

Confidential Filing

Visit of President Ahidjo of Cameroon
in 1982

CAMEROON

December 1980

Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date
8-1-82							
16-6-82							
21-1-82							
7-2-82							
21-4-82							
22-4-82							
23-4-82							
29-4-82							
20-5-82							

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With the compliments of

THE PRIVATE SECRETARY

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
SW1A 2AH



From The Minister of State

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

20 May 1982

Prime Minister

A.F.C. 2/5.

My dear Peter,

CAMEROON : PRESIDENT AHIDJO'S VISIT, 21-24 APRIL

I thought that you and other colleagues involved in President Ahidjo's recent visit might be interested to have some brief impressions of how it went and our views on how best to follow it up.

The background to the visit was as follows. As you know, the FCO, working in close cooperation with your Department, have been making a determined effort in recent years, particularly the last two, to break into the very promising markets that exist in francophone West Africa. At present, the most flourishing economies are those of Ivory Coast, Cameroon and Gabon. Of these, Cameroon seems to offer the best opportunities at the moment. This is partly the result of the historical and cultural links provided by our former mandated administration of part of the country (which remains officially bilingual); partly because of its notable stability; and partly due to Cameroon's extremely sensible development policies and promising oil prospects. We had therefore prepared the ground carefully for the invitation to the President (who had not visited the UK since 1963) by a series of high-level visits in both directions, which started with Cecil Parkinson's trip in November 1980.

Ahidjo's visit was, we believe, a considerable success. The Cameroonians greatly appreciated the Prime Minister's willingness to devote so much of her time to talking with and entertaining the President at a time of national crisis. (One side effect has been that Cameroon has given us unexpectedly staunch support over the Falklands in the Non-Aligned Movement.) As you know, more than 100 businessmen attended the meeting with Ahidjo at Lancaster House, at which Arthur Cockfield and Ian Sproat were present: we are extremely grateful for the DOT's invaluable help over this. In addition, three agreements (on double taxation; an MOU on our mixed credit arrangements; and with the Commonwealth Development Corporation) were signed. An Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement is to be concluded shortly.

/We must



-2-

We must now ensure that the momentum which has been built up is not allowed to fall away. The forthcoming visits of Paul Channon and Peggy Fenner will be a valuable means of keeping up high-level contact and of identifying ways of expanding our cooperation, especially in English-language teaching and agriculture. In addition, your and Neil Marten's officials are working hard on the identification of projects to be funded under the new Aid and Credit Agreement.

For our part, the FCO continue to look for openings at Ministerial and official level to promote the top-level personal contacts which are so important to bilateral relationships with African countries. We hope the private sector will be encouraged by the British Government's positive attitude to show a greater willingness to explore the potential which Cameroon undoubtedly offers; and in particular that one of our major banks may soon be persuaded to set up a branch there. I think it would also be useful to encourage more parliamentary contacts. Please let me know if you think there are any further tricks we may be missing.

Yours ever,

Cranley

Cranley Onslow

Peter Rees Esq QC MP
Minister for Trade
Department of Trade
1 Victoria Street
LONDON SW1



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

29 April 1982

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Prime Minister

AR 29/4.

Dear John,

Visit of the President of Cameroon: 20 - 24 April 1982

I enclose the text of a message transmitted by President Ahidjo during his return flight to Cameroon.

From the warmth of his remarks it is clear that the visit was a considerable success. The Cameroonians were pleased and impressed by the fact that the Prime Minister was able to take time off from other pressing business to devote some three hours to talks and lunch with the President. This clearly made a decisive contribution to the success of the visit.

Yours ever,

Francis Richards

(F N Richards)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

Subject

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OFFICAL TELEGRAM
TELEGRAMME OFFICIEL

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PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 816/82

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON

- Y A O U N D E -

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE MARGARET THATCHER, PRIME MINISTER
OF HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT

- L O N D O N -

AT THE END OF MY STAY IN GREAT BRITAIN, ALLOW ME TO SEND
YOU MY SINCERE THANKS FOR THE HIGHLY WARM WELCOME AND KIND
ATTENTION ACCORDED TO MY WIFE, THE DELEGATION ACCOMPANYING
ME AND MYSELF IN YOUR BEAUTIFUL KINGDOM STOP THIS WARM
WELCOME AND KIND ATTENTION UNDOUBTEDLY ARE A CLEAR PROOF
OF THE EXCELLENT RELATIONS EXISTING BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES
STOP I AM ALSO PLEASED WITH THE FRUITFUL DISCUSSIONS I HAVE
HAD THROUGHOUT MY VISIT AND HOPE THAT THEY WILL INCREASINGLY
CONSOLIDATE THE BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION EXISTING
BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND CAMEROON STOP I BEG YOU TO
CONVEY TO HER MAJESTY ELIZABETH II, QUEEN OF THE UNITED KINGDOM
OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, HEAD OF THE COMMONWEALTH
THE EXPRESSION OF MY MOST RESPECTFUL HOMMAGES STOP HIGHEST
CONSIDERATION STOP AND END.

AHMADOU AHIDJO
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON

24. 4-82.



FILE RM

Cameron

10 DOWNING STREET

23 April, 1982

From the Private Secretary

Dear Sir,

VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE
CAMEROONS

Thank you for your letter of 22 April.
I enclose the record of the conversation
which took place when the President of the
Cameroons called here on 21 April.

Yours ever

J. Holmes

J Holmes, Esq
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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SUBJECT

cc Master

RECORD OF A CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON ON WEDNESDAY, 21 APRIL, 1982, AT 1200 AT 10 DOWNING STREET

Present:-

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Prime Minister | HE M. Ahmadou Ahidjo GCMG |
| Mr Cranley Onslow, MP | M. Paul Dontsop |
| The Rt Hon Neil Marten MP | M. Bello Bouba Maigari |
| Mr Peter Rees QC MP | M. Joseph Charles Doumba |
| Sir Leonard Allinson KCVO CMG | M. Albert Ngome Kome |
| Mr Brian Sparrow | M. Joseph Ekedji Samnik |
| Mr Christopher MacRae | |
| Mr John Coles | |

The Prime Minister said that it was too long since the President had last visited London. We had been trying to increase the number of ministerial visits/^{recently} in order to strengthen bilateral relations. We were conscious of the respect in which the President was held as a statesman throughout Africa, not to mention his role as the architect of independent Cameroon. We also realised the importance which the Non-Aligned Movement attached to his views.

President Ahidjo thanked the Prime Minister for her welcome which reflected the excellent relations of friendship and co-operation binding the two countries. He wanted these links to be deepened and diversified. He was well aware of the growing interest shown by the UK in Cameroon, reflected in recent offers of aid and credit, and hoped that his visit would consolidate this trend. There were a certain number of projects to be discussed; he trusted that his Minister of Economy would be able to go over these in detail with the British Minister for Trade. Mr Rees stated that HMG had offered £10m as a capital aid grant, as well as £30m of ECGD-backed commercial credit. An agreed list of projects was being prepared and he hoped it would be possible for this to be signed shortly. The President remarked that although cultural co-operation with the UK was already quite intensive, he would like it to increase, not least since English was one of Cameroon's official languages. In the past, a Mixed Commission had existed to settle any bilateral problems but this had not met since 1975. He hoped it could be revived.

/The Prime Minister

The Prime Minister said that she would be interested to know the President's views on Cameroon's development and on African problems generally. President Ahidjo replied that Cameroon's development was along the lines of 'planned liberalism'. A 5th plan had just started; this was not rigid, but merely an indicative plan covering both development projects of priority, and public and private investment. Top priority was given to agriculture. His government aimed to improve the quantity and quality of Cameroon's agricultural output and were particularly interested in increasing the local transformation of agricultural products. The international economic crisis had hit Cameroon, as it had other African nations. But the fact that her agriculture was so strong had cushioned her from the worst effects of the recession. Now, the country aimed at complete agricultural self-sufficiency. (In answer to a question from the Prime Minister, he explained that there were still some products, particularly wheat, which had to be imported.) For some years, Cameroon had been a modest net oil exporter. Production was increasing. She also had as yet unexploited gas reserves. This was a boon to the development programme. But his government did not want to make too much of their oil prospects, since the reserves were not great and they did not want to encourage Cameroonians to turn away from the real and lasting basis of their economy: agriculture. The Prime Minister commented that Cameroon was evidently developing steadily and was politically stable; so we had no difficulty in recommending British businessmen to invest there. However, they sometimes asked about protection for their investment, so she was glad to hear that a text was under discussion on this subject, which should be helpful. The President replied that he hoped it could be signed during his visit. His side had accepted the text in English: only the translation into French remained to be cleared.

The Prime Minister said that Britain was glad about the general reduction in oil prices. Nevertheless, she thought that the world economy would be slow to climb out of recession. Agreeing, President Ahidjo said that the economic crisis afflicting the world was particularly damaging to young countries. He knew they could count on the UK, as a responsible major power, to help find solutions. He trusted that the UK would be able, in world forums, to bring more order and balance into the world economic scene, especially in relation to the Third World. The Prime Minister mentioned that Britain had hoped that all its contribution to the IDA could be used but had to date observed the convention that since the USA had not made its maximum contribution,

/ours

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ours could not be completely taken up. However, the Government had recently decided that Britain need not be bound by the agreement on proportionality and our maximum contribution was therefore being put at the disposition of the IDA. We hoped that others would follow our lead.

President Ahidjo expressed his satisfaction that the UK had contributed so impressively in the last few years to the liberation of Africa and paid particular tribute to Britain's defusing of the Zimbabwe situation. He hoped that the UK, as a leading member of the Western Contact Group, would also be able to help find an early solution over Namibia, as well as some eventual remedies to the scourge of apartheid.

The Prime Minister remarked that HMG followed events in Africa with great concern. Consequently, we were none too happy about what might happen to the OAU under the forthcoming Libyan Presidency. We had been deeply saddened by the recent military take-over in Ghana: for we thought that President Limann had been making real efforts to put his country back on its feet and had been trying to help through the IMF. Over Namibia, we had been most grateful for the help and understanding shown by Cameroon towards the efforts of the Western Contact Group in finding a solution. But this search seemed likely to take longer than we had all hoped. Mr Onslow explained that the current sticking point was over the exact voting arrangements. It was SWAPO who was holding this up. It would be tragic if the momentum towards a solution was lost because of difficulties over points of detail like this. Anything that Cameroon could do to persuade SWAPO to agree to a generally acceptable voting system, would be welcome. The Prime Minister added that we had all hoped that the UN Peace Plan could start to be implemented in 1982. It would be a step backwards if this proved impossible because of quibbling over such relatively minor details. Our American friends were, of course, keen that at the same time as the UN plan was implemented, the Cuban presence in Angola should be reduced. This would certainly make things much easier for the USA, as well as others. President Ahidjo replied that he greatly hoped that a final agreement could be reached soon. Much progress had been made; and the Contact Group had contributed greatly to this. A compromise must be found in just the same way as it had been in the case of Zimbabwe (for which Britain deserved great credit). Over the link with Angola and Cuba, he thought that we should not be too Manichean. There existed a vicious circle: South Africa attacked Angola,

/who

- 4 -

who then had need of the Cuban presence to defend itself, whereupon the South Africans justified their attacks because of the Cuban presence. Personally he, like many Africans thought that the solution of the Namibia problem would help considerably. Although he did not know the Angolan leaders personally, he did not believe they wanted a permanent Cuban presence. Once the Namibia problem was resolved, Angola would be glad to have the Cuban troops withdrawn; so perhaps the Americans saw this the wrong way round? The Prime Minister commented that what we hoped for was a reduction of the Cuban forces in parallel with, or simultaneously with, the process of independence for Namibia. At all events, Britain was doing all it could to promote a solution. Some people were impatient with the time this was taking, in comparison with the Zimbabwe negotiations. But there we had been in sole charge, although we had informed and consulted as many of our friends as possible about what we were doing, determined not only that Zimbabwe's independence should be total, but also that it would start its new life with as many friends as possible to help in its economic development.

Turning to the Falkland Islands crisis, the Prime Minister said that she knew that the African countries had an agreement that established boundaries (which might not always - as Cameroon knew all too well - be very clearly delimited) should not be changed by force. The Argentinians had just done precisely that, whilst negotiations were still going on about the matter. If this rule over boundaries, which was accepted the world over, were to be overturned, it would be a recipe for chaos. Many other countries and islands around the world would live in fear of invasion. There was an important matter of principle at stake; so we remained firm in our position. The President replied that as an African nation, Cameroon had not wished to take up a position on the substance of the dispute. But on the Argentine action, they disapproved strongly of the use of force to modify frontiers. Changes of this sort had to be carried out by peaceful bilateral negotiations. The Prime Minister replied that that was exactly what we were still trying to do. With that in view, the Foreign Secretary would be flying to the United States tomorrow for further talks.

She asked for the President's views on other African problems, such as Chad and the Western Sahara. The President replied that both were very complicated issues about which he was personally pessimistic. Chad had broken up as a country because its various factions had disagreed. Both the main sides must now come together to decide on the

/future

future of their country. He disapproved of the use of force: as usual, it would in the end solve nothing. Nor did Cameroon particularly support one side or another in the present quarrel; the latter simply had to talk together to overcome their differences. As to the Western Sahara, whilst he approved of the UN principles on self-determination, he did not agree with the seating of the SADR in the OAU: since the people had not been consulted, this was inconsistent with the notion of self-determination. Evidently, this problem was capable of bringing about a war between Morocco and Algeria, which would be a disaster for Africa. Once again, he was convinced that the matter had to be solved by patient negotiation. But there were difficulties. For example, on the proposed referendum, no one even knew the real size of the population. He thought it was now up to Morocco to offer a compromise solution. Personally, he wondered whether autonomy within a wider Morocco might not be the answer; however, he had not aired this idea formally inside the OAU.

The meeting finished at 1255, after which the Minister of State for Overseas Development and the Cameroonian Minister for Economy and Planning signed a Memorandum of Understanding on the use of the £10m capital aid credit.

A. J. C.

23 April, 1982

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Cameroon



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

22 April 1982

Dear John,

Visit of President Ahidjo of
Cameroon

I enclose Christopher MacRae's draft record of the conversation yesterday at No 10 between the Prime Minister and President Ahidjo of Cameroon for your approval.

Yours ever

J E Holmes

(J E Holmes)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

COVERING CONFIDENTIAL

RECORD OF A CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRIME MINISTER AND
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON ON
WEDNESDAY, 21 APRIL 1982, AT 12.00.NOON, AT 10 DOWNING STREET

PRESENT:

The Rt Hon
Margaret Thatcher MP

Mr Cranley Onslow MP
Minister of State for
Foreign & Commonwealth
Affairs

The Rt Hon
Neil Marten MP
Minister of State
for Foreign & Commonwealth
Affairs & Minister for
Overseas Development

Mr Peter Rees QC MP
Minister of State for
Trade

^{Leonard}
Sir ~~H~~ Allinson KCVO CMG
Assistant Under-Secretary
FCO

Mr Brian Sparrow
HM Ambassador to Cameroon

^{Christopher}
Mr ~~A C D S~~ MacRae
Head, West African Dept
FCO

Mr John Coles

HE M. Ahmadou Ahidjo GCMG

M Paul Dontsop
Minister of Foreign Affairs

M Bello Bouba Maigari
Minister of Economy and Planning

M Joseph Charles Doumba
Minister in Charge of Missions
at the Presidency of the
Republic

M Albert Ngome Kome
Minister of Transport

M Joseph Ekedji Samnik
In Charge of Missions at the
Presidency of the Republic

1. The Prime Minister ~~extended a warm welcome to President~~
~~Ahidjo and his distinguished delegation and said it was too~~
long since ^{he} had last visited London. We had been trying to
increase the number of ministerial visits recently in order
to strengthen bilateral relations, ~~this seemed to be having~~

~~/some~~

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~~some effect.~~ For our part, ^U we were conscious of the respect in which the President was held as a statesman throughout Africa, not to mention his role as the architect of independent Cameroon. We also realized the importance which the Non-Aligned Movement attached to his views.

