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COMMUNICATION FROM THE "UNION DES POPULATIONS DU CAMEROUN,  
COMITES DE BASE DE MOMBO ET NDJOUNGO" CONCERNING THE  
CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

(Circulated in accordance with rule 24 and supplementary rule F of  
the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council)

UNION DES POPULATIONS DU CAMEROUN

Cameroonian branch of the Rassemblement Démocratique Africain

Comités de Base of Mombo and Ndjoungo

MOTION

The Mombo and Ndjoungo Committees of the U.P.C., meeting in general assembly at Ndjoungo on 17 June 1954, on the occasion of the visit of the Secretary-General of the Ruben UM NYOBE Movement and its Vice-President Abel KINGUE, having heard the grievances presented by their members,

Protest against the plant inventory which the local administration has forced upon the indigenous planters. The Mombo and Ndjoungo Committees of the U.P.C. point out that such an inventory can only lead to an improper increase in taxes and all kinds of political pressure. It is common knowledge that following the administrative censuses of the Mungo Region cards were made out containing information about the political and trade union affiliations of those covered by the census. It is also common knowledge that through such interference in the political life of individuals the French authorities manage to prevent the registration of persons on electoral rolls and the distribution of voters' cards, a procedure which is ultimately intended to deprive good Cameroonians of the franchise and consequently to contribute to the defeat of the anti-colonial candidates.

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In Pa Dibombari, a village of the Mungo Region (M'Banga Subdivision), officials of the administration have already arbitrarily arrested patriotic supporters of the unification and independence of the Cameroons, seized and torn up their 1953 tax cards, and forced them to pay 1954 taxes at a higher rate, without allowing their financial and family status to be examined by a qualified authority.

The object of the plant inventory which is now being forced on the indigenous planters alone can only be an improper increase in taxes. Yet in the interests of the planters, agricultural machinery and chemical products should be furnished by the so-called Société Africaine de Prévoyance (African Provident Society) which has done so much to ruin Cameroonian taxpayers without providing any concrete benefits in return.

The Mombo and Ndjoungo Committees of the U.P.C. therefore request the Chief of the Mungo Region:

- (1) To abolish entirely the plant inventory undertaken by administrative officials which does not apply to European planters of the region who own enormous plantations.
- (2) To take all necessary steps to establish centres for the treatment and processing of agricultural products, including the installation of machinery and the provision of chemical products with funds advanced by the "Société de Prévoyance" and with credit from the Investment Fund for Economic and Social Development (FIDES). These measures to encourage the economic advancement of the indigenous inhabitants should not be subordinated to the present plant inventory which applies only to indigenous planters and which constitutes a new form of racial discrimination by the Administration.

The Mombo and Ndjoungo Committees of the U.P.C., convinced that they express the views of the vast majority, if not all, of the indigenous planters of the Mungo Region, call upon these planters to rally to the ranks of the Union des Populations du Cameroun, the only political movement which expresses the real aspirations of the Cameroonian people.

NDJOUNGO, 17 June 1954.

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