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INTRODUCTION BY U.S. AMBASSADOR R. NIELS MARQUARDT

On July 5, 2007, the United States government marks exactly 50 years of continuous official presence in Cameroon. Our first Consul, Robert C. Foulon, appointed May 6, 1957, was at post for the July 5 opening that year of the U.S. Consulate in Yaounde. Thus began a long, friendly and cooperative official relationship, built on the close ties that Americans and Cameroonians had enjoyed since the first American missionaries arrived in the late 1800s. In this landmark year of 2007, both the American and Cameroonian governments have solid reasons to jointly celebrate this shared 50th anniversary.

One major part of the commemorative celebration activities has been the development of a collection of representative photographs depicting the full scope of our bilateral relationship over these 50 years, with a few older photos for additional context. The photos presented in this booklet are but a selection of contributions that came from a variety of sources – missionary families, former ambassadors to and from Cameroon, various archives and libraries in the United States and Cameroon, and from private individuals of both nationalities. Allow me to express my thanks to all who contributed to this larger collection, from which a limited selection ultimately had to be made. We hope that this booklet will serve as a lasting reminder to us all of the often critical roles Cameroonians and Americans have played in each others' lives during these 50 years.

As I looked at these photographs and participated in their selection, I was struck by the obvious warmth and spirit of openness that has characterized relations between Americans and Cameroonians from the very beginning.

This has been my experience during the three years that I have been privileged to serve as the American ambassador to Cameroon. We see in the faces of our respective leaders caught on camera the understanding and cooperation that was so critical after Cameroon became one of Africa's first independent states on January 1, 1960. In seeing President John F. Kennedy at the foot of the airplane stairs, in 1962, welcoming President Ahmadou Ahidjo to Washington as the newly independent nation's first Head of State, we are reminded of a bygone tradition. The importance of Cameroon to the United States is equally clear in the fond regard exchanged between Presidents Paul Biya and George W. Bush across an elaborately set dinner table at the White House, in March 2003. Throughout, we can see Cameroonians and Americans interacting with joy and respect through culture, music, sports, and many other areas as we thumb through the collection.

In closing, I would also like to thank the team of editors at the U.S. Embassy in Yaounde who have been responsible for this booklet. Led by Information Officer Judith Ravin, they include Jean-Pierre Ghonda, Mathias Tientcheu, David Tiomajou, Bubah Zacharia, Benjamin Menguede, Amadou Mountapmbeme, Donatus Kosho, and Louise Zambo. Deputy Chief of Mission Richard W. Nelson provided overall project guidance. Cameroonian counterparts from the Ministry of External Relations were led by Acting Chief Director, Central Department American and Caribbean Affairs, Dr. Joe Ewang Nzume, and included Dr. Emmanuel Ebum Besongngem, Dr. Thierry Edgard Joseph Ndoe Messi, and Dr. Eric Nkou Mveng.

R. NIELS MARQUARDT
U.S. Ambassador to Cameroon

INTRODUCTION BY CAMEROONIAN MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS JEAN-MARIE ATANGANA MEBARA



Introduction by Cameroonian
Minister of External Relations
Jean-Marie Atangana Mebara

Fifty years ago, this day July 5, 2007, the U.S. diplomatic mission, opened its doors in Yaounde. Upon attaining independence in 1960, Cameroon set up two diplomatic missions in Washington DC and New York, in the United States of America. Since then, cooperation between Cameroon and U.S.A. has expanded and deepened on many fronts.

To trace, reflect, and preserve memories of these fifty years of diplomatic relations, a score of activities and events have been taking place since July 2, 2007, and would continue through May 2008. Exhibitions and publication of portraits of pioneer flag-bearers of both countries in all fields are two of the commemorative activities of the golden jubilee.

The relations between Cameroon and the U.S. have been so intense and multifaceted that all photos with bearing on the diplomatic interactions between the two countries can not fit into any single collection. However, the rich variation

of the photographs in this pamphlet is evidence of the long lasting, continuous, and varied exchanges between, and achievements by, Cameroon and U.S.A., little known to their people.

The most common denominator of all the photographs is perhaps the acknowledgement of mutual recognition, respect, and friendship that permitted such accomplishments by the two nations. Without these fundamental principles, the return to Cameroon of the Afo Akom statue in 1973, shown on the cover page, could not have been possible.

Permit me hereby to praise the pioneer actors of our two countries for their sterling qualities and their efforts in the building of the long-lasting and strong bonds which, among other things, have enhanced the development of our people and of a better world.

It is my pleasure and honor to preface this special collection of snapshots that are of historic and diplomatic value. This brochure highlights both the great moments of our past relations and the principles of mutual respect and friendship that may continue to guide us in the next half century in our search for understanding and progress in the world.

JEAN-MARIE ATANGANA MEBARA
Minister of State
Minister of External Relations – Cameroon

U.S. PRESIDENTS AND VICE PRESIDENTS: 1957 TO THE PRESENT

PRESIDENTS

Dwight D. Eisenhower (1953-1961)

John F. Kennedy (1961-1963)

Lyndon B. Johnson (1963-1969)¹

—

Richard Nixon (1969-1974)²

—

—

Gerald Ford (1974-1977)⁵

—

Jimmy Carter (1977-1981)

Ronald Reagan (1981-1989)

George H.W. Bush (1989-1993)

Bill Clinton (1993-2001)

George W. Bush (2001-)

VICE PRESIDENTS

Richard Nixon (1953-1961)

Lyndon B. Johnson (1961-1963)

none (1963-1965)

Hubert Humphrey (1965-1969)

Spiro Agnew (1969-1973)

none (1973)³

Gerald Ford (1973-1974)⁴

none (1974)

Nelson Rockefeller (1974-1977)⁶

Walter Mondale (1977-1981)

George Bush (1981-1989)

Dan Quayle (1989-1993)

Al Gore (1993-2001)

Dick Cheney (2001-)

CAMEROONIAN PRESIDENTS AND PRIME MINISTERS: 1957 TO THE PRESENT

Presidents

Ahmadou Ahidjo
(Jan 1, 1960 - Nov 6, 1982)

Paul Biya
(Nov 6, 1982 - present)

Vice Presidents

John Ngu Foncha
(Oct 1, 1961 - May 13, 1965)

Solomon Tandeng Muna
(May 1970—May 1972)

Prime Ministers

Emmanuel Mbela Lifate Endeley (Oct 1, 1954 - Feb 1, 1959) – British Cameroons

John Ngu Foncha (Feb 1, 1959 - Oct 1, 1961) – British Cameroons

André-Marie Mbida (May 16, 1957 - Feb 20, 1958) – French Cameroons

Ahmadou Ahidjo (Feb 20, 1958 - Jan 1, 1960) – French Cameroons

Ahmadou Ahidjo (Jan 1, 1960 - May 15, 1960) – The Federal Republic, East Cameroon

