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STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

FOURTEENTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CLASSIFICATION OF
COMMUNICATIONS

1. The Committee on Classification of Communications, composed of the representative of the United Arab Republic and of the representative of the United Kingdom, presents this report to the Standing Committee on Petitions, in accordance with the terms of Trusteeship Council resolution 1713 (XX).
2. The Committee had before it 772 communications awaiting classification. In accordance with the Trusteeship Council's relevant rules of procedure concerning petitions and with the methods of work set out in the annex to Trusteeship Council 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) Ruanda-Urundi

1 petition in which the author states that the property litigation case which was the subject of his earlier petition, T/PET.3/90, will come up for decision at the end of November 1958; he asks the Trusteeship Council, therefore, to examine his petition before the spring session; T/PET.3/90/Add.1.
 - (b) Cameroons under British administration

8 petitions containing claims for damages caused by the Cameroons Development Corporation as the result of the destruction of the petitioners' crops. These are similar in nature to the 7 petitions already issued in T/PET.4/149 and Add.1 and to the 39 petitions in T/PET.4/152 and Add.1. Issued in accordance with paragraph 5 of the annex to Trusteeship Council resolution 1713 (XX); T/PET.4/152/Add.2.

1 petition in which the author complains against sanitary conditions in the Territory and against the lack of free schools and free medical care; she also states that Cameroonian women are discriminated against by the Administering Authority with regard to the granting of market licenses, whereas Nigerian women obtain them without delay; T/PET.4/156.

1 petition in which the author protests against the fact that the Sanitary Officer in Tiko is a Nigerian; he states that housing difficulties have been created for Cameroonians as a result of the sale to Nigerians of houses formerly occupied by Cameroonians; T/PET.4/157.

1 petition in which the author seeks financial assistance to help support his family; he also complains that he did not receive any indemnity at the time he was dismissed by the Cameroons Development Corporation after having been employed by them for forty years; T/PET.4/158.

1 petition in which the author complains about the treatment he received at the hands of the Cameroons Development Corporation which, he states, dismissed him without any gratuity after 24 years of service; T/PET.4/159.

1 petition referring to a land dispute between the Chomba and the Bali peoples; the author requests that the area of fertile land allocated to the Chomba people be increased in order to make it possible for them to improve their living conditions; T/PET.4/160. In this connexion, the Standing Committee on Petitions may wish to refer to an earlier Trusteeship Council resolution on a related matter (620 (XI)).

(c) Cameroons under British administration and Cameroons under French administration

12 petitions containing protests against the arrest of certain French Cameroonians who had sought political asylum in the British Cameroons. These are similar in nature to the 17 petitions already issued in document T/PET.4 and 5/24. Issued in accordance with paragraph 5 of the annex to Trusteeship Council resolution 1713 (XX); T/PET.4 and 5/24/Add.1.

(d) Cameroons under French administration

1 petition from a group of political prisoners in Yaoundé protesting against the manner in which trials at Nkongsamba and Eséka were conducted and appealing for a review of the death penalties imposed on the accused "patriots"; T/PET.5/1349.

2 petitions, one consisting of two letters from a Cameroonian student in Paris who states that he is unable to obtain a passport to take up a scholarship granted to him to study medicine in the Soviet Union; the other a letter from an African students' association in France supporting his grievance and requesting the United Nations to intervene with the French authorities; T/PET.5/1350.

53 petitions citing instances of various repressive measures in the Cameroons under French administration, including the alleged shooting of Ruben Um Nyobe. Issued in a single document in accordance with paragraph 5 of the annex to Trusteeship Council resolution 1713 (XX); T/PET.5/1351.

[The representative of the United Arab Republic here made a reservation with regard to the form in which document T/PET.5/1351 was reproduced and circulated. He considered that the complaints dealt with different incidents and therefore that paragraph five of the annex to the Trusteeship Council's resolution 1713 (XX) did not apply.]

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

(a) Cameroons under British administration

1 petition referring to a public notice concerning the arrival in the Territory of the United Nations Visiting Mission and expressing the fear that Cameroonians would not be allowed sufficient time in which to present their views to the Mission; T/PET.4/L.11.

(b) Cameroons under British administration and Cameroons under French administration

1 petition containing a protest against the fact that certain petitions emanating from one or the other of the three dissolved organizations, UPC, JDC and UDEFEC, were left unexamined, or partially unexamined, by the Trusteeship Council at its twenty-first session; T/PET.4 and 5/I.29. The Secretariat wishes

to point out here that the situation with regard to the examination of those petitions, numbering 90 in all, was set out in detail in the report of the Trusteeship Council to the thirteenth session of the General Assembly, document A/3822, Chapter III, paragraphs 10-12.

550 petitions, bearing dates ranging from the end of September to mid-October 1958, and raising general questions pertaining to the two Territories. This group of petitions is very similar in nature to the 2,143 petitions already issued in documents T/PET.4 and 5/L.27 and Add.1. Issued in accordance with paragraphs 4 and 6 of the annex to Trusteeship Council resolution 1713 (XX); T/PET.4 and 5/L.27/Add.2.

121 petitions, bearing dates ranging from mid-October to the beginning of November 1958, and raising general questions pertaining to the two Territories. This group of petitions is very similar in nature to the above group of 550. Issued in accordance with paragraphs 4 and 6 of the annex to Trusteeship Council resolution 1713 (XX); T/PET.4 and 5/L.27/Add.3.

(c) Cameroons under French administration

1 petition in which the author states that postal censorship exists in the Territory; he also accuses the Administering Authority of having now become guilty of the crime of genocide; T/PET.5/L.459.

1 petition in which the author informs the United Nations that the French Government, desirous of integrating the Cameroons into a French federation, has presented to the Legislative Assembly, through the present Cameroonian Government, a draft resolution asking for the termination of trusteeship, in the name of the people. The author states that this is quite contrary to the wishes of the population and that the Territory should remain under trusteeship until complete independence is attained; T/PET.5/L.460.

5. For classification under rule 24 of the rules of procedure
Cameroons under French administration

14 communications, being claims for compensation for property losses resulting from various incidents which took place in the Bamiléké and in the Mungo regions. These are reproduced in summarized form in a single document,

T/COM.5/L.229, and it is suggested that they be considered as inadmissible petitions under rule 81 of the rules of procedure, in accordance with previous decisions of the Council in similar cases (see T/L.812, 834 and 854). Should it be so decided, the petitioners will be informed of this inadmissibility and of the reason therefore, in accordance with the decision of the Council at its 887th meeting (see T/L.834, paragraph 3 (e)).

1 communication, consisting of two letters from a man whose earlier petition on the same subject (T/PET.5/1095 and Add.1-3) has already been examined by the Trusteeship Council (resolution 1892 (XXI)). This resolution of the Council drew the attention of the petitioner to the observations of the Administering Authority, in particular that his case (i.e., alleged misappropriation of SCOA funds by the petitioner) is being investigated by a Yaoundé court; T/COM.5/L.230. It is suggested that rule 81 of the rules of procedure of the Council be applied to this communication which lays before the Council a dispute with which the courts of the Territory have competence to deal.
