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PETITIONS CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORIES OF THE CAMEROONS UNDER
BRITISH ADMINISTRATION AND THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

Draft Report of the Standing Committee on Petitions

Chairman: U Paw Htin (Burma)

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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 paper (T/C.2/L.281) and the draft resolutions. The original material should be considered as forming part of the draft, except where otherwise indicated.]

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1. At its 432nd, 433rd and meetings on 10, 11 and April 1957, the Standing Committee on Petitions, composed of the representatives of Belgium, Burma, China, France, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and the United States of America examined the petitions concerning the Trust Territories of the Cameroons under British administration and the Cameroons under French administration which are listed in the preceding table of contents.
2. Messrs. X. Deniau and J.O. Field participated in the examination as the special representatives of the Administering Authorities 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 Ex-Servicemen of the R.W.A.F.F. (T/PET.4 and 5/3 and Add.1)
15. The petition was again examined and discussed at the 432nd and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.432 and).
16. The special representative of France stated that further inquiries had been made at the Ex-Servicemen's Association in Douala but that neither the signer of the petition, Mr. Gabrielsud, nor any of the other thirty-two signatories listed could be traced.
17. At its meeting, the Committee approved by votes to with abstention draft resolution I, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

I. Petition from the Ex-Servicemen of the R.W.A.F.F. (T/PET.4 and 5/3 and Add.1)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from the Ex-Servicemen of the R.W.A.F.F. concerning the Cameroons under British administration and the Cameroons under French administration in consultation with France and the United Kingdom as the Administering Authorities concerned (T/PET.4 and 5/3 and Add.1, T/OBS.4 and 5/4/Corr.1 and Add.1, T/L.),

Draws the attention of the petitioners to the observations of the Administering Authorities and to the statements of their special representatives, in particular, that should any of the petitioners who are resident in the Cameroons under French administration consider that he possesses a legitimate claim he should submit details of this claim, including his Army number, either to the Ex-Servicemen's Association or through Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in Douala; while if any of the petitioners is resident in the Cameroons under British administration he should submit his claim to his nearest District officer.

II. Petition from the Central Committee of the UPC of 25 March 1953, Bafoussam
(T/PET.4 and 5/4)

9. The petition was again examined and discussed at the 432nd and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.432 and).

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

II. Petition from the Central Committee of the UPC of 25 March 1953, Bafoussam
(T/PET.4 and 5/4)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from the Central Committee of the UPC of 25 March 1953, Bafoussam concerning the Cameroons under British administration and the Cameroons under French administration in consultation with France and the United Kingdom as the Administering Authorities concerned (T/PET.4 and 5/4, T/OBS.4 and 5/6, T/L.),

1. Draws the attention of the petitioners to the observations of the Administering Authority;
2. Expresses regret that seventeen indigenous persons were imprisoned for almost a year and were not released before having been acquitted;
3. Requests the Administering Authority to see to it that such cases should not occur again in the future.

III. Petition from Mrs. Elizabeth Ngonga (T/PET.4 and 5/5, section 1)

4. The petition was examined and discussed at the 432nd and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.432 and).

5. At its meeting, the Committee approved by votes to with abstention draft resolution III, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

III. Petition from Mrs. Elizabeth Ngonga (T/PET.4 and 5/5, section 1)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mrs. Elizabeth Ngonga concerning the Cameroons under British administration and the Cameroons under French administration in consultation with France and the United Kingdom as the Administering Authorities concerned (T/PET.4 and 5/5, section 1, T/OBS.4 and 5/7, section 1, T/L.),

Draws the attention of the petitioner to the observations of the Administering Authority.

IV. Petition from Mr. Mbamgo Mpongo (T/PET.4 and 5/5, section 2)

5. The petition was examined and discussed at the 432nd and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.432 and).

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

IV. Petition from Mr. Mbamgo Mpongo (T/PET.4 and 5/5, section 2)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Mbamgo Mpongo concerning the Cameroons under British administration and the Cameroons under French administration in consultation with France and the United Kingdom as the Administering Authorities concerned (T/PET.4 and 5/5, section 2, T/OBS. 4 and 5/7, section 2, T/L),

Draws the attention of the petitioner to the observations of the Administering Authority, in particular with regard to the alleged incident at the Tombel Customs Office, that, if he is prepared to give fuller details of his complaint, the Administering Authority will investigate it.

V. Petition from Mr. Paul Nkol (T/PET.4 and 5/5, section 3)

3. The petition was examined and discussed at the 432nd, 433rd and of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.432, 433 and).

4. At its meeting, the Committee approved by votes to with abstention draft resolution V, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

V. Petition from Mr. Paul Nkol (T/PET.4 and 5/5, section 3)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Paul Nkol concerning the Cameroons under British administration and the Cameroons under French administration in consultation with France and the United Kingdom as the Administering Authorities concerned (T/PET.4 and 5/5, section 3, T/OBS.4 and 5/7, section 3, T/L.),

Draws the attention of the petitioner to the observations of the Administering Authority, in particular, that if he can provide fuller details of the alleged service in the Medical Department in the Southern Cameroons, the Administering Authority will investigate his complaint further.

