WHAT WAS THE MOTIVE OF THE SHOOTER AT LAX ? THE WORLD WAITED FOR A DETERMINATION

Sharp losses on Wall Street on Monday, July 1, shook Asia to its very core, last Tuesday.

The Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC) was closed down, tightly, on Monday, July 1, in order for the hard-pressed citizenry, now numbering close to 7 million souls, to celebrate their '*liberation*' from the yoke of Great Britain, the last remnants of whose Empire were marched out of the territory on July 1, 1997.

Now, part of the 'motherland' of the PRC, for the first time in the history of the 416 square miles that constitutes the HKSAR, the people of the territory have voiced their absolute dissatisfaction at the reign of Beijingappointed, Chief Executive, Mr Tung Chee Hwa, who was 'elected', unopposed, by the people of the HKSAR (he was the only candidate, actually).

South Korea and Thailand were, also, closed down for national holidays, which had nothing to do with the PRC or the HKSAR, having not yet been 'liberated' from the English yoke.

On The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, the Main Board's Hang Seng Index shed one percent of its value, falling back to 10,491.76 points on a Total Turnover of about \$HK6 billion.

The ratio of losers to gainers was about 2.12:One, as one blue chip after another came under extreme selling pressure.

The losses were a direct reaction to that which had transpired on Wall Street, on Monday, July 1.

On The New York Stock Exchange on the first day of trading, last week, the blue-chip, Dow Jones Industrial Average gave up 133.47 points, equivalent to about 1.44 percent, ending the day at 9,109.47 points.

But, on the tech-laden NASDAQ, it was a day that did not promote itself to the bullish members of the US brokerage fraternity – because the NASDAQ's Composite Index hit a 5-year low.

The Composite Index gave up about 4.06 percent of its value, ending the session at 1,401.69 points.

Brokers described the NASDAQ's falls as leaving them shell-shocked because, among other things, it left the market with something of a record: Nine consecutive days of material losses.

The 2 main reasons for the falls on both major US stock markets were: The upcoming Thursday, July 4 – Independence Day Celebrations – which, it was commonly held, could see another attack by Arab madmen on the US homeland; and, the continuing fallout from the WorldCom (or WorldCon) scandalous situation.

There was no reason, the previous Thursday and Friday, for Wall Street's strength in view of all that had transpired in that week, but, last Monday, it was clear that the events of the week, ended June 28, were making themselves felt on the investing public.

The ratio of losers to gainers on the NASDAQ's Composite Index and on The Dow was about 2:One in both cases.

Economic data aside, confidence was sadly lacking in the US, at the beginning of last week, when it came to the investment community: Without confidence, there can be no viable marketplace, anywhere in the world.

Add to that an emerging accounting scandal in Europe with regard to Vivendi Universal, where the share price of that media giant had dropped about 33 percent in late afternoon trading on markets of the European Union (EU), and one had the makings of a near international catastrophe.

WorldCom, Xerox, and, then, Vivendi Universal, all suffering from accounting irregularities, which had coloured the profit and loss statements of those monster companies for the past few years.

It was hardly any wonder that Asia was knocked back onto its bootstraps by the events at the start of last week.

The Ten Most Actives of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd included:

Down 0.28 percent to \$HK89.25 per share
Down 2.58 percent to \$HK30.20 per share
Down 1.95 percent to \$HK22.65 per share
Down 3.51 percent to \$HK38.50 per share
Down 1.72 percent to \$HK57.25 per share
Down 0.77 percent to \$HK64.50 per share
Unchanged at \$HK59.25 per share
Down 0.60 percent to \$HK83.00 per share
Down 0.83 percent to \$HK5.95 per share
Down 1.90 percent to \$HK18.05 per share

The biggest movers of the day included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
CCT Technology Holdings Ltd	261		24.14	0.022
China Development Corporation Ltd	487	10.53		0.042
China Motion Telecom International Ltd	989	10.00		0.55
China Sci-Tech Holdings Ltd	985		10.00	0.072
Companion Building Material International Holdings Ltd	432	11.76		0.038
Compass Pacific Holdings Ltd	1188	18.18		0.325
Emperor (China Concept) Investment Ltd	296		11.54	0.023
GR Investment International Ltd	310		10.53	0.068
Graneagle Holdings Ltd	147	13.33		0.34
HKC International Holdings Ltd	248		10.34	0.26
INNOMAXX Biotechnology Group Ltd	340	15.12		0.099
Jackley Holdings Ltd	353		11.39	0.35
Kamboat Group Company Ltd	318		13.24	0.295

