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Twenty-third Session

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Held at Headquarters, New York,
Monday, 16 February 1959, at 10.30 a.m.

Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti)

Question of the future of the Trust Territories of the Cameroons
under British administration and the Cameroons under French
administration: (continued)

- (a) General Assembly resolution 1282 (XIII) [17]
- (b) Reports of the United Nations Visiting Mission to
Trust Territories in West Africa, 1958 (T/1426 and Add.1,
1427, 1434) [6]

Note: The Official Record of this meeting, i.e., the summary record,
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It will appear in final form in a printed volume.

AGENDA ITEMS 6 and 17

QUESTION OF THE FUTURE OF THE TRUST TERRITORIES OF THE CAMEROONS UNDER BRITISH ADMINISTRATION AND THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION: (continued)

- (a) GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 1282 (XIII)
- (b) REPORTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS VISITING MISSION TO TRUST TERRITORIES IN WEST AFRICA, 1958 (T/1426 and Add.1, 1427, 1434)

General debate (continued)

Mr. JHA (India): For about a week now, the Trusteeship Council has been considering the question of the future of the Cameroons under French administration. This task was laid before us by General Assembly resolution 1282 (XIII) adopted at the last session. The General Assembly asked the Trusteeship Council

"to examine...the reports of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in West Africa, 1958, and to transmit the same, with its observations and recommendations, to the General Assembly not later than 20 February 1959."

We have had the advantage of studying the Visiting Mission's report and of hearing the special representatives from the Trust Territory. Many questions have been asked of the representative of France and of the special representatives. We are thankful to them for having replied with candour. We have also listened carefully to the observations made by many members in the Council.

At the outset, may I be permitted to express the appreciation of my delegation for the work of the Visiting Mission under the able chairmanship of Mr. Benjamin Gerig. Its report bears eloquent testimony to the great pains that it has taken to ascertain the facts, to evaluate them and to make balanced and sound recommendations. We regard the Visiting Mission's report as a valuable contribution and of great importance in the examination of a question referred to the Trusteeship Council by the General Assembly.

Before proceeding to express our views on the specific conclusions and recommendations of the Visiting Mission, I should like to make some general

(Mr. Jha, India)

observations. In the first place, the prospect before us -- and indeed it is our privilege to be associated with such a prospect -- is the birth of a new nation. The moments in history when nations arise in full freedom and independence are not too many, and such moments, when they come, are always moving and of great significance to mankind. The Trusteeship Council has by its labours during the past few years contributed in no small measure to the early attainment of freedom by many countries in Africa. My delegation is happy to have had the privilege of being associated with the work of the Trusteeship Council. We have always urged the Administering Authorities to prepare the Territories under their trust for independence at the earliest date. Our constant advocacy of freedom for dependent peoples has been not only in the territorial sense but in the sense of enjoyment of fundamental freedoms and liberties by the peoples of the countries concerned.

(Mr. Jha, India)

In the view of my delegation the question of the future of the Cameroons is one of the most important on which the Council has been called upon to pronounce an opinion. We are dealing with nothing less than the freedom and future of 5 million people in the Cameroons, of whom over 3 million are in the Cameroons under French administration, in respect of whom my remarks will be confined this morning. The question has to be considered in the context of the provisions of the Charter relating to trusteeship and the terms of the Trusteeship Agreement.

Article 76 of the Charter lays down the basic objectives of the Trusteeship System. These are:

"... progressive development towards self-government or independence as may be appropriate to the particular circumstances of each Territory and its peoples and the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned, and as may be provided by the terms of each trusteeship agreement;"

Under Article 76 (c) it is among the objectives of the Trusteeship System:

"... to encourage respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion ..."

Article 76 thus provides the soil in which Trust Territories are to grow and develop towards independence. What the United Nations Charter envisages is the eventual emergence of Trust Territories into independent nations according to the freely expressed wishes of the peoples and enjoying fundamental freedoms and respect for human rights. It would be against the spirit of the Charter if the United Nations General Assembly were to become a party to the creation of a State previously under the Trusteeship System in which the people did not enjoy fundamental freedoms and human rights and there was no equality under the law.

