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PETITION FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE "UNION DES POPULATIONS
DU CAMEROUN" OF NEW-BELL BAS-FOND CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS
UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

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UNION DES POPULATIONS DU CAMEROUN

Cameroonian Group of the Rassemblement Démocratique Africain

Committee of New Bell Bas-Fond, Douala

The Secretary-General of the United Nations,
New York

Sir,

The local committee of the UPC at Bell Bas-Fond, assembled today, 4 July 1955, in the maguis, has reviewed the policy of fierce repression conducted by Roland Pré, the representative of the Administering Authority, throughout the territory from South to North and from East to West. The deplorable results of this policy are as follows: more than 5,000 dead, wounded or missing; more than 30,000 persons dispersed in the forests without shelter or means of subsistence; more than 10,000 dwelling places destroyed and pillaged (losses which probably amount to more than 100,000 million francs); thousands of political detainees deported to the North of the Cameroons, where they are suffering from dysentery; and warrants have been issued for the arrest of all the leaders of the UPC, JDC, CGT and UDEFEC.

The Committee of the UPC at New Bell Bas-Fond sharply condemns the policy conducted by Roland Pré, Colonial Governor, since his arrival and draws the attention of the United Nations to the French Government's flagrant violation of the United Nations Charter. After obtaining several plane-loads of

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military reinforcements from Chad, Bouar, Oubangui and Brazzaville, that Government has been using armed force against the Cameroonian people who are fighting for their immediate unity and independence under the Charter of the United Nations.

The Committee of the UPC once more approves the JOINT PROCLAMATION of Cameroonian Progress Movements of 22 April 1955 and the national emblem adopted by the Cameroonian people.

The Committee asks the United Nations to discharge its obligations under Article 76 of the Charter and to ensure the speedy departure of the French administration from our country, so that our total national independence may find full recognition. The United Nations must not delay any longer, otherwise the French Government will assuredly carry out a wholesale slaughter of our fellow countrymen. The Committee asks the Secretary-General of the United Nations to intervene, in order that free postal communications may be restored, the warrants for the arrest of the Progress Movement leaders withdrawn and political detainees released.

In the hope that the United Nations will discharge its duties and insist on recognition of our independence.

We have the honour to be, Sir, etc.

For the Committee of the UPC at
New-Bell Bas-Fond

Douala, 4 July 1955

(Signed) Marc Foko Kouam, Secretary
