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FIFTY-THREE PETITIONS CONTAINING COMPLAINTS RELATING
TO VARIOUS REPRESSIVE MEASURES IN THE CAMEROONS UNDER
FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

(Circulated in accordance with paragraph 5 of the
annex to resolution 1713 (XX))

1. The authors of these fifty-three petitions protest strongly against the provocative acts, brutality, vexations and measures of repression of all kinds of which the Cameroonians in the Bamiléké, Mungo, Nyong-et-Sanaga, Sanaga-Maritime and Wouri Regions are still said to be the victims. The dates given on the petitions are spread over the period 11 August to 4 October 1958. Forty of the petitions were sent from the Cameroons under British administration, ten from France, one from Tunisia, one from Berlin and one from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Thirty-one of the petitions say that they are members of a local committee of ONE Kamerun, two of them members of committees of the Union des Populations du Cameroun, one of them a member of UDEFEC, nine of them members of a group of "Femmes Kamerunaises"; eight of them write as individuals, one as a member of an Association mutuelle and another on behalf of the International Conference of Asian-African Writers. The following extracts describing specific incidents in support of the petitioners' allegations are taken from the original of each of the petitions and are grouped according to the region to which they refer.

2. Bamiléké Region

(a) Bafang Sub-division

1. "In May 1958, colonialists from Bafangte killed my son, Tchabat Jean Claude, and when I wished to exhibit the body, they came to my house and forbade the funeral." (petition No. 34)

2. "Protest indignantly against all French colonial acts of oppression. Dreadful sufferings are experienced by all classes of the population in the Territory of Kamerun. At the end of June 1958, more than forty-five women

suffered miscarriages in the Adlu cem hospital of the Bakar Bafang Catholic Mission. Considering that in Eastern Kamerun pregnant women are treated in maternity wards for routine things such as injections by nivaquines, and in the case of operations, it is much easier, there is nothing to explain the fact that each day three or four deaths occur in hospital etc." (petition No. 26)

3. "Protest against forty-five miscarriages in the Adlu cem hospital at Bakar Bafang; twenty-four Kamerunians died during operations in the same hospital in July 1958." (petition No. 27)

4. "We protest indignantly against all the repressive measures of the French colonialists - we protest against the miscarriage of forty-five women in the Bakar-bafang adlu cem hospital which is run by Thérèse Gasteau." (petition No. 28)

5. "The names of some women in the maquis, inhabitants of the Baloko quarter, Bandoundja-Bafang, which was destroyed by the French police and Nzebap Salmon, chief of the said quarter, was taken to prison after the destruction of his large village; the names of the petitioners are as follows: Kahe Marthem Sianon, Sianon Yamanou, Kameni Eleine, Simé Monique, Djeumoni Neuto, Tchanga Odette, Kamvé Pauline, Djudjii, Ngoyi, Weladjii, Kagang, Tchenve." (petition No. 13)

(b) Bafoussam Subdivision

1. "In the torture chamber at Bafoussam; a prisoner arrested somewhere in the eastern zone of Kamerun was taken to Bafoussam, whence he was transferred to Dschang; he gives the following account of the torture chamber at Bafoussam: sixty-five of them were taken to Bafoussam and at the mobile squad camp at Bafoussam fifty-two died and their bodies disappeared. From the statement of this prisoner it is clear that between 1 November 1957 and 30 June 1958, 5,000 political prisoners died at Bafoussam and their bodies were taken and thrown in the water by the Commandant of the mobile squad. Those who are not easily intimidated are kept at Bafoussam from two to four months before being sent to the magistrate at Dschang. To show you the situation in the Bamiléké Region, particularly the Bafoussam Subdivision, without going into too much detail, we would point out that the colonists published the following statement in the Presse du Cameroun, No. 2508 of 9 September: Assassinations plunge into mourning Bafoussam, Baham and Banssoa. Curfew imposed in the Bamiléké Region from 6 September. All traffic prohibited from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. Of the 364 prisoners at Dschang, sixty-four are inhabitants

of the Bounda, Dschang, Bafang and Bagangté Subdivisions, and the rest, i.e. 300, are from the Bafoussam Subdivision. We can only quote these very elementary examples. When the prisoners have served their sentences, the soldiers take them away in the night as though to their homes, but really in order to kill them. That is how Fossi Jacob was deported and has not been heard of since. It seems that at the beginning of July, a certain French General brought arms into the territory at Bafoussam, where several guns have been kept underground near the mobile squad camps and the Ecole professionnelle at Bafoussam to exterminate the remaining Kamerunians in this region." (petition No. 51)

2. "On 16 September 1958, under the leadership of the Chief of the Bamiléké Region, under the control of the Bafoussam Subdivision, alas! The scene, like a film in which innocent people fall under the blows of rifle butts, bayonets and floggings, should be seen and imagined. As for the looting, pillaging, rape and so on... let us not speak of it. Three people - Chebou Paul, Simon Peka and Pieugue Tazennang - died and the following patriots were arrested and taken away to an unknown destination: Simo Pierre, Ganmanang, Iheulé, Joudom Joné, Neukata Meujeu, Fonou Gabriel, Kakingui Benoit, Kamgang Mekeu. Arbitrary sexual acts committed by the oppressors were common in the quarter and several girls who had not yet reached marriageable age were also victims; all this occurred under the eyes of the so-called French civilizers of Kamerun." (petition No. 15)

