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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR. 17 July 1950

SUBJECT Commodity Prices and Exchange Rates, China

NO. OF PAGES 1

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(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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Attached information on commodity prices and exchange rates in China is forwarded for your retention and use as background information.

Attachment: 1 enclosure of 3 pages.

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1. Commodity prices and exchange rates in Hong Kong during May were as follows:

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	Early May	Late May
US dollar, cash (black - 36,500)	33,500	35,800
US dollar, draft	37,300	37,300
Pound sterling, draft	92,000	98,400
HK dollar, cash	5,900	6,000
HK dollar, draft	6,000	6,100
Silver dollar	19,000	16,500 (black)
Gold, ounce (black only)	318,000	1,380,000
Staple commodity unit	7,200	6,900
Rice, first grade (picul)	190,000	200,000
Peanut oil (picul)	750,000	900,000
Salt (picul)	350,000	180,000
Flour (bag)	159,000	265,000
Pork (catty)	8,500	12,000
Firewood (picul)	28,000	25,000
Fine cloth, Dragon Head, bolt	311,000	
Cotton yarn, 20 counts, Tien Nu (天女) (bale)	8,710,000	6,633,000

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2. Commodity prices and exchange rates in Canton during May were as follows:

In JMP	Early May	Mid-May	Late May
US dollar, cash	35,400	35,400	35,800
US dollar, draft	37,300	37,300	37,300
Pound sterling, draft	92,000	92,400	98,400
HK dollar, cash	5,900	5,900	
HK dollar, draft	6,000	6,000	6,100
Silver dollar	10,000	10,000	10,000
Gold, ounce	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Staple commodity unit	6,520	6,472	8,437

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Rice, first grade (picul)	110,000	150,000
Salt (picul)	115,000	208,000
Flour (bag)	64,000	62,800
Pork (catty)	9,000	9,500
Coal (ton)	620,000	540,000
Cotton yarn, 42 counts, double ply, Chin Ch'eng (金城) (bale)	8,300,000	8,435,000
Fine Cloth, Dragon Head (bolt)	45,000	238,000
	(sic)	

3. Shanghai prices in April and May were quoted as follows on different dates:

In JMP	20 April	30 April	7 May	Mid-May	Late May
US dollar, draft	39,000	37,000	37,000	37,000	37,000
US dollar, cash	34,050	35,000	35,100	35,100	35,200
Pound sterling, draft	97,174	91,800	91,800	91,800	97,600
HK dollar, draft	6,310	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
HK dollar, cash	5,995	5,700	5,700	5,700	5,700
Gold, ounce (black)	920-960,000				1,200,000
Staple commodity unit	5,050			5,356	5,362
Rice, first grade (picul)	250,000	268,000	260,000	240,000	240,000
Peanut oil (picul)	440,000	460,000	450,000	425,000	440,000
Flour (bag)	77,000				56,000
Sugar (catty)				5,000	4,200
Salt (picul)				230,000	240,000
Pork (catty)	8,000		7,000	7,000	6,000
Coal (ton)	550,000			600,000	
Coal briquettes (picul)	25,000	22,500	20,000	19,000	19,000
Fine cloth, Dragon Head (bolt)	255,000	255,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Cotton yarn, 42-gauge double strand, (bale)	6,160,000	7,450,000	7,850,000	7,790,000	7,800,000

4. Prices in early May in Kueiyang were as follows:

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Gold ounce	820,000
Silver dollar (black market)	9,800
Staple commodity unit	5,867
Rice, first grade (picul)	184,000
Peanut oil (picul)	140,000
Salt (picul)	540,000
Flour (bag)	130,000
Pork (catty)	2,800
Coal (picul)	4,500
Coke (ton)	140,000
Fine cloth, Dragon Head (bolt)	45,000 (sic)
Cotton yarn, 30-count, Chung Ch'ou (忠壽) (bale)	7,000,000

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