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25 February 1961

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMUNICATION FROM MR. S.E. NYENTI, ON BEHALF OF THE CAMEROONS COMMONERS
CONGRESS CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER UNITED KINGDOM ADMINISTRATION

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No. CCC/61
February 9th 1961,
Central President CCC,
P.O. Box 36, Mamfe,
Br. Cameroons

To Mr. John N. Foncha, Premier Southern Cameroons, Buea.

SEEMING SUCCESS SHOULD BE DECLARED NULL AND VOID

Sir,

The purpose of this query is to create an opportunity for the U.N. Plebiscite Commissioner and the U.K. Plebiscite Administrator to assess your success and to agree or disagree with the view that your activities, since you returned from the United Nations in September 1959, have been those of juggling about with peoples freedom, Until now, the people of Southern Cameroons have not been fully informed about the implications of joining Cameroun Republic. You are telling them the Republic is an El Dorado, which is better than Britain and France. Because of deceit, your seeming success should be declared null and void and the people be given a chance to confirm the result of the plebiscite through a general election in February 1962.

Query 1. Is it true that you are a political swindler?

That with one breath you preach for joining Cameroun Republic and with another breath you preach against joining Cameroun Republic? That your written statement "Reunification could not be automatic but gradual" has captured almost all CCC supporters, who feel that after the plebiscite they will enjoy separate independence and could join the Cameroun Republic at leisure?

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2. Is it true that your Foncha/Ahidjo proposed Constitution should have passed through a Referendum before other nations in the world are told that Southern Cameroonians desire to reunify with the Cameroun Republic? That this plebiscite is exactly equal to putting the cart before the horse or persuading people to firstly reunify then secondly to examine under what terms they had reunified? That after the plebiscite the whole nation will rise against the Foncha/Ahidjo proposed Constitution because the Cameroun Republic Nation will not allow Southern Cameroons to have

Her own separate National Flag,
Her own separate National Anthem,
Her own separate Broadcasting Station,
Her own separate European Ally,
Her own separate Seat at the United Nations?

That you are inviting the Congo drama to the Cameroons, where English speaking Cameroonians will sharply disagree with French Speaking Cameroonians?

3. Is it true that you are blindfolding the people?

That you and Ahidjo in a joint communique said that a "Conference, at which representatives of the Trusteeship Authority and possibly those of the United Nations would be present, would have as its aim the fixing of time limits and conditions for the transfer of sovereign powers to an organisation representing the future Federation." The CCC wants to know whether at that conference the United Nations and the United Kingdom representatives will be entitled to vote. If not, why blindfold the public to believe that they would be present to protect the interest of English Speaking Cameroonians?

4. Is it true that you owe your seeming success to ambiguity? That on the 11th February 1961 the majority of the people will vote for what they feel is a separate Cameroons Nation. They do not know that by so doing they voted for Cameroun Republic Nation?

5. Is it true that you let the English Speaking Cameroons down at the United Nations, in September 1959 by not asking for separate independence? That the following was the United Nations remark "In considering the question of the Southern Cameroons, the Committee started from the assumption that the people of the Territory were politically mature and perfectly capable of deciding their own future, but it had heard no formal statement to that effect?" That instead of telling people the truth you go about telling lies that it was the United Nations

that forced Southern Cameroonians to join either Nigeria or Cameroun Republic? That you will cease to be popular with your reunification plan after one year's period, when this fact will be communicated to the people?

6. Is it true that you are under mental duress? That you still do not understand what is meant by the plebiscite? That in November 1960 you told Hon. Iain Macleod, British Colonial Secretary, that achieving independence for joining Cameroun Republic "Does not rule out a period of separate independence by the Southern Cameroons?" Hon. Macleod made it clear that he did not accept your interpretation. That since then you are still under mental duress? If not, what do you mean by reunification "could not be automatic but gradual?" That after the plebiscite you can never never never sit at the United Nations as a separate nation?

Ultimatum. The Cameroons Commoners Congress has resolved that unless you explain yourself satisfactorily through the Plebiscite Commissioner to the world in general and the English Speaking Cameroons State in particular, the party will be compelled to boycott your very unpopular government at the end of March 1961.

I am, Sir, Yours faithfully,
For and on behalf of the party,
(sgd) S.E. NYENTI
(Chief S.E. Nyenti),
Cameroons Commoners Congress.

Copies:

H. Child Esq., U.K., Plebiscite
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Southern Cameroons, Buea.

Hon. Iain Macleod, Colonial Secretary, London

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