BANK OF CHINA (HONGKONG) LTD: FOR WHAT REASON DID BANK OF CHINA (HONGKONG) LTD WAIT 8 YEARS TO CHASE AFTER MR SO SIK? AND, BY THE WAY, WHERE IS THE RECLUSIVE MR SO SIK?

As Bank of China (Hongkong) Ltd ([]) goes after Mr So Sik () for about \$HK101.53 million, perhaps, just as important to investors of this bank, which is ultimately controlled by a corporate entity of the Government of the People's Republic of China (PRC), in trying to recover this not insubstantial sum of money is the reason that Bank of China (Hongkong) Ltd waited so long to lodge its claim against the 51-year old Defendant in Action Number 407, lodged, recently, in the High Court of The Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the PRC.

Bank of China (Hongkong) Ltd is a wholly subsidiary of publicly listed BOC Hongkong (Holdings) Ltd ([]) (Code: 2388, Main Board, The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd) so that a potential loss of more than \$HK101 million cannot be considered an immaterial matter.

And the waters, in respect of this matter, are muddied even further by the fact that Mr So Sik appears to have gone to ground – which may suggest that this PRC, Government-controlled bank may never, now, be able to recover money, allegedly owed to it by this one-time, high-flyer of the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC).

According to Writ of Summons, Number 407, Bank of China (Hongkong) Ltd is having considerable difficulty, today, in locating the whereabouts of Mr So Sik because the addresses of the Defendant are given as being, variously:

- Rooms 2805-2808, Peregrine Tower, Lippo Centre, Number 89, Queensway, Hongkong.
- 2. Citic Tower, 25th Floor, Number One, Tim Mei Avenue, Central, Hongkong.
- 3. Suite 2402C, 24th Floor, Great Eagle Centre, Number 23, Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hongkong.
- 4. Flat A1, 9th Floor, Number 293, King's Road, North Point, Hongkong.
- 5. Flat 2, 6th Floor, Block A, Beverly Hill, Number 6, Broadwood Road, Hongkong.

6. Penthouse B, 41st Floor and 42nd Floor, Tower 4, Dynasty Court, Number 23, Old Peak Road, Hongkong.

Bank of China (Hongkong) Ltd is the successor of Sin Hua Bank Ltd (), pursuant to Bank of China (Hongkong) Ltd (Merger) Ordinance, Chapter 1167, of the Laws of the HKSAR.

According to the database of **TOLIN** () (The Computerised, Online Financial Intelligence Service and Web-Based, Credit-Checking Provider), Sin Hua Bank Ltd (Hongkong Branch), filed a Claim against Mr So Sik on May 31, 2000, alleging that the Defendant owed this bank \$HK20 million.

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