Charles Assalé (May 15, 1960 - Jun 19, 1965) – The Federal Republic, East Cameroon

Vincent-de-Paul Ahanda (Jun 19, 1965 - Nov 20, 1965) – The Federal Republic, East Cameroon

Simon Pierre Tchoungui (Nov 20, 1965 - Jun 2, 1972) – The Federal Republic, East Cameroon

John Ngu Foncha (Oct 1, 1961 - May 13, 1965) – The Federal Republic, West Cameroon

Augustine Ngom Jua (May 13, 1965 - Jan 11, 1968) – The Federal Republic, West Cameroon

Salomon Tandeng Muna (Jan 11, 1968 - Jun 2 1972) – The Federal Republic, West Cameroon

Paul Biya (Jun 30, 1975 - Nov 6, 1982) – The United Republic of Cameroon

Bello Bouba Maigari (Nov 6, 1982 - Aug 22, 1983) – The United Republic of Cameroon

Luc Ayang (Aug 22, 1983 - Jan 25, 1984) – The United Republic of Cameroon

Sadou Hayatou (Apr 26, 1991 - Apr 9, 1992) – The Republic of Cameroon

Simon Achidi Achu (Apr 9, 1992 - Sep 19, 1996) – The Republic of Cameroon

Peter Mafany Musonge (Sep 19, 1996 - Dec 8, 2004) – The Republic of Cameroon

Ephraïm Inoni (Dec 8, 2004 - present) – The Republic of Cameroon

THE EXECUTIVE

On October 24, 1967, President Lyndon B. Johnson reminded visiting President Ahmadou Ahidjo: “The United States and Cameroon ... share the knowledge that independence is a beginning, not an end. Independence is not nationhood. It is history’s invitation to great leaders to build a nation.” From the outset, as nation-building

fell into step with and, at times, struggled against the forces of change, the Executive Branch engaged in active dialogue. Like a pyramid whose base cuts across a wide swath, dialogue at the top has translated into a tradition of dialogue between Americans and Cameroonians at all levels of society.



On the tarmac: President John F. Kennedy (left) greets President Ahmadou Ahidjo (right) upon arrival at MATS terminal, Washington National Airport, March 13, 1962. During the five-day visit, President Ahidjo made stops in Washington and New York. An excerpt from the joint communiqué issued the next day states that the “two presidents agreed to take steps to encourage commerce and investment between their two countries.”



President Dwight D. Eisenhower receives Ahmadou Ahidjo, Prime Minister of the State of Cameroon under Trusteeship, March 17, 1959. The meeting took place in President Eisenhower’s White House office. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Joseph C. Satterthwaite (far left), Prime Minister Ahmadou Ahidjo (center left), President Eisenhower (center right), French Ambassador Hervé Alphand (far right).



President Ahmadou Ahidjo (left) and President Lyndon B. Johnson (right), in the garden of the White House, October 1967. The interpreter sits between the two Heads of State.



President Ahmadou Ahidjo, of the United Republic of Cameroon, and President Ronald Reagan talking to press, July 26, 1982. They are shown standing on the colonnade facing the White House Rose Garden, where the media are gathered.



Then-Vice President George H.W. Bush (left) greets President Paul Biya (right) for a meeting with President Ronald Reagan (center, background), at the White House Oval Office, February 27, 1986. President Biya was in Washington for a working visit.



Street dedication: President Paul Biya alongside Assistant Secretary for African Affairs Jendayi E. Frazer (partially obscured) look on to the newly named Avenue Rosa Parks. The street lines U.S. Embassy premises. In refusing to give up her seat on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1955, African-American Parks took a stand – while sitting – that sparked the civil rights movement. Parks died months before the street was dedicated in her honor, in Yaounde.



First Ladies' Farewell: Following a meeting between the First Ladies and a tour, Mrs. Laura Bush bids farewell to Mme Chantal Biya at the White House, March 21, 2003.



Table for two, please: President George W. Bush and President Paul Biya of Cameroon sit down to dinner in the White House Old Family Dining Room, March 20, 2003.

PEOPLE'S DIPLOMACY

In May 1957, Robert C. Foulon was appointed Consular Officer to Cameroon, and a U.S. Consulate was opened at Yaounde on July 5, 1957. On April 10, 1959, the Consulate became a Consulate General. According to a U.S. Department of State press release issued on January 5, 1960, "the American Consulate General at Yaounde, Cameroun, was elevated to an Embassy on January 1, 1960, upon formal attainment of independence by the former United Nations Trust Territory under French administration. ... Bolard More, a career Foreign Service Officer and until January 1 Consul General at Yaounde, has been named Chargé d'Affaires, a.i." The fifty-year trajectory in between, from May 1957 through May 2007, witnessed the arrival of fifteen U.S. ambassadors to Cameroon, plus seven Cameroonian ambassadors and two Chargés d'Affaires to Washington. Diplomacy is advocacy for the goals and interests of one's own nation through policies that reasonably meet the needs of another. Adaptability, precision of expression, observation, tact, persuasiveness – the list of qualities needed to be an effective diplomat is long. Government to government, administration to administration, day in and day out and, mostly, people to people, the diplomatic continuum between the United States and Cameroon moves forward on its own self-perpetuating momentum.



Charles Okala, Cameroon's first Minister of Foreign Affairs, is received by President Dwight D. Eisenhower at the White House, October 14, 1960.



Ambassador Mark L. Edelman with the Fon of Mankon, Fon Angwafor III, at Ntabeng-Mankon (Fon's Palace), in Bamenda (North West Province), 1988.



The official arrival of U.S. Ambassador R. Niels Marquardt at Unity Palace to present his credentials to President Paul Biya, October 29, 2004. The Ambassador faces the Cameroonian flag for the playing of the Cameroonian National Anthem by the Presidential Guard.



In reporting the event, the Cameroon Tribune read: "Ambassador Frances Cook presents to Head of State Paul Biya the letters of accreditation by which President George H. W. Bush accredited her to the Republic of Cameroon on his behalf. December 11, 1989."



President Bill Clinton receives diplomatic credentials from Cameroonian Ambassador Jérôme Mendouga, at the White House, June 23, 1994.



