

UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL



Distr.
LIMITED

T/L.412
26 February 1954

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH-
FRENCH

Thirteenth session
Agenda item 4

PETITIONS CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

Fifty-Seventh Report of the Standing Committee on Petitions

Chairman: Mr. Roberto C. Quiros (El Salvador)

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Introductory note

1. At its 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 131st, 132nd and 133rd meetings on 19, 20, 21 January and 18, 19 and 23 February 1954, the Standing Committee on Petitions, composed of the representatives of Australia, Belgium, El Salvador, Syria, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United Kingdom, examined the sixteen petitions concerning the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under French administration which are listed in the preceding table of contents. The sixteen petitions in this group have as a common feature dissatisfaction with the administration of justice. They have been grouped according to the region to which they relate.
2. Mr. G. H. Becquey participated in the examination as the special representative 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, III-V, VII-X and XII-XVI.

I. Petition from Mr. Bernard Bassegné (T/PET.5/142)

1. The petitioner, who resides at Ebolowa, complains of large fines amounting in all to 1.5 million francs imposed upon indigenous persons in 1948 for using incorrect scales. He admits that these persons, of whom he was one, cheated their neighbours, 'but does not see why "the whites should get this money" and asks that the fines should be returned to the indigenous inhabitants.
2. The Administering Authority (T/OBS.5/9, section 12) notes that the petitioner admits that the sentences imposed were justified. Further, it points out that the judicial fines accrue as revenue to the local budget and benefit the Territory.
3. The petition was examined and discussed at the 105th and 131st meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.105 and 131).
4. The special representative informed the Committee that an inspection of weights and measures had been instituted in the Territory by an order dated

29 October 1953 with a view to preventing such widespread frauds in the future.

5. At its 131st meeting, the Committee adopted by 4 votes to 0 with 2 abstentions draft resolution I, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

II. Petition from Mr. Albert Menguele (T/PET.5/196)

1. The petitioner complains of incidents that took place at Sangmélina on 1 June 1952. He states that during a football match on that day, Mr. Bernard Bonnet, the police commandant of the town, beat up an African whom he accused of "having an arrogant air". Cameroonian guards also came to the commandant's aid, and the African was arrested.

2. The petitioner says that this rather trivial incident would not have merited any complaint if the authorities at Sangmélina had not followed it up by sending a veritable punitive expedition "led by a certain Mr. Girard, a mechanic from the Administration garage, and the Police Commandant" to the indigenous quarter on the same evening, demanding to see all identity cards and beating men, women and children and finally arresting about thirty persons, who were later subjected to brutal treatment in the prison. Most of the prisoners were released the following day, but three were kept in prison for several days. As regards the African who was first arrested, he also was beaten and later sentenced to 3 months' imprisonment for using violence against an official. The Africans who had been maltreated all complained to the authorities, but to no avail.

3. The Administering Authority observes (T/OBS.5/12, section 2) that Mr. Bonnet, a police officer, was attending a football match when Betolo, the petitioner's brother addressed him in an aggressive manner. The police officer asked to see his identity papers and when Betolo replied that he had none he told him to go to the police station for an identity check. Betolo refused, whereupon Mr. Bonnet ordered two Cameroonian guards to take him there. A brawl ensued, in the course of which Mr. Bonnet had his finger bitten by Betolo.

The police officer was taken to the hospital and Betolo to the police station.

4. The head of the subdivision gave orders to disperse the crowd on the football field in order to quiet the excitement aroused, and sent some Cameroonian guards, led by a native sergeant, to patrol the Akron quarter to avoid possible demonstrations. A few persons without identity papers were taken to the police station for an identity check. The mechanic Girard merely drove the vehicle in which the guards were transported.

5. Betolo was sentenced to three months' imprisonment on a charge of assaulting a police officer. He and five other Africans have brought a charge of violence and instituted civil proceedings. Betolo accuses the Cameroonian guards, Mr. Bonnet, Mr. Girard and the head of the subdivision. Betolo was certainly somewhat roughly handled by the guards, but this was due to the violent resistance he put up. The European officials named in the action have denied having struck Betolo or having given orders to strike him. The case is being investigated by the juge de paix à compétence étendue at Sangmélima.

6. The Administering Authority further states that a disciplinary penalty was inflicted on Mr. Bonnet, whose superiors considered that he had shown lack of judgment in his initial reaction. He has been transferred, as have also some of the Cameroonian guards who were suspected, despite their denials, of having participated in the violence used against Betolo.

7. It further points out that while the affair is regrettable it was not a serious incident. Football matches in this area frequently give rise to scenes in which tempers become frayed.

8. The petitioner also mentions the case of an old Paramount Chief "who was beaten publicly by an administrative official and ducked in a stream", and further complains that forced labour is still practised, relating that: "the work of beautifying and cleaning the town of Sangmélima was carried out by indigenous inhabitants from the bush, who were forcibly recruited as in the old days of forced labour."

9. As regards these grievances the Administering Authority states that they appear to be unfounded. All road workmen in Sangmélina are recruited in accordance with the existing labour legislation and no one remembers having seen "an old paramount chief of Sangmélina publicly struck by an administrative official and ducked in a stream".
10. The petition was examined and discussed at the 105th and 131st meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.105 and 131).
11. The special representative stated that the charges of violence brought by Mr. Betolo were still being investigated by the juge de paix à compétence étendue at Sangmélina. So far it had not been possible to arrive at any definitive conclusion, as the testimony was very confused. It was known that Mr. Betolo had been beaten, but the person or persons actually guilty had not been found. Disciplinary sanctions had been taken against the police officer and guards involved in June or July 1952.
12. The special representative informed the Committee that Mr. Betolo, a male nurse in the Administration, was dismissed on 25 September 1953 for his conduct in the affair. It was open to him to appeal against his dismissal to the Conseil du contentieux administratif, but he had not done so.
13. As regards the charges of forced labour, the special representative observed that no corroborative evidence had been found by the Administration.
14. At its 131st meeting, the Committee adopted by 4 votes to 1 with 1 abstention draft resolution II, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

III. Petition from Mr. Ndong Ngema Mba (T/PET.5/204)

1. The petitioner, a native of Gabon, French Equatorial Africa, requests the deportation from tropical Africa of a Frenchman, Mr. Louis Le Bris, now living at Ebolowa in the Cameroons, whom he accuses of murdering two Africans while in Gabon before the war.
2. The Administering Authority points out (T/OBS.5/13) that the petitioner is not a resident of a Trust Territory, nor do the facts alleged concern a Trust Territory.