2. President Ahidjo thanked the Prime Minister for her welcome which reflected the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation binding the two countries. He wanted these links to be deepened and diversified. He was well aware of the growing interest shown by the UK in Cameroon, reflected in recent offers of aid and credit, and hoped that his visit would consolidate this trend. There were a certain number of projects to be discussed; he trusted that his Minister of Economy would be able to go over these in detail with the British Minister for Trade. ^{dated} Mr Rees ~~mentioned~~ that HMG had offered £10m as a capital aid grant, as well as £30m of ECGD-backed commercial credit. An agreed list of projects was being prepared ~~under the first~~ and he hoped it would be possible for this to be signed shortly. The President remarked that although cultural cooperation with the UK was already quite intensive, he would like it to increase, not least since English was one of Cameroon's official languages. In the past, a Mixed Commission had existed to settle any bilateral problems but this had not met since 1975. He hoped it could be revived.

3. The Prime Minister said that she would be interested to ^{know} ~~hear~~ the President's views on Cameroon's development and on African problems generally, ~~especially since we seldom had~~

~~/the chance~~

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~~the chance of hearing them direct.~~ President Ahidjo replied that Cameroon's development was along the lines of 'planned liberalism'. A 5th plan had just started; this was not rigid, but merely an indicative plan covering both development projects of priority, and public and private investment. Top priority was given to agriculture. ~~Not only did his~~ government aim ^{ed} to improve the quantity and quality of Cameroon's agricultural output, ~~but also they~~ ^{and} were particularly interested in increasing the local transformation of agricultural products. The international economic crisis had, ~~of course~~ ² hit Cameroon, as it had other African nations. But the fact that her agriculture was so strong had cushioned her from the worst effects of the recession. Now, the country aimed at complete agricultural self-sufficiency. (In answer to a question from the Prime Minister, he explained that there were still some products, particularly wheat, which had to be imported.) For some years, Cameroon had been a modest net oil exporter. Production was increasing. She also had as yet unexploited gas reserves. This was ~~evidently~~ a boon to the development programme. But his government did not want to make too much of their oil prospects, since the reserves were not great and they did not want to encourage Cameroonians to turn away from the real and lasting basis of their economy: agriculture. The Prime Minister commented that Cameroon was evidently developing steadily and was politically stable; so we had no difficulty in recommending British businessmen to invest there. However, they sometimes asked about protection for their investment, so she was glad to hear that a text was under discussion on this subject, which should be helpful. The President replied /that

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that he hoped it could be signed during his visit. His side had accepted the text in English: only the translation into French remained to be cleared.

4. The Prime Minister said that Britain was glad about the general reduction in oil prices. Nevertheless, she thought that the world economy would be slow to climb out of recession. Agreeing, President Ahidjo said that the economic crisis afflicting the world was particularly damaging to young countries. He knew they could count on the UK, as a responsible major power, to help find solutions. He trusted that the UK would be able, in world forums, to bring more order and balance into the world economic scene, especially in relation to the Third World.

The Prime Minister mentioned that Britain had hoped that all its contribution to the IDA could be used but had ^{to date observed the} ~~been frustrated~~ ^{convention} by the fact that since the USA had not made its maximum contribution, ours could not be completely taken up because of ^{the government had} ~~the agreement over proportionality~~ ^{clearly decided}. However, ^{it had recently} ~~been accepted~~ that Britain need not be bound by [↓] ~~this rule~~ and our maximum contribution was therefore being put at the disposition of the IDA. We hoped that others would follow our lead.

5. President Ahidjo expressed his satisfaction that the UK had contributed so impressively in the last few years to the liberation of Africa and paid particular tribute to Britain's defusing of the Zimbabwe situation. He hoped that the UK as a leading member of the Western Contact Group, would also be able to help find an early solution over Namibia, as well as some eventual remedies to the scourge of apartheid.

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/The Prime

clearly decided
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on proportionality

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The Prime Minister remarked that HMG followed events in Africa with great concern. Consequently, we were none too happy about what might happen to the OAU under the forthcoming Libyan Presidency. We had been deeply saddened by the recent military take-over in Ghana: for we thought that President Limann had been making real efforts to put his country back on its feet and had been trying to help through the IMF. Over Namibia, we had been most grateful for the help and understanding shown by Cameroon towards the efforts of the Western Contact Group in finding a solution. But this search seemed likely to take longer than we had all hoped. Mr Cranley Onslow explained that the current sticking point was over the exact voting arrangements. It was SWAPO who was holding this up. It would be tragic if the momentum towards a solution was lost because of difficulties over points of detail like this. Anything that Cameroon could do to persuade SWAPO to agree to a generally acceptable voting system, would be welcome. The Prime Minister added that we had all hoped that the UN Peace Plan could start to be implemented in 1982. It would be a step backwards if this proved impossible because of quibbling over such relatively minor details. Our American friends were of course keen that at the same time as the UN plan was implemented, the Cuban presence in Angola should be reduced. This would certainly make things much easier for the USA, as well as others. President Ahidjo replied that he greatly hoped that a final agreement could be reached soon. Much progress had been made; and the Contact Group had contributed greatly to this. A compromise must be found in just the same way as it had been in the case of Zimbabwe (for which Britain

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deserved great credit). Over the link with Angola and Cuba, he thought that we should not be too Manichean. There existed a vicious circle: South African attacked Angola, who then had need of the Cuban presence to defend itself, whereupon the South Africans justified their attacks because of the Cuban presence. Personally he, like many Africans thought that the solution of the Namibia problem would help considerably. Although he did not know the Angolan leaders personally, he did not believe they wanted a permanent Cuban presence. ~~So~~ Once the Namibia problem was ^{re}solved, Angola would be glad to have the Cuban troops withdrawn; so perhaps the Americans saw this the wrong way round? The Prime Minister commented that what we hoped for was a reduction of the Cuban forces in parallel with, or simultaneously with, the process of independence for Namibia. At all events, Britain was doing all it could to promote a solution. Some people were impatient with the time this was taking, in comparison with the Zimbabwe negotiations. But there ^s we had been in sole charge, although we ^{had} informed and consulted as many of our friends as possible about what we were doing, determined not only that Zimbabwe's independence should be total, but also that it would start its new life with as many friends as possible to help in its economic development.

6. Turning to the Falkland Islands crisis, the Prime Minister said that she knew that the African countries had an agreement that established boundaries (which might not always - as Cameroon knew all too well - be very clearly delimited) should not be changed by force. The Argentinians had just

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done precisely that, whilst there were still negotiations going on about the matter. If this rule over boundaries, which was accepted the world over, were to be overturned, ^{it} ~~this~~ would be a recipe for chaos. Many other countries and islands around the world would live in fear of invasion. There was an important matter of principle at stake; so we remained firm in our position. The President replied that as an African nation, Cameroon had not wished to take up a position on the substance of the dispute. But on the Argentine action, they disapproved strongly of the use of force to modify frontiers. Changes of this sort had to be carried out by peaceful bilateral negotiations. The Prime Minister replied that that was exactly what we were still trying to do. With that in view, the Foreign Secretary would be flying to the United States tomorrow for further talks.

7. She asked for the President's views on other African problems, such as Chad and the Western Sahara. The President replied that both were very complicated issues about which he was personally pessimistic. Chad had broken up as a country because its various factions had disagreed. Both the main sides ~~had~~ ^{must} now ~~to~~ come together to decide on the future of their country. He disapproved of the use of force: as usual, it would in the end solve nothing. Nor did Cameroon particularly support one side or another in the present quarrel; the latter simply had to talk together to overcome their differences. As to the Western Sahara, whilst he approved of the UN principles on self-determination, he did not agree with the seating of

CONFIDENTIAL /the SADR

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the SADR in the OAU: since the people had not been consulted, this was inconsistent with the notion of self-determination. Evidently, this problem was capable of bringing about a war between Morocco and Algeria, which would be a disaster for Africa. Once again, he was convinced that the matter had to be solved by patient negotiation. But there were difficulties. For example, on the proposed referendum, no one even knew the real size of the population. He thought it was now up to Morocco to offer a compromise solution. Personally, he wondered whether autonomy within a wider Morocco might not be the answer; however, he had not aired this idea formally inside the OAU.

8. The meeting finished at 1255, after which the Minister of State for Overseas Development and the Cameroonian Minister for Economy and Planning signed a Memorandum of Understanding on the use of the £10m capital aid credit.

*ADL 23.
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Distribution:

PS/Mr Onslow
PS/Mr Marten
PS/Mr Rees
Sir John Leahy, FCO
Sir Leonard Allinson, FCO
West African Department, FCO
Near East and North African Department, FCO
HM Ambassador, Yaoundé
Mr Lynch, ODA
Mr Ford, OT5, DOT

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PRIME MINISTER

Cameron *sw*
c.c. Mr. Coles

Visit of the President of the Cameroons

List of those attending the talks at 12 noon

Cameroons

The President of the Cameroons

HE M. Paul Dontsop:	Minister of Foreign Affairs
HE M. Bello Bouba Maigari:	Minister of Economy and Planning
HE M. Joseph Charles Doumba:	Minister in Charge of Missions at the Presidency of the Republic
HE M. Albert Ngome Kome:	Minister of Transport
HE M. Paul Pondi:	Ambassador to the UK
Mr. Tenning:	Interpreter

UK

Mr. Peter Rees:	Minister of State for Trade
Mr. Neil Marten:	Minister for Overseas Development
Sir Leonard Allinson:	Assistant Under-Secretary, FCO
HE Mr. Brian Sparrow:	Ambassador to the Cameroons
Mr. Christopher MacRae:	Head of West Africa Department, FCO
Mr. Rob Young:	Interpreter: Assistant Head of Western European Department, FCO

CS

21 April, 1982.

PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH FOR A LUNCHEON

FOR THE PRESIDENT OF CAMEROON

21 APRIL 1982

YOUR EXCELLENCIES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

WE IN BRITAIN ARE NOW FACING AN EXCEPTIONALLY GRAVE CRISIS IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC, BUT WHICH HAS WORLDWIDE RAMIFICATIONS.

IT HAS THEREFORE BEEN PARTICULARLY VALUABLE FOR US TO BE ABLE TO WELCOME TO OUR COUNTRY TODAY SO DISTINGUISHED A STATESMAN AS PRESIDENT AHMADOU AHIDJO.

THE DISCUSSIONS WHICH WE HAVE HAD THIS MORNING HAVE PROVIDED A MOST USEFUL OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH A SAGE LEADER WHO HAS ENORMOUS EXPERIENCE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. HE IS, IF I MAY PUT IT THIS WAY, AN ELDER STATESMAN IN AFRICA, AND A PROMINENT MEMBER OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT.

/WE KNOW

-2-

WE KNOW THAT WE CAN COUNT ON THE WHOLE-
HEARTED SUPPORT OF CAMEROON IN WORKING FOR
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SECURITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION No. 502.

ALTHOUGH THE FALKLAND ISLANDS CRISIS HAS OVERSHADOWED
OUR DISCUSSIONS IT HAS NOT PREVENTED US FROM
GIVING FULL CONSIDERATION TO OTHER ISSUES,
BOTH OF WORLD AFFAIRS AND CONCERNING OUR
BILATERAL RELATIONS.

/BRITAIN'S

BRITAIN'S RELATIONSHIP WITH CAMEROON DATES BACK

MANY YEARS AND HAS ALWAYS BEEN CHARACTERISED
BY CLOSE FRIENDSHIP AND CO-OPERATION.

SOME PEOPLE HAVE ALLEGED THAT WE HAVE TENDED
TO NEGLECT THAT RELATIONSHIP SINCE PRESIDENT AHIDJO
LED CAMEROON TO FULL INDEPENDENCE MORE THAN
TWENTY YEARS AGO.

MY GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN ENERGETIC STEPS TO REBUT
THAT ACCUSATION.

THE PAST EIGHTEEN MONTHS HAVE SEEN AN
UNPRECEDENTEDLY LARGE NUMBER OF HIGH-LEVEL
VISITORS TRAVELLING IN BOTH DIRECTIONS.

THESE EXCHANGES ARE BRINGING PRACTICAL RESULTS.

THIS MORNING WE HAVE WITNESSED THE SIGNATURE OF
A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING UNDER WHICH THE
BRITISH GOVERNMENT WILL PROVIDE TEN MILLION POUNDS

/IN AID

IN AID FOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN
BY BRITISH COMPANIES IN CAMEROON.

TOMORROW OUR MINISTERS WILL SIGN AN
INVESTMENT PROMOTION AND PROTECTION AGREEMENT
AND A DOUBLE TAXATION AGREEMENT COVERING AIRLINE
OPERATIONS. THE LATTER ARISES FROM THE
DOUALA - LONDON SERVICES BEGUN LAST YEAR BY
BRITISH CALDEDONIAN AND CAMEROON AIRWAYS, WHICH
ARE BRINGING OUR COUNTRIES SO MUCH CLOSER
TOGETHER.

/WITHIN THE

WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF ALL THESE AGREEMENTS WE LOOK
FORWARD TO A STEADY STRENGTHENING AND
EXPANSION OF OUR COMMERCIAL RELATIONSHIPS.
THIS WILL REQUIRE A FAR MORE POSITIVE
ATTITUDE ON THE PART OF BRITISH BUSINESSMEN.
CAMEROON IS A COUNTRY WHOSE SENSIBLE, WELL-
BALANCED DEVELOPMENT POLICIES AND ABUNDANT
NATURAL RESOURCES ASSURE HER OF A PROSPEROUS
FUTURE.
I HOPE TO SEE BRITAIN PLAYING A LARGE PART
IN THAT FUTURE.

/As I HAVE SAID,

AS I HAVE SAID, THE VISIT THIS WEEK BY PRESIDENT AHIDJO AND HIS DISTINGUISHED TEAM OF MINISTERS IS THE CULMINATION OF A PROCESS OF INJECTING NEW VIGOUR INTO OUR FRIENDSHIP WITH CAMEROON. WE MOST SINCERELY WELCOME HIS EXCELLENCY, AND MADAME AHIDJO, AND HIS SUITE TO THIS COUNTRY. I AM SURE THAT THE OTHER ENGAGEMENTS IN HIS PROGRAMME, INCLUDING THE HOSPITALITY BY HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF KENT, AND BY THE LORD MAYOR OF LONDON WILL BE AS WARM AND AS FRIENDLY OCCASIONS AS THIS LUNCHEON HAS BEEN.

