

STATEMENT ON RECENT EVENTS IN PEKING

We are all deeply shocked by the news from Peking and appalled by the indiscriminate shooting of unarmed people. It is a reminder that, despite some recent easing of East/West tensions, a very great gulf remains between the democratic and the communist societies.

We view these events in Peking with particular concern because of our responsibility for Hong Kong and our obligation - which we share with the Chinese Government under the Joint Declaration - to safeguard Hong Kong's future stability and prosperity.

I understand the deep anxiety presently felt by people in Hong Kong and admire their steadfastness in the face of these latest tragic events.

Britain will continue to stand by its commitment to a secure future for Hong Kong. We are confident that the Chinese Government also will continue to abide by their obligations under the 1984 Agreement.

MRMAEM

MORE TO (2)
FOLLOW

SECRETARY OF STATE'S INTERVIEW WITH THE WORLD AT ONE
CHINA

POINTS TO MAKE

Events_in_Peking

The situation remains confused. Number of dead unclear. But apparent they many hundreds have been injured. Chinese troops guilty of firing indiscriminately on unarmed people. PLA's claim that they have secured a famous victory is a travesty of reality. Ruthless use of force against defenceless demonstrators is totally unjustified.

Impact_on_Chinese_Leadership

Premature to speculate about political consequences in China of use of armed forces against demonstrators. Events of past few weeks demonstrate that Chinese leadership is divided. Regrettable that hard-line counsel has prevailed. Chinese government should realise that history teaches ^{that} those who use ruthless force to suppress legitimate aspirations of their people do not long survive. Hope that Chinese leadership will come to their senses and that voices of reason and moderation will reassert themselves.

Use_of_Force

Use of armed forces goes against trend elsewhere in Communist world. Other Communist leaders recognise that dialogue not confrontation is the only basis for stable government. Desire for more responsible, open government is universal. China cannot remain immune from changes taking place throughout the Communist world.

REPRESENTATIONS BY HMG

We will ensure that the Chinese government are aware of our deep regret at developments in Peking.

EC COORDINATION

We shall call on our European partners to join us in urging moderation and restraint on the Chinese government.

CONSULAR

The Embassy at Peking are urgently seeking to establish whether there are any British casualties. So far no reports of injuries to British citizens although some British journalists have been mistreated. Our advice is that all travel in the Peking area should be postponed until further notice.

(BACKGROUND

The Embassy have reported that a Reuters journalist has been manhandled by Chinese security personnel. Dr Mirsky of the Observer said in a radio interview that he had been beaten by Chinese military)

POINTS TO MAKE

- Joint Declaration was signed because it was in the interests of China as well as Britain and Hong Kong to keep Hong Kong stable and prosperous.
- Joint Declaration guarantees a high degree of autonomy, respect for human rights and rule of law.
- Nothing which has happened in Peking affects these calculations. Whilst remembering the horror of what has happened, should keep this perspective clearly in mind.

DEFENSIVE

Effects on Confidence

- Bound to shake confidence in short term but we must all work to ensure that confidence holds up. Time for steady nerves and calm reflection. Hong Kong has a great deal going for it.

Nationality: Right of Abode in UK for all Hong Kong people

- A number of means exist by which Hong Kong people can come here if they wish. Immense practical difficulties in giving everyone an automatic right to do so.
- Convinced that most Hong Kong people want to continue to make their lives in Hong Kong. Our responsibility is to create conditions to enable them to do so.

its hands in the way suggested in these amendments seems wrong both in principle and as a matter of practice. That is why I urge your Lordships to resist these amendments.

Lord McIntosh of Haringey: My Lords, I wish to say straight away that I acknowledge the force of the points made by the noble Lord, Lord Renton. In seeking to accommodate the very reasonable concerns expressed by the noble Lord, Lord Crickhowell, and others to secure that sensible arrangements were possible in the opening years of the life of the National Rivers Authority we have gone too far. We have sought in the text of these amendments to do something that we did not intend to do in our minds, which was to prohibit all subcontracting, whether to the plcs or to anybody else. To that extent, the amendments are not only defective but are gravely defective. I shall not ask the House to divide on them.

I apologise for having taken up some of the time of the House with defective amendments. I say partly because the response of the Minister is of great interest to us. I listened carefully to what he said in his argument against any restriction of subcontracting to the plcs. He will understand that, whatever the amendment states, I do not agree with that.

