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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name LAUX, DAVID: FILES

Withdrawer

CAS 6/11/2010

File Folder CHINA-FOREIGN RELATIONS-HONG KONG (10/13/84-12/10/84)

FOIA

M09-299/1

Box Number 14

COLLINGS

31

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
92670	CABLE	131648Z OCT 84 <i>D 12/20/2017 M299/1</i>	1	10/13/1984	B1 B3
92671	CABLE	172251Z OCT 84 <i>D 12/20/2017 M299/1</i>	2	10/17/1984	B1 B3
92672	LETTER	PM THATCHER TO RR RE HONG KONG (SAME TEXT AS 92630) <i>R 6/21/2012 M299/1</i>	2	9/25/1984	B1
92673	MESSAGE	SAME TEXT AS 92672 AND 92630 <i>R 6/21/2012 M299/1</i>	2	ND	B1
92675	CABLE	STATE 310166 <i>R 6/21/2012 M299/1</i>	3	10/18/1984	B1
92676	CABLE	231539Z OCT 84 <i>D 12/20/2017 M299/1</i>	1	10/23/1984	B1 B3
92677	CABLE	HONG KONG 00321 <i>R 6/21/2012 M299/1</i>	1	1/6/1984	B1
92678	CABLE	HONG KONG 00834 <i>R 6/21/2012 M299/1</i>	2	1/18/1984	B1
92680	CABLE	JAKARTA 00458 <i>R 6/21/2012 M299/1</i>	2	1/10/1984	B1

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

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31

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
92681	CABLE	092141Z NOV 84 <i>D 12/20/2017 M299/1</i>	1	11/9/1984	B1 B3
92682	CABLE	HONG KONG 21748 <i>R 6/21/2012 M299/1</i>	1	11/9/1984	B1
92683	CABLE	312340Z NOV 84 <i>D 12/20/2017 M299/1</i>	1	11/30/1984	B1 B3

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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<i>ID</i>	<i>Document Type</i> <i>Document Description</i>	<i>No of</i> <i>pages</i>	<i>Doc Date</i>	<i>Restric-</i> <i>tions</i>
92670	CABLE 131648Z OCT 84	1	10/13/1984	B1 B3

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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<i>ID</i>	<i>Document Type</i> <i>Document Description</i>	<i>No of</i> <i>pages</i>	<i>Doc Date</i>	<i>Restric-</i> <i>tions</i>
92671	CABLE 172251Z OCT 84	2	10/17/1984	B1 B3

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
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C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

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7224

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 17, 1984

Dear Margaret:

Thank you for sharing your thoughts with me on the Hong Kong agreement initialled in Beijing on September 26. We hope you found George Shultz's statement helpful. I was happy to see that the response to the agreement, both in Hong Kong and by American businessmen, appeared to reflect confidence in Hong Kong's continuing prosperity.

I share your conviction that it is important that the agreement work, your belief that the agreement has long-term implications for the development of Western relations with China beyond Hong Kong itself, and your desire to build upon the agreement to improve ties between China and the West. The unique establishment of Hong Kong as a Special Administrative Region under Chinese sovereignty should strengthen the hand of those who want to increase China's receptivity to Western investment and knowledge. I am heartened by your conviction that the agreement secures the major principles your government sought, and I hope that it will be accepted with similar confidence by the people of Hong Kong.

As you know, there is a substantial American commercial presence in Hong Kong. The U.S. statement of confidence in Hong Kong's continuing prosperity expressed both our assessment of the situation and our desire to

DECLASSIFIED/RECLASSIFIED
Authority NLS 98-005 #14: smf
BY CK NARA DATE 6/10/11 10/13/84

reinforce your objective of preserving the survival of the free enterprise system there. In this regard, we hope that U.S. investment and trade with Hong Kong will continue on an upward trend in the years to come.

Thanks for keeping us so well informed on this important question.

Warm regards.

Sincerely,

Ron

P.S. a belated "Happy Birthday."