3. Nevertheless, the Administering Authority held an inquiry, but was unable to trace or identify the petitioner. It was found that no action at law had been brought against the accused person, who left Woleu-Ntem in Gabon in 1934 and established himself at Ebolowa, across the frontier in the Cameroons.
4. The petition was examined and discussed at the 105th and 131st meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.105 and 131).
5. The special representative informed the Committee that Mr. Le Bris now resided in Ebolowa where he owned a plantation. He also had a plantation at Bitam in French Equatorial Africa which he occasionally visited. Mr. Le Bris enjoyed an honourable reputation in the Cameroons and had not been known to have any difficulties with the indigenous population.
6. At its 131st meeting, the Committee adopted by 4 votes to 1 with 1 abstention draft resolution III, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

IV. Petition from Mr. Max-Legrand Evehe (T/PET.5/145)

1. The petitioner, a resident of Kribi and a Government employee since 1941, states that on the evening of 30 December 1951, while out walking with his wife, he went into a bar to make some purchases, his wife meanwhile waiting outside. When he rejoined her he found that a European, Mr. Henri Varney, was insulting her. The petitioner rebuked him in a polite way, but Mr. Varney called him a "Swine - dirty nigger", to which the petitioner found himself forced to reply: "Dirty half-white swine, you are not a real Frenchman, real Frenchmen don't behave like that", with the result that he received a blow on the right eye, and a fight ensued. Seven other Europeans came to the aid of their compatriot, whereupon the petitioner, finding himself alone against so many, rushed into the bar to let the proprietors know what was going on and that he was being beaten up for nothing. The Europeans pursued him and used all kinds of weapons against him, a gun, bottles, furniture. When he tried to escape, his attackers came after him and he received a slight cut from a knife about his left eye. Finally the petitioner succeeded in knocking down Mr. Varney. Mr. Ledoux, a Government official who arrived on the scene, restored order.

2. The petitioner asserts that the Chief of the Police Brigade at Kribi, during an interrogation which took place at the petitioner's instigation five days after the incident, went so far as to say: "Now you see the disadvantage of having a pretty wife".
3. The day after the incident the petitioner lodged a formal complaint against Mr. Varney with the juge de paix à compétence étendue and later formally requested damages amounting to 350,000 francs for threats against his life, the Europeans involved having used a knife and rifle. On 11 January 1952 the Juge de Paix replied that his complaint against Mr. Varney had been ruled out of order, but that the petitioner could continue the case at his own risk and peril, i.e. by bringing a civil suit.
4. The Administering Authority gives the following details of the incident complained of (T/OBS.5/9, section 15). The petitioner was in the bar when two Europeans made advances to Mrs. Evehe, who was standing at the door of the restaurant. When Mr. Evehe became aware of this he was extremely annoyed and a fight ensued between several Europeans and several Africans. One European fired a shot in the air to attract the attention of the police and the assistant of the Chef de région did in fact arrive on the scene and restored order.
5. The Administering Authority adds that during the investigations made by the police both Mr. Varney and Mr. Evehe were heard; each wished to bring a case against the other. As it was impossible to decide who was, in fact, responsible, the Juge de Paix à Compétence Etendue at Kribi dismissed both complaints. The petitioner was informed that it was open to him to bring a civil suit against Mr. Varney, but has not done so.
6. The petition was examined and discussed at the 106th and 131st meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.106 and 131).
7. The special representative informed the Committee that as a result of the intervention of the Administration, the contract of Mr. Varney had not been renewed. Consequently, Mr. Varney, who had been on leave in France at the time, could not return to the Territory.
8. At its 131st meeting, the Committee adopted by 4 votes to 2 draft resolution IV, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

V. Petition from Mr. Pierre Badjeck (T/PET.5/200)

1. The petitioner, Assistant Inspector of Police at Yaoundé, transmits a copy of a letter from his father, Mr. Robert Badjeck, to the Attorney-General at Brazzaville, testifies as to the truth of the allegations made therein and, further, describes the conditions under which his aged father is now living, an exile from his village (Ekoum).
2. Mr. Robert Badjeck, who states that he is the father of 87 children, complains that his troubles began in the year 1944, when he discovered that his eldest son, Daniel, was robbing him. He forced his son to return the stolen property, but the latter, who had the support of the assistant to the chef de subdivision at Eseka and of a Catholic priest, complained to the authorities, asserting that the property rightfully belonged to him; whereupon the chef de subdivision forced Mr. Badjeck to return it to his son.
3. In 1945, Mr. Badjeck was sentenced to three months' imprisonment on an unjust complaint brought by his paramount chief, Mbem Mayi, who had been summoned by the chef de subdivision, of having caused disturbances in his canton, and to one year's imprisonment on a false charge of having fraudulently attempted to obtain 10,000 francs from Mr. Gilbert Bitcha, a clerk in the service of the administration. Although Mr. Badjeck had a receipt to prove that Mr. Bitcha had borrowed the money from him and could produce witnesses, the verdict of the court went against him. He states that in July 1945 the Public Prosecutor ordered his release as he had been found innocent of the charges against him, but the chef de subdivision refused to comply with this order. A few weeks later, the chef de région convened the chiefs of the district, inviting them to witness against Mr. Badjeck. With the exception of Daniel, not one complied. Daniel, however, repeated his charges of a year before that his father had stolen his property and as a result Mr. Badjeck was sentenced to five years' penal servitude and to five years' banishment from the Territory on a charge of illegal restraint and complicity in burglary by a gang. Daniel, who has won the favour of the authorities, replaced his father as village chief and took over his lands and possessions. Mr. Badjeck claims that this is all a vast intrigue against him.

