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PETITIONS CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER
UNITED KINGDOM ADMINISTRATION

Draft 252nd Report of the Standing Committee on Petitions

Chairman: Mr. M. Rasgotra (India)

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Note by the Secretariat: In order to avoid unnecessary duplication of material which has already been circulated in mimeographed form, the present draft report contains only the material to be added to that contained in the Secretariat working paper (T/C.2/L.401 and Corr.1 and Add.1) and the draft resolutions. The original material should be considered as forming part of the draft, except where otherwise indicated.]

1. At its 539th, 540th and meetings on 13 and May 1960, the Standing Committee on Petitions, composed of the representatives of Belgium, China, India, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, examined the petitions concerning the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration which are listed in the preceding table of contents.
2. Messrs. J.O. Field and Alhaji Ali Akilu participated in the examination as the Special Representatives of the Administering Authority concerned.
3. The Standing Committee submits herewith to the Council its report on these petitions and recommends, in accordance with rule 90, paragraph 6, of the Council's rules of procedure, that the Council decide that no special information is required concerning the action taken on resolutions I-IX.

- I. Petitions from Buba Dumba refugees (T/PET.4/161), from Mr. Yakam (T/PET.4/167) and from the Central Branch of One Kamerun at Tombel (T/PET.4/180)
4. These petitions were examined and discussed at the 539th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.539 and).
5. The Special Representative stated that section 64 of the Criminal Code provided that any person who was a member of an illegal organization, who carried on any activities for such organizations or had in his possession any property belonging to such an organization, was thereby committing an offence.
6. The representative of the Administering Authority stated that approximately 30,000 people had crossed the border and settled in the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration. The Administering Authority had prevented the entry of only certain individuals, whose presence in the Territory had been considered a threat to its security and good order.
7. At its meeting, the Committee approved by votes to with abstention draft resolution I, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

- I. Petitions from Buba Dumba refugees (T/PET.4/161), from Mr. Yakam (T/PET.4/167) and from the Central Branch of One Kamerun at Tombel (T/PET.4/180)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined, in consultation with the United Kingdom as the Administering Authority concerned, the petitions from Buba Dumba refugees, from Mr. Yakam and from the Central Branch of One Kamerun at Tombel concerning the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration (T/PET.4/161, 167 and 180, T/OBS.4/54, 51 and 62, T/L.),

Draws the attention of the petitioners to the observations of the Administering Authority.

II. Petitions from Mr. Denis Ngouenou (T/PET.4/168), from the People of Nkout (T/PET.4/169) and from Mr. Ntonganbou (T/PET.4/171)

9. These petitions were examined and discussed at the 539th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.539 and).

10. At its meeting, the Committee approved by votes to with abstention draft resolution II, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

II. Petitions from Mr. Denis Ngouenou (T/PET.4/168), from the People of Nkout (T/PET.4/169) and from Mr. Ntonganbou (T/PET.4/171)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined, in consultation with the United Kingdom as the Administering Authority concerned, the petitions from Mr. Denis Ngouenou, from the people of Nkout and from Mr. Ntonganbou concerning the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration (T/PET.4/168, 169 and 171, T/OBS.4/50 and 61, T/L.),

Draws the attention of the petitioners to the observations of the Administering Authority.

III. Petition from One Kamerun, Bansa Branch (T/PET.4/170 and Add.1)

4. The petition was examined and discussed at the 539th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.539 and).

5. At its meeting, the Committee approved by votes to with abstention draft resolution III, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

III. Petition from One Kamerun, Bansa Branch
(T/PET.4/170 and Add.1)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined, in consultation with the United Kingdom as the Administering Authority concerned, the petition from One Kamerun, Bansa Branch, concerning the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration (T/PET.4/170 and Add.1, T/OBS.4/57, T/L.),

Draws the attention of the petitioner to the observations of the Administering Authority.

IV. Two petitions from the National Secretariat of One Kamerun at Kumba (T/PET.4/175 and 176), one from the International League for the Rights of Man (T/PET.4/176), one from the Committee of One Kamerun at Mbounda Quartier (T/PET.4/177 and Add.1), one from Mr. Daniel Nchinda (T/PET.4/178), and four from members of the Babete and Babadjou Local Committees of One Kamerun (T/PET.4/179)

20. These petitions were examined and discussed at the 539th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.539 and).

21. The Special Representative stated that there was a list of prohibited publications, which contained some twenty publications from various countries. Under the present constitutional arrangements, the matter was one for the Federal Government to decide. Orders proscribing any publications are made by the Governor-General of the Federation on the advice of the Council of Ministers. He also recalled that, under the criminal code, the importation and possession of publications considered subversive or a danger to peace, order and good government, were prohibited and said that the publications referred to in the petition had no doubt been deemed to come under that heading. He added that there was no ban on literature from any particular country.