3. "I returned to the Bamiléké Region only a few days ago, but the situation in this region is impossible. On 2 August this year, at Bafoussam, a certain Tegua Gabriel originally from Baham, had to pay a fine of 20,000 francs because his wife was in prison at Dschang and we know why the French made this man pay such a large sum. At Bafoussam the same day Mr. Tegua paid 6,000 francs in advance and he still has 14,000 francs to pay and I am sorry for him about his wife because he does not know where his wife is." (petition No. 3)

4. "I write with tears in my eyes to complain against the Chief of the Bamiléké Region. Several murders and manhunts were arranged by the French colonialists in the under-mentioned localities during May 1958; the following persons were killed at Bagam, Bafoussam Subdivision: Tchetché-Takambeu with six members of his family; Keuwoula with three members of his family; Nguichiji with five members of his family, and their bodies were taken away in the night by the

soldiers; then Fassou-Ouhé was driven away with twenty-five members of his family. Why do they take reprisals against the inhabitants of Bagam, why do they take large sums of money and pillage? Despite the sufferings of the traditional Chief."

(petition No. 17)

5. "Considering that in 1957 military command posts were set up at Baham from where the soldiers could fire on innocent peasants whose only crime was to have claimed their right to self-government." (petition No. 6)

6. "Cannot the United Nations also see whether the Baham village is as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights requires since the arrest of Chief Kandem-Nyinyim Pierre Henri (III); for example, on 5 September three patriots from the village of Baham were killed because they asked why KNPH (III) had disappeared." (petition No. 5)

7. "The Members of the United Nations should note that on 5 September of this year the colonialists killed still more patriots in the village of Baham and followed the same course in the Mungo Region with their misery as throughout the Territory." (petition No. 4)

8. "On 2 September, at the place where we were, French soldiers shot Fodouop in the Baham group, Bamiléké Region, and on the same night they killed three other patriots in the urban centre at Bafoussam; on 5 September they shot two persons, Thedjou and Tedda at Bamendjou." (petition No. 14)

9. "Considering that the patriot, Tabesin, was found among the French troops at Bamedjou this month." (petition No. 6)

10. "I respectfully submit an account of what happened on 9 August 1958 at Bamendjou, Bafoussam subdivision; Tabetsing, a carpenter, the son of Nounbe Djonkou Cartier, was killed by four European gendarmes and his body was burnt. During the night his wife was handcuffed and kept under guard and in the morning they took away the Group Chief and put him in prison in order to dethrone him. Tabetsing's wife saw everything that went on at police headquarters; they allowed the Chief to return home, and on 21 August 1958 they returned to Bamendjou in sixteen trucks, surrounded the market and arrested everyone there; they took some to the Bafousam prison, some to the Dschang prison and others to the new Goham Subdivision, and they asked each prisoner to pay 150,000 francs to be set free." (petition No. 16)

11. "I respectfully submit a complaint against the Chief of the Bamiléké Region; on 23 July 1958 troops from Dschang, Bafoussam and Bafang, led by the chief of the Bamiléké Region, encircled Banminjou market. On that day there were abominable crimes, looting, arrests, rape, etc. ... let us say no mere. During the catastrophe, a military truck did nothing but come and go with prisoners" (petition No. 18)

12. "I respectfully submit a complaint against the Chief of the Bamiléké Region; on 14 August 1958 troops from Dschang, Bafoussam and Bangangté, led by the Chief of the Bamiléké Region, encircled the market at Banminjou. Alas ... 300 people were arrested, and a certain Thada was shot during the night and his body was burned in his house, as is usual." (petition No. 21)

13. "French soldiers entered Bamenjo and did havock burn houses secatered, children, women and men, no places for children to sleep and so on. All this evil took place on 19th November 1957 at twive oclock night. Names of people put to prison that were caught are: Joseph Tambela, Elies Deh, Isaac Kanu, Ndemu Nkwete, Songka Tambela, Jean Nwuzeh, Thomas Tala, Moris Mbeh. Those arrested on October: Kamto Bernard Lourence, Guiffo Kanya Morise." (petition No. 23)

14. "Heard with grief of the destruction of a maquis of 37 persons from the village of Bamougoum, Bamiléké Region, on 7 May 1958 by the mad French invaders, during which the patriots Tagane Tkoubou and Mba Mathieu were killed and several others wounded." (petition No. 6)

(c) Bafoussam and Dschang Subdivisions

"Protest against the murder and shooting of the under-mentioned on 28 August and 17 September 1958 in the Territory, particularly the Bafoussam and Dschang Subdivisions of Bamiléké region: Bafoussam: Fotso Joseph, Wamo Téléphone and fourteen others. Dschang: Wembe Tambou Jean, Tamgang and Tambapda Gabriel. The following were arrested: Ngolamze Rébéca, Kouaam Guiakam, Magne Véronique, Nzusakou and Kouam Lucas." (petition No. 8)

(d) Dschang Subdivision

1. "During the month of April there were already 364 political prisoners in the prison at Dschang, among whom were 324 officially labelled "terrorists" charged with murder, arson and all sorts of crimes in the Bamiléké region. Among them are

young children arrested at Douala during the round-up and then taken to the Bamiléké region for shameful and arbitrary indictment as accomplices in all the crimes. A good many of them are workers at Douala and their presence at work would be evidence if there were any justice. These 364 political prisoners at Dschang are housed in four small cells which are well known to all. They are locked up night and day and are only very occasionally let out for an hour in the morning or evening. Communication with these patriots is strictly forbidden, even communication with other prisoners. They are very badly fed and accommodated, that is to say they are without blankets and plates. Moreover, prisoners are strictly forbidden to receive food from their families outside and visiting is also forbidden. All the guards are armed with truncheons to torture the prisoners, particularly political ones. Hospitalization is prohibited. The first day the political prisoner arrived at Dschang prison in April, three other prisoners were shot in front of him and their bodies were thrown into a large river. Two days later another one died the same way and this is still going on." (petition No. 51)

