

**IMMEDIATE**

*Mr. Coles, Now  
Downing St.*

FUTURE OF HONGKONG

ADVANCE COPIES 13

PS (7)

**ADVANCE COPY**

PS/PUS

PS/MR LUCE

MR DONALD

HD/HKD

HD/FED

ADVANCE COPY

**IMMEDIATE**

RESIDENT CLERK

DESKBY 240800Z

39

**SECRET**

DESKBY 240800Z FCO  
DESKBY 240600Z H.K.  
FROM PEKING 240530Z SEP 83  
TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 935 OF 24TH SEP  
INFO IMMEDIATE HONG KONG

*The Prime Minister  
has seen.*

*24.  
9*

FUTURE OF HONG KONG

1. AT DINNER ON 23 SEPTEMBER I SOUGHT YAO GUANG'S REACTIONS TO OUR REQUEST FOR FURTHER AND BETTER PARTICULARS OF THE CHINESE PLAN (MY TELNO 932, PARA 8). HE SAID THAT DISCUSSION ON THIS SUBJECT COULD NOT BE FRUITFUL UNTIL WE HAD ACCEPTED THE CHINESE PREMISE. THE PREMISE AND PLAN WERE INDISSOLUBLE. KE ZAISHUO ADDED THAT THE PLAN WAS BUILT ON THE PREMISE.
2. AT THE SAME DINNER LU PING SAID THAT A GOVERNOR APPOINTED BY BRITAIN OR RESPONSIBLE TO BRITAIN WAS OUT OF THE QUESTION. THE SENTIMENT WAS ENDORSED BY ALL THE CHINESE AT THE TABLE, INCLUDING YAO GUANG.
3. OTHER TITBITS FROM AN UNUSUALLY VOLUBLE CHINESE DELEGATION AT THE DINNER WERE:
  - A) THAT SOME LINKS WITH BRITAIN COULD BE RETAINED:
  - B) WHEN I ASKED YAO WHAT HE MEANT BY LOOKING AFTER BRITISH INTERESTS HE SAID THAT THE CHINESE WOULD PAY RESPECT TO HISTORICAL REALITY. HE HAD EARLIER SAID THAT OF COURSE THE CHINESE RECOGNISED HONG KONG'S LINKS WITH BRITAIN AS A FACT RESULTING FROM HISTORY.
4. THE CHINESE WERE AT ONE IN ASSURING US THAT EVERYTHING ELSE WAS NEGOTIABLE IF THE PRINCIPLE THAT SOVEREIGNTY AND ADMINISTRATION SHOULD PASS TO CHINA WERE ACCEPTED.

CRADOCK

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