

**WHO ? ME ? COME TO YOU !**

Without doubt, it is impertinent and malapert of any Legislative Council member to demand that the Chief Executive of the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC) drop tools to attend a question-and-answer session in the Legislative Council.

Or even, require an audience with the Prince of the HKSAR ...when he has a Chinese New Year Party to attend with Mr Henry Fok, another HKSAR mogul whose son, a few years ago, was indicted by the US Justice Department on a charge of gun-running in the US, without a valid US Government permit.

Of course, Mr Henry Fok is very close to the PRC Government; and, so it is reasonable that the Prince of the HKSAR should put Mr Fok ahead of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce ... or the Legislative Council, for that matter.

It appears, quite clearly, that a number of LEGCO members have forgotten that England no longer runs the HKSAR: The Government of the PRC is in charge, today.

And thank God for that!

Everybody has had enough of the British, and their ways of administering colonies.

It was the British raj which demanded that the HKSAR enjoy entrepot status; and, it corrupted the traditional Chinese way of doing business by demanding that the philosophy of the HKSAR be fashioned along the lines of *laissez faire*.

Which is hardly in keeping with the Communist Manifesto of Karl Marx, or his Chinese counterpart, the late Comrade Chairman Mao Ze Dong.

When Governor Chris Patten, the last white man to be in charge of the affairs of Hongkong – before the installation of the Chinese Chief Executive as ruler of these 412-odd square miles -- was installed in Government House, he was obliged to attend LEGCO in order to answer questions in accordance with the custom of the British House of Commons.

But such a British tradition does not exist in the PRC where, when there is determination of materiality to be made, one necessitating vote-taking by the delegates, attending a meeting of the National People's Congress, the outcome is always known, prior to the casting of delegates' votes.

Which is very convenient and efficient for any Communistic democracy.

It was on Friday, April 16, 1999, that there was a demand for Chief Executive Tung Chee Hwa to attend a question-and-answer session of LEGCO, scheduled for May 6.

The reason for that demand was that certain LEGCO members were of a mind to try to roast this Beijing appointee on the coals of discontent in respect of the alleged Chek Lap Kok Airport chaotic disaster.

When the Chek Lap Kok Airport chaos was first discovered in the middle of 1997, to everybody's amazement except those running the Airport, Chief Executive Tung Chee Hwa rejected, intractably, a demand for him to attend a special session of LEGCO in order to give his report on the Chek Lap Kok Airport situation.

To his credit, it is noted that he did not bow to the demands of those LEGCO members, beneath him, and dismissed their unreasonable suggestions in the same manner as a primary school teacher would dismiss a little

girl, insouciantly, a young girl, who is pouting over some, silly little thing.

That was last year, of course, and so, in view of the fact that the Chek Lap Kok Airport dust had settled, the Chief Executive deigned to attend a LEGCO meeting in order to explain that the PRC Government is correct, and the entire world is incorrect.

The outcome of the May 6 LEGCO meeting is immaterial – and this was well known on April 16, nearly 21 months after the events at Chek Lap Kok Airport -- since those who do not play (the PRC) game, do not stay (in the good books of the PRC Government).

While LEGCO members, Ms Emily Lau Wai Hing, Mr Martin Lee Chu Ming, and Mr Ambrose Cheung Wing Sum, may scream that the Chief Executive is not playing the game, fairly, at the end of the day, they know that they must not go too far with their stentorian outbursts.

The Chinese idiom states that the bird, which sings the sweetest song, is eaten quickest by the predator. That is the reason so many earth-bound birds keep their beaks shut, tightly.

Look at Baroness Lydia Dunn, now domiciled in London, the only ennobled lady who was one of the stars of the Executive Council and Legislative Council, during the days, prior to the advent of Chief Executive Tung Chee Hwa and the coming of PRC politics in the HKSAR: She keeps her beak shut, tightly, having retired from politics at the height of her political and romantic career.

It behooves LEGCO Councillors, those who talk too much and too loudly, to recall this piece of Chinese wisdom.

After all, was it not Mr Tung Chee Hwa who won a great victory in the 1997 elections, staged by the Government of the PRC, when among all the other potential candidates for the position of Chief Executive of the HKSAR, including the former Chief Justice of Hongkong, Mr Tung was placed in his present position – and he hardly had to speak.

Although, to be honest and fair, he did smile a lot.

People, who are incompetent, it is said, rise to the level of the rank, which is thrust upon them.

So, it has been throughout the brief history of Chief Executive Tung Chee Hwa as a politician, of sorts: He has risen to great heights ... by saying and doing very little of anything.

It was Mr Peter K.C. Woo who, while he thought that he had a shot at being Chief Executive, during the staged, 1997 elections, made mention of the fact that what he had to do, in order to move from being a mogul to being a politician, was to avoid the PRC Government's land mines.

Being fleet of foot meant that one had a shot at the title of Chief Executive in 1997, in the opinion of Mr Peter Woo, son-in-law of the late Sir Y.K. Pao.

It is patently evident that Chief Executive Tung Chee Hwa is a veritable ballet dancer, extraordinaire.

This being the case, it would appear that summoning him to LEGCO is pretty much a waste of his, and everybody else's, time because he will just tiptoe, ballet-like, his way through all potential dangers ... or perform his famous arabesque.

And, if that does not work, he can always raise the question:

‘Who? Me? You want me to come to you!’