The Right Honorable
Margaret Thatcher, M.P.
Prime Minister
London

REFERRAL

DATE: 17 OCT 84

MEMORANDUM FOR: STATE SECRETARIAT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:

TO: THATCHER, MARGARET

SOURCE: PRESIDENT

DATE: 17 OCT 84

KEYWORDS: GREAT BRITAIN

CHINA P R

HONG KONG

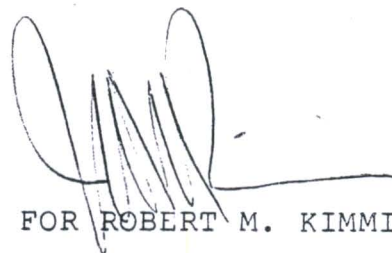
HS

SUBJ: PRES REPLY TO THATCHER RE HONG KONG AGREEMENT

REQUIRED ACTION: FOR DISPATCH

DUEDATE:

COMMENTS:



FOR ROBERT M. KIMMITT

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

WASHFAX RECEIPT

THE WHITE HOUSE

C

UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL
OF CLASSIFIED ENCLOSURES

CAS 6/11/10

CONFIDENTIAL

MESSAGE NO. _____ CLASSIFICATION _____ PAGES TWO

FROM BT MERCHANT 456-2585 SITUATION ROOM
(NAME) (EXTENSION) (ROOM NUMBER)

MESSAGE DESCRIPTION PRES LTR TO PM THATCHER (NSC # 7224)

<u>TO (AGENCY)</u>	<u>DELIVER TO:</u>	<u>DEPT/ROOM NO.</u>	<u>EXTENSION</u>
<u>STATE</u>	<u>CHARLES HILL</u>	<u>EXECUTIVE SECRETARY</u>	
_____	_____	_____	_____
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REMARKS ADVANCE CY FOR DISPATCH BY CABLE; ORIGINAL TO FOLLOW

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

7224

October 12, 1984

ACTION

SIGNED

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ROBERT C. McFARLANE *RCM*
SUBJECT: President's Reply to Mrs. Thatcher's Letter on
Hong Kong

You will recall that Mrs. Thatcher wrote you in late September outlining Britain's agreement with China on Hong Kong's future, and urging that we issue a statement expressing confidence in Hong Kong's future prosperity, which George Shultz did. Your reply congratulates Mrs. Thatcher on the historic agreement, expresses confidence in Hong Kong's future, and expresses hope that the agreement will improve ties between China and the West.

RECOMMENDATION

OK

No

RCM

That you sign the reply to Mrs. Thatcher at Tab A.

Attachment

Tab A Reply to Mrs. Thatcher

Prepared by:
Peter Sommer

cc Vice President

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ACTION

October 9, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT C. McFARLANE

SIGNED

FROM: PETER R. SOMMER *Peter*

SUBJECT: President's Reply to Mrs. Thatcher's Letter on Hong Kong

You will recall that Mrs. Thatcher wrote the President in late September outlining Britain's agreement with China on Hong Kong's future and urging that the Administration issue a statement expressing confidence in Hong Kong's future prosperity. George Shultz, as you know, made the requested supportive statement.

David Laux and I worked informally with State on the draft reply, which the Department has now officially forwarded.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the Tab I memo forwarding for the President's signature a suggested reply to Mrs. Thatcher.

Approve / Disapprove

PSK
David Laux concurs.

Attachments

- Tab I Memo to President
- Tab A Recommended Reply
- Tab II State's Draft and Incoming from Mrs. Thatcher

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SUGGESTED LETTER

*Ci -
Please type
on green*

Dear Margaret:

Thank you for sharing your thoughts with me on the Hong Kong agreement initialled in Beijing on September 26. We hope you found George Shultz's statement helpful. I was happy to see that the response to the agreement, both in Hong Kong and by American businessmen, appeared to reflect confidence in Hong Kong's continuing prosperity.

I share your conviction that it is important that the agreement work, your belief that the agreement has long-term implications for the development of Western relations with China beyond Hong Kong itself, and your desire to build upon the agreement to improve ties between China and the West. The unique establishment of Hong Kong as a Special Administrative Region under Chinese sovereignty should strengthen the hand of

The Right Honorable

Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,

Prime Minister,

London.

DECLASSIFIED (RELEASABLE)
Authority F96-107291 8M
3/26/08
BY CS NARA DATE 6/11/10

those who want to increase China's receptivity to Western investment and knowledge. I am heartened by your conviction that the agreement secures the major principles ~~HMG~~ sought, and I hope that it will be accepted with similar confidence by the people of Hong Kong.

As you know, there is a substantial American commercial presence in Hong Kong. The U.S. statement of confidence in Hong Kong's continuing prosperity expressed both our assessment of the situation and our desire to reinforce your objective of preserving the survival of the free enterprise system there. In this regard, we hope that U.S. investment and trade with Hong Kong will continue on an upward trend in the years to come.

Thanks for keeping us so well informed on this important question.

Warm regards.

