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PETITIONS CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY OF
THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

Draft Report of the Standing Committee on Petitions

Acting Chairman: Mr. Salah Eddine Tarazi (Syria)

Table of Contents

Note by the Secretariat: In order to avoid unnecessary duplication of material which has been already circulated in mimeographed form, the present draft report contains only the material to be added to that contained in the Secretariat working papers (T/C.2/L.122, section IV, T/C.2/L.153, sections I and II, T/C.2/L.160, section II and III, and T/C.2/L.164, sections III to VII) and the draft resolutions. The original material should be considered as forming part of the draft, except where otherwise indicated.]

1. At its , and meetings on and 1955, the Standing Committee on Petitions, composed of the representatives of Australia, France, India, Syria, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and the United States of America, examined the petitions concerning the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under French administration which are listed in the preceding table of contents.
2. M. de Camaret and M.R. Doise participated in the examination as the representatives of the Administering Authority concerned.
3. The Standing Committee submits herewith to the Council its report on these petitions and recommends, in accordance with rule 90, paragraph 6 of the Council's rules of procedure, that the Council decide that no special information is required concerning the action taken on resolutions

I. Petition from Mr. Theodore Mayi Matip (T/PET.5/276)

(In the second line of paragraph 3, replace "Société Nationale du Cameroun" by Urban Centre of Eséka. Delete the sentence in parentheses.)

5. In its observations (T/OBS.5/50, section 1), the Administering Authority gives an account of the circumstances surrounding the classification of the urban centre of Eséka and explains that it has already given an account of the concession of land to the Société des Bois du Cameroun in connexion with an earlier petition (T/PET.5/277) on which the Council adopted resolution 1171 (XV).

6. The Administering Authority goes on to explain that as the two communities concerned were unable to agree on the way in which the two indemnities of one million francs granted by the Territorial Assembly should be divided, they took their dispute concerning the extension of their customary rights to the courts. After the two judgments of 24 April 1953 by the Court of Second Degree of Edéa were quashed by the Special Ratification Chamber (Chambre spéciale d'homologation), the case came before the same court again, which, by judgments Nos. 55 and 56 of 25 March 1954, rejected the claims of the two communities for recognition of their title to a 19.95 hectare plot of land, fixed the demarcation line between the plots to which the customary rights of the two communities had been recognized and specified that the occupation rights enjoyed by non-members of the communities on the date of the judgment remained valid. Following an appeal by the Log Ngoug community, the Special Ratification Chamber confirmed these judgments by Orders Nos. 4 and 5 of 18 January 1955.

7. The Administering Authority also provides details of the concession to the Société Nationale du Cameroun, showing that the land in question had been in the public domain of the Territory before the concession was made in 1930.

8. The Administering Authority finally states that the hut, the destruction of which is complained of in the petition, had been built on land claimed by Paramount Chief Henri Matip, the petitioner's uncle, without his permission. Since his nephew refused to tear down the hut, Mr. Matip destroyed it on 25 May 1954. The petitioner instituted legal proceedings in January 1955, after he had sent his petition and eight months after the incident. A judicial inquiry is now in progress.

9. The petition was examined and discussed at the 274th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.274 and).
10. At its meeting, the Committee adopted by votes to with abstention draft resolution I, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

I. Petition from Mr. Theodore Mayi Matip (T/PET.5/276)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Theodore Mayi Matip concerning the Cameroons under French administration in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/276, T/OBS.5/50, T/L.).

1. Draws the attention of the petitioner to the observations of the Administering Authority;
2. Notes that, with respect to the distribution of the indemnities granted by the Territorial Assembly, the communities concerned took their dispute before the competent courts of the Territory, which have passed judgment thereon;
3. Notes further that with respect to the destruction of the building that the petitioner instituted legal proceedings in January 1955 and that a judicial inquiry is now in progress.

