



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 1992

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THREE MORE AIDS CASES CONFIRMED

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SEVEN MORE PERSONS WERE FOUND TO BE POSITIVE FOR THE HIV ANTIBODY TEST LAST MONTH (JULY), BRINGING THE NUMBER OF HIV INFECTED PERSONS IN HONG KONG TO 304.

REVIEWING THE LATEST AIDS SITUATION AT A MONTHLY MEDIA SESSION THIS (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S CONSULTANT PHYSICIAN (SPECIAL PREVENTIVE PROGRAMME), DR S S LEE, SAID THREE OF THE NEW HIV INFECTED BATCH HAD ALSO BEEN CONFIRMED AS AIDS PATIENTS DURING THE MONTH.

HOWEVER, ONE PREVIOUSLY DIAGNOSED AIDS PATIENT DIED IN THE SAME MONTH, HE SAID.

THIS BRINGS TO 66 CONFIRMED AIDS CASES WITH 41 DEATHS. THE 25 OTHERS ARE EITHER UNDER COUNSELLING AND TREATMENT OR HAVE LEFT THE TERRITORY.

OF THE 304 HIV INFECTED, 60 WERE HAEMOPHILIACS, 207 ACQUIRED THE INFECTION SEXUALLY, SIX WERE DRUG ABUSERS AND THREE ACQUIRED THE INFECTION THROUGH BLOOD TRANSFUSION BEFORE 1985 WHEN ANTI-HIV SCREENING TEST WAS NOT AVAILABLE.

FOR THE REMAINING 28, THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE WAS INADEQUATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

UNDER THE HIV SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMME WHICH STARTED IN 1985, A TOTAL OF 242,957 BLOOD SPECIMENS HAVE BEEN TESTED FOR THE HIV ANTIBODY.

THE HONG KONG RED CROSS BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE (HKRCBTS) HAS ALSO SCREENED ALL BLOOD DONORS FOR AIDS.

UP TO LAST MONTH, 1,111,403 UNITS OF BLOOD HAD BEEN TESTED AND 26 DONORS WERE FOUND POSITIVE.

ALSO SPEAKING TO MEDIA MEMBERS, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE HKRCBTS, DR C K LIN, EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE INCREASED NUMBER OF ANTI-HIV POSITIVE DONORS SCREENED LAST MONTH.

DR LIN SAID IN PREVIOUS YEARS, UP TO FOUR DONORS A YEAR WERE FOUND TO BE ANTI-HIV POSITIVE.

"HOWEVER, DURING THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1992, OUT OF THE 102,929 UNITS OF DONATED BLOOD RECEIVED, A TOTAL OF NINE DONORS WERE FOUND TO BE ANTI-HIV POSITIVE," HE SAID.

HE STRESSED THAT THE HKRCBTS AIMED AT COLLECTING AND ISSUING SAFE BLOOD. BLOOD UNITS WERE ROUTINELY SCREENED AND WHEN FOUND TO BE CONTAMINATED WERE DESTROYED.

"THERE WAS A POSSIBILITY THAT THE INFECTION MIGHT NOT BE DETECTED BY THE EXISTING SCREENING TEST ESPECIALLY IN THE FIRST THREE MONTHS AFTER CONTRACTION OF THE DISEASE," HE SAID.

HE THUS URGED THOSE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, WHO ARE AT RISK OF INFECTION, NOT TO COME FORWARD TO DONATE BLOOD.

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STATISTICS ON RE-EXPORT TRADE FOR FIRST HALF OF 1992

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THE VALUE OF HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1992 AMOUNTED TO \$309,232 MILLION, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 33% OVER THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

THIS IS ACCORDING TO LATEST STATISTICS ON HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORT TRADE RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

RE-EXPORTS BY COUNTRY OF DESTINATION

CHINA AND THE U.S. ARE THE TWO LARGEST COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION FOR HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS, ACCOUNTING FOR 31% AND 21% RESPECTIVELY OF THE TOTAL VALUE OF HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1992.