Sincerely,

~~Ronald Reagan~~



Washington, D.C. 20520

~~SECRET~~

October 4, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. ROBERT C. MCFARLANE
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: The President's Reply to PM Thatcher's Letter on
Hong Kong

I am forwarding a suggested draft reply to Mrs. Thatcher's communication to the President last week. The Department's draft suggests that the President congratulate Mrs. Thatcher on the historic UK-PRC agreement on Hong Kong's future and express his pleasure at the warm reception to Secretary Shultz' supportive statement welcoming the agreement. The Department's draft is predicated on the assumption that this is private correspondence between the President and the Prime Minister and will be treated confidentially.

Charles Hill
Executive Secretary

Attachments:

1. Suggested Reply to PM Thatcher's letter to the President

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: F 96-107 #292 SMF 4/4/00

BY CA NARA DATE 6/11/10

~~SECRET~~

DECL: OADR

13
THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 25, 1984

RR 9/25/84

Mr. President:

Attached is a message from Prime Minister Thatcher on the Hong Kong agreement with China, which will be initialed tomorrow. Secretary Shultz plans to issue a statement supporting the agreement, and we will forward shortly a proposed response from you to Mrs. Thatcher.

Bud
Robert C. McFarlane

Attachment

REFERRAL

DATE: 26 SEP 84

MEMORANDUM FOR: STATE SECRETARIAT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:

TO: PRESIDENT

SOURCE: THATCHER, MARGARET

DATE: 24 SEP 84

KEYWORDS: GREAT BRITAIN

CHINA P R

HONG KONG

HS

SUBJ: THATCHER LTR RE HONG KONG AGREEMENT W/ CHINA

REQUIRED ACTION: RECOMMENDATIONS / DRAFT REPLY

DUE DATE: 03 OCT 84

COMMENTS:

Cathy M. Kimmitt
FOR ROBERT M. KIMMITT

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

7224



BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.
TEL: (202) 462-1340

FROM THE AMBASSADOR

1 October 1984

The Honorable
Robert C McFarlane
Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs
The White House
WASHINGTON DC

Dear Bob,

I wrote to you on 24 September enclosing the text of a message from the Prime Minister to President Reagan. I now enclose the original and should be grateful for your help in transmitting it to the President.

Yours sincerely,

Oliver Wright
Oliver Wright

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR M299 # 92672

BY KML NARA DATE 6/21/12



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

25 September 1984

Dear Ben

After two years of tough and detailed negotiations with the Chinese, which started with my visit to Peking in September 1982, we are set to initial an agreement on 26 September.

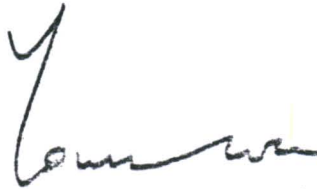
I believe that in this Agreement we have achieved the major points we set out to secure. In particular, it will be a binding international agreement; it incorporates sufficient detail and clarity about the arrangements in Hong Kong for a period of 50 years after 1997 to command the confidence of the people of Hong Kong; and it contains a provision that its terms will be "stipulated" in the Basic Law to be passed by the National People's Congress of China which will, in effect, form the Constitution of Hong Kong after 1997. We have managed to secure a high degree of autonomy for Hong Kong in all fields, especially in the financial and economic fields and in aviation and shipping.

I do not pretend that the Agreement is ideal in every respect, but I am convinced that it is a good one, and I shall commend it strongly as a whole to the people of Hong Kong and to Parliament.

I believe that this Agreement has an importance that stretches beyond Hong Kong itself. It will help to heal some of the historical scars which still make relations

between China and the West difficult at times. It will also play a stabilising role in the area. But to do this, the Agreement must work. If it does not work, this could only have a bad effect on China's relations with the West generally. It is therefore in the interests of the West as a whole that it should succeed.

That is why I wanted to write to you personally. As you know well, Hong Kong's prosperity and security depend critically on international confidence. Without that, its prosperity will evaporate. Hong Kong is heavily dependent on commercial links with the United States. It would therefore be most valuable if, once the Agreement is published, you felt able to authorise a personal statement from a senior member of your Administration expressing the confidence of the United States in Hong Kong's future prosperity. That would give a powerful lead to international reactions. It would be a major contribution to ensuring the survival of Hong Kong as a flourishing capitalist society.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 25, 1984

RR 9/25/84

Mr. President:

Attached is a message from Prime Minister Thatcher on the Hong Kong agreement with China, which will be initialed tomorrow. Secretary Shultz plans to issue a statement supporting the agreement, and we will forward shortly a proposed response from you to Mrs. Thatcher.

