

UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL

DOCUMENTS
INDEX UNIT

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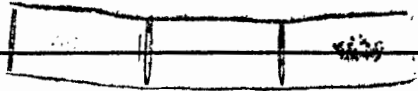
18 APR 1952

GENERAL

T/PET.4/82
16 April 1952

49

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH



PETITION FROM MR. MARTIN ASONGWED AND OTHERS, BAMENDA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER BRITISH ADMINISTRATION

Note by the Secretary-General: In accordance with rule 85 and supplementary rule F of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the members of the Trusteeship Council and to the Government of Italy as the Administering Authority of the Trust Territory of Scmaliland, a cablegram dated 8 March 1952 from Mr. Martin Asongwed and others, Bamenda Improvement Association concerning the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under British administration.

COPY

FROM BAMBENDA
SENT 8 MAR 1952
RECD 9 MAR 1952

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

LAKE SUCCESS NY

HAVING FAILED TO OBTAIN JUSTICE BY PETITIONS ETC TO RECOVER OUR GOD GIVEN LAND ACQUIRED BY BALI PEOPLE THROUGH INFLUENCE OF EX GERMAN AND BRITISH IMPERIAL GOVTS WE WERE ADVISED TO TAKE COURT ACTION X SUPREME COURT 23RD ULTIMO WHICH SAT HERE OPENED WITH OUR CASE X JUDGE DECIDED CASE NONSUITED THAT WE SHOULD HAVE OBTAINED TITLE TO THE LAND FROM GOVERNOR BEFORE BRINGING CASE BEFORE HIS COURT AND AWARDED 150 GUINEAS COSTS TO DEFOLTS X SAME DAY OVER FIFTY WOMEN DEMONSTRATED BEFORE JUDGE DEMANDING PERMISSION TO FARM ON THE LAND OR RESTRAIN BOTH PARTIES UNTIL CASE WAS SETTLED X WOMEN DEMONSTRATION CONTINUED NEXT MORNING JUDGE DIRECTED WOMEN TO EXECUTIVE WHO KEPT SPEAKING TO THEM X JUDGE INSTEAD CONSIDERING ISSUE DISAPPEARED BAMBENDA UNDER POLICE ESCORT X TWO DAYS AFTER EXECUTIVE P.P.GREY ADDRESSED LETTERS TO OUR COURTS AND COUNCILS RESTRAINING US FROM USING THE LAND X WE REGARDED JUDGES ATTITUDE AND EXECUTIVES LETTERS AS A CONTINUATION OF THE BAD POLICY OF EX GERMAN AND BRITISH GOVTS WHICH CONTRIBUTED TO DEFOLTS ACQUIRING OUR LAND UNDER BAD METHOD AND COUPLED WITH DEFOLTS OPEN INSULTS IN MARKETS PRIDE GUN FIRE DANCES REJOICING AFTER JUDGES DECISION WE WERE PROVOKED DELCARE DIVIL WAR AGAINST DEFOLTS 3RD INST BEING THREATENED BY FAMINE WE OBSERVE THAT FREQUENT FIGHTING AND DISORDERS IN BAMBENDA ARE DUE TO BAD RULERS AND BAD ADMINISTRATIONX RESIDENTS S C S RESPONDED BY DETACHMENT OF OVER 100 CONSTABLES X SHOULD THEY OPEN FIRE TO OUR PEOPLE INSTEAD OF SOLVING PROBLEM JUSTLY AND RESTORE PEACE THE WAR WILL BE INTENSIFIED X WE PROTEST AGAINST RESIDENTS REMOVING OUR TWO CHIEFS FROM HOSPITAL ADMITTED BEFORE HOSTILITIES X WE DEMAND SIX HOURLY DAILY REPORTS BY RESIDENTS OF FIGHTING TO GOVERNOR AND PRESS THROUGHOUT NIGERIA ENDS COPY THIS CABLE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL LAKE SUCCESS COLONIAL SECRETARY LONDON LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR ENUGU COMMISSIONER CAMEROONS BUEA GEORGE FADMORE LONDON FOR PUBLICITY

MARTIN ASCNGWED PRESIDENT BAMBENDA

IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION AND OTHERS