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PETITION FROM MBOUROUKOU LOCAL COMMITTEE OF THE  
UNION DES POPULATIONS DU CAMEROUN CONCERNING THE  
CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

(Circulated in accordance with rule 85 and supplementary rule F of the  
rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council)

Union des Populations du Cameroun

Cameroonian Branch of the Rassemblement démocratique Africain

Mbouroukou Local Committee, in the bush  
Mobile Committee of Pen Tombel, in the bush<sup>1/</sup>

Petition

Union des Populations du Cameroun. Branch of the  
Rassemblement démocratique Africain

Unification and immediate independence

After the events of the 1914 war, the Cameroons was a single Territory, extending along the Oubangi Cheou and bordering on the Ivory Coast. After studying the question, the four great Powers, in accordance with the ideas of the two Presidents Churchill and Roosevelt, held a meeting at San Francisco to abolish war. In the debates on that question, the problem of peace was settled. May there be peace! At a time when the Cameroons is asking the United Nations to grant it reunification and independence, the Administering Authority in the Cameroons never desists from its machinations to distort our words. The Cameroons hopes for a referendum, for then truth and real justice will prevail.

<sup>1/</sup> Note by the Secretariat: This communication was sent from Nyasoso, Cameroons under British Administration.

### Question of establishing sovereignty

The Cameroons used to have a single Government at Bwea. At the end of the 1914 war, two Administering Authorities came to the Cameroons and the Territory was divided into two parts, one called the French Zone and the other called the British Zone. The Cameroonians tearfully beg you to send a mission to the Cameroons and to arrange for the Cameroons to be administered by the United Nations.

### Termination of the Trusteeship Agreement

After many difficulties, international agreements were completed and signed under the Atlantic Charter. All the problems of Trusteeship Agreements were stressed; that was the meaning of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The world had acknowledged that man was born free and that he was fully and completely entitled to proclaim his freedom and independence if he was oppressed by any country.

### Unnecessary existence of two Governments in the Cameroons

We have experienced the oppression of two Administering Authorities in the Cameroons. Indeed, they have exploited the Cameroons for forty years. In all that time, they have never even tried to show a single Cameroonian the tree from which match-sticks can be made. This is all demagoguery. If they really wanted to teach us, we would all be able to use these various materials. The Cameroonians confirm this and ask the United Nations to see to it that all Europe pities the Cameroons.

### Damages due from Roland Pré

When he left Paris, the "protector" of the Territory, Roland Pré, thought that his arrival in the Cameroons would be a sign for the dissolution of the Union des Populations du Cameroun. He was surprised that the development of the UPC movement still proceeded in an organized fashion, which supports our arguments, and four months of 1955 went by without any move on his part to carry out his duties towards the French Union, in accordance with his signed undertaking. In order to cover his shame, he conceived the idea of fomenting a war against an unarmed people; then cries and weeping were heard in the Cameroons. We have

counted up the damage caused by Roland Pré. There are deaths, drownings, hangings, imprisonment by warrant and without trial, deaths of women, threats, huts destroyed, others burned and our documents seized. Hoping that the Visiting Mission will meet our requests and that a special mission of investigation will be sent to inquire into the situation on the spot,

We have the honour to be etc.,

In the bush. Done at Pen Tombel on 4 August 1955.

Chairman of the Mbouroukou Committee

Secretary

Vice-Chairman

Member of the Executive Committee

(Signatures illegible)

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