Bud
Robert C. McFarlane

Attachment



TEXT OF MESSAGE DATED 24 SEPTEMBER FROM THE
PRIME MINISTER TO PRESIDENT REAGAN

DECLASSIFIED

Begins

NLRR M299 #92673

BY KML NARA DATE 6/21/12

After two years of tough and detailed negotiations with the Chinese, which started with my visit to Peking in September 1982, we are set to initial an agreement on 26 September.

I believe that in this agreement we have achieved the major points we set out to secure. In particular, it will be a binding international agreement: it incorporates sufficient detail and clarity about the arrangements in Hong Kong for a period of 50 years after 1997 to command the confidence of the people of Hong Kong: and it contains a provision that its terms will be 'stipulated' in the basic law to be passed by the National People's Congress of China which will, in effect, form the constitution of Hong Kong after 1997. We have managed to secure a high degree of autonomy for Hong Kong in all fields, especially in the financial and economic fields and in aviation and shipping.

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Ends



~~SECRET~~

92675

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
SECRETARIAT

PAGE 01 OF 03 SECSTATE WASHDC 0166 DTG: 182252Z OCT 84 PSN: 016357
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AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE 0000

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NLRR M299 #92675

BY KML NARA DATE 6/21/12

NODIS

E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: UK, PREL
SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT TO PRIME MINISTER
THATCHER ON HONG KONG

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO DELIVER AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE ON HONG KONG FROM THE PRESIDENT TO PRIME MINISTER THATCHER. SIGNED ORIGINAL IS BEING POUCHED. FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY IN PARA 4 IS THE TEXT OF INCOMING LETTER FROM THE PRIME MINISTER ON THIS SUBJECT.

3. BEGIN TEXT OF THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER.

OCTOBER 17, 1984

DEAR MARGARET:

THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR THOUGHTS WITH ME ON THE HONG KONG AGREEMENT INITIALLED IN BEIJING ON SEPTEMBER 26. WE HOPE YOU FOUND GEORGE SHULTZ'S STATEMENT HELPFUL. I WAS HAPPY TO SEE THAT THE RESPONSE TO THE AGREEMENT, BOTH IN HONG KONG AND BY AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN, APPEARED TO REFLECT CONFIDENCE IN HONG KONG'S CONTINUING PROSPERITY.

I SHARE YOUR CONVICTION THAT IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE AGREEMENT WORK, YOUR BELIEF THAT THE AGREEMENT HAS LONG-TERM IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF WESTERN RELATIONS WITH CHINA BEYOND HONG KONG ITSELF, AND YOUR DESIRE TO BUILD UPON THE AGREEMENT TO IMPROVE TIES BETWEEN CHINA AND THE WEST. THE UNIQUE ESTABLISHMENT OF HONG KONG AS A SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION UNDER CHINESE SOVEREIGNTY SHOULD STRENGTHEN THE HAND OF THOSE WHO WANT TO INCREASE CHINA'S RECEPTIVITY TO WESTERN INVESTMENT AND KNOWLEDGE. I AM HEARTENED BY YOUR CONVICTION THAT THE AGREEMENT SECURES THE MAJOR PRINCIPLES YOUR GOVERNMENT SOUGHT, AND I HOPE THAT IT

~~SECRET~~

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~~SECRET~~

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
SECRETARIAT

PAGE 02 OF 03 SECSTATE WASHDC 0166 DTG: 182252Z OCT 84 PSN: 016357

WILL BE ACCEPTED WITH SIMILAR CONFIDENCE BY THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

AS YOU KNOW, THERE IS A SUBSTANTIAL AMERICAN COMMERCIAL PRESENCE IN HONG KONG. THE U. S. STATEMENT OF CONFIDENCE IN HONG KONG'S CONTINUING PROSPERITY EXPRESSED BOTH OUR ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION AND OUR DESIRE TO REINFORCE YOUR OBJECTIVE OF PRESERVING THE SURVIVAL OF THE FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM THERE. IN THIS REGARD, WE HOPE THAT U. S. INVESTMENT AND TRADE WITH HONG KONG WILL CONTINUE ON AN UPWARD TREND IN THE YEARS TO COME.

THANKS FOR KEEPING US SO WELL INFORMED ON THIS IMPORTANT QUESTION.

WARM REGARDS.

SINCERELY,

RON

P. S. A BELATED "HAPPY BIRTHDAY."

THE RIGHT HONORABLE
MARGARET THATCHER, M. P.
PRIME MINISTER
LONDON

END TEXT OF THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER.

4. BEGIN TEXT OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S LETTER.

TEXT OF A MESSAGE DATED 24 SEPTEMBER 1984 FROM THE

PRIME MINISTER TO PRESIDENT REAGAN.