The principle of consultations, which is embodied in Article 76 (b) of the Charter is thus an important one. Trusteeship agreements provide for consultations with populations concerned at the termination of agreements and this is also contemplated in Article 5 of the Trusteeship Agreement for the Cameroons under French administration.

In regard to the Cameroons under French administration we find that there has been progressive development of democratic institutions -- even though in the opinion of some the development has been tardy -- to the point when there is a

(Mr. Jha, India)

legislative assembly elected on the basis of universal adult suffrage. The present Assembly was elected in December 1956 on this basis. There was a very high degree of participation in the voting. It is claimed that this was extremely high for Africa and higher than is sometimes the case in old established democracies.

Such elections were held for all but two seats in the Sanaga-Maritime area where unfortunately there were disturbances. Another two seats in the same area were disputed and elections to these were set aside. Consequently, there are four seats out of seventy unfilled in the Legislative Assembly. The fact that no elections could be held for two constituencies was indeed deplorable. However, these disturbances and the fact that four seats are vacant do not in our opinion affect the main question of the independence of the Cameroons nor are they in themselves valid reasons for delaying it.

My delegation is impressed by what has been stated in paragraphs 134 and 135 of the Visiting Mission's report. To quote from the latter paragraph:

"The Mission must emphasize, furthermore, that there is no evidence of any desire in the Territory for an objective short of independence. All the Cameroonians with whom the Mission spoke stated, often emphatically, that they desired independence. The Mission did not hear a single dissenting voice on that subject, nor was any alternative to independence proposed to it. It accordingly considers itself justified in concluding that the overwhelming majority of the population desires independence. There is some difference of opinion among the population regarding the date of the proclamation of independence: some approve the date of 1 January 1960, which was the Government's choice, while others advocate an earlier date. But, on the basis of the information the Mission was able to obtain in the Territory, it seems safe to suggest that the latter constitute only a small minority." (T/1427, paragraph 135)

To my delegation the position appears to be as follows: The people of the Cameroons under French administration have been clamouring for independence for a long time. The urge for independence is deep among all sections of the people and many consider that freedom has already been long delayed. There is no disposition among any section of the people to delay independence beyond 1 January 1960.

(Mr. Jha, India)

There are indeed some who would like the Territory to become independent earlier. The Legislative Assembly of the Territory which was elected on the basis of universal adult franchise adopted a resolution on 24 October 1958 solemnly proclaiming the will of the Cameroonian people that the State of the Cameroons should attain national independence on 1 January 1960.

(Mr. Jha. India)

This Legislative Assembly, as the Visiting Mission has pointed out in paragraphs 140 and 141 of its report, is representative in character. The Administering Authority has declared its intention of granting full independence to the Cameroons under French administration on the same date. The Visiting Mission found that this was the desire of the overwhelming majority of the population. To quote from the Mission's report,

"... the request that the Territory should become independent on 1 January 1960, which was approved in the Legislative Assembly of the Cameroons by a large majority, is also supported by the great majority of the population. ..." (T/1427, page 65)

We have, therefore, come to the conclusion that the desire for independence in the Trust Territory is universal. We believe that this is the noble aspiration of the people of the French Cameroons. We also feel that, after many initial hesitations, the Administering Authority has itself come to believe in the independence of the French Cameroons and has responded magnanimously to the aspirations of the people of the Territory.

My delegation is of the view that, while the principle of popular consultation is essential, and in the normal course we would have considered it more appropriate if consultation had been made under the auspices of the United Nations, in the circumstances of the Cameroons under French administration we should nevertheless agree with the Visiting Mission's conclusions that no further consultation of the population is necessary on the subject of their independence. All concerned are agreed on the independence of the Territory on 1 January 1960, and there is no need to go through the time-taking formality of specific consultation under United Nations auspices, which could not give any other result.

We now address ourselves to two questions: first, whether the Cameroons under French administration that is likely to emerge as an independent country on 1 January 1960 will have all the attributes of independence and sovereignty; and, second, whether the people of the Territory enjoy at present, and will enjoy on 1 January 1960, all the fundamental freedoms and respect for human rights without any distinction, as envisaged in Article 76 (c) of the Charter.