II. Petitions relating to the airfield at Douala (T/PET.5/312, T/PET.5/321, T/PET.5/326, T/PET.5/329, T/PET.5/360 and T/PET.5/421)

9. The petition was examined and discussed at the 245th, 275th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.245, 275 and).
10. The representative of France informed the Committee that his Government had decided not to purchase the airfield at Douala but to lease it for a period of 99 years. This proposal is at present before the Territorial Assembly at its current session. He stated that under present plans, rental for the land will be paid before-hand, and that no service taxes will be levied on the airfield. The Territory will receive certain important payments amounting to approximately 500,000 francs CFA per annum. He stated further that the amount of compensation for the land bought for the enlargement of the field is 60 million francs CFA, and he pointed out that this amount had not yet been paid due to a disagreement among those concerned over the distribution to the groups and individuals involved.
11. At its meeting, the Committee adopted by votes to with abstention draft resolution II, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

II. Petitions relating to the airfield at Douala (T/PET.5/312, T/PET.5/321, T/PET.5/326, T/PET.5/329, T/PET.5/360 and T/PET.5/421)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petitions relating to the airfield at Douala listed in the annex to this resolution concerning the Cameroons under French administration in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/OBS.5/42, T/L.).

1. Draws the attention of the petitioner to the observations of the Administering Authority and to the statement of its representative;
2. Notes the fact that at the present time the Government of France does not intend to buy the land in question, but intends to lease it for a period of 99 years.

ANNEX

- Petition from various Branches of the UPC at Loum-Chantiers (T/PET.5/312)
- Petition from the Chairman of the Committee of the UPC at Loum (T/PET.5/321)
- Petition from the Committee of the UPC of Bangui-Chari (T/PET.5/326)
- Petition from the Central Committee of the UPC of Bakoum (T/PET.5/329)
- Petition from the Central Committee of the UPC of Melong I (T/PET.5/360)
- Petition from the Committee of the UPC of New Bell Centre (T/PET.5/421)

III. Petition from the "Comité central démocratique 'Lepité' du Groupement de Bafou-Fondong" (T/PET.5/331)

6. The petition was examined and discussed at the 245th, 246th, 275th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.245, 246, 275 and).
7. At its meeting, the Committee adopted by votes to with abstention draft resolution III, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

III. Petition from the "Comité central démocratique 'Lepité' du Groupement de Bafou-Fondong" (T/PET.5/331)

The Trusteeship Council;

Having examined the petition from the "Comité central démocratique 'Lepité' du Groupement de Bafou-Fondong" concerning the Cameroons under French administration in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/331, T/OBS.5/44, T/L.).

Recalling in this connexion the terms of resolution 941 (XIII) of the Trusteeship Council;

1. Notes that further consultations have been carried out and that an early agreement is hoped for in this matter;
2. Expresses the hope that a conciliatory approach by all parties will facilitate the solution of this problem along the lines previously recommended by the Council in its resolution 941 (XIII).

IV. Petition from Mr. Jean Mambou (T/PET.5/313)

8. The petition was examined and discussed at the 248th, 275th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.248, 275 and).

9. The representative of France stated that the land owned by the 4,000 inhabitants of Bansa amounted to 87 square kilometers of which only 70 hectares were in dispute and concerning which the competent court had rendered a decision. He added that there was ample land available to the inhabitants of the area and denied that inhabitants of the Cameroons had died of hunger or malnutrition. He stated that over a period of two years a total of 41 deaths were recorded in the area in question, a number which is considered normal for the total population in the area.

10. At its meeting, the Committee adopted by votes to with abstention draft resolution IV, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

IV. Petition from Mr. Jean Mambou (T/PET.5/313)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Jean Mambou concerning the Cameroons under French administration in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/313, T/OBS.5/49, T/L.):

Draws the attention of the petitioner to the observations of the Administering Authority and to the statement of its representative, in particular that

(a) the question has been adjudicated by the competent courts in the Territory and although the judgment rendered on 18 June 1953 by the Court of the Second Degree at Dschang was open to appeal, no such appeal was lodged; and

(b) the land available for cultivation in the vicinity is ample to assure the subsistence of the people who inhabit it.

