

Customs News

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Farewell Reception for ex-Commissioner Raymond Wong

The Government announced the appointment of Mr Raymond Wong Hung-chiu as the Commissioner of ICAC on August 4. On his last two days at the Customs, Mr Wong visited a number of formations to bid farewell to colleagues.

The Mess Committee of the Customs and Excise Senior Officers' Mess held a farewell cocktail reception on August 6 for Mr Wong to wish him well on his new posting.

Speaking at the reception, Mr Wong said he was deeply impressed with his colleagues' professionalism and enthusiastic working attitude. He told them, "It is forever my honour and pride to have worked with you."

He praised colleagues in the Department for their tremendous achievements made on various fronts, including Customs clearance efficiency, combating activities of smuggling, piracy and counterfeiting, illicit cigarettes, illicit fuel, dangerous drugs and illegal textile transshipment, controlling the import and export of strategic commodities as well as protecting consumer's interest.



Acting Commissioner Lawrence Wong presenting a souvenir to ex-Commissioner Raymond Wong.

Senior officers promoted

Commissioner Raymond Wong presented promotion letters to three senior officers at the Senior Officers' Mess on May 23 and July 4, 2003 respectively. Lawrence Wong was promoted Deputy Commissioner, Chan Hon-kit to chief Superintendent and Ng Wai-ming to senior Superintendent.



**Deputy Commissioner
Lawrence Wong Sau-pui**



**Chief Superintendent
Chan Hon-kit**



**Senior Superintendent
Ng Wai-ming**

HK/US share proceeds in drug trafficking



Secretary for Security Mrs Regina Ip receiving the cheque from the US Consul General for Hong Kong and Macau, Mr James Keith.

In an asset-sharing Cheque Presentation Ceremony held on July 17, 2003, Secretary for Security Mrs Regina Ip received a cheque in the amount of US\$2,898,755 from US Consul General for Hong Kong and Macau, Mr James Keith.

The cheque presentation marked the success of the joint effort between Hong Kong and the US law enforcement authorities in combating transnational drug trafficking and money laundering activities. It reflected Hong Kong's contribution towards a nine years' joint investigation with the US authorities in crushing a major marijuana trafficking and money laundering ring.

The joint investigation had been undertaken by the Financial Investigation Group of the Customs Drug Investigation Bureau with the US Drug Enforcement Administration Hong Kong Country Office since 1994. During the course of investigation, the mastermind was successfully arrested in Hong Kong and subsequently extradited to the US to stand trial. Based on

the investigation findings, the US authorities was able to trace and confiscate the drug-related assets of the syndicate and the head of the syndicate was subsequently sentenced to life imprisonment.

Customs Drug Investigation Bureau

Commissioner attends WCO Council Sessions

Commissioner Raymond Wong and Superintendent Sam Lui attended the 101st/102nd Council Sessions of the World Customs Organization (WCO) at the WCO Headquarters in Brussels, Belgium between June 26 and 28, 2003.

The meeting discussed various global Customs issues, including the implementation of the WCO Resolution on Security and Facilitation of the International Supply Chain; Customs Capacity Building Strategy; WCO e-Learning Programme; Revised Arusha Declaration on Integrity; and the WCO Strategic Plan for 2003/04 to 2005/06.

Panel discussions on two topical issues of strategic importance to Customs, namely, "Security and Facilitation" and "Two Months before WTO Ministerial Conference in Cancun", were also held.

During the meeting, Mr Michel Danet of France was re-elected the Secretary General and will serve for the WCO for another five years (January 2004 to December 2008). Mr Christicles Mwansa of Zambia was elected the Director for the Tariff and Trade Affairs Directorate.

Customs Liaison Bureau

Working attachment to AFP

Assistant Superintendent Frankie Cheung Yun-ping of the Drug Investigation (Import and Export) Division participated in a four-week working attachment to the Joint Asian Crime Group (JACG) of the Australian Federal Police (AFP) in Sydney from May 5, 2003.

The attachment was sponsored by the Law Enforcement Co-operation Programme of the AFP which aims to support the AFP's offshore disruption of transnational organised crime groups.

The attachment provided an opportunity for the participant to study the multi-agency approach of the JACG in tackling the problem of serious organised crimes in New South Wales, Australia. Besides, the AFP also made arrangements for the

participants to visit operational and investigative facilities of other Australian law enforcement agencies.

The attachment provided an excellent networking opportunity for both agencies and enriched the participant's working experience.

Customs Drug Investigation Bureau



(From left) Assistant Superintendent Frankie Cheung; Assistant Director of Investigations of the AFP, Tim O'Connor; Commissioner of the New South Wales Crime Commission Mr P A Bradley; and Chief Inspector of Hong Kong Police Mr Lam Chi-ming.

Visit to the UK Customs

Assistant Superintendent Koon Hon-chuen and Treasury Accountant Cliff Tse paid a visit to the UK Customs and Excise between June 23 and 27, 2003.

The purpose of the visit was to gain a better understanding of the Registered Dealers in Controlled Oils Scheme newly introduced by the UK Customs and share their experiences of conducting system based audit on open-bond warehouses and oil companies.