PRIME MINISTER

cc Caroline Stephens

Visit of the President of Cameroon

His name (Ahidjo) is pronounced Aheejo.

You begin with a guard of honour in the FCO courtyard at
1145.

Then talks. The francophone Africans like these to be
formal in character. I therefore suggest you use the Cabinet
Room. The President wants to bring four Ministers, his Ambassador
and an interpreter. We should match them - and it will be useful
to you to have Peter Rees and Neil Marten present to deal with
the trade and aid issues.

In view of the Falkland Islands preoccupation, I asked that
your briefs should be as short as possible. But Mr. Rees and
Mr. Marten have fuller briefs and will be able to support you on
more detailed points.

You will wish to say a few words at lunch and may care to
draw on the attached FCO speaking notes.

A.J.C.

20 April 1982

SPEECH TO BE MADE BY THE PRIME MINISTER AT LUNCH FOR THE
PRESIDENT OF CAMEROON : 21 APRIL 1982

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen. We in Britain are now facing an exceptionally grave crisis in the South Atlantic, but which has world-wide ramifications. It has therefore been particularly valuable for us to be able to welcome to our country today so distinguished a statesman as President Ahmadou Ahidjo. The discussions which we have had this morning have provided a most useful opportunity to exchange views with a sage leader who has enormous experience of international affairs. He is, if I may put it this way, an elder statesman in Africa, and a prominent member of the Non-Aligned Movement. We know that we can count on the whole-hearted support of Cameroon in working for the implementation of Security Council Resolution No 502.

Although the Falkland Islands crisis has overshadowed our discussions it has not prevented us from giving full consideration to other issues, both of world affairs and concerning our bilateral relations.

Britain's relationship with Cameroon dates back many years and has always been characterised by close friendship and co-operation. Some people have alleged that we have tended to neglect that relationship since President Ahidjo led Cameroon to full independence more than twenty years ago. My government has taken energetic steps to rebut that accusation. The past eighteen months have seen an unprecedentedly large number of high-level visitors travelling in both directions. These exchanges are bringing practical results. This morning we have witnessed the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding under which the British government will provide ten million pounds in aid for development projects undertaken by British companies in Cameroon. Tomorrow our Ministers will sign an Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement and a Double

/Taxation

Taxation Agreement covering airline operations. The latter arises from the Douala - London services begun last year by British Caledonian and Cameroon Airways, which are bringing our countries so much closer together.

Within the framework of all these agreements we look forward to a steady strengthening and expansion of our commercial relationships. This will require a far more positive attitude on the part of British businessmen. Cameroon is a country whose sensible, well-balanced development policies and abundant natural resources assure her of a prosperous future. I hope to see Britain playing a large part in that future.

As I have said, the visit this week by President Ahidjo and his distinguished team of Ministers is the culmination of a process of injecting new vigour into our friendship with Cameroon. We most sincerely welcome His Excellency, and Madame Ahidjo, and his suite to this country. I am sure that the other engagements in his programme, including the hospitality by Her Majesty The Queen, His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent, and by the Lord Mayor of London, will be as warm and as friendly occasions as this luncheon has been.

2 pps



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

19 April 1982

Dear John,

Guest of Government Visit of the President of Cameroon:
20 - 24 April 1982

You confirmed on Friday that, subject to the unforeseen, the Prime Minister will be willing to carry out her part in President Ahidjo's programme. Her talks with the President are the cornerstone of the whole visit, and he will be very grateful to the Prime Minister for going through with them in the present situation.

We have learned from the Cameroonians that Ahidjo will be accompanied to the talks by Paul Dontsop, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Maigari Bello Bouba, Minister of Economy and Planning, Joseph Charles Doumba, Minister in charge of Missions at the Presidency, and Albert Ngome Kome, Minister of Transport. The Ambassador, M Bindzi, and the President's interpreter will also attend.

Unless the Prime Minister especially wishes it, there is probably no need for her to have a tete-a-tete with President Ahidjo. The plenary talks could therefore begin immediately after the photocall, and go right up to lunch. I suggest that Mr Onslow should attend on behalf of the FCO. The main subjects of discussion are likely to be trade and aid, the Falkland Islands crisis (Cameroon is an influential member of the coordinating bureau of the NAM), and African matters. Under the first heading, the Prime Minister has directed that our £10 million grant should be used under the Aid and Trade Provision. It would therefore be appropriate for Mr Peter Rees and Mr Neil Marten to be present and it is proposed that Mr Marten and Mr Bello Bouba should sign a Memorandum of Understanding about the grant during the talks. We also propose that Sir Leonard Allinson, Brian Sparrow (our Ambassador to Cameroon), Christopher MacRae (Head of West African Department, who will take a record) and Rob Young (to interpret) should attend. I enclose three sets of briefs for the Prime Minister for the talks (other Ministers have fuller briefing). Brief No. 5 and the Personality Notes and Programme are for background information only.

/We have

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We have included all the Cameroonian Ministers and the British Ministers taking part in talks in the guest list for the lunch, beginning at 1.00 pm. We have also suggested that Mrs Peggy Fenner should attend the lunch, as she intends to visit Cameroon this summer. It is probably not necessary for her to be present at the talks, as President Ahidjo's team does not include an Agriculture Minister. The lunch will be a suitable occasion for short speeches (perhaps five minutes on each side). I enclose a draft for the Prime Minister.

I am copying this letter to Nicholas McInnes in the Department of Trade and to Michael Power in the Overseas Development Administration. Copies of the briefs have been sent to them separately by the Department.

Yours over.

Francis Richards
(F N Richards)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

CONFIDENTIAL

20 APR 1982






VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT OF CAMEROON

20-24 APRIL 1982

LIST OF BRIEFS

1. Steering Brief
 2. Bilateral Relations
 3. Trade and Aid
 4. African Matters (Namibia, Ghana, Cameroon-Nigerian Relations, Chad, Western Sahara, OAU Tripoli Summit)
 5. Political Background Brief
- 6 Personality Notes
Programme



SPEECH TO BE MADE BY THE PRIME MINISTER AT LUNCH FOR THE
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Ind
20 yrs

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VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT OF CAMEROON: 20-24 APRIL

PROGRAMME

Tuesday, 20 April

1600 Arrive Heathrow
Met by The Rt Hon Cecil Parkinson MP, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.
Proceed to Claridges

Wednesday, 21 April

1145 Guard of Honour in FCO courtyard
1200 Talks at No 10 Downing Street
1300 Lunch at No 10 Downing Street
1615 Lay wreath at Westminster Abbey
1900 Easter Banquet at the Mansion House

Thursday, 22 April

0900 Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs to call
1500 Address meeting of businessmen at Lancaster House, chaired by Secretary of State for Trade
1700 Meet OAU Heads of Mission
1930 Dinner given by The Duke of Kent at 1 Carlton Gardens

Friday, 23 April

a.m. Visit Tropical Products Institute, Slough
1300 Lunch with The Queen at Windsor Castle
1600 Meet Cameroonian community at Cameroonian Embassy

Saturday, 24 April

0930 Depart Heathrow *****

MADAME AHIDJO'S SEPARATE ENGAGEMENTS

Thursday, 22 April

1000 Visit National Hospital for Nervous Diseases
1200-1720 Cruise on the River Thames, lunching at the Trafalgar Tavern, Greenwich.

VISIT OF PRESIDENT OF CAMEROON: 20-24 APRIL

STEERING BRIEF: BRIEF NO 1

1. Our relations with this quietly prosperous and stable country are friendly; but until recently lacked much real content. The Cameroonians have tended to contrast unfavourably our relative lack of interest in them since independence, with the very close relations they have continued to maintain with France (this, despite Ahidjo's consistent efforts to keep his officially bilingual country outside the francophone blocs in Africa). The President's visit is the culmination of a series of high-level exchanges which began when Mr Cecil Parkinson (then Minister for Trade) went to Cameroon in December 1980. Our principal objective has been to increase our commercial penetration in this very promising market whose oil production is expected to reach over 10 million tonnes a year by 1985 and which has a thriving agriculture sector (unlike most African countries). We are beginning to achieve some success: our exports averaged £19m per annum 1977-80, and £15m for the 6 months of 1981 for which we have figures.
2. The Cameroonians want to strengthen relations with us as part of their efforts at diversifying away from too exclusive an economic dependence on France. Given Britain's historic ties with the anglophone part of the country, they regard us as a natural partner. They will be looking for more evidence that British business is at last seriously interested in Cameroon. They may possibly hope for more aid; but will not rattle the begging bowl. Unfortunately, the Cameroonians' concern for the niceties of protocol has prevented us from including as much hard-sell commercial content in the President's programme as we had hoped.
3. There are no contentious political problems to discuss. President Ahidjo, who has led his country since before independence in 1960, is now among the elder statesmen of Africa. He will be flattered that the Prime Minister will have time to see him during the Falkland Islands crisis (and his engagements with her are the cornerstone of the visit). Cameroon is an influential member of the coordinating bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement and the indications are that the President is sympathetic towards us over the crisis. It would be advantageous to explain our position to him, particularly

/since

since Argentina is seeking a meeting of the NAM in New York shortly. Similarly, he will appreciate an exchange of views on African matters, in which he is a force for moderation.

CONDUCT OF THE TALKS

4. Although he is an adroit and tough politician, President Ahidjo does not have a particularly lively or outgoing personality. Also he does not speak English (though he understands it). The talks may therefore not be very easy going; and given the need for translation, there may not be time to cover all of the ground. The Prime Minister might lead off by expressing pleasure at the unusually high level of activity in our relations over the past 18 months, drawing on the Points to Make in Brief No 2. She might then move on to bilateral trade and aid matters, drawing on the Points to Make in Brief No 3, and inviting the Cameroonian Minister of Economy and Planning and the Minister for Overseas Development to sign a Memorandum of Understanding on our new aid/credit package.

5. Thereafter, the Prime Minister might turn to international matters for the rest of the session, the Falkland Islands crisis in particular. However, the President may wish to devote some time to African matters. If so, Brief no 4 covers Points to Make, and where necessary very short Essential Facts, on the latest situation in Namibia, Ghana, Cameroonian relations with Nigeria, and developments in other problem areas elsewhere in Africa, namely Chad, Western Sahara, and Libya's Chairmanship of the OAU.

6. President Ahidjo last came to Britain (again as a Guest of Government) in 1963. He is the first francophone West African Head of State to be officially invited here for over a decade.

7. Other major items in his programme apart from the talks and luncheon at No 10 are lunch with Her Majesty The Queen and dinner with the Duke of Kent, attendance at the Lord Mayor of London's Easter Banquet, and a meeting with businessmen at Lancaster House, which will be chaired by the Secretary of State for Trade.

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

19 April 1982



VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT OF CAMEROON: 20-24 APRIL
BRIEF NO 2: BILATERAL RELATIONS

POINTS TO MAKE

1. Believe it is 19 years since you last visited London and held talks here in No 10: too long.
2. Pleased by the way in which relations have been strengthened in last 18 months. Exchange of high-level visits (Mr Parkinson, Mr Luce, and the Duke of Kent as Vice-Chairman of BOTB; Ministers of Economy and Planning, and Transport, from Cameroon). Glad our private sector has been involved too at top level. Many senior industrialists and bankers are looking forward to hearing your views tomorrow on the economic prospects. Also glad to hear about recent parliamentary exchanges: President of your National Assembly and his two Deputies both able to see something of our parliament. Establishment of direct air services and direct-dialling telephone lines practical steps forward.
3. For our part, intend to build on these foundations. Proposed visits this summer by Minister for Arts (Mr Channon: to attend 10th Anniversary of United Republic of Cameroon) and Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture (Mrs Fenner: to discuss prospects for agricultural development). All this demonstrates that Britain values traditional links with Cameroon, and is keen to inject new lift into them.

VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT OF CAMEROON: 20-24 APRIL 1982

BRIEF NO 3: TRADE AND AID

POINTS TO MAKE

TRADE

1. Keen to see British companies more involved in the development of Cameroon's economy. Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement to be signed by Ministers later in week. First to be completed with a French-speaking African country.
2. Hope the financial (ATP) assistance we have already offered for specific projects (ie Douala hospital, telephone re-cabling project, locomotives for Cameroon railways) will mean some substantial contracts for British companies in the near future.
3. We look forward also to detailed discussions on implementation of new aid/credit package (£10 million capital aid grant associated with £30 million commercial credit loans, guaranteed by ECGD). A short Memorandum of Understanding has been prepared for signature at this meeting.
4. DEFENSIVE. Failure of Communications Consultants Ltd to complete a telecommunications project in Cameroon means there is a real need to restore Britain's reputation in this field. Nevertheless telecommunications a sector where Britain has much technology to offer. The Cameroonians should not judge the UK's ability in this area by the performance of one, relatively unknown company.

DEFENCE SALES

5. Pleased with contracts signed in 1981 (£2.5m for 35mm ammunition; £0.3m for radars). Hope for more orders (eg medium girder bridges). We are willing to provide medium-term credit at attractive rates of interest for purchases of military equipment (ECGD Section 2 limit is £70m, of which 50% is committed). MOD able and willing to offer training in operation and maintenance of wide range of British defence equipment.

AID

6. Apart from £10m capital aid grant, our technical cooperation programme will continue. About £0.5m annually, mostly for training about 30 Cameroonians in UK and for 8 English language teachers in Cameroon.



7. Cameroon also benefits from UK contributions to multilateral aid agencies, particularly the European Development Fund (18%).

8. British Council office in Yaoundé since 1970. Prime concern with administration of educational aid, particularly English language training in support of policy of bilingualism. One of Council's largest programmes in this field in Africa.

NEW CULTURAL AGREEMENT (DEFENSIVE, IF RAISED)

9. Understand Cameroon's desire to look again at existing Cultural Agreement, now 20 years old. We have given long and careful thought to Cameroon draft new Agreement. Our own counter-draft reflects modern preference for wording which lays down general principles for our cultural relations. More specific details are best covered in a mutually-agreed Executive Programme which can be periodically reviewed and adapted to suit changing circumstances. This provides a flexibility which can be beneficial to both sides.

VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT OF CAMEROON

20-24 APRIL 1982

BRIEF NO 4 : AFRICAN MATTERS

POINTS TO MAKE

NAMIBIA

1. Would welcome Cameroon support for Five's efforts. This is best chance of negotiated settlement for some time: given signs that South Africans may soon be ready to grasp nettle, important that SWAPO and Front Line States should not throw up historic opportunity by quibbling over technical details of electrical arrangements. Five still aiming for beginning of implementation of UN plan in 1982.

2. The Five have worked hard to get South African agreement to proposals on constitutional principles and electoral system. Now we need the Front Line States and other African governments such as Cameroon to use their influence to get SWAPO to overcome their suspicions and agree also: it is SWAPO, not South Africa, which is at present holding things up.

GHANA

3. Regret recent political change was achieved by violence rather than through the ballot box. But we have no intention of interfering in Ghana's internal affairs.

4. UK policy is to steer a course between :

- (a) driving Chairman Rawlings and the Provisional National Defence Council into the arms of the Libyans, Soviets, etc by appearing unwilling to help the new administration; and
- (b) appearing to reward the new regime for its violent seizure of power from a democratically-elected government.

