

British Embassy  
Thunstrasse 50  
3005 Berne

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M. p. B. M. M. Qatar			

2/4

1 September 1971

Ambassadeur C A Wetterwald  
Chef de Protocole  
Departement Politique Federale  
Palais Federale Ouest  
3003 Berne

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Kann an quest*

*Dear Ambassador*

I am writing to confirm the details of the ceremony I mentioned to you on the telephone on 31 August and 1 September.

2. The ceremony which will take place in the villa of the Ruler of Qatar at Versoix, will consist of the Signing and exchange of notes terminating H.M.G.'s special treaty relations with Qatar, and the signing of a new Treaty of Friendship between Britain and Qatar. The British Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, Sir Geoffrey Arthur, will be flying to Geneva on Friday morning for the purpose. There is likely to be a public announcement of the fact from Qatar today.

3. The process is precisely similar to one which took place in Bahrain on 15 August, except of course that in this case the ceremony will be taking place outside the country concerned, I should perhaps here explain for your own information that it was with some reluctance that H.M.G. agreed to this unusual procedure, which results from the Ruler's refusal despite strong pleas from his family to return to Doha for the ceremony.

4. We are most grateful to the Federal authorities for allowing the ceremony to take place in Switzerland. I understood from our telephone conversations that the Swiss authorities do not wish to be represented at the ceremony.

*Yours sincerely  
G. G. Brown*

G G Brown