

C D Powell Esq



With the compliments of

THE PRIVATE SECRETARY

Charles

*Subject to the Foreign Secretary's
agreement (he will see it
tonight) I propose to send you
this tomorrow. In view of the
short time you may wish*

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

to have it now.

SW1A 2AH

Bobson
22-6-89

DSR 11 (Revised Sept 85)

DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despatch/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1 +

FROM:

Reference

PS

TS4AAU

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

Your Reference

BUILDING:

ROOM NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

Top Secret

Secret

Confidential

Restricted

Unclassified

TO:

Copies to:

PS/No. 10

PRIVACY MARKING

..... In Confidence

SUBJECT:

MEMORIAL MEETING FOR CHINESE STUDENTS

CAVEAT

1. Thank you for your letter of 14 June asking for advice on the invitation the Prime Minister received from Mr Weng Weiye to address the memorial meeting for the Chinese students who died in Peking during the recent suppression of the demonstrations there. The meeting is to be held on Friday 23 June.

2. The meeting coincides precisely with ^{the Australian} ~~Prime~~ ^{High Commissioner's} ~~return~~ reception, ruling out the possibility of the Prime Minister herself attending. We do, however, think that it would be desirable for HMG to be represented at the meeting. Its principal organisers are the Association of Chinese Students and Scholars, and Hong Kong Link. As you will recall from my letter of 13 June about Chinese students in the UK, the Association is the largest and most representative of the Chinese student organisations here. Hong Kong Link is an organisation representing Hong Kong students and young

Enclosures flag(s)

professionals. The other organisers are the National Union of Students and the June the Fourth China Support Group, an ad hoc group offering support to Chinese students here.

3. The meeting seems likely to be the largest manifestation of its kind in the UK, and to attract broad support among student and other bodies here. There is a slight risk that some groups will seek to make use of the meeting for other political ends, but the spread of groups involved does not suggest this. And some form of British Government representation would underline to public opinion, both here and in Hong Kong, our attitude to recent events in China. Conversely, a refusal by HMG to be represented could be presented as demonstrating a lack of concern or interest. These considerations are thrown into sharper focus by the recent wave of executions in China.

4. The Foreign Secretary and Lord Glenarthur are also being invited to the memorial meeting. The Foreign Secretary has another engagement and Lord Glenarthur is also of course involved in ^{the Australian} ~~Prime Minister~~ Hawke's reception. We ~~are~~ ^{has agreed} however ~~seeing if it would be possible~~ ~~for~~ Lord Glenarthur to attend ~~at least~~ the opening of the memorial meeting ^{and} ~~and~~ remain ^{for} a short time.

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5. I enclose a draft reply to the invitation to the Prime Minister, cast in such a form that it could be taken as a statement of support for the aims of the memorial meeting.

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TO:

Copies to:

Mr Weng Weiye

The Association of Chinese Students
and of Hong Kong Link

CP

SUBJECT:

PRIVACY MARKING

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Joint Committee for Memorial
Meeting, c/o Society for Anglo-
Chinese Understanding,
152, Camden High Street
London NW1 ONE

CAVEAT

Re Die Anmerkungen werden mit H

Thank you for your invitation to address the memorial service you are organising in honour of the students killed in Tiananmen Square.

Re AM

I regret that it will not be possible for me to attend. But I can assure you that, like the British people as a whole, *we* have been deeply moved by the recent tragic events in China. We have all been appalled by the brutal suppression of peaceful demonstrations and by the persecution of those demanding their democratic rights. Your memorial meeting will be a fitting way of marking the bloodshed that has taken place.

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I pray that the Chinese authorities will return to a policy of dialogue with those who aspire to greater freedom.