Meet the press: Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Jendayi E. Frazer responds to Cameroon Tribune journalist Pius Lukong (tape recorder in hand) upon leaving the Presidency, February 2005. From right to left: Cameroonian Ambassador Jérôme Mendouga, Deputy Secretary General at the Presidency of the Republic of Cameroon René Sadi, U.S. Ambassador R. Niels Marquardt, Deputy Chief of Mission Richard W. Nelson.



Going on the record: Interview at the Presidency of Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Frank G. Wisner, July 1984. Cameroon Tribune Joseph Tsala Ada (far left), Radio Cameroun Charles Landze (second to left), and Radio Cameroun Antoine Marie Ngon (holding microphone). Director of Civil Cabinet Jean-Baptiste Beleoken stands to the right of Deputy Assistant Secretary Wisner.



As part of International Education Week events, Ambassador George M. Staples (right) visits the Adventist University Cosendai of Nanga Eboko (Center Province), in the company of the university's rector Dr. Lucille Sabas (front left), and Mayor of Nanga Eboko Romain Roland Eto'o (tri-colored sash), November 2004.



Prime Minister Ephraïm Inoni (left) and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice (right). Official photo, taken at the U.S. Department of State, in Washington DC, June 2005.

U.S. CHIEFS OF MISSION IN CAMEROON



Robert C. Foulon
Consular Officer
Appointed: May 1957
Left post: August 1959



Bolard More
Chargé d’Affaires ad interim
Appointed: January 1, 1960
End date: June 9, 1960



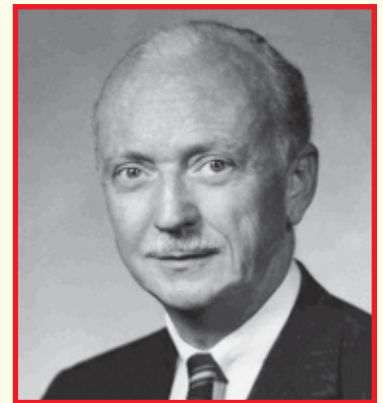
Ambassador
Leland Barrows
Appointed: April 20, 1960
Left post: September 6, 1966



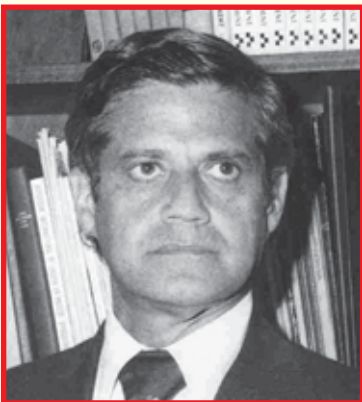
Ambassador
Robert L. Payton
Appointed: January 26, 1967
Left post: May 27, 1969



Ambassador
Lewis Hoffacker
Appointed: December 2, 1969
Left post: June 6, 1972



Ambassador
C. Robert Moore
Appointed: June 27, 1972
Left post: July 28, 1975



Ambassador
Herbert J. Spiro
Appointed: July 24, 1975
Left post: May 7, 1977



Ambassador
Mabel M. Smythe
Appointed: May 11, 1977
Left post: February 24, 1980



Ambassador
Hume A. Horan
Appointed: June 30, 1980
Left post: May 17, 1983



**Ambassador
Myles Robert Rene Frechette**
Appointed: May 26, 1983
Left post: July 30, 1987



**Ambassador
Mark L. Edelman**
Appointed: July 31, 1987
Left post: March 19, 1989



**Ambassador
Frances D. Cook**
Appointed: November 21, 1989
Left post: January 1, 1993



**Ambassador
Harriet Winsar Isom**
Appointed: August 17, 1992
Left post: January 17, 1996



**Ambassador
Charles H. Twining**
Appointed: December 19, 1995
Left post: August 17, 1998



**Ambassador
John Melvin Yates**
Appointed: October 22, 1998
Left post: November 4, 2001



**Ambassador
George McDade Staples**
Appointed: September 5, 2001
Left post: July 10, 2004



**Ambassador
R. Niels Marquardt**
Appointed: July 2, 2004

CAMEROONIAN AMBASSADORS TO THE UNITED STATES

Aimé Raymond N'Thépé

Presented credentials: January 16, 1961

Jacques Kuoh Moukouri

Presented credentials: March 9, 1962

Joseph Owono Nkoudou

Presented credentials: December 16, 1966

Michel Koss Epangué

Presented credentials: November 22, 1970

François-Xavier Tchoungui

Presented credentials: October 13, 1971

Eric Dikoto Quan

Presented credentials: September 12, 1975

Benoît Bindzi,

Presented credentials: November 24, 1976

Paul Pondi

Presented credentials: January 13, 1982

Jérôme Mendouga

Presented credentials: June 23, 1994

NOTES

Ambassador Paul Pondi was Dean of the Diplomatic Corps from January 13, 1983, until his departure, on September 4, 1993.

Ambassador Jérôme Mendouga, at present, is the second-longest-serving Ambassador in Washington. Roble Olhaye, Ambassador of Djibouti, is the longest-serving Ambassador in Washington and currently Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

U.S. SECRETARIES OF STATE AND CAMEROONIAN MINISTERS OF FOREIGN/EXTERNAL RELATIONS: 1957 TO PRESENT

U.S. Secretaries of State

John Foster Dulles (Jan 21, 1953 - Apr 22, 1959), under Dwight Eisenhower
Christian Herter (Apr 22, 1959 - Jan 20, 1961), under Dwight Eisenhower
Dean Rusk (Jan 21, 1961 - Jan 20, 1969), under John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson
William P. Rogers (Jan 22, 1969 - Sep 3, 1973), under Richard Nixon
Henry Kissinger (Sep 22, 1973 - Jan 20, 1977), under Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford
Cyrus Vance (Jan 23, 1977 - Apr 28, 1980), under Jimmy Carter
Edmund Muskie (May 8, 1980 - Jan 18, 1981), under Jimmy Carter
Alexander Haig (Jan 22, 1981 - Jul 5, 1982), under Ronald Reagan
George P. Shultz (Jul 16, 1982 - Jan 20, 1989), under Ronald Reagan
James Baker (Jan 25, 1989 - Aug 23, 1992), under George H. W. Bush
Lawrence Eagleburger (Dec 8, 1992 - Jan 19, 1993), under George H. W. Bush
Warren Christopher (Jan 20, 1993 - Jan 17, 1997), under Bill Clinton
Madeleine Albright (Jan 23, 1997 - Jan 19, 2001), under Bill Clinton
Colin Powell (Jan 20, 2001 - Jan 26, 2005), under George W. Bush
Condoleezza Rice (Jan 26, 2005 - present), under George W. Bush

