



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

9 April 1984

*Dear John,*

The attached letter was handed to Mr Luce by Sir S Y Chung at their meeting on 5 April.

Mr Chow is well known to us. He has organised three rallies in Hong Kong over the last six months to oppose the Chinese proposals for the future of the territory and will hold another on 15 April. Each of the rallies to date has been sparsely attended, but Chow's activities have provoked protests from the Chinese and demands that the Hong Kong Government should take immediate action to halt them. Chow clearly has links with Taiwan, but is very much his own man and not a KMT agent.

In the circumstances, I am sure that a reply from the Prime Minister or from No 10 would be inappropriate, even though Sir S Y Chung has personally conveyed the letter. We recommend that a departmental reply from the FCO would be right and will proceed accordingly if you agree.

*Yours ever,*

(P F Ricketts)  
Private Secretary

*Peter Ricketts*

A J Coles Esq  
10 Downing Street

Working Committee,  
Hong Kong Self Salvation  
Movement,  
Rm 14,  
4/F, 760 Nathan Rd,  
Kowloon,  
Hong Kong.  
1 April 1984.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher,  
Prime Minister,  
10 Downing St,  
London.

Dear Madam,

It is known to all that Communist rule is characterised by suppression that leads only to bloodshed, deprivation and dire poverty. Examples of this are many; mainland China certainly is an indisputable one.

The majority - over 80% - of Hong Kong people are once themselves refugees who risked their lives to escape to this colony from the Communist rule on the mainland. They are therefore staunch anti-communists fearful of the Chinese regime.

Should the nightmare of Hong Kong being ruled by the Chinese government become a reality, Hong Kong, we believe, would be deprived of its life and vigour and reduced to a slaughterhouse of the Chinese Communists.

We are a group of Chinese that once fell prey to the tricks of the Chinese Communists. The so-called "self-administration for Hong Kong" is at its best nothing but another big lie of the Communists. So are the empty promises to keep Hong Kong prosperous as it is.

In fact, we as Chinese ourselves should have no reason for rejecting the return of Hong Kong to Chinese rule. The point, however, is that the ruling authority on the mainland is only Chinese in appearance; it harbours a deep-rooted hostility against the Chinese people.

In this connection, we feel it our obligation to point out the Chinese ruling party is in no position to represent Chinese people in much the same way as the local Communist mouthpieces are no true representatives of the voice of the local populace.

If any modicum of conscience is left in them, the Chinese Communists should be shameful of the fact that the mainland Chinese reject their rule and Hong Kong people resist their take-over bid of Hong Kong.

What the Chinese Communists have done in the past three decades or so provides a chilling experience for the Chinese people that arouses only the fear and desperation of the local people.

As regards the 1997 question, the only wish of the Hong Kong people is to keep the status quo of Hong Kong through continued British administration. This paradoxically reflects the sense of desperation and hopelessness most of us suffer from in making a choice that runs counter to our pride and self-esteem.

We fully understand we have no right to tamper with the decision-making process of the British Government on the Hong Kong question. But we believe we do have a say in matters that concern our own safety and the future of our next generations.

At this critical juncture, we strongly urge you or your concerned party to uphold the principle of humanitarianism and justice in your negotiations with the Chinese Government over the future of Hong Kong and ensure that the following conditions are fulfilled:

\* any negotiations over the Hong Kong question must involve participation of representatives from Hong Kong residents,

\* any decision on the Hong Kong question should not become effective without the consent of Hong Kong people,

\* Hong Kong should remain the way it is before a unified China is realised,

\* should the British be left with no other choice but to quit Hong Kong, the administrative rights must be transferred to Hong Kong people.

Thank you very much for your attention in this matter. We would deem it our honour if this letter is taken into account to form part of your consideration in the talks over the 1997 question.

Yours faithfully,

周慶鑽

Chow Hing-chuen  
(for the afore-mentioned  
committee)



File

R07

10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

10 April, 1984

MR. CHOW

Thank you for your letter of 9 April.

I agree that a departmental reply should be sent to Mr. Chow's letter of 1 April to the Prime Minister.

P.F. Ricketts, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office