5. We therefore think it right to continue with our development and military assistance programmes in a low key, whilst adopting a cautious approach towards new projects. This seems the best way



of strengthening the moderates' position within the PNDC.

6. We should however take a serious view of any executions of detainees, particularly any without free, fair and open trial; and we remain concerned by reports of increasing Ghanaian involvement with Libya.

7. The political, security and economic future for the country is very grave indeed. There will soon be severe shortages of fuel and food: but the PNDC apparently thinks it too early to make recourse to the IMF, or indeed to be aware of the gravity of the country's problems.

CAMEROON-NIGERIAN RELATIONS

8. Distressed by last year's border clash. Do not like to see two of our friends in dispute. Glad that amicable relations have been restored.

9. Are further steps envisaged towards a permanent solution of the border problem ?

CHAD

10. Is OAU's timetable for elections and withdrawal of OAU peace-keeping force realistic ?

11. If OAU force withdraws, will President Goukouni ask Libyans to return ? If so, would they do so ?

12. British interests in Chad minimal. But want stability in the region and right of people to live in peace and to decide their own future.

WESTERN SAHARA

13. UK neutral on Moroccan, Polisario and SADR claims. Want to see peaceful solution worked out by countries of the area.

14. Seating of SADR at OAU meeting in Addis Ababa in February



(Cameroon opposed) complicates position. Cameroon assessment of implications for OAU ?

OAU TRIPOLI SUMMIT

15. How does Cameroon view prospect of Libyan Chairmanship of OAU ? Not clear to us what use Qadhafi will make of Chairmanship : new-found responsibility, or mischief-making.

16. Will Cameroon attend the OAU Summit in August and is there a likelihood of quorum ? Implications for future of OAU ?



VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT OF CAMEROON

20-24 APRIL 1982

BRIEF NO 4 : AFRICAN MATTERS

ESSENTIAL FACTS

NAMIBIA - CAMEROONIAN POSITION

1. Cameroon supports the UN Plan but has also called for immediate withdrawal of South African troops. Also supports SWAPO's claim to be the sole and authentic representatives of Namibian people. Suspicious of the Five and our links with Pretoria.

CAMEROON-NIGERIAN RELATIONS

2. A long-standing border dispute between Nigeria and Cameroon led to a shooting incident in May 1981 in which 5 Nigerian soldiers were killed. Cameroon's expression of regret did not satisfy Nigeria, and there appeared to be a danger of Nigerian military action against Cameroon. Nigerian troops may possibly have occupied some Cameroonian territory. Following intense diplomatic activity by the OAU and the Kenyans (as OAU Presidency), Ahidjo offered to pay compensation to the dead soldiers' families and then visited Nigeria in January 1982. This defused the situation; but the unsettled border problem remains potentially explosive because of the large oil deposits in the area. We have provided the Cameroonians (and the Nigerians, Kenyans and the OAU) with maps and documents relating to the border issue in colonial times. There have been hints that both sides might be considering an approach to the International Court.

CHAD

3. Cameroon, an immediate neighbour, has kept a low profile on Chad. View appears to be that OAU is incapable of resolving the issue and that it should be referred to the UN. OAU has already made an initial approach to the Security Council for financial support, but this has never been effectively followed up. At one time 300,000 Chadian refugees in Cameroon. Most have now returned. We helped with food aid last year.

VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT OF CAMEROON: 20-24 APRIL
CAMEROON POLITICAL BACKGROUND BRIEF
BRIEF NO 5

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1. Cameroon was discovered by the Portuguese seaman Fernando Poo at the end of the 15th Century. By the late 18th Century, the British were predominant on the coast; but in 1860 the Germans began to show an interest in the area, and they established a protectorate in 1884. British and French troops conquered Cameroon during the First World War, and the territory was administered by Britain (10%) and France (90%) from then until French Cameroon became independent in 1960. In 1961, following a plebiscite, the southern part of British Cameroon chose to join the new Republic, while the northern part joined Nigeria. A unitary constitution was adopted in 1972. French and English are both official languages; but in practice the country is 80% francophone.

INTERNAL

2. Cameroon is a one-party state. But there is an elected National Assembly; and grass-roots opinions have the means to be expressed. President Ahidjo has been in power since 1958, two years before independence. He was re-elected for his fifth five-year term of office in April 1980. During the 1960s, he faced considerable opposition; but this too has now subsided and he seems to be firmly in control of the country. He has had considerable success in maintaining political stability and balancing the various disparate groups despite continuing internal tribal suspicions and rivalries. His rule is accompanied by use of efficient internal security and there are some critics of Ahidjo abroad (Amnesty International sometimes express concern about certain detainees). Nevertheless, it has led to a degree of stability unusual in this part of Africa. Economic planning has been cautious but sensible, and based largely on agriculture. The outlook is very promising.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

3. Cameroon's role and influence in African affairs, while limited, is usually exerted in favour of moderation. Having been President
/for



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for 23 years, President Ahidjo sees himself (and is seen by Africa) as one of the continent's elder statesmen. He prefers not to become involved in the internal affairs of other countries; but sees his own as uniquely qualified to act as a bridge between francophones and anglophones in the OAU. Cameroon is neither a member of the Commonwealth nor attends Franco-African summits. The Cameroonians were severely displeased by the seating of the Polisario at the recent OAU Foreign Ministers' Meeting, and are unhappy at the prospect of Libyan Chairmanship. They are disturbed by the situation in neighbouring Chad and the possibility of its instability spreading.

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OFFICIAL VISIT OF PRESIDENT AHIDJO OF CAMEROON: 21-24 APRIL 1980

BRIEF NO 5 BACKGROUND NOTE ON CAMEROON

BASIC FACTS

Name	The United Republic of Cameroon.
Land Area	475,422 sq km (ie about twice the UK).
Population	8.4 million.
Towns	Yaoundé (capital) 300,000. Douala (major commercial centre) 800,000.
Climate	Generally equatorial, wet season May to October.
Languages	Officially bilingual (French and English) but in practice French predominates. Over 200 local languages.
GNP per capita (1980)	US\$ 668 (rather less than Nigeria).
Currency	CFA (Communauté Francière Africaine) franc, fixed 50 CFA = 1 French franc = 10p (approx)
Main Exports	Cocoa, coffee, timber, rubber and bananas (Cameroon exports to UK in 1980 - £10m UK to Cameroon - £16.1m)
Political party	Union nationale camerounaise (UNC)
Education	About 80% of children attended school in 1977/78
Religion	Christian (30%) in West and South Moslem (20%) in Centre and North Animist (50%)



JOSEPH DOUMBA

Minister in charge of Missions at the Presidency since November 1979.

Born 1936 at Bertoua. Studied at ENAM and University of Yaoundé where he read Law. Previous posts include Secretary-General to Vice-Prime Minister, Secretary-General to National Assembly, Director of Studies at the UNC Party School, Minister of Information and Culture 1974-75, Minister of Justice and Keeper of the Seals 1975-79.

Reported to be very hard-working and dynamic, but quiet and unassuming in public. Speaks reasonable English. Married with children.



PAUL DONTSOP

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs since July 1980. Minister of Employment and Social Welfare 1975-80.

Born about 1937 near Dschang; Bamileke. Studied locally and at Lycée Leclerc, Yaoundé, and then at the Institut des Hautes Etudes d'Outre Mer, Paris, and at the Ecole Camerounaise d'Administration. Entered the prefectural service in 1964 and served as Prefect of various departments until his appointment as Minister.

Has little knowledge of, but is studying, English. Before his appointment his experience of foreign affairs was limited to that gained from the ILO where he was said to be affable but rather inflexible in discussion. He is extremely courteous and his present apparent timidity will probably disappear as he gains confidence.

Married.



MAIGARI BELLO BOUBA

Minister for Economy and Plan.

Formerly Deputy-Secretary General at the Presidency.

Assistant Political Secretary of Cameroon National Union.

A Northerner. Previously Secretary-General in the Ministry of Armed Forces. Member of the Political Bureau of the CNU, and of the Central Committee.

Pleasant and unassuming to talk to. His rapid promotion to the Presidency may indicate a promising future.



ALBERT NGOME KOME

Minister of Transport since November 1979.

Born 18 October 1939 at Mpako, West Cameroon. Anglophone.

After local education in West Cameroon, Ngome studied political science at New York University, and later took his Masters and Doctorate at Lancaster University, UK, in international economics.

Returned to Cameroon in 1969 to become Head of the Regulations Department in the Ministry of Public Services. Assistant, later Director of Credit in the para-statal 'peasant's bank', (FONADER).

Ngome has a built-in respect for things British, and has several times already called for Embassy assistance which, for reasons of financial constraints, we have been unable to provide. A likeable, friendly and approachable man. Visited Britain in March, as part of British Caledonian inaugural Douala - London flight celebrations.

Married. 3 children.



MADAME GERMAINE AHIDJO

Trained as a nurse

Plays a leading rôle in the women's section of the Cameroon National Union (the only political party). Took a strong interest in the Year of the Disabled. She is said to have a handicapped child.

I: Interpreter

* denotes French speaking

47

LIST OF GUESTS FOR THE PRIME MINISTER'S LUNCH FOR THE PRESIDENT
OF THE CAMEROON ON WEDNESDAY 21 APRIL 1982 AT 1.00 PM for 1.15 PM

The Prime Minister

Cameroon Suite

I	His Excellency Ahmadou Ahidjo	
I	and Madame Ahidjo	
I	Monsieur Paul Dontsop	Minister of Foreign Affairs
	and Madame Dontsop	
	Monsieur Maigari Bello Bouba	Minister of Economy & Planning
	Monsieur Joseph Charles Doumba	Minister in charge of Missions at the Presidency of the Republic
	Monsieur Albert Ngome Kome	Minister of Transport
	Monsieur Peter Sakwa Nji	Principal of the Central Comm- ittee of the Cameroon National Union.
	Monsieur Jean-Baptiste Beleoker	Head of Protocol
	Monsieur Francois Djapou	President of the Chamber of Commerce, Industry & Mines
	His Excellency the Ambassador of the United Republic of Cameroon and Madame Bindzi	

HM Government

**	Mr Cranley Onslow, MP	Minister of State, FCO
	and Lady June Onslow	
*	Mr Peter Rees, MP	Minister of Trade
	and Mrs Rees	
*	Rt Hon Neil Marten, MP	Minister for Overseas Development
	and Mrs Marten	
*	Mrs Peggy Fenner, MP	Parliamentary Secretary, MAFF
	and Mr Fenner	

Industry

*	Rt Hon Gordon Richardson	Governor of the Bank of England
	Mr Christopher Reeves	Chief Executive, Morgan Grenfell Ltd.
	and Mrs Reeves	
*	Mr. Neil Shaw	General Managing Director, Tate & Lyle.
	Mr. Michael Clarke	Deputy Chairman, The Plessey Co.
Rt. Hon.	Lord Aldington	Deputy Chairman, GEC

27

- * Sir Arthur Norman Chairman, Thomas De La Rue Ltd
- Sir Reginald Smith
and Lady Smith Chairman, George Wimpey Int.
- Mr David Simmons
and Mrs Simmons Development Director, Guinness
Peat Group Ltd

Others

- * Professor John Fletcher
and Mrs Fletcher Professor of Comparative Literature,
University of East Anglia.
- * Miss C. St. John Maurer Chairman, Anglo-Cameroon Soc.
- Mr S.A.W. Eburne
and Mrs Eburne Senior Crown Agent & Chairman,
Crown Agents
- Dr E.M. Thain
and Mrs Thain Director, Tropical Products
Institute
- Mr. John Harvey
and Mrs Harvey
- * Mr Hugh Hudson Film Director

Media

- * Mr Kaye Whiteman
and Mrs Whiteman Editor, West Africa

Officials

- ** Mr Bryan Sparrow
and Mrs Sparrow HM Ambassador, Yaounde
- Mr. John Coles

DRAFT SEATING PLAN FOR LUNCH ON WEDNESDAY, 21 APRIL

Table A

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER
HIS EXCELLENCY AHMADOU AHIDJO
Lady June Onslow
Rt. Hon. Lord Aldington
Miss C. St. John Maurer
Sir Arthur Norman
Mrs. Harvey
Rt. Hon. Gordon Richardson

Table B

RT. HON. NEIL MARTEN
MADAME AHIDJO
Mr. Neil Shaw
Mr. Kaye Whiteman
Mrs. Sparrow
Mr. Christopher Reeves
Mrs. Fletcher
Monsieur Paul Dontsop

Table C

MR. PETER REES
Madame Dontsop
Professor John Fletcher
Madame Bindzi
Mr. David Simmons
Mrs. Reeves
Sir Reginald Smith
Monsieur Jean-Baptiste Beleoken

Table D

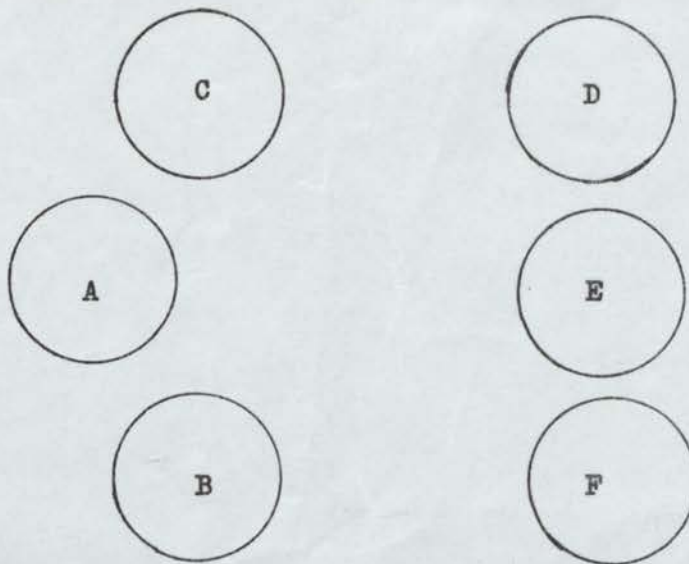
MR. CRANLEY ONSLOW
Monsieur Bello Bouba Maigari
Dr. E.M. Thain
Lady Smith
Mr. Bernard Fenner
Mr. Hugh Hudson
Mrs. Rees
Monsieur Francois Djapou

Table E

MRS. PEGGY FENNER
Monsieur Joseph Charles Doumba
Mrs. Whiteman
Mr. John Coles
Mrs. Simmons
Mr. John Harvey
Mrs. Eburne
His Excellency the Ambassador of the United Republic of Cameroon

Table F

MRS. MARTEN
Monsieur Albert Ngome Kome
Mr. Bryan Sparrow
Mrs. Thain
Monsieur Peter Sakwa Nji
Mr. Michael Clarke
Mr. S.A.W. Eburne



10 Downing Street
21st April, 1982

Entrance

TABLE A

THE RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER
His Excellency Ahmadou Ahidjo
Lady June Onslow
The Rt. Hon. Lord Aldington
Miss C. St. John Maurer
Sir Arthur Norman
Mrs. Harvey
The Rt. Hon. Gordon Richardson

TABLE C

MR. PETER REES
Madame Dontsop
Professor John Fletcher
Madame Bindzi
Mr. David Simmons
Mrs. Reeves
Sir Reginald Smith
Monsieur Jean-Baptiste Belecken

TABLE E

MRS. PEGGY FENNER
Monsieur Joseph Charles Doumba
Mrs. Whiteman
Mr. John Coles
Mrs. Simmons
Mr. John Harvey
Mrs. Eburne
His Excellency the Ambassador of
the United Republic of Cameroon

TABLE B

THE RT. HON. NEIL MARTEN
Madame Ahidjo
Mr. Neil Shaw
Mr. Kaye Whiteman
Mrs. Sparrow
Mr. Christopher Reeves
Mrs. Fletcher
Monsieur Paul Dontsop

TABLE D

MR. CRANLEY ONSLOW
Monsieur Bello Bouba Maigari
Dr. E. M. Thain
Lady Smith
Mr. Bernard Fenner
Mr. Hugh Hudson
Mrs. Rees
Monsieur Francois Djapou

TABLE F

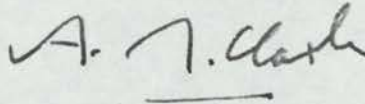
MRS. MARTEN
Monsieur Albert Ngome Kome
Mr. Bryan Sparrow
Mrs. Thain
Monsieur Peter Sakwa Nji
Mr. Michael Clarke
Mr. S. A. W. Eburne

MR. JOHN COLES

PS

VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT OF CAMEROON: 20-24 APRIL

1. As requested, I submit revised briefing for the Prime Minister for her talks with President Ahidjo. The briefing has been reduced to the minimum; as the attached draft covering letter to PS/No 10 indicates, Brief No 5 and the Personality Notes are essentially for background information but are nevertheless necessary.



