

RESTRICTED

DESKBY 090900Z (FCO)
 DESBKY 090530Z (HONG KONG)

FROM PEKING 090330Z JUL 83

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 653 OF 9/7/83

AND TO IMMEDIATE HONG KONG

FUTURE OF HONG KONG: SECOND PHASE TALKS.

1. THE CHINESE PRESS TODAY REPORTED A FOREIGN
 MINISTRY STATEMENT OF 8 JULY THAT

'EDWARD YOUDE, BRITISH GOVERNOR OF HONG KONG WILL PARTICIPATE IN
 THE SECOND PHASE OF THE TALKS ON THE HONG KONG ISSUE BETWEEN
 CHINA AND BRITAIN AS A MEMBER OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT
 DELEGATION REPRESENTING THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT. THE
 SINO-BRITISH TALKS ON THE HONG KONG ISSUE ARE BILATERAL, BETWEEN
 THE GOVERNMENT OF CHINA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF BRITAIN. MR (SIC)
 YOUDE WILL TAKE PART IN THE TALKS AS A MEMBER OF THE BRITISH
 GOVERNMENT DELEGATION. THEREFORE, HE CAN
 ONLY REPRESENT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IN THE TALKS'.

2. THE SPOKESMAN WAS REPORTED TO HAVE MADE THE STATEMENT IN ANSWER
 TO A QUESTION BY REPORTERS ASKING HIM TO COMMENT ON NEWS
 AGENCY REPORTS FROM HONG KONG THAT THE GOVERNOR HAD SAID
 HE WOULD REPRESENT THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG IN THE TALKS.

CRADOCK

FUTURE OF HONG KONG

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

COPIES TO:

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 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 (90995)
 MR ROBERTS NEWS D

SECRET
FM HONG KONG 011252Z JUL 83
TO IMMEDIATE INFO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 222 OF 8 JULY
INFO IMMEDIATE PEKING

FUTURE OF HONG KONG : SECOND PHASE

1. I AM GRATEFUL TO SIR P. CRADOCK FOR HIS REBUTTAL OF ZHOU NAN'S PROTEST. IN FACT I SOUGHT TO AVOID RESPONDING DIRECTLY TO QUESTIONS REFERRING TO THE CAPACITY IN WHICH I WOULD ATTEND THE TALKS IN PEKING AND WHO I WOULD REPRESENT THERE. FACED WITH A DIRECT QUESTION QUOTE DO YOU REPRESENT THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG UNQUOTE IMMEDIATELY ON MY RETURN FROM LONDON ON A MISSION ANNOUNCED AS DESIGNED TO CONVEY THE NEWS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG I COULD SCARCELY DO LESS THAN RESPOND IN THE AFFIRMATIVE.

2. BUT WE LATER CONFIRMED IN RESPONSE TO PRESS QUESTIONS THAT I WOULD BE ATTENDING AS A MEMBER OF THE BRITISH DELEGATION: AND HAVE AT NO TIME SOUGHT TO PRESENT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AS A THIRD PARTY IN THE TALKS. (IF ZHOU NAN REVERTS TO THE ISSUE I WOULD SEE NO OBJECTION TO SIR P. CRADOCK MAKING THESE POINTS).

3. THE CHINESE WISH TO GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT IT IS FOR THEM TO REPRESENT THE HONG KONG PEOPLE: AND THAT WE HAVE NO REPRESENTATIVE ROLE. WE CANNOT OF COURSE ACCEPT THIS WITHOUT DAMAGE TO OUR CREDIBILITY: NOR CAN WE ALLOW THE IMPRESSION TO BE CREATED THAT NO-ONE IS SPEAKING FOR THEIR INTERESTS IN THE PEKING TALKS. THE PRIME MINISTER CONFIRMED PUBLICLY LAST YEAR THAT THEIR VIEWS WOULD BE REPRESENTED IN PEKING.

4. BUT I ACCEPT THAT THERE IS NO POINT IN MAKING AN ISSUE OF THIS AND EVEN IF THE CHINESE COMMENT PUBLICLY ON WHAT I SAID I WOULD NOT PROPOSE TO RESPOND FURTHER. WE WOULD SIMPLY REPEAT THAT THE GOVERNOR IS ATTENDING THE PEKING TALKS AS PART OF THE BRITISH DELEGATION.

5. AS REGARDS THE REFUSAL OF A VISA TO TSAO, THIS WAS FORESHADOWED IN AN EDITORIAL IN THIS AFTERNOON'S COMMUNIST NEW EVENING POST WHICH CRITICISED THE PROPOSAL THAT HE SHOULD ACCOMPANY ME, ON THE GROUNDS THAT AS A QUOTE CIVIL SERVANT UNQUOTE HE COULD NOT BE A MEMBER OF MY QUOTE PERSONAL UNQUOTE STAFF. IT COULD WELL BE THAT THIS IS A FURTHER HINT THAT HONG KONG CHINESE WILL NOT BE WELCOME IN MY TEAM FOR THE TALKS. (AS AN INTERPRETER CHENG IS AN EXCEPTION). AGAIN I SEE NO POINT IN MAKING A FUSS ABOUT THE VISA REFUSAL. IF ASKED ABOUT IT WE WILL SAY THAT WE PRESUME THAT THE CHINESE WISH TO MAKE SUCH ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PRESS AS THEY THINK APPROPRIATE THEMSELVES.

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6. XU JIATUN THE NEW DIRECTOR OF THE NCNA HERE, PAID HIS FIRST CALL ON ME THIS AFTERNOON. HE WAS EXTREMELY AFFABLE AND LOOKED TO RESOLVING DIFFERENCES THROUGH A FRIENDLY EXCHANGE OF VIEWS.

YOUDE

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MR WALKER, RESEARCH DEPT
MR ROBERTS NEWS D

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28 JUL 1958



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