Cameroonian Ministers of Foreign/External Relations

Charles Okala (Mar 14, 1960 - Oct 20, 1961)
Jean-Faustin Betayene (Oct 20, 1961 - Sep 20, 1963)
Benoit Balla (Sep 20, 1963 - May 25, 1965)
Simon Nko'o Etoungou (May 25, 1965 - Jul 28, 1966 and Jan 15, 1968 – Jun 12, 1970)
Benoit Bindzi (Jul 28, 1966 - Jan 15, 1968)
Raymond N'Thépé (Jun 12, 1970 - Jan 23, 1971)
Jean Keutcha (Jan 23, 1971 - Jul 3, 1972 and Nov 8, 1978 - Jul 7, 1980)
Vincent Efon (Jul 3, 1973 - Nov 8, 1978)
Paul Dontsop (Jul 7, 1980 - Apr 12, 1983)
Félix Tonye Mbog (Apr 12, 1983 - Jul 6, 1984)
William Eteki Mboumoua (Jul 7, 1984 - Jan 23, 1987)
Philippe Mataga (Jan 23, 1987 - May 16, 1988)
Jacques Roger Booh Booh (May 16, 1988 - Nov 27, 1992)
Ferdinand Léopold Oyono (Nov 17, 1992 - Dec 7, 1997)
Augustin Kontchou Kouomegni (Dec 7, 1997 - Apr 1, 2001)
François-Xavier Ngoubeyou (Apr 27, 2001 - Dec 8, 2004)
Laurent Eso (Dec 8, 2004 - Sep 22, 2006)
Jean-Marie Atangana Mebara (Sep 22, 2006 - present)

PARTNERS IN ACTION

In 1960, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) began a program of long-range economic and social development assistance to Cameroon. Two years later, Peace Corps sent a first group of volunteers to the country, an event that now occurs twice yearly. The landmark dates and figures for cooperation in the bilateral relationship are of a magnitude that surpasses the scope of these pages. Along with USAID regional and Washington-based activities as well as Peace Corps/Cameroon, current U.S. assistance programs include the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Congo Basin Forest Partnership, the United States Department of Agriculture Food for Progress Program, the African Growth and Opportunity Act, the Ambassador's Special Self-Help

Funds, the U.S. Department of State's Democracy and Human Rights Funds and Educational and Cultural Affairs exchange programs, the Ambassador's Fund for Refugees, the Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation, and the Ambassador's Girls Scholarship Fund. Should Cameroon become eligible by meeting competitive performance indicators, the U.S. Government's Millennium Challenge Account promises a multi-million dollar development aid package that uniquely allows countries to take ownership of their development projects. Missionaries, the Cameroonian diaspora, and civil society have also done their part to better the everyday lives of communities of concern. As Secretary of State George P. Shultz once said: "True development ... lies in the expansion of individual human opportunity."



A Peace Corps volunteer (standing left) in the Fishery Training program partakes in a community development program on fish. Photo taken between 1973-1983.

Peace Corps volunteer Mark White, a math and science teacher in Bamenda (North West Province). Photo taken October 1987. 1973-1983.



When Peace Corps signed a memorandum of understanding with the government of Cameroon on July 23, 1962 (following negotiations led by the then-Secretary General of the Ministry of Education, Paul Biya), that dual stroke of the pen, finalized on September 10, 1962, paved the way for a liaison between the two countries that exists to this day. The work of Peace Corps/Cameroon began in 1962, when the twenty Math and Science teachers who constituted the first group of volunteers arrived on September 13. The program gradually expanded to incorporate other projects: Community Development (1963), a Cooperative (1964), Aquaculture (1969), Teachers of English as a Foreign Language (1979), Health (1988), Agro-Forestry (1991), and Small Enterprise Development (2000). Today, Peace Corps/Cameroon hosts more than one hundred volunteers who live in villages and towns in all ten provinces and whose work is focused in four principal sectors: Agro-Forestry, Community Health, Education, and Small Enterprise Development. While carrying out their service, volunteers additionally address the four cross-cutting themes of HIV prevention and AIDS mitigation, youth development, women in development / gender and development; and information technology. Since 1962, approximately three thousand volunteers have served in Cameroon. Many of

the country's senior-most leaders can proudly name the volunteer who first taught them English, math, physics, or biology, even if this occurred thirty or forty years ago.

Through its volunteers, Peace Corps/Cameroon seeks to fulfill its mission. Peace Corps/Cameroon's overriding objective is to help Cameroonians improve the quality of their lives through capacity building, skills transfer, cultural exchange, and promotion of self-reliant development. Since 1961, when President John F. Kennedy established the Peace Corps, volunteers and administrators have remained true to the three original worldwide goals: (1) to help people of interested countries meet their needs for trained man and womanpower, (2) to promote a better understanding of American people on the part of peoples served, and (3) to promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of the American people.

Since 1961, more than 182,000 men and women have served as Peace Corps volunteers in 138 countries. R. Niels Marquardt, who served from 1977 to 1979 in Zaïre and Rwanda, was the first former volunteer appointed as Ambassador to Cameroon. Ambassador Christopher R. Hill, a former volunteer in the South West Province of

Cameroon, currently serves as Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs. Formervolunteers in Cameroon form the backbone of an active interest group, called "Friends of Cameroon," that promotes relations between the U.S. and Cameroon through developmental support.



Peace Corps fieldwork: A Peace Corps volunteer (in jacket) in the Fishery Training program sets up fish nets. Photo taken between 1973-1983.



Ambassador R. Niels Marquardt converses with street children at the launching of a children's Christmas soccer camp, in December 2005.



Through a Citizen Exchange Program, Montgomery County of Maryland donated a consignment of 150 computers to the Council of Douala III, December 2006.



U.S. Agency for International Development-supported rabbit farming project depicts USAID fieldworker providing assistance. Date unknown.



Cameroon Minister of Social Affairs Rose Zang Nguete (standing left) offers one of many tokens of appreciation to Margaret "Peggy" Hollow-Phelps (standing right) for her voluntary work with the handicapped in Cameroon at a farewell luncheon at the Residence of U.S. Ambassador Myles RR Frechette. Barbara Frechette (far right, seated), wife of Ambassador Frechette, is hostess. Photo taken between 1983-1987.



Inaugural ceremony for the surgical ward of the American missionary-founded Enongal Presbyterian Hospital, Enongal (South Province), 1959.