KEL Holdings Ltd	681		13.46	0.09
Mansion House Group Ltd	376	10.77		0.36
Nam Fong International Holdings Ltd	1176		10.00	0.054
Peace Mark (Holdings) Ltd	304	10.66		0.27
Prime Success International Group Ltd	210	10.40		0.138
Styland Holdings Ltd	211	19.51		0.049

On The Growth Enterprise Market (The GEM) of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, investors lined up to sell scrip – when buyers could be found, that is.

The Growth Enterprise Index lost about 0.65 percent of its value, ending the day at 176.54 points.

The Total Turnover on this market was about \$HK90.75 million, as losers outpaced gainers by the ratio of about 1.95:One.

An interesting statistic for some people was to see about 88 percent of all the counters that saw some trades held grimly onto previous closing levels. That would appear to be a telltale mark of a shortage of buyers, but a plethora of sellers.

There was only one double-digit mover on this speculative marketplace. It was Linefan Technology Holdings Ltd (Code: 8166). Its share price sunk 20.87 percent to 18.20 cents.

In Japan, an early sell-off saw the Nikkei-225 Stock Average give up about 200 yen, but subsequent short-covering pulled it back so that, by the close of trading, the Nikkei-225 Stock Average stood at 10,622.32 yen, a gain of about one quarter of one percent over Monday's close (Japan does not celebrate the HKSAR's Handover Day).

The ratio of gainers to losers was about 1.24:One.

Investors in Japan were somewhat surprised as they saw the NASDAQ in New York sink by such a large amount, but the fallout from New York had not hit The Land of The Rising Sun as it set last Tuesday night.

From the Japanese Government's Finance Ministry, it was announced that the monetary authority had spent about 3 trillion yen in intervention of the world's foreign-exchange markets since May.

The Bank of Japan admitted that it had intervened on money markets a total of 3 times in May and 4 times in June in a bid to try to keep the yen from appreciating too rapidly against the US dollar.

But, as it turned out, all to no avail.

In other Asian bourses, this was how things came to an end, last Tuesday night:

Indonesia	Minus 1.7	72 percent to 483.78
Japan	Plus 0.2	25 percent to 10,622.32
Malaysia	Plus 2.5	8 percent to 743.36
The Philippines	Minus 0.4	14 percent to 1,190.11
Singapore	Plus 0.1	5 percent to 1,552.73
South Korea	Plus 0.4	7 percent to 746.23
Taiwan	Plus 0.5	2 percent to 4,995.08
Thailand	Plus 0.4	3 percent to 391.78

Wednesday

Although Wall Street was in freefall, with US investors, continuing to dump stocks and shares in order to get into a cash position lest there be any further bearish news, Asia shrugged off the fears of American investors and pushed up indices on all but 2 stock markets of the most populous area of the world.

Japan led the charge with a gain of about 1.79 percent to its blue-chip index, the Nikkei-225 Stock Average.

In the US, last Tuesday, there was still a great deal of apprehension about the potential of terrorist problems/attacks, during the Independence Day Celebrations of last Thursday.

In addition, the Vivendi Universal accounting scandal was taking hold as investors of the European Union (EU) unloaded the stock while there was still time.

On The New York Stock Exchange, the Dow Jones Industrial Average lost another 102.04 points, sinking to 9,007.75 points, a one-day loss of about 1.12 percent over Monday's closing level.

On the Big Board of The New York Stock Exchange, the ratio of losers to gainers was about 3.07:One.

As for the tech-laden NASDAQ, its Composite Index hit a new 5-year low as investors marked it down by another 3.27 percent to 1,357.85 points.

That represented the lowest level since May 19, 1997.

Adding to the gloom in the US was a report that sales of new Ford motor vehicles had fallen heavily for the second consecutive month.

The world's second-largest producer of motor cars admitted that sales had been down 10.60 percent in June, compared with the like period in 2001.

The statistic included sales of Jaguar, Volvo and Land Rover, all of which companies, Ford controls.

But most of Asia was having none of the US gloom and doom as investors discounted the news and pushed their respective stock-market indices to higher ground.