AFTER TWO YEARS OF TOUGH AND DETAILED NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE CHINESE, WHICH STARTED WITH MY VISIT TO PEKING IN SEPTEMBER 1982, WE ARE SET TO INITIAL AN AGREEMENT ON 26 SEPTEMBER.

I BELIEVE THAT IN THIS AGREEMENT WE HAVE ACHIEVED THE MAJOR POINTS WE SET OUT TO SECURE. IN PARTICULAR, IT WILL BE A BINDING INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT: IT INCORPORATES SUFFICIENT DETAIL AND CLARITY ABOUT THE ARRANGEMENTS IN HONG KONG FOR A PERIOD OF 50 YEARS AFTER 1997 TO COMMAND THE CONFIDENCE OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG: AND IT CONTAINS A PROVISION THAT ITS TERMS WILL BE 'STIPULATED' IN THE BASIC LAW TO BE PASSED BY THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS OF CHINA WHICH WILL, IN EFFECT, FORM THE CONSTITUTION OF HONG KONG AFTER 1997. WE HAVE MANAGED TO SECURE A HIGH DEGREE OF AUTONOMY FOR HONG KONG IN ALL FIELDS, ESPECIALLY IN THE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC FIELDS AND IN AVIATION AND SHIPPING.

I DO NOT PRETEND THAT THE AGREEMENT IS IDEAL IN EVERY RESPECT, BUT I AM CONVINCED THAT IT IS A GOOD ONE, AND I SHALL COMMEND IT STRONGLY AS A WHOLE TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG AND TO PARLIAMENT.

I BELIEVE THAT THIS AGREEMENT HAS AN IMPORTANCE THAT STRETCHES BEYOND HONG KONG ITSELF. IT WILL HELP TO HEAL SOME OF THE HISTORICAL SCARS WHICH STILL MAKE RELATIONS BETWEEN CHINA AND THE WEST DIFFICULT AT TIMES. IT WILL ALSO PLAY A STABILISING ROLE IN THE AREA. BUT TO DO THIS, THE AGREEMENT MUST WORK. IF IT

~~SECRET~~

NODIS

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~~SECRET~~

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
SECRETARIAT

PAGE 03 OF 03 SECSTATE WASHDC 0166 DTG: 182252Z OCT 84 PSN: 016357

DOES NOT WORK, THIS COULD ONLY HAVE A BAD EFFECT ON CHINA'S RELATIONS WITH THE WEST GENERALLY. IT IS THEREFORE IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WEST AS A WHOLE THAT IT SHOULD SUCCEED.

THAT IS WHY I WANTED TO WRITE TO YOU PERSONALLY. AS YOU KNOW WELL, HONG KONG'S PROSPERITY AND SECURITY DEPEND CRITICALLY ON INTERNATIONAL CONFIDENCE. WITHOUT THAT, ITS PROSPERITY WILL EVAPORATE. HONG KONG IS HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON COMMERCIAL LINKS WITH THE UNITED STATES. IT WOULD THEREFORE BE MOST VALUABLE IF, ONCE THE AGREEMENT IS PUBLISHED, YOU FELT ABLE TO AUTHORISE A PERSONAL STATEMENT FROM A SENIOR MEMBER OF YOUR ADMINISTRATION EXPRESSING THE CONFIDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES IN HONG KONG'S FUTURE PROSPERITY. THAT WOULD GIVE A POWERFUL LEAD TO INTERNATIONAL REACTIONS. IT

WOULD BE A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO ENSURING THE SURVIVAL OF HONG KONG AS A FLOURISHING CAPITALIST SOCIETY.

END TEXT OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S LETTER. DAM
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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name
LAUX, DAVID: FILES

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CHINA-FOREIGN RELATIONS-HONG KONG (10/13/84-
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Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 29, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: DAVID LAUX
FROM: ^{Bob} BOB SIMS

Attached may be asked of the President in an interview tomorrow. Could you suggest talking points? If they are to be included in the briefing material, I need by 2:00 P.M. today.

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Secretary Shultz's state^{ment} on the Hong Kong Agreement
September 26, 1984

The United States government welcomes the successful conclusion of two years of negotiations between the United Kingdom and the People's Republic of China over the future of Hong Kong.

The United States has a strong interest in the continued stability and prosperity of Hong Kong and believes the agreement will provide a solid foundation for Hong Kong's enduring future progress. In this regard, we have noted statements by both sides indicating that Hong Kong's way of life will be guaranteed for fifty years from 1997 and that systems existing in Hong Kong will continue in the special administrative region.