During the visit, they met their UK Customs counterparts at Manchester and Liverpool and discussed with them various excise control matters. They attached to an audit team in conducting verification check on a liquor manufacturer. They also observed how a verification team conducted verification visit to an oil dealer.

The visit provided an excellent opportunity for them to exchange views and share experiences with the UK Customs on practices and knowledge on excise controls and system based audit of warehouses and oil companies.



Assistant Superintendent Koon Hon-chuen (left) with Treasury Accountant Cliff Tse in the UK.

Office of Dutiable Commodities Administration

Control Tactics Course in the US



Empty-handed control tactics practice with a Probation Officer from Philadelphia.

I attended a two-week Control Tactics Instructor Certification Course in Philadelphia, the US from April 7 to 18, 2003.

The course was very comprehensive. It included classroom theory session and outdoor practical session. The course content included empty-handed control skills, use of handcuffs, baton and Oleoresin Capsicum, and other tactics. Real police cars, detention cells and courtroom were used in the practical session at the end of the course.

I found that the course was very valuable and beneficial to my current post as an instructor of the Skills Training Unit in the Training School. I hope I could apply what I have learnt and share those skills with my colleagues in the future.

Inspector Alan Lam Chak-lun
Customs and Excise Training School

Customs signs MOU with Government Laboratory

Commissioner Raymond Wong signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Government Chemist Dr David G Clarke on May 29, 2003 with a view to enhancing co-operation.

The Customs and the Government Laboratory have all along been maintaining a close working relationship. The signing of the MOU put the long history of co-operation between the two Departments on a stronger foothold.

The MOU is not merely a steering document that spells out the terms of working arrangement between the two Departments, it also outlines the practical ways through which the two Departments can assist each other in achieving common goals for the betterment of performance standards and provision of quality service to the public.

The Government Chemist, Dr David G Clarke, welcomed the MOU by remarking that "there is a need to establish a firm and well-defined basis on which both Departments can contribute their efforts to assist each other in achieving their common goals for the benefit of the public as a whole."

Commissioner Raymond Wong said, "The public has high expectations on the performance of the Government and I am confident that the signing of the MOU together with the concerted efforts that follow will enable us to better meet public expectations."



Commissioner Raymond Wong and Government Chemist Dr David G Clarke exchanging the Memorandum of Understanding.

Office of Management Services

Commissioner Bonner visits Kwai Chung Customhouse



Commissioner Bonner (front row third from left) and the US Consul General for Hong Kong and Macau, Mr James Keith (front row fourth from left), with the Hong Kong and US CSI team members.

Following the signing of the Declaration of Principles of Container Security Initiative (CSI) on September 23, 2002, Hong Kong Customs and the US Customs and Border Protection jointly started implementing the CSI Pilot Scheme in Hong Kong on May 12, 2003. After three months' co-operation, the two administrations have secured a close working relationship.

The US Commissioner, Mr Robert Bonner, visited Hong Kong between July 31 and August 2 to see for himself the implementation of the CSI Pilot Scheme in Hong Kong.

Accompanied by Senior Superintendent of Ports and Maritime Command (PMC) Wong Ching-lim, Mr Bonner toured the Kwai Chung Customhouse on August 1. He was also briefed about the implementation of the CSI Pilot Scheme and the organisation and function of the PMC. Mr Bonner was especially interested in the Mobile X-ray Vehicle Scanning System.

Mr Bonner expressed that he was "struck by the camaraderie and friendship" among the Hong Kong and

US CSI team members. He was also impressed by the smooth implementation of the CSI in Hong Kong. With the participation of Hong Kong in the CSI project, 10 per cent of all sea containers headed to the US are now under the CSI blanket.

Ports and Maritime Command

Working Group of revised Kyoto Convention

Some of us may be unfamiliar with the revised Kyoto Convention, which is administered by the World Customs Organization (WCO) and, in its full name, International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures. For the past few years, the Department has been doing preparatory work with a view to acceding to the revised Convention, which, as its name implies, aims to simplify and harmonise Customs procedures to facilitate international trade.

What will be the benefits to the HKSAR if the territory becomes a Contracting Party to the revised Convention? The benefits are in various respects - reaffirming to the world that Hong Kong has a high degree of autonomy as a separate Customs territory, gaining favourable reciprocal treatment from other Contracting Parties and attracting more foreign investment.

The revised Convention incorporates various sets of modern Customs procedures and practices, such as adoption of simplified procedures and audit-based control system; application of risk management and information technology; use of pre-arrival information to drive programmes of selectivity; partnership approach between Customs and trading communities; and making information readily available to the public on Customs laws, procedures and practices to increase transparency. These modern

procedures and practices will surely help enhance the efficiency and image of the Department.

A Departmental Working Group (WG), comprising representatives from various Major Formations, was set up in December 1999 to examine the revised Convention meticulously so as to verify whether or not the legislations, working procedures and practices the Department was enforcing and adopting were compatible with it, and to make recommendations as appropriate. Taking its own initiative, the WG had sought advice from the WCO, overseas Customs counterparts, foreign experts, Bureaux and Department of Justice.

