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PETITION FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LOG DIBONG AND
LOG NKEGDE FAMILIES OF SONGBEYANG CONCERNING THE
CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

(Circulated in accordance with rule 85 and supplementary rule F
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COPY

(of a letter written by hand)

The Log Dibong and Log Nkegde families of Songbayang
P.O. Box No. 51, Eséka, Cameroons

Badjob station,
31 October 1954

To: The Chairman of the Fourth Committee
Trusteeship Council,
United Nations, New York

Sir,

We are writing today to show you the injustice of the Colonialists and their lackeys in everything connected with the Cameroons. On 30-31 October 1954 their lackey, Njap Jean Emile, Cantonal Chief of Ndog Bessol, Sanaga Maritime Region, Eséka Subdivision, falsified the appointment of the new Chief of Songpayang.

The Log-Dibong, Log-Nkegde and Log-Ngend families of Songbayang, convened by the Cantonal Chief, met at Badjob station, CFC (Central French Cameroons), on 30-31 October 1954 to appoint the new Chief.

Following the Cantonal Chief's unjust action we make this statement:

1. We protest against the falsification of the vote on the appointment of the new Chief of Songbayang.

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2. We protest against Mr. Bayang Ndenga Friedérich's being Chief of Songbayang on the grounds that, when the Village Chief dies, it is for the people of the village to appoint their new Chief.

3. We protest against Mr. Bayang-Ndenga's appeal to the Chiefs and notables of the other villages to come and elect him Village Chief in the absence of the people concerned.

4. We protest against those who came and elected Bayang Ndenga Chief of Songbayang, and ate as much goat's meat and drank as much wine as they wanted; namely the following persons:

Bilagal Chief Bitja Njok, Essou, Ngombi, Biyiha Charles, Mbong Ngué
Songmandeng Chief Matip Etienne, Njock Isac, Djob Kwala, Ndenga Mang
Memel Chief Mapan Théophile.

5. We protest against the malpractice committed by the above-named in writing our names on the paper and representing it as our wish.

6. We protest against being summoned to Badjob station by the Cantonal Chief, and inform him that it is for us to choose a new Chief of Songbayang. Since we cast nine votes for the popular candidate, Bikai Alexandre, against three votes for the unpopular candidate, Bayang Ndenga, the Cantonal Chief has never respected the people's vote.

7. We refuse categorically, as we did last year, to make our tax payments to him.

8. We ask the Chief Subdivisional Officer to come among us to ensure that the people of Songbayang receive what they need.

9. Our families, which are under the domination of the Log-Nguend family, are very badly treated by this savage family.

10. Signatures of names:

Gwet Bikai, Bikai Bikai III, Bikai Bikai II, Djob Linkoghé, Nkoghé Bikai
Ngand Bitja, Bitja Ngué, Lihinag Djob, Bitanga Djob, Djob Djob, Tonye II,
Ngos Djob, Soug Lisom.

Awaiting a favourable reply from you, we have the honour to be etc.

The two families

Copies to:

High Commissioner, Yaoundé
Political Affairs Department, Yaoundé
ATCAM, Yaoundé
Edéa Region
Eséka Subdivision
United Nations, New York
Files