I listened in particular to what the Minister said about the safeguards which will be incorporated in the schemes of transfer under Schedule 2. That seems to me to offer some hope that we might reach an acceptable compromise between now and a later stage of the Bill which would protect the distinction between poacher and gamekeeper. That is, after all, at the heart of the establishment of the National Rivers Authority. It is a gamekeeper authority called into being because the water and sewerage undertakings are to be privatised and are to be removed from other controls. To that extent, I believe we are all in agreement that there must be this separation of powers and responsibilities.

However, I do not think I go along with the noble Lord, Lord Trafford, in what he called his theoretical argument. I shall have to think about that and read his speech with some care between now and a later stage. However, it is clear that what we want to do, which is to maintain the independence of the National Rivers Authority from the plcs that it is supposed to be controlling, is not achieved by these amendments. As I said, we may have to look at other ways of achieving what we want between now and Third Reading. However, in the meantime, I beg leave to withdraw the amendment.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

The Earl of Arran: My Lords, I beg to move that further consideration on Report now be adjourned.

Moved, accordingly, and, on Question, Motion agreed to.

Events in China: Implications for Hong Kong

4.15 p.m.

The Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (Lord Glenarthur): My Lords, with the leave of the House, I shall now repeat a Statement being made in another place by my right honourable and learned friend the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary on events in China and their implications for Hong Kong. The Statement is as follows:

"With permission, Mr Speaker, I should like to make a statement about events in China in recent weeks.

"During the last few days units of the Chinese Army have been engaged in the violent suppression of peaceful and popular demonstrations in the streets of Peking. The indiscriminate and unprovoked use of military force has caused the death or injury of thousands of students and other innocent civilians. I am sure that all Members of the House will share the worldwide sense of horror and join in the international condemnation of the slaughter of innocent people.

"I summoned the Chinese chargé d'affaires yesterday. I told him that the British Government and people were united in condemning the merciless treatment of peaceful demonstrators, and deeply deplored the use of force to suppress the democratic aspirations of the Chinese people. I told him that the British Government looked to the Chinese authorities to fulfil their obligations to Hong Kong in the joint declaration.

"I reminded him of the responsibilities of the Chinese Government to ensure the safety of British citizens and Hong Kong residents. I expressed concern at the maltreatment of British journalists, particularly Michael Fathers of the *Independent* and Johnathan Mirksy of the *Observer*. We have since seen disturbing reports of the ill-treatment of Kate Adie of the BBC.

"Our ambassador in Peking and his staff have been working round the clock to ensure the safety of British citizens and Hong Kong residents in Peking and as far as possible in other parts of China. The embassy has advised against travel to any part of China. They have also advised those who are concerned about their safety and have no pressing need to remain in China to leave immediately.

"Since the Cultural Revolution there has been a substantial improvement in relations between the United Kingdom and the People's Republic of China as the Chinese Government have sought to broaden their contacts with the international community and to introduce economic and other reforms. Friends of China in this House and around the world must share the hope that sane and balanced government will be swiftly and securely restored in Peking. In present circumstances, however, there can be no question of continuing normal business with the Chinese authorities.

[LORD GLENARTHUR.]

"Her Majesty's Government have therefore decided on the following action. All scheduled ministerial exchanges between Britain and China have been suspended. The visit of the Chinese Minister of Justice, who was due to arrive here tomorrow, has been cancelled. My right honourable friend the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food has also cancelled his forthcoming visit to China.

"The proposed visit of Their Royal Highnesses The Prince and Princess of Wales to China in November clearly cannot take place so long as those responsible for the atrocities over the past weekend remain in control of the Chinese Government. All high-level military contacts with China have been suspended. All arms sales to China have been banned. At the same time the Government are examining how we can respond to any requests for humanitarian assistance from non-governmental organisations.

"The whole House will share the Government's special concern about the implications for Hong Kong of what has been happening in Peking. The Government understand and share the grave concern felt by the people of Hong Kong. We have all been deeply impressed by the strength and restraint of their response to what has happened.

