

Shanghai, China, May 10, 1937.

Subject:

World Wholesale and Retail Price of Refined Sugar.

Submitted by:

C. E. Christopherson, Trade Commissioner.

(Required Report, Reference: Letter from
Foodstuffs Division, dated May 14, 1936,
Ref. 30-H.)

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The following figures represent the Shanghai market price of sugar as quoted by the Kiangwan Company, India, Ltd., who are one of the larger importers of refined sugar:

Wholesale Price of Sugar in Shanghai on May 1
(Prices in U. S. Cents per Lb.)

<u>Description</u>	<u>Wholesale Price</u>	<u>Part of Price Going to Duty & Taxes</u>
Java White Sugar No. 25/h	5.064	3.428
" Molasses " No. 8/h	3.764	2.229
Taikoo Refined Sugar "B"	5.153	3.395
" " " "CW"	5.120	3.383
" " " "CY"	5.075	3.372
" " " "HX"	5.053	3.372
Japanese White Sugar "YP"	5.053	3.361
" " " "YT"	4.985	3.361
" " " "YRO"	4.481	2.890

There have been no changes in duty or taxes since our report of September 29, 1936.

Forward quotations on Java sugar on May 1, per 100 kilos c.i.f. Shanghai, were as follows:

<u>Month</u>	<u>Description</u>	
	<u>Java White Sugar No. 25/h</u>	<u>Java Mol. Sugar No. 8/h</u>
May	US\$3.7449	no quotation
June	3.7037	US\$3.3745
July	3.7311	3.3745
August	3.7586	3.347
September	3.8135	3.4019
October	3.8409	3.4568
November	3.8957	3.4842
December	3.9232	3.4116

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Retail prices are not uniform and vary with different shops, the higher grade dealers usually quoting higher prices. Variations in quotations on the same day may be as much as five per cent. Following are approximately average prices on May first:

Retail Price of Sugar in Shanghai on May 1

<u>Brand</u>	<u>10 lb. Bags</u>	<u>Price per Lb.</u>
"T.K."	yuan 2.15	US\$0.0642
"TAIKOO"	2.10	0.0627
"Holland"(Starlight)	1.90	0.0567
"C. B."(Crown brand)	2.00	0.0597
"O. K." Brand	2.00	0.0597
	<u>Per Lb.</u>	
Japanese	yuan 0.20	0.0597

Imports of all kinds of sugar during 1936 totalled 1,586,000 quintals, a decrease of 39% as compared with 1935 which totalled 2,601,000 quintals. The decrease in imports is due partly to increased production of sugar in South China, but chiefly to heavy smuggling of sugar, particularly into North China. Indicative of the results of the Customs authorities in suppressing this activity are the imports for the first quarter of 1937 which totalled 527,200 quintals, an increase of 58% over the first quarter of 1936, which totalled 332,500 quintals. In this connection the following item which appeared in the North China Daily News of April 30 is of interest:

"According to the 'Ta Wan Pao,' the quantity of Japanese sugar imported into North China this year was less than that in 1936.

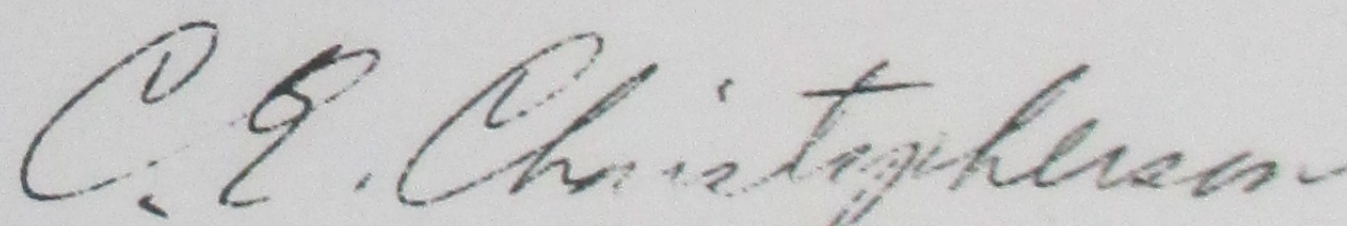
"During 1935, Japanese sugar legally admitted into North China amounted to 1,884,697 piculs; in 1936, 1,741,189 piculs; and in the first three months of 1937, 323,475 piculs. Java sugar legally imported into the country on the other hand, amounted in 1935 to 27,612 piculs, in 1936, to 365,968 piculs, and in the first three months of 1937, to 92,322 piculs.

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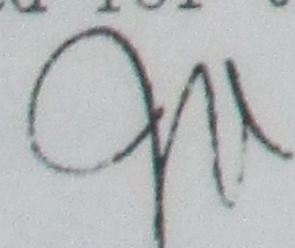
"According to Japanese press comments, the small quantity of Japanese sugar being imported into North China this year in comparison with Java sugar has been due to anti-Japanese agitation, adds the 'Ta Wan Pao,' but the Netherlands merchants consider that the Java figure is higher than the Japanese simply because the larger amounts of Japanese sugar were imported into the country without passing through the regular channels."

According to the Chinese Maritime Customs statistics, Netherlands India was the principal supplier during 1936, replacing Japan who held first place in 1935. Japan ranked second, Hong Kong third, Formosa fourth and Germany fifth, as suppliers during 1936. Total imports of sugar including molasses and sugar candy from Germany during 1935, amounted to only Customs Gold Units 52,200, but in 1936 this figure increased to Customs Gold Units 277,700. Imports from the U. S. during 1936 totalled Customs Gold Units 155,500 (US\$105,270) a decrease of 55% as compared with 1935 which amounted to Customs Gold Units 345,390 (US\$231,400)



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Approved for transmission



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