2. "Considering that in the Bakassa I quarter, Dschang Region, on 8 September 1958, Jean Tappau was arrested, killed and thrown in the lake. Considering that at about 9 a.m. on 10 September 1958 ten political prisoners from Dschang who had been arrested during the night, were killed and thrown in the water." (petition No. 12)

3. "Energetically protest against the murder and shooting in the territory of Bansoa village on 7 September 1958 of the under-mentioned: Mwabe Tambou Jean, Tamgang, Tembapda Gabriel." (petition No. 24)

4. "During machine-gun operations at Bassoa, Dschang Subdivision, the following three persons were killed: Mizbé Tambou Jean, Mumbé Tagang and Tembepda Gabriel. The following four persons were arrested on the night of 6 to 7 September 1958: Ngubon Maurice, Téné Joseph, Dzedjouda and Tatchedé. During 8 September 1958 they were horribly tortured by soldiers and taken to Bafoussam where there will be hangings and ditches dug to bury the dead." (petition No. 33)

5. "I am writing most respectfully to submit a complaint against the Chief of the Bamiléké-Dschang Region. On 12 September 1958 detachments of soldiers came to Dschang and, as is usual, a certain Difo-Wékouo was shot, twenty-seven patriots were arrested and two prisoners were hanged the same day at Dschang." (petition No. 22)

(e) Banganté Subdivision

1. "Regarding the massacres caused by the French colonialists in Banwa village, Bangandé Subdivision. The whole massacre was caused by the French colonialists, and I will tell you of a comrade who has been freed in connexion with this crime. The comrade who has been released is called Simmon; he was arrested by the French colonialists and it was us two who saved him from the danger. I, Non Mois and Kwenkam Marccos, chef du quartier, Batoulanah, rescued our comrade from the hands of the colonialists, who would otherwise have killed him. I, Nana Moïse, and Nana Luc were put in prison because we saved our comrade."
(petition No. 30)

2. "I have told you about the death of my brother who was killed and the crimes which were committed at my house; the one killed was Wako Samuel, and he was killed between Bangandé and Bafoussam. Ngouloukou Samuel was also killed in the Nkamnah market on 13 December 1957. Twenty persons were taken away without warrants for arrest and we still do not know where they are, nor have we had any news of them; I do not know where my wives are either. Nana Luc was also arrested that night, but he paid 5,000 francs after which he was released by the French colonialists." (petition No. 29)

(f) Mbouda Subdivision

"The Chief of Bafoussam Subdivision sent for two white magicians who kill Kamerunians; on 2 September 1958 a patriot named Georges Kamdem was arrested by these two whites at the Babeté Catholic Mission on the night of 1 to 2 September 1958. I do not know the names of these two whites. Having arrested the above-named patriot, they wrote a letter as if it were terrorists who had arrested him. The letter was taken by the person's wife who kept it carefully. After the person was set free, he found the said letter. Before he was taken to Bafoussam to the place of execution, his eyes had already been covered with a piece of black cloth." (petition No. 20)

3. Mungo Région

(a) General

"Mungo Region: The Presse du Cameroun No. 2490 of 14-17 August last announced the sentences passed on our Kamerunian patriots from Mantem. One was condemned to

death, three to hard labour for life, two to twenty years' hard labour and ten years' local banishment etc., and to fines of 50,000 francs. The Presse du Cameroun No. 2514 of 16 September clearly shows us the lies which the French colonialists are telling about our brothers, for example those from Mantem, Bafoussam, Dschang, Eséka, etc., by calling them maquisards, murderers and criminals. We bring to the attention of the world the complete text of the said newspaper - Presse du Cameroun, page 2: We have known for some time that the non-maquisards residing among us are also taking an active part in the terrorism from which the Territory is suffering. Among the twenty murderers whom we have seen and heard recently at the criminal court, there was not a single maquisard; they were people living among us. Even in the case of Counsellor Taya Jean, the attackers are allegedly inhabitants of Nkongssamba itself. Signed Sataipoum Hapy." (petition No. 51)

(b) Loum

1. "With regard to the situation, the arrest of Kamerunians is like their daily bread to the French, and excluding 12 and 13 September I include the following: Tekam Boniface, Tayo Bernard, Fosso-Tchuinte, Nkouchou Ambroise, in Loum-Chan sector alone by French colonialists." (petition No. 2)

2. "We are continually in a state of misery. I should like to point out that on 4 August 1958, the French arrested comrade Noubissi Joseph who lived at Loum-Chantiers, and on 30 June last comrade Nangne André at the Loum-Chantiers Banana Company." (petition No. 3)

3. "Towards 3 a.m. on 5 August 1958, Noubissé Joseph was arrested by the French colonialists (Loum-Chantiers). Considering that at 10 a.m. on 11 August 1958 the police superintendent, accompanied by police, arrested the following Kamerunian women: Simo Cecilia, Ndjomo Hana, Boyon Josephine, Naumbissi Joseph." (petition No. 11)