"Everything that has been accomplished in Hong Kong has been achieved in the unique context of the geography and history of the territory, and by the talent and enterprise of its people. All that underlines the extent to which the future prosperity of Hong Kong must depend upon a successful and secure partnership with the Government and people of China. That objective is enshrined in the commitments made by the British Government and the Government of China under the joint declaration. Those commitments were reaffirmed by the chargé d'affaires when he called on me yesterday. But it is self-evident that if we are to have confidence in the commitment of the Chinese Government to their obligations, there must be a stable and responsible government in Peking. The British Government will stand by its obligations under the joint declaration. The Government and the House look to the Government of the People's Republic of China to live up to that international commitment as well.

"The events in Peking must affect the prospects and procedure for implementation of the joint declaration. Consultations about the second draft of the Basic Law for Hong Kong have been suspended. It is also difficult to see how our own contacts with the Chinese Government about the future of Hong Kong can continue in present circumstances.

"Meanwhile, I can assure the House that we shall be conducting a thorough examination of the programme for advancing and consolidating effective democracy in Hong Kong. We are considering urgently what further steps can be taken to enshrine and protect Hong Kong's freedoms and way of life after 1997.

"All of us in this House are acutely conscious of the wish of the people of Hong Kong to secure some form of assurance for themselves and their families. I know that this has been one of the issues studied by the Select Committee on Foreign Affairs. Some commentators have recommended that a right of abode in this country should be given to the 3¼ million people in Hong Kong who hold British nationality. We share the desire of the House to do everything we can to enhance the security of the people of Hong Kong. On that basis, the Government are looking urgently and sympathetically at the scope for flexibility. But the House will appreciate the reason why we could not easily contemplate a massive new immigration commitment which could—and the possibility cannot be disregarded—more than double the ethnic minority population of the United Kingdom. Our overriding aim must be to do everything possible to secure the continuation of those conditions in Hong Kong that have led to its outstanding success over the last century. I hope the House will send a message to the people of Hong Kong, reaffirming our commitment to their secure, stable and prosperous future.

"The Chinese people are seeking from their communist leadership rights and liberties which are taken for granted in the free world. The slaughter in Peking is a tragic setback to the campaign for democracy but I hope this House will send a united message. China cannot ignore the lessons which are being learnt elsewhere in the world. Economic prosperity and personal liberty go hand in hand. People will not forever tolerate government by repression".

My Lords, that concludes the Statement.

4.24 p.m.

Lord Cledwyn of Penrhos: My Lords, we thank the noble Lord for repeating the Statement. As the Statement says, we have all been profoundly shocked by the deplorable and distressing events in Tiananmen Square over the weekend. We condemn such action without reservation. It would be a mistake at this stage to attempt to make any judgment or prediction as to the consequences of recent developments in China. We and other countries must wait to see how matters develop and whether the present government or some other administration emerges from the present chaos. This seems to me to be the only practical and sensible stance at this moment.

We note the advice that the Government are giving to British nationals in China. Can the Minister say what assistance is being offered to them if that may be required? In particular, there is concern about the large number of British students in China. Perhaps the noble Lord could confirm the situation with respect to the students in the light of recent press reports about the dangers to their safety. We also note the remarks in the Statement about British journalists. I should like to pay a tribute to them for their courage in dangerous circumstances and also for the quality of their reporting.

nations of Europe belonging to NATO going way beyond the European Community—signed the treaty, including other Socialist Governments. The Labour party could not sign the document and therefore could not accept the shield and defence of NATO. What a pity Labour Members are such a puny lot.

Mr. Julian Brazier (Canterbury): Does my right hon. Friend agree that one of the most critical reasons for our retention of tactical nuclear weapons is the overwhelming number of chemical weapons that the Soviet Union possesses—approximately one quarter of its forward stocks of ammunition? Does she further agree that those weapons give the Soviet conventional forces an overwhelming advantage which is further enhanced by their numerical superiority?

The Prime Minister: I agree that the Soviets have colossal superiority in chemical weapons, a point that is dealt with effectively in this year's defence White Paper. In 1991 the older chemical weapons that the United States has stationed in the Federal Republic will be withdrawn and then we shall be without any chemical weapons unless modernised ones are substituted and stationed. In that case, our only response to the use of chemical weapons would be nuclear, and that is an additional reason for keeping nuclear weapons.