On The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, the Main Board's Hang Seng Index rose about 0.83 percent to hit 10,579.19 points by the time that the closing bell rang.

The Total Turnover was about \$HK7.30 billion, with gainers, ahead of losers by the ratio of about 2.10:One.

Pacific Century CyberWorks Ltd (Code: 8) announced that it would be selling some of its core assets in order to reduce the massive debt burden that it had been facing for the past few years.

The company has been overstretched for some time; it was expected that Mr Li Ka Shing would not allow the situation to continue, indefinitely.

The Ten Most Actives were:

HSBC Holdings plc (Code: 5)

Cheung Kong (Holdings) Ltd (Code: 1)

(Code. 1)

China Mobile (Hongkong) Ltd

(Code: 942)

Unchanged at \$HK89.25 per

share

Up 2.33 percent to \$HK66.00 per share Up 0.88 percent to

\$HK22.85 per share

Hutchison Whampoa Ltd (Code:

Up 1.31 percent to \$HK58.00 per share

Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd (Code: 16)

Up 2.53 percent to \$HK60.75 per share

Swire Pacific Ltd "A" Shares

Up 0.78 percent to

(Code: 19)

\$HK38.80 per share

CLP Holdings Ltd (Code: 2)

Up 2.32 percent to \$HK30.90 per share

Hang Seng Bank Ltd (Code: 11)

Up 1.81 percent to \$HK84.50 per share

PetroChina Company Ltd (Code:

Up 3.64 percent to \$HK1.71

857)

per share

Hongkong Electric Holdings Ltd

Up 2.22 percent to

(Code: 6)

\$HK29.90 per share

The double-digit movers of the day included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase	Decrease	Closing Price
		(%)	(%)	(\$HK)
Asia Standard Hotel Group Ltd	292		11.11	0.16
C.P. Pokphand Company Ltd	43		17.27	0.182
CCT Technology Holdings Ltd	261	36.36		0.03
China Bio-Medical Group Ltd	140	23.08		0.016
China City Natural Gas Holdings Ltd	603	35.63		0.118
China Star Entertainment Ltd	326	13.64		0.05
Companion Building Material International	432	13.16		0.043
Holdings Ltd				
Daido Group Ltd	544	15.38		0.06
Dailywin Group Ltd	897		12.00	0.044
Daiwa Associate Holdings Ltd	1037	11.67		0.67
Credit Card DNA Security System (Holdings)	1051		10.34	0.104
Ltd				
Everest International Investments Ltd	204	14.58		0.11
Global Food Culture Group Ltd	970	183.33		1.19
Harmony Asset Ltd	428	11.11		0.08
HKC International Holdings Ltd	248	11.54		0.29
Hung Fung Group Holdings Ltd	1141	10.00		0.011
KEL Holdings Ltd	681	13.33		0.102
KTP Holdings Ltd	645		13.33	0.26
MUI Hongkong Ltd	542	20.25		0.095
Oriental Explorer Holdings	430	15.22		0.053
Premium Land Ltd	164	10.78		0.226
Sen Hong Resources Holdings Ltd	76		10.71	0.25
Stelux Holdings International Ltd	84		15.60	0.211
Van Shung Chong Holdings Ltd	1001		10.13	0.71
Yeebo (International Holdings) Ltd	259	11.11		0.30

On The GEM – The Growth Enterprise Market of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd – there was a little reprieve from falling prices as The Growth Enterprise Index rose about 1.09 percent to hit 178.46 points by the close of trading.

The Total Turnover on this market was about \$HK127.77 million, with advancing issues ahead of declining ones by the ratio of about 1.29:One.

The biggest movers on this market included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
Blu Spa Holdings Ltd	8176		30.00	0.056
Changchun Da Xing Pharmaceutical Company Ltd	8067	10.94		0.71
Qianlong Technology International Holdings Ltd	8015		11.11	0.40
T S Telecom Technologies Ltd	8003	15.38		0.18
TeleEye Holdings Ltd	8051		10.91	0.196
Timeless Software Ltd	8028		10.17	0.265

In The Land of the Rising Sun, although stung by Wall Street's losses of Monday and Tuesday, there was the overriding suggestion that the Government of Junichiro Koizumi would come to the rescue of the country's beleaguered banks.