A R Clark
West African Department

19 April 1982

Copied to:
PS/Mr Onslow
Sir J Leahy

CONFIDENTIAL

DSR 11 (Revised)

DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despatch/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM:

Reference

PS

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO:

Your Reference

Top Secret

Secret

Confidential

Restricted

Unclassified

PS/10 Downing Street

Copies to:

PS/Minister for Trade

PS/Mr Marten

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT: GUEST OF GOVERNMENT VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT OF

.....In Confidence

CAMEROON: 20-24 APRIL 1982

CAVEAT.....

1. You confirmed ^{on Friday} ~~today~~ that, subject to the unforeseen, the Prime Minister will be willing to carry out her part in President Ahidjo's programme. Her talks with the President are the cornerstone of the whole visit, and he will be very grateful to the Prime Minister for going through with them in the present situation.

2. We have learned from the Cameroonians that Ahidjo will be accompanied to the talks by Paul Dontsop, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Maigari Bello Bouba, Minister of Economy and Planning, Joseph Charles Doumba, Minister in charge of Missions at the Presidency, and Albert Ngome Kome, Minister of Transport. The Ambassador, M Bindzi, and the President's interpreter will also attend.

3. Unless the Prime Minister especially wishes it, there is probably no need for her to have a tête-à-tête with President Ahidjo. The plenary talks could therefore begin ^{immediately after the photocall,} ~~sharp at 12.00~~ and go right up to lunch.

/I suggest

Enclosures—flag(s).....

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

I suggest that Mr Onslow should attend on behalf of the FCO. The main subjects of discussion are likely to be trade and aid, the Falkland Islands crisis (Cameroon is an influential member of the coordinating bureau of the NAM), and African matters. Under the first heading, the Prime Minister has directed that our £10 million grant should be used under the Aid and Trade Provision. It would therefore be appropriate for Mr Peter Rees and Mr Neil Marten to be present and it is proposed that Mr Marten and Mr Bello Bouba should sign a Memorandum of Understanding about the grant during the talks. We also propose that Sir Leonard Allinson, Brian Sparrow (our Ambassador to Cameroon), Christopher MacRae (Head of West African Department, who will take a record) and Rob Young (to interpret) should attend. I enclose three sets of briefs for the Prime Minister for the talks (other Ministers have fuller briefing). Brief No 5 and the Personality Notes and Programme are for background information only.

4. We have included all the Cameroonian Ministers and the British Ministers taking part in talks in the guest list for the lunch, beginning at 1.00.p.m. We have also suggested that Mrs Peggy Fenner should attend the lunch, as she intends to visit Cameroon this summer. It is probably not necessary for her to be present at the talks, as President Ahidjo's team does not include an Agriculture Minister. The lunch will be a suitable occasion for short speeches (perhaps five minutes on each side). I enclose a draft for the Prime Minister.

5. I am copying this letter to *Nicholas McInnes* in the Department of Trade and to *Power* in the

CONFIDENTIAL

/Overseas

CONFIDENTIAL

Overseas Development Administration. Copies of the
briefs ~~have~~ ~~being~~ sent to them separately by the Department.

VISIT OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON AND MADAME AHIDJO. 20-24 APRIL 1982.

ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN

(to be read in conjunction with the programme attached)

Tuesday 20 April

ARRIVAL

When the aircraft has landed a representative of the British Airports Authority will escort the greeting party to the aircraft. The Cameroonian Ambassador will board the aircraft and accompany the President and his wife to the tarmac where he will present the following in order:-

The Lord Cullen of Ashbourne
Lord in Waiting

The Rt Hon Cecil Parkinson MP
Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and Paymaster General.

Madame Bindzi

Mr B Sparrow,
HM Ambassador at Yaounde and Mrs Sparrow.

Brigadier J A C Cowan,
Government Hospitality Fund

Mr Neville Coppel
Government Hospitality Fund Escort Officer

Colonel P Worrall
Government Hospitality Fund Escort Officer.

The Hon Diana Makgill
Lady Ceremonial Officer.

The party will proceed to the VIP suite where the Ambassador will present the official suite and members of his staff.

TRANSPORT

Cars are provided throughout the period of the visit and plans are shown at Annex 1.

INTERPRETERS

Throughout the programme the President will be accompanied by his own interpreter, Mr Mongwa Tening

Mr J R Young of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office will interpret at the President's talks with the Prime Minister and during lunch. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office have engaged the services of Mrs Valerie Landon who will interpret for Madame Ahidjo during her programme on 21 and 22 April.

Wednesday 21 April

Guard of Honour Procedure

Details are shown at Annex 2 and in the diagram attached.

Official Suite - Participation in the President's Programme

Guard of Honour: All members of the official suite will accompany the President and Madame Ahidjo.

Talks with the Prime Minister: the following will be present:-

United Republic of Cameroon

His Excellency M Paul Dontsop
His Excellency M Bello Bouba Maigari
His Excellency M Joseph Charles Doumba
His Excellency M Albert Ngome Kome
His Excellency M Benoît Bindzi
M M Tening (Interpreter).

United Kingdom

Private Secretary
Mr C Onslow
Mr P Rees
The Rt Hon Neil Marten
Mr B Sparrow
Mr A C D S MacRae
Mr J R Young (Interpreter)

Lunch with the Prime Minister: the following are also invited:-

His Excellency M Paul Dontsop and Madame Dontsop
His Excellency M Bello Bouba Maigari
His Excellency M Joseph Charles Doumba
His Excellency M Albert Ngome Kome
His Excellency M Albert Benoît Bindzi and Madame Bindzi
Mr and Mrs B Sparrow
M J E Samnik
M J-P Beleoken
M F Djapou

Wreathlaying at Westminster Abbey: the following will accompany the President and Madame Ahidjo:-

His Excellency M Paul Dontsop and Madame Dontsop
His Excellency M Bello Bouba Maigari
His Excellency M Joseph Charles Doumba
His Excellency M Albert Ngome Kome
His Excellency M Benoît Bindzi and Madame Bindzi
Mr and Mrs B Sparrow
M Peter Sakwa Nji
Mr J Ekedji Samnik
Mr M Tening
Mr J-B Beleoken
Mr N Coppel
Miss D Makgill
Mrs V Landon

Easter Banquet at the Mansion House: the following are also invited:-

His Excellency M Paul Dontsop and Madame Dontsop
His Excellency M Bello Bouba Maigari
His Excellency M Joseph Charles Doumba
His Excellency M Albert Ngome Kome
His Excellency M Benoît Bindzi and Madame Bindzi
M Peter Sakwenji
Mr and Mrs B Sparrow
Captain Boukar

Thursday 22 April

Meeting at Lancaster House

All members of the official suite will accompany the President.

Dinner hosted by His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent

The following are also invited:-

His Excellency M Paul Dontsop
His Excellency M Bello Bouba Maigari
His Excellency M Joseph Charles Doumba
His Excellency M Albert Ngome Kome
His Excellency M Benoît Bindzi
Mr B Sparrow
M François Djapou

Friday 23 April

Visit to Tropical Products Institute

The following will accompany the President and Madame Ahidjo:-

All members of the official suite (as listed in printed programme)
His Excellency M Benoît Bindzi and Madame Bindzi.
Mr and Mrs B Sparrow
M R Sadi
M M Tening
M I Tafon Tum
M Soya Zenon
Mr Endeley
Captain Ivo
Mr N Coppel
Miss D Makgill

Luncheon with Her Majesty The Queen

The following are also invited:-

His Excellency M Paul Dontsop and Madame Dontsop
His Excellency M Bello Bouba Maigari
His Excellency M Albert Ngome Kome
His Excellency M Benoît Bindzi and Madame Bindzi
Mr and Mrs B Sparrow

M Tening will interpret for the President and Mme Ahidjo

(Captain Abdoulaye, Captain Boukar, Mr Coppel, and Miss Makgill will lunch with the Master of the Household.)

Madame Ahidjo's Programme

When Madame Ahidjo carries out her own separate programme she will be accompanied by:-

Madame Bindzi
Madame Dontsop
Mrs Sparrow
Miss D Makgill
Mrs V Landon

Hospitality

When Captain Abdoulaye and Captain Boukar accompany the President to the following events, meals will be provided separately for them:-

Luncheon at No 10 Downing Street (21 April)
Dinner at 1 Carlton Gardens (22 April)
Luncheon at Windsor Castle (23 April)

April 1982

for June Reid
Miss June Reid
Visits Section
Protocol and Conference Department
FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

WEDNESDAY 21 APRIL

Hotel to Foreign and Commonwealth Office Quadrangle

Armoured Daimler His Excellency the President
Mme Ahidjo
Security Officer

Car 2 His Excellency M. Bindzi
Mme Bindzi
M. Tening
Miss Makgill

Cars 3, 4, 5 and 6 as on journey from airport to Claridge's.

After the Guard of Honour ceremony the members of the official suite attending the talks with the Prime Minister will proceed to 10 Downing Street.

Foreign and Commonwealth Office Quadrangle to Hotel

Car 2 Mme Ahidjo
Mme Bindzi
Miss Makgill
Mrs Landon

Car 3 Mme Dontsop
Mrs Sparrow

Car 6 M. Beleoken
M. Samnik
M. Niji
Colonel Worrall

Cars 4 and 5 will proceed to Downing Street where they will park.

Hotel to 10 Downing Street

Car 2 As on previous journey.

/Car 3

Hotel to 10 Downing Street (cont'd)

Car 3 As on previous journey.

Car 6 M. Samnik
M. Beleoken
M. Djapou
Colonel Worrall

10 Downing Street to Hotel

Armoured Daimler His Excellency the President
His Excellency M. Bindzi
Security Officer

Car 2)
)
Car 3) As on previous journey.

Car 4 M. Beleoken
Captain Abdoulaye
Captain Boukar
Mr Coppel

Car 5 His Excellency M. Dontsop
His Excellency M. Doumba
Mr Sparrow
M. Samnik

Car 6 His Excellency M. Maigari
His Excellency M. Kome
M. Tening
M. Djapou
Col Worrall

Hotel to Westminster Abbey and return to Hotel

As on journey from Hotel to Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Quadrangle (but Mrs Landon will travel in Car 3).

/Hotel

Hotel to Mansion House and return to Hotel

Armoured Daimler His Excellency the President
 Mme Ahidjo
 Security Officer

Car 2 M. Niji
 Captain Abdoulaye
 Mr Coppel
 Miss Makgill
 Mrs Landon

Car 3 His Excellency M. Bindzi
 Mme Bindzi
 His Excellency M. Dontsop
 Mme Dontsop

Car 4 His Excellency M. Maigari
 His Excellency M. Doumba
 His Excellency M. Kome
 M. Tening

Car 5 Mr Sparrow
 Mrs Sparrow

/THURSDAY

THURSDAY 22 APRIL

The ladies will travel in cars 2 and 3.

Claridges to Lancaster House and return to Hotel

Armoured Daimler His Excellency The President
His Excellency M. Bindzi
Security Officer

Car 4 M. Beikoken
Captain Abdoulaye
Captain Boukar
Mr Coppel

Car 5 His Excellency M. Maigari
His Excellency M. Doumba .
Mr B Sparrow
Colonel Worrall

Car 6 His Excellency M Kome
M. Niji
M. Samnik
M. Tening

A separate car, No 7, will be provided for:-

His Excellency M. Dontsop
Group Captain O'Neill

to go to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and return

Hotel to 1 Carlton Gardens and return to Hotel

Armoured Daimler His Excellency The President
His Excellency M. Bindzi
Security Officer

/Car 4

Car 4 Captain Abdoulaye
 Captain Boukar
 M Tening
 Mr Coppel

Car 5 His Excellency M Dontsop
 His Excellency M Maigari
 Mr Sparrow

Car 6 His Excellency M Doumba
 His Excellency M Kome
 M Djapou

FRIDAY 23 APRIL

Hotel to Tropical Products Institute

as for Heathrow Airport to Hotel,
with the exception of M Tening
who will travel in car no 2.

Tropical Products Institute to Windsor Castle and return to Hotel

Armoured Daimler His Excellency The President
 His Excellency M Bindzi
 Security Officer.

Car 2 Madame Ahidjo
 Madame Bindzi
 Miss Makgill
 M Tening

Car 3 Madame Dontsop
 Mrs Sparrow
 Mr Sparrow

Car 4 Capt Abdoulaye
 Capt Boukar
 Mr Coppel

Car 5 M Dontsop
 His Excellency M Maigari
 His Excellency M Doumba
 His Excellency M Kome
 Security Officer

Tropical Products Institute to Hotel

Car 6 M Beleoken
 M Samnik
 M Nji
 Colonel Worrall

SATURDAY 24 APRIL

Hotel to Heathrow Airport

as on inward journey.