We expect the American business communities, both in the United States and Hong Kong, will see in this agreement good reason for sustained confidence in the future of Hong Kong as an attractive and thriving commercial center.

The United States will provide any assistance it can in close cooperation with the United Kingdom and the People's Republic of China to maintain Hong Kong's appropriate participation in international bodies.

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4. Were you satisfied with the Hong Kong agreement? Can it be a model for settlement of the Taiwan question?

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

October 29, 1984

MEMORANDUM TO ROBERT SIMS

FROM: DAVID LAUX *DL*SUBJECT: Background Notes for the President's Interview
Tomorrow and questions on Hong KongBackground note to Bob Sims/Larry Speakes:

There are two tricky aspects to this question. The first is that the Republican Party Platform had a section in it dealing with the Hong Kong situation, saying essentially that the Party favored "self-determination" for Hong Kong. Secretary Shultz publicly disassociated the Administration from this feature of the Platform in a statement to the press, shortly after the Platform was released. Secondly, Deng Xiaoping has just made some statements to Japanese visitors, and in a private response to complaints from us, with respect to Chinese policy toward Taiwan, in which he said that although their policy is for a peaceful settlement, they "cannot rule out the use of force" in settling the Taiwan question.

The remarks below deal adequately with the Taiwan aspect, simply by repeating past policy which has been clearly enunciated by the President, and turning further discussion off. On the Platform issue, however, if the President is confronted in an adversarial question such as "does your statement mean you disassociate yourself from the Republican Party Platform position on Hong Kong?", it will be difficult to deal with. The President should not be cornered into a choice between supporting Secretary Shultz or the Party Platform. I think his best response would be to say "I have just stated my view on Hong Kong." and leave it at that.

Answer:

We were happy to see the conclusion of two years of negotiations between the People's Republic of China and the United Kingdom over the future of Hong Kong. As you know, the Agreement provides that Hong Kong's way of life will be

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guaranteed for fifty years after 1997, and that systems now existing in Hong Kong will continue after 1997 when it becomes a special administrative region of China. Our main concern is continued stability and prosperity for the people of Hong Kong. Obviously, much will depend on the way the agreement is implemented. For the moment, it appears to have renewed the confidence of all parties, and we have hopes that its future implementation will continue to serve these interests.

We have important commercial ties with Hong Kong. We have over \$4 billion invested there and our annual bilateral trade amounts to \$8 billion. We would like to see this flourishing trade relationship continue and expand, and we think the Agreement between China and the United Kingdom is a positive force toward this end.

As for [its implications for] Taiwan, the position of the United States on this subject has been made clear on numerous occasions. The Taiwan question is a matter for the Chinese people on both sides of the Taiwan Strait to resolve. Our only concern is that any resolution be peaceful.

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0938

BY KML NARA DATE 6/21/12

~~SECRET~~ HONG KONG 00321

NODIS
E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: ECON, EFIN, PGOV, HK, MY
SUBJECT: CARRIAN CRASH AND MALAYSIAN CORRUPTION
REF: 83 HONG KONG 22241

1. ACCORDING TO A VERY HIGH-RANKING HKG OFFICIAL (STRICTLY PROTECT) WHO IS DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN BOTH THE CRIMINAL AND SECURITIES COMMISSION INVESTIGATIONS OF THE COLLAPSE OF GEORGE TAN'S CARRIAN GROUP, THE HKG HAS RECOMMENDED TO LONDON THAT INFORMATION BE RELEASED WHICH WOULD IMPLICATE SENIOR MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION IN DEALINGS WITH CARRIAN. THE OFFICIAL DID NOT DIVULGE ANY NAMES OF GOM FIGURES INVOLVED, BUT DID STATE EXPLICITLY THAT THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER. HE DID SAY HE THOUGHT IF ALL THE MALAYSIA-RELATED INFORMATION THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT HAS GATHERED WERE RELEASED, THE CURRENT MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD FALL.

2. ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL, THE CARRIAN REPORTS WILL NOT BE RELEASED UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1984. GEORGE TAN'S TRIAL WILL ALSO BE SCHEDULED FOR FALL 1984. (THIS IS A SOMEWHAT LATER DATE THAN THAT REPORTED REFTEL.)

