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SUBJECT Chinese Communist Industrial and Medical Purchases, Hong Kong and Macao

China/Hong Kong/Macao

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\* Except as noted

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On 10 July 1950 MAO Chun-feng (夏峻拳), Commissioner of the North China Trade Bureau, arrived in Hong Kong from Peiping. On 15 July MAO sold, through Wallem and Company, 10,000 tons of pig iron at Hong Kong (HK) \$280 per ton, and used this sum to purchase 60 boxes of radio materials and 100 sets of telephones from the Chung Yuen (中京)\* and Kai Ming (冷明)\* Electrical Supply Companies, at a total of HK \$350,000. On 1 August the radio and telephone sets were sent to Tientsin on the HUNAN, which belongs to Butterfield and Swire.

- MAO also purchased 300 tons of various kinds of water pipe from the Jen Jen 2. (人人) Company, 600 tons of iron wire and steel plates (thickness of 1 to 3/10 inch) from Pi Ta Hang (水 打 行), and 650 tons of sulphuric acid. nitric acid and other industrial materials from Wing Wah (汽车)\* Company. All will be sent to Tientsin.
- The Communist South China Trade Bureau has commissioned Li Hua Hang (利華行), Macao, to purchase a large quantity of medical supplies - the main item being penicillin -- from Hong Kong. Li Hua ordered HK \$1,000,000 worth of drugs from the Man Hing ( Drug Company, Hong Kong. On 4 August all of the purchases were sent to Macao on the YU MEN ( F) of the Min Sheng (民生) Shipping Company.
- On 12 August the Canton Military Control Commission (MCC) sent WU Ting-chung (连定中) to Hong Kong to buy 30,000 rolls of white Indian cotton cloth. Owing to the shortage in Hong Kong of this cloth, WU bought only 3,000 rolls. He commissioned Yu Chi (大皇子) Company\* to order the remainder direct from India, with the stipulation that the transaction be completed by 1 September.

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