University of Macau

Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

Master of Arts – Applied English

Graduation Thesis

A Study of International News Translations Done by the *Macao Daily News*

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A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of requirements for the degree of Master of Arts at the University of Macau

Successful defense in March 2010

Submitted in April 2010

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Abstract of thesis entitled *A Study of International News Translations Done by the Macao Daily News*.

Submitted by Lei Man Tat (M-A5-5503-4) for the degree of Master of Arts – Applied English at the University of Macau in March 2010.

Macao has several Chinese newspapers, of which the *Macao Daily News* is the most popular local Chinese newspaper. However, English international news stories issued by international news agencies are translated into Chinese by all newspapers themselves, mainly because of limited financial resources, appetites of their readers, and the lack of competition in the area of international news reporting in Macao. Considering translators in the *Macao Daily News* have only limited time to translate international news articles, what is the quality of the translations? Do they reproduce the meanings in the source texts for target readers? Are the translations comprehensible and readable for the readers, who are members of the general public? This research analyzes these translations critically by applying the functionalist theories, pointing out and identifying the characteristics of, and problems found in, these translations. Analysis revealed that the target texts collected for this research generally functioned in the same way as their source texts and fit the criteria of helping target text readers to understand the stories by employing understandable/readable Standard Modern Chinese. However, there are also some flaws that are of grammatical or semantic categories and could cause some target text readers to react differently from source text readers.

Key words: Functionalist Theories, Skopostheorie, Function Plus Loyalty, translation of international news.