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## PETITIONS CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER UNITED KINGDOM ADMINISTRATION

### Observations of the Government of the United Kingdom as Administering Authority

#### Section:

#### Page:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Petition from Mr. Paul Fidele Takala (T/PET.4/177/Add.1) . . . . .   | 1 |
| 2. Petition from Mrs. Marguerite Madefo (T/PET.4 and 5/46) . . . . .  | 2 |
| 3. Petition from Mrs. Rachel Ndambouen (T/PET.4 and 5/47) . . . . .   | 2 |
| 4. Petitions from Mr. Prosper Djete (T/PET.4 and 5/45),<br>Mr. Robert Kamto (T/PET.4 and 5/48) and Mrs. Pauline<br>Djoun (T/PET.4 and 5/49) . . . . . | 2 |

#### 1. Petition from Mr. Paul Fidele Takala (T/PET.4/177/Add.1)

1. No persons have been killed as a result of political unrest in the British Cameroons.

2. The premises occupied by David Chinda were searched by the Police on 27 January 1959, in execution of a warrant issued by the Magistrate, Kumba. Certain publications, the possession of which constitutes an offence under the Criminal Code, were found and David Chinda was arrested and charged with being in unlawful possession of these documents. He was admitted to bail and was subsequently tried by the Chief Magistrate. He was acquitted on a technical legal point relating to possession, but as the publications, which had been tendered in evidence, were prohibited imports, the Court ordered that they be confiscated. The fact that the accused was acquitted did not entitle him to receive back documents which it is an offence to possess.

2. Petition from Mrs. Margerite Madefo (T/PET.4 and 5/46)

It is not true that "the entire British police force" went to Santa on 8 July. A small force did go to this area on that date to investigate a report that a quantity of arms and ammunition was stored in this area. These investigations were carried out by the Nigeria Police alone and not in conjunction with the Police of the former Trust Territory of the Cameroons under French administration and after they had completed their investigations they left the area.

3. Petition from Mrs. Rachel Ndambouen (T/PET.4 and 5/47)

1. No persons have been arrested in the British Cameroons and handed over to the French Authorities for execution or for trial, nor, except for temporary reinforcements to deal with specific occasions such as elections, has there been any increase in the strength of the police stations in the British Cameroons.

2. The reference in the petition to arrests in the British Cameroons appears to concern events on which observations have already been made by the Administering Authority in its observations on petition T/PET.4 and 5/24/Add.1 (T/OBS.4 and 5/31).

4. Petitions from Mr. Prosper Djete (T/PET.4 and 5/45), Mr. Robert Kamto (T/PET.4 and 5/48) and Mrs. Pauline Djoum (T/PET.4 and 5/49)

1. The only points in these petitions that concern the Cameroons under British administration are the allegations about the activities of the police at Baligham and at Santa.

2. The allegations concerning Baligham presumably refer to a visit of a party of police to that area on 8 July 1959, to investigate a report that firearms were illegally concealed there. No houses or other property were destroyed and only three people were detained, two of whom were released the same day after interrogation and the third was charged with a minor criminal offence. He was later acquitted and discharged.

3. On 13 July, some 50 police visited the Santa area to investigate similar reports; thirteen persons were detained but all were released the same day after interrogation, with the exception of two who were subsequently deported under the provisions of the Aliens Ordinance.