the containers can be loaded in a few hours as compared with days required to load the same amount of cargo by ordinary means.

Of course, there are many other problems in connection with what has been recorded rather optimistically in this short article.

The message of this article is that containerization is on its way, it is here, in fact, and it behooves the entire foreign trade and shipping.

Spanish Visitors Impressed

More than 100 Chamber members asked for interviews with the visiting Spanish Trade Mission, who came to Hong Kong this month as a direct follow-up to Hong Kong's participation in the Barcelona International Samples Fair.

The Hong Kong demand to meet the Spanish businessmen was one of the largest ever known to the Chamber.

Names of members who wrote or telephoned to the Chamber were categorised in product lists and passed over to members of the Spanish mission, who made their own appointments.

The mission's leader, Mr. Joaquin Meastre in thanking the Chamber for their co-operation, estimated that Hong Kong's trade with Spain would certainly double or triple within the next few years. Mr. Meastre added that altogether the businessmen had seen almost 300 Hong Kong exporters and manufacturers.

Among the most sought after visitors was the Balet family. Sr. Balet, the proprietor of a fashionable Barcelona department store had expressed an interest in high quality men's and women's wear, and made contact with several Chamber members.

Other enquiries ranged from the importation of Hong Kong made vacuum flasks to the possibility of purchasing steel and lead alloy products. This mission also concerned themselves with the promotion of Spanish wines to Hong Kong.



Mr. Joaquin Meastre (left) leader of the Spanish businessmen's mission to Hong Kong, with Mr. R. G. L. Oliphant of the Trade Development Office and Mr. A. O. O'Sales, Hon. Spanish Consul in Hong Kong (right).

To Investigate Canadian Trade

While he is on leave, Mr. J.B. Kite, Secretary of the Chamber, will visit Canada to study possibilities of improving Hong Kong's trade. Mr. Kite holds talks with Canadian businessmen in Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa and Vancouver and members who wish have Mr. Kite make specific enquiries on their behalf should contact the Chamber as soon as possible.

In order to avoid any possible embarrassment, members who have established agents in Canada are also requested to inform the Chamber.

Mr. Kite will be in Canada during September and October and will return to Hong Kong towards the end of the year.

New S.A. Publication

Mr. Z. Swanepoel, Senior Trade Commissioner for the Republic of South Africa is preparing a new book, "Hong Kong — Crossroads of the Orient."

Mr. Swanepoel's book will be published in South Africa and be circulated among South African businessmen in an endeavour to promote trade and encourage South African businessmen to use Hong Kong as a base.

"Hong Kong — Crossroads of the Orient," will carry advertising and members interested in this publication should contact Mr. Swanepoel. Mr. Swanepoel is the author of the "Guide to Golden South Africa."

MEMBERSHIP

New Members

Alcron International Ltd., 602, Mary Building, 71, Peking Road, Kowloon.

Asia Mercantile Co., 33, Wyndham Street, 2nd floor, Hong Kong.

The China Thread Co., Ltd., 107-111, Tung Chau Street, Tai Kok Tsui, Kowloon.

Chun Kwong (Glory) Plastic Co., 12 Davis Street, Kennedy Town, Hong Kong.

Hong Kong Commercial Agencies, 401, Wilson House, 25-27, Wyndham Street, Hong Kong.

R. S. Kermani & Co., 31A & 36A Printing House, 6 Duddell Street, Hong Kong.

Law Yeung Lee Corporation, 111, Tung Ying Building, Tsimshatsui, Kowloon.

Leader Trading Co., 1004, Bonham Building, 22-26, Bonham Strand East, Hong Kong.

Murine Enterprise Co., Murine Factory Bldg., Kwun Tong Road, Kowloon.

Pacific Contract International Ltd., Pacific House, 2nd floor, 20, Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong.

The South China Iron Works, Ltd., 1, Tak Hing Street, 1st floor, Block B, Kowloon.

Swatow International Ltd., 31-37, Des Voeux Road Central, 10th floor, Hong Kong.

Richer Supply Corporation, 515, China Emporium Building, Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong.

Winchester (Hong Kong) Ltd., 803, Shell House, Hong Kong.

Change of Name and Address

Eric J. Beare & Associates Ltd., 709, Takshing House, Hong Kong. (Formerly Eric Beare (Far East) Ltd.)

Hang Cheong Tai 65, Des Voeux Road W, 3rd floor, Hong Kong (Formerly Hang Cheong Tai 1/E Co.)

Squibb Far East Ltd., Shell House, Hong Kong. (Formerly Olin Mathieson Far East Ltd.)