22. At its meeting, the Committee approved by votes to with abstention draft resolution IV, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

IV. Two petitions from the National Secretariat of One Kamerun at Kumba (T/PET.4/175 and 176), one from the International League for the Rights of Man (T/PET.4/176), one from the Committee of One Kamerun at Mbounda Quartier (T/PET.4/177 and Add.1), one from Mr. Daniel Nchinda (T/PET.4/178), and four from members of the Babete and Babadjou Local Committees of One Kamerun (T/PET.4/179)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined, in consultation with the United Kingdom as the Administering Authority concerned, the petitions from the National Secretariat of One Kamerun at Kumba, the International League for the Rights of Man, the Committee of One Kamerun at Mbounda Quartier, Mr. Daniel Nchinda and four members of the Babete and Babadjou Local Committees of One Kamerun concerning the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration (T/PET.4/175, 176, 177 and Add.1, 178 and 179, T/OBS.4/57, 58, 63 and 69, T/L.),

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1. Draws the attention of the petitioners to the observations of the Administering Authority and to the statements of its Special Representative;
2. Expresses regret at the instances of persecution of members of the One Kamerun party described in these petitions;
3. Notes the statement of the Administering Authority that One Kamerun is a recognized political party and that it is free as other political organizations to pursue all legitimate activities;
4. Notes further that, under the criminal code, the importation and possession of publications considered subversive or a danger to peace, order and good government, are prohibited and that there is a list of some twenty such proscribed publications, the possession of any of which makes a person liable to arrest and prosecution;
5. Expresses the hope that the Administering Authority will review the position in this regard and remove such restrictions as exist at present to the free circulation of literature containing different political views, and which prejudice the rights of freedom of thought and of expression.

V. Petition from the Mombo Central Committee of One Kamerun (T/PET.4/181)

3. The petition was examined and discussed at the 539th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.539 and).

4. At its meeting, the Committee approved by votes to with abstention draft resolution V, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

V. Petition from the Mombo Central Committee of One Kamerun
(T/PET.4/181)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined, in consultation with the United Kingdom as the Administering Authority concerned, the petition from the Mombo Central Committee of One Kamerun concerning the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration (T/PET.4/181, T/OBS.4/60, T/L.),

1. Draws the attention of the petitioner to the observations of the Administering Authority;

2. Expresses regret at the action of the Administering Authority in arbitrarily arresting the Secretary of the Mombo Central Committee of One Kamerun.

VI. Petitions from Mr. Abraham Fosso (T/PET.4/183), from the Chairman of the Kamerunian Women's Committee of One Kamerun at Tombel (T/PET.4/187) and from Mr. André Ngoko (T/PET.4/188)

4. These petitions were examined and discussed at the 539th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.539 and).

5. At its meeting, the Committee approved by votes to with abstention draft resolution VI, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

VI. Petitions from Mr. Abraham Fosso (T/PET.4/183), from the Chairman of the Kamerunian Women's Committee of One Kamerun at Tombel (T/PET.4/187) and from Mr. André Ngoko (T/PET.4/188)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined, in consultation with the United Kingdom as the Administering Authority concerned, the petitions from Mr. Abraham Fosso, from the Chairman of the Kamerunian Women's Committee of One Kamerun at Tombel, and from Mr. André Ngoko concerning the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration (T/PET.4/183, 187 and 188, T/OBS.4/64 and 66, T/L.),

Draws the attention of the petitioners to the observations of the Administering Authority.

VII. Petition from the Organizing Secretary of the Northern Kamerun Democratic Party (NKDP) (T/PET.4/190)

5. The petition was examined and discussed at the 539th, 540th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.539, 540 and).
6. The Special Representative stated that each application for permit was dealt with on its merits and permit was usually issued unless the Authorities had reason to suspect a breach of the peace. In most cases, permits were issued within twenty-four hours of submitting the applications.
7. At its meeting, the Committee approved by votes to with abstention draft resolution VII, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

VII. Petition from the Organizing Secretary of the Northern Kamerun Democratic Party (NKDP) (T/PET.4/190)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined, in consultation with the United Kingdom as the Administering Authority concerned, the petition from the Organizing Secretary of the Northern Kamerun Democratic Party (NKDP) concerning the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration (T/PET.4/190, T/OBS.4/68, T/L.),

1. Draws the attention of the petitioner to the observations of the Administering Authority and to the statements of its Special Representative;
2. Expresses the hope that future applications for permission to hold political meetings will be considered by the appropriate authorities impartially and in as expeditious a manner as practicable so as to ensure to all political parties, without any discrimination, the full freedom to assemble and to express their views;
3. Recommends to the Administering Authority that it abide by democratic principles in guaranteeing to the inhabitants of the Territory their rights to freedom of speech and assembly.

VIII. Petition from One Kamerun in Tiko (T/PET.4/191 and Add.1)

6. The petition was examined and discussed at the 540th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.540 and).

7. At its meeting, the Committee approved by votes to with abstention draft resolution VIII, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

VIII. Petition from One Kamerun in Tiko
(T/PET.4/191 and Add.1)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined, in consultation with the United Kingdom as the Administering Authority concerned, the petition from One Kamerun in Tiko concerning the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration (T/PET.4/191 and Add.1, T/OBS.4/75, T/L.),

Draws the attention of the petitioner to the observations of the Administering Authority.

IX. Petition from the Local Committee at Tombel 2 (T/PET.4/194)

3. The petition was examined and discussed at the 540th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.540 and).

4. At its meeting, the Committee approved by votes to with abstention draft resolution IX, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

IX. Petition from the Local Committee at Tombel 2
(T/PET.4/194)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined, in consultation with the United Kingdom as the Administering Authority concerned, the petition from the Local Committee at Tombel 2 concerning the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration (T/PET.4/194, T/OBS.4/76, T/L.),

Draws the attention of the petitioner to the observations of the Administering Authority.
