

UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

T/PET.5/1059
18 January 1957.
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

PETITION FROM THE BALESENG LOCAL COMMITTEE OF THE
"UNION DES POPULATIONS DU CAMEROUN" CONCERNING THE
CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

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UNION DES POPULATIONS DU CAMEROUN
BALESENG LOCAL COMMITTEE OF THE UNION DES POPULATIONS DU CAMEROUN
(DSCHANG SUBDIVISION)

Subject: Petition

To the Secretary-General of the United Nations General Assembly, New York

Sir,

I have the honour respectfully to bring to your attention the following facts:

1. The French subject the Cameroonians and their Group Chiefs to daily torture. It is you, who are responsible for whites and blacks, that can take decisions restraining the abuses of these Authorities. The Cameroons were once a single country. When the Germans left, the French and English divided it between them without consulting the Cameroonian population. The partition of our country into two Territories is thus entirely fraudulent. We therefore ask that we should be granted Unification and Independence within the shortest possible time.
2. On 23 November 1956 the Chief of the village of Baham, Subdivision of Bafoussam, was arrested and taken to Dschang, from where he was transferred to Yaoundé and brought before the High Commissioner of the French Republic in the Cameroons on a criminal charge: that he was an active member of the Union des Populations du Camroun. On the day of his arrest the local Administration of this Subdivision proposed a new Chief without consulting the nine notables

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responsible for the appointment of Group Chiefs in the Bamiléké Region. Such a procedure is unthinkable in the Bamiléké Region. You too are aware, Mr. Secretary-General, that in the Bamiléké Region the Group Chiefs are appointed by the nine notables of each Group and in accordance with the will of the deceased chief proposing his last legitimate son as successor. It is with regret, therefore, that for the first time we see a Group Chief in our Region appointed by the Administration in the place of the young Chief who inherited the property of his father only three years ago.

I have the honour to be etc.

Simo Mathieu, Baleseng Local Committee

Address

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Cameroons under British administration
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