3. THE DECISION TO RELEASE THE MALAYSIAN RELATED MATERIALS WILL BE MADE BY THE BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE, ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL. HE OFFERED NO PREDICTION OF LONDON'S DECISION BUT SAID HONG KONG OFFICIALS ARE STRONGLY IN FAVOR OF FULL DISCLOSURE REGARDLESS OF THE CONSEQUENCES IN MALAYSIA. THE HKG BELIEVES THE PRC AND ITS REPRESENTATIVES ARE AWARE OF THE CARRIAN-GOM CONNECTION AND ALSO THAT THE PRC IS CLOSELY WATCHING THE WAY THE CURRENT BRITISH ADMINISTRATION IS HANDLING WHAT HAS BECOME HONG KONG'S LARGEST BANKRUPTCY AND CORRUPTION CASE. CLEARLY THE HKG IS ANXIOUS TO SHOW THE CHINESE THAT THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION IS CAPABLE OF POLICING THE COLONY'S FREE-WHEELING CAPITALIST SOCIETY.

4. REQUEST DEPARTMENT REPEAT THIS MESSAGE TO KUALA LUMPUR, BEIJING, LONDON AND SINGAPORE.
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NLRR M299 #92678

BY KML NARA DATE 6/21/12

NODIS
E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: ECON, EFIN, PGOV, HK, MY
SUBJECT: HONG KONG GOVERNMENT CONFIRMS HIGH LEVEL
-- MALAYSIAN AND HK INVOLVEMENT IN CARRIAN SCANDAL
REFS: A) HONG KONG 321; B) 83 HONG KONG 22241 (NODIS)

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. IN A PRIVATE MEETING WITH THE CONSUL GENERAL, THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SIR JOHN BREMIDGE (HKG'S 3RD RANKING OFFICIAL), CONFIRMED THAT THE INVESTIGATION OF GEORGE TAN (CARRIAN) AND BANK BUMIPUTRA HAS ALREADY IMPLICATED PROMINENT HONG KONG INDIVIDUALS AND HIGH RANKING MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS (SEE REFTELS). BRIMRIDGE DECLINED TO NAME ANY OF THE INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED BUT SAID HE EXPECTED CONSIDERABLE REPERCUSSIONS FROM THE TAN TRIAL (NOW POSTPONED UNTIL THIS FALL) AND FROM THE REPORT OF THE INVESTIGATION (DUE TO BE RELEASED IN SEPTEMBER). HE DESCRIBED TAN AS ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST CONFIDENCE MEN AND SAID HE WAS ASTOUNDED AT THE EXTENT OF THE FRAUD WHICH HAD BEEN COMMITTED. HE WAS PARTICULARLY VIVID IN HIS DESCRIPTION OF THE USE OF THE REGENT HOTEL IN HONG KONG AS A CENTER FOR THE WIDEST RANGE OF ILLICIT ACTIVITIES.
3. BREMIDGE SAID THAT THE HKG WAS DETERMINED TO GET AT THE TRUTH AND WOULD CONTINUE TO INVESTIGATE NO MATTER WHAT THE COST. HE SAID THE HKG HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO RELEASE TO THE PUBLIC THE RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION AND TO "LET THE CHIPS FALL WHERE THEY MAY." HOWEVER, AS THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, HE BEMOANED THE EXPENSE OF THE INVESTIGATION AND SAID HE HAD JUST AUTHORIZED AN ADDITIONAL HK\$10 MILLION FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO CONTINUE THE PROSECUTION.
4. BREMIDGE SAID THAT THE HKG, ALTHOUGH IT DOES UNDERSTAND THE FOREIGN POLICY RAMIFICATIONS OF THIS CASE, IS NEVERTHELESS DETERMINED NOT TO ALLOW POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS TO INFLUENCE THE COURSE OF EVENTS. THE IMPORTANT POINT IS THAT CRIMINAL ACTIONS BE DEALT WITH. HE ONLY BARELY ALLUDED TO THE POSSIBILITY THAT HMG IN LONDON WAS INVOLVED (SEE REFTEL A).

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
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5. COMMENT: WE WERE STRUCK BY THE VEHEMENCE WITH WHICH BREMRIDGE DENOUNCED THE ACTIVITIES OF TAN AND HIS ACCOMPLICES. HE LEFT NO DOUBT THAT HE INTENDED TO ARGUE STRONGLY AND FORCEFULLY THAT HONG KONG'S NEEDS IN TERMS OF BRINGING CRIMINALS TO JUSTICE FAR OUTWEIGHED ANY POSSIBLE FOREIGN POLICY CONSEQUENCES. HE STRONGLY IMPLIED, BUT DID NOT SPECIFICALLY STATE, THAT THE GOVERNOR SHARED THIS VIEW. NEVERTHELESS, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT UK FOREIGN POLICY CONSIDERATIONS WILL PLAY A GREATER ROLE THAN BREMRIDGE AND OTHER HK GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS MIGHT LIKE. FOR EXAMPLE, WE ARE INTRIGUED THAT THE TRIAL OF TAN HAS BEEN POSTPONED. BREMRIDGE VOLUNTEERED NO REASON FOR THE POSTPONEMENT. ONE POSSIBILITY (FOR WHICH WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE) IS TO ALLOW THIS SPRING'S ELECTIONS IN MALAYSIA TO TAKE PLACE BEFORE THE REPORT IS MADE PUBLIC. A MORE LIKELY REASON IS THAT THE INVESTIGATION IS TAKING FAR LONGER THAN THE GOVERNMENT HAD INITIALLY PREDICTED.