(Mr. Jha, India)

On the question of sovereignty, we find that in Ordinance 58-1375 of 30 December 1958, the Government of France has transferred to the Government of the Cameroons all the powers of internal legislation and administration, including judiciary, retaining to itself the responsibility for monetary and foreign exchange policy, foreign policy, frontier security and defence of the State of the Cameroons. We take note of the declaration of the representative of France to the effect that it constitutes the last stage of the evolution of the Cameroons' institutions before independence and the ending of Trusteeship as outlined in the preamble to the Statute. The Government of France has also stated, in the preamble to the Ordinance, that it is its desire to comply with the wishes of the Legislative Assembly of the Cameroons that they should attain full independence on 1 January 1960.

In the same connexion we take note again of the statement of the representative of France that "on 1 January 1960 autonomy will step aside for independence and the final external powers will pass into the hands of the Cameroons authorities." (T/PV.953, page 27). We also note the statement of the special representative that the existing conventions governing the relations between France and the Cameroons, which are annexed to the Statute of 30 December 1958, will automatically end on 31 December 1959 and the independent Cameroons will thus be free to negotiate and enter into new conventions with France or with any other State.

My delegation would particularly wish -- and indeed there is an obligation on the United Nations to that effect -- that fundamental freedoms would prevail in the Territory and that the State that emerges on 1 January 1960 will be one in which democratic forms of government and democratic liberties will flourish. This recalls to us at once the disturbances that took place in certain parts of the Territory in 1955 and, later, in 1957, and which have sporadically continued during 1958. We have also to take note of the fact that one of the several political parties in the Territory is banned and does not as such enjoy liberty of speech and of association.

(Mr. Jha, India)

It is not our intention to go into the sequence of events which led to these unfortunate happenings nor to justify or condemn the alleged organized violence by that party and the alleged repression by the Government. The lesson of these disturbances is that where freedom is delayed, it inevitably causes deep frustrations which often lead to violence and bitter conflicts. We deplore these happenings as much as anyone else. It is our earnest wish that the bitterness and conflicts that took place some time ago should become matters of the past and should not be carried over into the new era that is dawning for the Territory.

States born in violence, internal bitterness and conflict do not lay sound foundations for their future. It would be the path of wisdom for the Government of the Cameroons to take measures so that the new State may come into being in harmony and internal good will. We would strongly recommend the immediate grant of amnesty on the widest possible basis. In fact, it would be an act of statesmanship to grant unconditional amnesty. Amnesty is based on the principle of forgiveness, and forgiveness itself, if ungenerous or hesitating, loses its value. We are constrained to observe that the further measure of political amnesty proposed in the Legislative Assembly, a summary of which was given to us by the special representative, does not go far enough. We hope that further details of the amnesty measures will be made available to the members of the General Assembly. At the same time, with the principles and traditions of non-violence which have governed the thinking of the Indian people, we cannot approve of any methods of violence to attain political ends, and I hope that our appeal to the political parties and individuals in the Territory to eschew violence will not be misunderstood. To the extent that the people of the Cameroons are able to eliminate violence, bitterness and conflict, to that extent will the future happiness of the Cameroonian people be assured.

It is also our fervent hope that elections will be held very soon to the four vacant seats in the Legislative Assembly allocated to the Sanaga-Maritime area. These elections should be held in conditions of maximum freedoms and political amnesty. My delegation was glad to have the assurance of the representative of the Administering Authority that French troops are being withdrawn and will be totally withdrawn from this area well before the elections. We commend to the Government of the Cameroons that elections be held in these conditions at the earliest possible date.

(Mr. Jha, India)

We were happy to receive the assurance that those who are at present out of the Cameroons will have complete freedom to return without fear of reprisal and that political amnesty will be applicable to them.

The Trusteeship Council is not competent to take a decision concerning the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement. As the representative of France pointed out, we are here to pave the way, as it were, for the work and the judgement of the General Assembly. We would, therefore, recommend that the General Assembly should take a decision, in the light of the Visiting Mission's report and after hearing such parties as may choose to appear before it, to terminate the Trusteeship Agreement with effect from 1 January 1960, upon the attainment by the French Cameroons of full national independence.

My delegation will lend its support to any resolution in the Council which is in consonance with the views that I have expressed.