L.K. ASSOCIATES CO.
1205 Regent House,
12th floor, Hong Kong.

Great China Trading Co., Room 901-3, Canton House 54-56, Queen's Road C., Hong Kong.

Hinson Co., Ltd. Shop A-1, 2nd floor, Entertainment Bldg., Hong Kong.

Hip Shing Cheong, 313, Mercantile Bank Bldg., 9, Ice House Street, Hong Kong.

Hong Kong Products Export Corporation, Flat "B" 2nd floor, Coronet Court, 321 King's Road, Hong Kong.

Shell Electric Mfg., Co. Shell Industrial Bldg., Lot 10 and 11, Chai Wan, Hong Kong.

Vanson Import & Export Co., Ltd. 1503, Hang Chong Bldg., 5 Queen's Road C., Hong Kong.

Certification Increase

The Chamber is now handling more certificates of origin than ever before. The daily average during the first two weeks of August was 500 certificates. The number of trade enquiries also handled by the Chamber is increasing. During July 1,131 notices referring to trade enquiries were sent to members. The majority of these notices (305) came from the United States.

Membership Liaison

Mr. Mark Lam has been appointed Membership Liaison Executive of the Chamber. Mr. Lam, a former inspector in the Chamber will take over his new position on September 1st.

Data Returns

Members will recall that they have on file in the Chamber a "membership data return", showing the commodities and articles that they are prepared to export to certain areas. There have been comparatively few changes made by members to the original returns in June 1964. If members now wish to make alterations to their original returns would they contact to Mr. W.T. Stanton at the Chamber.

TENDERS

Hong Kong.

Tenders are invited for the following:

1. Supply of fluorescent light fittings.
2. Supply of cylinder rim-night latches.
3. Cleaning of Police Rank & File Quarters, Kennedy Town.
4. Supply of animal feed.
5. Supply of tooth paste.
6. Supply of vitrified clay floor tiles.
7. Cleaning of Hong Kong Government Stadium.

Tender forms and further details may be obtained from the Stores Department, Oil Street, North Point.

Trade Fairs

● Denmark.

The Copenhagen Trade Fair 1967 will take place from 20th to 29th October 1967 in the Bella Centret. Price list for National Pavillions available at Chamber.

● Italy.

The XXX International Shoe Exhibition will be held from 3rd to 11th September 1966 at Vigevano, 30 kilometres from Milan airport. Pamphlet may be viewed at Chamber.

● Milan. The Milan Trad Fair will be held from April 14th, to April 25th, 1967. Full details of this fair, at which Hong Kong has previously participated, are available in the Chamber.

School-Leavers

To assist the Star newspaper in their 'Operation Jobhunt', the Chamber draws members attention to the fact that the Star has the names and addresses of the following school-leavers who wish to obtain employment:

Steno-typists (salary \$250 — \$500); clerks (salary \$175 — \$300); office boys (salary \$150 — \$250); office girls (salary \$150 — \$250); typists (salary \$175 — \$350); receptionists (salary \$225 — \$400) and telephonists (salary \$200 — \$350).

Interested members should contact the Star direct.

NEWS FROM D. C. & I.

Ecuador

A number of changes has been made to the Ecuadorean import regulations. With effect from 31st May 1966, all permitted imports on List 1 (Essential and Useful Goods) were made subject to a special surcharge of 10% of their c.i.f. value. Details of the two items on the List which are of interest to Hong Kong are given below:—

Tariff No.	Description	Hong Kong's Domestic Exports to Ecuador in 1965 HK\$
528	Cotton fabrics, figured: (1) Up to 140 grammes (2) From 140 to 210 grammes	43,062 (all cotton fabrics)
819	Articles intended for adornment or personal use, and all articles known as fancy or imitation jewellery not elsewhere specified, of base metal, with or without accessories, or parts of other materials.	42,539

Denmark

The Government of Denmark has notified the G.A.T.T. Secretariat of the liberalization of imports effective 1st July 1966 from the Danish free list area. The following items are of interest to Hong Kong:—

	Hong Kong Exports in 1965 to Denmark HK\$
Basketwork and other articles of plaiting materials	15,865
Footwear with uppers of rubber, footwear on which outer soles are vulcanized except with uppers of leather or composition leather	355,780

Ref. OTR No. 35/66

French Import Quotas 1966

Further to OTR Circular No. 17/66, the following is a translation of a notice to importers appearing in the Journal Officiel de la Republique Francaise of 16th July 1966.

Notice to importers of Hong Kong products

Importers are informed that quotas may now be allocated for imports from Hong Kong for the period 1st January to 31st December, 1966.

