

Taiwan  
Censorship

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## Ban on Taiwan film stays

THE Board of Review of the Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority has refused to lift the ban on a Taiwan-made satire of China's privileged classes, on ground that it would "harm Hongkong's international relations".

The movie, "If I Were Real," which was awarded the Best Picture of the Year by the Chinese Nationalist Government last week, was banned by the Hongkong authorities in August.

The film, based on a play by three China writers, tells the story of a man who swindles millions of dollars by claiming he is a general's son.

It was banned after the authors accused the producer, Taiwan's Yung Sheng Movie Company, of copyright infringement. The authors also accused the Taiwanese

authorities of making use of the play to achieve political ends, and objected to its screening in Hongkong or elsewhere.

Secretary Pritam Singh said yesterday the Review Board turned down an appeal by the film's local distributor, S.T. Lau, because it felt that the screening of the film would "harm Hongkong's international relations".

Under the regulations, the decision will be final and there will not be a second appeal.

Meanwhile, according to reports, *The Coldest Winter* in Beijing, which was also banned here, has been given a special award by Taiwan's Government Information Office for its contribution in "reflecting the spirit of the era".