(c) Nkongssamba

1. "Protest against the arrest by French troops of the following fifty-eight patriots on 30 September at Badjogue Nkongssamba: Ndeh Richard, Kemeni Emilienne, Nan Henri, Doma Matthieu and Tehida Jacob. Request intervention by United Nations." (petition No. 10)

2. "The following patriots were shot by French reinforcements at Kwata between Loum and N'Lohé on 30 September 1958: Youmbi Mathieu, Mbutou Zacharie, not to mention the wounded taken by the French soldiers to the Loum administrative sector, after which Mr. Djiepeng Julius was murdered at Manten in the administrative sector of the Manjo Group on 28 September last." (petition No. 7)

3. "On 30 September 1957 the following patriots were arrested and shot at the border (Kwatta) between Loum and L'ohé: Youmbi Mathieu, Mbutou Zacharie, not to mention the wounded taken by the French soldiers to the Loum administrative sector, after which Mr. Djie Peng Julius was murdered at Menten in the Manjo Group administrative sector on 28 September 1958." (petition No. 31)

4. "Report that on the night of 29 September Julien Zepang was shot by French troops and Nana Jean was arrested at Mantem and taken to an unknown destination." (petition No. 9)

5. "Heard with regret the death sentence passed on the following patriots by the court at Nkongsamba at its hearing on 11 August 1958: Domchawag Bernard, Kuam Maurice, Kuam Denis, Tchoukam Michel, Fotso Ignace, Njoko Paul, Pominis Joseph, Tchekouagan François and Nguiffo Laurent." (petition No. 6)

6. "With the very greatest respect I bring to your notice a complaint against the Chief Regional Officer, Nkongsamba. On 28 August 1958, troops from Bafang, Nkongsamba and Mbanga, led by the Chief Regional Officer of Nkongsamba and Mbanga encircled the town of Nkongsamba. A certain Weupibè, head of the family, was shot and fifteen patriots were arrested and taken to an unknown destination. At the same time Theumo Gabriel left his house at Njongo by the grace of God; his house and savings of 50 million francs were burnt by the French colonialists." (petition No. 19)

7. "I will explain to you how the repressions came about. It was 9 p.m. on 13 September 1958 (Njongo) when the French colonialist riflemen arrived. There were twelve Europeans and 120 well-armed soldiers. They arrested the women and children and gathered them in one spot saying that they would have to be burnt; there was one European who refused to kill them. He said that it was only necessary to collect their clothes and leave them naked without loincloths; then they discussed whether they should kill an old father who had all his family with him. The same European refused and only gave the order to take two male children away;

the male children were taken to the concentration camp. And here are the names of the two male children: Youmissi and Zockou Kammel." (petition No. 32)

8. "During the night of 29 June 1958, in the village of N'lohé, a blow broke down the doors and wrecked the homes of patriots who were taken naked to the police station at Nkongsamba, Moungo Region, without any advance warning; several hours later they were pitilessly subjected to electric shocks which affected their nervous systems through their bodies, because they were members of the Union des Populations du Kamerun (UPC). A rain of blows fell on the patriots because they had demanded their lawful rights. We request the liberation of the Kamerunian victims who have been imprisoned since the defeat of May 1955, in the Territory of the Kameruns in colonialist cells where they only see the light of day for ten minutes and of those arrested recently on 30 September; there are more than 100 patriots who sleep on cement floors and have dirty water to drink; washing is impossible. Thus, there as elsewhere, Kamerunian patriots are suffering." (petition No. 7)

9. "On the night of 29 June 1958, in the village of n'Lohé, a blow broke down the doors and wrecked the homes of patriots who were taken naked to the police station at N'Kongsamba, Moungo Region, without any advance warning; several hours later electric shocks pitilessly contorted their bodies because they were members of the Union des populations du Kamerun (UPC). A rain of blows fell on these patriots because they had claimed their lawful rights.... We ask for the liberation of the Kamerunian victims who have been imprisoned in colonialist cells since the defeat of May 1955 in the Territory of the Kameruns; they see the light of day for only ten minutes each day, sleep on a cement floor and are given dirty water which it is impossible to drink." (petition No. 8)

10. "As night was falling on 29 June 1958, at the village of N'Lohé, a blow broke down my door and wearing only a pair of shorts I was taken to the police station at Nkongsamba and was locked up without any advance warning; several days later electric shock contorted my body because I was a member of the Union des populations du Cameroun (UPC). A rain of blows kept falling on me for the national cause. But my patriots and I remain resolute in the struggle for the immediate unification and independence of Kamerun. I was set free on 25 August 1958, leaving 159 patriots in the cell at Nkongsamba, Moungo Region, where they only see the light of day for ten minutes each day; they sleep on the cement floor and drink dirty water. It

was impossible for us to wash and thus, there as elsewhere, the Kamerunian patriots are suffering." (petition No. 25)

4. Nyong-et-Sanaga Region

1. "Considering that during last July at Yaoundé the colonialist Prime Minister, André Marie Mbida, ordered patriots to be fired on in the Moko quarter; three were killed and several wounded." (petition No. 6)

2. "On 1 August 1958, the French colonialists began to empty the lakes at Yaoundé; four lakes were emptied from which the bodies of fifty-one murdered persons were taken". (petition No. 27)