As a result, share prices of selective bank/finance stocks moved up smartly.

That bucked up the blue-chip, Nikkei-225 Stock Average, which put on 189.98 yen, or about 1.79 percent, rising to 10,812.30 yen by the close of trading.

The banks/financial institutions that made material moves included:

Daiwa Bank Holdings	Up 3.33 percent to 93 yen per share
Mitsui Tokyo Finance	Up 4.10 percent to 863,000 yen per share
Mitsui Trust Holdings*	Up 10.25 percent to 269 yen per share
Mizuho Holdings	Up 5.10 percent to 285,000 yen per share
Sumitomo Mitsui Banking*	Up 4.83 percent to 629 yen per share
Sumitomo Trust	Up 3.96 percent to 604 yen per share

^{*} Among the most active counters of the day

News wise, Matsushita Electric Works Ltd announced that its Net Profits Attributable to Shareholders for the first half of the year had fallen by about 83.20 percent, Year-on-Year, to about 1.84 billion yen.

Matsushita Electric's share price stayed unchanged at 853 yen in spite of the depressing news.

Fast Retailing Company, a retailer of casual garments, in the main, announced that its sales for the month of June had fallen about 33 percent, Year-on-Year.

The June statistic represented the ninth consecutive month of falling sales at the company's 558 outlets.

There appeared to be little logic to the gains of Japan, last Wednesday.

The situation was fully expected to be reversed during Thursday's market.

However, for last Wednesday's market, gaining counters were ahead of losing ones by the ratio of nearly 7:One.

In other Asian bourses, this was the situation, last Wednesday at dinnertime:

Indonesia	Minus 1.08 percent to 478.53
Japan	Plus 1.79 percent to 10,812.30
Malaysia	Minus 0.54 percent to 739.35
The Philippines	Minus 4.08 percent to 1,141.55
Singapore	Plus 1.96 percent to 1,583.14
South Korea	Plus 0.96 percent to 753.36
Taiwan	Plus 1.06 percent to 5,047.82
Thailand	Plus 1.12 percent to 395.15

Thursday

Shrugging off suggestions of the possibility of more terrorist attacks on the US homeland, American investors pulled up indices on major stock markets in the world's largest single economy on the eve of July 4, Independence Day for the Yanks.

On Wall Street, after a shaky start, equity markets reversed their course, causing most indices to regain some of their lost ground of previous sessions.

On The New York Stock Exchange, the blue-chip, Dow Jones Industrial Average gained 47.22 points, after having dropped more than 100 points in early trading.

By the time that the hammer came down, marking the end of the day's proceedings, The Dow stood at 9,054.97 points, a gain of a little more than one half of a percentage point over Tuesday's closing level.

On the NASDAQ, its Composite Index followed a similar pattern to that of trading on the Big Board of The New York Stock Exchange, with a material loss, in early trading, to be met by a boomlet toward the close of the day.

At the close of the session, the Composite Index stood at 1,380.38 points, a gain of about 1.66 percent over.

It was the first gain for the NASDAQ, following 10 consecutive days of material falls.

Asia took heart at Wall Street's gains, with most bourses in the most populous area of the world, making advances.

In the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC), investors pumped up share prices in a market that was reminiscent of days of yore when the bulls were running through Central Hongkong.

On The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, the Main Board saw the Hang Seng Index rise about 1.76 percent, hitting 10,765.58 points by the close of the day.

The Total Turnover, however, stayed low, at about \$HK8.18 billion.

The ratio of gainers to losers was about 2.24:One.

Finance and utilities led the charge, in the main.

The Ten Most Actives were:

Up 0.56 percent to \$HK89.75 HSBC Holdings plc (Code: 5)

per share

per share

Up 3.88 percent to \$HK60.25 Hutchison Whampoa Ltd (Code: 5)

per share

Up 2.19 percent to \$HK23.35 China Mobile (Hongkong) Ltd (Code: 941)

per share

Up 2.47 percent to \$HK62.25 Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd (Code: 16)

per share

Up 1.29 percent to \$HK39.30 Swire Pacific Ltd "A" Shares (Code: 19)

per share

China City Natural Gas Holdings Ltd Up 6.78 percent to 12.60 cents

Cheung Kong (Holdings) Ltd (Code: 1)