Before concluding, I should like to express, on behalf of my delegation, our great joy at the prospect of the emergence of the Cameroons as an independent State. We wish the people of the Cameroons every happiness and success in their adventure as an independent nation. In their struggle for freedom and independence during the last decade of Trusteeship, the people of the Cameroons have shown strength and courage. We feel sure that, when the General Assembly terminates the Trusteeship Agreement and freedom comes, these will be valuable assets to the people of the Cameroons in solving their internal problems and in playing their full part in the comity of nations.

Mr. SALCMON (Haiti) (interpretation from France): Following the customary pattern of its work, the Trusteeship Council has recently been examining the situation in the Cameroons under French administration. This year, however, everyone has the strong feeling that the Council's debates are particularly important. Indeed, the moment -- one might say the supreme moment -- has come for the Trusteeship Council to make final and appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly on a Territory's future and the end of its trusteeship.

In its consideration of this matter, the Council was assisted by the report of the Visiting Mission which recently was in the Cameroons and by statements made here by the representative of France and the special representatives of the Cameroonian Government. I had the honour of being a member of the Visiting Mission and of taking part in the drafting of its report. I therefore do not wish to analyse the contents of that report at length. Delegations certainly have the right to have different views concerning the conclusions arrived at by the Visiting Mission. But, in presenting and analysing the particular circumstances of this case, the members of the Mission were at all times convinced that they were giving an objective report of the facts. It requires only discernment and a little sincerity and good faith to recognize this. It gives us great satisfaction and encouragement to see that a very large majority of the members of the Trusteeship Council have recognized the objectivity of the Visiting Mission. We are grateful to them for this fair attitude.

For its part, the delegation of Haiti has been pleased to note that the observations made by the Visiting Mission and the conclusions to which it arrived are very much the same as the views which the Haitian delegation has consistently expressed in the Council and the General Assembly concerning the situation in the Cameroons. In other words, the delegation of Haiti fully subscribes to the observations and conclusions in the Visiting Mission's report.

Nevertheless, there are two points to which the delegation of Haiti attaches particular importance. These two points may be regarded as the sequels to a disorderly and troubled past -- a past from which, however, the Cameroons has progressed, step by step, towards parliamentary democracy, then self-government, and now the dawn of its independence.

(Mr. S. n. Hait')

The first question to which my delegation attaches particular importance is that of reconciliation. In this connexion, the delegation of Haiti listened with great attention to the statements made by the representative of France. We were happy to hear him reaffirm the assurance already given to the Visiting Mission that a bill aimed at providing for as broad an amnesty as possible would be introduced without any delay in the Legislative Assembly. We understand that that Assembly, whose session began only on 26 January, has not as yet been able to adopt a law on so delicate a matter. However, we await with confidence the adoption of such a law in the very near future; as I have said, we understand that this bill has been introduced in the Legislative Assembly at Yaoundé. We strongly hope that the provisions of this law will be such that their adoption will produce the anticipated results within the framework of a policy of reconciliation of all the Cameroonians both inside and outside the Territory.

The second point to which we attach particular importance is that of the legislative representation of the Sanaga-Maritime region. On this subject, too, we listened with interest to the statements of the representative of France. He said that, as soon as the amnesty law had been promulgated, elections would be decreed to fill the four seats of the Sanaga-Maritime region in the Legislative Assembly which are now vacant as a result of the circumstances with which we are all familiar, and that all the elements of the population of that region would be able freely to participate in those elections.

Thus, we await with considerable interest these measures which, we hope, will close the only doors still remaining open on a painful situation that may now form part of the past, and which will allow all the Cameroonians to unite in building their future country.

Indeed, in performing work of value, the Cameroonians have a country which certainly is afflicted with problems but which is a magnificent country. I shall always remember it with deep feeling. I admired its beauty and charm. I was personally impressed by, among other things, the potential wealth of its soil, its forests and immense prairies and, above all, by the vitality of its population and that population's love for the earth, which these people are cultivating with such remarkable zeal and which, in the hymns that they sang to the Mission throughout its voyage, they called their one and only happiness, their joy and their life.

(Mr. Salomon Haiti)

I could elaborate on these ideas, but the Council is now reaching the end of this discussion and arriving at the constructive stage of its work.