Dr. Norman A. Godman (Greenock and Port Glasgow): Why is it so difficult for the right hon. Lady to admit that a major change has taken place in recent times in the special relationship between America and the United Kingdom?

The Prime Minister: The alliance between the United States and Canada and the European partners of NATO is as firm as ever it was, and it is that which makes our defence sure. The major change that has taken place has been in the approach, opinions and views of the Soviet Union, a change that would never have come about but for the firmness of people who share our views on defence.

China

4.10 pm

The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (Sir Geoffrey Howe): With permission, Mr. Speaker, I should like to make a statement about events in China in recent weeks.

During the last few days, units of the Chinese army have been engaged in the violent suppression of peaceful and popular demonstrations in the streets of Peking. The indiscriminate and unprovoked use of military force has caused the death or injury of thousands of students and other innocent civilians.

I am sure that all Members of the House will share the worldwide sense of horror and join in the international condemnation of the slaughter of innocent people.

I summoned the Chinese charge d'affaires yesterday. I told him that the British Government and people were united in condemning the merciless treatment of peaceful demonstrators, and deeply deplored the use of force to suppress the democratic aspirations of the Chinese people. I told him that the British Government looked to the Chinese authorities to fulfil their obligations to Hong Kong in the joint declaration of 1984. I reminded him of the responsibilities of the Chinese Government to ensure the safety of British citizens and Hong Kong residents.

I expressed concern at the maltreatment of British journalists, particularly Michael Fathers of *The Independent* and Johnathan Mirsky of *The Observer*. We have since seen disturbing reports of the ill-treatment of Kate Adie of the BBC.

Our ambassador in Peking and his staff have been working round the clock to ensure the safety of British citizens and Hong Kong residents in Peking and, as far as possible, in other parts of China. The embassy has advised against travel to any part of China. It has also advised those who are concerned about their safety and have no pressing need to remain in China to leave immediately.

Since the cultural revolution there has been a substantial improvement in relations between the United Kingdom and the People's Republic of China as the Chinese Government have sought to broaden their contacts with the international community and to introduce economic and other reforms. Friends of China in this House and around the world must share the hope that sane and balanced government will be swiftly and securely restored in Peking. In present circumstances, however, there can be no question of continuing normal business with the Chinese authorities.

Her Majesty's Government have therefore decided on the following action.

All scheduled ministerial exchanges between Britain and China have been suspended. The visit of the Chinese Minister of Justice, who was due to arrive here tomorrow, has been cancelled. My right hon. Friend the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food has also cancelled his forthcoming visit to China.

The proposed visit of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales to China in November clearly cannot take place so long as those responsible for the atrocities over the past weekend remain in control of the Chinese Government.

All high-level military contacts with China have been suspended.

All arms sales to China have been banned.

[*Sir Geoffrey Howe*]

At the same time, the Government are examining how we can respond to any requests for humanitarian assistance from non-governmental organisations.

The whole House will share the Government's special concern about the implications for Hong Kong of what has been happening in Peking. The Government understand and share the grave concern felt by the people of Hong Kong. We have all been deeply impressed by the strength and restraint of their response to what has happened.

Everything that has been accomplished in Hong Kong has been achieved in the unique context of the geography and history of the territory and by the talent and enterprise of its people. All of that underlines the extent to which the future prosperity of Hong Kong must depend on a successful and secure partnership with the Government and people of China. That objective is enshrined in the commitments made by the British Government and the Government of China under the joint declaration. Those commitments were reaffirmed by the charge d'affaires when he called on me yesterday.

But it is self-evident that if we are to have confidence in the commitment of the Chinese Government to their obligations, there must be a stable and responsible Government in Peking. The British Government will stand by their obligations under the joint declaration. The Government and the House look to the Government of the People's Republic of China to live up to that international commitment as well.

The events in Peking must affect the prospects and procedure for implementation of the joint declaration. Consultations about the second draft of the Basic Law for Hong Kong have been suspended. It is also difficult to see how our own contacts with the Chinese Government about the future of Hong Kong can continue in present circumstances.

Meanwhile, I assure the House that we shall be conducting a thorough examination of the programme for advancing and consolidating effective democracy in Hong Kong. We are considering urgently what further steps can be taken to enshrine and protect Hong Kong's freedoms and way of life after 1997.

