



For Immediate Release

**RAID UNCOVERS LARGEST OPTICAL DISC SOURCE LAB EVER FOUND IN TAIWAN
- THOUSANDS OF PIRATED MOVIES**

***Taiwan's Ministry of Justice Investigation Bureau (MJIB) Neutralizes Huge Piracy
Syndicate***

May 27, 2004 - Encino, CA/Hong Kong: The Motion Picture Association (MPA) today announced the largest raid ever in Taiwan on an illegal optical disc burning lab.

On May 25th, the MJIB conducted a joint operation against an optical disc piracy syndicate in Taiwan and raided three target locations in Changhua City and the Taichung area. As a result of the operation, one VCD underground factory, one illegal DVD-R/CD-R lab, and one illegal warehouse were successfully raided. Seizures included one underground VCD production line, 40 DVD-R burners, 376 CD-R burners, and 250,300 burned CD-Rs. A total of six persons were arrested.

Had the illegal burning lab continued to operate for one year, the estimated annual profit made to the pirate syndicate could have amounted to NT\$645 million (approximately US \$19.56 million). This raid underscores the continuing problem of piracy in Taiwan, driven by criminal syndicates, as well as the resolve of local authorities to enforce Taiwan's recently strengthened copyright laws.

Mike Ellis, Senior Vice President, Asia-Pacific, MPA said, "This is the largest single seizure of burners we have seen in the Asia-Pacific region. We are delighted that Taiwan's MJIB have again demonstrated their resolve to neutralize these major criminal operations that severely damage the film industry in Taiwan." Ellis continued, "We will continue to work closely to support the prosecution of this case to ensure a deterrent message is clearly delivered."

Piracy in Asia

The MPA estimates that its Member Companies lose an excess of US \$718 million in potential revenue annually in the Asia-Pacific region alone. A significant portion of the losses is due to the lack of adequate and effective copyright protection in the region.

In 2003, the MPA operations in the Asia-Pacific region investigated nearly 15,500 cases of piracy and assisted law enforcement officials in conducting nearly 13,000 raids. These activities resulted in the seizure of approximately 44,000,000 illegal optical discs, and the initiation of almost 9,100 legal actions.

About the MPAA:

The Motion Picture Association of America, Inc. (MPAA) serves as the voice and advocate of the American motion picture, home video and television industries from its offices in Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. These members include: Buena Vista Pictures Distribution; Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios Inc.; Paramount Pictures; Sony Pictures Entertainment Inc.; Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation; Universal Studios from Universal City Studios; and Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc.

#

For more information, contact:

Anne Caliguiri
MPAA Encino
818-995-6600 ext. 293

Matt Grossman
MPAA Encino
818-995-6600 ext. 130

Mike Ellis
MPA Asia-Pacific
852-2785-8677