

SECRET

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**OUT**  
ACTION COPY

42B

OTWON 06/26

OO HONG KONG

OO FCO

OO WASHINGTON (FOR PS TO CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER)

OO UKMIS NEW YORK (FOR PS TO FORIEGN AND COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY)

OO PEKING

GRS 230

SECRET

FM OTTAWA 261245Z SEPT 83

TO IMMEDIATE HONG KONG (PERSONAL FOR GOVERNOR)

TELEGRAM NUMBER 06 OF 26 SEPTEMBER

AND TO IMMEDIATE FCO, WASHINGTON (FOR PS TO CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER), UKMIS NEW YORK (FOR PS TO FORIEGN AND COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY), PEKING

FOR GOVERNOR FROM PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER

**SECRET**

1. THE PRIME MINISTER HAS SEEN YOUR LATEST REPORTS AND IS OF COURSE VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE CONTINUING AND RAPID SLIDE IN CONFIDENCE. WE REALISE THAT YOU, MR LUCE AND SIR P CRADOCK WILL BE CONSIDERED EVERY POSSIBILITY FOR STEMMING IT.

2. IT WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL TO HAVE YOUR JOINT ASSESSMENT ON THE  
FOLLOWING POINTS:-

SECRET

- A) WHAT SORT OF STATEMENT FROM PEKING WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO A STEADYING OF OPINION IN HONG KONG?
  
- B) IS THERE ANY SUCH STATEMENT WHICH IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT COULD REALISTICALLY BE EXPECTED TO MAKE?
  
- C) WHAT MESSAGE SHOULD SIR P CRADOCK TAKE BACK TO PEKING TO PERSUADE THE CHINESE LEADERS THAT THERE IS A GENUINE CRISIS OF CONFIDENCE AND NOT JUST AN ARTIFICIAL CREATION OF THE BRITISH ADMINISTRATION WHICH COULD BE STOPPED IF WE SO WISHED?
  
- D) ARE THERE OTHER WAYS EG SPECIAL EMISSARIES OR MINISTERIAL MESSAGES WHICH COULD BE USED TO GET ACROSS THE GENUINENESS AND SERIOUSNESS OF THE SITUATION TO THE CHINESE LEADERSHIP?

MORAN

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