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PETITION FROM THE NATIONAL UNION OF KAMERUN STUDENTS
 (GT. BRITAIN AND IRELAND) CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER
 UNITED KINGDOM ADMINISTRATION

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NATIONAL UNION OF
 KAMERUN STUDENTS
 (GT. BRITAIN AND IRELAND)

Please reply to O.B.B. Sendze,
 26 Nevern Place,
 London S.W.5.,

19th July 1960

Our Ref. EPC/60/5

The Secretary-General,
 United Nations,
New York, U.S.A.

Dear Sir,

I have been directed to draw your immediate attention to the position created by the decision of Britain to send troops to the Cameroons for so-called defence purposes.

We wish to protest very strongly against this decision as we consider it to be ripe with very many dangers for our people. It is our opinion that these troops are being sent not for the defence of our people but as a means of subjecting our people to pressure should they choose a course in the plebiscite not favourable to Britain. We ask that if any defence our territory is necessary at the time of the plebiscite it should be done by locally raised forces or by a United Nations force.

We call on the U.N. to put a stop to this movement of troops which only seems to us the first step in an attempt to secure a base in that part of the

world. Such a development you will realize would be very dangerous. We therefore ask that Britain should be made to give a categorical assurance that she intends to withdraw unconditionally from the Cameroons after the plebiscite.

We would also like to bring to your notice the fact that Britain is at present recruiting a large army of political agents who are to be sent to the Cameroons to "educate" the villagers on how to vote. They are to do this under the guise of supervision and publicity officers. We are asking that the United Nations should ask Britain to submit her plans for the plebiscite for thorough examination. The attitude of her representatives in the territory has already shown that Britain does not intend to be impartial in the plebiscite. It would appear she is intending to use her position to subvert the people's choice. We wish to make you aware of the inflammable position that could result if the impression was left that the plebiscite was not fairly conducted. It is the place of the United Nations to ensure fairness in this plebiscite and not abdicate its duty to an Administering Authority that has a vital interest in the result.

We have already seen the tragic results next door of the U.N. abdicating its duty. We call on the U.N. to take immediate action to stop Britain from going on with this move, to honour its resolutions and undertake the effective supervision of the plebiscite.

We want our people to be reassured that the plebiscite will indeed be truly free.

We should be grateful if you can bring this letter to the notice of all the member states of the United Nations.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed: illegible)
O.B.B. SENDZE
Secretary-General