Applications for import licences, with values in francs, must be submitted on forms AC and accompanied by a *pro forma* invoice in duplicate from the overseas seller or his qualified agent giving an exact and detailed description, and if necessary, the brand name of the goods to be imported. This invoice, drawn up in or translated into French, will be stamped at the same time as the licence by the issuing authorities; it should be presented to the Customs in support of the import licence. In the case of cotton fabrics and fabrics of man-made fibres, the invoice must state the width and the finish.

The licence will be endorsed by the authorities to the effect that it is valid only for the goods stated on the stamped invoice.

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Italy

Imports Cotton Fabrics

Information has been received from Italy that imports of cotton fabrics will not require import licences, or be subject to quantitative restriction provided that such imports are cleared through the Italian customs at Genoa, Milan or Trieste. Inquiries in connection with this may be addressed to Mr. R. A. Davie (Tel: 445884), Overseas Trade Relations Branch, Li Po Chun Chambers, 12th floor, Room 3, Connaught Road, Central, Hong Kong.

Ref. OTR Cir. No. 34/66

Safety Testing for Electrical Items

The Electricity Council in the United Kingdom operates a Testing Unit and the laboratories, which are at Leatherhead, are able to process some accessories of the type produced in Hong Kong. There is no fixed scale of fees for testing and charges are based on the number of man-hours involved. As an example however the fee for testing a plug is approximately \$170. It appears that the services of the Testing Unit are at present heavily committed but that the Electricity Council is in the course of expanding the Unit's capacity.

Although the Testing Unit does not issue any kind of approval — either mark or certificate — it supplies the manufacture with a test report and also circulates copies of it to other interested official bodies. It would, for example, send reports to Electricity Boards concerned both with the sales and with the safety of consumer goods.

D. C. & I. would be glad to assist manufacturers who wish to have their products tested and would be prepared to take up with the Electricity Council any request for the services of Testing Unit. It is therefore suggested that manufacturers who are interested in availing themselves of the Unit's services in respect of any of their products should telephone No. 443677.

Ref. Industrial Development Cir. No. 9

French Quota Contd.

I. Products for which applications for import licences will be subject to simultaneous examination

Applications for import licences for the products listed below should reach the Department of Customs and Indirect Taxes (D.I.D.T.), Import Licences Section, 8, rue de la Tour-des-Dames, Paris (9e) by 12th August, 1966.

After this date, they will be examined simultaneously.

Item No.	Tariff No.	Description
3	39-07 CE	Plastic articles
4	Ex 50-09	Fabrics of silk or silk waste (scapae) not printed
5	51-04A, 56-07A	Fabrics of synthetic textile fibres
6	51-04B, 56-07B	Fabrics of artificial textile fibres
7	Ex 55-09	Fabrics of cotton, unbleached
8	55-08, ex 55-09, 58-04 B ex I	Fabrics of cotton other than unbleached, including velvet
9	Ex 58-05, 62-02A, ex I, IIb, 62-02 ex B	Household linen and various other household articles, including ribbons
10	60-02 ex B, 60-04 B ex III, 60-05 A ex II	Knitwear of cotton, the maximum for gloves being 5,000 pairs
11	61-01 ex A, ex B, 61-02 ex B, ex 61-03 to ex 61-06	Garments and articles of clothing of cotton, the maximum for handkerchiefs, scarves and shawls being 2.8 tons and for men's and boys' underwear 6 tons
13	Ex 59-05	Fishing nets
14	60-02 ex B, 60-03 B, ex III, 60-04 B I, II, ex III, IV, 60-05 A ex II	Knitwear other than of cotton, the maximum for gloves being F 10,000 and for woollen knitwear F 120,000
15	61-01 ex A, ex B, 61-02 ex B, ex 61-03 to 61-06	Garments and articles of clothing other than of cotton
16	64-01 B ex II	Rubber footwear
17	64-02 Z IV a 2y 64-02 IV ex b	Footwear
18	66-10	Umbrellas
19	85-10	Torches and hand lamps
20	69-11	Crockery, household and toilet articles of porcelain
21	71-16	Imitation jewellery
22	85-15A III ex b	Radio broadcast receiving sets
23	85-03	Batteries
24	ex 90-05	Binoculars with prisms
25	ex 90-12	Microscopes
26*	ex 90-07, ex 90-08	Cameras and cine-cameras
27*	92-11 A II a	Gramophones and automatic record changers
28	97-03	Toys
29	98-01 AB III a 3	Buttons

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Liquid Filled Toys - Safety

Following research by D. C. & I working in conjunction with the Medical and Health Department, it would appear that there may be a potential health risk inherent in the production of liquid-filled toys. The particular toys in question may take various forms such as feeding bottles and coffee pots but have in common the feature of having sealed into them a quantity of liquid usually coloured to represent such fluids as milk, coffee or orange squash.

