

CONFIDENTIAL

# 10 DOWNING STREET

THIS FILE MUST NOT GO OUTSIDE 10 DOWNING ST

FILE TITLE: <i>Relations</i>		SERIES  <i>CAMEROON</i>
		PART:  <i>1</i>
PART BEGINS: <i>23 October</i> <i>2 May 1997.</i>	PART ENDS: <i>28 Dec 2000</i>	CAB ONE:

**LABOUR  
ADMINISTRATION**

*Part closed*

*PREM 49/1762*

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PART

CLOSED

DATE CLOSED	7 JUNE 2001
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Series : CAMEROON

File Title : Relations

Part : 1

Date	From	To	Subject	Class	Secret
23/10/1997	Cameroon /Pres	PM	(H) - Can't attend CHOGM	C	0
26/10/1997	FA/APS	FCO	(M) - Prime Minister	C	0
28/12/2000	Cameroon /Pres	PM	(H) Relations with Britain	U	0



REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN  
REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON

Expéditeur :  
Sender :

TELEGRAMME OFFICIEL  
OFFICIAL TELEGRAM

YAOUNDE le 28 DEC. 2000..

SUBJECT  
MASTER

Ref. : .....

De: **PRESIDENT DE LA REPUBLIQUE DU  
CAMEROUN  
YAOUNDE**

13029/00

Degré d'urgence (1)  
Degree of urgency(1)

Priorité absolue  
Absolute priority

A : **MONSIEUR TONY BLAIR  
PREMIER MINISTRE DU ROYAUME UNI DE  
GRANDE BRETAGNE ET D'IRLANDE DU  
NORD**

Priorité  
Priority

**MONSIEUR LE PREMIER MINISTRE,**

Normal  
Ordinary

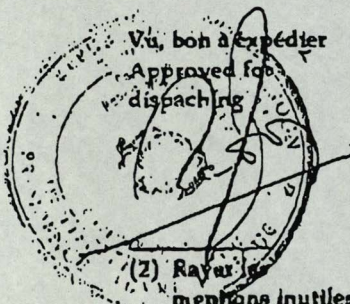
A L'OCCASION DU NOUVEL AN, IL M'EST PARTICULIEREMENT AGREABLE DE VOUS ADRESSER, A VOUS-MEME ET A VOTRE FAMILLE, MES VŒUX ARDENTS DE SANTE ET DE BONHEUR AINSI QUE CEUX DE PAIX ET DE PROSPERITE TOUJOURS CROISSANTES.

Copie à : MINREX  
HAUCOCAM  
LONDRES

Copy to

JE FORMULE LE SOUHAIT QUE SOUS NOTRE IMPULSION COMMUNE, SE RESSERRENT TOUJOURS DAVANTAGE LES EXCELLENTEES RELATIONS D'AMITIE ET DE COOPERATION QUI EXISTENT SI HEUREUSEMENT ENTRE NOS DEUX PAYS.

VEUILLEZ AGREER, MONSIEUR LE PREMIER MINISTRE, LES ASSURANCES DE MA TRES HAUTE CONSIDERATION.



(2) Rayar  
mentions inutiles  
Delete where  
inapplicable

Mr Baker, AD(CE)

No reply necessary.

(E) **PAUL BIYA**

Paul Biya  
29/12

JS.  
Preu

cc: Michael Tatham, No 10 (for info)

25-DEC-2000 18:28 FROM ADRES  
HIGH COMMISSION FOR  
THE REPUBLIC  
OF CAMEROON  
Peace - Work - Fatherland



LE HAUT COMMISSARIAT  
POUR LA REPUBLIQUE  
DU CAMEROUN  
Paix - Travail - Patrie

130145/00

84 Holland Park  
London W11 3SB  
Tel: 0171 727 0771  
Fax: 0171 792 9353  
Telex: 921880

Nº 433/HCL/00

Just received from  
High Commission the  
English version of French  
text received this  
morning. SP. AD(e)

The High Commission for the Republic of Cameroon presents its compliments to the Protocol Department of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and has the honour to transmit here-after the contents of a message addressed by the President of the Republic of Cameroon H.E. Paul BIYA to the Prime Minister of Britain, the Rt. Honourable Tony BLAIR.