4. Mr. Badjeck protests that he is innocent of the crimes of which he was accused, and states that he had repeatedly appealed to the authorities for amnesty and for the return of his property, but to no avail. He is now living in exile and in abject poverty, with no means of supporting his large family.
5. The Administering Authority states (T/OBS.5/12, section 3) that in 1945 the petitioner, the chief of the village of Ekoum, received four sentences, one of three months' imprisonment, one of one year's imprisonment and two of five years' hard labour and five years' restricted residence, the sentences to run concurrently, on charges of repeated defiance of authority, of slanderous accusation and of illegal restraint of persons and violence as well as of robbery and burglary.
6. The petitioner was conditionally released on 8 May 1948 and was authorized to reside at Kribi. An Order of 12 September 1950 permitted him to reside in the subdivision of Eséka, and consequently in his native village. In 1952 he applied for remission of the sentence of restricted residence which he still had to serve. This appeal was rejected by the Conseil supérieur de la magistrature on 13 January 1953. Mr. Badjeck consequently remained subject to restricted residence until 9 May 1953, five years after his conditional release.
7. The Administering Authority states that since that date he has been free to move where he likes within the Territory.
8. The petition was examined and discussed at the 106th and 131st meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.106 and 131).
9. The special representative informed the Committee that if Mr. Robert Badjeck wished to claim any property, it was open to him to bring a suit before the appropriate customary court.
10. At its 131st meeting, the Committee adopted by 3 votes to none, with 3 abstentions draft resolution V, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

VI. Petition from Mr. Pierre Dimalla (T/PET.5/205 and Add.1)

1. The petitioner, a resident of Ngong Ngock, Eseka, states that he is the founder of the political party ESOCAM and contends that during the elections for the Territorial Assembly in March 1952 he was requested by the Administration to withdraw his candidature and to canvass for its "official" candidate Father Melone. Mr. Dimalla refused and has since been persecuted by the authorities and was eventually arrested. He states that, prior to his imprisonment an attempt was made on 15 August 1952 to have him removed from the presidency of ESOCAM by visiting the members of his party and telling them not to re-elect him.
2. The Administering Authority in its observations (T/OBS.5/12, section 7) states that Mr. Dimalla was, in fact, one of the founders of ESOCAM and was its president. However, he was removed from office by a congress of the Movement held at Edea in August 1952. For this he blames the Government, but this is merely his personal point of view, which does not seem to be shared by the other members of the Movement.
3. The petitioner claims that in the long run these attempts to ruin him politically succeeded. On 9 February 1952 (this appears to be an error for 1953) he was sentenced to six months' imprisonment and ordered to pay 290,000 francs damages, and was on 13 November 1952 put into prison as the result of a purely civil action brought by a white trader, who had delivered products to the petitioner against a signed receipt. The petitioner contends that this was therefore a case of an ordinary debt.
4. As regards this complaint, the Administering Authority explains that the petitioner was sentenced by a judgment of the tribunal correctionnel at Yaoundé on 9 February 1953 to six months' imprisonment for false pretences together with 290,000 francs damages to be paid to Mr. Zenoun, the civil party to the action. On appeal this judgment was confirmed by an Order of the Appeal Court dated 15 April 1953 but the damages were reduced to 220,950 francs. The petitioner has moved to have the judgment set aside. On 13 November 1952 the petitioner was committed to prison.

5. The petitioner further relates how the inhabitants of the North Ndog Bea canton brought a collective charge against Jean Pierre Neutot, superintendent of building works at Sanaga port, Hkong Ngock (Kikote) village, together with his accomplice Ndjock Daniel. Mr. Neutot is accused of having personally administered violent blows to Mr. Dimalla; further of having arrested and sentenced people and chained them up in his building yard; of having made the villagers work with pay; of having killed and eaten other people's goats without accounting for them to their owners; of having prevented the indigenous inhabitants from fishing in the Sanaga; of forbidding them to walk on the carriage road and of making the villagers pay 60,000 francs CFA for the authorization of periodic markets already authorized by the High Commissioner.

6. The petitioner alleges, however, that instead of prosecuting Mr. Neutot, the Administering Authority is prosecuting the petitioner and his family. A European gendarme accompanied by five Cameroonian guards and Paramount Chief M'Bem Mayi of the North Ndogbea district went to Nkong Ngock, on 16 January 1953, while the petitioner was still in prison, and arrested his four brothers after beating them soundly for three days in succession. Several other members of the family also suffered the same treatment. Some of his domestic animals were killed and eaten, and clothes and 85,000 francs in cash were also stolen from him by unknown persons. The petitioner suspects persons in the service of M'Bem Mayi. At a later date other members of his family were also arrested.

7. In this connexion, the Administering Authority states (T/OBS.5/12 and Add.1) that, after serving his first sentence, the petitioner is being kept in protective custody in view of the charge against him, which is being investigated by the examining magistrate of Eseka, of violence, illegal restraint of persons and of being an accessory to theft by giving instructions, in connexion with a series of acts of hostility, sabotage and theft against the staff and property of a civil engineering firm at Kikot. If these offences are established he will be subject to criminal proceedings. On 30 September 1952 the Government representative at Eseka was informed of these acts and sent four guards to the scene to prevent disorder. When the guards arrived they were seized by people who apparently acted on the orders of the petitioner, and

were bound and disarmed. Following a local inquiry made by a police officer on the instructions of the juge de paix à compétence étendue at Eséka and the Public Prosecutor of Yaoundé, five persons were arrested.

8. As regards the accusations made by the petitioner against employees of a public works contractor, the Administering Authority asserts that these were the subject of a complaint by the petitioner to the chef du Territoire on 11 October 1952. An administrative inquiry was held, and the accusations were shown to be unfounded. They will be considered by the competent court in conjunction with the judicial examination opened against Dimalla and his accomplices.

9. The petitioner expresses anxiety as to possible reprisals and expresses his belief that this is the last petition he will send to the United Nations and "that it will promptly cause my death".

10. A complaint is made by the petitioner that the letter from the United Nations acknowledging receipt of his petition of 18 February and which was dated 26 February 1953, did not reach him till 4 April 1953.

11. In this connexion, the Secretariat wishes to point out that the letter referred to was sent by sea-mail. According to the United States Post Office in New York, sea-mail for the Cameroons leaves New York irregularly, varying as much as from two weeks to one month between departures.

12. Finally, the petitioner requests the United Nations to establish a permanent delegation to collect information in the Trust Territory. If that is not possible he writes, "record my name in your register of United Nations delegations as your intermediate delegate ...".

13. The petition was examined and discussed at the 106th and 131st meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.106 and 131).

14. The special representative informed the Committee that there were now seven persons detained with the petitioner in connexion with events at Kikot and that the judicial inquiries had not yet been completed.