The department wishes to draw to the attention of the trade that there may be a potential health risk to children playing with such toys if the liquid inside the container is contaminated in any way and the seal of the container is broken in the course of play, either by accident or out of curiosity on the part of the child. The possibility that a child in such circumstances would drink the liquid or part of it is a very real one. The department is therefore concerned that Hong Kong manufacturers should make every effort to ensure that the liquids used to fill such toys comply with acceptable health standards.

Pathological Tests

The aim should be to use liquids which are not only inherently safe for human consumption but also sterile. The dyes used to colour such liquids should be confined to those normally used as colourants for foodstuffs. In addition great care should be exercised to make sure that high standards of hygiene are employed in the filling processes. The department believes that it is desirable for pathological tests to be carried out on finished products on a random basis by manufacturers and exporters to ensure that the standards aimed at are consistently maintained. In this connection the department is discussing the establishment of a suitable testing and certification service with the Federation of Hong Kong Industries and it is hoped that such a service can be brought into use fairly soon to assist the trade and industry. In the meantime,

French Quota Contd.

For items 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15 importers must submit a separate licence application for each six figure tariff item. For items 3, 17, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29 licence applications must be accompanied by samples, or a catalogue or a technical description written in or translated into French, including a description of the product.

In addition, for products used by various industries including textiles, importers who obtained licences following the notice to importers of 13th January, 1965, must submit to the D.I.D.T. before 12th August 1966, either the green copy of these licences (or a photo-copy) or a statement for each item from the importer and certified by a French bank, detailing the utilisation of the said licences, or, in default, the reasons for non-utilisation.

II. Products for which the licence applications will be examined as soon as they are received

Applications for import licences for the following products should be submitted to the Department of Customs and Indirect Taxes, Import Licences Section, 8, rue de la Tour-des-Dames, Paris (9e) after 27th July 1966. They will be examined as received.

Item No.	Tariff No.	Description
1	Ex 20-01, ex 20-02, ex 20-06, ex 21-07	Chinese food specialities, Chinese noodles, vegetables in vinegar, bamboo shoots, fruits in syrup, logan, lychee nuts, lychees etc.
2	ex 20-04	Preserved fruits
12	ex 58-02	Woven carpets
30	89-01 B ex I	Sea-going pleasure and sports boats

Importers are reminded that the items marked with an asterisk must be supported by a certificate of origin issued by the Commerce and Industry Department, Hong Kong.

For further information or enquiries, please ring Mr. R. A. Davie (telephone 44-5884) of the Department's Overseas Trade Relations Branch.

Ref. OTR Cir. No. 33/66

C.B.I. ENQUIRY

A long-established manufacturer of Plastic Extrusion and orientation machinery for Polyethylene, Polypropylene, Nylon, P.V.C. for Monofilaments, Film Fibres, Ribbons, etc. for Ropes, Twines, Packaging Yarns, Weaving Netting, etc., wishes to appoint an agent in Hong Kong on a commission basis. They feel that this agency would be best placed with a firm representing hard-fibre and textile machinery. Interested members are requested to contact the Secretary.

Money Matters

A total of HK\$1,752,362,878.90 was in circulation during June. In the same month there were 54,272,360 one-dollar cupronickel coins and 15,225,487 dollar notes.

OPPORTUNITIES IN PERU

The newly appointed Peruvian Consul-General, Snr. Alfonso Arias-Schreiber, visited the Chamber for discussions on potential trade improvements between Hong Kong and Peru.

Further investigations are being made at the Chamber with a view to recommending suitable opportunities to our members. Meanwhile, if any member is interested in selling any particular Hong Kong products to this market we could include such enquiries in our market research on Peru.

Our Acting Secretary, Mr. R. T. Griffiths, will be pleased to answer any queries from members at this stage.

the British Home Office has been asked to consider the question of establishing a suitable health standard for liquid-filled toys and the department will maintain close contact with the British authorities over this possibility.

Manufacturers are asked to refer to the department any difficulties they may experience in complying with the advice in this letter. The department will be glad to try to assist them in any way possible. Any manufacturer who has produced or is producing liquid-filled toys is asked to notify the department, in order that records on production of this item may be maintained.

Ref. Industrial Development Cir. No. 10

Jamaica

An amendment to the list of exceptions to the Jamaican Open General Licence has the effect of placing imports of "buttons" under specific licensing control. Hong Kong's domestic exports of buttons to Jamaica in 1965 was valued at \$36,892.

