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PETITION FROM MR. STEPHEN E. NYENTI ON BEHALF OF THE
CAMEROONS COMMONERS CONGRESS CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS
UNDER UNITED KINGDOM ADMINISTRATION

(Circulated in accordance with rule 85, paragraph 2, of
the rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council)

No.CCC/19.

1st January, 1960.
c/o Stephen E. Nyenti,
R.C.M., Mamfe.

The Secretary General,
United Nations,
Now on Tour, Cameroons.

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION.

My Lord,

On behalf of the Cameroons Commoners Congress - a party that works for an independent British Cameroons - I am glad to tell you that your tour is a blessing.

2. We are baffled at the two questions to be put during the October 1960 plebiscite. None of them offers us freedom. Instead, they tend to force us into a permanent state of servitude. We can see no reason for remaining an appendage to either Nigeria or Fr. Cameroons.

3. Our cry is to continue existence as an independent British Cameroons. For this reason we want the following third question inserted:- 'THAT THE BRITISH CAMEROONS CONTINUES EXISTENCE UNDER THE TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT UNTIL SHE IS RIPE FOR INDEPENDENCE'? Refusing us this question is equivalent to refusing us freedom of expression because the other two questions - joining Nigeria or joining French Cameroons - are so unacceptable that they may be boycotted.

4. On the question of our viability, I beg to submit that no man in a state of poverty has enough to spare. If he has money to spare and gives it out to a second person, that second person automatically becomes his servant. 'He who pays the piper calls the tune' We are not prepared to serve any neighbour under such conditions.

5. We look up to you and through you to the United Nations for redemption. The third question in para. 3 is what we want. We believe we can't ask you for bread and you give us a stone.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

For and on behalf of Cameroons C. Congress

(signed: S.E. NYENTI)

SECRETARY

Copied His Honour, the Commissioner, S. Cameroons, Buea.

" The Nigeria Broadcasting Corporation, Buea.
