



UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

T/PET.5/621/Add.1
6 September 1955
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

PETITION FROM LOCAL COMMITTEE OF THE "UNION DES POPULATIONS
DU CAMEROUN" OF 24 OCTOBER 1954 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)

PETITION

Union des Populations du Cameroun

Cameroonian Branch of the Rassemblement Democratique Africain

Local Committee of the UPC of 24 October 1954,

Koumassi, New-Bell, Douala ^{1/}

Unicameroun

The Committee of 24 October 1954, meeting in extraordinary general
assembly in the territory of its origin, in the Koumassi district of
New-Bell, Douala, with the participation of elements from the progressive
movements residing in the said district,

Having heard, and read in several puppet newspapers, of the dissolution
of the Cameroonian progressive movements, and in particular of that of the
Union des Populations du Cameroun, gleefully proclaimed by Roland Pré,
Governor of the colonies, and Teitgen, Minister for Overseas France,

Considering that the Cameroons enjoy the status of an international
Trust Territory, and not that of a French colony, as the actions of the
French Government seem to indicate,

^{1/} Note by the Secretariat: This communication was sent from Victoria,
Cameroons under British Administration.

Considering that the basic causes of war lie in the fact that certain peoples are enslaved by other Powers or States,

Considering that the role of the United Nations is to consolidate world peace by settling every "dispute" likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security by seeking first of all "a solution by negotiation, inquiry, mediation, conciliation etc." and that in doing so, the organization "shall call upon the parties to settle their dispute by such means",

Considering that it is our duty to emphasize the fact that this war, conducted surreptitiously against the Cameroonina people since 24 April 1955, i.e. two days after the publication of the "Joint Proclamation" demanding immediate independence for the Cameroons, and openly since 22 May 1955, is directed by the colonialists, led by Roland Pré, French Governor in the Cameroons,

Considering that in pursuance of Article 73 of the Charter, Members of the United Nations who assume responsibilities for the administration of territories whose peoples have not yet attained self-government, recognize the principle that the interests of the inhabitants of these territories are paramount,

Considering that by his policy of bloodshed, Roland Pré, the Governor of the Colonies, has produced horrors and calamities such as those which the peoples of the world suffered through Nazi expansionism and has caused the death of thousands of Cameroonian patriots,

Considering that this policy is openly approved by the majority of Cameroonian opinion, that this military and judicial repression has seriously compromised international peace and security and that the continuation of this situation could considerably hamper the realization of peaceful world objectives,

Considering that no lasting peace will be possible while there is bloodshed in one part of the world and while some peoples are still under alien oppression,

Considering that the Cameroons as an international Trust Territory, aspires to independence in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Charter and that the Ministers of France, without any reference to the United Nations, loudly proclaim the suppression of Cameroonian aspirations as transmitted by the UPC, the only Cameroonian liberation movement, with the help of lying declarations by Roland Pré, their Governor of the Colonies, and a few so-called Notables prostrate beneath the heavy weight of the money which compels them to substitute lies for truth,

Considering that, but for this, it would be impossible for the Administering Authority of the said territory to institute a political regime incompatible with the above-mentioned aspirations,

Considering that the settlement of the dispute between the Cameroonian people and the French Government, which, through Roland Johannes Charles Louis Pré, Governor of the Colonies, has initiated a policy of terror and hatred in our country, cannot be disregarded as one of the pacific means for the reduction of international tension,

Considering that Article 76 of the Charter proclaims as basic objectives of the trusteeship system:

- (a) to further international peace and security;
- (b) to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the Trust Territories etc. etc.

Considering that these Notables, in whose honour Mr. Pierre Henri Teiggen, the French Minister, has given a brilliant and lively reception are - particularly the Cameroonian Notables - those who in Roland Pré's war in the Cameroons in May were soldiers in Roland Pré's army and that Roland Pré, out of gratitude to them, invited them to France to support him in the crimes he has committed in the Cameroons. It is deplorable that France, which calls itself the champion of liberty, equality and fraternity, should indulge in such dishonest acts in countries like the Cameroons, which are under the International Trusteeship System.

For these reasons and any others that may be adduced,

The Committee of 24 October 1954

Gives its specific adhesion to the "Joint Proclamation" of the progressive movements, issued at Douala on 22 April 1955,

Declares its adhesion to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and its faith in the struggle of peoples for the right of self-determination and for peace,

Condemns the French Government's policy of bloodshed in the Cameroons, instigated by Roland Pré.

In consequence

The Committee of 24 October 1954

Requests the immediate release of the patriots imprisoned without trial,

Further requests the immediate repatriation of Roland Pré, Governor of the Colonies, whose policy is far from furthering the progressive evolution of the Cameroons and whose resort to military force is calculated to retard the national independence of our country,

Asks expressly for a special mission of the United Nations to make a solemn investigation, on the spot, of the crimes committed in the Cameroons by Roland Pré, the French Governor,

Draws the special attention of the United Nations to the dissolution of the Cameroonian progressive movements, decreed by the French Council of Ministers, although the Cameroons do not form an integral part of France,

Salutes the United Nations, which is designed to consolidate peace by reducing international tension by the settlement of disputes, the reduction of armaments and the peaceful use of thermo-nuclear energy,

Sees in that Organization of great international significance the advent of a new era of peace for posterity and of independence for all peoples,

Salutes all the champions of peace and of the freedom of men and expresses confidence in their actions.

For the Committee of 24 October 1954

(Signed) Chairman
Manney

(Signed) Vice-Chairman
Mbok

(Signed) Secretary
Ngann
