



Derosper

NRPN

Paul

PM/81/35

PRIME MINISTER

Air Services between London and Hong Kong

1. I have seen John Biffen's minute of 10 June to you.
2. I do not quarrel with his general conclusions but have one point on procedure. I can understand his wish to let Hong Kong know that we would still like an appeals procedure, but I do not think this should be put as a formal request. To do so would only lead to the difficulties with the Hong Kong Executive Council that are mentioned in the minute. Our relations with Hong Kong, already difficult, could be further strained. I suggest that the best tactics would be simply to restate our interest in an appeals procedure in departmental correspondence, and to discuss with the Hong Kong authorities possible ways of putting this to the Executive Council. On this basis I can support the proposal.

C

(CARRINGTON)

Foreign and Commonwealth Office
19 June 1981

19 JUN 1984

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