

SECRET

FUTURE OF HONG KONG

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IMMEDIATE

GR 270

SECRET

DESKBY FCO 131200Z

FM PEKING 131045Z JUN 84

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1108 OF 13 JUNE

INFO IMMEDIATE HONG KONG

MIFT: FUTURE OF HONG KONG: 16TH ROUND: SECOND DAY: COMMENT

1. APART FROM FORMALISATION OF AGREEMENT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WORKING GROUP, BOTH SIDES MARKED TIME. ZHOU OFFERED NO PROSPECT OF MOVEMENT ON EITHER OF THE SUBJECTS DISCUSSED.
2. IN HIS RESPONSE TO MY STATEMENT YESTERDAY ON LAND ZHOU REHEARSED EARLIER ARGUMENTS AND SAID THAT IF WE COULD NOT ACCEPT THE CONDITIONS SET BY THE CHINESE, WE SHOULD NOT EXPECT THEM TO AGREE TO THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT GRANTING LEASES WITH TERMS EXTENDING BEYOND 1997. HE COUNTERED OUR STATEMENT THAT LAND LEASES WERE GRANTED BY THE HONG KONG AUTHORITIES RATHER THAN BY HMG BY SAYING THAT THE CHINESE TREATED THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AS AN INTEGRAL WHOLE AND THAT DEPLOYMENT BY US OF SUCH AN ARGUMENT WAS ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO CONFER ON HONG KONG THE STATUS OF AN INDEPENDENT POLITICAL ENTITY.
3. IN HIS RESPONSE TO MY STATEMENT ON ITEM 2 ZHOU SAID THAT WE HAD MADE NO MOVE TOWARDS THE CHINESE POSITION.
4. THE MORNING'S BUSINESS WAS INTERSPERSED WITH DISCUSSION BETWEEN ZHOU AND MYSELF ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WORKING GROUP. I AM TELEGRAPHING ABOUT THIS SEPARATELY.
5. THE STAND OFF WE HAVE NOW ARRIVED AT MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO KNOW WHAT WE SHALL HAVE TO DISCUSS AT THE NEXT ROUND. WE SHALL BE REFLECTING ON THIS AND TELEGRAPHING IN DUE COURSE.
6. SEE MIFT FOR THE STATEMENT AGREED ON THE WORKING GROUP.

EVANS

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UNCLASSIFIED
DESKBY FCO 130800Z
FM PEKING 130645Z JUNE 84
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 1104 OF 13 JUNE
INFO FLASH HONG KONG

MIPT: FUTURE OF HONG KONG: ROUND 16: PRESS STATEMENT

1. THE TEXT OF THE AGREED JOINT PRESS STATEMENT TO BE ISSUED BY OURSELVES AT 1500 HRS LOCAL TODAY IS AS FOLLOWS: BEGINS.

THE BRITISH AND CHINESE SIDES CONTINUED THEIR USEFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE TALKS ON THE HONG KONG QUESTION ON 12 AND 13 JUNE IN PEKING. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE 17TH ROUND OF TALKS WOULD TAKE PLACE ON 27 AND 28 JUNE IN PEKING.

IT WAS AGREED TO ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP TO CONSIDER DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED BY THE TWO SIDES IN PURSUIT OF THEIR OBJECTIVE OF REACHING AGREEMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ON THE QUESTION OF HONG KONG.

THE GROUP WILL MEET FULL-TIME BETWEEN ROUNDS OF FORMAL TALKS AND WILL START WORK IN PEKING DURING THE WEEK BEGINNING 18 JUNE.

THE BRITISH TEAM FOR THE WORKING GROUP WILL BE LED BY DR DAVID WILSON, ASSISTANT UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE IN THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM. THE CHINESE TEAM WILL BE LED BY AMBASSADOR KE ZAISHUO OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA. THE TEAMS OF THE TWO SIDES WILL BE RESPONSIBLE TO THE CHAIRMEN OF THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENT DELEGATIONS, WHO WILL REMAIN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE OVERALL CONDUCT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

ENDS

EVANS