



# NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **POLICE SEIZE GRENADES, AMMUNITION, DRUGS AND PORN FROM MOVIE PIRATES IN MANILA RAID**

Hong Kong – On July 27, the Motion Picture Association (MPA) and Optical Media Board (OMB), with backup from Philippines National Police and Special Action Force officers, raided a residential property in the Taguig City suburb of southern Metro Manila, seizing around 6,500 pirated DVD movies and substantial amounts of hard-core pornographic material.

The raiding party, serving a search warrant obtained after a lengthy investigation, also seized several hand grenades, hundreds of rounds of 5.56mm ammunition, and sachets of a highly addictive and illegal amphetamine derivative known locally as “Shabu”, and elsewhere as “ice”. The seized ammunition is of the sort used by high-powered automatic assault weapons and the raiding party immediately notified the Bomb Search and Bomb Disposal Unit of the Philippines National Police, which transported the items to a secure facility.

Also found on the premises were optical discs containing pirated copies of Sony PlayStation games, Microsoft Xbox games and MP3 music files.

“The discovery of dangerous drugs and lethal weapons and ammunition confirms yet again that piracy is frequently linked to other activities of organized criminal gangs,” said Mike Ellis, Senior Vice President and Regional Director, Asia-Pacific for the Motion Picture Association. “The Motion Picture Association and our member companies greatly appreciate the efforts of the Philippines government and its law enforcement agencies and in this instance particularly, the Optical Media Board, in fighting copyright theft and protecting intellectual property rights.”

### ***Piracy in Asia***

A comprehensive study aimed at producing a more accurate picture of the impact that piracy has on the film industry including, for the first time, losses due to internet piracy, recently calculated that the MPA studios lost US\$6.1 billion to worldwide piracy in 2005. About US\$2.4 billion was lost to bootlegging\*, US\$1.4 billion to illegal copying\* and US\$2.3 billion to Internet piracy. Of the US\$6.1 billion in lost revenue to the studios, approximate \$1.2 billion came from piracy across the Asia-Pacific region, while piracy in the U.S. accounted for \$1.3 billion.

In 2005, the MPA's operations in the Asia-Pacific region investigated more than 34,000 cases of piracy and assisted law enforcement officials in conducting more than 10,500 raids. These activities resulted in the seizure of more than 34 million illegal optical discs, 55 factory optical disc production lines and 3,362 optical disc burners, as well as the initiation of more than 8,000 legal actions.

*\*Bootlegging: Obtaining movies by either purchasing an illegally copied HS/DVD/VCD or acquiring hard copies of bootleg movies.*

*\*Illegal copying: Making illegal copies for self or receiving illegal copies from friends of a legitimate VHS/DVD/VCD*

*\*Internet piracy: Obtaining movies by either downloading them from the Internet without paying or acquiring hard copies of illegally downloaded movies from friends or family.*

**About the MPA:** *The Motion Picture Association (MPA) represents the interests of major motion picture companies in the global marketplace. On behalf of its Member Companies, the MPA conducts investigations around the world, assists with the criminal and civil litigation generated by such cases, and conducts education outreach programs to teach movie fans around the world about the harmful effects of piracy. The MPA directs its worldwide anti-piracy operations from its headquarters based in Encino, California and has regional offices located in Brussels (Europe, Middle East and Africa), São Paulo (Latin America), Montreal (Canada) and Singapore (Asia-Pacific). The MPA's anti-piracy activities have helped to transform entire markets from pirate to legitimate, benefiting video distributors, retailers, and foreign and local filmmakers alike. The MPA Member Companies include: Buena Vista International, Inc.; Paramount Pictures Corporation; Sony Pictures Releasing International Corporation; Twentieth Century Fox International Corporation; Universal International Films, Inc.; and Warner Bros. Pictures International, a division of Warner Bros. Pictures Inc.*

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