RE-EXPORTS TO JAPAN, GERMANY AND TAIWAN ACCOUNTED FOR 5%, 5% AND 4% RESPECTIVELY.

COMPARING THE FIRST HALF OF 1992 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1991, RE-EXPORTS TO MOST OF THE MAJOR COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION INCREASED.

MORE NOTABLE INCREASES WERE RECORDED FOR RE-EXPORTS TO THE U.S. (+46%), CANADA (+46%), CHINA (+41%), THE UNITED KINGDOM (+38%), JAPAN (+26%) AND FRANCE (+24%).

THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO SINGAPORE AND TAIWAN ALSO INCREASED, BY 17% AND 12% RESPECTIVELY WHEREAS THAT TO GERMANY AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA DECREASED BY 5% AND 3% RESPECTIVELY.

RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA AMOUNTED TO \$95,180 MILLION IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1992.

ANALYSED BY COMMODITY, SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA WERE RECORDED FOR TEXTILES (BY \$4,602 MILLION OR 29%); MACHINERY SPECIALISED FOR PARTICULAR INDUSTRIES (BY \$2,379 MILLION OR 78%); AND PLASTICS IN PRIMARY FORMS (BY \$2,212 MILLION OR 51%).

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE RECORDED FOR COFFEE, TEA, COCOA, SPICES AND MANUFACTURES THEREOF (BY \$48 MILLION OR 46%); AND PULP AND WASTE PAPER (BY \$5 MILLION OR 11%).

IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT A SIGNIFICANT PROPORTION OF HONG KONG'S EXPORTS TO CHINA (INCLUDING RE-EXPORTS AS WELL AS DOMESTIC EXPORTS) ARE RELATED TO OUTWARD PROCESSING, AS RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURED GOODS WERE EXPORTED TO CHINA FOR PROCESSING AND THE FINAL PRODUCTS WERE SUBSEQUENTLY RETURNED TO HONG KONG.

RE-EXPORTS TO THE U.S. IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1992 WERE VALUED AT \$63,917 MILLION.

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COMMODITIES WITH SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN RE-EXPORT VALUE TO THIS MARKET INCLUDED MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES. THEIR MAIN COMPONENTS WERE BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY \$6,213 MILLION OR 59%); FOOTWEAR (BY \$2,836 MILLION OR 45%); AND CLOTHING (BY \$2,649 MILLION OR 36%).

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE RECORDED FOR FISH, CRUSTACEANS, MOLLUSCS AND AQUATIC INVERTEBRATES AND PREPARATIONS THEREOF (BY \$103 MILLION OR 27%); AND MISCELLANEOUS EDIBLE PRODUCTS AND PREPARATIONS (BY \$22 MILLION OR 30%).

RE-EXPORTS TO JAPAN AMOUNTED TO \$16,322 MILLION IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1992.

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO JAPAN WERE RECORDED FOR CLOTHING (BY \$1,328 MILLION OR 50%); AND MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, INCLUDING MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY \$784 MILLION OR 52%).

A DECREASE WAS RECORDED FOR BEVERAGES (BY \$181 MILLION OR 40%).

RE-EXPORTS TO GERMANY WERE WORTH \$14,953 MILLION IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1992.

SIGNIFICANT DECREASES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO GERMANY WERE REGISTERED FOR CLOTHING (BY \$1,222 MILLION OR 25%); AND TELECOMMUNICATION AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$366 MILLION OR 16%).

HOWEVER, A NOTABLE INCREASE WAS RECORDED FOR FOOTWEAR (BY \$261 MILLION OR 41%).

THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO TAIWAN TOTALLED \$13,239 MILLION IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1992.

INCREASES IN RE-EXPORTS TO TAIWAN WERE RECORDED FOR TOBACCO AND TOBACCO MANUFACTURES (BY \$507 MILLION OR 20%) AND OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING MACHINES (BY \$220 MILLION OR 108%). A DECREASE WAS HOWEVER REGISTERED FOR CLOTHING (BY \$208 MILLION OR 50%).