Several delegations, including my own, are now working on a draft resolution. This text will certainly be the result of a compromise between the various shades of opinion of its co-sponsors on this question which is delicate but simple. My delegation hopes that the draft resolution will contain the positive wording suggested by the very clear recommendations of the Visiting Mission's report and the statements made here by the representatives of France and the Government of the Cameroons. We believe that, at this historic turning point in the development of the Cameroons, the Trusteeship Council should continue to play the predominant role which it has consistently played in the past in the Territory's progress. The delegation of Haiti sincerely hopes that members of the Council will be able to support such a draft resolution so that the General Assembly, which will meet in a few days, may decide -- after having granted the usual hearings -- to terminate the Trusteeship Agreement for the Cameroons when that Territory becomes independent on 1 January 1960.

Mr. MONTERO de VARGAS (Paraguay) (interpretation from Spanish): First, my delegation wishes to express its appreciation and gratitude to the Chairman and members of the Visiting Mission for the accurate and complete report they have given us on the Cameroons under French administration. It is only fair to note that, in the time given them by the Council to carry out their task, they did highly useful and informative work for us all.

Generally speaking, the exposition and analysis of events to be found in the Visiting Mission's report confirm the Territory's political, economic and social progress and, above all, the firm determination of the authorities of the Cameroons -- supported by the population -- to attain independence on 1 January 1960. The French Government has given its complete backing to this aspiration and is lending its co-operation to this auspicious event.

My delegation has also noted with pleasure the efforts now being made by the legislature of the Cameroons and by France to bring about national reconciliation, following the recent events in the Territory. The amnesty law, which we hope will be promulgated as a result of the actions and decision of the appropriate African authorities of the Cameroons, will guide the Territory's political life along the path of harmony and understanding.

(Mr. Montero de Vargas, Paraguay)

The explanations given to this Council by the French delegation and the special representatives have contributed to informing us in more detail of the intentions and will of the authorities that peace should be restored to the Cameroons. It must be recognized that a certain amount of time will be required before results can be expected from the application of an amnesty law. But my delegation is convinced that this will not adversely affect the Cameroons' progress towards that end, since this provision, which will become a law, has the support of the African leaders, who are certainly responsible men. The Prime Minister of the Cameroons has given assurances to the Visiting Mission of these intentions and purposes. My delegation could not question the promise given by this distinguished statesman, who has the support of the immense majority of his people.

In my delegation's opinion, the conclusions reached by the Visiting Mission, whose report we are now studying, should be supported by the Trusteeship Council, since they reflect the aspirations of the people and legislature of the Cameroons under French administration.

(Mr. Montero de Vargas, Paraguay)

In so far as the political aspects of the Territory are concerned, my delegation would like to go on record with the reference to the following points:

1. We do not feel it advisable nor necessary to carry out new general elections in the Territory prior to 1 January 1960. This statement in itself contains the certainty that the present representatives in the Legislature and in the Government have the right and the duty to appreciate the general political situation of the population, in keeping with the study which they themselves must carry out in order to establish in the future the electoral procedure which is most in keeping with the destinies of the new free State which will arise on 1 January 1960.

Any other interpretation, in the opinion of my delegation, would only lead to creating unnecessary problems and even possible agitation which this Council should not favour in any way whatsoever, and we should not offer any opportunity for them to have any basis for growth.

My delegation sincerely feels that a contribution of this nature is a fundamental duty of the United Nations. The domestic policy of the future new free State of the Cameroons should be decided by its own population and only by its own population. A decision or suggestion to the contrary, which would arise in this Council, could be used as a pretext for new attempts at agitation, and thus give a basis so that these disturbances -- in case they were to occur -- would create an atmosphere of discontent and disturbance which would be very inappropriate for the establishment of the full independence of the Territory on 1 January 1960.

2. My delegation sincerely believes that the partial and supplementary elections promised by the Prime Minister -- which will be held in Sanaga-Maritime -- where the bloody events occurred, will strengthen the political position of the Cameroons and the free play of the powers of the State.

(Mr. Montero de Vargas, Paraguay)

3. My delegation would like to indicate clearly that we have sufficient confidence in the political maturity of the people and leaders of the Cameroons under French administration today, and hence we cannot accept anything which could undermine the confidence that the people has in itself and the independent government can succeed in cementing the destiny of its country within the postulates of a true democracy.