All of us in this House are acutely conscious of the wish of the people of Hong Kong to secure some form of assurance for themselves and their families. I know that this has been one of the issues studied by the Select Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Some commentators have recommended that a right of abode in this country should be given to the 3¼ million people in Hong Kong who hold British nationality. We share the desire of the House to do everything we can to enhance the security of the people of Hong Kong. On that basis, the Government are looking urgently and sympathetically at the scope for flexibility. But the House will appreciate the reason why we could not easily contemplate a massive new immigration commitment which could—and the possibility cannot be disregarded—more than double the ethnic minority population of the United Kingdom.

Our overriding aim must be to do everything possible to secure the continuation of those conditions in Hong Kong that have led to its outstanding success over the last

century. I hope the House will send a message to the people of Hong Kong reaffirming our commitment to their secure, stable and prosperous future.

The Chinese people are seeking from their Communist leadership rights and liberties which are taken for granted in the free world. The slaughter in Peking is a tragic setback to the campaign for democracy, but I hope this House will send a united message. China cannot ignore the lessons which are being learned elsewhere in the world. Economic prosperity and personal liberty go hand in hand. People will not forever tolerate government by repression.

Mr. Gerald Kaufman (Manchester, Gorton): My hon. Friends and I condemn outright and in the strongest terms the abominable massacres which have been perpetrated in Beijing. Those of us who have great feelings of friendship for China and have watched its political and economic progress with hope and satisfaction are particularly appalled at this regression to barbarity. It is impossible for us to return to those attitudes so long as this bloodstained repression continues and until it is clear that those in control of China repudiate it.

The scenes of carnage on our television screens have horrified us all. I pay tribute to the courageous journalists who have reported the events, and in particular to the remarkable Kate Adie of the BBC who has risked her life to get the news to Britain.

We admire the swift and positive action taken by President Bush to demonstrate the anger of the United States.

We support the action which Her Majesty's Government have taken and which the Foreign Secretary has just announced. I wish, though, that as well as suspending arms sales—and of course we support that suspension—he would examine the possibility of cancelling all other exports to China, including exports of vehicles which could be used for repression of the civilian population.

I also ask whether the Foreign Secretary will consult the other Governments of the European Community to ensure that firm and concerted action is taken by the whole Community. I should be grateful if he could tell the House what action the United Kingdom Government are considering taking in the United Nations on this matter.

We have been told—and of course we welcome it—about the action which the Government are taking, so far as they can, to protect and assist British citizens at present in Beijing and any other areas that may be affected. Will our embassy also be accepting its responsibility for the safety of Hong Kong citizens—journalists, business people and others—who may be caught up in these disturbances?

It is essential for the Government to take whatever action is open to them to provide reassurance for the people of Hong Kong. In eight years their colony is due to be incorporated into China, but only if the safety, welfare and governance of Hong Kong remain the sole responsibility of this United Kingdom House of Commons.

As the Foreign Secretary knows, the Opposition recommended that elections to the Hong Kong legislative council should take place last year. That was not done. We now ask the Foreign Secretary urgently to consider the possibility of bringing forward the elections scheduled for 1991 if possible to this year, but certainly to no later than



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~~C.D.P.~~
Revised
version

STATEMENT ON EVENTS IN CHINA AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR
HONG KONG

With permission, Mr Speaker, I should like to make a statement about events in China in recent weeks.

During the last few days, units of the Chinese Army have been engaged in the violent suppression of peaceful and popular demonstrations in the streets of Peking. The indiscriminate and unprovoked use of military force has caused the death or injury of thousands of students and other innocent civilians.

The British Government and other governments had, since recent disturbances began, urged on the Chinese authorities a policy of dialogue and non-violence. After a period in which a peaceful outcome had looked possible, the brutal actions of the Chinese Army have sent shock waves round the world. I am sure that all members of the House will share that sense of horror and join in the international condemnation of the slaughter of innocent people.

I summoned the Chinese Chargé d'Affaires yesterday. I told him that the British Government and people were united in condemning the merciless treatment of peaceful demonstrators, and deeply deplored the use of force to suppress the democratic aspirations of the Chinese people.

I told the Chargé that the British Government looked to the Chinese authorities to fulfil their obligations to Hong Kong in the Joint Declaration.



