

GRS 150

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DESKBY 260800Z (FCO)

DESKBY 260700Z (HONG KONG)

FROM PEKING 260645Z JUL 83

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 715 OF 26/7/83

FUTURE OF HONG KONG: PRESS STATEMENT

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF AN AGREED STATEMENT TO BE ISSUED TODAY AT 1500 HOURS LOCAL TIME:

QUOTE - THE TWO SIDES HAVE HAD TWO MORE USEFUL DAYS OF TALKS. THEY WILL MEET AGAIN IN PEKING TO RESUME THESE TALKS ON 2/3 AUGUST, AFTER WHICH THERE WILL BE A RECESS OF SOME WEEKS. TALKS WILL RECOMMENCE IN SEPTEMBER - UNQUOTE.

2. IN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS ABOUT THE REASONS FOR THE RECESS WE PROPOSE TO SAY:

QUOTE - DURING THE RECESS, THE AMBASSADOR AND THE GOVERNOR WILL BE TAKING LEAVE AND MEETING BRITISH MINISTERS. VICE-MINISTER YAO GUANG WILL BE PAYING VISITS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES DURING THIS PERIOD - UNQUOTE

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

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SIR A PARSONS " "
MR WALKER, RESEARCH DEPT
MR ROBERTS NEWS D GOGGS

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FM HONG KONG 260640Z JUL 83
TO PRIORITY PEKING
TELEGRAM NUMBER 400 OF 26 JULY
INFO PRIORITY FCO

FUTURE OF HONG KONG: PRESS COVERAGE.

VIRTUALLY ALL MAJOR PAPERS GAVE PROMINENT COVERAGE OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE TALKS IN PEKING WHICH WERE CHARACTERISED AS 'FRIENDLY'. FEW PAPERS INDULGED IN ANY SPECULATION ON THE CONTENT OF THE DISCUSSIONS. THE ENGLISH-LANGUAGE HONG KONG STANDARD WAS AN EXCEPTION. THE PAPER HAD 'RELIABLY LEARNED' THAT THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES SOUGHT THE APPOINTMENT OF A LOCAL HONG KONG CHINESE AS DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF HONG KONG. THE APPOINTMENT WOULD NEED TO BE ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH CHINESE AND BRITISH GOVERNMENTS BUT WOULD DEMONSTRATE THE PRACTICALITY OF 'HONG KONG PEOPLE RUNNING HONG KONG' (GANGREN ZHIGANG).

HADDON-CAVE

FUTURE OF HONG KONG

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