Quote:

FROM: THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON  
YAOUNDE.

TO: THE RIGHT HONOURABLE TONY BLAIR, PRIME MINISTER  
OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN  
IRELAND LONDON.

DEAR MR PRIME MINISTER,

ON THE OCCASION OF THE NEW YEAR, I AM VERY PLEASED TO  
EXTEND TO YOU AND TO YOUR FAMILY MY PERSONAL WISHES FOR  
GOOD HEALTH, PEACE AND PROSPERITY.

MAY THE CO-OPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES RECEIVE,  
DURING THE COMING YEAR, STRONGER IMPETUS COMMENSURATE  
WITH THE HISTORICAL AND FRIENDLY TIES THAT SO HAPPILY EXIST  
BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

ACCEPT, MR PRIME MINISTER, THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST  
CONSIDERATION.

(Signed) PAUL BIYA

cc: Mr Wechsberg, NWC

END OF QUOTE:

Mr Baker, AD(e)

Punch Davin

2/1/01

The signed original copy of the message will be sent by post.

The High Commission for the Republic of Cameroon avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Protocol Department of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office the assurances of its highest consideration.

London, 29 December 2000.



PROTOCOL DEPARTMENT  
FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE  
LONDON SW1.



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*File*

SUBJECT  
MASTER

Filed on:

26 October 1997

From the Private Secretary

*Dear Fiona,*

**BILATERAL WITH THE PRIME MINISTER OF CAMEROON**

The Prime Minister spoke to Musonge for 5 minutes on the train on the way back from the CHOGM retreat on 26 October. Musonge said that he had asked to see the Prime Minister in order to convey his President's regrets for being unable to attend CHOGM. He handed over the enclosed letter from the President to the Prime Minister.

Musonge said that President Biya wanted to visit Britain next year and to have a working meeting with the Prime Minister. (The Prime Minister did not comment.) He also raised Cameroon's desire for the CDC to participate in their privatisation programme. He had discussed a number of good projects with them. But they were still ironing out a few problems.

Musonge then turned to the democratisation process in Cameroon. The report of the Commonwealth Group of Observers following their last elections had been critical. There would be Presidential elections shortly as the President's mandate ran out on 2 November. They were making as many changes as they could in the time available following the Commonwealth report. Nevertheless, the opposition had decided to boycott the elections because their demand for an independent electoral commission had not been met. They had taken part in previous elections, and the Government wanted them to participate in these ones. The real reason they did not want to participate this time was that they had been unable to agree on a single candidate to run against Biya and therefore thought that they would lose the election.

I am copying this letter to Nicholas McCarthy in Cameroon, by fax.

*Yours ever,  
Philip*

**PHILIP BARTON**

Mrs Fiona Mylchreest  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office



SUBJECT  
MASTER

Filed on:

*Republic of Cameroon*

*The President  
of the Republic*

*Yaounde, the* 23rd october 1997

Mr. Prime Minister,

You kindly invited me to attend the Conference of Sovereigns, Heads of State and Government of member countries of the Commonwealth in Edinburgh from 24 to 27 October 1997.

You know how pleased I would have been to travel to Edinburgh and to be able on that occasion to hold discussions with You.

As You know, the on-going process of the presidential election in My country, which requires My uninterrupted presence at home, does not permit Me to be among You.

**Mr. Tony BLAIR**  
**Prime Minister of the United Kingdom**  
**of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**  
**LONDON**



However, as testimony to My solidarity with You and to all the importance I attach to the Commonwealth, I am dispatching Mr. Peter MAFANY MUSONGE, My Prime Minister and Head of Government, to be My personal representative at the Edinburgh meeting.

I entreat You to receive him with kindness, and to lend faith and credence to what he will tell You in my name especially with regard to My determination to work for the strengthening of the friendship and co-operation ties between our two countries.

I send sincere wishes of success to the Summit of Sovereigns, Heads of State and Government of member countries of the Commonwealth.

Please accept, Mr. Prime Minister, the assurances of my highest consideration.



**Paul BIYA**

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