V. Petitions relating to sinking of the Sakbayémé ferry and to other incidents in the Songbengué area (T/PEI.5/322 and Add.1, 348, 376, 441*, 471*, 477, 484, 491, 508, 518*, 525*, 534, 535, 536, 537*, 538*, 539, 540)

17. In its observations on this complaint^{1/} the Administering Authority stated that in a conflict between the staff and the management of a private hospital managed by a religious mission it could play only the part of an arbitrator, in particular through the Labour Inspectorate. The Administering Authority explains that the private hospital of Sakbayémé (Region of Sanaga Maritime, Subdivision of Edéa) belongs to the American Protestant Mission. The staff of this establishment constitutes therefore a community which previously considered its work as a religious one. Under the pressure of trade union movements outside the hospital, the agents of which had free entry to the inside, this conception has however developed rapidly towards the demands for provisional advance on a strictly material level. It was in these circumstances, that on the occasion of the application of the labour code discussions were begun between the staff and the management in which the latter proposed to the workers that they should be granted a "special status" based on the principles of the code and approved by the headquarters of the Labour Inspectorate. This proposal was not favourably received and at the beginning of June under the external influences which have been referred to above two trade unions composed of the private staff of Sakbayémé affiliated to the U.S.C.C. (C.G.T.) were formed and after having filed their statutes presented a series of demands.

18. The Administering Authority states that these demands in the form of a 21-point petition were related particularly to the hours of work, the wage levels and the immediate construction of houses for the members of the staff and their families. While these demands were brought to the knowledge of Dr. Rheimer, doctor in charge of the hospital, threats were offered to the American staff,

^{1/} Not reproduced elsewhere in written form.

* The petitions marked with an asterisk contain in addition to the complaints dealt with in the present section, certain other complaints which have not yet been commented on by the Administering Authority. The petitions concerned have not therefore been finally disposed of.

a strike was decided upon with effect from the 12th of July and violence was used against the mechanic in charge of the lighting of the surgical block who opposed the very serious step of shutting off the generating plant.

19. The Administering Authority states that the doctors in charge called a meeting of the staff to ask it to continue to discuss the proposal for a "special status", at the same time drawing the attention of the male nurses to the critical situation of the patients if a work stoppage should occur. The male nurses, impressed by these remarks, were ready to postpone the strike but the trade union deliberately ignoring this improvement of atmosphere officially informed the head of the Labour Service that the strike would take effect on the 12th of July; the employees who hesitated were forced by threats to take a common front with the strikers.

20. The Administering Authority states that for evident reasons of humanity the management of the hospital was therefore obliged to take urgent measures:

- to send home patients not seriously ill;
- to transfer seriously ill patients to the hospitals of Ngambe and Edéa;
- to close down the facilities of the hospital for the time being.

21. The Administering Authority states that the Inter-regional Labour Inspectorat which was informed at once, could only note the situation while at the same time endeavouring by contacts with the administrative authorities and with the two parties to find compromise solutions, which would allow the hospital to be reopened. The climate subsequently became favourable for a resumption of talks aimed at a revision of working conditions and wages and the principle of a "special status" which was elaborated in a liberal spirit and subsequently adopted. The reopening of the hospital at Sakbayémé took place and the hospital has remained open since that date.

22. The Administering Authority notes that in this affair the staff appears to have been led on by certain agitators whose unreasonable conduct led to the breakdown of negotiations without regard for the needs of the public at a time when the mission was in favour of negotiations. In any case as is shown for example by document T/PET.5/508 the threatened strike which caused the closing of the hospital has been remarked upon most unfavourably by the people of the region.

23. The petition was examined and discussed at the 249th, 273rd, 274th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.249, 273, 274 and).
24. With respect to the accident to the ferry, the representatives of the Administering Authority stated that the crossing of the river Sanaga was now being carried out by means of a ferry of the same type as the one which had sunk, since technical studies had shown that it would be very difficult to construct a bridge at the site of the ferry. The question of building a bridge was still receiving consideration, but traffic crossing the river at that point did not for the time being warrant expensive works.
25. The representatives emphasized that the ferry which had capsized had been of modern design and stated that while the technical experts had been unable to find the exact cause of the disaster, the inquiry was being pursued with a view to determining whether additional safety measures should be introduced. It was not known if there had been life-saving equipment on the ferry at the time of the accident, but an assurance was given that the local Administration would pay attention to the question of providing such equipment.
26. With respect to the closing of the hospital at Sakbayémé the representative of the Administering Authority informed the Committee that the hospital had reopened three months after it had been closed. He noted that the hospital staff was protected by the provisions of the labour code which in addition required the parties to a dispute to follow a procedure of conciliation and arbitration. The trade unions concerned had presented their strike notice only two days before the strike was to take effect and too late for the Labour Inspectorate to intervene. The hospital had been closed, if not as a result of a strike itself, because the decision of the staff to go on strike made it necessary to evacuate the patients before the strike became effective.
27. At its meeting, the Committee adopted by votes to with abstentions draft resolution V, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

