



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

1 May 1984

Mr Chow Hing-Chuen
Working Committee
Hong Kong Self Salvation Movement
Room 14 4/F
760 Nathan Road
KOWLOON
HONG KONG

723

HKK 011/2
RECEIVED IN REGISTRY
- 1 MAY 1984

Dear Mr. Chow,

I have been asked to reply to your letter of 1 April to the Prime Minister

The British Government attaches great importance to the views of the people of Hong Kong about the future of the territory. The Prime Minister has made it clear that these views will be fully taken into account in our negotiations with the Chinese Government.

Since you addressed your letter to the Prime Minister, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary has visited Hong Kong and made an important statement on the approach of the British Government to the negotiations. I enclose a text of that statement. Sir Geoffrey Howe emphasised his understanding that the people of Hong Kong would need to know the terms of an eventual agreement and to have time to express their views. He also reaffirmed that it remained a prime objective of the British Government to reach an agreement with the Chinese Government which would ensure the stability and prosperity of Hong Kong.

Yours sincerely

Richard Clift

R D Clift
Head, Hong Kong Department