

Scamp 07 JAN 1984

## 2 hours' talks with Thatcher

London, Jan 16.

The Governor, Sir Edward Youde, today headed a delegation from Hongkong which spent two hours in talks with the Prime Minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, at 10 Downing Street.

With Mrs Thatcher were the Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, and the Foreign Office Minister of State with special responsibility for Hongkong, Mr Richard Luce.

After the talks a statement issued from No 10 said: "Ministers reaffirmed the British Government's continuing commitment to Hongkong and the search for a settlement acceptable to parliament, to China and to the people of Hongkong.

"As on previous occasions there was a comprehensive review of developments in the talks. It produced a close identity of views on the matter involved.

"The Prime Minister and the Foreign Secretary reiterated the importance which they continued to attach to keeping the Executive Council fully informed and to receiving their advice.

"The Governor and the Unofficial members expressed their appreciation for the further opportunity to meet the Prime Minister and colleagues, and for their continuing support and encouragement."

After the talks Sir Edward and the 11 Unofficials were taken to lunch by Mr Luce, whom they are to meet again at the Foreign Office tomorrow.

Also at today's meeting were the Ambassador-designate to Peking, Sir Richard Evans, and the outgoing ambassador, Sir Percy Cradock.

The delegation had nothing to say to waiting reporters as they left No 10 for lunch.

Today's meeting was the third by the Governor and the Unofficials since July last year.

The delegation is due to return to Hongkong on Wednesday.