



UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL



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COMMUNICATION FROM THE "COORDINATION DES INDEPENDANTS CAMEROUNAIS" (INDECAM) CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,
Coordination des Independants Camerounais (INDECAM)
P.O. Box 5063, Douala
No. 300

LETTER OF CONGRATULATION
to Mr. TEITGEN, Minister for OVERSEAS FRANCE
Rue Audinot, Paris

(To the Trusteeship Council for information)

Sir,

It was with the greatest joy that we learned of the dissolution of the
Union des Populations du Cameroun (U.P.C.) by the decree enacted by the
Council of Ministers on 13 July 1955.

We are so happy that we can find no words to express our satisfaction
on this score.

We express our deep thanks and congratulations to High Commissioner
Roland PRE, to you and to the Council of Ministers.

We Cameroonian Independents and peasants are continuing the struggle not
only to rebuff the communist invasion, but also and above all to promote the
development of our country. Although we oppose the utopian claims and
violent measures of the extremists, that does not mean that we are against
the gradual development of our dear Cameroons.

The Coordination des Independants Camerounais will continue to act within
the framework of its programme, the aims of which are:

to carry on all kinds of publicity as permitted by the legislation
in force in order to combat all factions attempting to undermine the peace
of the country and its relations with the Administering Authority;

to combat any interference by foreign political circles and subversive elements;

to safeguard the interests of the Cameroonian people;

to help to achieve real social progress and thereby promote, in co-operation with our Assemblies and the Government of the Administering Power, the achievement of a greater measure of self-government within the framework of the French Union;

to campaign accordingly for the establishment of all the institutions and the introduction of all the conditions necessary for the maintenance and development of political freedom and economic social welfare;

lastly, to combat all forms of racial discrimination and all kinds of tyranny.

On the basis of this programme, a list of reasonable requests was submitted in December 1953 to Mr. JACQUINOT, then Minister for Overseas France, by a delegation of three persons. Some of these requests, such as the establishment of a number of administrative sectors in the Cameroons, have already been met. These administrative sectors will be headed by Cameroonians. We are grateful to the French Government for this. Other requests included in this list, such as the construction of a permanent bridge over the Sanaga between the villages of Sagbayeme and Song-Mbenguek, appear to have been forgotten. We very respectfully request the French Government, which has the Trusteeship of the Cameroons, to give the matter some thought. We realize that all these things cannot be done at once, but we would point out that the small provinces of the Cameroons such as the Babimbi, Foubot and Moloundou Subdivisions, are dissatisfied that only the large towns of Douala, Yaoundé and Nkong-Samba should enjoy extensive advantages in the Territory.

Lastly, we would point out to the Minister that no political party in Overseas Territories can work effectively without the co-operation of one of the four large parties in the Metropolitan country. The U.P.C. has been able to extend its communist activities in the Territory because it has been financed by Moscow through the French Communist Party. If the

rest of us fail to carry through our programme, it will be because we lack material and financial assistance.

Our demands are not unreasonable. Nor are we in the pay of any nation. We need hardly say that we are working for the happy future of our country. We feel, however, we should draw the Administering Authority's attention, at the appropriate moment, to the measures needed if our programme is to be carried out.

In the hope that this letter will be taken into consideration,

We have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) EKOUM Bienvenu
For the General Secretary
The Executive Committee
Douala, 20 July 1955
