

STANDING SHOULDER TO SHOULDER IN HONGKONG

Only JW Marriott Hotel Hongkong, at the luxury shopping mall at Pacific Place, Central, put the safety of its guests, first – by pulling down the flag of the United States of America, following the cowardly attacks on the Government of the largest democracy of the world by Muslim fundamentalists, last Tuesday.

While the other 2 luxury hotels at Pacific Place, Central Hongkong, flew the US flag, proudly, at half-mast, JW Marriott Hotel Hongkong determined to pull down the symbol of the United States of America, obviously trying to hide the fact that this is a US-owned hotel management corporation, operating out of the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC).

In a conversation with the Director of Communications, Ms Theresa Necio, JW Marriott Hotel Hongkong, TARGET was told: *'There is a directive from corporate office that we are not supposed to discuss anything.'*

This statement was in response to TARGET asking the one question: *'For what reason are you no longer, flying the flag of the United States?'*

Clearly, in view of the fact that one of Marriott's flagship hotels in New York (formerly, at least) was located next to what used to be called, World Trade Center, known as New York World Trade Center Hotel, one can easily understand the reason that Marriott International Incorporated of Washington, D.C., the headquarters of the giant corporation, wants to protect its guests in the HKSAR.

According to Ms Ada Ng, a reservations clerk at Marriott Asia Pacific Management Ltd, no reservations are being accepted for New York World Trade Center Hotel *'because it has collapsed ... Very sorry.'*

No doubt, Marriott International Incorporated was most fortunate not to have had its headquarters in (the former) World Trade Center otherwise, today, it might find it difficult to book rooms for its tens of thousands of international guests into, say, JW Marriott Hotel Hongkong.

JW Marriott Hotel Hongkong does command, it is true, a wonderful view of Victoria Harbour, overlooking Kowloon, and not too far away from the headquarters of the People's Liberation Army.

These headquarters stand right on the waterfront, and may be seen, clearly, from JW Marriott Hotel Hongkong.

It may be held, by Management of JW Marriott Hotel Hongkong, that the hotel's location is completely exposed to incoming air traffic, which may be circling the headquarters of the People's liberation Army with, perhaps, nefarious intent.

One recalls that one of the passenger aeroplanes, piloted by the Muslim extremists, last Tuesday, circled the White House at Washington D.C., and, then, attacked The Pentagon.

It may not be too far removed to think that Management of JW Marriott Hotel Hongkong feared that another passenger aeroplane, piloted by Muslim fundamentalists, might try to attack the hotel, seeing the US flag, fluttering in the breeze.

A prime target?

Not so for Conrad Hongkong and Island Shangri-La Hotel, the 2 other, 5-star hotels, located at Pacific Place – because they are, both, flying their respective US flags at half-mast.

When TARGET asked Mr Dennis A. Clarke, Area Vice President, Asia, and Managing Director, Hongkong,

Conrad Hongkong, ... [CLICK TO ORDER FULL ARTICLE](#)

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