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

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UNION DES POPULATIONS DU CAMEROUN  
Toulouse Local Committee

Toulouse, 9 February 1957

No. CO2/CBT

Subject: Urgent request to the United Nations for the dispatch of an  
international force to Kamerun, where rivers of blood are flowing.

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

Sir,

We have the honour to draw the attention of the United Nations to the  
extreme gravity of the situation in Eastern Kamerun.

Since 18 December 1956, as a result of the demonstration by our people of  
their intention not to take part in the sham elections of 23 December organized by  
the French Government (since their goal remains the Unification and Independence  
of the country), that part of the Territory has been living under a reign of  
TERROR.

Military units and parachutists from all the military bases of French West  
Africa and French Equatorial Africa have invaded the whole country, which is thus  
in a state of emergency. Everywhere patriots are pitilessly slaughtered. Mass  
raids are emptying entire villages. The region of Sanaga Maritime, where the  
population unanimously boycotted the elections, is nothing but a slaughter-house  
in which it is impossible to count the corpses.

To grasp the extent of this atrocious repression, one need only refer to the testimony of Dr. Louis Paul AUJOLAT, who is an ex-Minister and one of the persons responsible for the massacre of May 1955, and who therefore cannot be suspected of prejudice in favour of the Kamerunians. In the weekly, "Témoignage Chrétien" of 1 February 1957, Mr. AUJOLAT wrote inter alia:

"In spite of the total blackout which has been imposed for the last several weeks on events in Sanaga Maritime, the truth cannot be hidden indefinitely."

And he states that when he left Kamerun (10 January 1957) the repression in Sanaga Maritime alone "had resulted in the loss of close to a thousand lives" (Témoignage Chrétien of 1 February 1957).

As Mr. AUJOLAT himself conveniently emphasizes, the French Government is maintaining a total blackout over this cruel repression for fear that international opinion will become aroused over the fate of Kamerun, a country under international trusteeship. What is taking place is a blind repression which spares no one.

- Proof: Many pastors have been arrested in the exercise of their duties and thrown into prisons where they are subjected to gross maltreatment. This is the case with the Reverend Pastor Jean SONG, who is in prison at Eséka.

- Further proof: The Catholic Mission itself, that traditional ally of the Administration, is not being spared. Its weekly, "Effort Camerounais", of 13 January 1957 was confiscated by the local Administration because one of its articles alerted public opinion to the events in Kamerun, and was entitled: "Too much blood has been shed."

We request you to bring the matter at once before the General Assembly so that it may decide on the immediate dispatch of an international police force to Kamerun in order to stop the bloodshed, pending a debate leading to the recognition, in conformity with Articles 73 and 76 of the Charter and articles 5 and 10 of the Trusteeship Agreements, the immediate Unification and Independence of this country.

We believe that the United Nations, which was able to intervene effectively in Egypt during the Franco-Anglo-Israel aggression, which was prepared to send its troops to Hungary despite the opposition of the Hungarian Government, cannot remain indifferent to the moans of its ward, which is being crushed by the French forces of repression.

We hope that the cries of agony of the Kamerunian people will be heard at the United Nations.

We have the honour to be, etc.

For the Toulouse Local Committee of  
the UPC:

(signed) illegible

OSENDE AFANA, Chairman  
7 rue des Lois,  
TOULOUSE (France)

(signed) illegible

Michel NDOH, Secretary

(Seal)

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