15. At its 131st meeting, the Committee adopted by 2 votes to 1 with 3 abstentions draft resolution VI, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

VII. Petition from members of "La Solidarite Babimbi" (SOLIBABI) (T/PET.5/217)

1. The petitioners protest against the prosecution of their General Chairman, Mr. Pierre Penda. They claim that the administration, seeing the growing influence of the SOLIBABI, embarked on a campaign against the organization and prosecuted the responsible head, Mr. Pierre Penda, using as pretext the "Memorandum from the people of Babimbi", which Mr. Penda had addressed to the High Commissioner on 17 July 1949.^{1/} Mr. Penda was charged with selling his influence in the Babimbi country and inspiring the people with the idea of a collective refusal to pay taxes and was sentenced to one year's imprisonment.
2. Mr. Penda was also sentenced to fifteen days' imprisonment and fined 1,200 francs for having tried to set up a "French school" at Babimbi.
3. The Administering Authority in its observations (T/OBS.5/19, section 1) states first that as the names of the petitioners were not submitted it has been impossible to verify if the petitioners do in fact belong to the SOLIBABI. It notes, however, that they consider Mr. Penda as the General Chairman of this organization; Mr. Penda was, however, removed from this post in January 1950 by a decision of the General Assembly of the organization. The petitioners can thus represent only a minority and do not appear to be qualified to speak on its behalf.
4. The Administering Authority explains that Mr. Penda was charged on 14 November 1952 with usurpation of title, with incitement to non-payment of taxes and with opening a private school without authorization. On 28 April 1953 he was sentenced to 15 months' imprisonment by the juge de paix à compétence étendue at Edea. He appealed and on 15 July 1953 the Court of Appeals at Yaoundé sentenced him to 15 days' imprisonment and a fine of 1,000 francs for opening a

^{1/} A copy of this memorandum was presented to the United Nations and was reproduced in T/PET.5/70 (resolution 156 (VI)). The memorandum contained, at the end, a declaration from the people of Babimbi that, if the authorities continued to neglect their district, they would in future be obliged to cease paying any taxes.

private school without authorization and to one years' imprisonment for selling his influence and for incitement to non-payment of taxes. Mr. Penda has applied to the Cour de Cassation to have the judgment set aside. The opening of private schools is subject to authorization by the High Commissioner, under Order No. 1850 of 19 May 1949.

5. The petitioners regret that the members of the United Nations Visiting Missions have never found time to visit Babimbi, despite repeated requests "as they would have found a province of 60,000 inhabitants regularly paying its taxes and shamefully abandoned - without roads, clinics or maternity hospitals, or business firms - by authorities who, not content with that, sentence to imprisonment anyone who tries to take the initiative in helping them with their work". They claim that the only thoroughfare in the subdivision of Babimbi is a twenty-four kilometre stretch of road. The Babimbi have frequently asked the Administering Authority for the equipment necessary to enable them to build roads for themselves. Nevertheless, nothing has been done to meet these requests. They also complain that the Authorities have refused to build a bridge across the Sanaga although canoes constantly capsize there in the rainy season.

6. Replying to this complaint the Administering Authority notes that the economic and social development of the Babimbi subdivision has already been the subject of T/PET.5/49, 61 and 70, (resolutions 157 (VI), 212 (VI) and 156 (VI)) in which the Trusteeship Council, taking note of the observations of the Administering Authority that the slow development of the subdivision was due mainly to its geographical isolation, invited it to continue its efforts to develop the area.

7. The Administering Authority points out in its present observations that road-building is extremely difficult and burdensome in this mountainous area. The difficulties involved have delayed the realization of the plans made. A road 28 kilometres long and open to trucks all the year round, has, however, been built between Ngambé, the chief centre of the subdivision and Songmbengué, a village on the Sanaga. The crossing of the Sanaga which has been impossible by ferry during the rainy season will soon be made possible by the installation

of an improved ferry. The road from there continues to the subdivision of Edéa and joins the main road and the railroad from Yaoundé to Douala. Roads which are accessible to cars, except during the rainy season link Ndom to Nitoukon (Mbam) and Kelleng to Kikot. The inhabitants are actually engaged in building a road from Ndom to Kelleng with equipment furnished by the administration. A bridge has been built over the Sanaga at Kikot.

8. The petitioners further complain of the lack of hospitals, clinics and schools.

9. As regards hospitals and clinics, the Administering Authority explains there is a medical centre with 48 beds at Ngambé with a dispensary which was erected in 1951 of durable materials, and gives details of other facilities provided by the administration and missions for the area.

10. As regards schools, the Administering Authority states that it runs six elementary schools in the area. There are also fifty-two mission schools.

11. Finally, the petitioners complain of the lack of commercial centres.

12. Replying to this, the Administering Authority maintains that three commercial centres have been set up in the sub-division, namely at Ngambé, Songmbengué and Kelleng.

13. The Administering Authority agrees that the subdivision of Babimbi is in fact poorer and endowed less well than the neighbouring subdivisions of Edéa and Eséka. However, the basic tax rate in Babimbi is 500 francs, while it is 700 francs in Edéa and Eséka.

14. The petition was examined and discussed at the 106th and 132nd meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.106 and 132).

15. The special representative stated that Mr. Penda is still free pending a decision by the Cour de Cassation.

16. The special representative also stated that in view of the improved ferry to be installed over the Sanaga River access to the Babimbi region would in future be possible under almost all conditions. It would therefore be possible for the next Visiting Mission to the Territory to visit the region.

17. At its 132nd meeting, the Committee adopted by 3 votes to 1 with 2 abstentions draft resolution VII, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

VIII. Petition from Mr. Alphonse M'Boua M'Boua (T/PET.5/221)

1. The petitioner, chief monitor at a Catholic Mission, complains that as a result of a slanderous statement made against him by the Hersent Company of Edéa in 1950, he was charged with having stolen a sack of "macabos" while working as a sales clerk of the company. After having spent 10 days at the police station at Edéa, he was set free by the juge de paix à compétence étendue. Several weeks later and under pressure from his employer, the Court sentenced him to two years' imprisonment by default. Having lodged an objection, he was given a hearing and set free by decision of the magistrate on 30 October 1950.
2. The petitioner now complains that, after working for three years, he has just recently been arrested and brought before the Court at Edéa on the same charge without any material evidence, and is threatened with a sentence of two years' imprisonment by default.
3. The petition was examined and discussed at the 107th and 132nd meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.107 and 132).
4. The special representative stated that while the petitioner was employed by the Société Hersent, he was accused of several thefts, not only of stealing a sack of macabos. As he did not appear in court he was sentenced by default to two years' imprisonment for theft on 2 October 1950. The petitioner protested on 23 October 1950 and on 6 November the court demanded further information in the case. Mr. M'Boua was summoned to appear before the court on 19 March 1953, but it was impossible to locate him. A new sentence was passed by default, which confirmed the sentence of 1950. The petitioner appealed, and on 16 December 1953 the Cour d'appel sentenced him to two months' imprisonment. He was granted an amnesty by reason of the law of 6 August 1953.
5. At its 132nd meeting, the Committee adopted by 5 votes to none, with 1 abstention draft resolution VIII, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