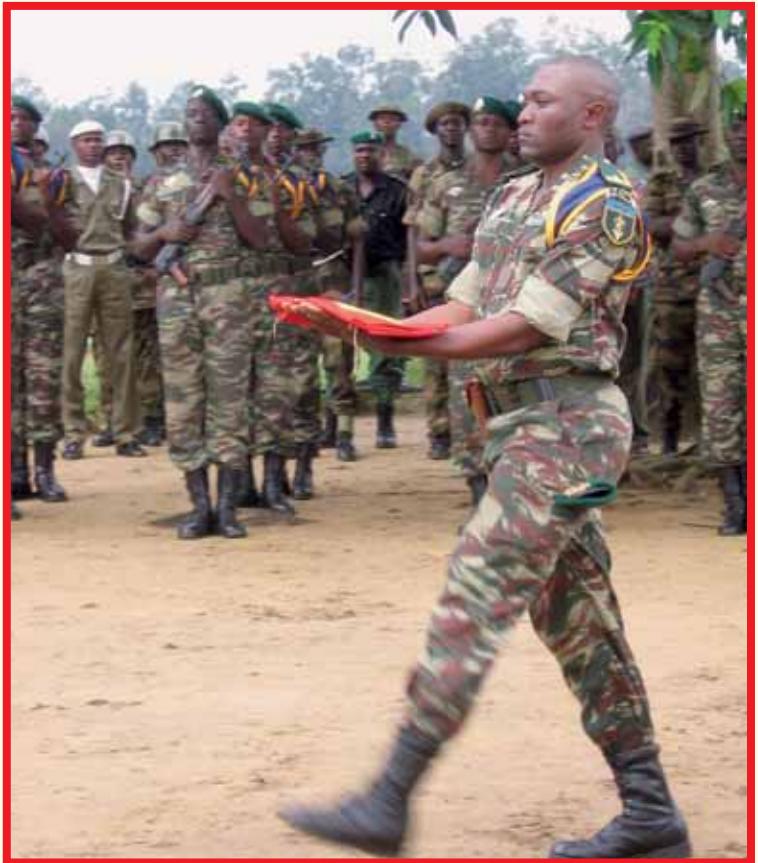
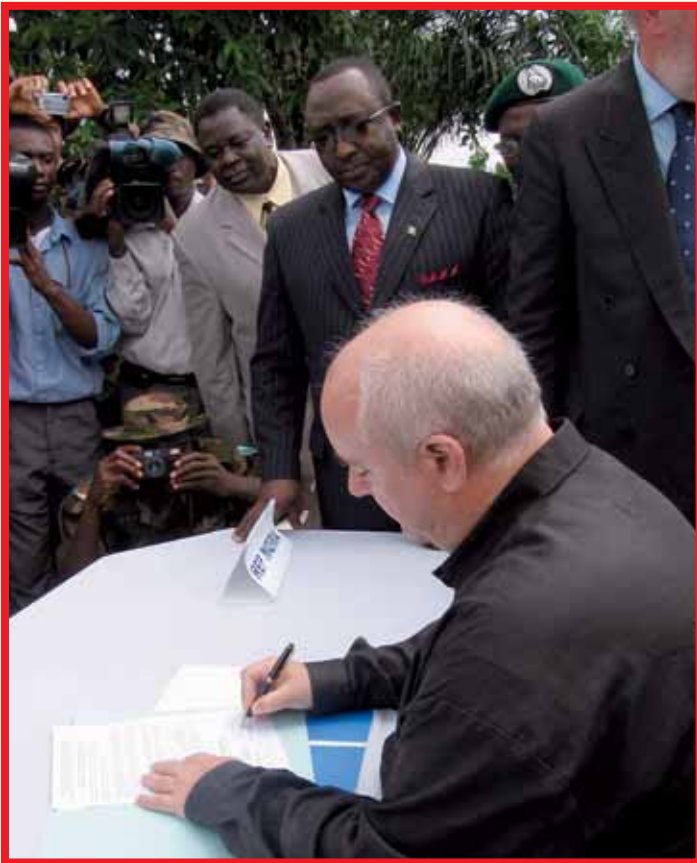
MARCHING IN STRIDE: THE MILITARY

The creation, in February 2007, of the new U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM) underscores the fact that Africa is growing in military, strategic, and economic importance in global affairs. Over the years, military ties between the United States and Cameroon, in particular, have followed this same trend, growing closer, stronger, and expanding to include a diverse portfolio of security cooperation activities. The U.S. Defense Attaché Office works with Cameroon's Ministry of Defense to provide military training and educational exchange opportunities to all branches of the Armed Forces. In the area of humanitarian assistance, the U.S. Department of Defense has funded and supported the construction of numerous health clinics, schools, and fresh water wells; U.S. military personnel have contributed to rural community medical outreach

programs; and a robust Defense HIV/AIDS Prevention Program (DHAPP) has been established in Cameroon for the benefit of the entire Central Africa region. In 2007, Cameroon officially became the twentieth partner in the U.S. Africa Contingency Operations Training Assistance (ACOTA) program, which strives to develop indigenous peacekeeping capacity for the promotion of regional security. The U.S. military continues to work directly with Cameroon's Armed Forces to develop increased border and maritime security capabilities. Together, the United States and Cameroon military are marching forward in a changing world. This strong security partnership serves to safeguard Cameroon's stability and to allow the rapid advancement of common economic and social development objectives.



Driver Simon Saa in front of the vehicle used by the first U.S. Embassy Defense Attaché (DAO), Lieutenant Colonel William Albert Hinternhoff, who served in Cameroon from 1961 to 1962. Simon Saa was the first assigned U.S. Embassy DAO driver. Photo taken in Douala, 1963. Photo courtesy of Simon Saa.



U.S. Embassy Deputy Chief of Mission Richard W. Nelson signing the August 2006 Withdrawal and Transfer Agreement (following the June 2006 signing of the Greentree Agreement in New York) as a witness to the withdrawal of Nigerian military forces and the transfer of authority over the Bakassi Peninsula to Cameroon. Akwa, South West Province, Cameroon, August 14, 2006.

Flag-raising ceremony over Bakassi: Dignified and focused, a Cameroonian soldier brings out the Cameroonian flag to raise over Bakassi, August 14, 2006.



Joint Taskforce “Operation Harmony” brought together Cameroonian and Nigerian officials to oversee the withdrawal from Bakassi Peninsula of the Nigerian Brigade Group. Here, Cameroonian officials stand ready to hand over the Cameroonian flag for hoisting, August 14, 2006.



Cameroonian Navy officers aboard the USS Kauffman, a U.S. Navy frigate, during a four-day port visit near Limbe, to strengthen regional maritime partnerships. The USS Kauffman Commanding Officer, Commander Chris Rhoden (front row, third from left, arrived in Cameroon waters with a crew of approximately 220 sailors. Also pictured is Limbe Navy Base Commander, Captain Ferdinand Ndzomo (front row, fifth from left). The historic occasion marks the first-ever joint U.S.-Cameroonian-French naval exercise at sea.



