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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

14 October 1983

HONG KONG

I should be grateful if you could ensure that I receive advance copies of telegrams about Hong Kong in the same way that I receive advance copies of other telegrams of particular interest to the Prime Minister.

As you know, I earlier requested that a suitable arrangement should be made but the procedure is still not satisfactory. You told me at about 3.45 pm today that you had received an advance copy of Sir Percy Cradock's report on his latest talk with the Chinese about the state of the negotiations. One hour later the Prime Minister's party in Blackpool asked me what had happened during Sir Percy Cradock's call. I was able to give them a brief summary as a result of what you had told me. But it would have been better had I already read the full report.

A. J. COLES

John Holmes, Esq., Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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