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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Prime Minister

Agree that Sir S.Y.
& Roger Lobo should be
invited to the Zhao Ziyang
dinner? Yes not CDP
10/5

Dear Charles,

Dinner for President Zhao Ziyang on 3 June

When I wrote to Sue Goodchild on 26 April putting forward a guest list for the Prime Minister's dinner for President Zhao, I said that we had reserved two spaces pending a recommendation from the Governor about attendance by two senior Unofficials from Hong Kong.

The Governor has now recommended that the Prime Minister should invite Sir S Y Chung and Sir Roger Lobo to the dinner. Sir Geoffrey Howe agrees that for presentational reasons in Hong Kong it would be valuable to have the two senior Unofficials at the dinner. There had earlier been suggestions that a delegation of Unofficials should visit London in advance of the visit by President Zhao for consultations with Ministers. We believe that such a visit would have given rise to undesirable expectations that dramatic developments on Hong Kong were in the offing. For the Prime Minister to invite the two senior Unofficials would provide an appropriate way of associating Hong Kong with the visit without giving rise to any such expectations.

The Governor would like to be able to announce the fact of the visit to London by Sir S Y and Sir Roger soon: if the Prime Minister agreed that they should be invited to the dinner, he would propose to include this point in the announcement of their visit.

Yours ever,

Peter Ricketts

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

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