4. My delegation and Government, which I have the honour to represent, observes that with reference to the political organization of the State which will arise shortly, we should not prejudge or even try to establish rigid directives for the future. Paraguay affirms the principle that only the inhabitants of the Territory of the Cameroons can decide their own political norms of government which they will comply with later on in order to attain their tranquillity, progress and welfare.

5. We should like to go on record clearly that my delegation gladly accepts the procedure that will be followed to promulgate an amnesty law. Opinions may be given for or against with reference to the scope of this law, but we cannot doubt the sincere wish of the leaders of the Cameroons to seek national reconciliation with such a legal provision, a reconciliation which was undermined by the cruel action of a political sector. We do not claim to lay down any norms along this line, but we do not feel it unnecessary to indicate that violent measures never solved the political problems of any Government.

6. My delegation assumes that the chief task of this Council in this emergence is to facilitate, in so far as possible, the independence and the installation of the sovereign Government of the Cameroons under French administration for 1 January 1960.

7. My delegation will approve and support any draft resolution presented in this Council on condition that such a draft resolution contains the basic points of our statement.

Paraguay, a country and people which I have the honour to represent, is pleased to note, and we should like to express our appreciation of this fact, the future birth of a free and sovereign country, as the Cameroons is to be.

(Mr. Montero de Vargas, Paraguay)

The awakening of the African people is a true and certain event. Its political, economic and social conscience should be supported so that all those peoples should be in a position to be free and they should be able to obtain the management of their own destiny. With these wishes and good desires, my delegation salutes and hails the peoples and leaders of the Cameroons, and we wish them happiness and good luck in their new independence and sovereign life.

We should also like to record our gratitude to the people and Government of France for having prepared and given the opportunity to the people of the Cameroons to attain their independence and to set up their own Government in such a State which is near and dear to the Africans.

Mr. LOUFFI (United Arab Republic) (interpretation from French): I have the intention of defining briefly the position of my delegation with regard to the delicate question we are discussing today. Before I deal with the substance of the matter, I should like to pay tribute to the Chairman and members of the Visiting Mission who deserve our congratulations for the manner in which they performed the task entrusted to them by the Trusteeship Council. I also associate myself with the words of praise which were addressed to the members of the Secretariat who accompanied the Visiting Mission.

On behalf of my country, which is a part of Africa, I wish to express our feeling of satisfaction on the occasion of the approaching independence of the Cameroons, which will take place on 1 January 1960. We are happy to see a new African State achieve independence, a State which will soon be admitted to the United Nations. We wish all happiness and success and prosperity to the people of the Cameroons.

However, we do not intend to discuss this voluminous report today. We believe that a more thorough examination can be given it when the General Assembly meets on 20 February, this month. We prefer to state our final position on this question after having studied the report more thoroughly and after having heard the petitioners and the political leaders who are expected to arrive soon, and after consultation with the other African countries which are particularly interested in the future of the Cameroons, a consultation which for reasons beyond my control I have not been able to accomplish.

(Mr. Ioutfi, United Arab Republic)

It is only after we have had these discussions that we will be able to have a clear idea of the future of the Cameroons under British administration, and that we will then be able to state our views more definitely. It was also in the light of these considerations that I studied the draft resolution which was submitted today, and for the reasons I have just stated my delegation will abstain when this text is put to the vote. This abstention must not be interpreted as showing a lack of interest on our part in the independence of a brother African country but, on the contrary, it is a mark of the special importance that we attach to this question. It shows our concern that we should take the proper attitude after a more thorough study of all the facts.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): I only wish to make a very brief statement in this debate on the future of the Cameroons under French administration. We have received from the Visiting Mission a most interesting and illuminating report which, if I may say so, has brought light to a subject which has sometimes during the past year or two become somewhat obscure in our discussions. I think that we all owe a great debt of gratitude to the members of the Visiting Mission, and to the Secretariat who supported them, for this excellent, clear and, as I have said, illuminating analysis of the state of affairs in the Cameroons under French administration.

It is evident from the course of this debate that there is very general agreement in the Trusteeship Council with the views and conclusions expressed by the Visiting Mission in this report. My delegation would fully support the final recommendation of the Mission, namely that this Council should recommend to the General Assembly that it take the necessary steps at its resumed session to terminate the Trusteeship Agreement for the Cameroons under French administration when that Territory attains its independence on 1 January 1960.

