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COMMUNICATION FROM MR. JACOB KOUANGAN SANVEE CONCERNING  
TOGOLAND UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

(Circulated in accordance with rule 24 of the rules of  
procedure for the Trusteeship Council)

Anécho, 14 April 1956

Mr. SANVEE Kouangan Jacob

Planter - Municipal Councillor of the Town of Anécho

Anécho, French Togoland

To the Secretary-General of the United Nations

Sir,

I have the honour to send to you herewith by registered mail, for information, five (5) copies of letters addressed by the Regent of the town of Anécho - Municipal Councillors - traditional ministers - and Chefs de quartier of Anécho to the Administrator-Mayor of the town of Anécho<sup>1/</sup> on the subject of the meeting which the Comité de l'Unité Togolaise (CUT) wishes to hold in our town.

I have the honour to be etc.

(Signed) J.K. Sanvee

1/ Note by the Secretariat: One of the above-mentioned letters is enclosed. The others have been placed in the Secretariat files and are available to members of the Trusteeship Council on request.

Anécho, 13 April 1956

The Municipal Councillors of the Town of Anécho,

To the Administrator-Mayor of the Town of Anécho.

Sir,

During the meeting of the Municipal Council held yesterday afternoon, you transmitted to us a letter dated 10 April 1956 from the General Chairman of the "CUT" at Lomé, in which he renews his request of 3 April 1956 to hold a public meeting on 15 April of this year.

To confirm our position, which is very clear, we would refer you to our motion of 4 April 1956, the substance of which is as follows:

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ANECHO

Considering:

that the attempt of the Comité de l'Unité Togolaise (CUT) to organize a congress at Anécho is a defiance of the feelings of the immense majority of the population;

that this attempt is an express violation of the customary laws governing ceremonies in the town;

that the holding of this congress may provoke legitimate reactions of anger and indignation and may lead to a breach of the peace, in spite of all our efforts to induce calm;

Requests the Commissioner of the Republic, in the higher interest of preserving the peace in the town of Anécho, to take energetic action to frustrate this heinous attempt to stir up disorder and dissension.

If, in spite of this motion which we maintain, the General Chairman of the "CUT", who is a foreigner, takes the liberty of renewing his request, we, who are true sons of the country and elected by the people, shall on no account allow the customary laws governing ceremonies in our town - a town of tradition - to be flouted.

We know also that true French democracy, of which the Chairman of the "CUT" speaks in his letter, has never abolished the customary laws of a country so long as those customary laws do not harm others.

Moreover, in making our complaints to former Minister BURON and the Honourable Deputies, during their visit to our town on 9 April, we protested energetically against the holding of any public meeting for three years - years of mourning for our late and dearly beloved King.

We would emphasize again - if ever you were to let the "CUT" come to hold a public meeting in our town during our period of mourning, and something unpleasant were to happen, we would hold you primarily responsible.

It is for these capital reasons and in the higher interest of peace in our Town of Anécho that we ask you to take energetic action to stop this heinous attempt to create disorder and dissension.

A WORD TO THE WISE.

We have the honour to be etc.

(Signed) SANVEE Jacob

(and seven other signatures)

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