Outside the Star Building, following a visit to the Prime Minister's Office, Deputy Commander of the U.S. Armed Forces in Europe and Africa General William E. "Kip" Ward fields questions from the press about the goals on his first visit to Cameroon.

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

When the first Mission of the U.S. Special Representative for Trade Negotiations arrived in Cameroon for an official visit, in 1962, the Americans brought with them their well-known desire to do business. Trade and investment followed. On October 31, 1964, Frank Coffin, U.S. representative to the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, attended the inaugural ceremony in Yaounde for the construction of a 190-mile extension of the Trans-Cameroon Railroad, a project to which the United States contributed a loan of USD \$9.2 million. Little over a decade later, a thirty-

member Cameroonian trade and investment delegation, in the United States at the invitation of the U.S. government, visited Washington, Houston, Philadelphia, and New York. Today, U.S. foreign policy continues to embrace the belief that a nation's security is enhanced by a healthy economy. Yearly forums under the aegis of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) have opened up to Cameroon, along with other countries on the continent, access to the huge market that the United States represents. The theme of the 2007 AGOA Forum is "As Trade Grows, Africa Prospers."



The arrival of the American Trade Mission, May 20, 1962.

Signing of a high-level cooperation agreement between the United States and Cameroon, Yaounde, July 1963. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs G. Mennen Williams (signing right) stopped in Cameroon as part of a three-week tour of West African nations. Opposite Assistant Secretary Williams is President Ahmadou Ahidjo.





To encourage “a more stable and predictable legal framework for foreign investors in the territory of each of the treaty Parties,” the United States and Cameroon signed the Cameroon Bilateral Investment Treaty, February 26, 1986, in Washington. Signing for the United States is U.S. Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter (center). Signing for the government of Cameroon is Minister of Foreign Affairs Eteki Mboumoua (right). The Cameroon Bilateral Investment Treaty was envisioned to provide reciprocal encouragement and protection of investment. President Paul Biya (left) assists in his earlier role as Prime Minister.

U.S. Ambassador R. Niels Marquardt (right), with fare ticket in hand, participates in the maiden voyage to launch TAUg's “Le Bus” urban transport lines in Yaounde.



Lined up for the launch: The launching of “Le Bus” on September 25, 2006, marked an end to the two-decade stretch without an organized system of public buses for the city of Yaounde. American Parker Transnational Industries – Cameroon (PTIC), known locally as Transnational Automotive Group (TAUG), included a caravan ride through the city on a couple of the new buses to mark the event.

Chad-Cameroon Petroleum Development and Pipeline Project

The Chad-Cameroon Petroleum Development and Pipeline Project is the single largest private-sector investment in Sub-Saharan Africa. Its realization involved construction of some 664.9 miles (1,070 km) of pipeline to transport crude oil from three fields in southwestern Chad to offshore oil-loading facilities 6.8 miles (11 km) off Cameroon's Atlantic coast. Work on the pipeline, which began in 2000, was completed in July 2003. During the three years of construction, the project employed more than thirteen thousand workers from these two countries. The project began to generate revenue toward the end of 2003.

Total project costs were initially estimated at \$4.1 billion. According to the World Bank project overview, private sponsors financed nearly 85% of the costs and the European Investment Bank, approximately 1%. The Chad-Cameroon Pipeline is co-owned and co-operated by two joint-venture companies: Cameroon Oil Transportation Company (COTCO), in Cameroon; and Tchad Oil Transportation Company (TOTCO), in Chad.



President Paul Biya (center) opening the sluice gate at the terminal of the Chad-Cameroon pipeline in Kribi, South Province, on June 12, 2004. The late General Blaise Benae Mpecke (left front, in uniform), Chadian President Idriss Déby (front row, blue tie, looking to his right), First Lady Chantal Biya (right, in yellow).

RELIGIOUS FOCUS

If the religious make-up of Cameroonian society is complex due to vast differences in traditional beliefs, so too is that of the United States due to the colorful tapestry of the country's immigrant history. American missionaries – Presbyterian, Baptist, Evangelical Lutheran, Seventh-day Adventist – have long created “bridges” of understanding across the ocean in constructing churches, seminaries, schools, hospitals, and clinics wherever they settled. Under the First

Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, separation of church and state is the law of the land. Still, insofar as associative religious groups are part of the social fabric, religious leaders, congregations, private citizens, and government officials gather at mosques, churches, temples, and traditional sites – and now, even in cyberspace – for all variety of festivities and commemorative events to share and learn from each others' beliefs and practices.



Adolphus Clemens Good preaches among the Bulu people, at Efulan in 1892. Adolphus Clemens Good, the first missionary to come to the Bulu, created Elat and other missionary stations.

Adolphus Clemens Good, known by the Bulu as Ngôtô Zambé, or “Good (as in the missionary’s last name) of God.” At right, Pastor Good’s assistant, Pastor Robert Milligan, 1893 (correct date, as per Elat historian).



A vision of Elat Cameroonian Presbyterian Church, early 1970s, in Ebolowa. The Presbyterian Church in Ebolowa began restoration works in November 2006 for the centenary celebration.



Baptist minister and civil rights activist Reverend Jesse Jackson Sr. (center) on a "political walkabout" in Cameroon, June 27, 1993. Also shown is the Reverend's wife, Mrs. Jacqueline "Jackie" Jackson (to the his right), and Director of UN Affairs and Non Governmental Cooperation at the Ministry of External Relations Samuel Mvondo Ayolo (far right).



The 1964-1965 staff and students of Saker Baptist College, in Victoria (modern-day Limbe, South West Province). The staff at this time was made up of American missionary ladies and Peace Corps volunteers.

U.S.-Hosted Iftaar Dinners

Following the coordinated September 11, 2001, attacks on the United States, President George W. Bush hosted the same year the first Iftaar dinner at the White House to mark the end of the Ramadan fast. The Muslim breaking-of-the-fast meal has since become a yearly tradition in the White House State Dining Room, at the U.S. Department of State in Washington and at U.S. Embassies abroad. These dinners renew the bonds of friendship between the United States and host governments and demonstrate the U.S. Government's gratitude for offers of support from the Muslim community.

Today, an estimated two million Muslims live in the United States. Muslims in America represent many movements and identities: immigrant and indigenous, Sunni and Shi'ite, conservative and liberal, orthodox and heterodox. Well over half the Muslims in the U.S. are members of first-, second-, or third-generation immigrant families. It is in this spirit that Secretary Colin L. Powell noted at the Iftaar dinner held in November 2002, in the U.S. Department of State

Benjamin Franklin Room: "America is a nation where a Christian Secretary of State, the son of Jamaican immigrants, can host an Iftaar for Muslim Americans who trace their ancestry back to South Asia, East Asia, Africa, Europe, the Middle East, Latin America, and every corner of the globe. In our diversity and our spirituality, our tolerance and our commitment to human dignity, lies our strength and lies our hope for a better future."

To promote religious freedom and tolerance, the U.S. Embassy in Yaoundé in recent years has held numerous public events on religious tolerance and contemporary Islam in Africa. Following the 2005 U.S. Mission-hosted Iftaar dinner in which women participated for the second year in a row, Ambassador Niels Marquardt praised Cameroon for the country's "active dialogue across the religious spectrum." Muslim leaders lauded the U.S. Government's Iftaar tradition as a means of enhancing cooperation among faiths and ethnic groups.

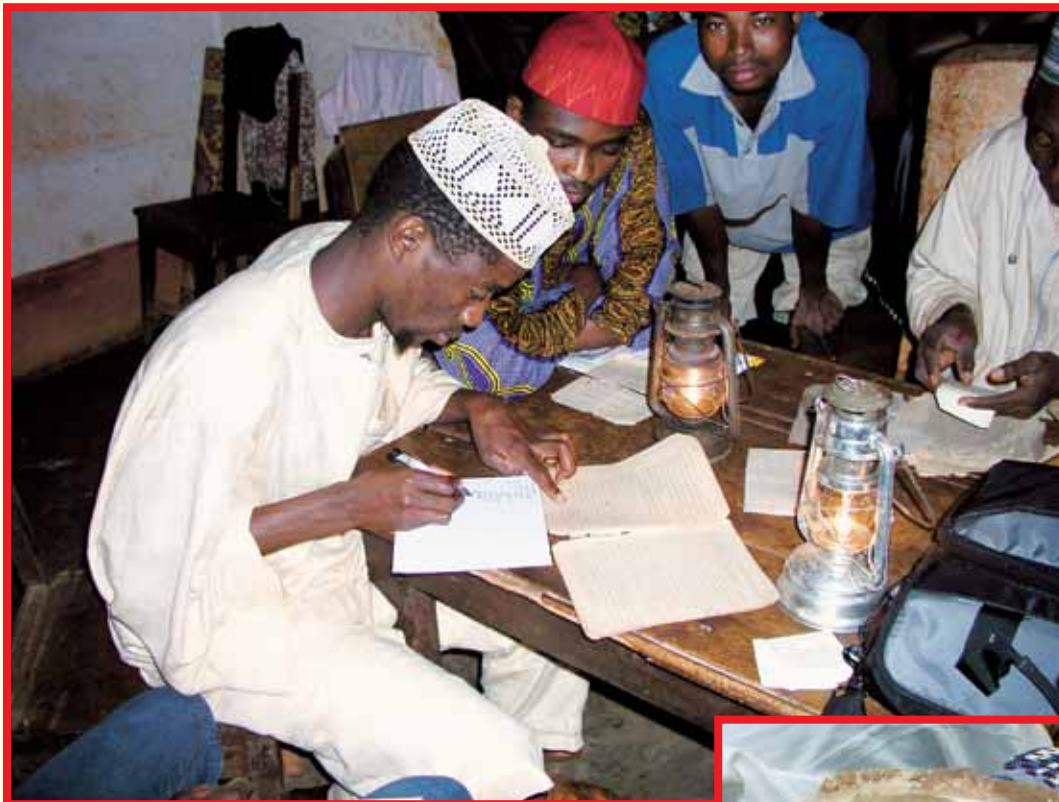


The Imam of the Grand Mosque of Tsinga, El hadj Abdoukarim Salama, leads guests in the prayer before Iftaar dinner, at the U.S. Ambassador's Residence, October 6, 2006. Among the front row: Minister Delegate at the Ministry of External Relations, in Charge of Relations with the Islamic World, Adoum Gargoum (center, coral robes); Egyptian Ambassador Mohamed Aki (white jacket); Embassy of Tunisia Chargé d'Affaires a.i. Riadh Essid (gray shirt); Saudi Arabian Ambassador and Dean of the Diplomatic Corps Amjed Hussein Albedewi (far right).

CULTURAL CONNECTION

The ways in which cultures connect is as limitless as the definition of culture itself. When the United States Information Agency (1953-1999), known abroad as United States Information Service (USIS), made the transition to the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. government's promotion of culture was kept alive through the creation of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Fulbright and Humphrey Fellows, English-language teachers,

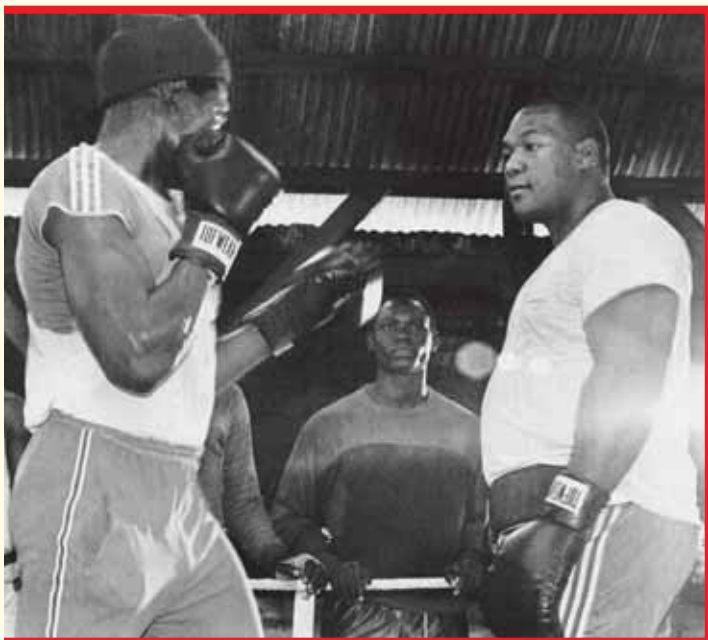
and International Visitors in the most varied fields have benefited from in-depth exposure to the United States and Cameroon thanks to the vision of these programs. In addition, through personal commitment, American and Cameroonian researchers, doctors, artists, athletes, and non-governmental leaders of civil society crisscross the interior each year, spreading in these travels their passion for cross-cultural exchange.



Transmitting Bamum heritage to future generations: A U.S. Department of State grant of USD \$28,000 has helped preserve Bamum cultural patrimony by teaching the Shumum language to students in Fouban, 2005. The conservation team is shown deciphering script.

A 2005 Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation grant was awarded to preserve some 7,000 documents in the Bamum script, created in 1896 by Sultan Ibrahim Njoya. The Ambassador's Fund, which was established by Congress in 2001, provides direct small grant support to heritage preservation in less-developed countries. Since 2001, the fund has supported 378 projects worldwide totaling USD \$9.5 million.





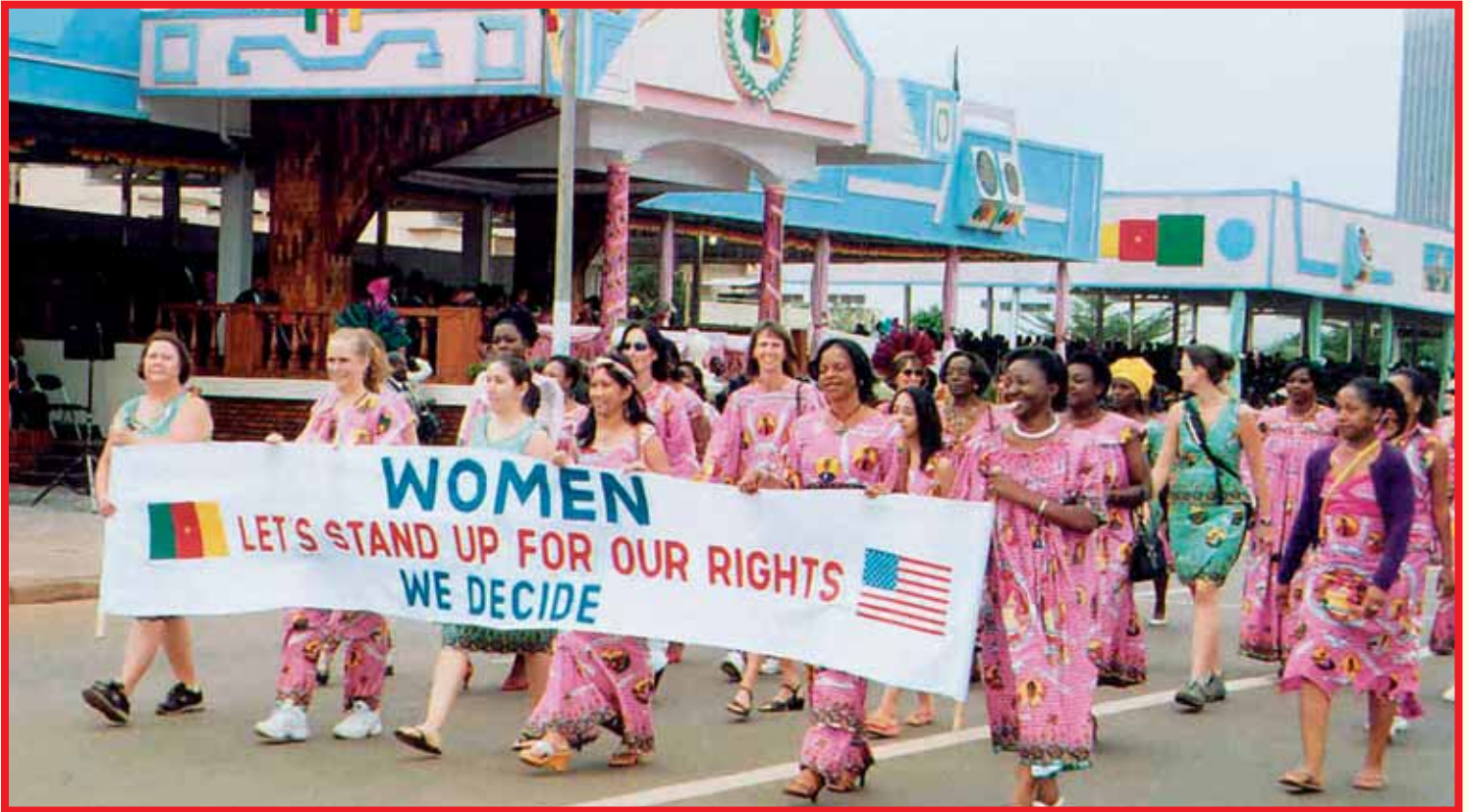
Former Heavyweight Boxing Champion George Foreman in the ring with a Cameroonian counterpart. Foreman came to Cameroon on a U.S. Department of State Educational and Cultural Affairs exchange program to train Cameroonian boxers, September 1985. Long-term U.S. Information Service (USIS) Administrative Assistant, here as Foreman's interpreter, David Lobe Ebele (left, in tie) is caught in the moment's enthusiasm.



Cameroon's Wil Fameni drives for a basket for Virginia Commonwealth University during a National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Men's Division I basketball tournament game with Georgia State, in Richmond, Virginia, on March 3, 2007. In the academic year 2006-2007, twenty-five Division I players are from Cameroon.



Minister of State Marafa Hamidou Yaya meets then-President Gerald Ford, in Independence, Missouri. Photo taken at the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library, on President Truman's birthday, May 8, 1976. Minister of State Marafa was a student in the United States at the time.



Sharing skills and saving lives: Fulbright scholar Dr. Bart Muhs (right) conducts a hernia operation in Djoum (South Province), April/May, 2006. U.S. Embassy Consular Section Chief William D. Swaney (left) assists. In the background, a local clinic nurse who helps with follow-up care.



For the first time in the Embassy's history, on March 8, 2006, female employees of the U.S. Embassy – Yaounde participated as a delegation in the International Women's Day parade and proudly marched down May 20 Boulevard, in the capital city, with a banner encouraging women to stand up for their rights.



David M. Nelson (left) and Dr. Georges Alain Etoundi Mballa (right), Head of the Emergency Ward at Central Hospital, Yaounde, August 2006. David, a student at the American School in Yaounde, was researching an article on the practice of medicine in Cameroon, published in the December 2006 issue of State Magazine.



The “Voice of Cameroon”: Veteran Voice of America (VOA) disk jockey Georges “Maxi Voom Voom” Collinet in VOA’s broadcasting studio, in the 1970s. Collinet marked four generations of radio listeners in Africa with his breakfast show “Bonjour l’Amérique,” in which music and commentary brought the realities of American daily life into people’s living rooms. “I used to receive a lot of mail—the price of a stamp to send a letter to America represents the budget for two or three days’ meals in Africa. I used to receive some 28,000 letters a month....”



The “Godfather of Soul,” American musician James Brown (with bouquet), upon arrival at the former Yaounde Airport, during his visit to Cameroon, in 1974.

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Judith Ravin
Project Editor

Credits

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