5. Sanaga-Maritime Region

(a) Boumyebel-Ruben Um Nyobe

1. "We have to inform you of the catastrophic death of Ruben Um Nyobe, General Secretary of the UPC, which has thrown the country into mourning. The French occupation forces, who have been dividing the country since 1955 and sowing insecurity there, have finished by killing our only son, the only parliamentary representative of our country. What are the reasons underlying the death of this politician? While Ben Bella was imprisoned here in Kamerun, the French Government, carrying out its colonial policy as summarized in a statement by Roland Pré in 1955 and confirmed by the tragedy which afflicts us today, has seen fit to kill the soul of our national resistance. We request that an investigating mission should be sent to investigate the circumstances of the death of our only son, whose remains have not even been laid out for the people to see and whose death will undoubtedly give rise to great tension in the country." (petition No. 36)

2. "We warn you that the French Government with its artillery, machine-guns and hordes who cause disaster in the country have assassinated Ruben Um Nyobe, the hero of our national liberation... We Kamerunian women cannot remain indifferent to the assassination which has shaken the country. We press for the dispatch, first of all, of an investigating mission to report to the United Nations about the catastrophic situation which the French Government has created particularly by the death of our only son whose body was dragged through the streets and fields and then hidden before being buried." (petition No. 37)

3. "I am sure that you are aware of the great new catastrophe which has overtaken Kamerun. The death of the Kamerunian parliamentary representative, Mr. Ruben Um Nyobe, General Secretary of the UPC, who went to the United Nations many times until 1954 when the French Government made it impossible for him to go by terrible persecution and international warrants for arrest... You know that according to your regulations and laws, no leader or parliamentary representative of any country other than ours has been or ever will be killed in similar circumstances, for we are sheep without a shepherd. (petition No. 38)

4. "You have certainly learnt of the tragic death of Ruben Um Nyobe, General Secretary of the UPC. Since 1955 the French Government, through its murderer, Roland Pré, has been waging a merciless war for the sole purpose of drowning the national demands of the Kamerunian people in a blood bath. It was during this war that the French hordes who have divided our country assassinated Ruben Um Nyobé; the Kamerunian people who saw in this man the hero of national independence has been plunged into mourning and a silence enforced by colonialist threats.

"Kamerun, as a Trust Territory, issues a heart-felt appeal to the Security Council which should immediately investigate this tragedy which has paralysed the Kamerunian people. Whereas Ben Bella was imprisoned rather than killed, Bourguiba and Mohammed V were deported and quite recently the Cypriot priest, Monseigneur Makarios has returned from exile, in Kamerun the French Government has seen fit to kill the soul of our existence like an antelope. We Kamerunian women, meeting secretly and united by the sole ideal of independence strongly protest against the death of our only son whose body was dragged through brambles and thorns and has not even been seen by the nation which should bid a last farewell to its servant... We would point out that the Kamerunian nation cannot remain indifferent to the murder of its son. We consider that to overlook this warning would be to compromise the situation." (petitions Nos. 39 and 41)

5. "Ever since 1955 the war unleashed by the French Government through its servant Roland Pré has been decimating our people. Thus, the French occupation forces who are breaking up our country have murdered Ruben Um Nyobé, General Secretary of the UPC, the country's only true spokesman... Despite the most elementary rules of common-sense and in defiance of the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly, the French Government neither imprisoned, nor exiled

Ruben Um Nyobe as it did Bourguiba, Mahomed V and Ben Bella, but thought it would be agreeable to cut the throat of the soul of our resistance like an antelope. Now, when our country is in mourning for the death of its son, the French Government is organizing brilliant receptions to celebrate its 'glorious deed'. We Kamerunian women appeal to the Security Council to investigate this odious tragedy in order to find a clear-cut solution to heal the wound which has been inflicted on Kamerun." (petition No. 40)

6. "You certainly learnt several days ago from the radio, cables or other information, of the death of Ruben Um Nyobe, General Secretary of the UPC. The Presse du Cameroun of 14 September 1958, reporting the death, stated: 'Ruben Um Nyobe was shot down by a patrol'. Thus, the only son of our people, the honourable spokesman of the popular masses, the soul of the national resistance met his death like an antelope. The most authentic spokesman of Kamerun has died for an ideal extolled by every people - national independence. Despite the most elementary rules and the recommendations of the United Nations General Assembly, the French Government is continuing the hot war which has killed our people's delegate as a chicken is killed on festive occasions. Ruben Um Nyobe, the leader of the Kamerunian resistance, has been killed and his people lament and groan." (petition No. 42)

7. "We are writing to you sadly to announce the death of Mr. Ruben Um Nyobe, General Secretary of the UPC. The whole world is discussing it and Kamerun is in mourning. On 14 September 1958 the Presse du Cameroun reported: 'Ruben Um Nyobe has been killed by a patrol'. What are we to think of the French Government which has decimated the population of our country and has even killed the soul of the national resistance. He was killed 'as though he had been a wild animal'. The body of Ruben Um Nyobe was dragged through the forests and fields under the approving eyes of the Administering Authority. Having lost its favourite son, the country is again forced into silence by the French army. The United Nations should no longer remain indifferent to the tragedy which has just occurred for Kamerun is desolate of the death of its honourable spokesman; France has today committed an ignoble act by killing a politician of this calibre." (petition No. 43)

8. "The most crushing news, the death of Um Nyobe Ruben, General Secretary of the UPC, is traversing the world. The Kamerunian people are plunged in despair for they have lost their best son ... At this moment when the heart of every Kamerunian is broken, when this terrifying death hangs over the country which is exposed to a merciless war, when battered Kamerun is weeping from North to South and from East to West, the French Government, through such officials as Mr. Courty, who organized a cocktail party on the eve of Ruben Um Nyobe's burial trumpets its victory, while the Kamerunian people has not even seen the body of the honourable spokesman of the masses of the people." (petition No. 44)

