



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

13 February 1984

Y
W
MS
Dear John,

Prime Minister⁽¹⁾

Agree that the draft working paper on civil aviation should be shown to Sir Adrian Swire, on the basis set out at X?

Future of Hong Kong: Working Paper on Civil Aviation

JMB
13/2

In accordance with the Prime Minister's wishes, consultation on the future of Hong Kong has, as you know, been confined to Ministers, officials and the Hong Kong Unofficials. The Governor of Hong Kong has, however, recommended strongly that we should make an exception to this rule in the case of the proposals that we plan to put to the Chinese relating to civil aviation. Because these proposals carry major implications for the future of the Hong Kong based airline, Cathay Pacific Airways, he suggests that we should show them to Sir Adrian Swire, Deputy Chairman of John Swire and Son (who own CPA). The Governor believes that when the Executive Council considers the working paper, Unofficial Members are likely to enquire whether this has been done. Any such consultation would of course require us to reveal, to a certain extent, the basis on which we are conducting our negotiations with the Chinese.

X | The Foreign Secretary agrees with the Governor's view. CPA have a special position in Hong Kong and their interests are seen as bound up with those of the territory as a whole. We consider Sir Adrian Swire to be entirely trustworthy; we would of course make clear to him that we were consulting him on a strictly personal basis and that he should not discuss the proposals with anyone else.

I should be grateful if you could seek the Prime Minister's approval for Sir Adrian Swire to be consulted. To hold an effective discussion with him we should need to show him the draft working paper.

Y
erw,
Peter Ricketts

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

H K Putnam PHZ

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE



11 12 1
10 11 12
9 10 11
8 9 10
7 8 9
6 7 8
5 6 7
4 5 6
3 4 5
2 3 4
1 2 3

1st FEB 1984

SECRET



file

300

11

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

15 February 1984

Future of Hong Kong:
Working Paper on Civil Aviation

Thank you for your letter of 13 February.

The Prime Minister agrees that the Working Paper which has been prepared on Civil Aviation may be shown to Sir Adrian Swire on a strictly personal basis.

A. J. COLES

Peter Ricketts, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

SECRET