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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

3 August, 1984

Dear Charles,

Yes  
Prime Minister  
Agree to appointment  
of Sir Patrick Nairne,  
with Sir John Paul  
as fall back?

Future of Hong Kong: Test of Acceptability

As you know, part of the proposed method of determining the acceptability of an agreement when it is reached in Hong Kong involves the appointment by HMG of two monitors to observe the work of the Assessment Unit set up under the Hong Kong Government, and to report on the impartiality of its proceedings. The proposal is that one monitor should be from Hong Kong, and the other from the UK.

CDD  
3/8.

There was an initial discussion of possible candidates in OD(K) before the Foreign Secretary's visit to Hong Kong and China. During his visit, Sir Geoffrey discussed possible candidates for these posts with the Governor. The Governor proposes to nominate a Chinese High Court Judge, Mr Justice Simon Li, as the Hong Kong-based monitor.

As for the British candidate, Sir Geoffrey and the Governor concluded that the best choice would be Sir Patrick Nairne, now Master of St Catherine's College, Oxford. The second choice would be Sir John Paul, currently Director of Overseas Relations with St John's Ambulance Brigade, and previously Governor of the Isle of Man.

I should be grateful to know whether the Prime Minister is content with these conclusions. If so, we propose to make an early approach to Sir Patrick Nairne in the first instance.

Yours ever,

Peter Ricketts

(P F Ricketts)  
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street

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*File  
ccpw* *[Signature]*

10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

6 August 1984

Future of Hong Kong: Test of Acceptability

Thank you for your letter of 3 August about the appointment of two monitors to observe the work of the Assessment Unit in determining the acceptability of an agreement on the future of Hong Kong.

The Prime Minister agrees to the appointment of Mr Justice Simon Li as the Hong Kong based monitor and Sir Patrick Nairne as the British monitor, with Sir John Paul as fallback.

C D Powell

Peter Ricketts, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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