

RESTRICTED

GR 160

RESTRICTED

FM HONG KONG 200352Z MAY 83
TO PRIORITY F C O
TELEGRAM NUMBER 710 OF 20 MAY
INFO PRIORITY HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICE LONDON, PEKING, HONG
KONG GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES BRUSSELS, GENEVA, WASHINGTON
AND NEW YORK.

FUTURE OF HONG KONG : PRESS COVERAGE

THE WEN WEI PO (COMMUNIST) ON 18 MAY CARRIED AN INTERVIEW WITH
THE NEW CHINESE AMBASSADOR TO BRITAIN, MR. CHEN ZHAO YUAN. AFTER
A BRIEF OUTLINE OF HIS CAREER, CHEN DESCRIBED SINO/BRITISH
RELATIONS AS "GOOD ON THE WHOLE". "AS LONG AS BOTH SIDES
CONTINUE TO MAKE CONCERTED EFFORTS, THERE WILL BE EVEN BETTER
PRSPCTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SINO/BRITISH RELATIONS". HE
REFERRED TO THE AWARD OF THE FIRST SOUTH CHINA SEA OFFSHORE OIL
CONTRACT TO THE BP LED CONSORTIUM AS AN EXAMPLE OF THE IMPORTANCE
WHICH CHINA ATTACHED TO ITS TIES WITH BRITAIN.

2. ON HONG KONG'S FUTURE, CHEN WAS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT
CHINA HAD MADE IT CLEAR THAT IT WOULD REGAIN SOVEREIGNTY OVER
HONG KONG AND MAINTAIN THE TERRITORY'S STABILITY AND PROSPERITY.
THE TWO SIDES WERE CURRENTLY CONTINUING THEIR CONTACTS ON THIS
SUBJECT AND A SOLUTION COULD BE FOUND THROUGH NEGOTIATION.

YOUDE

FUTURE OF HONG KONG

LIMITED

ED/HKGD

ED/FED

ED/PLANNING STAFF

ED/FUSD

PS

PS/MR HURD

PS/LOED BELSTEAD

PS/FUS

SIR J BULLARD

MR GIFFARD

MR DONALD

THIS TELEGRAM
WAS NOT
ADVANCED

COPIES TO

SIR I SINCLAIR LEGAL ADVISER

MR BURROWS LEGAL ADVISERS

MR ROBERTS NEWS D

MR MARTIN ASSESSMENTS STAFF
CABINET OFFICE

MR FLOWER FUSD

MR COLES NO 10 DOWNING ST. }
SIR A PARSONS

HONG KONG GOVT OFFICE

LONDON

RESTRICTED