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Agenda item 4

EXAMINATION OF PETITIONS

Draft report of the Standing Committee on Petitions

Chairman: Mr. G.K. CASTON (United Kingdom of
Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

1. The Standing Committee on Petitions, composed of the representatives of Belgium, China, India, Italy, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, presents the Trusteeship Council with this report on the progress it has achieved during its series of meetings from 29 May 1959 up to the present in examining the petitions listed in Part A of the annex to the agenda of the twenty-fourth session of the Council^{1/} and fifty-nine petitions which were subsequently added to the agenda,^{2/} under the provisions of rule 86, paragraph 3, of the rules of procedure of the Council.
2. The Standing Committee held a total of meetings^{3/} during which it examined 845 of the 956 petitions on the agenda including these added to it, and approved the reports thereon which contained the decisions it recommended for adoption by the Council.^{4/}

^{1/} T/1445/Add.1.

^{2/} T/PET.11/761, 763, 765, 766 and Add.1 and 767; T/PET.4 and 5/43 and 44; T/PET.5/1402-1443; T/PET.1/10-15; T/PET.8/13; and T/PET.10/30.

^{3/} T/C.2/SR.506 to 52....

^{4/} The reports are contained in T/L.913 relating to petitions concerning Ruanda-Urundi; T/L.916 relating to petitions concerning Western Samoa; T/L.924 relating to petitions concerning the Cameroons under French administration; T/L.929 relating to a petition concerning New Guinea; T/L.930 relating to a petition concerning the Pacific Islands; T/L. and T/L. relating to petitions concerning Somaliland.

3. The following table shows, by Territory, the number of petitions and documents that were listed for examination, the number of petitions examined and the number of petitions and documents still awaiting examination:

<u>Territory</u>	<u>Listed for examination</u>			<u>Awaiting examination</u>	
	<u>Number of documents</u>	<u>Corresponding number of petitions</u>	<u>Number of petitions examined</u>	<u>Number of documents</u>	<u>Corresponding number of petitions</u>
Ruanda-Urundi	5	5	5	0	0
Somaliland	50	97	88	9	9
Cameroons under British administration	20	21	0	20	21
Cameroons under British and Cameroons under French administration	21	53	51 ^{5/}	2	2
Cameroons under French administration	175	750	693	19	57
Togoland	22	22	0	22	22
Western Samoa	6	6	6	0	0
New Guinea	1	1	1	0	0
Pacific Islands	1	1	1	0	0
Totals	301	956	845	72	111

4. With regard to the petitions concerning the Cameroons under British administration, no special representative from the Territory was present during the twenty-fourth session of the Council; with regard to those concerning Togoland, no special representative from the Territory was available to the Standing Committee on Petitions during the twenty-fourth session of the Council. The petitions from these two Territories were, therefore, not examined.

5. As a consequence of the written statement transmitted on 3 July 1959 by the Government of France as Administering Authority for the Cameroons under French

^{5/} Examined only in so far as they relate to the Cameroons under French administration.

administration (T/OBS.5/119 and Corr.1) to the effect that it is unable to consider petitions coming from parties which are no longer legally in existence or from persons who proclaim their adherence to such parties, the Standing Committee did not examine fifty-nine petitions concerning the Cameroons under French administration.^{6/}

6. This report was adopted at the meeting of the Committee on ... July 1959 by votes to, with abstentions.

^{6/} See T/L.924, Section IV.