IX. Petition from Mr. Nicolas Ehole (T/PET.5/160)

1. The petitioner, who is President-General of the UPC at Mamang in the Nkongsamba area, claims that a man named Ossambi Ehoa from the village of Mamang sold the petitioner's wife, who had one child and was expecting another, to Stanislas Gnano, also from Mamang. The petitioner asserts that they "constituted the greater part of his inheritance from his late father".
2. Wishing to recover his wife, the petitioner summoned Ossambi to appear in court at Nkongsamba in June 1948. In the presence of the Chef de Subdivision Ossambi was there obliged to return the petitioner's wife and was also told to return a saucepan and a hut which the petitioner had inherited from his father. Further, he was ordered to repay Gnano the sum of money paid by him for the woman. Finally, Ossambi and the petitioner were made to draw up two agreements as evidence of what had been settled.
3. However, in 1950 a new Chef de Subdivision, who had replaced the one mentioned above, came to the village with Chief Fritz Pandon and a Mr. Jean Nghoh. The petitioner claims that these three then plotted with the chief of the village to take the petitioner's wife and children away from him and give her back to Mr. Gnano "on the pretext that he had civil status". Accordingly they took his wife and children away from him and also the written agreement.
4. The petitioner claims that Chief Pandon on this occasion said: "I am King in the Mungo region. I am taking the agreement from you because you are a member of the UPC. Let the UPC come and get your wife from me."
5. The Administering Authority contends (T/OBS.5/10, section 9) that the dispute under customary law referred to by the petitioner was amicably settled in 1950 in the presence of the local representative of the Administration, the Chief of the village and the persons concerned and their families. There is no file relating to the affair. No protest has been raised on the matter since 1950.
6. If the petitioner had wished, it was open to him to appeal to the Court of First Instance of the circonscription, but he did not do so.

7. The petition was examined and discussed at the 107th and 132nd meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.107 and 132).
8. The special representative informed the Committee that when a man died his heir generally assumed responsibility for the widow. It was open to her to object and the right of women to decide their future had been expressly recognized in several decrees promulgated by the Administration.
9. The special representative stated that it was still open to the petitioner to bring a suit before the customary tribunal. The woman would not be forced to live with him, but the question of her personal status and related financial matters could be put to the court.
10. The special representative stated that the petitioner would not be impeded in his suit by lack of the written agreement since he could easily produce witnesses. The special representative observed that Chief Pandon, who is alleged to have taken the agreement, had died during 1953.
11. At its 132nd meeting, the Committee adopted by 5 votes to none, with 1 abstention draft resolution IX, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

X. Petition from Mr. Lucas Nana (T/PET.5/163 and Add.1)

1. The petitioner, who resides at Loumchantiers, complains that on 19 May 1952 his plantation was overrun by a Mr. Tchintcheu and a group of young men, who proceeded to destroy his banana trees, coffee shrubs, etc. and to demolish two large houses containing all his possessions. On 27 May, the Chef de Subdivision came to the plantation to take stock of the damage. He was, however, attacked by the same group, wounded and forced to retreat. The chef de region, arriving at a later date with police officers to investigate these incidents was subjected to the same treatment. The petitioner claims that he knows of no reason for the actions of Mr. Tchintcheu.
2. Finally, he states that his family has been dispersed; and owing to his inability to provide for them two have recently died. He claims indemnities amounting to 1,500,000 francs for the total loss of his property, 1,000,000 francs for the interest on the damages, and 1,200,000 francs for expenses pertaining to his family.

3. In a later communication (T/PET.5/163/Add.1) dated 28 April 1953 the petitioner relates that his only son died in March and that his life could have been saved but for the petitioner's desperate financial circumstances. He fears for the lives of the remaining members of his large family as he is not able to provide for them.
4. The Administering Authority (T/OBS.5/10, section 12) calls attention to the fact that observations on the incidents referred to by the petitioner were made in connexion with T/PET.5/117 from the Comite regional de l'Union des populations du Cameroun, N'Kongsamba (resolution 776 (XII)).
5. The Administering Authority states that Lucas Nana was the innocent victim of the people's anger as a result of the fire which ravaged the village of Loumchantier (May 1952).
6. Lucas Nana brought charges against Francois Tchintcheu, Paul Kuite and their accomplices and the case was tried on 30 December 1952 by the Juge de paix a competence etendue of Nkongsamba. The six persons accused received varying sentences of imprisonment or imprisonment and banishment and, in addition, they were sentenced jointly to pay 300,000 francs damages to Lucas Nana.
7. Tchintcheu having appealed, the Yaounde Appeals Court on 20 May 1953 confirmed the judgment of the juge de paix a competence etendue and raised the sum for damages to 400,000 francs.
8. The petition was examined and discussed at the 107th and 132nd meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.107 and 132).
9. The special representative stated that he did not know whether the petitioner had been able to recover the damages awarded him by the Court of Appeals. If the defendants did not pay, the petitioner could apply to the courts for the execution of the judgment by seizure of their property.
10. In reply to a question as to whether the petitioner could apply to the Conseil du contentieux administratif and eventually to the Conseil d'Etat for damages against the Administration for failure to protect his property, the special representative stated that the petitioner was certainly entitled to bring such a complaint, but that he very much doubted whether such an action would produce any result.