Shipping

Five hundred and fifty three ships, entered the Port of Hong Kong during June. Of these 136 were of British registry. A total of 759,759 deadweight tons of commercial cargo was discharged and 244,383 deadweight tons of cargo loaded.

Company Register

There were 10,632 companies on the register of the Registrar General's Department at the end of June. Of the total, 10,057 were local companies and 575 foreign companies. During the month, there were 124 new incorporations or registrations, and 18 companies were dissolved or had ceased operation.

Change of Style

Sonley Toys Manufactory (1965) Ltd., Wah Yuen Factory Bldg., Flat 1, 3 & 4, 2nd floor, 19-21 Beech Street, Kowloon. (Formerly Sonley Toys Manufactory)

Exports to Italy

The Italian Trade Commissioner has advised this department that all commercial exports of goods to Italy claiming Hong Kong origin must be supported by a certificate of origin issued by one or other of the following authorities approved by the Hong Kong Government:

Commerce and Industry Department; Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce; Indian Chamber of Commerce; Federation of Hong Kong Industries.

The following articles, however, must have certificates of origin issued by the Department of Commerce & Industry.

Description	Hong Kong Export Classification Code No.	
	Not Embroidered	Embroidered
Table damasks & manufactures of, cotton	656 901	656 902
Bed sheets, cotton	656 905	656 906
Bed spreads, cotton	656 909	656 910
Household linen, cotton n.e.s.	656 913	656 914
Dish towels, cotton	656 917	656 917
Towels (other than dish towels), cotton	656 919	656 920
Pillow cases, cotton	656 923	656 924
Made-up curtains, draperies and made-up household articles of textile materials n.e.s.	656 929	656 929

Republic of South Africa

Information has been received that, as the result of a third round of allocations, the 1966 import quotas for the items listed in paragraph six of OTR Circular No. 24/66 dated 31st May, 1966 has been brought up to 100% of 1964 imports. The items in question are:—

Item	H.K. Domestic Exports to S. Africa in 1965
Cotton yarn	5,022,652
Locks, padlocks & keys of base metal	1,161,973
Electric torches	2,353,825
Clocks and watches	597,696
Infant's undergarments & nightgarments, knitted	33,489
Infant's outer garments, knitted	446,406
Handkerchiefs	45,148
Cameras	333,773
Vacuum flasks	198,666
Cutlery	135,697
Binoculars	140,515
Slide fasteners	26,977

Singapore

With effect from 18th June, 1966 the Singapore Government has made the following customs tariff changes:—

Item	Import Duty		H.K. Domestic Exports to Singapore in 1965
	Old Rate	New Rate	
Sugar Confectionery, not containing cocoa	M\$28 per cwt.	30% ad val. or M\$0.50 per lb.*	33,998
Joss paper	25% ad val. or M\$0.20 per lb.*	25% ad val. or M\$0.40 per lb.*	661,681

* whichever is the higher

Ref. OTR Cir. No. 36/66

Liberalisation of Imports South Vietnam

The following article has been extracted from the Board of Trade Journal dated 22nd July, 1966 and is circulated for general information.

On June 18, in conjunction with the devaluation of the piastre, the Government of Vietnam announced the introduction of an open general licence procedure for imports. Communiqués bringing this procedure into effect are gradually becoming available.

To date the following categories of goods have been placed under the Vietnamese Government's own funds programme and are no longer subject to quota restrictions: Foodstuffs; Textiles, yarns, fabrics; all kinds of paper; decorative and non-decorative laminates; motor vehicle parts and accessories; parts and accessories for motorized cycles, scooters and three-wheeled vehicles; electrical appliances and parts; refrigerators; air conditioners; office machinery and appliances; paperboard. Plywood; Crystal and glass products; clay products (china-ware, etc.); iron and steel finished products; radio receivers (wholly assembled) and radio parts and accessories; record playeds, tape recorders, microphones, etc; musical instruments, movie and still photographic equipment and film; motion pictures; watches and clocks (wholly assembly); sporting goods; sundry articles (including toys, cosmetics, razor blades, coffee-mills, clippers, lanterns, etc.).

Further lists of liberalised imports will be circulated as and when they become available.

For further information please contact Mr. J. C. C. Chan, Overseas Trade Relations Branch, Commerce and Industry Department, Li Po Chun Chambers, 12th floor, Hong Kong (Tel. 451919)

Ref. OTR Cir No. 37/66

Quarantine

Quarantine restrictions against arrivals from Moulmein, Dacca, Chittagong and Cagayan de Oro on account of cholera and from Chittagong on account of small-pox have been removed.—Port Health Office