- V. Petitions relating to sinking of the Sakbayémé ferry and to other incidents in the Songmbengué area (T/FET.5/322 and Add.1, 348, 376, 441, 471, 477, 484, 491, 508, 518, 525, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539 and 540)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petitions relating to sinking of the Sakbayémé ferry and to other incidents in the Songmbengué area listed in the annex to this resolution concerning the Cameroons under French administration in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/OBS.5/49, T/L.).

With respect to the sinking of the ferry at Sakbayémé:

1. Draws the attention of the petitioners to the observations of the Administering Authority and to the statement of its representatives in particular that the ferry was a new and modern craft;
2. Notes that the accident is at present the subject of a special investigation on the spot and that the case lies within the jurisdiction of and is to be submitted to the competent courts of the Territory;
3. Expresses deep regret at the loss of life brought about by the accident;
4. Notes the assurance of the representative of the Administering Authority that the matter of providing life-saving equipment on ferries of this kind will be investigated;
5. Notes that assistance amounting to one million francs CFA from the Administration and the Territorial Assembly and a further 50,000 francs CFA from the Red Cross, over and above the compensation which they will receive under the accident compensation scheme, has already been paid to the families of the persons who lost their lives in the accident.

With respect to the closing of the hospital at Sakbayémé:

6. Draws the attention of the petitioners to the observations of the Administering Authority and to the statement of its representative.

ANNEX

- Petition from the Babimbi People (T/PET.5/322 and Add.1)
- Petition from Members of the Local Committee of the "Union des Populations du Cameroun" of Edéa (T/PET.5/348)
- Petition from Mr. Moise Bitogol (T/PET.5/376)
- Petition from the Local Committee of the "Union des Populations du Cameroun" of Nkonjok-Bekok (T/PET.5/441)
- Petition from Mr. Abraham Mbock (T/PET.5/471)
- Petition from the Local Committee of the "Union des Populations du Cameroun" of Nkomakondo-Babimbi (T/PET.5/477)
- Petition from Mrs. Sara Justine Tonye (T/PET.5/484)
- Petition from Mr. Jacques Nom (T/PET.5/491)
- Petition from Mr. Bekond Bingock (T/PET.5/508)
- Petition from the Local Committee of the "Union des Populations du Cameroun" of Log-Sanho (T/PET.5/518)
- Petition from the Central Committee of the "Union des Populations du Cameroun" of Mcm (T/PET.5/525)
- Petition from the Local Committee of the "Union des Populations du Cameroun" of Lokbii (T/PET.5/534)
- Petition from the Local Committee of the "Union des Populations du Cameroun" of Ngog Libii (T/PET.5/535)
- Petition from the Local Committee of the "Union des Populations du Cameroun" of Bihang (T/PET.5/536)
- Petition from the Local Committee of the "Union des Populations du Cameroun" of Song Simut (T/PET.5/537)
- Petition from the Local Committee of the "Union des Populations du Cameroun" of Sakbayémé (T/PET.5/538)
- Petition from the Central Committee of the "Union des Populations du Cameroun" of Bikok-Sakbayémé (T/PET.5/539)
- Petition from the Local Committee of the "Union des Populations du Cameroun" of Sindongui I (T/PET.5/540)

VI. Petition from the Vice-Chairman of the "Union des Populations du Cameroun"
(T/PET.5/320 and Add.1)

7. In its observations (T/OBS.5/50, section 4) the Administering Authority states that the Union des Populations du Cameroun incurs the displeasure of a large segment of the population by its attempts to foment disturbances in peaceful areas by its violent attacks and the insults it heaps upon the customary chiefs and the administrative authorities in the Territory, by the threats to which it subjects its opponents, and by its persistent claims throughout the Territory and in the United Nations that it represents the bulk of the Cameroonian population. That opposition and the UPC's perseverance in fomenting unrest provoke disputes which sometimes develop into clashes.

