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Sheet 28

KWEILIN INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.66.
DATED 15 SEP 44

(Compiled at Ishan, Kwangsi Province)

SECTION III
(b)
(Economic)

USUAL DISTRIBUTION.

Captain, R.A.,
for Colonel,
Commandant, British Army Aid Group.

MAPS: GSGS 3868, 1/20,000 - HONGKONG & NEW TERRITORIES.
GSGS 3825, 1/250,000 - HONGKONG & CANTON.
GSGS 3831, 1/25,000 - CANTON.

NOTE:- Although this Section is rated as a Confidential document, all Sources other than Casual and Press are to be treated as SECRET.

HONGKONG

KWIZ 66/49.

COMMODITY SUPPLY AND PRICES.

(1) (a) Due to the fact that the Japs in HONGKONG have commandeered all fishing vessels as from 20 JUN 44, very little fish is available in the market. Fish is sold in the black market at MY35 per catty. (13 JUL 44).

(b)

Item.	Unit.	On 26 JUL 44	On 7 AUG 44.
Rice(best quality)	per catty	MY14.00	MY14.00
Rice(broken, sandy)	" "	8/8.50	-
Pork	" "	52.00	68.00
Beef	" "	52.00	56.00
Fish	" "	52.00(approx)	48.00(approx)
Lard	" "	-	52.00
Firewood	" 14 taels	1.00	-

There is at present no official price for rice in HONGKONG, and the Japs are themselves buying up rice on the black market.

In the NEW TERRITORIES and SHUMCHUN Market (143833) they are collecting rice at a fixed price of MY12 per catty. Rice is taken away by force from anyone who refuses to sell at this price. (12 AUG 44).

(Dated as shown - Graded C3 - Source: Halo (BAAG)).

(2) The following is a list of "black market" prices for various commodities obtainable in HONGKONG:-

Annam Rice	per catty	MY12.00
Kam Fung Suet(金風雪) rice	" "	10.00
Sweet Potatoes	" "	4.00
Beef	" "	56.00
Pork	" "	62.00
Peanut Oil	" "	40.00
Fish	" "	35.00
Firewood	" 12 taels	1.00

All food prices have risen sharply. Since the beginning of JUL 44, the increase has been as much as 200%. The price of rice has risen from MY5 to MY10. It is thought that the increase is due partly to the commandeering of motor barges and junks for transportation of military supplies in connection with the expected Northward drive from CANTON.

(10 AUG 44 - Graded C2 - Source: Jason (BAAG)).