

2112

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10 DOWNING STREET

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FILE TITLE: <i>RELATIONS</i>		SERIES <i>MALAWI</i>
PART BEGINS: <i>31 October 1997</i> <i>2 May 1997</i>		PART: <i>1</i>
PART ENDS: <i>18 January 1999</i> <i>7 January 1999</i>		CAB ONE:

**LABOUR
ADMINISTRATION**

Part closed

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PART

CLOSED

DATE CLOSED

7 JUNE 2001

Series : MALAWI

File Title : RELATIONS

Part : 1

Date	From	To	Subject	Class	Secret
31/10/97	FCO	FA/APS	Draft letter to President	C	0
05/11/97	PM	Malawi/Pres	(H) - Sorry you couldn't be at CHOGM and Malawan economy	C	0
18/01/99	Malawi/Pres	PM	(H) Shock at death of former HC to Malawi	C	0

international telegrams

MPB2726 MWA586 PG029 1207 1222 TLX44113
BLANTYRE MALAWI TLX 103/102 8 1339

18 JAN 1999/1331

R 19/1

1. cc Andrew Patrick, FCO

AS 19/1

Please pass on as appropriate.

TELEGRAM

H.E. THE RIGHT HONOURABLE TONY BLAIR
PRIME MINISTER OF THE UNITED KINGDOM
10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

2. *file* -> *DCO*

PrB 19/1

*SUBJECT
Malawi
R1
FIS/ONS*

I HAVE LEARNT WITH PROFOUND SHOCK AND DEEP SORROW
OF THE UNTIMELY DEATH OF H.E. MR. JOHN MARTIN, FORMER
BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER TO MALAWI ON 5TH JANUARY, 1999
IN CYPRUS.

THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALAWI
SOLEMNLY JOIN ME IN EXTENDING OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES
AND SYMPATHIES TO YOUR EXCELLENCY AND THROUGH YOU, TO THE
MEMBERS OF THE BEREAVED FAMILY.

MAY THE ALMIGHTY GOD COMFORT THE MEMBERS OF THE
BEREAVED FAMILY DURING THIS TIME OF SORROW.

DR. BAKILI MULUZI
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALAWI.

COL ETAT

To Reply by Telegram Phone

0800 190 190

BT's Telegram Service



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

SUBJECT
MASTER

Filed on:

5 November 1997

THE PRIME MINISTER

Dear Mr. President,

I am sorry that ill health meant we could not meet in Edinburgh as planned. I hope you have now made a full recovery. I think you will agree we met our common objectives and that the meeting was a success.

I am encouraged that Malawi has made a smooth transition to full democracy under your governance. I am also glad that you were able to pay a courtesy call on Dr Banda in August – I know you had been trying to arrange the call for some time. It was a fine gesture in the interests of national reconciliation. I am also pleased the Malawi Congress Party and AFORD have ended their boycott of Parliament. Boycotts are rarely effective and do nothing to further democratic processes.

I should like to congratulate you and your Government on the progress you have made in the past few years to stabilise the Malawian economy and lay the foundations for strong economic growth. These efforts have been justly commended by the IMF and World Bank. I know that the economic reforms have, at times, been painful for the Malawian people and that there are still many challenges ahead. I am, therefore, glad we have been able to provide a substantial aid programme to support your efforts.

I hope there will be another opportunity for us to meet in the not too distant future.

Yours sincerely

Tony Blair

HE Mr Bakili Muluzi



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

London SW1A 2AH

CC JEH
AC
KB

31 October 1997

(T)

Dear Philip,

Malawi: Letter to President Muluzi

As you know, President Muluzi was unable, through ill health, to keep his appointment with the Prime Minister at CHOGM. Nor does the Prime Minister's diary allow for the meeting to be rescheduled before Muluzi returns to Malawi on 7 November. We have, therefore, arranged for Mr Lloyd to call on the President at his hotel at 1100 hrs on Thursday 6 November.

The original call on the Prime Minister had been set up at our request with the objective of re-affirming our commitment to reform and development in Malawi. We enjoy a warm and friendly relationship with Malawi and have been the country's principal bilateral donor since independence. Muluzi defeated former Life President Hastings Banda in 1994, in the first democratic elections in Malawi since independence. Since then, Malawi's human rights record has much improved and Muluzi's government has made significant progress on good governance and economic reform. The latter has been particularly painful for Malawi, the seventh poorest country in the world.

... When we spoke earlier this week, we agreed that it would be appropriate for the Prime Minister to send a letter to President Muluzi. I enclose a draft. Mr Lloyd could deliver the letter when he calls on Muluzi on 6 November.

Yours ever,
Fiona

(Fiona Mylchreest)
Private Secretary

Philip Barton Esq OBE
10 Downing Street

DRAFT LETTER FROM PRIME MINISTER

I am sorry that ill health meant we could not meet in Edinburgh as planned. I hope you have now made a full recovery. I ~~am glad you were able to attend CHOGM and hope you were able to participate before falling ill.~~ I think you will agree we met our common objectives, ~~especially on the economic declaration,~~ and that the meeting was a success.

~~I am~~ ^{ed} ~~It is encouraging to see~~ that Malawi has made a smooth transition to full democracy under your governance. I am ^{also} glad that you were able to pay a courtesy call on Dr Banda in August. I know you had been trying to arrange the call for some time. It was a fine gesture in the interests of national reconciliation. I am also pleased the Malawi Congress Party and AFORD have ended their boycott of Parliament. ^B Boycotts are rarely effective and do nothing to further democratic processes.

I should like to congratulate you and your Government on the progress you have made in the past few years to stabilise the Malawian economy and lay the foundations for strong economic growth. These efforts have been justly commended by the IMF and World Bank. I know that the economic reforms have, at times, been painful for the Malawian people and that there are still many challenges ahead. I am, therefore, glad we have been able to provide a substantial aid programme to support your efforts.

~~I~~ ^I ~~Let us~~ hope there will be another opportunity for us to meet in the not too distant future.

^{Mr}
HE President Bakili Muluzi ^B
c/o St James Court Hotel
[By hand of Mr Tony Lloyd MP, Minister of State]

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