9. "Kamerunian women protest strongly against the bloody policy of the French Government in Kamerun; we are outraged by the murder, by French troops, of Ruben Um Nyobe, General Secretary of the Union des Populations Camerounaises." (petition No. 45)

10. "Newspapers quoting a dispatch from the AFP have just reported that Ruben Um Nyobe, General Secretary of the Union des Populations du Cameroun (UPC), has been killed, with three companions, by French patrols. The great Kamerunian hero is too well known for me to dwell on him. May I say only that for the entire Kamerunian people Um Nyobe was a great patriot who devoted his brief existence to the noble cause of his country - Kamerun. Um showed the Kamerunian people by words and deeds that colonialism was neither permanent, nor invincible. Um actively fought against the resignation to which we had become accustomed through colonialist propaganda. He preached love of freedom, love of Kamerun and love of Africa. That was his one and only crime! The colonialists could never forgive him for making the Kamerunians so nationally conscious! ... Today the death of the great Kamerunian hero is a brutal reminder to the world that there is a Kamerunian problem which the United Nations must solve as soon as possible. We therefore ask you, Sir, to bring the feelings of the Kamerunian people and their righteous indignation at this heinous murder to the notice of international public opinion." (petition No. 46)

11. "We condemn the genocide by colonial France in the Cameroons; we learn of the murder of Um Nyobe, first leader of the Cameroons, by French forces." (petition No. 47)

12. "Subject; request for a board of inquiry, appointed by the Security Council, to investigate the death of Ruben Um Nyobé and also the whole situation in Kamerun. The Koumassi Central Committee has held an extraordinary general assembly to study the present situation, particularly the murder of our honourable son, Ruben Um Nyobé, by a patrol of French soldiers stationed in Kamerun, and statements made by the pro-Government Press, the so-called Presse du Cameroun on 15 and 16 September 1958...

"Considering that it is incredible for us to see that a politician recognized by practically the whole world has been killed without sentence having been passed and, what is more, in the bush,

"Considering that it goes without saying that for the last four years or so we have asked the United Nations in letters and petitions...even by petitioners, for a mission or commission of inquiry for the Kameruns to investigate the facts on the spot and establish responsibility for the Kamerunian tragedy which you have minimized to such an extent by siding with France on the basis of its untrue statements; Gentlemen, we are now at a point where Kamerun has lost its most honoured son, and again through the inertia of the United Nations.

"Gentlemen, without going into too much detail, we are faced with a fait accompli: the murder of a politician like Um in the bush by an ordinary patrol without any warning. We have heard that you have been told that a warning was given by the troops on patrol, but that is not true because the Government has opposed all interviews between the heads of local Press services and the troops who killed this Kamerunian hero. Um was killed by French troops in his native village, Boumyebel, and, since even the inhabitants of this village and neighbouring villages in this part of the country do not know any more about it or any of the details, how little does the rest of the country know of the facts of this catastrophe which has plunged the entire land into mourning.

"Again and for the last time we send a heartfelt appeal to the United Nations and the free countries of the world to intercede with France about this terrible crime (the murder of Ruben Um Nyobe) and to end the fascism which the French Government has introduced in Kamerun;

"We ask for a Kamerun Commission of inquiry appointed by the Security Council to investigate, on the spot, if possible, the circumstances of the sudden death of Um and all the other atrocities of which we are the victims." (petition No. 48)

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13. "The French Government has had a report of the murder of the great Kamerunian Um Nyobé, General Secretary of the UPC, published in the Press. We students have noted with indignation the announcement in the colonialist Press of this death, and also of the death of Mahi Matip, Chairman of the Jeunesse Démocratique du Camerun (JDC)." (petition No. 49)

14. "Through the medium of the colonialist radio service on Sunday evening, 14 September, and the colonialist Press (Presse du Cameroun), Nos. 2514 and 2517 of 15, 16 and 18 September 1958, respectively, the French administration in Kamerun announces with much ado and unequalled publicity that Ruben Um Nyobe, General Secretary of the Union des Populations du Cameroun was killed by a patrol of the 'French Government's police on Saturday, 13 September 1958, on the outskirts of his native village of Boumnyebel-Eséka'... and what does the Security Council think of the unexpected and cruel death of Um Nyobé Ruben?" (petition No. 50)

15. "The Presse du Cameroun, No. 2514 of 16 September, reports in large type the fact that Ruben Um Nyobe was killed by a patrol on Saturday; the newspaper states: On Saturday, 13 September, a police patrol opened fire on a group of rebels in the Boumnybel area. During the clash five rebels were killed, including Ruben Um Nyobe, General Secretary of the UPC, and Yenback Pierre, chief of the administrative and liaison branch of the UPC, a few days later the same colonialists made a search for the newspaper." (petition No. 51)

(b) Eséka

"We are informed from the prison at Eséka that the number of our brethren detained as political prisoners is 480 and that they are suffering all the time. Our compatriot Kameni Anatole, who was arbitrarily arrested at Douala and transferred to Eséka, has been condemned to fifteen months' imprisonment allegedly for reorganization of the dissolved movement." (petition No. 51)

6. Wouri Region

"Wouri Region: We can quote only a few examples of the sentences and the situation in Wouri (Douala). Our brave Dzúkam Chretien, a political prisoner, has been arbitrarily sentenced to seven years' imprisonment, ten years' deprivation of civic rights, five years' local banishment and a fine of