11. At its 132nd meeting, the Committee adopted by 2 votes to none, with 4 abstentions draft resolution X, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

XI. Petition from the "Union des Populations du Cameroun, Comite regional Bamileke, Subdivisicn de Bafang", T/PET.5/171)

1. The petitioners, who state that fear of reprisals "makes them sorely afraid and prevents them from expressing their thoughts", begin by requesting unification, a fixed term for the independence of the Cameroons and amendment of the Trusteeship Agreement.
2. The Administering Authority states (T/OBS.5/11, section 2) that its position on these questions has already been explained to the Trusteeship Council.
3. The petitioners go on to complain of present conditions in the Bamileke region. Amongst other complaints, they state that almost all other regions, with the exception of theirs, the most densely populated region, have secondary schools. The Administration concerns itself only with the interests of its officials and of so-called customary chiefs. Petitions submitted by chiefs and notables and maintaining a viewpoint different from theirs have been prepared by the Administering Authority "which has even forced some notables of the villages to sign them".
4. The Administering Authority observes that their claim that petitions maintaining a different viewpoint from that of the petitioners, have been inspired by the Administration is not based on fact.
5. The petitioners further contend that the Administering Authority is in favour of certain chiefdoms abolishing some chiefdoms in favour of certain chiefs who have won the approval of the Administration. As an example they cite the case of Chief Ntapie of Balafie, in the Bafang subdivision who, after his release from Bagangte prison, where he had been imprisoned unjustly, is now denied the right to return to his own territory. The petitioners protest against this injustice and demand that Chief Ntapie be permitted to return to his home immediately.

6. Replying to this, the Administering Authority explains that former Chief Ntapie was sentenced to a term of imprisonment and to local banishment which expired in 1951. Since that date he has returned to Bafang and is again living in the Balafi district. The complaint made by the petitioners is thus unfounded.
7. The petitioners also request permits to buy sporting guns.
8. It is stated by the Administering Authority that the traffic in firearms is subject to authorization by the High Commissioner. Permits are issued fairly liberally: 1,029 permits were issued to indigenous persons in 1952.
9. Finally the petitioners request the establishment of factories and that of trade unions and other associations in their territory.
10. The Administering Authority points out that the industrialization of the country is one of its most constant concerns and it is attempting to provide the conditions necessary for such industrialization under the plan for economic and social development.
11. The petition was examined and discussed at the 108th and 132nd meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.108 and 132).
12. The special representative stated that although the Bamileke region did not have a full secondary school, a partial secondary school existed in Dschang.
13. He also informed the Committee that former Chief Ntapie had not wished to return to his village immediately after his sentence of local banishment expired in 1951, but had subsequently done so.
14. With regard to the complaints concerning permits for sporting guns and other firearms, the special representative stated that questions of public security were involved. The Administration issued permits to carry such arms to people of good standing and character.
15. At its 132nd meeting, the Committee adopted by 1 vote to none, with 5 abstentions draft resolution XI, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

XII. Petition from Messrs. Makembe Moukory Moïse and Ndobbo Elessa Simon
(T/PET.5/194) dated 6 November 1952

1. The petitioners state that they have spent five years in the prison of Bangangté, having been sentenced in 1947 the one to fifteen years', the other to ten years' penal servitude. In 1948 they applied to the Cour de Cassation in Paris to have the judgment set aside but so far to no avail. They feel that they are not criminals at heart, and that the punishment meted out to them was excessive.
2. The petitioners do not disclose the nature of the crime for which they were sentenced.
3. The Administering Authority states (T/OBS.5/11, section 20) that the two petitioners were sentenced, the one to fifteen years and the other to ten years of penal servitude for illegal restraint of persons and physical torture and confirms that they appealed on 5 July 1948 against this decision. The file was sent to the Procureur-général at the Cour de Cassation on 12 August 1948. No decision has yet been handed down. The petitioners could submit a request to be released provisionally but it is of course impossible to prejudge the decision of the court.
4. The Administering Authority notes that one of their accomplices, who was also sentenced to ten years' penal servitude, was recently released on bail because of the state of his health.
5. The petition was examined and discussed at the 108th and 133rd meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.108 and 133).
6. At its 133rd meeting, the Committee adopted by 4 votes to 0 with 2 abstentions draft resolution XII, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

XIII. Petition from Mr. Issah Mouassé (T/PET.5/175)

1. The petitioner, who is Chairman of the Foubot branch of the "Union des Populations du Cameroun", complains that at a time when he was absent from the town, the French Governor sent Government agents to Foubot to arrest people in

the movement and that eighteen of his comrades were arrested. Moreover, they promised to promote a guard if he would enter the petitioner's house and take his property. Conspiring with the petitioner's serving women, the guard collected Mr. Mouassé's goods and also went off with the serving woman. The petitioner complained to the authorities and he asserts that the Commissaire who investigated the matter found his charges were true, assessed his losses at 50,000 francs and said that the Governor would have to pay this sum.

2. The petitioner presented his claim in October 1951 and again in January 1952, but so far with no result.

3. The Administering Authority observes (T/OBS.5/15, section 2) that the arrests referred to occurred as a result of the dispute regarding the chieftainship of Foubot.^{1/}

4. The Administering Authority states that the petitioner did in fact file a complaint against a police guard whom he accused of stealing from him while he was at Foubot. The complaint was transmitted to the Juge de paix à compétence étendue at Foubot on 23 October 1951. The petitioner, however, furnished no proof of the facts alleged.

5. The petition was examined and discussed at the 108th and 133rd meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.108 and 133).

6. The special representative stated that a serious and lengthy investigation was carried out by the authorities but nothing was uncovered to support the petitioner's claim and, consequently, no official sanctions were taken against the police guard. The petitioner had no particular reputation in the neighbourhood for wealth or industry.

7. At its 133rd meeting, the Committee adopted by 3 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions draft resolution XIII, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

XIV. Petition from Mr. Njikam Salifou (T/PET.5/180)

1. The petitioner, a planter residing at Foubot, claims that he and sixteen others were unjustly imprisoned because they had refused to vote for the

^{1/} See T/PET.5/120 (resolution 779 (XI)) and 180 (section XIV below).

candidate favoured by the French authorities as paramount chief. This candidate, he states, had paid the authorities a large sum of money to win their support.^{1/}

2. The Administering Authority refers to T/PET.5/120 on which observations were submitted (T/OBS.5/5, section 2) and states (T/OBS.5/15, section 3) that Njikam Salifou was sentenced on 28 May 1951 to eighteen months' imprisonment and a fine of 2,000 francs by the Juge de paix à compétence étendue at Fouban for assault and battery against officers of the law and participation in a tumultuous assembly. On appeal, his sentence was reduced to one year's imprisonment on 3 March 1952.

