

Statement by the Director of Public Prosecutions

The following statement is issued by the Director of Public Prosecutions, Mr Grenville Cross, SC, today (November 5) concerning the case of Lee Ming-tee:

"The Department of Justice welcomes the successful outcome of this prosecution. Mr Lee has pleaded guilty to two serious offences of publishing false statements of account in 1990 and 1991. We are satisfied that the offences he has admitted and the facts he has accepted adequately reflect the criminality which was alleged against Mr Lee. In light of Mr Lee's preparedness to plead guilty to two of the offences he faced, there was no longer any public interest to be served in pursuing this prosecution. The trial judge's endorsement of the course adopted by the prosecution in the acceptance of the pleas is welcomed.

"This case has been pursued with determination and skill by prosecutors over many years, and many difficulties have been confronted and overcome. All of those concerned with the prosecution and investigation of the case are satisfied that justice has finally been achieved. It is to be hoped that the message will go forth that no matter how long it takes, those who engage in commercial crime must expect ultimately to be brought to justice.

"Mr Lee has been imprisoned for a year. He has also been disqualified as a company director for four years. The judge gave full weight to all relevant factors and imposed a sentence which was appropriate in all the circumstances. It is not intended to institute a review of sentence."

Ends/Friday, November 5, 2004

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