GUARD OF HONOUR - Procedure

1. A Guard of Honour found by 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards under the command of Major Christopher Lindsay with the Regimental Colour, the Band of the Grenadier Guards and the Corps of Drums of the Battalion will be formed in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Quadrangle on Wednesday 21 April at 1135 hours to greet President Ahmadou Ahidjo, President of the United Republic of Cameroon.
2. At 1140 hours members of the President's entourage will arrive at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office by car and wait near the Colour points (see diagram attached) on the west side of the Main Archway.
3. At 1143, the Prime Minister will arrive at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Quadrangle through the Main Archway; she will be met at the Archway by Major General Desmond Langley (Major General Commanding the Household Division). He will be accompanied by the Brigade Major Coldstream Guards, Lt Col Richard Heywood, Brigade Major the Household Division. The Major General will then escort the Prime Minister to the Saluting base ready to receive the President and Madame Ahidjo.
4. At 1145 hours the President and Madame Ahidjo will arrive at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.
5. Once the Prime Minister has welcomed them the President will take his place on the Saluting base, between the two Colour points. The Prime Minister will stand on his right and slightly behind him. After the Guard Commander has presented his Guard of Honour to the President, the Major General will accompany the President and the Guard Commander on the inspection. The Prime Minister should remain in the vicinity of the Colour points with the Brigade Major until the inspection is completed, and the Major General has accompanied the President back to the Saluting base. The Prime Minister will then accompany President Ahidjo to No 10 Downing Street. Those participating in the plenary talks will follow. Mrs Ahidjo will proceed to her car.
6. Other members of the President's entourage will then proceed to their cars which will be waiting in the Quadrangle (see diagram attached).
7. Meanwhile the Major General and the Brigade Major will have taken their leave of the President and will authorise the dispersal of the Guard of Honour once the President has departed for No 10 Downing Street.

Wet Weather Programme

In the event of wet weather the Parade will not be cancelled. The programme will continue as scheduled up to the point where the inspection of the Guard of Honour should begin. If there is heavy rain at that point in the programme and the President does not wish to inspect the Guard of Honour, the Prime Minister should lead President Ahidjo to No 10.



DOWNING ST. WEST BUILDING

DOWNING ST.

DOWNING ST. EAST BUILDING

Main Archway

OFFICIAL ENTOURAGE
& MISSION STAFF

PRESS

PM

GofH

Cars will park

GUARD OF HONOUR

CORPS OF DRUMS

BAND

CORPS OF DRUMS

OLD HOME OFFICE BUILDING

WHITEHALL

Cars wait for entourage

APPROACH ROUTE FOR CARS

KING CHARLES ST. BUILDING

KING CHARLES ST.

GUARD OF HONOUR CEREMONY
FCO QUADRANGLE

+.....Colour Points
GofH.....Guest of Honour
PM.....Prime Minister

DISTRIBUTION

Buckingham Palace

Private Secretary (2)
Press Office (2)

10 Downing Street

Private Secretary (2)
Press Office (2)

Embassy of the United Republic of Cameroon (6)

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Private Secretary (2)
Private Secretary/Permanent Under Secretary (2)
Sir John Leahy ()
Sir Leonard Allinson ()
Mr MacRae ()
WAD (Mr George) (6)
News Department (Mr Hannaby)(3)
Resident Clerk ()
Miss Lothian ()
PCD (8)

Government Hospitality Fund (2⁰)



JC ✓
Cameron

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

16 April 1982

Visit of the President of the Cameroon

I enclose a letter which the Prime Minister has received from the Derby and District Group of Amnesty International suggesting that, during the visit of the President of the Cameroon, the Prime Minister should raise with him the question of the imprisonment of Mr. Gaspard Mouen and four other persons. I assume that, if necessary, this point will be covered in the briefs for the Prime Minister. I should be grateful if you could arrange for a suitable reply to be sent to the enclosed letter.

ASE

Francis Richards, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

889



no 13

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

16 April 1982

I am writing on behalf of the Prime Minister to acknowledge your letter of 14 April. This is receiving attention and a reply will be sent to you as soon as possible.

ASC

Mrs C. Berwick

085

VISIT OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON AND MADAME AHIDJO. 20-24 APRIL 1982.

ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN

(to be read in conjunction with the programme attached)

Tuesday 20 April

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Lord in Waiting

The Rt Hon Cecil Parkinson MP
Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and Paymaster General.

Madame Bindzi

Mr B Sparrow,
HM Ambassador at Yaounde and Mrs Sparrow.

Brigadier J A C Cowan,
Government Hospitality Fund

Mr Neville Coppel
Government Hospitality Fund Escort Officer

Colonel P Worrall
Government Hospitality Fund Escort Officer.

The Hon Diana Makgill
Lady Ceremonial Officer.

The party will proceed to the VIP suite where the Ambassador will present the official suite and members of his staff.

TRANSPORT

Cars are provided throughout the period of the visit and plans are shown at Annex 1.

INTERPRETERS

Throughout the programme the President will be accompanied by his own interpreter, Mr Mongwa Tening

Mr J R Young of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office will interpret at the President's talks with the Prime Minister and during lunch. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office have engaged the services of Mrs Valerie Landon who will interpret for Madame Ahidjo during her programme on 21 and 22 April.

Wednesday 21 April

Guard of Honour Procedure

Details are shown at Annex 2 and in the diagram attached.

Official Suite - Participation in the President's Programme

Guard of Honour: All members of the official suite will accompany the President and Madame Ahidjo.

Talks with the Prime Minister: the following will be present:-

United Republic of Cameroon

His Excellency M Paul Dontsop
His Excellency M Bello Bouba Maigari
His Excellency M Joseph Charles Doumba
His Excellency M Albert Ngome Kome
His Excellency M Benoît Bindzi
M M Tening (Interpreter).

United Kingdom

Private Secretary
Mr C Onslow
Mr P Rees
The Rt Hon Neil Marten
Mr B Sparrow
Mr A C D S MacRae
Mr J R Young (Interpreter)

Lunch with the Prime Minister: the following are also invited:-

His Excellency M Paul Dontsop and Madame Dontsop
His Excellency M Bello Bouba Maigari
His Excellency M Joseph Charles Doumba
His Excellency M Albert Ngome Kome
His Excellency M Albert Benoît Bindzi and Madame Bindzi
Mr and Mrs B Sparrow
M J E Samnik
M J-P Beleoken
M F Djapou

Wreathlaying at Westminster Abbey: the following will accompany the President and Madame Ahidjo:-

His Excellency M Paul Dontsop and Madame Dontsop
His Excellency M Bello Bouba Maigari
His Excellency M Joseph Charles Doumba
His Excellency M Albert Ngome Kome
His Excellency M Benoît Bindzi and Madame Bindzi
Mr and Mrs B Sparrow
M Peter Sakwa Nji
Mr J Ekedji Samnik
Mr M Tening
Mr J-B Beleoken
Mr N Coppel
Miss D Makgill
Mrs V Landon

Easter Banquet at the Mansion House: the following are also invited:-

His Excellency M Paul Dontsop and Madame Dontsop
His Excellency M Bello Bouba Maigari
His Excellency M Joseph Charles Doumba
His Excellency M Albert Ngome Kome
His Excellency M Benoît Bindzi and Madame Bindzi
M Peter Sakwenji
Mr and Mrs B Sparrow
Captain Boukar

Thursday 22 April

Meeting at Lancaster House

All members of the official suite will accompany the President.

Dinner hosted by His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent

The following are also invited:-

His Excellency M Paul Dontsop
His Excellency M Bello Bouba Maigari
His Excellency M Joseph Charles Doumba
His Excellency M Albert Ngome Kome
His Excellency M Benoît Bindzi
Mr B Sparrow
M François Djapou

Friday 23 April

Visit to Tropical Products Institute

The following will accompany the President and Madame Ahidjo:-

All members of the official suite (as listed in printed programme)
His Excellency M Benoît Bindzi and Madame Bindzi.
Mr and Mrs B Sparrow
M R Sadi
M M Tening
M I Tafon Tum
M Soya Zenon
Mr Endeley
Captain Ivo
Mr N Coppel
Miss D Makgill

Luncheon with Her Majesty The Queen

The following are also invited:-

His Excellency M Paul Dontsop and Madame Dontsop
His Excellency M Bello Bouba Maigari
His Excellency M Albert Ngome Kome
His Excellency M Benoît Bindzi and Madame Bindzi
Mr and Mrs B Sparrow

M Tening will interpret for the President and Mme Ahidjo

(Captain Abdoulaye, Captain Boukar, Mr Coppel, and Miss Makgill will lunch with the Master of the Household.)

Madame Ahidjo's Programme

When Madame Ahidjo carries out her own separate programme she will be accompanied by:-

Madame Bindzi
Madame Dontsop
Mrs Sparrow
Miss D Makgill
Mrs V Landon

Hospitality

When Captain Abdoulaye and Captain Boukar accompany the President to the following events, meals will be provided separately for them:-

Luncheon at No 10 Downing Street (21 April)
Dinner at 1 Carlton Gardens (22 April)
Luncheon at Windsor Castle (23 April)

April 1982

for June Reid
Miss June Reid
Visits Section
Protocol and Conference Department
FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

CAR PLANS

TUESDAY 20 APRILFrom Heathrow Airport to Hotel

Armoured Daimler His Excellency the President
 His Excellency M. Bindzi
 Security Officer

(Police car)

Car 2 Mme Ahidjo
 Mme Bindzi
 Miss Makgill

Car 3 Mme Dontsop
 Mrs Sparrow

Car 4 M. Beleoken
 Captain Abdoulaye
 Captain Boukar
 Mr Coppel

Car 5 His Excellency M. Dontsop
 His Excellency M. Doumba
 Mr Sparrow
 M. Samnik
 Security Officer

Car 6 His Excellency M. Maigari
 His Excellency M. Kome
 M. N. ji
 Col Worrall

/WEDNESDAY

WEDNESDAY 21 APRIL

Hotel to Foreign and Commonwealth Office Quadrangle

Armoured Daimler His Excellency the President
Mme Ahidjo
Security Officer

Car 2 His Excellency M. Bindzi
Mme Bindzi
M. Tening
Miss Makgill

Cars 3, 4, 5 and 6 as on journey from airport to Claridge's.

After the Guard of Honour ceremony the members of the official suite attending the talks with the Prime Minister will proceed to 10 Downing Street.

Foreign and Commonwealth Office Quadrangle to Hotel

Car 2 Mme Ahidjo
Mme Bindzi
Miss Makgill
Mrs Landon

Car 3 Mme Dontsop
Mrs Sparrow

Car 6 M. Beleoken
M. Samnik
M. Niji
Colonel Worrall

Cars 4 and 5 will proceed to Downing Street where they will park.

Hotel to 10 Downing Street

Car 2 As on previous journey.

/Car 3

Hotel to 10 Downing Street (cont'd)

Car 3 As on previous journey.

Car 6 M. Samnik
M. Beleoken
M. Djapou
Colonel Worrall

10 Downing Street to Hotel

Armoured Daimler His Excellency the President
His Excellency M. Bindzi
Security Officer

Car 2)
)
Car 3) As on previous journey.

Car 4 M. Beleoken
Captain Abdoulaye
Captain Boukar
Mr Coppel

Car 5 His Excellency M. Dontsop
His Excellency M. Doumba
Mr Sparrow
M. Samnik

Car 6 His Excellency M. Maigari
His Excellency M. Kome
M. Tening
M. Djapou
Col Worrall

Hotel to Westminster Abbey and return to Hotel

As on journey from Hotel to Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Quadrangle (but Mrs Landon will travel in Car 3).

/Hotel

Hotel to Mansion House and return to Hotel

Armoured Daimler His Excellency the President
Mme Ahidjo
Security Officer

Car 2 M. Niji
Captain Abdoulaye
Mr Coppel
Miss Makgill
Mrs Landon

Car 3 His Excellency M. Bindzi
Mme Bindzi
His Excellency M. Dontsop
Mme Dontsop

Car 4 His Excellency M. Maigari
His Excellency M. Doumba
His Excellency M. Kome
M. Tening

Car 5 Mr Sparrow
Mrs Sparrow

/THURSDAY

THURSDAY 22 APRIL

The ladies will travel in cars 2 and 3.

Claridges to Lancaster House and return to Hotel

Armoured Daimler His Excellency The President
 His Excellency M. Bindzi
 Security Officer

Car 4 M. Beigoken
 Captain Abdoulaye
 Captain Boukar
 Mr Coppel

Car 5 His Excellency M. Maigari
 His Excellency M. Doumba .
 Mr B Sparrow
 Colonel Worrall

Car 6 His Excellency M Kome
 M. N'ji
 M. Samnik
 M. Tening

A separate car, No 7, will be provided for:-

 His Excellency M. Dontsop
 Group Captain O'Neill

to go to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and return

Hotel to 1 Carlton Gardens and return to Hotel

Armoured Daimler His Excellency The President
 His Excellency M. Bindzi
 Security Officer

/Car 4

Car 4 Captain Abdoulaye
 Captain Boukar
 M Tening
 Mr Coppel

Car 5 His Excellency M Dontsop
 His Excellency M Maigari
 Mr Sparrow

Car 6 His Excellency M Doumba
 His Excellency M Kome
 M Djapou

FRIDAY 23 APRIL

Hotel to Tropical Products Institute

as for Heathrow Airport to Hotel,
with the exception of M Tening
who will travel in car no 2.

Tropical Products Institute to Windsor Castle and return to Hotel

Armoured Daimler His Excellency The President
 His Excellency M Bindzi
 Security Officer.

Car 2 Madame Ahidjo
 Madame Bindzi
 Miss Makgill
 M Tening

Car 3 Madame Dontsop
 Mrs Sparrow
 Mr Sparrow

Car 4 Capt Abdoulaye
 Capt Boukar
 Mr Coppel

Car 5 M Dontsop
 His Excellency M Maigari
 His Excellency M Doumba
 His Excellency M Kome
 Security Officer

Tropical Products Institute to Hotel

Car 6 M Beleoken
 M Samnik
 M Nji
 Colonel Worrall

SATURDAY 24 APRIL

Hotel to Heathrow Airport

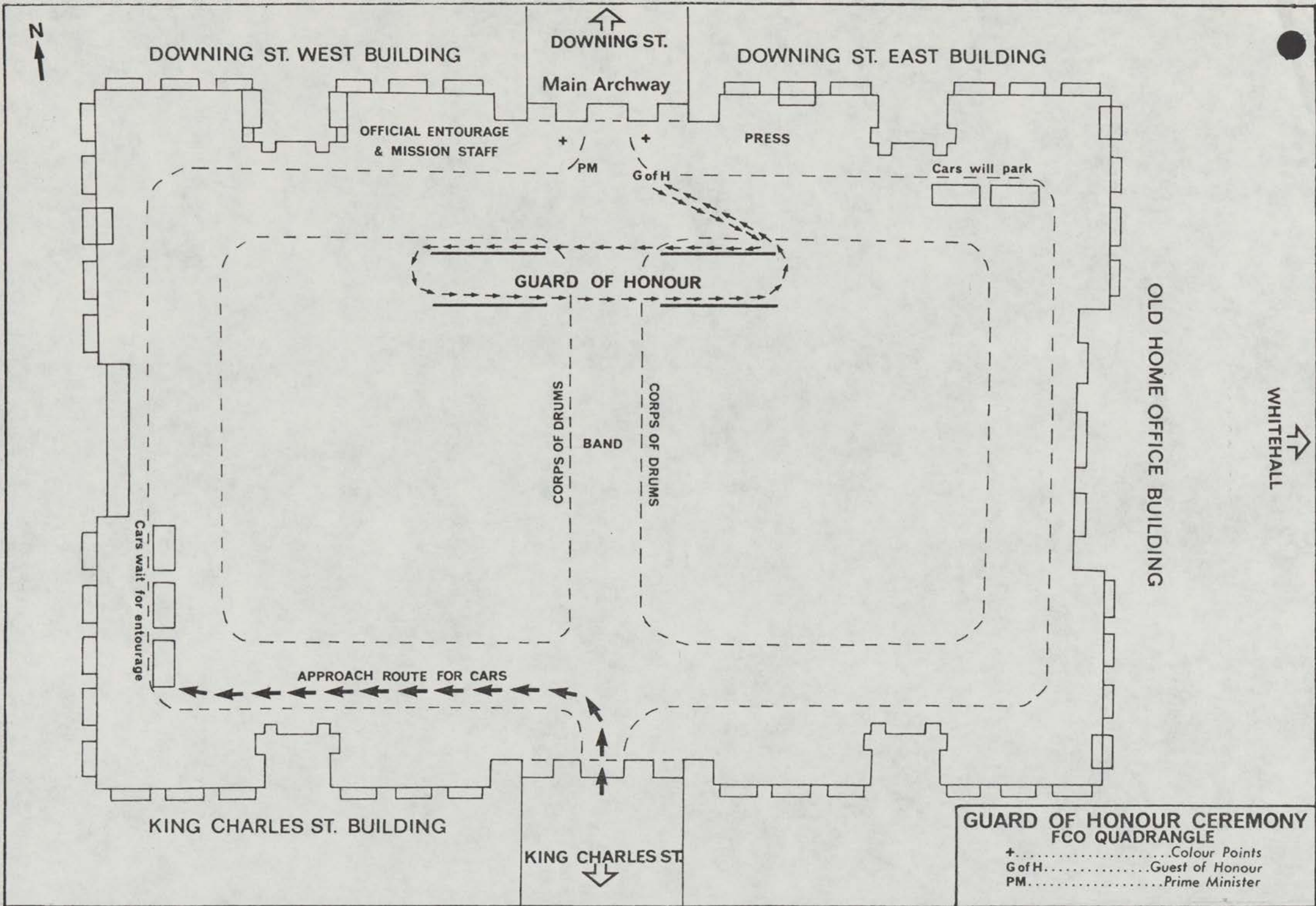
as on inward journey.