It would perhaps be premature at this stage to talk about the draft resolution which has just been circulated before it has been formally introduced, but my delegation sees nothing in it which it cannot support, and it will be glad to support this draft resolution.

I should like very briefly to make a general remark with regard to the Territory which we are now discussing. No delegation round this table is happier than the delegation of the United Kingdom to know that this great Territory of the Cameroons will arrive at the goal of independence within the next twelve months. The year 1960 will be a great and important year in the history of this whole region of Africa. Not only will the Cameroons attain its independence, but the neighbouring Territory of Nigeria will later in the year attain its independence, and we shall look forward to welcoming these countries in this Organization.

It is clear from the report which we have before us that the Cameroons under French administration can look forward to a happy and prosperous future. I should not like this occasion to pass without expressing, on behalf of the United Kingdom, our warmest admiration for the work which France has done over the years in helping the people of this Territory towards the goal of independence. It is

(Sir Andrew Cohen, United Kingdom)

clearly apparent from what the Visiting Mission has said and from earlier reports which have been before us that France has both in the political and in the economic and social spheres done everything necessary to bring a nation to birth. This is an occasion when we can all join with the greatest possible satisfaction in congratulating the Administering Authority on its magnificent work in this country as well as in congratulating the people of the country and their leaders on the progress they have made and on the forthcoming attainment of independence.

There is, of course, the question of the relations between the Cameroons under French administration and the Cameroons under British administration. As the representative of France has said earlier in this discussion, this is a matter which should be considered primarily in relation to the future of the Cameroons under British administration. I do not, therefore, intend to refer to this matter now. As the Council knows, I shall be addressing the Council this afternoon with regard to the future of the other Trust Territory.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): The statement just made by the representative of the United Kingdom concludes the general discussion on the Cameroons under French administration.

I have been informed that the draft resolution which has just been circulated to the members of the Council will be formally submitted by its sponsors shortly. The Council will therefore take a fifteen-minute recess in order to enable members to examine the draft resolution.

The meeting was suspended at 11.35 a.m., and resumed at 12.05 p.m.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): We have the texts of the draft resolution before us. I recognize the representative of Haiti.

Mr. SYLVAIN (Haiti) (interpretation from French): On behalf of the delegations of the United States, Italy, New Zealand, Paraguay and of my own delegation, we have the honour to submit for the consideration of members of the Council the draft resolution contained in T/L.895 which has just been circulated by the Secretariat to the members of the Council.

I should like, with your permission, to make a brief analysis of this draft resolution which, as members of the Council will note, includes the important recommendations contained in the report of the Visiting Mission to the Cameroons under French administration.

But first of all, despite the fact that a member of my delegation participated in this Visiting Mission, I could not fail to express here the great appreciation of my delegation for the useful and conscientious work which we assigned and which the Mission carried out under conditions that we can imagine were highly difficult in the light of the complexity of the problems they had to tackle and also in the light of the diversity of the opinions -- or rather the nuances or shades of opinions -- which they had to gather from all sources, and which at times were reflected in terms of violence -- and even though they may be explainable, they are still regrettable. This also indicates the praiseworthy interest which the Cameroonian people had in the fate and in the destiny of their country. This is patent evidence of the surprising vitality of this noble people which despite all sorts of vicissitudes has never despaired concerning its future, and which lastly, indicates -- I am not speaking of violence, but of this multiplicity of shades of opinion -- that the Cameroonians are ready and worthy of independence.

That is what the draft resolution, which we are submitting for the consideration of the Council, asks you to proclaim in recommending to the General Assembly to terminate the Trusteeship Agreement so that as of 1 January 1960, the Cameroons, by virtue of Article 76 b of the United Nations Charter may enjoy its full national independence.

This draft resolution, as I have just pointed out, includes the important recommendations made by the Visiting Mission. In its explanatory parts, it refers first of all to resolutions 1907 (XXII) and 1924 (S-IX) of the Council which requested the Visiting Mission

"to set forth its views on the procedure for organizing the consultation which would enable the people of the Cameroons to express at the appropriate time their wishes concerning their future and concerning the termination of trusteeship upon attainment of full national independence in 1960." (T/L.895)

The draft resolution then refers to resolution 1282 (XIII) of the General Assembly which calls upon the Council

"to examine at the earliest possible time during the twenty-third session the reports of the Visiting Mission ... and to transmit them to the General Assembly to enable the Assembly to take the necessary measures in connexion with the full attainment of the objectives of the Trusteeship System." (Ibid.)

