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1. Since the Chinese Communists took over the mainland, about thirty Nationalist ships have changed their registration to Panamanian.
2. All six motor vessels of the Min Sheng (民生) Industrial Company changed their registration to Canadian in December 1950. The Min Sheng Company purchased the ships, which are the FU MEN, YU MEN, all 3,500 tons, and the SHIH MEN, CHI MEN, and LUNG MEN, all 1,500 tons, from Canada in 1944 when the Nationalist government was in Chungking. The managing director of the Min Sheng Company, LU Cho-fu (盧作孚), was held in high regard by the Canadian government. Although Canadian law requires that Canadian citizens captain its ships, the ships of the Min Sheng Company have Chinese masters as the result of a special concession by the Canadian government. Since installments on the ships are still being paid Canada, LU Cho-fu explained that the ships would not be seized by the Communists if they flew the Canadian flag.
3. LU is in Chungking and runs a fleet of river boats flying the Chinese Communist flag between Chungking and Shanghai. The Min Sheng Company transports strategic goods from Hong Kong to Macao and Hong Kong to Canton.
4. Many Nationalist ships changed to Panamanian registry because Panama allows a Chinese citizen to captain the ship, whereas British law requires four British officers. It costs about HK \$3,000 to register a ship under 2,000 tons with Panama.

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