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COMMUNICATION FROM THE NATIONAL SECRETARIAT OF ONE
KAMERUN CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER UNITED KINGDOM
ADMINISTRATION

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ONE KAMERUN (O.K.)
NATIONAL SECRETARIAT

No. 576/OK.

P.O. Box 49 KUMBA,
SOUTHERN CAMEROONS.

12 December 1959

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
LONDON.

AN OPEN LETTER

Sir,

FRANCO-BRITISH ACTS OF ATROCITIES IN THE KAMERUN

We humbly wish to draw your attention to the awful victimization of democracy which is sweeping through the length and breadth of the Caméroons, chiefly centred in Kumba. We of the O.K. believe in the principles of democracy and urge that same should apply to every field of our purpose.

The atmosphere today in the Kamerun Sir, is one in which British Local Authorities are working in collaboration with the French "Exploitation Brigade" to suppress and extricate all supporters of the genuine aspirations of the Kamerunian people, mostly of the Nationalist Movement, the One Kamerun Party.

As the Universal Declaration of Human rights has it;

(A) No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest detention and exile.

(B) Everyone is entitled in full equality to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal in the determination of his rights and obligations and of any criminal charge against him.

(C) Everyone has the right to seek and enjoy in other countries asylum from political persecution.

These Sir, among other things are the inalienable rights of everybody who has not come from the moon.

The secret trust of which Britain and United Nations are parties to the Trusteeship Agreement with which we are conversant makes no provision for entry into this Territory by foreign massacrings forces. But Sir, in the particular case of the Southern Cameroons, we are embarrassed by the night stealing in of French "Exploitation" forces by British Local Authorities for massive arrests in execution of Kamerun patriots.

This is our case:

Since the decision of the UNO on the questions at and time of the opening Plebiscite, British Local Authorities and Nigerians forces merging with French forces have preyed upon Kamerun patriots like wounded lions, purposely to intimidate and frustrate the free wishes of the Kamerunian people.

Among other subversive activities, mass arrests were conducted on the 18th of November 1959, in the Quarters of Ebonji near Tombel, led by Nigerian Elements of the C.I. Branch. Among the victims mostly Nationalists who were searched and found in possession of nothing illegal yet detained, was Mr. Aloycious Nkamdem and family of French Cameroons origin who has been in the British Sector of the Kamerun for 35 years. The search bore much relationship to victimisation than protection, and Mr. Nkamdem was not released before a Delegation of One Kamerun Party discussed the grave situation with the Premier of the Southern Cameroons and higher Officials of the Nigerian police force.

On December, 5th 1959, a joint force mounted by 2 Expatriat Officials of the Nigeria police force, one Expatriat Official of the French "Exploitation Brigade", Nigerians Elements of the C.I. Branch, uniform Officials of the Nigerian police force and several Officials of the "Exploitation Brigade" led by their hired informants wearing masks, after raiding the town of Laduma entered Kumba at about 3.30 AM captured the Secretary of the One Kamerun Party Nouwou Daniel by name who had nothing illegal in his possession, and has his wife who was in the family way severely beaten and wounded. The scars are visible. Our Secretary who has one life and one life only, failed to defend it in keeping with the One Kamerun Party policy of NONE VIOLENCE, thereby successfully defeating secret

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plans by British Local Authorities who steal in French Officials of the "Exploitation Brigade" by night, to excite violence in the Southern Cameroons.

With these occasions which I have advanced, every right thinking member of the British Common Wealth of Nations will try to discover whether these diabolical acts are in keeping with British Tradition and whether in fact Her Gracious Majesty the Queen of England and head of the British Common Wealth of Nations is aware of the fact that Her protected persons are atrociously treated thus.

Much has been said and debated in higher circles about certain people listed as prohibited immigrants by the Governor General of Nigeria in accordance with Nigerian Legislation. In the interest of peace and security of the entire Kamerun Nation, and in order to protect our defendless Party supporter's who time and again are innocently distorted in and out the cell, the One Kamerun Party prays through your good Office Sir, to Her Majesty's Government for a copy of the said list, to help us ascertain your Office and our Party affiliates, since we are sure that the list has been maliciously prepared by position seeking informants of the C.I. Branch and does not indicate persons actually existing in the Southern Cameroons.

In the interest of Her Majesty's Government's reputation, and in fact, to maintain the prestige of British Justice which we have upheld for the past many years, the One Kamerun Party is calling on your good Office Sir, to take immediate step to remedy the grave situation in the Kamerun before an Incident like the Nyassaland crisis is the result of these subversive activities to bend British heads in lasting shame/-

(1) The right of French Authorities to conduct night arrests in the British Sector of the Kamerun, we do not know.

(2) The right of members of Nigeria police force to beat and wound a woman in the family way, we do not know.

(3) Whether the Kamerunian people have a right to existence and self determination, we do not know.

(4) Whether Britain's clam for protecting the Cameroons is genuine, we do not know.

These diabolical activities are sufficient excitement to a breach of the peace, but for the fact that our Party which is led by determined men of

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constructive intelligence shuns violence, "Ipso Facto", we have chosen to approach your good Office constitutionally.

Now, on the threshold of our National Independence, the One Kamerun Party feels it will be detrimental if British and Nigerian Administrators injure the relationship which will live to bring lasting benefits to the people of Kamerun and Great Britain, while we still maintain however, that democracy has not fulfilled its purposes, and thus, have filed this very vital protest through you Sir, with a view that Her Majesty's Government would avoid all controversial issues be labelled against the people we duely represent.

We remain,

Sir,

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.)(Illegible)

General Secretary. J.T. LAWONG.

For and on behalf the O.K. Office.

Copies to:

THE GOV.CTN.FFD.OF NIGERIA LAGOS.

THE COMMISSIONER S. CAMEROONS BUEA.

THE PREMIER S. CAMEROONS ---i---

" LEADER OF OPPOSITION S.CAMEROONS

" COMMISSIONER OF POLICE S.CAMEROONS.

" LEADER OF OPPOSITION LONDON.

BOB EDWARD ESQ.HOUSE OF COMMONS LONDON

JOHN DUGDALE ESQ.HOUSE OF COMMONS LONDON.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL UNO NEW YORK.

THE PRIME MINISTER, GHANA.

THE PRIME MINISTER GUINEA.

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