

2097

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FILE TITLE: <i>RELATIONS</i>		SERIES <i>LESOTHO</i>
		PART: <i>1</i>
PART BEGINS: <i>2 MAY 1997</i>	PART ENDS: <i>7 JUNE 2001</i>	CAB ONE:

PREM 49/2097

Labour Administration

Part closed

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PART

CLOSED

DATE CLOSED

7 JUNE 2001

Series : LESOTHO

File Title : relations

Part : 1

Date	From	To	Subject	Class	Secret
22/07/98	FCO	FA/APS	Draft message to new PM	C	0

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Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

London SW1A 2AH

22 July 1998

*file - told FCO to issue as amended
PrB 23/7*

Dear Philip

*Top PB
JEH
JB/mc*

Lesotho Elections

Elections took place in Lesotho on 23 May 1998. The Lesotho Congress for Democracy took all but one of the 79 seats.

For a country with a history of instability, Lesotho was on its best behaviour on polling day. The almost universal tranquillity and the calm methodical way the election officials followed the rules of the game across the country hugely impressed the teams of international observers. On election day itself, there was no suspicion of any rigging, just the odd logistical/administrative blip. All observer groups including those from the Commonwealth Secretariat and the UK were satisfied.

Electoral Reform International Services, who were funded by HMG, have now issued a final report on the general elections. Our High Commissioner in Lesotho will be calling on the Prime Minister of Lesotho next week to hand over copies of the report and to discuss HMG's involvement in the process.

A short message from the Prime Minister would be appropriate and also much appreciated by the new Prime Minister of Lesotho, Pakalitha Mosisili.

... I attach a draft message for delivery by the High Commission.

*yours ever
Andrew Patrick*

(Andrew Patrick)
Private Secretary

Philip Barton Esq OBE
10 Downing Street

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UNCLASSIFIED
FM FCO
TO IMMEDIATE MASERU
TELNO
OF **1000Z JULY 98

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR THE PRIME MINISTER OF LESOTHO

1. Please pass the following personal message from the Prime Minister to the Rt. Hon. Pakalitha Mosisili. There will be no (no) signed original.

Begins

"I should like to congratulate you on your appointment as Prime Minister of Lesotho and to wish you every success with the challenging tasks ahead. I look forward to building on the good relations between our two countries, ~~and we shall~~ *we will* continue to follow developments in your country with much interest".

Ends

COOK

YYYY
MAIN
AD(S) DIRECTOR AFRICA
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RMD AFRG
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[DEARDEN AD(S) 270 2577]

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