The WG completed the study in October 2002 and concluded that the HKSAR should accede to the revised Convention and that there was no need for the Department to introduce any legislative amendment. The WG has submitted the Study Report to the Commissioner and Heads of Major Formations for comments. The next step is to seek policy support for the accession.

Senior Inspector Chan Tat-wah
Working Group of the revised Kyoto Convention

Co-location arrangement at Shenzhen Western Corridor

The capacities of the three existing vehicular boundary crossings between HKSAR and Shenzhen at Lok Ma Chau, Man Kam To and Sha Tau Kok are approaching saturation. To cater for the increasing cross-boundary traffic demand, a fourth one, Shenzhen Western Corridor (SWC), is now under construction and is scheduled for completion by the end of 2005.

The Government plans to implement co-location arrangement for both passenger and cargo clearance at the new control point at SWC. Co-location will streamline procedures and save passengers' time. With such an arrangement, coach passengers will only have to get on and off once instead of twice in going through clearance procedures.

With the authorisation of the Central People's Government, a Hong Kong Management Area within the co-location site at Shekou will be earmarked and be managed by HKSAR according to its laws. Operationally, each side will conduct its own Immigration and Customs examinations in accordance with its laws and regulations with a buffer area in between, i.e. the existing *modus operandi* will be basically followed. The respective management areas of the two sides will not overlap so as to avoid any confusion or vacuum in jurisdiction.

The new control point at SWC is composed of low-rise buildings and other ancillary structures. Cargo processing

facilities include 32 kiosks, 25 goods vehicle inspection platforms and one x-ray system per inbound and outbound direction; whereas the passenger clearance facilities comprise passenger clearance halls and four and two Customs inspection cubicles in inbound and outbound directions respectively. Besides, there would be private cars and coach kiosks on each direction to provide Immigration and Customs clearance services. To enable staff's passage between kiosks, overhead canopy, walkways and connecting link footbridges would be built.

Accommodation space will also be reserved at the SWC for seven Government Departments. They include offices, fire station-cum-ambulance depot, police reporting centre, detained goods store, staff canteen, barracks, changing and amenity facilities, electrical and mechanical services workshops and carparking spaces.

The whole site where the boundary-crossing facilities of the two sides will be co-located is being reclaimed at Shekou by relevant Shenzhen authorities. The reclamation works are expected to be completed by around mid-2004.

Control Points Command

Customs commended by IPR industry



Acting Head of the Intellectual Property Investigation Bureau Liu Cheung-shing pictured with members of the HKAPI.

seizure reached 7.5 million pieces with an estimated value of \$205 million. In the first five months of 2003, the Department has already cracked 288 cases in its anti-counterfeiting operations, and netted some six million pieces of counterfeit goods, with a total value of around \$95 million.

On concluding, Mr Chow underlined the importance of co-operation between the Customs and the intellectual property rights (IPR) industry. He thanked the industry for the continuous support and assistance to the Department and appealed to them to work closely with the Customs in protecting IPR.

Assistant Commissioner William Chow Oi-tung received commendatory plaques from Adidas and the Hong Kong Association of Pharmaceutical Industry (HKAPI) on June 18, 2003 in recognition of Hong Kong Customs' effort of enforcement against counterfeiting. On the same occasion, acting Head of the Intellectual Property Investigation Bureau, Liu Cheung-shing also received tokens of appreciation from the HKAPI.

At the ceremony, Mr Chow reiterated Hong Kong Customs' determination to clamp down on all forms of criminal infringement activities. The Department's persistent enforcement action over the years has put piracy under control.

Equally, the Department accorded vigorous enforcement efforts to fighting trademark counterfeiting. In 2002, the Customs detected 848 cases involving goods bearing forged trade marks and false trade descriptions. The total quantity of

Intellectual Property Investigation Bureau



Assistant Commissioner William Chow Oi-tung receiving the commendatory plaque from Adidas.

ISSS recommends an overall IS strategy

The Information Systems Strategy Study (ISSS) was concluded in April 2003. It recommends an overall information system (IS) strategy to support the envisaged future business environment of the Customs with a view to transforming the Department into an intelligence-driven organisation, providing better risk management for operation while increasing electronically-based services and information to partners and the public.

The study also recommends a series of computer projects under an IT plan for the Department in the coming years and the establishment of an IT Management Unit to oversee the implementation of the recommended projects.

Pilot Accessibility Programme

The Pilot Accessibility Programme (PAP) is a programme in relation to the e2-Government initiative outlined in the Policy Address 2001 to provide Government employees with workstations and standard office system facilities. The programme not only facilitates the access to Government information but also promotes Government-to-Employee (G2E) and Government-to-Government (G2G) electronic applications. Because of our high degree of readiness, the Customs was

chosen as one of the five pilot Departments in this programme.

Upon the successful rollout of PAP on June 16, 2003, the accessibility of IT facilities has further expanded to cover all Customs Officer Grade and General and Common Grade staff in the Department. About 3 400 staff of the Department have benefited from this project.

