

GPS 242.
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FM FCO 201100Z OCT 83
TO PRIORITY HONG KONG
TELEGRAM NUMBER 1075 OF 20 OCTOBER
INFO PRIORITY PEKING.

MS

YOUR TELNO 1554 ROBERT ADLEY MP

1. THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICE HAVE GIVEN US THE SAME INFORMATION ABOUT MR ADLEY'S PROPOSED VISIT TO HONG KONG THEY ARE TRYING TO FIND OUT MORE OF HIS PLANS AND WILL KEEP IN TOUCH WITH US.

2. YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT MR ADLEY WROTE TO THE PRIME MINISTER THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND MR LUCE IN EARLY OCTOBER RESTATING HIS VIEW THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT SHOULD IMMEDIATELY RECOGNISE CHINA'S SOVEREIGNTY OVER HONG KONG. IT WAS ONLY A PERSONAL INTERVENTION BY MR LUCE WHICH DISSUADED MR ADLEY FROM PUBLISHING HIS LETTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER. BUT IN A FURTHER LETTER MR ADLEY WARNED THAT HIS PATIENCE WAS ALMOST EXHAUSTED AND THAT HE WAS PROFOUNDLY DISQUIETED BY DEVELOPMENTS OVER HONG KONG THE SECRETARY OF STATE SUBSEQUENTLY WROTE TO MR ADLEY COUNSELLING RESTRAINT.

3. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES WE JUDGE THAT ANY ATTEMPT TO APPROACH MR ADLEY OR LEAN ON HIM COULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE IF HIS VISIT TO HONG KONG MATERIALISES WE CAN ONLY SUGGEST THAT IT SHOULD BE HANDLED AS A ROUTINE AFFAIR, AND THAT HE SHOULD BE TREATED NO DIFFERENTLY FROM ANY OTHER VISITING MP WHERE HIS PROGRAMME OR BRIEFING IS CONCERNED.

4. MR ADLEY HAS ALSO SECURED AN ADJOURNMENT DEBATE ON HONG KONG IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, TO TAKE PLACE ON 31 OCTOBER SUCH DEBATES LAST FOR HALF AN HOUR. WE DO NOT YET KNOW WHO WILL REPLY FOR THE GOVERNMENT.

HOWE

FUTURE OF HONG KONG

LIMITED

HD/HKD

HD/FED

HD/PLANNING STAFF

HD/FUSD

PS

PS/LADY YOUNG

PS/MR LUCE

PS/FUS

SIR J BULLARD

MR GIFFARD

MR DONALD

MR WRIGHT

COPIES TO

SIR IAN SINCLAIR LEGAL ADVISER

MR BURROWS LEGAL ADVISER

MR ROBERTS NEWS D

MR MARTIN ASSESSMENTS STAFF
CABINET OFFICE

MR FLOWER FUSD

MR COLES NO 10 DOWNING STREET

SIR A PARSONS NO 10 DOWNING STREET

MR WALKER RESEARCH D OAB 2/82

MR GOODALL, CABINET OFFICE

SIR PHILIP MOORE, BUCKINGHAM PALACE

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