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CONDITIONS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY OF CAMEROONS
UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

Amendments suggested by the Secretariat to the outline of
conditions set forth in document T/L.182

Note: In view of the resolutions adopted by the Council at its 381st meeting on 26 July 1951 on the petitions concerning the Cameroons under French administration, the Secretariat has prepared the following summary which the Council may wish to add to the chapter on conditions in the Cameroons under French administration.

Frontiers with the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under British administration

1. Insert the following footnote at the end of this section on page 3:
See Resolution IX, document T/L.214.

Municipal Government

2. Insert the following footnote at the end of the paragraph ending "of indigenous maires", on page 10:
See resolution IX, document T/L. 214.

Regional Administration

3. Insert the following footnote at the end of the paragraph ending "by universal suffrage", on page 11:

See resolution IX, document T/L.214.

Suffrage

4. Insert the following footnote at the end of this section on page 12:

See resolution IX, document T/L.214.

Judicial System

5. Insert at the end of the paragraph ending "the system of the indigénat" on page 14:

At the ninth session, the special representative of the Administering Authority stated that indigenous judges constituted more than 60 per cent of all magistrates and would constitute an even greater percentage when scholarship students from the Cameroons had completed their studies in France.^{1/}

Maintenance of order and public security

6. Insert at the end of this section, on page 15:

At the ninth session, the special representative of the Administering Authority stated that the petitioners' allegations were unfounded. In a resolution^{2/} on this petition, the Council reiterated the hope, already expressed in resolution 200 (VI) that the Administering Authority would make every endeavour to ensure correct behaviour on the part of the police and the forest rangers toward the inhabitants and would punish abuses whenever they were discovered.

^{1/} See resolution VII, document T/L.214.

^{2/} See resolution IV, document T/L.214.

Agriculture

7. Insert at the end of this section, on page 17:

At the ninth session the special representative of the Administering Authority stated that non-edible crops illegally planted in the forest reserves were pulled up by the forest guards only to safeguard the country's forest resources, in accordance with the regulations in force.^{1/}

Land Tenure

8. Insert the following footnote at the end of the paragraph ending "matters of land tenure", on page 20:

See resolution VII, document T/L.214.

9. Insert at the end of the paragraph ending "sans maitre formula", on page 20:

At the ninth session the special representative of the Administering Authority stated that the petitioners had no specific grounds for their allegations, but made them as part of the policy of systematic opposition of the Union des populations du Cameroun to the French Administration.^{2/}

10. Insert at the end of this section, on page 20:

At the ninth session the special representative of the Administering Authority stated that the matter was covered by administrative regulations and required no special reply. In a resolution^{3/} on this petition, the Council drew the attention of the petitioners to the fact that the Council had established a Committee on the Rural Economic Development of

^{1/} See resolutions VIII and IX, document T/L.214.

^{2/} See resolution II, document T/L.214.

^{3/} See resolution IX, document T/L.214.

the Trust Territories to study land problems.

11. Insert at the end of this section, on page 20, a new paragraph:

At its ninth session, the Council also considered a petition from the Comité régional du Bamoun of the Union des Populations du Cameroun^{1/} which charged Njimulu, the Supreme Chief of Mfeute, with resorting to "practices which are contrary to personal liberty" and supported their charges by citing seven cases where Njimulu allegedly robbed various persons of their belongings. They asked for an impartial inquiry as they claimed that complaints against supreme chiefs were not examined by the Administration.

The special representative of the Administering Authority explained that the petition arose from a reorganization of the chefferies in 1939 which had resulted in a redistribution of certain lands. The customary courts, influenced doubtless by pressure from certain chiefs had not yet handed down a decision. He suggested the lodging of an appeal with the second degree court.

In a resolution^{2/} on this petition, the Council recommended that the Administering Authority take the necessary steps to inform the petitioners of the procedure to be followed in order to hasten the settlement of the matters raised in their petition.

