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PETITION FROM MR. MATHIEU SIMO CONCERNING
THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

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

Simo Mathieu, Merchant, residing at Balessing, Bamiléké Region, Dschang
Subdivision, c/o Regional Branch of the UPC, Bamenda, Kamerun under British
administration, 29/11/1956

To the President of the United Nations General Assembly

Sir,

For the first time I venture to approach your august Assembly to offer my good wishes for the success of the current session. The seditious situation created by the Administering Authority compels me to protest against the statement by the French representative to the United Nations, since no complaints by the indigenous inhabitants to the French Administration is given a hearing.

Considering that the plundering of the customary market by the police and the torturing of the traditional chief are a definite violation of customary law. Considering that at Baham market on 22/11/1956 at 12 noon a woman named Djouogo, nine months pregnant, fled to the bush to give birth because she was threatened by the forces of law and order under the personal command of Mr. Messmer Pierre, the present High Commissioner of France in Kamerun, who ultimately arrested the traditional chief of Baham.

Considering that the traditional chief had not advocated any violation of public order; that the chief's house was searched without cause. The history of the past is the only literature of the representatives of Overseas France in Kamerun. I therefore urge:

1. The immediate release of all political prisoners.
2. The repeal of the decree of 13 July 1955 dissolving the progressive movements in Kamerun, the UPC, UDEFEC, and JDC.
3. The cancellation of the warrants for the arrest of the leaders of those movements.
4. The establishment of a United Nations Commission in Kamerun for the election of a constituent assembly which would serve as a provisional Government so that Kamerun can escape from the present impasse, or to organize a popular referendum which the commission would supervise.
5. The implementation of Articles 73 and 76 of the United Nations Charter, without jeopardizing the international situation, so that these aims may be realized.
6. The termination of the Trusteeship Agreements in our Territory without prejudice to moral obligations which are nevertheless binding; and action on this petition, which represents me personally.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) Simo Mathieu