(Code: 603)

per share

Tracker Fund of Hongkong Ltd (Code: Up 1.40 percent to \$HK10.85 2800)

per share

China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation Up 2.86 percent to \$HK1.44 per

(Code: 386)

Up 1.52 percent to \$HK67.00

share

Henderson Land Development Company

Ltd (Code: 12)

Up 3.65 percent to \$HK34.10

per share

The double-digit movers of the day were:

Name of Company	Code	Increase	Decrease	Closing Price (\$HK)
		(%)	(%)	(3HK)
CEC International Holdings Ltd	759		10.55	0.246
China Bio-Medical Group Ltd	140	25.00		0.02
CIL Holdings Ltd	479	12.00		0.028
Dailywin Group Ltd	897		11.36	0.039
ehealthcareasia Ltd	835		11.25	0.142
Emperor (China Concept) Investment Ltd	296	17.39		0.027
Everbest Century Holdings Ltd	578		13.64	0.019
Fountain Set (Holdings) Ltd	420	10.57		3.40
Global Food Culture Group Ltd	970	10.92		1.32
KTP Holdings Ltd	645	15.38		0.30
Magician Industries (Holdings) Ltd	526	12.50		0.135
Mascotte Holdings Ltd	136	22.86		0.43
Soundwill Holdings Ltd	878	10.87		0.051
TechCap Holdings Ltd	673		10.00	0.018
UDL Holdings Ltd	620	10.00		0.077

On The Growth Enterprise Market (The GEM) of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, things were a little better, but the volume of activity was such that it did not warrant too much attention by investors.

The Growth Enterprise Index gained about 0.85 percent, rising to 179.98 points on a Total Turnover of about \$HK157.09 million.

It was noted that, in the 90-minute afternoon session, there was very little trading, all of the gains, having been booked in the morning session, to 12:30 pm.

Even though The Index was higher, losing counters outnumbered gaining ones by the ratio of about 1.08:One.

The biggest movers on this market included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
Blu Spa Holdings Ltd	8176		10.71	0.05
Inworld Group Ltd	8100		10.34	0.26
MRC Holdings Ltd	8070	20.00		0.10
Rojam Entertainment Holdings Ltd	8075		10.71	0.10
Smartech Digital Manufacturing Holdings Ltd	8068		17.65	0.014
Tianjin TEDA Biomedical Engineering	8189	12.77		0.53
Company Ltd				

Thursday saw Japanese investors wipe out just about all of Wednesday's gains on The Tokyo Stock Exchange.

By the close of trading, the premier Japanese bourse had its Nikkei-225 Stock Average, standing at 10,632.81 yen, a loss of about 179.49 yen compared with Wednesday's closing figures.

The 1.66-percent 'haircut' could have been profit-taking, in part at least, as some Japanese brokers were suggesting, but it could, also, have been Japanese investors, not wanting to take a chance on what could transpire in the US, during the Independence Day Celebrations.

Trading was relatively thin on the Main Section of the market -690 million shares traded, compared with Wednesday's volume of activity of about 822 million shares traded.

In spite of the falling value of the Nikkei-225 Stock Average, however, banks and finance companies, in the main, continued to make headway, with most of them, seeing their share prices make reasonable gains.

The ratio of losers to gainers was about 2.91:one.

There was little in the way of corporate news from Asia's largest economy.

In other parts Asia, this was how those stock markets closed for the day:

Indonesia	Plus	2.13 percent to 488.72
Japan	Minus	1.66 percent to 10,632.81
Malaysia	Plus	0.30 percent to 741.55
The Philippines	Minus	0.43 percent to 1,136.60
Singapore	Plus	0.99 percent to 1,598.75
South Korea	Plus	2.04 percent to 768.74
Taiwan	Plus	1.64 percent to 5,130.80
Thailand	Plus	0.67 percent to 397.79

Friday

Trading was light on most stock markets of Asia, last Friday, with most investors, waiting to see what would transpire in the US, which was celebrating its independence from Great Britain, an event that took place 226 years ago, following the signing of the Declaration of Independence from the former 'motherland', then ruled by His Gracious Majesty, King George III.

An Egyptian-born gunman, living in California, killed 2 people at Los Angeles International Airport, causing chaos at the Airport, but there was no word, when Asia was trading equities, whether or not that incident was the

work of an organisation or the act of a single, deranged man.

All US stock markets were closed, last Thursday.