20,000 francs; Defo Sebastien - four years' imprisonment and five years' local banishment; Ekwala Robert and Kazú Isaac - three years' imprisonment and five years' local banishment; Sosso de Yabassi, twenty years' forced labour and five years' local banishment. They have lodged an appeal, but nothing has come of it yet. Despite the intercession of Maître Pierre Kaldor of Paris, the colonial judges have upheld the sentences. The number of political prisoners at Douala at the present time is 110. Raids are made daily in the various quarters at Douala and elsewhere. After the trial at N'Kongsamba Maître Kaldor was deported and it was with difficulty that he managed to visit the prisons at N'Kongsamba, Douala, Eséka and Yaoundé. He intended to go to all the prisons in the eastern zone, but the French Administration arrested him and deported him on 16 August. Mr. Torre, Mr. Ahidjo and Mr. Soppoliste have reached an impasse on the Kamerunian problem. We do not know if they can break it without a complete and unconditional amnesty." (petition No. 51)

7. Various

1. "I am here to tell you that the French War has not left one place untouched in the country; I can think of more than eight patriots from Bamileké killed at Mungo, of whom Nzigaing was one." (petition No. 1)

2. "Considering that many torture camps, known as concentration camps, and supply points have been set up in the region and almost everywhere else in the Camerun under French domination.

"Considering that the French Government and its hirelings from Yaoundé, the so-called 'Prime Minister', are using the rivers as cemeteries for political prisoners, for example, the river Noun, the river Nkam, etc.

"Considering that in its report for 1957 to the Trusteeship Council the French Government itself states that the official figure for the population is 3,269,559 as against 3,500,000 in past years; in other words, a total of 230,000 inhabitants have been killed between 25 May 1955 and the opening of the Twelfth Session of the United Nations General Assembly." (petition No. 35)

3. "Since the beginning of September 1958, in the Mbouda Subdivision patriots have been arrested and subjected to compulsory labour (corvée) at Babadjou near the illegal frontier." (petition No. 52)

4. "The administrator, the Chief Subdivisional Officer of the Mbouda Subdivision, has been inflicting other measures of repression on the people since 1 September 1958; at the present time it is forced labour in the village of Babadjou under the direction of the police superintendent, Fadel, who lives at Babadjou." (petition No. 53)

8. The above descriptions of events, which are cited for the most part as specific examples of the tense situation complained of by the petitioners, are followed by more general observations on the political future of the Territory. All the petitioners demand unification and the proclamation of the independence of the Cameroons at the thirteenth session of the General Assembly; the dispatch of a visiting mission accompanied by an international police force; a popular referendum under the auspices of the United Nations, to be preceded by the freeing of all political prisoners, the return of deported persons and nationalist leaders, full respect for freedom of the Press and freedom of speech, annulment of the decrees dissolving of the three movements, the UPC, JDC, and UDEFEC, the proclamation of a general amnesty, and the withdrawal of troops stationed in the Territory. A good many of the petitioners support their demands by references to the Charter, the Trust Agreements, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the provisions of General Assembly resolutions. Some of them express surprise at the long silence maintained by the United Nations in the face of the thousands of petitions which have been sent to it since May 1955. Others call for the dissolution of the present Legislative Assembly and are against any attempt at integration. Some ask that the status of "international refugee" be granted to the Cameroonians who have sought asylum in the British zone. Finally, some endorse the representatives of the UPC and UDEFEC as the only true spokesmen to appear before the General Assembly.

<u>Number of petition</u>	<u>Petitioner</u>	<u>Date of petition</u>	<u>Dispatched from</u>
1.	Mr. Joseph Dombon, member of the Local Committee of ONE Kamerun at Kante I, Loum-Chantiers	14 September 1958	Tombel
2.	Mr. Philippe Kamgang, member of the Local Committee of ONE Kamerun at Kante I, Loum-Chantiers	14 September 1958	Tombel
3.	Mrs. Agathe Sikam, Chairman of the Regional Committee of ONE Kamerun, at Loum-Chantiers	11 August 1958	Tombel
4.	Mr. Joseph Fandam, member of the Local Committee of ONE Kamerun at Kante I, Loum-Chantiers	14 September 1958	Tombel
5.	Mr. Nkuitse Yimnang, member of the Baham Mutual Association	12 September 1958	Tombel
6.	Mr. Ndeh Ntumazah, Chairman the Bassé Bamougoum Local Branch of ONE Kamerun	24 September 1958	Kumba
7.	Mr. André Kamngain, member of the Local Branch of ONE Kamerun, Baham	2 October 1958	Tombel
8.	Mrs. Jeanne Kemini, member of the Local Branch of ONE Kamerun, Ngogwa	24 September 1958	Tombel
9.	Mr. Kouakam	3 October 1958 (Telegram)	Kumba
10.	Mr. Wambo	4 October 1958 (Telegram)	Kumba
11.	Mr. Michel Ngakan, member of the Local Committee of ONE Kamerun at Bamalek-Banssoa	15 September 1958	Tombel
12.	Mr. Antoine Nguen, member of the Local Committee of ONE Kamerun at Bakossa I	14 September 1958	Tombel
13.	Mrs. Marthe Kahe, member of the ONE Kamerun Committee at Barombé	31 August 1958	Kumba
14.	Mrs. Rozaline Tchuenkam, member of the Local Brance of ONE Kamerun at Baham	9 September 1958	Kumba

