

UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



Distr.
LIMITED

T/COM.7/L.41
4 December 1956
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

COMMUNICATION FROM Mr. ALOYS SOKPOLI CONCERNING
TOGOLAND UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

(Circulated in accordance with rule 24 of the rules
of procedure of the Trusteeship Council)

Aloys Sokpoli,
Mechanic at the S.C.O.A.,
Atakpamé (Togoland under French Administration)
To the Secretary-General of the United Nations, New York
Sir,

I have the great honour to acknowledge the receipt of document T/PET.7/483, dated 24 April 1956, together with the resolution adopted by the Trusteeship Council concerning my petition, as well as the records of the open meetings at which my case was examined.

Since the reasons given by the Administering Authority for taking away my gun are false, I am obliged to bring to your attention the following details.

The representative of France declared, for example, that the guns belonging to certain persons were confiscated not because those persons belonged to one political party or another, but because they had a reputation for violence. In my case the Special Representative even referred to political disturbances in which I was supposed to have been implicated.

Sir, these two statements are totally unfounded, not to say mendacious. On the first point, I can state without the slightest risk of error that only members of the Comité de l'Unité Togolaise were deprived of their guns. This occurred not only at Atakpamé but throughout the Territory. From my locality alone I can cite the following names:

/...

Peter Nyadam (employee of the U.A.C.), CUT
Antoine Gadegbeku (employee at the S.C.O.A.), CUT
Henri Gadegbeku (Warehouseman at the S.C.O.A.), CUT
Chief Abdou Guedo (General Chairman of the CUT), Akposso
Emmanuel Daboni (catechist, Catholic Mission)
Sonokpon (Chairman of CUT at Sada), CUT
Essor Gblao (agricultural agent), CUT
Nikoé Bijoutier (CUT)
Gabriel Adélé (planter), CUT

I do not know whether the Administering Authority has given you the names of members of the administration party, the Parti Togolais du Progres, whose guns were taken away from them. In my humble opinion, this should be of great interest. I, for my part, can further assure you that not only were the members of the Parti Togolais du Progrès allowed to retain their guns, but many new permits for carrying firearms were distributed among them during this period. The following is a list of certain recent holders of firearms, with the numbers of their permits, in the circonscription of Atakpamé alone:

- No. 156 of 5/6/56 Gnamah Kodjoko (PTP)
- No. 63 of 3/5/56 Etché Lanté (PTP)
- No. 26 of 23/3/56 Nayo Chef (PTP)
- No. 15 of 30/1/56 Ogouladja Sagna (PTP)
- No. 14 of 28/1/56 Djongbousou Kango (PTP)
- No. 317 of 12/12/55 Ouéléddji (PTP)
- No. 110 of 5/8/55 Kékéh Ernest (PTP)
- No. 111 of 5/8/55 Abalo Andu (PTP)
- No. 108 of 5/8/55 Baouli Cabrais (PTP)
- No. 96 of 3/3/54 Assiki Yao (PTP)
- No. 93 of 3/3/54 Essotom Adilé (PTP)
- No. 91 of 3/3/55 54 - Assidenu Kofi (PTP)
- No. 88 of 3/3/54 Ignedoulou Kogo (PTP)

/...

No. 250 of 17/8/53 Tébré Kouloné (local policeman, garde de cercle)

No. 304 of 1/10/53 Badje Mayo (PTP)

No. 156 of 5/6/53 Kombégué Lamboni (PTP)

No. 160 of 5/6/53 Agbanzo Agbéméti (PTP) etc. etc. etc....

The foregoing list does not include the leaders of the Parti Togolais du Progrès, who have been likewise provided for recently, such as:

Alex Agbodjan, Vice-Chairman of the PTP

Benoit Mereira, Chairman, Jeunesse du Progrès

Eloi Nagbé, Deputy Mayor

Albert Agboton, Head Clerk of the Cercle and Advisor to the Progrès party

Sylvain Fantognon, Administrative Chief (PTP)

Kossi Doni, Administrative Chief of canton (PTP)

Nayo, Chief of canton of Woudou (PTP)

Furthermore, the representative of France has given the impression that we were compensated for the cost of our firearms. As proof that this is not true, I still hold the licence which was issued to me and all the administration documents concerning my gun.

I beg you, Sir, kindly to transmit this petition to the Fourth Committee so that my case may be re-examined and I may receive either the return of my gun or reimbursement for its cost, which the representative of France said I had already received when he spoke before the Trusteeship Council when it dealt with the matter.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) Illegible
