

United Nations

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UNRESTRICTED

**TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL**

**CONSEIL
DE TUTELLE**

T/PET.4/6
30 September 1949

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

MASTER FILE

PETITION FROM MR. JOSEPH MOSENJA

CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER BRITISH ADMINISTRATION

Note by the Secretary-General: In accordance with rule 85 of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit herewith to the members of the Trusteeship Council a communication dated 27 August 1949 from Mr. Joseph Mosenja concerning the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under British administration.

/C O P Y

C O P Y

Central Bakweri Area.
Buea District.
Buea, August 27, 1949.

The General Secretary,
United Nations Organisation,
Lake Success,
U.S.A.

Honoured Sir,

I have the honour most respectfully to appeal to your power that after you have perusally read of my suffering how I have been turned down without sympathy you may, in favour, bring up my humble cry to other competent Authorities as to look to it.

2. I have no other plea to offer than to cry as a blind man cried unto Christ for his blindness and he received sight without offering any plea. So I do also to the Authorities concerned.

3. I enclose herewith copies of my petitions to the Government how they have been answered and how the one dated 11th July has not been answered.

Hoping that I have not petitioned in vain.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant

(Signed) JOSEPH MOSENJA
c/o Native Court Buea.

(Signed) - - - - (illegible)
Writer/Soppo.
Free of charge.

Received at United Nations: 27 September 1949.

/The Senior

C O P Y

Buea, June 11, 1949.

The Senior Resident,
Buea.
The Labour Officer,
Buea.

Sir,

I have the honour most respectfully to bring to your administrative consideration and asking you for the powers conferred upon you as a father of the Imperial subjects and the fatherless in this part of the Cameroons to lend hands to this complaint and my suffering.

That in the year, 1916, I decided within myself to be a carpenter apprentice and so I joined the P.W.D. Buea to be trained there. And in the year, 1920, I became a certificated carpenter under the same Department. From time to time I was being transferred to and fro, stationing at times at Buea and Victoria for a long time before I could be transferred to another place, and all the times with no complaints with my employers nor my co-workers.

2. In February, 1948, I was again transferred to Tiko under the supervision of an Inspector of Works, a white man.

The main business was that as a Barrack of Preventive is to be constructed at the beach far from the workshop which is situated at Likomba, attached to the Aerodrome, where windows and door frames were to be made; our duty was to carry them from the workshop by a tractor to the beach or to the building place.

3. On December 21, 1948, we again had to transport some window and door frames to the new Barrack as aforementioned. On our way back to the workshop, the tractor driver halted at a place where I had the access to go to latrine, and from there in my trying to ascend back to the tractor, the driver in a hurry, unfortunately made the tractor to jam my right foot and crushing it in a way that under the operation I had to lose the whole of my leg. This accident took place at 1.45 p.m.

4. Now that I am discharged from the hospital I wonder that the P.W.D. has done nothing nor considering of my lost leg which is only lost whilst I was performing their duty energetically, honestly and

/satisfactorily,

satisfactorily, but simply left and sent me home without a contemplation of offering me an artificial leg as a thing that has been often-times done to others who lost some of their limbs in various Departments, especially in the Cameroons Plantations as I have witnessed it with my naked eyes.

I am the first and the only Bakweriman with this fate. Although I speak and eat to-day, in this condition, I am one among the dead.

I pray that an artificial leg be provided for me so as to help that at times I may stand and draw water for myself as my two wives cannot be always found indoor nor my two daughters who are attending schools cannot be confined to serve me hourly.

Hoping that I have not petitioned in vain.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) JOSEPH MOSENJA

c/o Native Court Buea.

(Signed) - - - - (illegible)

Writer/Soppo.

Fee 4/- received.

C O P Y

No. 1237/203.
Provincial Office,
Cameroons Province,
Buea, 23 June, 1949.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your petition dated 11th June, 1949, and to say that a further communication will be addressed to you in due course.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

sgd: . . . Mackenson
Acting Resident
Cameroons Province.

Mr. Joseph Mösenger
c/o Native Court
Buea.

OEM.

C O P Y

No. CAM.5/49.
Labour Department.
Buea Cameroons.
1 July 1949.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 11th of June, I have investigated your case and I am informed by the Provincial Engineer, Victoria, that your accident was reported to the Commissioner of Labour who ruled that liability for compensation should not be admitted in your case.

2. In the circumstances, I regret I cannot help you further in the matter.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant

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for LABOUR OFFICER.

Mr. Joseph Mosenger,
c/o Native Court,
Buea.

/Joseph T. Mosenja.

C O P Y

Joseph T. Mosenja.
c/o Native Court Buea.
Buea, July 11, 1949.

The Labour Officer,
Buea.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. CAM.5/48, dated the 1st of July, 49, stating that you have investigated my case and found that the Provincial Engineer, Victoria, had reported my accident to the Commissioner of Labour, Lagos, who has ruled that no compensation should be considered to it.

I beg to submit and ask that before I be satisfied with this ruling or order, copy of this report be given to me and to know who was the actual man who took down my statement and that of the tractor driver as both the Timekeeper and the Inspector of Works (Mr. Funnel) were not there when this action took place.

Even when I was in the hospital in the care of the Medical Officer (Mr. Okoji) I did not one day see the Timekeeper nor the Inspector of Works.

I am looking forward for an early and assuasive reply.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) JOSEPH MOSENJA

Address as above

(Signed) - - - - (illegible)
Writer/Soppo.
Fee 2/6d received.

/No. 1237/215

C O P Y

No. 1237/215
Provincial Office,
Cameroons Province,
Buea, 8th August, 1949

Sir,

I have the honour to refer you to my letter No. 1237/203 of 27th June, 1949, and to advise you that since it is clear that the accident in which you were involved occurred at a time when you were on strike, it cannot be considered that you were injured in the performance of your duty.

2. I regret therefore that no liability for compensation or assistance can be accepted by Government.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant

sgd. Dr. ? ? ?

Acting Resident
Cameroons Province.

Mr. Joseph Mosenger,
c/o Native Court,
Buea.

tmn.
