

GRS 130

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FM PEKING 180640Z OCT 82

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 669 OF 18/10/82

MR 2/10
h-a.

REPEATED FOR INFO TO PRIORITY HONG KONG (PERSONAL FOR GOVERNOR)

PERSONAL FOR DONALD.

1. MY NEW ZEALAND COLLEAGUE TELLS ME THAT AT A DINNER HE ATTENDED LAST WEEK, GIVEN BY HUANG HUA FOR AN OLD UNIVERSITY FRIEND FROM NEW ZEALAND, MRS HUANG HUA REMARKED THAT PEOPLE SEEMED TO BE AFRAID TO ASK ABOUT HONG KONG. BUT THE CHINESE WERE NOT AFRAID TO SPEAK. HUANG HUA SAID THAT THEY HAD MADE IT CLEAR TO MRS THATCHER DURING HER VISIT THAT THE CHINESE HAD NO ROOM FOR MANOEUVRE ON HONG KONG. THEY WOULD RECOVER THE TERRITORY IN 1997 IF NOT BEFORE. HUANG HUA THEN WENT ON, RATHER AS IF THINKING ALOUD, TO SAY "WHEN WILL MRS THATCHER REPORT TO PARLIAMENT? I DOUBT IF SHE WILL TELL THEM THE WHOLE TRUTH.

CRADOCK

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