All users can now make use of the 82 Infostations installed at various locations to gain access to Government intranet mails, Electronic Filing System (EFS), Government intranet information and Internet browsing.

With the implementation of PAP, it will not only set up a well-established electronic communication platform for all staff in the Department but also pave way for the implementation of a Departmental portal to handle major G2E applications such as Electronic Leave Application and Processing System, e-Payroll, e-Passage and e-Housing services in the near future.

Office of Information Technology

MEG gives a heavy blow to smugglers



Customs fleet.

Since its setting up in February this year, the Marine Enforcement Group (MEG) has detected 24 sea smuggling cases, each carrying seizure value of over \$1 million. One of the cases, cracked in July, involved the use of three containers to smuggle \$40 million worth of cargoes, including VCDs, vehicles, electronic AV products and medical equipment to the Mainland.

To a large extent, the successful enforcement actions resulted from the re-organisation exercise in February; the flexible deployment of uniformed and plainclothes officers and high speed pursuit crafts; and the effective conduct of intelligence-led operations on land and at sea.

To attain functional alignment, the Department has

placed the responsibility for combating smuggling activities at sea previously assumed by the Ship Search and Cargo Command (SSCC) and the Marine and Land Enforcement Command (MLEC) under one single formation, the Ports and Maritime Command (PMC).

As one of the executive arms of PMC, the newly established MEG is chartered with the major responsibility of conducting anti-smuggling enforcement action at sea. Headed by a Superintendent, it has an establishment of 364 officers including both uniformed officers and plainclothes investigators.

At its base on the Stonecutters Island, the Group has a fleet of 20 launches and crafts of different types, including six sector patrol launches, two shallow water launches, eight inflatable boats, and four high speed pursuit crafts with a maximum pursuit speed of 49 knots per hour. Complemented by three Marine Investigation Units and a Joint Task Force, officers carry out deterrent patrols and interceptions over the 1 652 km² territorial waters within the boundary round-the-clock.

Not only did the re-organisation facilitate the formulation of a holistic and unified strategy in combating sea smuggling activities, it also substantially increased the flexibility in the deployment of resources to meet different operational needs.

Ports and Maritime Command

Logistics Support Team set up in IB

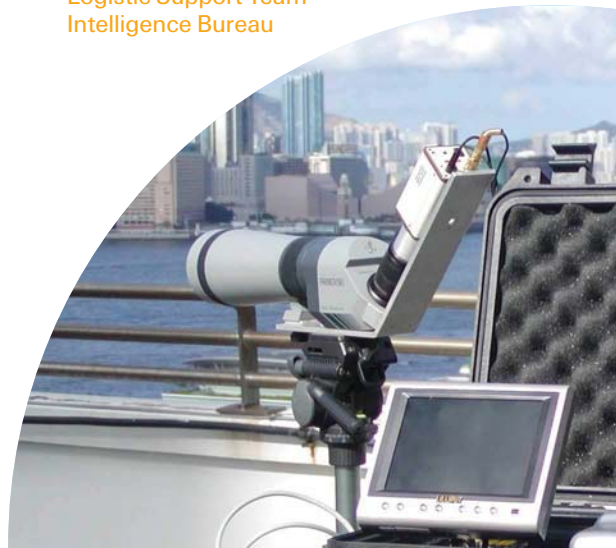
The application of intelligence plays an important role in modern day law enforcement work. In response to this trend, a Logistics Support Team has been set up in the newly established Intelligence Bureau (IB) to provide technical support for frontline investigators during the course of intelligence collection. The team provides technical support to the Intelligence Verification Division, the Intelligence Coordination Division and the Control Points Investigation Division.

Since its establishment in July 2, 2002, we have already procured various types of surveillance equipment, including CCD-Telescope, Portable Surveillance Monitoring Device, High Power Night Observation Scope. To meet different situations, we have also tailor-made a wide range of concealed pinhole cameras to cater for the needs arising from long time surveillance and intelligence collection.

In order to achieve the aim of reinforcement on intelligence-led operations, we are also promoting our services to other investigation bureaux by conducting demonstrations on the special equipment that we have assembled. We have established a communication channel with investigators of other Formations. Many of them are now using the specialist equipment assembled by the team. Apart from these, with the arrangement of the Higher Training Division, we also provide similar demonstrations for participants of the Basic Investigation Course with the hope that they will have a thorough understanding of our supporting service.

We strive to know from frontline officers their need for technical services with a view to developing more sophisticated equipment to meet their requirements, thus enabling our investigators to fight crime at their best.

Logistic Support Team
Intelligence Bureau



Surveillance equipment designed and developed by the Logistics Support Team.

Statistical Unit revamps departmental statistical report

Driven by changes in the operational environment, organisational setting and expansion of responsibilities of the Department in recent years, the Statistics Unit, with the support of the Major Formations, has comprehensively reviewed the central statistical system of the Department so as to build a system that can monitor departmental performance more effectively and illustrate achievements more precisely. The system also allows the senior management to draw on a wealth of information on performance trends for developing strategic plans more accurately.