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO THE 10 MAJOR COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION ARE GIVEN IN TABLE 1.

RE-EXPORTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

CHINA CONTINUED TO BE THE LARGEST SOURCE OF HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS, ACCOUNTING FOR 58% OF THE TOTAL RE-EXPORT VALUE IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1992.

RE-EXPORTS ORIGINATING FROM JAPAN, TAIWAN, THE U.S. AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA CONTRIBUTED 12%, 8%, 5% AND 3% RESPECTIVELY TO THE TOTAL VALUE OF HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1992.

COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR, RE-EXPORTS FROM MOST OF THE MAJOR ORIGIN COUNTRIES REGISTERED INCREASES IN VALUE, PARTICULARLY THOSE FROM JAPAN (+46%), TAIWAN (+34%), CHINA (+33%) AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+33%).

OF THE RE-EXPORTS ORIGINATING FROM CHINA, ONE-THIRD (IN VALUE TERMS) WENT TO THE U.S.. RE-EXPORTS TO THE U.S. OF CHINA ORIGIN RECORDED AN INCREASE OF 47% IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1992 OVER THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

ANOTHER 8% AND 7% OF THE RE-EXPORTS ORIGINATING FROM CHINA WENT TO GERMANY AND JAPAN RESPECTIVELY. WHILST THOSE TO GERMANY DECLINED BY 5%, THOSE TO JAPAN INCREASED BY 42% IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1992 OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF 1991.

OF THE RE-EXPORTS ORIGINATING IN JAPAN, THE LARGEST SHARE (64% IN VALUE TERMS) WENT TO CHINA. AN INCREASE OF 50% IN VALUE WAS REGISTERED FOR JAPAN-ORIGIN GOODS RE-EXPORTED THROUGH HONG KONG TO CHINA.

RE-EXPORTS TO TAIWAN, MACAU AND VIETNAM EACH ACCOUNTED FOR 4% TO 5% OF THE VALUE OF JAPAN-ORIGIN GOODS RE-EXPORTED THROUGH HONG KONG IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1992.

AS REGARDS RE-EXPORTS OF TAIWAN ORIGIN, AN OVERWHELMING PROPORTION (90% IN VALUE) WENT TO CHINA. RE-EXPORTS OF TAIWAN-ORIGIN TO CHINA RECORDED AN INCREASE OF 39% IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1992 OVER THE SAME PERIOD IN 1991.

RE-EXPORTS FROM THE 10 MAJOR COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN ARE GIVEN IN TABLE 2.

MORE DETAILED STATISTICS REGARDING HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORT TRADE ARE PUBLISHED IN THE "HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE, JUNE 1992" WHICH IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE AT \$52 A COPY.

ENQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TELEPHONE 582 4915.

TABLE 1: RE-EXPORTS TO THE 10 MAJOR COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION

MAJOR COUNTRY OF DESTINATION	JAN-JUN 1992 (HK\$ MN)	JAN-JUN 1991 (HK\$ MN)	INCREASE/ DECREASE (HK\$ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE (%)
CHINA	95,180	67,530	+ 27,650	+ 41
UNITED STATES	63,917	43,688	+ 20,229	+ 46
JAPAN	16,322	12,976	+ 3,346	+ 26
GERMANY	14,953	15,770	- 816	- 5
TAIWAN	13,239	11,800	+ 1,439	+ 12
UNITED KINGDOM	8,241	5,987	+ 2,254	+ 38
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	6,893	7,113	- 220	- 3
SINGAPORE	6,457	5,530	+ 926	+ 17
FRANCE	5,212	4,207	+ 1,005	+ 24
CANADA	5,146	3,535	+ 1,611	+ 46