8. In July 1954, the UPC had to give up its plans to hold meetings at Mäikinimäki (Mbam) in view of the population's open hostility. No violent incidents occurred. On 21 August 1954, at Foumbo, supporters and opponents of the UPC clashed at a meeting held in the hut belonging to Mr. Isaac Mouchili. During the incident some furniture was wrecked and the hut was damaged. An auxiliary member of the gendarmerie put an end to the incident.

9. While an investigation is made of every incident, it is extremely difficult to reconcile the widely divergent evidence given by witnesses and plaintiffs from both sides. That explains why the judicial inquiries take so long to complete.

10. Moreover, the supporters of the UPC very often fail to comply with the regulations in force concerning the distribution and sale of pamphlets. On 14 September 1954, at Bafia, Mr. Etienne Masso, who was selling pamphlets without having purchased a hawkers licence, was requested to comply with the regulations. As soon as he provides evidence of having obtained a licence and of having paid the fee, he may recover the pamphlets now held in the regional offices. The same procedure applies in the case of a hawkers at Boumnyebel who is also charged with failure to obtain a licence.

11. Returning from the Democratic Youth Congress at Peking, which he had attended, Mr. Ernest Ouandie brought back in his luggage many pamphlets considered liable to disturb the peace and public order. As a result, the High Commissioner of the Republic issued two Orders on 1 September 1954 (Nos. 4,585 and 4,586),

prohibiting the importation into and distribution in the Territory of publication issued by the All China Democratic Women's Federation, the All China Federation of Democratic Youth (both in the People's Republic of China), and the International Students' Union (Prague). The pamphlets issued by these organizations were impounded by the customs authorities.

12. The petition was examined and discussed at the 275th, 276th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.275, 276 and).

13. At its meeting, the Committee adopted by votes to with abstention draft resolution VI, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

VI. Petition from the Vice-Chairman of the "Union des Populations du Cameroun"
(T/PET.5/320 and Add.1)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from the Vice-Chairman of the "Union des Populations du Cameroun" concerning the Cameroons under French administration in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/320 and Add.1, T/OBS.5/50, T/L.).

1. Draws the attention of the petitioner to the observations of the Administering Authority and to the statements of its representative, in particular that

(a) in accordance with its traditional policy, the Administering Authority continues to extend to minor as well as to major political parties, irrespective of the degree of disfavour in which they may stand in the eyes of the local population, the protection from unlawful interference necessary to enable them to carry out their activities;

(b) the Administering Authority reserves the exclusive right to terminate these activities, in so far as they may be unlawful, and to bring to justice those who contravene the law; and

(c) the Administering Authority guarantees to political parties absolute freedom from interference on the part of the public authorities, provided that such parties' activities are lawful;

2. Expresses the hope that the Administering Authority will ensure freedom of action of political parties of the Territory and that of the Union des populations du Cameroun in particular.

VII. Petition from Mr. Paul Toulag (T/PEF.5/323 and Add.1)

5. In its observations (T/OBS.5/50, section 5), the Administering Authority states that the petitioner refers to a very minor incident between himself and Mr. Henri Awono and presents the facts very inaccurately.
6. On 29 August 1954, an argument broke out between these two Cameroonians at Ngoulemakong. Henri Awono brought Paul Toulag before Mr. Pierre Belinga, the group chief. Seeing that both men were drunk and being unable to ascertain the facts, Mr. Belinga sent them away, telling them to return the next day. On that day, only Henri Awono reported to the chief; Paul Toulag went to Ebolowa where, on 31 August, he filed a complaint against his opponent in the gendarmerie. The chef de brigade handed him a summons to give to Henri Awono, and both men appeared before him on 2 September. The inquiry discloses that the argument broke out following a political discussion in a drinking establishment. During the altercation a bottle of petrol belonging to Paul Toulag was smashed. The chef de brigade dismissed the two men after urging them to keep the peace and pointing out that their respective complaints did not warrant any action on his part. Neither of them instituted proceedings.
7. The Administering Authority points out that Mr. Henri Awono is not in Mr. Pierre Belinga's employ. He works as a mechanic at Ngoulemakong. The petitioner failed to charge Mr. Pierre Belinga with threatening to kill him. It appears from the inquiry that no credence should be given to the statements he claims the group chief made, nor to those which he alleges were made by Adjutant Le Roch, who was then in charge of the gendarmerie brigade at Ebolowa.
8. The petition was examined and discussed at the 276th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.276 and).
9. At its meeting, the Committee adopted by votes to with abstention draft resolution VII, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

VII. Petition from Mr. Paul Toulag (T/PET.5/323 and Add.1)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Paul Toulag concerning the Cameroons under French administration in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/323 and Add.1, T/OBS.5/50, T/L.).