6. RECOMMEND THIS CABLE BE REPEATED TO KUALA LUMPUR AND LONDON.

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E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: SREF, UNHCR, ID
SUBJECT: HONG KONG POLICY ON VIETNAMESE REPATRIATION
REF: A) STATE 4068, B) BANGKOK 1031

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT
2. WE DO NOT EXPECT THAT A VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES FROM HONG KONG, SUBJECT TO THE GUIDELINES OUTLINED IN PARA 3, REF A, WOULD AFFECT THE STATUS OF REFUGEES IN INDONESIA. WE AGREE WITH BANGKOK (REF B), HOWEVER, THAT THE HONG KONG PROGRAM SHOULD BE HANDLED DISCREETLY SO AS TO AVOID ENCOURAGING GOI ELEMENTS WHICH MAY WISH TO MODIFY INDONESIA'S COOPERATIVE STANCE ON REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT.
3. RECENT, SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS WITH COL. MOHAMMED SAID (HEAD OF P3V, THE GOI INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE WHICH ADMINISTERS INDONESIA'S REFUGEE PROGRAM) BY POLCOUNS (JAN. 5) AND BY EMBASSY REFUGEE OFFICER WITH VISITING CONGRESSMAN SENSENBRENNER (JAN. 3) DID NOT INDICATE ANY IMMINENT SHIFT IN GOI POLICY WITH REGARD TO FIRST ASYLUM STATUS OF INDOCHINESE REFUGEES. ACCORDINGLY, WE ARE EXTREMELY SKEPTICAL ABOUT A RECENT SENSITIVE REPORT WHICH INDICATED THAT A GOI POLICY SHIFT ON FIRST ASYLUM MIGHT BE IN THE OFFING. WHEN QUERIED DURING THE SENSENBRENNER MEETING REGARDING GOI ATTITUDES TOWARD RETURNING VIETNAMESE REFUGEES TO THEIR HOMELAND, SAID RESPONDED EMPHATICALLY THAT SUCH REPATRIATION IS "INHUMANE" UNLESS IT IS TRULY VOLUNTARY.
4. GOI REFUGEE OFFICIALS HAVE CONSISTENTLY EXPRESSED THEIR CONCERN THAT WE AND OTHER RESETTLEMENT COUNTRIES DEAL WITH THE INDONESIAN FIRST ASYLUM CASES IN A TIMELY MANNER. WE BELIEVE THEY ARE REASONABLY SATISFIED WITH OUR EFFORTS TO DATE. FEW, IF ANY, VIETNAMESE REFUGEES IN INDONESIA ARE TRULY WILLING TO RETURN TO VIETNAM. THE GOI WOULD LIKELY DISAPPROVE OF ANY HONG KONG GOVERNMENT ACTION WHICH SMACKED OF INVOLUNTARY REPATRIATION.
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EXDIS

E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, HK, JA
SUBJECT: VISIT TO HONG KONG BY JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTER

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT
-

2. JAPANESE CONSULATE OFFICER HAS INFORMED US IN CONFIDENCE THAT JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTER ABE WILL VISIT HONG KONG ON NOVEMBER 22 FOR ONE NIGHT ON HIS RETURN TO TOKYO FROM AFRICA. (THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT HAS NOT YET BEEN INFORMED OF THIS DECISION, SO PLEASE HOLD THIS INFO CLOSELY.) THE JAPANESE WERE VERY INTERESTED IN SECRETARY SCHULTZ'S ACTIVITIES AND PUBLIC STATEMENTS IN HONG KONG DURING HIS VISIT IN JULY THIS YEAR, PARTICULARLY IN THE TYPES OF PEOPLE WHO MET WITH THE SECRETARY.
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3. COMMENT. THE JAPANESE UNDOUBTEDLY SEE A VISIT BY THE FOREIGN MINISTER AS A GOOD WAY OF SHOWING THEIR CONFIDENCE IN HONG KONG'S FUTURE.
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