

I. Hong Kong Dragon Airlines Limited

(Investigation by Hong Kong Customs leading to successful conviction)

1. Hong Kong Customs Air Cargo Division conducted a cargo inspection at the Hong Kong International Airport on 24 May 1996 and found that a consignment of 5 crates of bomb-liked objects imported into Hong Kong from Beijing on board a plane of HK Dragon Airlines Limited for re-exports. They were manifested as “dummy stores”. A classification expert later identified that the crates contained two inert bombs, two cylinders and fin assemblies for the bomb units and a missile launcher. The shipper of the goods was China National Aero-Technology Import & Export Corporation in Beijing.
2. It was confirmed that the strategic goods were unlicensed. The airline company was prosecuted on 4 September 1996 for importing strategic goods without a licence and failing to retain possession of prohibited articles before a valid licence was produced. The company was fined a total of \$80,000 and the goods worth \$335,000 were confiscated for Hong Kong Police and Hong Kong Customs training purposes.

II. Ansyn Company (“Bin Wu” case)

(Investigation by Hong Kong Customs leading to successful conviction)

1. In October 1992, US Customs intercepted and seized two consignments of Image Intensifier Tubes (IIT) for export to Hong Kong.
2. Hong Kong Customs investigated a Hong Kong company called Ansyn and revealed that it had entered into contract with Ansyn (Shijiazhuang) Computer Technology Company in the Mainland for the supplying 150

pieces of image intensifier tubes to the latter at \$19,500 each. The company ordered the goods from Mr Wu Bin in the US. However, no licence was taken out to cover the importation and exportation of the tubes.

3. Hong Kong Customs prosecuted the manager of the company for 3 counts of importing and 3 counts of exporting strategic commodities without a licence; and 6 counts of lodging inaccurate trade declaration. He pleaded guilty was fined a total of \$320,500.

III. Bentrico Trading (New World Transtechnology)

(Investigation by Hong Kong Customs leading to successful conviction)

1. Acting on information, Hong Kong Customs conducted an investigation into Bentrico Trading and found that it had imported 3 consignments of personal computer products from a US company, New World Transtechnology, without import licences on 12.9.92 and 24.4.93 through a forwarder Express Border Ltd, a shipping company Maersk Hong Kong Ltd and an aircraft owner UPS Parcel Delivery Service Ltd.
2. It was found that the manager of the company had personally hand-carried 4 consignments of personal computer products with a total value of \$182,977 to Mainland China on 4.7.92, 31.8.92, 6.10.92 and 29.4.93 by train without export licences. The manager was prosecuted for 7 counts of importing/exporting of strategic commodities without a licence and was fined a total of \$37,000. Express Border Ltd was prosecuted for 1 count of importing strategic commodities without a licence and was fined \$5,000. Maersk Hong Kong Ltd was prosecuted for 1 count of failing to retain possession of strategic commodities after import and was fined \$5,000. UPS Parcel Delivery Service Ltd was prosecuted for 1 count of failing to retain possession of strategic commodities after import and was fined \$5,000.

IV. Automated System (HK) Limited (Changsha Case)

(Investigation by Hong Kong Customs leading to prosecution)

1. Acting on information, Hong Kong Customs conducted an investigation and found that a Hong Kong company, Automated Systems (HK) Limited, had imported high-speed computers into Hong Kong and then exported them without the required licences from the Trade Department.
2. Automated was prosecuted on four counts of unlicensed import and export.
3. The case was heard in the Shatin Magistracy on 14 April 1999. The solicitor representing Automated entered plea of not guilty to all summonses. The case was adjourned to 6 July 1999.