1. Draws the attention of the petitioner to the observations of the Administering Authority;
2. Decides that no recommendation by the Trusteeship Council is called for.

VIII. Petition from the villagers of Maboye (T/PET.5/332)

4. In its observations (T/OBS.5/51, section 2) the Administering Authority explains that the tax rates have not been changed for the year 1955. The rates in 1953 and 1954 for the personal tax (including the local tax) for the Subdivision of which the village of Maboye is part were:

	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
1st category:	3,900	4,035
2nd category:	2,600	2,690
3rd category:	1,300	1,345
4th category:	650	675

The social welfare levy, 200 francs for the third category in 1954, should be added.

5. The Administering Authority states that there is a public dispensary at Bibang, 8 km. from Maboye, reached by a trail impassable for vehicles. The Dibang-Sombo road, which has just been opened, provides communication with Edéa throughout the year. A medical station operates at Boumnyebel twice a month, when the market is held at the place, 11 km. from Maboye. The chief medical officer and the midwife from Edéa hold regular consultations at that station. There is no French Government Hospital in the Territory. All the public hospital units are owned by the Territory and administered by the Territory's Health Department. All classes have access to it. Moreover, the ever-growing number of confinements in maternity clinics proves that expectant mothers are becoming less and less reluctant to apply to these clinics for the necessary treatment.

6. The Administering Authority points out that there are 89 taxpayers in the village of Maboye, whereas the petition is signed by only 17 persons and the signatures are illegible.

7. The petition was examined and discussed at the 276th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.276 and).

8. The representative of the Administering Authority stated that there were certainly schools in the vicinity of the village in question. The policy of the Government was to carry out a considerable increase in the number of schools in the Territory in accordance with its plan for developing education.
9. At its meeting, the Committee adopted by votes to with abstention draft resolution VIII, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

VIII. Petition from the Villagers of Maboye (T/PET.5/332)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from the Villagers of Maboye concerning the Cameroons under French administration in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/332, T/OBS.5/51, T/L.).

Draws the attention of the petitioner to the observations of the Administering Authority and to the statement of the Representative of France, in particular that

- (a) with regard to taxation, personal taxes, including the local tax, have been increased in 1954 over the rate obtaining in 1953 by proportions varying between 3 and 4 per cent;
- (b) these taxes are used to finance the development of the social and economic facilities which the petitioners are seeking;
- (c) in respect of educational facilities these are already in existence in the vicinity of the petitioners and strenuous efforts are being made to increase their number in the Territory as a whole;
- (d) in respect of health facilities, stations exist at points respectively 8 and 11 kilometres distance from the village of the petitioners and equal access to these facilities is guaranteed to all persons;
- (e) in respect of damage caused by wild animals, it is the practice of the Administration to give ex gratia assistance in cases of serious damage.

