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PM/85/84

PRIME MINISTER

Hong Kong Nationality Order In Council

attached

1. I confirm that I am content with the draft White Paper containing the Hong Kong Nationality Order in Council circulated under cover of the Home Secretary's minute of 30 September. The White Paper and Order were drawn up in consultation with FCO and Hong Kong Government officials, and have been approved by the Hong Kong Executive Council.

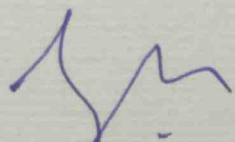
2. Although the issues involved were aired thoroughly during the debate on the Hong Kong Bill we should not underestimate the political sensitivity of nationality questions in Hong Kong and we should allow ample time to debate these. We can expect continued criticism both for our refusal to grant right of abode in the UK to BDTCs, and for our failure to obtain Chinese agreement to a transmissible form of nationality for BDTCs. Given however that EXCO has agreed to this Order I think that opposition will be of manageable proportions.

3. We will also need to be careful to bear Chinese sensitivities in mind during the passage of the Order. The negotiation of the Exchange of Memoranda on nationality associated with the Joint Declaration was extremely difficult. The Chinese will be watching carefully to see that we implement it to the letter.

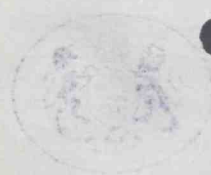
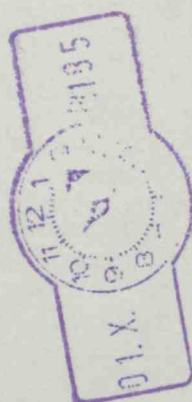
4. I am copying this minute to colleagues in OD(K), to John Wakeham, Bertie Denham and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

1 October 1985


(GEOFFREY HOWE)

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

1 October 1985

HONG KONG ACT 1985

The Prime Minister has considered the Home Secretary's minute of 30 September seeking agreement to the publication of a White Paper on the nationality provisions of the Hong Kong Act 1985.

Subject to the views of colleagues, the Prime Minister is content for the White Paper to be published as proposed.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to members of OD(K), the Lord Privy Seal, the Chief Whip, Lord Denham and Sir Robert Armstrong.

(C. D. POWELL)

Hugh Taylor, Esq.,
Home Office.

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MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

Telephone 01-218 2111/3 (Direct Dialling)

01-218 9000 (Switchboard)

MO 5/14

8th October 1985

Mr Charles,

*CDD
OK*

HONG KONG NATIONALITY ORDER IN COUNCIL

The Defence Secretary has seen a copy of the Home Secretary's minute to the Prime Minister of 30th September. He is content with the draft White Paper containing the Hong Kong Nationality Order in Council.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to the members of OD(K), the Lord Privy Seal, the Chief Whip, Lord Denham and Sir Robert Armstrong.

Yours etc,

Richard Mottram

(R C MOTTRAM)

C Powell Esq
No 10 Downing Street

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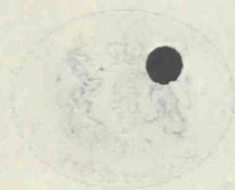
HONG KONG; Nomenclature of Passports: Oct 1982

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



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PRIME MINISTER

NSP 7
CDP 7/x

HONG KONG NATIONALITY ORDER IN COUNCIL

In the absence of the Attorney General I have considered the draft White Paper containing the Hong Kong Nationality Order in Council circulated under cover of the Home Secretary's minute of 30 September. I confirm that I am content for it to be published.

I am copying this minute to members of OD(K), to John Biffen, John Wakeham, Bertie Denham and Sir Robert Armstrong.

John Armstrong

4 October, 1985

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HONG KONG OCT 82
NOMENCLATURE IN HK PASSPORTS



COLLECTOR