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PETITION FROM THE "BELEGSCHAFT DES VEB CHEMISCHE WERKE BUNA"
CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

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the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council)

"FREIER DEUTSCHER GEWERKSCHAFTSBUND"

(Free German Confederation of Trade Unions)

"INDUSTRIEGEWERKSCHAFT CHEMIE"

(Chemical Industry Trade Union)

"BETRIEB VEB CHEMISCHE WERKE BUNA"

(VEB Buna Chemical Works)

To the Secretary-General of the United Nations,
New York

SCHKOPAU über Mersebury
12 August 1955

The workers of the VEB Chemische Werke Buna in the German Democratic Republic note with the greatest indignation the acts of provocation committed by the French colonial administration against the workers' organization in the Cameroons.

Although the French Government claimed at the Geneva Conference that it would act to bring about a relaxation of international tension, it is tolerating acts of terrorism and mass murder against workers and their leaders in the Cameroons.

How can the words "freedom and human rights" used by Mr. Faure, Head of the French Government, at the Geneva Conference, be reconciled with the acts committed by the French colonial administration in the Cameroons? Is it for the defence of human rights that, so far, more than 100 people, striving for their freedom,

have been murdered in the French Cameroons? Or is it for the defence of human rights that such workers' leaders as our colleague Jacques N'Gom have been arrested and maltreated?

We ask that Western politicians' interminable speeches about freedom and human rights should at last be translated into action.

We ask freedom for the population of the Cameroons and exemplary punishment for those responsible for the blood bath of 21 May 1955 in Douala.

We ask for the release of our esteemed colleague Jacques N'Gom and of all other wrongly imprisoned patriots in the Cameroons.

On behalf of the workers of the
VEB Chemische Werke Buna in the
German Democratic Republic

(Signed) Factory Union Executive Office
