

GRS 410

**SECRET**

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DESBKY 270900Z BOTH

FROM PEKING 270915Z JUN 83

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

A.F.C.  $\frac{27}{6}$   
h.a.

TELEGRAM NUMBER 594 OF 27/6/83

FUTURE OF HONG KONG

1. YAO GUANG HAS ASKED ME TO CALL AT 1530 LOCAL TIME TOMORROW, 28 JUNE. I SHALL AIM AT THIS MEETING TO REACH FORMAL AGREEMENT ON THE TEXTS OF THE AGENDA AND THE JOINT PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT THAT I HAVE NOW AGREED ON A PERSONAL BASIS WITH ZHOU NAN (MY TELNO 585). I SHALL RESIST ANY ATTEMPT BY YAO TO INTRODUCE NEW AMENDMENTS, UNLESS THESE ARE CLEARLY OF NO SUBSTANCE.

2. I EXPECT TO COVER THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL POINTS WITH YAO, AND ON THESE I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR GUIDANCE.

(A) DATE FOR THE FIRST MEETING. IF YOU AGREE, I SHALL PROPOSE 12 JULY (MY TEL NO 585 AND HONG KONG TEL N O 870):

(B) FORMAL RECORD OF THE AGENDA. MY INCLINATION IS THAT WE SHOULD AIM FOR AN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS BETWEEN MYSELF AND YAO, RECORDING THE AGREED AGENDA. SUBJECT TO YOUR VIEWS, HOWEVER, I WOULD NOT BE DISSATISFIED WITH FORMAL STATEMENTS AT THE OPENING SESSION, IF TH CHINESE PREFERRED NOT TO USE LETTERS:

(C) PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT. YAO WILL PROBABALY RAISE THE QUESTION OF TIMING OF THE PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT, AND IN HIS USUAL WAY ASK FOR MY VIEWS FIRST. FOR THE REASONS IN MY TEL NO 586 , AND BEARING IN MIND THE POINT IN PARA 2 OF YOUR TEL NO 396, I SHOULD PREFER THAT IT SHOULD BE AFTER THE EXCO VISIT TO LONDON. THERE WOULD THUS BE TWO CLEAR STAGES OF PUBLICITY, FIRST CONSULTATION WITH EXCO, SECOND THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE OPENING OF TALKS. I SHOULD THEREFORE LIKE TO BE ABLE TO PROPOSE TO YAO THAT THE ANNOUNCEMENT SHOULD BE MADE ON FRIDAY 3 JULY:

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(D) I NOTE THAT HONG KONG ALSO INTENDS TO ISSUE THE ANNOUNCEMENT (HONG KONG TEL NO 866). AS I SAID IN MY TEL NO 586, I HOPE THAT AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE CAN BE SAID IN ADDITION TO THE SINGLE SENTENCE AGREED WITH THE CHINESE. IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR THE ANNOUNCEMENT TO BE ISSUED IN LONDON AS WELL: THE CHINESE WILL CERTAINLY SEE THIS AS AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO CAPITALS:  
(E) INTERPRETERS (MY TEL NO 580). YAO MAY PURSUE THIS POINT. IF YOU AGREE, I SHALL SAY THAT AN INTERPRETER FROM HONG KONG WILL ATTEND THE FIRST PLENARY (HONG KONG TEL NO 870. I SHALL BE NON-COMMITTAL ABOUT SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS.

CRADOCK

## FUTURE OF HONG KONG

LIMITED  
HD/HKD  
HD/FED  
HD/PLANNING STAFF  
HD/PUSD  
PS  
PS/LADY YOUNG  
PS/MR LUCE  
PS/PUS  
SIR J BULLARD  
MR GIFFARD  
MR DONALD  
MR WRIGHT

## COPIES TO:

SIR I SINCLAIR LEGAL ADVISER  
MR BURROWS LEGAL ADVISERS  
MR MARTIN ASSESSMENTS STAFF  
CABINET OFFICE  
MR FLOWER PUSD  
MR COLES NO 10 DOWNING ST  
SIR A PARSONS " "  
MR WALKER, RESEARCH DEPT

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