A totally revamped statistical report - "Customs Performance and Achievements" - based on an intensive analysis of departmental needs is now monthly published by the Statistics Unit. It consists of four parts:

- * Part 1: Customs in Figures - presents high level statistical snapshots of the whole Department;
- * Part 2: Key Result Areas - offers detailed analysis of departmental performance in five programme areas;
- * Part 3: Performance Measurement - depicts performance targets and indicators as published in the Controlling Officer's Report; and
- * Part 4: Achievements in Major Formations - provides analysis of Major Formations' performance down to the divisional level.

The statistical report would be uploaded onto the Management Support Team folder of the Electronic Filing System (EFS) every month. A subject guide has also been incorporated in the latest edition to enable ease and fast statistical researches. Formations are most welcome to offer comments to the Statistician or the Assistant Staff Officer (Management Support Unit 1) on ways to further enhance the quality of the report.

Management Support Team

Airport Command organises communication workshops



Group photo taken at the Customs and Excise Training School.

The Airport Command has collaborated with the Civil Service Training and Development Institute to conduct 10 tailor-made communication workshops for all middle managers of the Command between June and November 2003. Each

workshop consists of a one-day classroom training session and a one-day outdoor exercise session.

The training aimed to strengthen the role of middle managers - from Chief Customs Officer to Senior Inspector - as an effective communication bridge by enhancing their communication skills and offering an opportunity for reflection.

As a participant, Inspector Eve Chan Miu-ling cherished the opportunity of reflection and experience sharing with colleagues. Inspector Cheng Man-yuen also remarked that the workshop had helped him understand the importance of co-operation with the seniors and subordinates.

Airport Command

CPPB enhances co-operation with Consumer Council

The Third Co-ordination Meeting between the Consumer Protection and Prosecution Bureau (CPPB) and the Consumer Council was held on May 7, 2003 to enhance mutual co-operation and to explore issues of mutual concerns in the sphere of consumer protection.

A five-member team headed by Ms Connie Lau, Head of Research and Survey Division of the Consumer Council, held discussions and exchanged views with six officers of CPPB led by Bureau Head Cheung Sai-yan. Among the matters dealt with were the procedures for handing over complaints lodged by

consumers against the fineness of articles made of precious metals and ways to strengthen the product safety messages disseminated by the CHOICE magazine.

The meeting was successfully concluded and both parties agreed to meet regularly in the future to promote their partnership on consumer protection matters.

Consumer Protection and Prosecution Bureau

Combat against SARS



Customs Civil Secretary Albert Li with the eight officers receiving Certificate of Appreciation. (From left) Tsoi Kam-fai, Leung Kwan-yu, Lau Kam-che, Lau Chi-shing, Yip Man-chung, Albert Li, Yuen Woon-ngok, Chung Wai-man and Lean Chan.

In the war against the spread of SARS, the Department had made enormous efforts in ensuring an adequate provision of protective gears to staff members. To this end, colleagues in our Supplies Section had worked tirelessly and devotedly. Even during the peak of the outbreak, staff members were guaranteed of sufficient supplies of protective gears such as facemasks, gloves, goggles, protective clothing and shoe covers.

In recognition of the contributions made by our colleagues towards attaining the goal of "zero-infection" within the Department, Customs Civil Secretary Albert Li presented Certificates of Appreciation issued by the Secretary for the Civil Service to eight officers of the Civil Secretariat, five of whom are from the Supplies Section and three from the General Registry.

Meanwhile, our compassionate staff members had not forgotten the less fortunate in our society, particularly those children orphaned in the wake of the epidemic. Needless to say, the Department's appeal for donations to the We Care Education Fund received encouraging response from over 120 colleagues, raising a total contribution in excess of \$65,000.

Office of Departmental Administration

8 Customs officers on 2003 Honours List 八名海關人員獲嘉獎

The following officers were on the 2003 Honours List and they will receive medals and certificate at Government House in October this year:

Hong Kong Customs and Excise Medal for Distinguished Service (C.D.S.M.)

Maggie Kwok Young Mei-kei

Retired Chief Superintendent Mrs Kwok is awarded the Hong Kong Customs and Excise Medal for Distinguished Service in recognition of her 34 years' exceptional and distinguished service and contributions to the Department and the community.

Hong Kong Customs and Excise Medal for Meritorious Service (C.M.S.M.)