VI. Petition from Mr. Gabriel Geru (T/PET.4 and 5/5, section 4)

7. The petition was examined and discussed at the 433rd and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.433 and).
8. The special representative of the United Kingdom stated that if the petitioner considered that the benefits he was receiving in accordance with the relevant legislation were inadequate, he could apply for additional relief to the Nigerian Ex-Servicemen's Welfare Association, a private body, which exists for the purpose of affording assistance in those cases of distress or difficulty which cannot be covered by legislation and which would, undoubtedly, give sympathetic consideration to his case.
9. At its meeting, the Committee approved by votes to with abstention draft resolution VI, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

VI. Petition from Mr. Gabriel Geru (T/PET.4 and 5/5, section 4)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Gabriel Geru concerning the Cameroons under British administration and the Cameroons under French administration in consultation with France and the United Kingdom as the Administering Authorities concerned (T/PET.4 and 5/5, section 4, T/OBS.4 and 5/7, section 4, T/L.),

Draws the attention of the petitioner to the observations of the Administering Authority and to the statement of its special representative, in particular that he could apply for additional assistance to the Nigerian Ex-Servicemen's Welfare Association.

VII. Petition from Mrs. Cecilia Ngolikan Ngotoke (T/PET.4 and 5/5, section 5)

3. The petition was examined and discussed at the 433rd and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.433 and).
4. The special representative of France stated that no record existed in the archives of any such incident as alleged by the petitioner.
5. The special representative of the United Kingdom stated that if the petitioner can give fuller details of the alleged incident, the Administering Authority is willing to investigate the case.
6. At its meeting, the Committee approved by votes to with abstention draft resolution VII, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

VII. Petition from Mrs. Cecilia Ngolikan Ngotoke (T/PET.4 and 5/5, section 5)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mrs. Cecilia Ngolikan Ngotoke concerning the Cameroons under British administration and the Cameroons under French administration in consultation with France and the United Kingdom as the Administering Authorities concerned (T/PET.4 and 5/5, section 5, T/OBS.4 and 5/7, section 5, T/L.),

Draws the attention of the petitioner to the observations of the Administering Authority and to the statement of the special representative of the United Kingdom, in particular that if she can give fuller details of the alleged incident, the Administering Authority is willing to carry out an investigation into her complaint.

VIII. Petitions from Mr. Ernest Ewang (T/PET.4 and 5/6)

3. In its observations (T/OBS.4 and 5/8) the Government of the United Kingdom as Administering Authority states that the petitioner is a native of Tombel in Kumba Division, Southern Cameroons. He styles himself as "British informant" but in fact he has no connexion with the Administration of the Southern Cameroons whatsoever. He is an ordinary villager with no special position in his community and, so far as is known, represents nobody but himself.

4. The petitioner complains of the activities of certain members of the Union des populations du Cameroun (U.P.C.) who have now entered the Southern Cameroons from the French Cameroons, but does not specify what exactly they are alleged to have done. If the petitioner has evidence that any of the persons concerned have acted unlawfully, he is free to lay the facts before the appropriate authorities, when they will be investigated.

5. The petition was examined and discussed at the 433rd and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.433 and).

6. At its meeting, the Committee approved by votes to with abstention draft resolution VIII, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

VIII. Petitions from Mr. Ernest Ewang (T/PET.4 and 5/6)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Ernest Ewang concerning the Cameroons under British administration and the Cameroons under French administration in consultation with France and the United Kingdom as the Administering Authorities concerned (T/PET.4 and 5/6, T/OBS. 4 and 5/8, T/L.),

Draws the attention of the petitioner to the observations of the Administering Authority, in particular, that if he has evidence that any of the persons concerned have acted unlawfully, he is free to lay the facts before the appropriate authorities, when they will be investigated.

IX. Petition from the Refugees Committee of the UPC (T/COM.5/L.142 and Add.1)

8. The petition was examined and discussed at the 433rd and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.433 and).
9. The special representative of the United Kingdom stated that no representations to the Administering Authority had been made by the petitioners or by anyone else that any such problem as mentioned in the petition exists at all in the Cameroons under British administration.
10. At its meeting, the Committee approved by votes to with abstention draft resolution IX, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

IX. Petition from the Refugees Committee of the UPC (T/COM.5/L.142 and Add.1)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from the Refugees Committee of the UPC concerning the Cameroons under British administration and the Cameroons under French administration in consultation with France and the United Kingdom as the Administering Authorities concerned (T/COM.5/L.142 and Add.1, T/OBS.4 and 5/5 and Add.1, T/L.),

1. Draws the attention of the petitioners to the observations of the Government of the United Kingdom as Administering Authority, in particular that it has no knowledge of the "Refugees Committee of the Union des Populations du Cameroun" and that no requests for assistance have been received from this Committee;
2. Expresses the hope that the Administration of the Cameroons under British administration will make an inquiry into the substance of the complaint and will take all necessary measures to bring whatever assistance may be needed by the refugees from the Cameroons under French administration, who are temporarily residing in the Cameroons under British administration.
