

UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

T/PET.5/684/Add.1
12 September 1955
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

PETITION FROM LOCAL COMMITTEE OF THE "UNION DES POPULATIONS
DU CAMEROUN" OF SEVEN-DJONGO I CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER
FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

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Store Post Office Box No. 29
Marché
Douala/

Union des populations du Cameroun
UPC; petition
Executive Board of the Seven-Djongo I
Local Committee

To the Secretary-General of the
United Nations,
New York.

Sir,

We, sheep without a shepherd in a United Nations Trust Territory which is not a French colony, again wish to call your attention to the misery, bloodshed and slaughters which we suffer at the hands of French Colonialists in the Cameroons, who perpetrate merciless crimes against a defenceless people.

On 27 May 1951, at Loum, in the Mounjo Region, one of our members was killed and several wounded in an attack against our progressive movement, which is the only national movement in the country that has continued uninterruptedly until now.

1/ Note by the Secretariat: This communication was sent from Victoria, Cameroons under British Administration.

In May 1955, the Cameroons endured a slaughter organized by the Governor, colonialist plenipotentiary Roland Pré, and his master Mr. Teitgen.

On 24 April 1955, many persons were wounded at Bafoussam while attending a private conference. Several huts were pillaged and a Renault motorcar confiscated by the French colonialists in the Subdivision.

On 13 May, at Douala, some of our members were present at the palace of injustice, called the Palace of Justice, during the hearing of a summons against our leaders, including Chairman Moumie Felix Roland and others. Organized troops in a show of force, arrested innocent Cameroonians, several of whom were wounded; 73 were detained, including 37 mothers who were held 24 hours.

There were also numerous arrests at Banga on 18 May, when some persons had to be removed to Douala hospital.

Between 22 and 26 May, the slaughter was intensified and armed troops roamed the entire Cameroons; some had even come from places outside, such as Bouar, Brazzaville, Yaoundé, Libreville, the Gaboon etc.

There was firing, many people were killed throughout the Territory, many were deported or imprisoned and a group of firemen threw corpses into the Wouri river.

Since that date, all the outgoing and incoming correspondence of the UPC, JDC and UDEFEC has been intercepted. Most of our supporters have been imprisoned and the others deported, sometimes even out of the Cameroons. Throughout the Bamileké area, in every Subdivision and village, houses and huts are freely ransacked by the French colonialist authorities, who remove the domestic animals.

The United Nations Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Atlantic Charter mean nothing to the French authorities in a country under United Nations Trusteeship.

We demand: A High Commissioner who will remain with us until a provisional Government is formed in conformity with the joint proclamation of 22 April 1955.

We are in favour of: The immediate unification and independence of our country.

We want: The immediate reconstruction of our UPC headquarters destroyed by fire;

The revocation of the arrest warrants issued against the leaders and officers of our movement;

and: The release of our deported or imprisoned comrades.

Please take the necessary measures to assist your petitioners early this year, as all the hirelings in the Cameroons have been invited to France for festivities celebrating their good work in the slaughter let loose on the Cameroons by Aujoulat, his flunkey Roland Pré, and by the Catholic church in our country. The hirelings are presented in France as Cameroonian notables, although no Cameroonian knows their movements.

While this is happening, the cheap rags which they call the Cameroonian press clamour for the dissolution of the UPC, JDC, UDEFEC and the Cameroonian Women's League.

The Executive Board

(Signed) Tendjou Josué
(Chairman)

(Signed) Tchatchuent Cyrille
(Vice-Chairman)

(Signed) Tchuenté Silas
(Secretary)

Our best fraternal greetings.
