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COUNCIL



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PETITION FROM MR. FRANCOIS TCHUNCHE AND OTHERS CONCERNING
THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

(Circulated in accordance with rule 85 of the rules
of procedure of the Trusteeship Council)

Mbouda, 9 January 1957

Tchunche Francois	Joiner	} residing at Mbouda (Eastern Kamerun)
Simo René	Photographer	
Sunke Gaston	Transport worker	

Petition

To the President of the United Nations General Assembly, New York,

Sir,

Since 12 November 1956, the United Nations General Assembly has been in session in New York and has aroused the hopes of Kamerunian patriots long bowed beneath the yoke of colonial domination. When the Assembly suspended its work on 22 December for the end of year holidays, Kamerun was on the verge of heart-rending events, because its sons had had the temerity to demand national UNIFICATION and INDEPENDENCE, in the face of threats and reprisals.

You know what happened, for you have received many communications on this matter from all corners of our Country.

The French Government, with the help of its lackeys, is killing and robbing the patriots. At Mbouda, one of the worst lackeys of colonialism quite recently seized four children of patriots and shut them up in his hut, which he had cleared of all its contents; he set fire to the hut and ran to the Police to tell them, that the UPC had set fire to his hut and had thus caused the death of his four children. Only the production of identity documents for two of these unfortunate children made it possible to establish the fact that it was really he who had committed the crime. Seeing the way the wind was blowing, the police kept their man in custody, and merely told the unhappy parents that "proceedings would take their course". We know how! ... It is injustice that reigns here in Kamerun.

The United Nations should take steps at this session to deliver us from the shackles of colonialism. Soldiers from neighbouring colonies (The Daily Times, an English newspaper, reports that five hundred have come from Brazzaville) daily kill thousands of Kamerunians in Sanaga Maritime and in other regions of the Country. But the Kamerunian people will not be deflected from their purpose.

We set great store by our international status and request the United Nations to give us proof of its advantages as often as possible. Before disbanding this time, it should enable our Country to participate in the twelfth session of the General Assembly, no longer as a petitioner from a country under trusteeship, but as a sovereign Nation, called upon to give its views on the liberation of other subject peoples and on any other question relating to the organization of the world. It is therefore the duty of this session of the General Assembly to pass a resolution recognizing the INDEPENDENCE and Unity of KAMERUN.

That is what the French and British colonialists are afraid of and that is why they have joined forces to prevent our delegates from attending the debates on the Kamerunian question. We protest vigorously against these methods, which are contrary to the essential purposes of the Trusteeship Agreements and of the United Nations Charter, and we request the General Assembly to shoulder its responsibilities and to bring our popular delegates to NEW YORK to speak on behalf of the people of our Country.

We have the honour to be, etc.,

For a group of patriots, whose photograph is enclosed:

The signatories

(Signed) Tchunche François
Simo René
Sunke Gaston

c/o P.O. Box No. 20, Bamenda (Western Kamerun)