GUARD OF HONOUR - Procedure

1. A Guard of Honour found by 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards under the command of Major Christopher Lindsay with the Regimental Colour, the Band of the Grenadier Guards and the Corps of Drums of the Battalion will be formed in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Quadrangle on Wednesday 21 April at 1135 hours to greet President Ahmadou Ahidjo, President of the United Republic of Cameroon.
2. At 1140 hours members of the President's entourage will arrive at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office by car and wait near the Colour points (see diagram attached) on the west side of the Main Archway.
3. At 1143, the Prime Minister will arrive at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Quadrangle through the Main Archway; she will be met at the Archway by Major General Desmond Langley (Major General Commanding the Household Division). He will be accompanied by the Brigade Major Coldstream Guards, Lt Col Richard Heywood, Brigade Major the Household Division. The Major General will then escort the Prime Minister to the Saluting base ready to receive the President and Madame Ahidjo.
4. At 1145 hours the President and Madame Ahidjo will arrive at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.
5. Once the Prime Minister has welcomed them the President will take his place on the Saluting base, between the two Colour points. The Prime Minister will stand on his right and slightly behind him. After the Guard Commander has presented his Guard of Honour to the President, the Major General will accompany the President and the Guard Commander on the inspection. The Prime Minister should remain in the vicinity of the Colour points with the Brigade Major until the inspection is completed, and the Major General has accompanied the President back to the Saluting base. The Prime Minister will then accompany President Ahidjo to No 10 Downing Street. Those participating in the plenary talks will follow. Mrs Ahidjo will proceed to her car.
6. Other members of the President's entourage will then proceed to their cars which will be waiting in the Quadrangle (see diagram attached).
7. Meanwhile the Major General and the Brigade Major will have taken their leave of the President and will authorise the dispersal of the Guard of Honour once the President has departed for No 10 Downing Street.

Wet Weather Programme

In the event of wet weather the Parade will not be cancelled. The programme will continue as scheduled up to the point where the inspection of the Guard of Honour should begin. If there is heavy rain at that point in the programme and the President does not wish to inspect the Guard of Honour, the Prime Minister should lead President Ahidjo to No 10.



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Press Office (2)

10 Downing Street

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Embassy of the United Republic of Cameroon (6)

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Private Secretary (2)
Private Secretary/Permanent Under Secretary (2)
Sir John Leahy ()
Sir Leonard Allinson ()
Mr MacRae ()
WAD (Mr George) (6)
News Department (Mr Hannaby)(3)
Resident Clerk ()
Miss Lothian ()
PCD (8)

Government Hospitality Fund (2⁰)



Sub

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

16 April 1982

VISIT OF PRESIDENT OF CAMEROONS

As I told you on the telephone this morning, the Prime Minister is content that the arrangements (Guard of Honour, talks, lunch) for 21 April should stand for the time being. But it would be prudent for you to work out alternative arrangements in case the Prime Minister at the last moment finds it impossible to carry out the programme. In that event we would certainly try to arrange for the President at least to call on the Prime Minister in the course of the day.

A. J. GOLES

F.N. Richards, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

BK

E.R.
PRIME MINISTER

Foreign Affairs Engagements:

21 April

I think I should bring to your attention now that you are at present committed to engagements with the President of Cameroon from 1145 until after lunch next Wednesday. If the Falkland Islands situation is critical, we shall doubtless be able to make last minute arrangements for another Minister to take your place. But do you agree that, for the present, the arrangements (Guard of Honour, talks, lunch) should stand? *Yes not*

The Italian Prime Minister will be in London on that day to attend the Garibaldi Centenary celebrations. Mr. Spadolini has a particular personal interest in Garibaldi. It was suggested earlier that you might give lunch for him but this was impossible because of your commitment to the President of Cameroon. Mr. Spadolini is not able to stay for dinner. The attached FCO letter suggests that you might host a Government reception for him from 1800-1930. This has been arranged to take place in Lancaster House because it is the particular wish of the participants that the Garibaldi Room in that building should be used. Would you be willing to host the reception - you could take the opportunity for a talk with Mr. Spadolini? *Yes not*

Again, if the Falklands situation was at a critical point, we could arrange for another Minister to host the reception in your place.

A.J.C. $\frac{14}{4}$

14 April, 1982

Nobel Peace Prize Winners 1977

GROUP: Derby and District UK 49

14th April 1982

7 LADYCROFT PADDOCK
ALLESTREE
DERBY
DE3 2GA

Tel: Derby (0332) 558998

The Right Honorable Margaret Thatcher
10 Downing Street
London SW1

Dear Prime Minister

I am writing to you on behalf of the Derby and District Group of Amnesty International. As I know you will be well aware, Amnesty International is a humanitarian organisation which works throughout the world for the release of prisoners of conscience, that is to say men and women who have been detained because of their peacefully held beliefs.

I am sure you are extremely occupied with the affairs of State relating to the Falkland Islands crisis but the reason I am writing to you at this time is because I understand that, unless plans have to be altered, the President of the Cameroon will be lunching with you at Downing Street next week.

For the past five years our group of Amnesty International has been working to secure the release from prison of Gaspard Mouen a prisoner of conscience in the Cameroon. I enclose some background details relating to his arrest and detention. M. Mouen and the four colleagues mentioned have now been detained almost six years without charge or trial. This is in violation of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the articles of which the Cameroon upholds in its own Constitution. I am sure it must be abhorrent to you with your legal training to realise that many people in the world are being held without any form of a fair and open trial.

I would like to appeal to you, as a representative of the British people, to draw the attention of President Ahidjo to the grave concern felt for the fate of these young men by many people in Britain, and to do all in your power to obtain their early release.

Yours sincerely

C. Berwick

Mrs C Berwick
Group secretary

Enc

+ Henri Minkroni

**GASPARD MOUEN,
MARTIN EBELLE-TOBO,
EMMANUEL BILLE and
ANDRE MOUNE (Cameroon)**

These four young men have been held in administrative internment camps without charge or trial for more than four years. The first two worked for a freight company in Douala; the other pair were students in Yaounde.

They were among 200 young people, mainly school or college students, teachers and office workers, who were arrested in July 1976 in the capital, Yaounde, and in Douala for allegedly distributing anti-government leaflets in Douala during a visit three months earlier by the Head of State, President El-Hadj Ahmadou AHIDJO. The arrests followed strikes for higher wages in January and February 1976



André Moune



Gaspard Mouen

which had affected many businesses in Douala, Cameroon's main industrial centre.

Although they were considered to be opponents of the government, most of them had no connections with organized political opposition movements; it is believed that the wave of arrests was an attempt by the government to stifle criticism of its policies. Some of those arrested had studied in France and may have been associated with a students' union there opposed to the government of President Ahidjo—it was based in France until August 1977 when the French authorities banned it at the request of the Cameroonian Government. Many of the detainees belonged to the Bassa ethnic group from the Douala area, which has often been associated with opposition to President Ahidjo's mainly northern-based

government. Some worked for companies affected by the strikes earlier in the year.

Not one of those arrested was formally charged or brought to trial and, since there was no evidence that any of them had used or advocated violence, Amnesty International took up the cases of more than a hundred whose names were known. Since 1976 all but four of these detainees have been released in groups.

The arrests were carried out by Cameroon's paramilitary police, the *Brigade mixte mobile* (BMM), helped by the counter-subversion agency, the *Direction générale de la documentation*. For the first six months the detainees were held at the BMM headquarters at N'Kondengue, in Yaounde, which is notorious for the routine torture of prisoners during interrogation in a special room called *la Chapelle*. Several of those arrested in July 1976 are reported to have been tortured here. The period of interrogation ended in January and February 1977; some detainees were released, but most were transferred to prison camps—the women and some men to the prison camp at Yoko, about 100 kilometres north of Yaounde, and the rest of the men to the Re-education Centre in Tchollire, in the far north of the country. Conditions in both camps are far from adequate, and Tchollire is particularly harsh because of its inaccessibility and cruel climate. Detainees in Tchollire get too little to eat and are ill-treated by the guards; they are almost completely cut off from the outside world—they are allowed only very brief and infrequent family visits and have no access to medical treatment or legal advice.

Cameroon has been ruled by President Ahidjo since independence 21 years ago and has a reputation for political stability. However, it has been under repeatedly renewed states of emergency since the 1960s when the government was attempting to suppress the banned political party, the *Union des populations du Cameroun*, which organized armed resistance to first the French colonial authorities and then the independent government of President Ahidjo. Although there is no longer any armed resistance to the government—or even any vocal opposition within the country to its policies—the government still has the power, under Presidential Ordinance 61 OF-5 of 4

October 1961, to detain for an indefinitely renewable period of two months any individual deemed dangerous to public security. The administrative internment camp at Tchollire and the administrative detainees held at Yoko are not part of the normal prison service of the Ministry of Territorial Administration but are controlled by the security services, which are responsible to the President alone, through the Director of his *Cabinet Civil*; neither do the administrative detainees in the two camps come within the control of Cameroon's judiciary—as a result they have no legal recourse against detention.

The Cameroonian authorities have responded to requests for information about these detainees or to appeals for their release only by denying responsibility for detainees who do not fall within the normal judicial system or by denying that the subject of Amnesty International's inquiries is detained anywhere in

Cameroon. The Prime Minister, Paul BIYA, told Amnesty International representatives in Stuttgart in June 1978 that the detainees were terrorists and that the detainees' situation would be worse if they were to be tried. In February 1980 President Ahidjo, in answer to questions about these detainees from foreign journalists, said only four "leaders" were still in detention. At that time, Amnesty International believed about 50 people were in fact still being held. Small groups are known to have been released unobtrusively on 20 May 1977 (National Day), on 18 February 1978 (the 20th anniversary of President Ahidjo's accession to power), and, most recently, on 26 May 1980 (to mark the 8th anniversary of the unification of Cameroon) when a remission of sentences of *convicted* prisoners was announced. Although the political detainees had never been convicted of any crime, all but four of them were released on 26 May 1980.



file 116
c Mrs Ryder
Cameroon

10 DOWNING STREET

Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs

1 February 1982

VISIT OF PRESIDENT OF CAMEROON

Thank you for your letter of 28 January. The Prime Minister agrees that the President should be welcomed with a Guard of Honour in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Quadrangle at 11.45 hours on 21 April.

A. I. COLES

F. N. Richards, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

5



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

28 January 1982

Prime Minister

Agree to x?

A.S.C. 29.1

Dear John,

Yes
mt

As you know President Ahidjo of Cameroon has accepted our invitation to visit the United Kingdom as a guest of Her Majesty's Government from 21-23 April. The Prime Minister has agreed to have talks with the President at 1200 hours followed by an official lunch in his honour on 21 April. I understand the Prime Minister would like a Guard of Honour arranged for him.

We propose that the Prime Minister should welcome the President with a Guard of Honour immediately before the talks, and that this should take place in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Quadrangle, the arrangements being the same as on the two recent occasions.

x If this proposal is acceptable to the Prime Minister would you let me know, please, whether it would be convenient for her to receive the President in the FCO Quadrangle at 1145 hours.

Yours ever,

Francis Richards

(F N Richards)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
No 10 Downing Street

MR. COLES

Visit of the President of the Camarouns
Wednesday 21 April

Protocol are asking whether we could manage a Guard of Honour at 1145. What do you feel about this? It is all right as far as the diary is concerned.

Rang June Read
~~at 1145~~ wants
to go ahead.

C.S. 20/11

21 January 1982

FILE

ds

Cameroon

17 July 1981

Official Visit by President Ahidjo of Cameroon

The Prime Minister has seen your letter to me of 16 June on this subject and has approved the proposals in it.

MICHAEL ALEXANDER

R.M.J. Lyne, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

①

PRIME MINISTER

Official Visit by President Ahidjo of
Cameroon

You agreed last December that President Ahidjo of Cameroon should be invited to pay an official visit to this country in 1981. In the event, it proved impossible to find mutually convenient dates. The Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary would now like to extend an invitation for the dates 21-25 April 1982. There are no diary problems.

Agree that we may go ahead?

Yes not

Ans

14 July, 1981.

Cameroon



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

16 June 1981

①
Mrs Stephens
Prime Minister
Agree that the translation should
be excluded?

See Minutes of 14/7/81
MOPOR to PM

Dear Michael,

~~Alexander~~
Fine by me - but do
we want him arriving
one day we give him
holidays? Cf. 16/6.

Official Visit by President Ahidjo of Cameroon

Your letter of 15 December 1980 reported that the Prime Minister was generally content with the proposal to invite President Ahidjo of Cameroon as a guest of Government in 1981. President Ahidjo was unable to accept the dates proposed in 1981, so possible dates for 1982 were then considered.

X) The Royal Visits Committee recently agreed in principle that an official visit could go ahead during the week beginning 18 April 1982; and we understand that the Prime Minister's diary is free on 21 April to offer talks followed by lunch. We should be grateful for approval for HM Ambassador in Yaounde to extend such an invitation to the President, for the dates 21-25 April. The President would expect to be able to hold talks with the Prime Minister; and we hope that The Queen would be able to receive him and if possible offer a lunch in his honour. We should also hope that the Prime Minister would be able formally to welcome the President at the beginning of his visit. President Ahidjo would probably be accompanied by his wife.

yours ever

X) That's a bare - do they mean at the airport?

