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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

10 November 1983

Dear John,

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Prime Minister's meeting with Mr Trudeau: 11 November:
Future of Hong Kong

The High Commissioner in Ottawa has forewarned us that during his meeting with the Prime Minister on 11 November, Mr Trudeau may ask her if there is anything she feels able to add to her letter of him of 2 November about Hong Kong's future (I enclose a copy). The Prime Minister's letter mentioned, inter alia, that we would be keeping the Canadians in the picture about the progress of the Sino-British talks on this subject.

We have separately asked the High Commissioner in Ottawa to follow up the Prime Minister's discussions with Mr Trudeau about Hong Kong by bringing the Canadian DFA up to date at a senior level.

I attach a list of points on which the Prime Minister may wish to draw, should Mr Trudeau raise the subject.

Yours ever,

Peter Ricketts

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

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10 Downing Street

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Prime Minister's Meeting with Mr Trudeau 11 November 1983

Hong Kong

Points To Make

(a) Continuing to keep your Government informed. We have asked our High Commissioner to follow up my discussions with you on 26 September.

(b) At October session of talks, we proposed that on the basis of Chinese proposals for Hong Kong but without prejudice to our own position or to any final agreement, we should examine whether arrangements of lasting value to the people of Hong Kong could be devised which would ensure maintenance of stability and prosperity.

(c) This approach was agreed with Hong Kong's Executive Council. Appears to have been well-received by Chinese. We hope at 14/15 November session to make progress on concrete discussion of detailed areas.

Hong Kong Department
10 November 1983

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