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|   | Note | 2001        | 2000           |
|---|------|-------------|----------------|
|   |      | HK\$'000    | HK\$'000       |
| Interest income                                     |      | 1,979,195   | 2,608,729      |
| Interest expense                                    |      | (1,182,514) | (1,668,593)    |
|   |      |             |                |
| Net interest income                                 |      | 796,681     | 940,136        |
| Other operating income                              | 5    | 156,494     | <u>177,113</u> |
| Operating income                                    |      | 953,175     | 1,117,249      |
| Operating expenses                                  | 6    | (423,682)   | (404,568)      |
| operating expenses                                  | O .  |             | (101,000)      |
| Operating profit before provisions and              |      |             |                |
| disposal of long-term assets                        |      | 529,493     | 712,681        |
| Charge for bad and doubtful debts                   |      | (136,437)   | (171,533)      |
| Net (losses) gains from disposal of property        |      |             |                |
| and equipment                                       |      | (843)       | 40             |
| Gains less losses from disposal of other securities |      | 15,926      | 13,641         |
| Gains less losses from disposal of held-to-maturity |      |             |                |
| securities  |      | 5,088       |                |
| Profit from operations                              |      | 413,227     | 554,829        |
| Share of results of jointly controlled entities     |      | (18,882)    |                |
|   |      |             |                |
| Profit from ordinary activities before taxation     |      | 394,345     | 554,829        |
| Taxation  | 8    | (48,458)    | (98,231)       |
|   |      |             | 440 400        |
| Net profit for the year                             | 9    | 345,887     | 456,598        |
| Dividends   | 10   | 195,750     | 230,550        |
|   |      |             |                |
| Earnings per share                                  | 11   | HK\$0.80    | HK\$1.05       |