Acting Chief Superintendent Leung Koon-wah

Acting Chief Superintendent Ko Chi-lok

Senior Superintendent William Leung Chi-chiu

Acting Senior Superintendent Lai Chun-kong

Chief Customs Officer Wong Pui-fai

Chief Customs Officer Kung Yiu-fai

Chief Executive's Commendation for Government Service

Senior Customs Officer Chan Che-kwong

八名傑出海關人員獲特區政府嘉獎，他們將於本年十月獲頒授獎章及獎狀，以表揚他們對海關工作及社會的貢獻。

香港海關卓越獎章

郭楊美琪

前總監督郭楊美琪，服務政府逾三十四年，表現卓越，為部門及社會作出多方的貢獻。

香港海關榮譽獎章

署理總監督梁觀華

署理總監督高智樂

高級監督梁志超

署理高級監督黎振江

總關員黃沛輝

總關員龔耀輝

行政長官公共服務獎狀

高級關員陳志光

Office of Service Administration

部隊行政科

203名海關人員獲長期服務獎

海關長期服務獎章及加敘勳扣暨長期服務獎狀頒獎典禮已於二〇〇三年七月四日在高級官員會所舉行。是次分別有一百一十一位部隊人員及九十二位文職人員獲頒發長期服務獎項。

獲頒發各項榮譽的部隊人員計有：

長期服務獎章	二十三人
第一加敘勳扣	五十二人
第二加敘勳扣	二十八人
第三加敘勳扣	八人

獲頒發各項榮譽的文職人員計有：

三十年長期優良服務獎狀和紀念金針	十二人
二十年長期優良服務獎狀	八十人

部隊行政科



關長黃鴻超頒發長期服務獎第三加敘勳扣予前總關員陳國華。



副關長李偉民頒發長期服務獎第二加敘勳扣予助理關長周譚桐。



助理關長黃秀培頒發長期服務獎予高級關員董錦文。



助理關長周廣頒發長期服務獎第一加敘勳扣予署理高級監督倪黃慧安。



助理關長周譚桐頒發長期服務獎予關員楊黎勤。



貿易管制處處長黃清蔚頒發二十年長期優良服務獎狀予貿易管制主任曾秀英。



海關政務秘書李普榮頒發二十年長期優良服務獎狀予一級私人秘書余懿。

Raymond Li shares his career of commitment and excellence

in an interview with the Customs News prior to his retirement

Deputy Commissioner Raymond Li Wai-man still remembers vividly an operation he had taken part in one of the most memorable experiences he had in serving the Customs for 37 years.

"In 1970, the problem of illicit distillation was rampant. One evening, I led a small team to crack down on this unlawful activity on the hillside in Sai Kung. When we were getting close to an illicit still site, we heard a string of dog barks and saw a man run out. We caught him after a short chase. However, this man pleaded not guilty in court and said that he was not in the vicinity at the time of our raid. I therefore was required to give evidence in court for the first time. I gave an honest account of what had taken place, saying I did not witness that the man distilled illicit Chinese spirit in person, but saw him running out from the vicinity of the still. Eventually, the Judge said he believed I was telling the truth, and convicted him," Mr Li told the Customs News at a brief interview in July prior to his pre-retirement leave starting from July 22, 2003. He will officially retire on February 17, 2004.

He took the opportunity to share with his colleagues the importance of giving truthful evidence in court. "If the evidence given is not reflecting the actual happening, the prosecution will be adversely affected. Besides, you may commit a criminal offence and discredit the Department."

Self enhancement plus lifelong learning

Mr Li encouraged colleagues to pursue continuous learning for self-improvement. He recalled, "In the 1970's and 1980's, only one or two colleagues had the opportunity for overseas training each year. In 1980, I was lucky to be sent to Australian Customs to attend a training course for two months. Subsequently, I have also been to the UK, the US, New Zealand, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Laos, Belgium and the Mainland to attend meetings or receive training, and I have benefited a lot from such experiences. Since Hong Kong became a member of the World Customs Organization in 1987, opportunities for overseas training and meetings for my colleagues have greatly increased." In 2002/03, a total of 85 Customs officers underwent overseas training while 219 attended meetings abroad to broaden their horizons.

"Back in 1993, I attended a course at the Tsinghua University. I found it beneficial to Hong Kong civil servants. In 1999, I asked the Shanghai Customs College to organise a two-week course for Hong Kong Customs officers to enrich their understanding of the Mainland systems and Customs administration as well as to offer them more opportunities to practise Putonghua," Mr Li said.

Since 1999, Hong Kong Customs has made arrangements twice every year for Inspector or above, and later including Chief Customs Officers and Trade Control Officers to attend training in Shanghai Customs College. As for the Customs Officer grade, the Department made arrangements for them to attend training courses at the Guangdong Sub-administration of the Customs General Administration.

Since he joined the Department in 1966, Mr Li spent a long

period of time at the Customs and Excise Training School, from the late 1973 to early 1980s. He was responsible for all training activities, including physical training, footdrill, firing practice, Customs work and procedures.

Commitment and Excellence

Any motto to share with Customs colleagues before retirement? Mr Li quoted the Departmental motto "Commitment and Excellence" to encourage colleagues to perform their duties well. To put it simply, "Each of us, as a civil servant, should do an honest eight-hour work each day."

"Besides, the management shall maintain a harmonious working relationship with the staff and handle all matters in an impartial manner," Mr Li admitted frankly that not all people would find his management style agreeable, but he still had a firm belief in the saying, "Have a clear conscience even though things may not turn out the way as we wish."

Mr Li told colleagues that as long as they kept on performing well, their promotion prospect would be promising, especially when the Department still had room to expand in the face of future development needs, including the Shenzhen Western Corridor, Lok Ma Chau Spur Line, the Mainland/Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) and the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge.

