

RESTRICTED

GR 210
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FM PEKING 050805Z APR 83
TO ROUTINE FCO
TELNO 303 OF 5 APRIL
RPTD INFO HONG KONG.

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FUTURE OF HONG KONG: TUC DELEGATION

1. WHEN I ACCOMPANIED THE DELEGATION TO SEE VICE PREMIER WAN LI ON 30 MARCH, LEN MURRAY TOLD ME THAT ASSISTANT FOREIGN MINISTER ZHOU NAN HAD TREATED THEM TO A HARANGUE ON HONG KONG WHEN THEY HAD CALLED ON THE MFA ON 29 MARCH. ZHOU HAD ASKED HOW MURRAY SAW THE SITUATION.
2. MURRAY SAID HE HAD TOLD ZHOU THAT HE WAS AWARE THAT DELICATE NEGOTIATIONS WERE GOING ON AND HE DID NOT WISH TO BE DRAWN ON THE QUESTION, BUT HE THOUGHT IT COULD BE SETTLED AMICABLY BY THEM TWO SIDES: THERE WAS TIME ENOUGH TO REACH A SETTLEMENT. HE WAS PLEASED THAT THE CHINESE HAD STRESSED THE NEED TO MAINTAIN PROSPERITY. AS TRADE UNIONISTS, HIS DELEGATION WERE INTERESTED IN THE WELFARE OF THE HONG KONG WORKERS.
3. I HAD NO OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR FROM MURRAY EXACTLY WHAT ZHOU HAD SAID TO HIM ABOUT HONG KONG. PERHAPS SOMEONE COULD SPEAK TO MICHAEL WALSH, THE DELEGATION SECRETARY (WHO TOOK A RECORD) WHEN THEY RETURN TO LONDON.
4. WE MUST EXPECT ALL BRITISH VISITORS CALLING ON THE MFA TO RECEIVE A LECTURE ON HONG KONG IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES.

CRADOCK

FUTURE OF HONG KONG

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MR MARTIN ASSESSMENTS STAFF
 CABINET OFFICE
 MR FLOWER, PUSD

THIS TELEGRAM
 WAS NOT
 ADVANCED

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M' Coles, N° 10