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STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

Seventh Report of the Committee on Classification of Communications

1. The Committee on Classification of Communications, composed of the representatives of Belgium and Syria, presents this report to the Standing Committee on Petitions, in accordance with the terms of Trusteeship Council resolution 1713 (XX).

2. At its meeting on 18 December 1957, the Committee had before it 907 communications awaiting classification. In accordance with the relevant rules of procedure concerning petitions and with the methods of work set out in paragraphs 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the annex to resolution 1713 (XX), the Committee recommends for approval by the Standing Committee on Petitions the provisional classification given below.

3. For classification under rule 85, paragraph 1, of the rules of procedure

(a) Petition concerning Tanganyika

One petition following upon an earlier communication from the same person; to be circulated as an addendum to the earlier petition T/PET.2/218.

(b) Petitions concerning Ruanda-Urundi

One petition, transmitted to the Secretary-General by the 1957 Visiting Mission to East Africa, in which the petitioner complains that a decision in his favour by the Mwami's Tribunal was not executed, that he was exiled, that his property was seized and that several actions brought by him have not yet been heard. There are a number of annexes to the petition, including a copy of a letter from the petitioner to the King of the Belgians. The observations of the local authority have already been added to the file. To be circulated as document T/PET.3/87.

One petition, transmitted to the Secretary-General by the 1957 Visiting Mission to East Africa, in which the petitioner complains that he was dismissed without cause from his government post and thus lost all his pension rights. The

petitioner attaches a copy of a letter to the Procureur of Ruanda-Urundi. The observations of the local authority have already been added to the file. To be circulated as document T/PET.3/88.

One petition, transmitted to the Secretary-General by the 1957 Visiting Mission to East Africa, in which the petitioner complains that he has not been compensated for the loss of about fifty head of cattle which are alleged to have perished as the result of an injection of vaccine given them by a veterinary surgeon of the Administration; the petitioner also complains that a piece of his land has been alienated. To be circulated as document T/PET.3/89.

(c) Petition concerning the Cameroons under British administration

One petition, in which the petitioner complains that he was arrested and imprisoned for twenty-one days without trial; the petitioner complains also of the loss of his property. To be circulated as document T/PET.4/146.

(d) Petitions concerning the Cameroons under French administration

One petition, in which the petitioner complains that he was maltreated in prison and suffered from eye trouble as a result. To be circulated as document T/PET.5/1306.

One petition containing a protest against the unjustified expulsion of some missionaries and a lawyer from the Territory. To be circulated as document T/PET.5/1307.

Two petitions containing a complaint concerning certain repressive measures alleged to have been taken against Cameroonian nationalist students abroad, the expulsion of some missionaries and a lawyer, and the Administering Authority's refusal to admit certain French lawyers into the Territory. The Committee suggests that the specific complaints in these two petitions should be reproduced in a single document T/PET.5/1308.

One petition containing a request for compensation for the destruction by the director of the Nkolbisson Agricultural Centre of one quarter of the petitioner's plantation and some of his fruit trees. To be circulated as document T/PET.5/1309.

One petition referring to specific cases of murder, looting, repression and alleged violations of trade-union rights in the Sanaga-Maritime Region. To be circulated as document T/PET.5/1310.

Sixty-six petitions referring to specific cases of repressive measures alleged to have been taken in the Bamiléké and Sanaga-Maritime Regions. The Committee

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suggests that the specific complaints in these petitions should be reproduced in a single document T/PET.5/1311.

(e) Petition concerning Togoland

One petition in which the petitioner complains of persecution on account of his membership of the CUT. To be circulated as document T/PET.7/538.

(f) Petitions concerning Somaliland under Italian administration

One petition protesting against the threats and unjust dismissal to which some workers who are members of the Partito Liberale Giovani Somali are subjected. To be circulated as document T/PET.11/720.

One petition recalling a complaint made in an earlier petition, T/PET.11/505, from the same person and already dealt with in Trusteeship Council resolution 1305 (XVI). To be circulated as document T/PET.11/721.

4. For classification under rule 85, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure

(a) Petitions concerning the Cameroons under British administration and the Cameroons under French administration

Seven hundred and seventy-seven petitions raising general problems concerning the two Trust Territories. This group of petitions is related to the 4,840 petitions which have already been circulated in summarized form in document T/PET.4 and 5/L.17. The Committee suggests that this new group of petitions should be summarized and reproduced as an addendum to this document.

One petition protesting against the decision taken at a joint meeting of the two Administering Authorities to repatriate forcibly to the Cameroons under French administration all the political refugees residing in the Cameroons under British administration, and against threats allegedly made by unknown persons against leaders of the One Kamerun party. To be circulated as document T/PET.4 and 5/L.18.

(b) Petitions concerning the Cameroons under French administration

Two petitions protesting against the fact that the General Assembly at its twelfth session granted a hearing to Mr. Ngom and Mr. Mounie and against the fact that the resolution recently adopted by the General Assembly on conditions in the Territory^{1/} seems systematically to ignore the existence of the present Cameroonian Legislative Assembly and fails to condemn the UPC as the only party which has used

^{1/} Resolution 1211 (XII).

violence since 1955. The Committee suggests that the two petitions should be reproduced in a single document T/PET.5/L.449.

(c) Petition concerning Togoland

One petition asking that the Trusteeship System should be maintained in the Territory until free general elections can be held under the auspices of the United Nations. To be circulated as document T/PET.7/L.41.

(d) Petition concerning Somaliland under Italian administration

One petition, a copy of a letter to the Administrator of Somaliland, concerning the general situation in the Territory. To be circulated as document T/PET.11/L.27.

5. For classification under rule 24 of the rules of procedure

(a) Communications concerning the Cameroons under French administration

One communication, a copy of a letter to a lawyer, relating to a case which has already been dealt with in petition T/PET.5/796 and Trusteeship Council resolution 1473 (XVII). To be circulated as document T/COM.5/L.220.

One communication giving various comments on the general situation in the Territory, as already dealt with in earlier communications. To be circulated as a third addendum to document T/COM.5/L.206.

One communication, a copy of a telegram to the local authorities, concerning a question which has already been raised in an earlier communication. To be circulated as an addendum to document T/COM.5/L.214.

Thirty-nine communications asking that the petitioners should be compensated for property losses they are alleged to have suffered during various incidents. The Committee suggests that the contents of these communications should be summarized and reproduced in a single document T/COM.5/L.221. The Committee further recommends that the petitions in this document should be regarded as inadmissible under rule 81 of the rules of procedure and it draws the attention of the Standing Committee on Petitions to the fact that this is in line with the recommendation it has already made concerning other claims of this type (see documents T/C.2/L.313 and L.315). The Committee also recommends that the Secretariat should be asked to inform the petitioners of the reason why the Trusteeship Council has decided to regard their claims as inadmissible under rule 81 of the rules of procedure: namely, that these claims come within the competence of the courts of the Territory.

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(b) Communication concerning Togoland

The Committee suggests that one communication, the contents of which it finds incomprehensible, should be classified as a manifestly inconsequential communication.

(c) Communications concerning Somaliland under Italian administration

One communication, a copy of a letter to the President of the Court of Justice at Mogadiscio, concerning a matter already dealt with in petition T/PET.11/275 and resolution 678 (XII), in communication T/COM.11/L.14 and in petition T/PET.11/525 and resolution 1317 (XVI). To be circulated as document T/COM.11/L.296.

One communication, a copy of a letter to the Administrator of Somaliland and to the Legislative Assembly, in which United Nations intervention is not requested. To be circulated as document T/COM.11/L.297.