15.	Mr. Anatore Goka, member of the Central Committee of ONE Kamerun at Batié	19 September 1958	Kumba
16.	Mr. Mba Fonkoudou, Local Committee of ONE Kamerun at Bafoussam, Badrandam I	3 September 1958	Bamenda
17.	Mr. Tchatche, member of the Central Committee of ONE Kamerun at Bagam	9 September 1958	Kumba
18.	Mrs. Deka, Chairman of the Baminjou Women's Committee of ONE Kamerun	no date	Kumba
19.	Mrs. Madeleine Goulobheu, Chairman of the Local Committee of ONE Kamerun, Nkongsamba	18 September 1958	Kumba
20.	Mr. Elias Taleng, member of the Local Committee of ONE Kamerun, Badeng-Bafoussam	12 September 1958	Bamenda
21.	Mrs. Fransoise Kingni, member of the Local Committee of ONE Kamerun, Gangam	20 September 1958	Kumba
22.	Mr. Jean Kamgo, member of the Local Committee of ONE Kamerun, Basoa, Dschang	20 September 1958	Kumba
23.	Mr. David Nchinder, businessman, Hausa Quarter, Mbounda	1 September 1958	Kumba
24.	Mr. Mokoum, member of the ONE Kamerun Committee at Matem I	19 September 1958	Tombel
25.	Mr. Maffe, member of the ONE Kamerun Committee at Matem I	19 September 1958	Tombel
26.	Mr. Gaston Moukan, member of the Local Committee of ONE Kamerun, Bakovin	29 August 1958	Kumba
27.	Mr. Flaubert Jérôme Ngagu, Chairman of the National Secretariat of ONE Kamerun at Bafang	25 August 1958	Kumba
28.	Mr. Michel Takeu, Chairman of the Local Committee of ONE Kamerun, Kingué Paul Bayon, Fomessa I, Bafang	1 September 1958	Kumba
29.	Mr. Ngoko Zengue Ngoodefoie, member of the Local Committee of ONE Kamerun at Nkannah, Bangwa	31 August 1958	Tombel

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| 30. | Mr. Moïse Non, member of the Local Committee of ONE Kamerun, Nkamnah | no date | Tombel |
| 31. | Mr. Jean Ngamna, member of the Local Branch of ONE Kamerun at Ngolsi | 1 October 1958 | Tombel |
| 32. | Mr. Nsonkamté Oumbe-Njokou, member of the Local Committee of ONE Kamerun, Mbamboum | 30 September 1958 | Tombel |
| 33. | Mr. Fosso Abraham, Secretary of the Central Committee of ONE Kamerun, Tombel II | no date | Tombel |
| 34. | Mrs. Emilia Tabeet, widow living at Bangangté | 29 September 1958 | Kumba |
| 35. | Mr. Jean Mboukouam, notable at Bangangté | 29 September 1958 | Kumba |
| 36. | Mrs. Emilienne Titti, Chairman of the <u>Femmes Kamerunaises</u> , Edéa Branch | 20 September 1958 | Paris |
| 37. | Mrs. Marie Ngo-Nginjel, Chairman of the <u>Femmes Kamerunaises</u> , Eséka Branch | 20 September 1958 | Paris |
| 38. | Mrs. Julienne Ngo Ndoumbong, <u>Femmes Kamerunaises</u> , Eséka Branch | 20 September 1958 | Paris |
| 39. | Mrs. Esther Ngo Diyani, Officer of the <u>Femmes Kamerunaises</u> , Wouri Branch | 19 September 1958 | Paris |
| 40. | Mrs. Jacqueline Ngo-Jôm, Chairman of the <u>Femmes Kamerunaises</u> , Edéa Branch | 20 September 1958 | Paris |
| 41. | Mrs. Ngo Luluga, <u>Femmes Kamerunaises</u> , Wouri Branch | 20 September 1958 | Paris |
| 42. | Mrs. Jacqueline Ngo Nguéha, <u>Femmes Kamerunaises</u> , Wouri Branch | 19 September 1958 | Paris |
| 43. | Mrs. Madeleine Ngo Mandeng, <u>Femmes Kamerunaises</u> , Eséka Branch | 19 September 1958 | Paris |
| 44. | Mrs. Ngo Ngné, <u>Femmes Kamerunaises</u> , Edéa Branch | 18 September 1958 | Paris |
| 45. | Mrs. Marthe Ouandié, Officer of UDEFEC, Berlin | 18 September 1958
(Telegram) | Berlin |
| 46. | Mr. G. Ndongo Diyé, Hedi Chaker Hospital, Sfax, Tunisia | 22 September 1958 | Tunisia |

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47.	Mr. Benjamin Matip, International Conference of Asian-African Writers,	26 September 1958 (Telegram)	Tashkent, U.S.S.R.
48.	Mr. Paul Mabe, Chairman, UPC Central Committee at Koumassi, New-Bell, Douala	26 September 1958	Paris
49.	Mr. Jean Ndip, student living at Balensap	15 September 1958	Kumba
50.	Mr. Abdel Yhamid Salem, National Liaison and Information Committee of the UPC, 2nd Division Zone/TWK, Mawola Sector	16 September 1958	Kumba
51.	Mr. Jermain Kamgain, planter at Bouba Centre	27 September 1958	Tombel
52.	Mr. John Marc Tchoffo, Chairman of the Central Committee of ONE Kamerun at M'égong, Matazem Regional Branch	30 October 1958	(?) Bamenda
53.	Mr. Fossang Kengue, Chairman of the Local Committee of ONE Kamerun at M'égonia, Matazem Regional Branch	no date	Bamenda