TABLE 2: RE-EXPORTS FROM THE 10 MAJOR COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	JAN-JUN 1992 (HK\$ MN)	JAN-JUN 1991 (HK\$ MN)	INCREASE/DECREASE (HK\$ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE (%)
CHINA	178,021	133,843	+ 44,178	+ 33
JAPAN	37,214	25,487	+ 11,727	+ 46
TAIWAN	24,770	18,547	+ 6,224	+ 34
UNITED STATES	15,287	12,472	+ 2,815	+ 23
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	9,286	6,970	+ 2,316	+ 33
GERMANY	3,942	3,094	+ 847	+ 27
UNITED KINGDOM	3,530	2,813	+ 717	+ 25
SINGAPORE	3,504	2,708	+ 796	+ 29
FRANCE	3,116	2,646	+ 470	+ 18
SWITZERLAND	2,777	2,658	+ 119	+ 4

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NEW SOLICITOR GENERAL APPOINTED
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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT MR. BERTRAND EDOUARD DOGER DE SPEVILLE HAD BEEN APPOINTED TO SUCCEED MR. FRANK STOCK AS SOLICITOR GENERAL IN THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT WITH EFFECT FROM JULY 10 THIS YEAR.

MR STOCK HAS TAKEN UP APPOINTMENT AS JUDGE OF THE HIGH COURT IN THE JUDICIARY SINCE MAY 21.

MR DE SPEVILLE, AGED 51, JOINED THE HONG KONG CIVIL SERVICE AS A DEPUTY PRINCIPAL CROWN COUNSEL IN JANUARY 1981, FOLLOWING THREE YEARS' LEGAL SERVICE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM CIVIL SERVICE AND 10 YEARS' PRIVATE PRACTICE IN LONDON.

HE WAS PROMOTED TO PRINCIPAL CROWN COUNSEL IN OCTOBER 1985.

MR DE SPEVILLE HAS CONSIDERABLE BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE IN DEALING WITH LAW REFORM AND LEGAL POLICY WORK.

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218 VIETNAMESE RETURN HOME

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A GROUP OF 218 VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS TODAY (TUESDAY) RETURNED TO VIETNAM UNDER THE UNHCR'S VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION PROGRAMME.

COMPRISING 80 MEN, 57 WOMEN, 43 BOYS AND 38 GIRLS, THEY WERE THE 119TH BATCH TO GO BACK UNDER THE PROGRAMME.

THIS GROUP BROUGHT TO 7,321 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS WHO HAVE RETURNED VOLUNTARILY THIS YEAR, AND TO 21,200 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RETURNEES SINCE THE PROGRAMME STARTED IN MARCH 1989.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
TENDER RESULTS

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TENDER DATE	25 AUG 92
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	Q235
AMOUNT APPLIED	HKD 2,466 MN
AMOUNT ALLOTTED	HKD 800 MN
AVERAGE YIELD ACCEPTED	2.68 PCT
HIGHEST YIELD ACCEPTED	2.71 PCT
PRO RATA RATIO	ABOUT 46 PCT
AVERAGE TENDER YIELD	2.72 PCT

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

TENDERS TO BE HELD IN THE WEEK BEGINNING 31 AUGUST 1992 -

TENDER DATE	1 SEPT 92	1 SEPT 92
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	Q236	H272
ISSUE DATE	2 SEPT 92	2 SEPT 92
MATURITY DATE	2 DEC 92	3 MAR 93
TENOR	91 DAYS	182 DAYS
AMOUNT ON OFFER	HKD 800 + 160 MN	HKD 300 + 60 MN

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
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	\$ MILLION -----
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,130
REVERSAL OF LAF	+370
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	1,500
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	NIL
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,500

LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER TWI 108.8 *-0.3* 25.8.92

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS		HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.32 PCT	15 MONTHS	2311	6.25	103.30	3.51
1 MONTH	2.46 PCT	18 MONTHS	2402	5.50	102.41	3.84
3 MONTHS	2.60 PCT	21 MONTHS	2405	5.50	102.41	4.08
6 MONTHS	2.78 PCT	24 MONTHS	2408	4.375	100.41	4.20
12 MONTHS	3.32 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 12,131 MN

CLOSED 25 AUGUST 1992

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