I reminded the Chargé of the responsibilities of the Chinese Government to ensure the safety of British citizens and Hong Kong residents. I expressed concern at the maltreatment of British journalists, particularly Michael Fathers of The Independent and Johnathan Mirksy of The Observer. We have since seen disturbing reports of the ill treatment of Kate Adie of the BBC.

Our Ambassador in Peking and his staff have been working round the clock to ensure the safety of British citizens and Hong Kong residents in Peking and, as far as possible, in other parts of China. The Embassy have advised against travel to any part of China. They have also advised those who are concerned about their safety and have no pressing need to remain in China to leave immediately. Our concern to ensure the safety of British and Hong Kong citizens will remain paramount.

Since the Cultural Revolution, there has been a substantial improvement in relations between the United Kingdom and the People's Republic of China as the Chinese Government has sought to broaden its contacts with the international community and to introduce economic and other reforms. Friends of China in this House and around the world must share the hope that sane and balanced government will be swiftly and securely restored in Peking. In present circumstances, however, there can be no question of continuing normal business with the Chinese authorities.

Her Majesty's Government have therefore decided on the following action:



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- the proposed visit of Their Royal Highnesses The Prince and Princess of Wales to China in November clearly cannot take place so long as those responsible for the atrocities over the past weekend remain in control of the Chinese Government;
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- all arms sales to China have been banned.

At the same time, the Government are examining how we can respond to any requests for humanitarian assistance from non-governmental organisations.

The whole House will share the Government's special concern about the implications for Hong Kong of what has been happening in Peking. The Government understand the grave concern felt by the people of Hong Kong. We have all been deeply impressed by the strength and restraint of their response to what has happened.

Everything that has been accomplished in Hong Kong has been achieved in the unique context of the geography and history of the Territory, and by the talent and enterprise of its people. All that underlines the extent to which the future prosperity of Hong Kong must depend upon a successful and secure partnership with the



government and people of China. That objective is enshrined in the commitments made by the British Government and the Government of China under the Joint Declaration. Those commitments were reaffirmed by the Chargé d'Affaires when he called on me yesterday. But it is self-evident that if we are to have confidence in the commitment of the Chinese Government to their obligations, there must be a stable and responsible government in Peking. The British Government will stand by its obligations under the Joint Declaration. The Government and the House look to the Government of the People's Republic of China to live up to that international commitment as well.

The events in Peking must affect the prospects and procedure for implementation of the Joint Declaration. Consultations about the second draft of the Basic Law for Hong Kong have been suspended. It is also difficult to see how our own contacts with the Chinese Government about the future of Hong Kong can continue in present circumstances.

No-one can doubt from the peaceful and dignified demonstrations of the last few days the degree of concern on the part of the people of Hong Kong that their future security, stability and freedom will be guaranteed after 1997. The British Government fully share that concern. I can assure the House that we shall be conducting a thorough examination of the programme for advancing and consolidating effective democracy in Hong Kong. We are considering urgently what further steps can be taken to enshrine and protect Hong Kong's freedoms and way of life after 1997.



All of us in this House are acutely conscious of the wish of the people of Hong Kong to secure some form of assurance for themselves and their families. I know that this has been one of the issues studied by the Select Committee on Foreign Affairs. Some commentators have recommended that a right of abode in this country should be given to the 3¼ million people in Hong Kong who hold British nationality. We share the desire of the House to do everything we can to enhance the security of the people of Hong Kong. On that basis, the Government are looking urgently and sympathetically at the scope for flexibility. But the House will appreciate the reason why we could not easily contemplate a massive new immigration commitment which would more than double the ethnic minority population of the United Kingdom. Our overriding aim must be to do everything possible to secure the continuation of those conditions in Hong Kong that have led to its outstanding success over the last century. I hope the House will send a message to the people of Hong Kong, reaffirming our commitment to their secure, stable and prosperous future.

The events of the last few days in China run directly counter to the recent trend within China itself and to the pressure for legitimate democratic change which is being increasingly recognised throughout the world. The Chinese students are demanding from their Communist leadership rights and liberties which are taken for granted in the free world. The slaughter in Peking is a tragic setback to the campaign for democracy but I hope this House will send a united message: a message of support to the people of China; a message of warning to the Government of China that the economic revival which they have successfully fostered in recent years can only succeed if it is accompanied by essential human rights and freedoms.