3. It further states that the seventeen persons sentenced by the Juge de paix à compétence étendue to terms of imprisonment ranging from three to twenty months all appealed against their sentences. The Court of Appeals rescinded the fines and maintained the terms of imprisonment between three months and one year according to the seriousness of the offences.

4. The petition was examined and discussed at the 108th and 133rd meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.108 and 133).

5. At its 133rd meeting, the Committee adopted by 3 votes to 2, with 1 abstention draft resolution XIV, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

XV. Petition from Mr. Oumarou Youpon (T/PET.5/176)

1. The petitioner, who resides at Foubot, states that a Mr. Ngcassanefu Ibrahi set fire to his hut. The authorities estimated the damage at 50,000 francs, which they promised to pay the petitioner as soon as Ngcassanefu, who received

^{1/} The petitioner refers to the election of Njikouotou Issa as chief which was the cause of a disturbance at Foubot on 17 May 1951, as the result of which seventeen persons were arrested. See T/PET.5/120 on this subject. The Trusteeship Council decided (resolution 779 (XII)) that no action was called for on that petition after having noted the observations of the Administering Authority and in particular that to avoid further friction between the two rivalling clans the opponents of Chief Njikouotou had been removed from his sphere of authority, also that no disturbances had taken place at Foubot since 17 May 1951.

a sentence of one and a half years, was released from prison. At the time of writing, however, two and a half years had elapsed since his release and in spite of repeated appeals to the authorities, the petitioner has not yet received any payment.

2. The Administering Authority affirms (T/OBS.5/11, section 6) that the petitioner brought a complaint against Ngamliafu Ibrahim before the juge de Paix à compétence étendue at Foumban. Ngamliafu was sentenced to imprisonment and to pay 2,500 francs damages to the plaintiff. This amount has been refused by the petitioner, probably because he considers it too small.

3. The petition was examined and discussed at the 108th and 133rd meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.108 and 133).

4. At its 133rd meeting, the Committee adopted by 3 votes to 0, with 3 abstentions draft resolution XV, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

XVI. Petition from Mr. Issah Ngnambi (T/PET.5/177)

1. The petitioner, a farmer now residing at Foubot, protests that the Administration unjustly accused him of murder and imprisoned him. During his imprisonment the chief of his village of Maripa took possession of the petitioner's property and set fire to the five huts belonging to him, chasing away the men who had remained there.

2. The petitioner claims that he brought a case against the chief on his release from prison, but that to the day of writing - three years later - he has heard nothing.

3. He maintains that the reason for his persecution is that he "speaks the truth too often".

4. That the petitioner was arrested is confirmed by the Administering Authority (T/OBS.5/11, section 7). However, as no proof of the crime was adduced he was released.

5. While the petitioner was remanded the huts of his family were burned and he accused the village chief of Marifa of having set fire to them. Although he was requested in 1952 to furnish proof and to bring a complaint before the juge de paix à compétence étendue at Foumban, the petitioner has still taken no steps to that end.

6. The petition was examined and discussed at the 108th and 133rd meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.108 and 133).
7. The special representative informed the Committee that the petitioner was arrested in October 1948 on suspicion of murder and was released in February 1949. The local authorities investigated the burning of his huts but were unable to find who was responsible for the action.
8. At its 133rd meeting, the Committee adopted by 3 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions draft resolution XVI, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

ANNEX: DRAFT RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED BY THE COMMITTEE

I. Petition from Mr. Bernard Bassegné (T/PET.5/142)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Bernard Bassegné concerning the Cameroons under French administration, in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/142, T/OBS.5/9, T/L.412),

1. Draws the attention of the petitioner to the statement of the Administering Authority that the judicial fines are paid into the Treasury and benefit the inhabitants of the Territory as a whole;
2. Notes that a control of weights and measures has been organized in the Territory and expresses the hope that it will prove effective.

II. Petition from Mr. Albert Menguele (T/PET.5/196)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Albert Menguele concerning the Cameroons under French administration, in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/196, T/OBS.5/12, T/L.412),

1. Notes that the charges of violence brought by Africans against the officials and the guards are still being investigated by the Juge de paix à compétence étendue at Sangmélina;
2. Draws the attention of the petitioner to the statement of the Administering Authority and of its special representative that disciplinary penalties were inflicted on the police officer and guards concerned in the incidents;
3. Requests the Administering Authority to report to the Council, at its fourteenth session if possible, on the results of the investigation, referred to in paragraph 1 above.

III. Petition from Mr. Ndong Ngema Mba (T/PET.5/204)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Ndong Ngema Mba concerning the Cameroons under French administration, in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/204, T/OBS.5/13, T/L.412),

1. Decides that the petition is admissible only in so far as it relates to the residence of the person complained of in the Cameroons under French administration;
2. Decides that the allegations contained in the petition, while they might be relevant to that question, cannot be examined by the Council since they concern actions which are alleged to have occurred in a Territory which is not a Trust Territory.

IV. Petition from Mr. Max-Legrand Evehe (T/PET.5/145)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Max-Legrand Evehe concerning the Cameroons under French administration, in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/145, T/OBS.5/9, T/L.412),

1. Notes that the magistrate who conducted a preliminary investigation into the incident was unable to determine whether the petitioner, or the European who had accosted his wife, was the first to commit assault, but that he informed the petitioner that it was open to him to institute a civil suit against the other party;
2. Draws the attention of the petitioner to the statement of the special representative that as a result of the intervention of the Administration the contract of the person complained of by the petitioner had not been renewed and that therefore he had not returned to the Trust Territory.

V. Petition from Mr. Pierre Badjeck (T/PET.5/200)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Pierre Badjeck concerning the Cameroons under French administration, in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/200, T/OBS.5/12, T/L.412),

Draws the attention of the petitioner to the statements of the Administering Authority and of its special representative that his father is now free to reside anywhere within the Territory and that if his father wishes to claim any property it is open to him to bring a suit before the appropriate customary court.

VI. Petition from Mr. Pierre Dimalla (T/PET.5/205 and Add.1)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Pierre Dimalla concerning the Cameroons under French administration, in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/205, T/OBS.5/12, T/L.412),

1. Notes that the first affair raised by the petitioner has been the subject of a sentence by the competent court and that a judicial inquiry is being carried out into the circumstances of the second affair;
2. Notes that the petitioner and other persons charged with similar offences have been in detention awaiting trial since 16 May 1953 and 16 January 1953 respectively;
3. Recommends to the Administering Authority that accused persons be brought to trial as speedily as possible in order to avoid long periods of detention awaiting trial;
4. Requests the Administering Authority to inform the Council of the date of the trial of the petitioner and the other accused and the judgment of the court.