Roderic Lyne

(R M J Lyne)
Private Secretary

M O'D B Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street

116 JUN 1981

12 1 2 3
4 5
6 7 8 9

Cameroon 1



10 DOWNING STREET

Note for the record.

After consultation with
Cardine, the date (for the moment)
is 21 April 1982.

~~S.T. Collins~~

16/3/82

Please file. Cameroon

CF.

3/2



10 DOWNING STREET

~~MR ALEXANDER~~

Paul

The President of the
Cameroons is not happy with any
of the dates we have suggested
and wants to come between the
middle of August and the
middle of September. The
Foreign Office are re-negotiat-
ing.

28

3 February, 1981

RESTRICTED

5949 - 1

h. Am

GRS 260
RESTRICTED
FM FCO 081110Z JAN 81
TO IMMEDIATE YAOUNDE
TELEGRAM NUMBER 4 OF 8 JANUARY
VISIT OF PRESIDENT AHIDJO

*Miss Stephens: I take it
that the dates in para 4 are
OK? Yes - noted
Ch. 81*

1. PLEASE ADVISE THE PRESIDENT THAT WE WOULD BE VERY PLEASED IF HE WERE ABLE TO PAY AN OFFICIAL VISIT HERE AS A GUEST OF HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT DURING 1981.
2. YOU SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT HE WOULD BE A GUEST OF GOVERNMENT AND NOT OF HM THE QUEEN SEMICOLON UNFORTUNATELY THERE IS NO CHANCE OF A STATE VISIT IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE, SO FAR AHEAD ARE THESE BOOKED. BUT YOU MIGHT PRESENT THE INVITATION IN THE CONTEXT OF MR PARKINSON'S SUCCESSFUL VISIT SEMICOLON OUR SINCERE DESIRE TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN RELATIONS SEMICOLON AND OUR NATURAL WISH TO SEE THE PRESIDENT IN BRITAIN AGAIN GIVEN THAT IT IS A LONG TIME SINCE HE LAST VISITED OFFICIALLY (1963). YOU COULD ALSO SAY THAT SUBJECT TO THE DATES BEING ACCEPTABLE WE WOULD HOPE THAT HE COULD BE RECEIVED BY THE QUEEN.
3. THE INVITATION INCLUDES MRS AHIDJO AND UP TO TEN OTHER MEMBERS OF THE OFFICIAL SUITE (EG THOSE WHO WILL PLAY AN ACTIVE PART IN THE PRESIDENT'S PROGRAMME). FOR YOUR INFORMATION PERSONAL SERVANTS, BODYGUARDS AND PRESS REPRESENTATIVES DO NOT REPEAT NOT QUALIFY AS PART OF THE OFFICIAL SUITE.
4. PLEASE SUGGEST THE ALTERNATIVE DATES OF 27-29 JULY 1981 OR 30 NOVEMBER-2 DECEMBER 1981 FOR THE VISIT. THE OFFER OF SPECIFIC DATES AT THIS EARLY STAGE DERIVES FROM THE VERY HEAVY PROGRAMMES OF THE QUEEN AND PRIME MINISTER. IF THE PRESIDENT FOUND THEM DIFFICULT, ALTERNATIVES IN 1981 WOULD BE VERY HARD TO FIND.

CARRINGTON
NNNN

[COPIES SENT TO NO 10 DOWNING ST]

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MR M SNELL, GOVT HOSP FUND

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MR DAY

MR D FORD, CRE5, DOT

PLANNING STAFF

SIR L ALLINSON

MR B JONES CRE5 DOT

PS

1

RESTRICTED

file

8C.

24 December 1980

Visit by President Ahidjo
of Cameroon

The Prime Minister has seen your letter to me of 22 December about the visit to this country by President Ahidjo.

She agrees that an invitation should be issued for the dates suggested in your letter.

MO'DBA

Roderic Lyne, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

93



Prime Minister

The dates are O.K.

Agree?

And

23/xii

(1)

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

22 December 1980

Yes - but I hope there aren't

many more.

mi

Dear Michael,

Inward Visits by Heads of Government 1981: President Ahidjo of Cameroon

In your letter of 15 December you indicated that the Prime Minister was generally content with the proposal to invite President Ahidjo of Cameroon as a Guest of Government in 1981.

We would be grateful for approval for HM Ambassador in Yaounde now to extend an invitation to the President. The President would expect to be able to hold talks with the Prime Minister; and we would hope that The Queen would be asked to receive him in Audience and, if possible, give a luncheon in his honour. We would also hope that the Prime Minister would be able to welcome the President on arrival in a brief formal ceremony and to offer some hospitality.

We would be grateful if the Prime Minister could approve the following possible sets of dates which could be put to the President for him to choose from: 27-29 July 1981; or 30 November- 2 December 1981. The President would probably be accompanied by his wife.

yours ever
Roderic Lyne

(R M J Lyne)
Private Secretary

M O'D B Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street

22 DEC 1980

1980
DEC 22

FIELD RESEARCH CENTER
1175 EAST 17TH AVENUE

Top Copy

PM Tours Abd,
Govt Invitations

(1)

PRIME MINISTER

Visits and Visitors - 1981

I attach a summary of your programme of outward visits and inward visitors next year as it is at present shaping up. I also attach the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary's programme together with a background note.

Subject to your views, your programme seems to me at present to be manageable. However, I hope you will agree that it would be wise to resist proposals to extend it much further. In particular the programme of inward visits is already looking rather ambitious: there will inevitably be a considerable number of unforeseen additions.

* The FCS would like to issue an (undated) invitation to the Angabe early next week for a visit to London next year. Agree?

Phm

12 December 1980

(Can we wait a little. I am not sure it would be sufficiently well received by public opinion. not.)

PRIME MINISTER'S VISITS AND VISITORS - 1981

OUTWARD VISITS

Fixed, in hand or highly probable

United States of America	Late February/early March
European Council - Maastricht	23-24 March
India/Gulf	15-23 April
North/South Summit - Mexico	Early June
European Council - Luxembourg	29-30 June
Ottawa Summit	19-21 July
CHGM - Melbourne	30 September - 7 October
Anglo-German Summit - Bonn	? October

Proposals

Portugal - now looks less attractive	1 day
Strasbourg	December - 1 day

INWARD VISITORS

Fixed, in hand or highly probable

Panama President	30 March - 1 April
Ghana President	Early 1981
Romania Prime Minister	13-16 April
Anglo-German Summit	11-12 May
Anglo-Italian Summit	? May or later
Anglo-French Summit	? June
Anglo-Irish Summit	June/July
European Council	26-27 November

/ Proposals

Proposals

Mauritius Prime Minister	Early February
French Prime Minister	Early 1981 - if at all
Zimbabwe Prime Minister	
Jamaican Prime Minister	
Belgian Prime Minister	Late 1981
Cameroon President	
Peruvian Prime Minister	
Dominican Prime Minister	

Notes

- (i) The Prime Minister of Singapore is likely to visit the United Kingdom under his own steam in 1981, to become a Freeman of the City of London.
- (ii) The Sultan of Brunei is coming for 4-6 weeks in the Spring to learn about the arts of government.
- (iii) The Prime Minister of Fiji may also come under his own steam.

Top Copy : PM Tours Abd
Govt Invitations

MR. ALEXANDER

Prime Minister's Visits Overseas and Visitors 1981

I have checked through Roderick Lyne's letter to you of 1 December and can confirm all the dates he mentions on page 4, both for the outward visits and the inward visitors. I would be grateful, however, if when you write back to him you could ask him to go firm as quickly as possible with any of his "proposals". I think it would also be a good idea to show the Prime Minister the whole programme.

The FCO ask for a specific date for Sir S. Ramgoolam. I can manage a dinner on either Wednesday 11 or Thursday 12 February and talks on either day, though the 12th would be infinitely preferable. Not much alternative around that time.

I really am going to be in great difficulty fitting anything more in.

ES.

5 December 1980



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

MODBA o/r.

1 December 1980

Dear Michael,

Prime Minister's Overseas Visits and
Visitors 1981

Lord Carrington has been considering possible programmes of visits and visitors for the Prime Minister and himself in 1981. I enclose a schedule of existing plans at Prime Ministerial level and of Lord Carrington's additional proposals, as well as a schedule of the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary's own plans. We assume of course that events are likely to necessitate additional visits, outward and inward, which cannot now be foreseen.

The Queen

As background, I should recall the plans for State Visits next year. The recommendations are likely to be that King Khalid of Saudi Arabia be invited in June and President Shagari of Nigeria in November. If there is a recommendation for a State Visit in March, it may be for President Marcos of the Philippines or President Banda of Malawi. The Queen will visit Norway in May, Australia for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHGM) in September/October, and New Zealand and Sri Lanka later in October. Canada is a possibility in July.

Outward Visits by the Prime Minister

In view of the UK Presidency in the second half of 1981, the Prime Minister may prefer to fit as many of her outward trips as possible into the first half of the year.

Lord Carrington welcomes the idea that the Prime Minister should visit the Gulf in early January or in connection with her Indian visit in April. He suggests that the best countries to visit would be Saudi Arabia, Oman and

/the



Agreed
 the United Arab Emirates. If the Prime Minister agrees, we shall submit draft telegrams to the Posts with instructions and detailed suggestions. (There will not be time to include visits to all six Arab states in the Persian Gulf, but the Prime Minister has met in the relatively recent past the Amir of Qatar, and the Prime Ministers of Bahrain and Kuwait. They will be borne in mind for another Ministerial visit in the not too distant future.)

The proposals in the schedule for visits to the US and to the North/South Summit in Mexico need little explanation. Lord Carrington will make specific suggestions in due course. We shall also make detailed suggestions about a visit to India in April. A visit to Spain would only be appropriate if the Lisbon Agreement on Gibraltar is implemented. If this condition was met, a visit during the UK Presidency would be particularly appropriate. A visit to Portugal (Paul Lever's letter of 7 November) could be extremely brief, but the Portuguese would wish it to be separate from any visit to Spain.

Agreed
 The schedule of outward visits does not include an Anglo/Italian Summit in Rome in November. The Prime Minister may feel that the frequency of these meetings could be eased by suggesting in due course to the Italians that the second Summit due in 1981 might be postponed because of the UK Presidency until early 1982.

Inward Visits

Agreed
 Sir S Ramgoolam, although Prime Minister of MauVitiuis since independence, has never paid an official visit to Britain. Despite his age he is not expected to retire soon. He is firmly pro-Western and his country is among the few which have preserved the Westminster model of Parliamentary democracy. Lord Carrington recommends that Sir S Ramgoolam should be invited here in the second week of February, when the Mauritian parliament (where the government have a slender majority) will be in recess and when The Queen should be able to receive him. Given the short time available, we would be grateful to know the Prime Minister's wishes as soon as possible.

*Please /
try to
delay.*
 An invitation to Mr Mugabe would be an excellent way of keeping up the momentum of our relations with Zimbabwe. One of the regular Anglo/Irish Summits will be due in mid-year and should probably be held after the Northern Ireland

/local



not before election
 local government elections in June. We shall be writing shortly with detailed suggestions about inviting M. Barre. It would be a suitable gesture to invite the Belgian Prime Minister for a brief visit before we hand over the Presidency to Belgium at the end of the year.

will be here to comm 24th cont.
 An invitation to Mr Seaga would be an excellent goodwill gesture after the change of government in Jamaica.

We have tended to neglect Cameroon, a stable, moderate country which is one third Anglophone. The Cameroon market, with its sound agricultural base and significant oil reserves, is buoyant and attractive. President Ahidjo, in office since independence in 1960, has just started another 5 year term. Lord Carrington recommends an official invitation in 1981.

Peru has recently returned to democratic government. The economy is strong and offers opportunities for investment and exports. Dr Ulloa, the Prime Minister, is also Minister of the Economy and Commerce and the most important person after the President. An official visit could win us a valuable friend.

The new, moderate Dominican Government would welcome an invitation to the Prime Minister, Miss Charles. There is advantage in demonstrating support for governments favouring stability in the volatile Eastern Caribbean.

You will see that Lord Carrington's schedule of inward visits includes the possibility of inviting the Polish Foreign Minister. But, depending on how things go in Poland, we may later wish to sound the Poles about the possibility of a higher level contact instead.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to the members of OD and David Wright in the Cabinet Office.

yours ever
 Roderic Lyne

(R M J Lyne)
 Private Secretary

M O'D B Alexander Esq
 10 Downing St

RESTRICTED

SECRETARY OF STATE'S OVERSEAS VISITS AND VISITORS, 1981

OUTWARD VISITS

Fixed or in hand

Morocco/Egypt	3-17 January
Foreign Affairs Council - Brussels	19-20 January
Foreign Affairs Council - Brussels	16-17 February
Political Cooperation Foreign Ministers - The Hague	25 June
Foreign Affairs Council - Brussels	16-17 March
European Council - Maastricht	23-24 March
Foreign Affairs Council - Luxembourg	13-14 April
Hong Kong/China/Japan/Pakistan	?28 March - 9/10 April
State Visit to Norway	May
Foreign Ministers' Informal weekend - Netherlands	9-10 May
Foreign Affairs Council - Brussels	18-19 May
NATO Ministerial Meeting Location not fixed	2 days in May
Foreign Affairs Council - Luxembourg	22-23 June
European Council - Luxembourg	29-30 June
Foreign Affairs Council - Brussels	13-14 July
Ottawa Summit	19-21 July
Foreign Affairs Council - Brussels	14-15 September
CHGM Melbourne	30 September - 7 October
Foreign Affairs Council - Luxembourg	19-20 October
Anglo-German Summit - Bonn	?October
Foreign Affairs Council - Brussels	16-17 November
NATO Ministerial Meeting - Brussels	2 days in December
Foreign Affairs Council - Brussels	7-8 December

Proposals

USA	?February/March
Pakistan en route to Hong Kong	?26 March
FRG	Early 1981
Moscow	Early 1981
Nigeria	February 1981
France for brief Bilateral	
North/South Summit - Mexico	Early June
Netherlands (handover visit to outgoing Presidency)	One day late June
UNGA (speaking engagement in US?)	September
Luxembourg: Churchill Memorial Lecture	One day October
Berlin after the Anglo-German Summit	October
ASEAN two countries en route to or from CHGM	September-October

INWARD VISITORS

Fixed or in hand

Mozambique Foreign Minister	26-29 January
Foreign Ministers' informal weekend	5-6 September
Anglo-German Summit	?May
Anglo-Italian Summit	?May
Anglo-French Summit	?June
Political Cooperation Foreign Ministers	13 October
European Council	26-27 November
Iraqi Foreign Minister (perhaps in 1980)	

/Proposals

Proposals

Foreign Ministers of:

Poland	Venezuela
Yugoslavia	Brazil
India	Sweden
Luxembourg	Finland
Mexico	
Botswana	

Notes

- (i) The Department may wish later to recommend that the Secretary of State should attend the opening session of the Global Negotiations, which may be in late January.
- (ii) New Australian Foreign Minister likely to come under own steam in 1981.
- (iii) The same applies to the Portuguese Foreign Minister;
- (iv) and to the Kuwaiti Foreign Minister.
- (v) The Foreign Minister of Guinea may come in early 1981 as a COI Visitor.

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