

SBCR1/2716/98 Pt. 6

Paper No. CB(2)2325/02-03(01)

CB2/PL/SE

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3 June 2003

Clerk to Panel  
Legislative Council Building  
8 Jackson Road  
Central  
Hong Kong  
(Attn : Ms Mary SO)

Dear Ms So,

**Panel on Security**

I refer to your letter of 15 May relaying to us Panel Members' request for a written response from the Administration to the trial by a Mainland court of a robbery committed in Hong Kong by four Hong Kong residents. Specifically, Members would like to know whether Hong Kong had rendered any assistance to the Mainland in this case.

We note from the judgment of the Maoming City Intermediate People's Court that six defendants, including the four Hong Kong residents mentioned above, were involved in conspiring to carry out and organizing a robbery (which occurred in Hong Kong in July 2002) and handling of stolen properties afterwards on the Mainland. They were convicted and sentenced to 10 years to life imprisonment. The Maoming City Intermediate People's Court has set out in detail the facts of the case and the legal basis for its proceedings against these four persons in the judgment. Given that the trial has been conducted under the separate and independent judicial system on the Mainland, we are not in a position to comment.

When the Mainland public security authorities made an arrest of the four Hong Kong residents and the other two Mainlanders involved in the robbery, they requested the Police's assistance in their investigation into the offences committed by the arrested persons on the Mainland through the regular police liaison channel. In the spirit of cooperation in combating cross-boundary crimes, the Police subsequently provided the Mainland with some basic information which includes the personal particulars of the four Hong Kong residents, travel movement records and hotel records of the persons arrested.

Yours sincerely,

( Mrs Margaret Chan )  
for Secretary for Security