In the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC), trading on its premier bourse, the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, was very subdued.

The Main Board's Hang Seng Index ended the week at 10,806.16 points, a one-day gain of about 0.38 percent.

The Total Turnover was about \$HK6.78 billion, with advancing issues, outnumbering declining ones by the ratio of about 1.06:One.

There was little in the way of stimulating news for the markets of the HKSAR.

The Ten Most Actives were:

HSBC Holdings plc (Code: 5)	Unchanged at \$HK89.75 per share
Hutchison Whampoa Ltd (Code: 13)	Up 2.07 percent to \$HK61.50 per share
Cheung Kong (Holdings) Ltd (Code: 1)	Up 0.37 percent to \$HK67.25 per share
China Mobile (Hongkong) Ltd (Code: 941)	Up 0.21 percent to \$HK23.40 per share
Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd (Code: 16)	Unchanged at \$HK62.25 per share
Swire Pacific Ltd "A" Shares (Code: 19)	Up 0.76 percent to \$HK39.60 per share
Global Green Tech Group Ltd (Code: 274)	Up 9.88 percent to \$HK2.225 per share
Hang Seng Bank Ltd (Code: 11)	Up 0.29 percent to \$HK85.75 per share
Tracker Fund of Hongkong Ltd (Code: 2800)	Up 0.92 percent to \$HK10.95 per share
PetroChina Company Ltd (Code: 857)	Down 2.33 percent to \$HK1.68 per share

The double-digit movers of the day included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
China Bio-Medical Group Ltd	140		20.00	0.016
	476	13.33		0.017
CIL Holdings Ltd	479		10.71	0.025
Everbest Century Holdings Ltd	578	15.79		0.022
HyComm Wireless Ltd	499	11.65		0.115
Jackley Holdings Ltd	353	12.90		0.35
Orient Resources Group Company Ltd	467	24.00		0.124
Sino Golf Holdings Ltd	361	10.53		0.84
South China Brokerage Company Ltd	619		10.71	0.10
Tak Sing Alliance Holdings Ltd	126	14.55		0.315
Wah Tak Fung Holdings Ltd	297		25.66	0.168

The tally for the short trading week was that the Hang Seng Index had improved its position by 314.40 points, or about 2.97 percent, compared with the previous week's close.

On The Growth Enterprise Market (The GEM) of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, while The Growth Enterprise Index was in positive territory by the close of trading, losers outweighed gainers by the ratio of about 1.26:One.

The Growth Enterprise Index finished the week at 180.36 points, a one-day improvement of about 0.21 percent.

The Total Turnover of the day was about \$HK113.45 million.

For the 4-day trading week, therefore, The Growth Enterprise Index had gained 2.66 points, or about 1.50 percent.

The biggest movers of last Friday were:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
Asian Information Resources (Holdings) Ltd	8025		11.25	0.071
Blu Spa Holdings Ltd	8176	20.00		0.06
G.A. Holdings Ltd	8126	10.23		0.485
Info Communication Holdings Ltd	8082	13.70		0.083
Trasy Gold EX Ltd	8063	36.42		0.035

In Japan, investors took no, or little, notice of the shooting at Los Angeles International Airport; and, bought into the market.

On The Tokyo Stock Exchange, the Nikkei-225 Stock Average recovered all of Thursday's losses – and, then, some.

By the close of trading of the week, the Nikkei-225 Stock Average stood at 10,826.09 yen for a gain of 181.72 yen over Thursday's closing level.

Banking counters continued to be strong, following statements from the Japanese Government in respect of its support for the industry.

There was little to promote the Japanese stock markets, which, for the most part of last week, were seesawing back and forth, gaining on day one to fall back on day two.

Everything appeared to hinge on what type of determination would be made with regard to the shooting at LAX – Los Angeles International Airport.

This is the way that things looked on other Asian bourses, last Friday night:

Indonesia	Plus	0.83 percent to 492.78
Japan	Plus	1.82 percent to 10,826.09
Malaysia	Plus	0.41 percent to 744.62
The Philippines	Minus	1.49 percent to 1,119.72
Singapore	Plus	2.68 percent to 1,641.53
South Korea	Plus	2.48 percent to 787.83
Taiwan	Plus	2.43 percent to 5,255.23

Thailand Plus 0.46 percent to 399.62

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