

# KLW BRIEFING

## Updates for the Coalition for Dialogue and Negotiation

### Cameroon Appreciates End to Toy Weapon Gifts

By NDT Bureau | December 28, 2020

Cameroon rights groups and activists say they are gratified that for the first time since 2016, parents no longer give children and teenagers toy guns as gifts during end-of-year feasts. In 2016, rights groups launched a campaign to ban toy guns, mostly imported from China, saying they lead to violence. Alternative gifts for children include educational electronic toys. In the past it was normal for many parents to give toy guns as gifts to little children. Educational toys like this one have replaced toys like guns, knives and military vehicles that were in high demand and widely used as gifts for Cameroon's children. Activist and gender expert Irene Chinje is among those who pushed to stop toy gun sales. She says it breeds violence. Chinje says societies have ethics, so people should avoid toys that seem to encourage violence and consider ethics in their choice of toys. Cameroon has always blamed the over-involvement of teenagers in crime on what they watch on TV, and some there say the sharing of toy guns as gifts promotes violence, especially during New Year's celebrations.

### Coalition Signs Strategic Partnership with Kurth Lampe Worldwide

By The Coalition for Dialogue and Negotiation | December 28, 2020

**December 28, 2020 - (London | Berlin | Washington D.C)** – The

Coalition for Dialogue and Negotiations (CDN) announces the signing of a contract with

Kurth Lampe Worldwide, a United States based strategic communications firm with more than four decades of experience in strategic communications and marketing. The firm provides public relations and communications strategy services for groups, political organizations, and corporations in the US and around the world.



Kurth Lampe Worldwide was part of the production team during the Democratic National Conventions beginning in 1996 and continuing through 2020. They have vast experience in strategic communications for corporate and political organizations, including the 2020 Biden-Harris Campaign. Kitty Kurth and Kevin Lampe, both co-founders of Kurth Lampe Worldwide, assisted President Barack Obama in the preparation for his historic speech at the 2004 Democratic Convention.



## **Central African Republic Soldiers Flee to Cameroon**

By Peter Kum and Rodrigue Forku | December 28, 2020

At least 117 Central African Republic's (CAR) soldiers have found refuge in neighboring Cameroon following repeated rebel attacks in their country, Cameroon authorities told Anadolu Agency on Monday. Gregoire Mvongo, governor of Cameroon's Eastern Region, said the soldiers arrived last week in Garoua-Boulai, a border town, after rebel attacks in the northwest of the CAR. He said the soldiers are housed in a military camp awaiting their return to the CAR once the security situation improves. Since the deterioration of the security situation in the CAR, the Cameroon authorities have been on constant alert. Last week, the governor of the eastern region presided over a security meeting in Garoua-Boulai regarding the security and political crisis in neighboring CAR. "The number of refugees is increasing significantly day by day ... High-ranking Central African personalities have come to settle for security reasons," the governor told reporters at the end of this meeting.

We take this opportunity to thank Kurth Lampe Worldwide for partnering with the Coalition for Dialogue and Negotiations to ensure an effective implementation of the Resolutions from the Virtual International Conference on the Armed Conflict in the Southern Cameroons as well as CDN's goals.

### **About the Coalition for Dialogue and Negotiations**

The Coalition for Dialogue and Negotiations (CDN) is an international professional non-governmental organization of Southern Cameroonians whose aim is to facilitate dialogue and negotiations to end the armed conflict in the former British Trust Territory of the Southern Cameroons.

Contact: Kindly send all inquiries to Rick Ferreira, Executive Director at [Rick.Ferreira@coalitionfdn.org](mailto:Rick.Ferreira@coalitionfdn.org)

## **Cameroon Government Orders Investigation After Bus Crashes Kill 39**

By Moki Edwin Kindzeka | December 28, 2020

Scores of Cameroonians have been visiting mortuaries to identify and collect the bodies of relatives who perished in two bus crashes Sunday that left 39 people dead between the capital Yaoundé and the western commercial city of Bafoussam. Paul Atanga Nji, Cameroon minister of territorial administration who was sent to the scene by President Paul Biya, described what he found. Nji said the first accident occurred at 3 a.m. Sunday when a 70-seat bus from the western towns of Fouban and Bafoussam crashed on the Nemale bridge near the town of Makenene. The bus landed in a 30-meter-deep dry riverbed. The second occurred when another bus hit civilians and rescue workers who were helping victims of the first accident. Cameroon transport minister Jean Ernest Messina Ngale Bibehe was also sent to the scene by Biya. He said the government has ordered investigations on the causes of the accidents. Bibehe said it was a black Sunday in Cameroon as so many lives were lost in less than 24 hours. He said the government took all necessary measures to avoid road accidents during this end of year period when many people are traveling by warning drivers against excessive speed. He said unfortunately, some drivers disrespect the driving code especially on roads where there are no police officers who can charge the drivers for misconduct.

