

Sheet 4

Fire Engines: The two new fire-engines which arrived in Hongkong shortly before hostilities were shipped to JAPAN 15 or 16 Apr. 45. Accompanying them were 3 Chinese "sub-officers" and 2 driver/mechanics. They will spend 3 months in TOKYO, returning to Hongkong after instructing the Japanese in their use.

FOOD - WAICHOW:

Attached are prices in WAICHOW on 15 Apr. 45.

EXCHANGE - HONGKONG:

In our N.I.S.No.25, 14 Mar. 45, we passed on a D4 report to the effect that exchange H.Y.1 = H.K.\$5. This is incorrect: the rate remains H.Y.1-H.K.\$4, with rumours of a change, possibly enemy inspired, still circulating. Probably with the idea of encouraging speculators to hold Yen rather than Hongkong Dollars. (ZB).

MINING:

A report from 71 has just come in. Map references under are to H.K. & N.T. 1:20,000.

Iron Mine at MA ON SHAN (Map Ref:) has been re-opened. Steamlighter "CHEONG MING" left for Mine 15 Apr. to carry ore back to Hongkong. Capacity of lighter about 150 tons - length 110 ft., breadth 22 ft., draught 18 ft. (CONFIRMATION BEING SOUGHT)

Wolfram is being mined in the SHING MUN (JUBILEE) RESERVOIR. (Map Ref:)

A Formosan firm on the spot is buying the ore as mined.

Work in both mines is not at full capacity owing to a shortage of tools. Orders have been placed with local Chinese firms for shovels.

Manganese Ore formerly owned by the Kwangai Provincial Bank and stored in godowns at HONGKONG has been loaded into lighters in Yamati Typhoon Shelter, awaiting shipment.

TANIC ACID - BORAX - DRY BATTERIES - RADIO PARTS are all being bought by Naval Authorities who have informed brokers of their needs. (Source: M Group).

FACTORIES: (Source: M Group).

Fook Hing Oil Factory is situated in Castle Peak Road, Cheung Sha Wan. Was first factory in Hongkong to be granted permit. Owned by CHAN LIM PAK. Produces all the edible oils now issued or rationed to the population of Hongkong. Source of supply - former Hongkong Government Stock. Most of the peanut oil has been used up, but coconut oil, cotton-seed oil and rape-oil still in quantity. (All makes soap) All products for local consumption.

Chan Hing Oil Factory is situated at Kwan Yick in Kennedy Town, operated by a Chinese, surnamed LEONG whose son is a big shot Gendarme Detective. Produces Diesel Oil from Coal Tar obtained from Hongkong Gas Co. Daily output about 5 tons. Most of it is sold to the Navy and the remainder to local companies.

China Light & Power Co.