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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
ACT 2000

13 April 1984

Yes
no

John Doe

Republic of Guinea

The new regime in Guinea which took power in a bloodless coup on 3 April and which styles itself the Military Committee for National Recovery has pledged itself to establish a form of democracy based on the principles of the UN Charter and has promised to put an end to the totalitarian system which existed in Guinea under Sekou Toure. As a first step they have already released all political prisoners and have given public and private assurances that none of Sekou Toure's followers will be executed. The Committee have declared themselves to be non-aligned which will be a setback to the Soviet Union, who have hitherto enjoyed great influence in Guinea, but who are now already reducing their presence in the country.

Potentially Guinea is one of Africa's richest countries and if the new regime adopt sensible economic policies, the possibilities for economic expansion and British business could be substantial. We should therefore do whatever we can to ensure that we do not miss out in a country where our major rivals are already well established.

Messages of congratulation have already been sent by the French President and Government. We believe the Americans and Germans will follow suit very shortly if they have not already done so. All three countries have already pledged assistance to the new regime. If we are not to be left behind by our trade competitors, we need to establish good working contacts with the new Government in the near future. The Foreign Secretary

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/ recommends
that HM Ambassador to Senegal, who is also accredited to
Guinea, should deliver the enclosed messages from the Prime
Minister and himself to the new Government.

I should be grateful to know whether the Prime
Minister is content with the action proposed.

(R B Bone)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

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Translation of Message to The Queen

We have the honour to inform you that the people of Guinea, through their national armed forces, have decided this Tuesday 3 April 1984, to take in hand the destiny of the Guinean nation. To this end a Military Committee for National Recovery (CMRN) has been charged with the responsibility for directing the affairs of State. The CMRN, desirous of fostering the friendly relations existing between our people and yours, assures you of its complete readiness to reinforce the bonds of fraternal cooperation in the higher interest of our peoples.

With high consideration,

CMRN

	Classification and Caveats RESTRICTED	Precedence/Deskby IMMEDIATE
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ZCZC 1 ZCZC
GRS 2 GRS
CLASS 3 RESTRICTED
CAVEATS 4
DESKBY 5
FM FCO 6 FM FCO
PRE/ADD 7 TO IMMEDIATE DAKAR
TEL NO 8 TELEGRAM NUMBER

9

10 GUINEA

11 1. The Queen has received the following message from the
12 CMRN.

13 Begins:


14 L'honneur vous informer que le peuple de Guinee a travers
15 ses forces armees nationales a decide ce Mardi 3 avril 1984
16 de prendre en main les destinees de la nation guineenne.
17 A cet effet un comite militaire de redressement national
18 (C.M.R.N.) est charge d'assurer la haute direction des
19 affaires de l'etat. Le C.M.R.N. soucieux d'entretenir
20 les relations amicales existant si heureusement entre notre
21 peuple et le votre, vous assure de sa totale disponibilite
22 de renforcer les liens de fraternelles cooperation dans
23 l'interet superieur de nos peuples. En fin haute et
24 fraternelle consideration.
25 Le C.M.R.N.

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File number	Dept WAD	Distribution
Drafted by (Block capitals) R DALY		
Telephone number 233 4576		
Authorised for despatch		
Comcen reference	Time of despatch	

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	RESTRICTED	2

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ACT 2000

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Catchword

Classification and Caveats

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~ *Restricted*

Priority and Delivery

IMMEDIATE

ZCZC

1 ZCZC

GRS

2 GRS

CLASS

3 ~~UNCLASSIFIED~~ *Restricted*

CAVEATS

4

DESKY

5

FM FCO

6 FM FCO APR 84

PRE/ADD

7 TO IMMEDIATE DAKAR

TEL NO

8 TELEGRAM NUMBER

9 GUINEA

10 1. Please deliver the following message from the Prime Minister
 11 to Colonel Traore:

12 Begins:

13 *congratulate you on*
 I ~~was pleased to learn of~~ your appointment as Prime
 14 Minister. *Her Majesty's* Government welcome the intention of the Committee
 15 for National Recovery to establish a form of democracy in your
 16 country based on the principles of the UN Charter. I look
 17 forward to the continuance of the friendly relations which
 18 already exist between our two countries.

19 Ends.

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21 HOWE

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22 NNNN

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NNNN ends
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Catchword

File number

Dept
 WAD

Distribution

Drafted by (Block capitals)
 R DALY

Telephone number
 233 3748

Authorised for despatch

Comcon reference

Time of despatch

Classification and Caveats <i>Restricted</i>		Precedence/Deskby IMMEDIATE
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20ZC 1 <<<<
 GRS 2 GRS
 CLASS 3 ~~UNCLASSIFIED~~ *Restricted*
 CAVEATS 4
 DESKBY 5
 FM FCO 6 FM FCO APR 84
 PRE/ADD 7 TO IMMEDIATE DAKAR
 TEL NO 8 TELEGRAM NUMBER
 9 GUINEA
 10 1. Please deliver following message from me to Captain Facine
 11 Toure as soon as possible:
 12 Begins:
 13 I was pleased to learn of your appointment as Foreign
 14 Minister and look forward to working with you towards the
 15 continuance of the good relations which exist between our two
 16 countries.
 17 Ends.
 18
 19 HOWE
 20 NNNN
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NNNN ends telegram	BLANK		Catchword
File number	Dept WAD	Distribution	
Drafted by (Block capitals) R DALY			
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