IX. Petition from the Local Committee of the UPC of Mode (T/PET.5/339)

4. In its observations, (T/OBS.5/51, section 3), the Administering Authority states that the first part of the petition does not call for any special observations, as the matters therein concern the Administering Authority's general policy.
5. The Administering Authority goes on to explain that the people of Mode built a school with two classrooms of temporary materials (bamboo) without waiting for final approval by the Department of Education. There is a school with seven classrooms maintained by the American Protestant Mission at Makai, a village two kilometres from Mode on the Boumnyebel-Boutmakak highway. As the canton's needs are to a large extent satisfied by that school, it is not proposed to provide the Mode school with schoolteachers at this time, there being greater need for them elsewhere.
6. The Administering Authority states that the conditions governing the delivery of planters' cards are laid down in Order No. 760 bis of 27 November 1952. The planters' returns are checked regularly by the Department of Agriculture. As no details are given by the petitioner, the Administering Authority cannot explain in what circumstances the cards were delivered, this being what is criticized, nor can it correct any mistakes that may have been made.
7. The Administering Authority finally states Mr. Ligier held a forestry permit in the Mode region. This undertaking was shut down four years ago as a result of the difficulties placed in his way by the villagers living in the area covered by the permit. The felling permit was duly transferred to another undertaking, the Eséka Forestry Company, which thus became the owner of the trees felled and paid the felling tax on them, half of which reverts to the customary occupants of the land.
8. The petition was examined and discussed at the 276th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.276 and).
9. The representative of the Administering Authority stated that a teacher could not be provided for the school at present, but one would be provided when more urgent needs elsewhere had been met. He confirmed that the neighbouring mission school was obliged, under the educational regulations, to admit pupils without regard for their religious beliefs and that religious instructions was not compulsory there.

10. The representative explained that planters' cards, which were issued to cocoa planters with a view notably to enabling them to receive better advice and thus to produce higher-quality cocoa, did not impose any obligations on the persons receiving them.

11. The representative stated that the forestry concession had been granted to Mr. Ligier in due form and after the consent of the local inhabitants had been obtained and that it had been transferred to the Company concerned several years previously.

12. At its meeting, the Committee adopted by votes to with abstention draft resolution IX, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

IX. Petition from the "Comité de base" of the UPC of Mode (T/PET.5/339)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from the "Comité de base" of the UPC of Mode concerning the Cameroons under French Administration in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/339, T/OBS.5/51, T/L.).

1. Draws the attention of the petitioner to the observations of the Administering Authority and the statement of its representative, in particular that

(a) Subject to formal approval by the Authorities of the location and manner of construction of the building, a teacher will be provided for the school built by the inhabitants of Mode as soon as more urgent needs in other parts of the Territory have been satisfied and that meanwhile religious instruction is not in any sense obligatory in the mission school situated in the immediate vicinity of this village;

(b) No obligation attaches to the receipt of planters' cards by the villagers of Mode, and

(c) The tree-felling permit originally granted to Mr. Jean Ligier was transferred to another organization, which is continuing the extraction of saleable timber from the forest;

2. Recommends to the Administering Authority that it should arrange to send teachers to the school in question without lessening its efforts for the development of education in other parts of the Territory.

X. Petition from the "Union des Populations du Cameroun," Yaoundé (T/PET.5/355)

3. In its observations (T/OBS.5/51, section 4), the Administering Authority states that Bernard Mathimbe was sentenced to one month's imprisonment by the Yaoundé Correctional Court on 17 November 1954 for assault and battery upon an agent of the constituted authorities. He was committed to prison on 4 November 1954 and released on 4 December. The person concerned and the Public Prosecutor have appealed against the decision.

4. Mr. Siény was not sentenced or prosecuted by the local administrative authorities at any time close to the date of the petition. When passing through Mbalmayo he appeared on 2 November at the Subdivision office to ask for information about payment for a tailor's licence. He was dissatisfied with the information, created an uproar and was made to leave the office. He was threatened with prosecution and told to leave Mbalmayo and left that town on 3 November.

5. The petition was examined and discussed at the 276th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.276 and).

6. At its meeting, the Committee adopted by votes to with abstentions draft resolution X, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

X. Petition from the "Union des Populations du Cameroun", Yaoundé (T/PET.5/355)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from the "Union des Populations du Cameroun", Yaoundé, concerning the Cameroons under French administration in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/355, T/OBS.5/51, T/L.)

1. Draws the attention of the petitioner to the observations of the Administering Authority and the statements of its representative, in particular notwithstanding the allegations of the petitioners the administrative acts and/or judicial proceedings which were executed in November 1954 in respect of the two persons mentioned in the petition had no relation to the political affiliations of these persons;

2. Invites the Secretary-General to transmit to the petitioners the text of resolution (XVI)^{1/} concerning the principles which govern the attitude of the Administration towards political parties in the Territory;
3. Expresses regret that the petitioners saw fit to misrepresent the reasons for the difficulties of the persons mentioned in the petition with the public authorities.

^{1/} To be adopted on T/PET.5/320 and Add.1. See section VI above.