1/ T/PLT.5/95.

2/ See resolution XII, document T/L.214.

Forests

12. Insert at the end of this section, on page 22;

At the ninth session, the special representative of the Administering Authority stated that the forest reserve at Akomnyada had been classified according to regular procedure and this had not been objected to; that the present regulations respected the acquired rights of the inhabitants; the fines amounted to 21,600 francs and not 2 millions and had been imposed to convince the inhabitants that violations must cease; the forests at Akomnyada had been classified in conformity with the principles of protection of the resources of the Territory approved by the Council at its sixth session.

In a resolution ^{1/} on this petition, the Council expressed the hope that the Administering Authority would endeavour to conciliate the necessity of forest reserve legislation with the wish of the indigenous inhabitants to leave at their disposal as much arable land as possible.

Commerce and Trade

13. Insert at the end of this section, on page 26;

At the ninth session, the special representative of the Administering Authority stated that the refusals of licences and patents referred to were justified on economic and social grounds and were in no way an obstacle to freedom of trade while others referred to economic measures already taken by the Administration. ^{2/}

Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

14. Insert at the end of this section, on page 33:

1/ See resolution II, document T/L.214.

2/ See resolutions VIII and IX, document T/L.214.

At the ninth session, the special representative of the Adminis-
tering Authority stated that in the case of the petition from the
Union des populations du Cameroun^{1/} the petitioners' allegations were
not supported by specific examples and were statements of policy of
the organization. The arrests which had taken place involved electoral
fraud, libel, sedition and contempt of court. Most of the cases were
referred to the courts. In the case of the petition from the Comité
régional du Mounjo de l'UPC^{2/} the refusal of the regional chief to
make the administration building available for a public meeting was in
order. In the case of the petition from the Bureau de l'Union des syndi-
cats du Cameroun^{3/} proceedings had been instituted against certain
members not for political reasons, but because they were guilty of
either defamation, contempt of court or swindling. In the case of the
petition from the Kumse^{4/}, traditional assembly of the Hamilko people,
the accusations were totally unfounded and some of the claims were
based on purely demagogical motives.^{5/}

Emancipation of women

16. Insert the following footnote at the end of this section, on page 33:

See resolution IX, document T/L.214.

1/ T/PET.5/83.

2/ T/PET.5/86.

3/ T/PET.5/89/Add.1.

4/ T/PET.5/92.

5/ See resolutions II, IV, VII and IX, document T/L.214.

Racial discrimination

17. Insert at the end of this section, on page 34:

At the ninth session, the special representative of the Adminis-
tering Authority stated that the Administration was attempting to eli-
minate the last traces of what might be interpreted as racial discrimi-
nation.^{1/}

Labour

18. Insert at the end of the paragraph ending "all workers' trade unions",
on page 35:

At the ninth session, the special representative of the Adminis-
tering Authority stated that the allegations concerning anti-trade
union measures were not justified, since none of the cases cited could
be regarded as obstructing trade union rights.^{2/}

19. Insert at the end of this section, on page 36:

A petition from the Union des Syndicats confédérés du Cameroun^{3/}
objected to several provisions of this draft labour code. At the ninth
session, the special representative of the Administering Authority
stated that article 2 of the draft labour code for Overseas France
objected to by the petitioners, had already been amended by the National
Assembly.^{4/}

Public Health

20. Insert the following footnote at the end of the paragraph ending
"in the Bamileke Region", on page 37:

^{1/} See resolution VII, document T/L.214.

^{2/} See resolution VII, document T/L.214.

^{3/} T/PET.5/89.

^{4/} See resolution VII, document T/L.214.

See resolutions VII and IX, document T/L.214.

Prison System

21. Insert the following footnote at the end of this section, on page 38:

See resolution IX, document T/L.214.

Primary Education

22. Insert the following footnote at the end of this section, on page 41:

See resolutions VII and IX, document T/L.214.