"After working for 37 years, I'm glad that I can eventually take a rest. I'm also pleased to have an ideal successor. Mr Lawrence Wong Sau-pui is very competent. I trust he would perform much better than I had and I look forward to his rising to new heights," Mr Li said, adding he would go travelling and do exercises more, and learn golfing.

Customs News, on behalf of all colleagues, wishes Deputy Commissioner Raymond Li all the best on his retirement.



Retired Deputy Commissioner Raymond Li (back row first from right) with the instructors and other trainees of the 12th Revenue Sub-Inspector Induction Course.
退休副關長李偉民（後排右一）於一九六七年在海關訓練學校畢業時與導師及同僚合照。

李偉民話別海關 勉勵同僚繼續專業護法守關



Raymond Li with retired Assistant Commissioner Vincent Poon (first from right) and Chief Superintendent Himly Li (centre) at the Mess Dinner. 李偉民與已退休的助理關長潘揚光（右一）及總監督李謙利（中）於會所晚宴中合照。

「記得在七十年代初期，釀製私酒仍然存在，有一天晚上，我帶領一小隊關員於西貢山邊進行打擊私酒行動。當我和同僚到達非法釀酒工場附近時，便聽到一陣狗吠聲及看到有一個人奔跑出來。經一番追逐後他被拘捕，可是這個人上法庭時不認罪，否認曾經在場，於是我要出庭作供。這是我第一次上法庭，當然是戰戰兢兢。那個人堅稱他當時不在場，但我卻把事發經過如實說一遍，並坦誠說沒看見他親自釀製私酒，見他從工場附近跑出來。法官最後說，相信我說真話，那個人說謊，並把他定罪。」副關長李偉民憶述，第一次上法庭作供的經驗印象難忘。他不忘提醒同僚如實作供的重要性：「如果作供說的並非事實，便會心虛，不但影響案件的檢控，自己亦有可能獨犯刑事法例，後果嚴重，亦會影響部門聲譽。」

李偉民於二〇〇三年七月二十二日開始退休前休假，於明年二月十七日正式退休，告別三十七年的公務員生涯。在休假前，他接受了《海鋒》一次簡短的訪問，分享多年工作經驗。

自我增值，終身學習

他鼓勵同僚自我增值，終身學習。他說：「在七十和八十年代，每年只有一至兩名同僚有機會往海外受訓，在一九八〇年，我很幸運地被派往澳洲海關接受為期兩個月的訓練，其後，更有機會往英、美、紐、日、韓、星、馬、泰、寮、比利時及國內參加會議或受訓，獲益良多。現在，同僚每年獲派往海外接受訓練的機會相對來說增加了很多。自香港海關於一九八七年成為世界海關組織會員後，同僚前往外地參與會議的機會亦相繼增多。」二〇〇二/〇三年度，共有八十五名海關人員接受海外訓練，二百一十九人前往外地參與會議，有機會擴闊視野。

李偉民重視培訓，曾推動與內地機關舉辦訓練課程，以增加員工對內地發展以及內地海關工作的認識。他說：「在一九九三年，我有幸到清華大學受訓，其課程涵蓋政經改革，對公務員認識中國甚有幫助。有感於此，我在一九九九年到上海參加會議時，順道往上海海關專科學校，與他們探討可否替香港海關安排類似的課程，讓我們的員工多點認識內地政府及海關架構和練習普通話。很高興大家一拍即合。」自一九九九年至今，海關每年兩次安排督察級以上同僚，後來亦包括總關員及貿易管制主任，往上海接受為期兩週的課程。至於關員級同僚，後來亦安排他們接受廣東海關分署的訓練課程，讓他們加深對內地海關的認識。

其實，李偉民與訓練工作在很久以前已結下不解之緣。他回想起來，自一九六六年加入海關後，在眾多的工作中，歷時最長的任務要算是在訓練學校的工作。從一九七三年底至八〇年初，他曾負責多項訓練工作。「以前在學校身兼數職，包括

體能、步操、射擊、教授海關工作和程序等等，工作繁重，但學到的東西亦很多。譬如我需要教體育課，因此有機會到以前的軍部接受數次共半年的體能訓練，對現在的強健體魄有很大幫助。」

護法守關 專業承擔

話別海關，可有雋語與同僚分享？李偉民語重心長地援引部門格言「護法守關 專業承擔」，鼓勵同僚做好自己本份。他說：「身為公務員，領取公帑，每天便應該把八小時的工作做好。」他還指出「管理階層人員應上和下睦，處事公正」。他承認本身的管理風格未必人人認同，但是他說：「凡事未能盡如人意，但求無愧於心」，正如他在處理公眾對同僚的投訴個案時，都是本着不偏不倚的宗旨，依據部門的機制及指引，作出公正的決定。

