

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

This Document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

CONFIDENTIAL/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY  
SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	China/Hong Kong/Macao/Malaya/Indonesia	REPORT NO.	[ ]	25X1A
SUBJECT	1. Travel Controls in the East China Area 2. Mainland Exit and Entry Regulations 3. Overseas Chinese Entry Regulations	DATE DISTR.	1 September 1953	
DATE OF INFO.	[ ]	NO. OF PAGES	3	
PLACE ACQUIRED	[ ]	REQUIREMENT NO.	[ ]	25X1
		REFERENCES		

[ ]	25X1
-----	------

SOURCE:

25X1X

[ ]

25X1

[ ]

1. During the period between January and March 1953 travel in the coastal areas of China was more restricted than in the interior. Security measures such as searches, questioning and the checking of permits were executed thoroughly in the coastal areas, but not in the interior. Travel in the coastal areas was not allowed at night, whereas in the interior one could travel night or day.
2. During the period between January and March a resident of Communist China wishing to travel on the mainland was required to obtain a travel permit through the following procedure: He had to submit an application specifying the reason for traveling and the time during which he would be absent from his residence. The application had to be stamped by the applicant's party cell leader and by the street or village resident-registration office before approval by the branch office of the Public Security Bureau (PSB). Permits were issued about two days after the date of the application. The permit fee was JMP 200.
3. The following is a typical form of an application for a mainland travel permit:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Chu (district): \_\_\_\_\_ Street: \_\_\_\_\_

CONFIDENTIAL/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

[ ]

CONFIDENTIAL/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

- 2 -

I (inhabitant) must travel to (destination) via (route) in order to buy local products. It is earnestly requested that a travel permit be issued for two months from (date) to (date).

Respectfully,

Cell leader (signature and chop)  
 Street or village chief (signature and chop)  
 PSB branch office chief (signature and chop)

(number) Cell

(Applicant's photograph or  
index finger print)

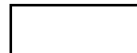
Street: \_\_\_\_\_

Inhabitant: (name, signature and chop)

4. Mainland travel permits specified the route of the trip for which the permit was issued. Permits were usually valid for a maximum of three months, but this time limit could sometimes be extended if sufficient reason was shown. Security officials at check points sometimes required travelers to discuss the Chinese Communist "anti" movements or to sing popular Communist songs. If a traveler attracted the attention of the PSB, the PSB sometimes checked by cable with the local authorities responsible for granting the traveler's permit.
5. If a traveler leaving mainland China carried personal property such as clothing, jewelry and foreign currency which was valued in excess of the authorized amount, the excess would be retained by customs officials. A receipt would be issued to the traveler who could claim the property upon his return. Permission to take out foreign currency had to be obtained from the state-owned bank.<sup>1</sup> The following is a partial list of property authorized to be taken out of China by travelers during the period from January to March:
  - a. One watch per traveller.
  - b. Foreign currency in the amount authorized by the state-owned bank.
  - c. One ounce of yellow gold. White gold could not be taken out of China.<sup>2</sup>
  - d. Ten ounces of silver.<sup>2</sup>
6. Between January and March the regulations covering the bringing of personal property into China were less strict than those covering the taking of personal property out. There were few restrictions on the amount of personal property that could be brought in, but a tax based on mainland selling prices was levied. A duty of 100 percent was levied on all American-made goods (F-6). Only ten ounces of gold jewelry could be brought in, but this amount could sometimes be exceeded. Any amount of foreign currency could be brought in, but all foreign currency had to be exchanged for JMP at the border customs office.<sup>3</sup> In examining the baggage of persons entering China, customs officials watched especially for gold and foreign currency. If undeclared gold or foreign currency were found they would be confiscated and the offending traveler was likely to receive a jail sentence.
7. It was quite easy for Overseas Chinese in Hong Kong, Macao, Malaya and Indonesia to visit friends and relatives in China. Overseas Chinese intending to remain permanently in China were assembled for registration upon arrival on the mainland. The Overseas Chinese Section then sent them to their destinations; friends and relatives were held responsible for their registration.<sup>4</sup>

CONFIDENTIAL/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

CONFIDENTIAL/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY



- 3 -

25X1



25X1A

1. Comment. According to a traveler leaving China in 25X1A early March 1953 could take with him native products up to the amount which he could carry; he was also allowed to take one watch and one fountain pen, but no JMP could be taken out of the country.

25X1A

Comments

25X1

2. travelers were not being allowed to take gold or silver out of China in October 1952.
3. On 1 February the Kungpak Station of Chinese Communist Customs announced that travelers entering China were forbidden to carry with them any foreign currencies except Hong Kong currency, which could be exchanged at the point of entry for JMP at the rate of HK \$1 for JMP 3,880 (Hsing Tao Jih Pao, 2 February 1953; Hong Kong Chinese Press Review, 3 February).
4. The procedure to be followed by these Overseas Chinese in entering China during the period from January to March was similar to that described in

25X1

Overseas Chinese entering China in November 1952 could apply for a temporary resident's permit but could not apply for a legal resident's permit until they had had three months of residence on the mainland. a description of the permit regulations in effect for Overseas Chinese in early February 1953.

25X1

CONFIDENTIAL/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY