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CCPC



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

5 September, 1984

Dear Charles,

Canadian General Election, 4 September

The Progressive Conservative Party led by Mr Brian Mulroney won 211 out of 282 seats in the Canadian General Election yesterday. This overwhelming victory, greater even than that of John Diefenbaker in 1958, brings to an end 21 years of almost unbroken Liberal government. The provisional figures are as follows:

Progressive Conservative Party	211
Liberal Party	40
New Democratic Party	30

It is expected that Mr Mulroney and his Cabinet will be sworn in in about fourteen days' time.

It would be appropriate for the Prime Minister to send a message of congratulation. I enclose a draft which, if approved, we might telegraph to Ottawa for immediate delivery. The signed text could then follow in slowertime.

You will see that the draft includes an invitation to Mr Mulroney to pay an early visit to the United Kingdom. As outlined in my letter of 21 August, we have for some time been examining practical ways of building up the bilateral relationship with the Canadians, and that process is continuing. The Secretary of State believes, however, as does the British High Commissioner in Ottawa, that given Mr Mulroney's relative inexperience, an invitation to the new Prime Minister to visit Britain would be well worth considering, as perhaps the best means of getting our relationship with the new Canadian Administration off to a good start. As in the case of Mrs Thatcher's highly successful visit to Canada last year it would signal at the highest level our wish to continue to strengthen our cooperation with the Canadians.

If such a visit could take place at a fairly early point in the new Canadian Administration this would make the greatest impression and would also enable us to put across our views on international political and economic issues while the policies of the new government were still at a formative stage. It would of course be open to Mr Mulroney, should he feel the need first to put his own house in order, to postpone his visit until

/the





the second half of 1985. We could however then still reap the benefit of having made an important gesture to the Canadians by issuing an invitation in principle straight away.

*Yours ever,*

*Colin Budd*

(C R Budd)  
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street



DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despatch/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM Prime Minister

Reference

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO: The Hon Brian Mulroney PC MP

Your Reference

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

CAVEAT.....

I am delighted to send you my warmest  
 congratulations on your <sup>magnificent</sup> ~~overwhelming~~ victory in yesterday's  
 General Election.

<sup>remember</sup>  
 I recall with pleasure our meeting in Ottawa last  
<sup>with great pleasure</sup> autumn and look forward to working with you. I have  
<sup>a new chapter of cooperation</sup> very much in mind how important it ~~is~~ for both our  
 nations that we should do everything we can to strengthen  
 and enrich the longstanding links between Britain <sup>us</sup> and  
<sup>and with our mutual friend the US</sup> Canada. We have much to offer each other. I very much  
<sup>to have</sup> hope that there may be an early opportunity for me to  
 welcome you to the United Kingdom ~~in an official visit.~~

*behind  
 at  
 visited  
 by  
 and  
 Canada.  
 It is*

*I hope that we shall have  
 an opportunity ~~of~~ meeting  
 soon either in the UK or  
 Canada.*

Enclosures—flag(s).....