VII. Petition from members of "La Solidarité Babimbi"
(SOLIBABI) (T/PET.5/217)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from members of "La Solidarité Babimbi" (SOLIBABI) concerning the Cameroons under French administration, in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/217, T/OBS.5/19, T/L.412),

1. Notes the statement of the Administering Authority that the petitioners do not appear to represent the majority of the members of the Solidarité Babimbi since they support Mr. Pierre Penda, who was removed from the office of President by a decision of the General Assembly of that organization;
2. Notes that Mr. Pierre Penda was convicted by the competent courts, but is still at liberty pending a decision by the Cour de Cassation on the case;
3. Recalls its resolution 156 (VI) on a previous petition from members of the Solidarité Babimbi by which it invited the Administering Authority to continue its efforts to develop the area;
4. Notes the various projects actually being undertaken by the Administering Authority to improve medical and educational facilities, communications and general economic conditions in the area;
5. Recommends that the Administering Authority implement these projects with expedition;
6. Notes with interest the statement of the special representative that it would be possible for the forthcoming visiting missions to visit the area;
7. Recommends that the next visiting mission to Trust Territories in West Africa consider, while planning its itinerary, the possibility of visiting the area.

VIII. Petition from Mr. Alphonse M'Boua M'Boua (T/PET.5/221)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Alphonse M'Boua M'Boua concerning the Cameroons under French administration, in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/221, T/OBS.5/21, T/L.412),

Notes the statement of the special representative according to which the acts imputed to the petitioner were covered by the amnesty granted in accordance with the law of 6 August 1953.

IX. Petition from Mr. Nicolas Eholé (T/PET.5/160)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Nicolas Eholé concerning the Cameroons under French administration, in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/160, T/OBS.5/10, T/L.412),

1. Draws the attention of the petitioner to the statement of the Administering Authority and its special representative, that it is open to him to lodge a complaint before the customary courts;
2. Recommends that the Administering Authority continue to take steps to encourage the suppression of the abuse of marriage customs which offends against modern sentiment in these matters.

X. Petition from Mr. Lucas Nana (T/PET.5/163 and Add.1)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Lucas Nana concerning the Cameroons under French administration, in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/163, T/OBS.5/10, T/L.412),

1. Notes that the petitioner was awarded 400,000 francs damages by the Court of Appeal at Yaoundé on 20 May 1953;

2. Draws the attention of the petitioner to the statement of the special representative that if the damages are not paid it is open to the petitioner to apply to the court for the execution of the judgment;
3. Draws further the attention of the petitioner to the fact that it is open to him, under existing laws and regulations, to seek indemnities from the Administration by submitting his case to the Conseil du contentieux administratif.

XI. Petition from the "Union des Populations du Cameroun, Comité régional Bamiléké, Subdivision de Bafang" (T/PET.5/171)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from the "Union des Populations du Cameroun, Comité régional Bamiléké, Subdivision de Bafang" concerning the Cameroons under French administration, in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/171, T/OBS.5/11, T/L.412),

1. Notes that a partial secondary school has been established at Dschang;
2. Notes further that former Chief Ntapié has returned to his village;
3. Requests the Administering Authority to make available to the Council additional information concerning the plans for a full secondary school in the Bamiléké region and concerning the conviction of former Chief Ntapié.
4. Recommends that the Administering Authority carefully consider the proposals contained in the petition for improving the political, economic, and social conditions of the indigenous inhabitants in the Bamiléké region;
5. Recommends that the Administering Authority assist the population in protecting its property from the ravages of wild animals; and
6. Requests the Administering Authority to inform the Council at its fourteenth session of the measures taken to give effect to this resolution.

XII. Petition from Messrs. Makembe Moukory Moise
and Ndobbo Elessa Simon (T/PET.5/194)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Messrs. Makembe Moukory Moise and Ndobbo Elessa Simon concerning the Cameroons under French administration, in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/194, T/OBS.5/11, T/L.412);

1. Notes that the petitioners' case is still pending before the Cour de Cassation in Paris and expresses the hope that a decision will soon be made;
2. Draws the attention of the petitioners to the statement of the Administering Authority that it is open for them to apply for provisional release from prison pending the final decision on their case.

XIII. Petition from Mr. Issah Mouassé (T/PET.5/175)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Issah Moussé concerning the Cameroons under French administration, in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/175, T/OBS.5/15, T/L.412),

1. Notes the statement of the special representative that a careful investigation by the authorities revealed no evidence in support of the petitioner's charge;
2. Notes further that the petitioner's complaint was transmitted to the Juge de paix à compétence étendue and that he was unable to furnish proof of his allegation;
3. Considers that under the circumstances no recommendation by the Council is called for.

XIV. Petition from Mr. Njikam Salifou (T/PET.5/180)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Njikam Salifou concerning the Cameroons under French administration, in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/180, T/OBS.5/15, T/L.412),

1. Notes that the complaint contained in this petition was the subject of a previously examined petition (T/PET.5/120);
2. Recalls its resolution 779 (XII) on that petition by which it decided that no action was called for;
3. Considers that no further action on this petition is required since it relates to matters falling within the competence of the local courts.

XV. Petition from Mr. Oumarou Youpon (T/PET.5/176)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Oumarou Youpon concerning the Cameroons under French administration, in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/176, T/OBS.5/11, T/L.412),

1. Notes the observations of the Administering Authority that the petitioner has refused to accept the damages of 2,500 francs awarded him by the Juge de paix à compétence étendue as compensation for his hut;
2. Considers that since the matter falls within the competence of the local courts no recommendation by the Council is called for.

XVI. Petition from Mr. Issah Ngnambi (T/PET.5/177)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Issah Ngnambi concerning the Cameroons under French administration, in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.5/177, T/OBS.5/11, T/L.412),

1. Draws the attention of the petitioner to the statements of the Administering Authority and of its special representative that he failed to present proof of his charge against the chief of Maripa when asked to do so in 1952 and that investigations carried out by the local authorities did not establish who was responsible for burning his huts;
 2. Considers that under the circumstances no further action is called for.
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