李偉民指出，員工只要繼續努力工作，仍有很大晉升機會，而部門亦會因應將來發展的需要而擴大。他說：「當我加入海關時，部門不夠一千人，現在已增加至五千人。部門雖然要因應政府效能節約（Efficiency Savings）而在未來數年減省約百分之十人手，即五百人，但由於中港交通日益頻繁，邊境口岸會繼續擴張，香港海關的工作將愈來愈繁重，預料到時可能需要增加五百人，部門的編制回復五千人。」

他列舉多項影響海關人手的項目，包括西部走廊、落馬洲支線，更緊密經貿關係安排（CEPA）及港珠澳大橋等。

「經過三十七年，終於可休息一下，我感到很高興，亦慶幸有一位理想的接班人。黃秀培非常能幹，相信他比我做得更好，亦希望他能更上一層樓。」李偉民輕鬆地談及退休感受。退休後他說會多旅遊及多做運動，並學習打高爾夫球，以保持身體健康。

《海鋒》代表海關同僚祝願前副關長身體健康，在未來日子事事如意。



Raymond Li was awarded the Customs and Excise Medal for Distinguished Service by the Chief Executive, Mr Tung Chee Hwa, in October 2000 in recognition of his exceptional and distinguished service and contribution to the Hong Kong Customs and the community. 李偉民於二〇〇〇年十月獲行政長官董建華頒授香港海關卓越獎章，以表揚他在香港海關服務的卓越成就及對社會的貢獻。

400 people attend Farewell banquet for Raymond Li 400人參加副關長李偉民榮休晚宴

Having served in the Department for 37 years, Deputy Commissioner Raymond Li had made remarkable contributions to the Department. On the occasion of his retirement, six staff associations had jointly organised a farewell dinner on July 21, 2003 to bid farewell to Mr Li.

More than 400 service colleagues, retirees, Customs attachés and representatives from the industries attended the farewell dinner in a Tsim Sha Tsui restaurant.

Led by the Customs and Excise Service Band, Mr and Mrs Li proposed a toast on stage to all the guests before the dinner commenced. The organising committee had arranged a series of entertaining programmes, which included, among other things, a snapshot on Mr Li's career in the Customs, music performance by Customs and Excise Service Band, violin solo, Chinese Opera and Karaoke performance. The evening was full of joy and warmth, and was really memorable.

"During my service with the Customs, I received invaluable support and encouragement from all colleagues, which enabled me to fulfill my responsibilities and accomplish the tasks successfully. Without your support, I have not been able to make it. Please accept my heartfelt appreciation to all of you," Mr Li expressed his gratitude in his e-mail to all colleagues before proceeding on his pre-retirement leave.

We wish Mr Li every successes and a happy retirement.

Farewell Dinner Organising Committee



Raymond Li with his old classmates of the Revenue Sub-Inspector Induction Course.
李偉民與同期在海關訓練學校畢業的同學合照。

副關長李偉民在香港海關服務三十七年，對部門貢獻良多，在他快將離開部門並邁向人生另一里程之際，部門各工會，包括香港海關高級官員協會、香港海關官員協會、香港海關關員工會、香港政府華員會海關關員級分會、香港海關人員總會及香港海關貿易管制主任協會在七月二十一日攜手籌備了一個歡送晚宴向李Sir致以最崇高的敬意。

當日傍晚，超過四百位的同事、退休前輩、其他海關及業界代表，齊齊出席為李Sir在尖沙咀龍堡國際賓館而設的榮休晚宴。

李Sir和李太在海關銀樂隊的引領下步上台向眾嘉賓祝酒，為晚宴揭開序幕。當晚籌委會預備了豐富的表演節目，當中包括透過相片剪輯介紹李Sir在海關的工作歷程、銀樂隊合奏、小提琴獨奏、粵曲表演及卡拉OK表演。眾賓客還一起唱生日歌，為李Sir提早一天慶祝生辰。當晚現場洋溢一片歡欣及溫馨，場面實在叫人難忘。

「我在任期間，承蒙各同事的支持和鼓勵，使我得以順利履行職責，圓滿地完成工作任務。沒有你們，沒有今天的我。在此謹致以誠摯的感謝！」李Sir在退休前休假前夕，透過電郵向各同事道出他的心聲。

我們在此謹祝李Sir退休後生活愉快、萬事如意！

歡送晚宴籌委會

歡送李偉民酒會

高級官員會所於二〇〇三年七月二十一日為副關長李偉民舉行榮休歡送酒會。當日出席的嘉賓冠蓋雲集，更承蒙保安局局長葉劉淑儀、財經事務及庫務局局長馬時亨、多個政府部門首長、外國駐港使節、社會賢達及外國海關駐港代表的蒞臨，令酒會生色不少。酒會在李Sir一番感人的告別演說後完滿結束。



海關高級官員會所

李偉民伉儷與關長黃鴻超出席歡送酒會。

會所歡送晚宴

高級官員會所於二〇〇三年七月十八日為副關長李偉民舉行歡送晚宴。李Sir以主禮嘉賓身份為我們發表了一篇發人深省的送別詞，令每位出席的同事與李Sir共度了一個愉快及難忘的晚上。

海關高級官員會所



首長級人員向副關長李偉民祝酒。