In its operative section, the draft resolution, after expressing the appreciation of the Council to the Visiting Mission for its report and after noting the conclusions and recommendations of the Visiting Mission, considers that the Territory of the Cameroons under French administration, in the light of the statement made by the Administering Authority and in keeping with the resolution of the Legislative Assembly of the Cameroons, is ready for independence without the need for any further consultation with the people of the Territory on this matter.

I shall confine myself to a brief comment with regard to operative paragraph 3: I intentionally pointed out the diversity of the shades of opinion. But if there is one question on which no divergent opinion was expressed to the members of the Mission, if there is one question on which the political parties, public opinion and the Cameroonians of all the Territory are in agreement, it is the question of independence. That is why we feel that it is useless to organize any further consultation on this question.

(Mr. Sylvain, Haiti)

With regard to measures of reconciliation which we consider indispensable for the establishment of public order based on respect for legality and the union of the Cameroons, our draft resolution, while taking note of the statements of the Government inviting Cameroonians who have left their country in recent years to return without fear of reprisal and to take up their normal life in the national community, welcomes with satisfaction the assurances given by the Prime Minister, and repeated here, on behalf of the Administering Authority, that legislative measures are now being worked out with a view to bringing about an amnesty which we hope will be as broad as possible and with the least possible delay. This is exactly what the draft resolution urgently recommends to the competent authority.

In this twentieth century, which is the Century of Man, there is no normal political life, there is no lasting progress in the evolution of peoples, still less of those who are just attaining their independence and freedom, outside the free play of democratic institutions, which therefore presumes not only jealous respect for the rights of man, but also the formal guarantees of his social, economic, civil and political rights.

Although my delegation is particularly grateful to France, which has been mindful of its obligations which it has undertaken with regard to our Organization to lead the Cameroons to independence through the road of democracy, and although we have no reason to doubt the will of this new democracy to conform to the principles of our Charter, we have not felt that it would be pointless, bearing in mind the special representative and the Administering Authority, to recall the sound principles of freedom of opinion, freedom of the press and freedom of assembly, which are the subject of paragraph 5 of the draft resolution.

As you will recall, the Council had in mind the unfortunate circumstances which thwarted the results of the elections held in the Sanaga Maritime region. In order that this region might be represented by delegates who have been freely elected, the draft resolution takes note of the decision of the authorities of the Cameroons to carry out elections to fill the four seats in the Legislative Assembly allocated to the Sanaga Maritime area.

(Mr. Sylvain, Haiti)

Finally, the draft resolution concludes, as I pointed out at the beginning, by recommending that the General Assembly terminate the Trusteeship Agreement and declare, in accordance with Article 76 b of the Charter of the United Nations, the Cameroons independent with effect from 1 January 1960.

My delegation which, within this Council, has never failed to contribute to the work of emancipation and independence of the Cameroons its most decided support, is honoured to submit to the attention of the members of the Council this draft resolution, whose adoption, which we hope will be unanimous, will mark a date in the dramatic history of this Africa which so long has been in chains, which so often has been covered with blood, this Africa to which we Haitians have indissoluble links.

Although the time may seem inopportune, I, as the representative of Haiti, will not conclude, since the occasion has been afforded to me to speak on the Cameroons under French administration, without turning to France, in the person of its representative, to that France which, by some of its acts, has given rebirth to hope and made skepticism disappear, to say thank you for Haiti, thank you for the Cameroons, thank you for Africa and thank you, above all, for the United Nations.

Mr. SEARS (United States of America): The representative of Haiti has just made a very effective introduction to the draft resolution (T/L.895) before us. As a co-sponsor, the United States delegation wishes to thank him and to associate ourselves with the various points which he has so clearly made.

Mr. DAVIN (New Zealand): New Zealand was, of course, represented on the Visiting Mission to the French Cameroons, like the United States, Haiti and India, and a statement endorsing the conclusions and recommendations of the Mission has already been made in this Council by my colleague, Mr. Edmonds. It is a source of considerable gratification to my delegation to be able to co-sponsor the draft resolution (T/L.895) which has just been tabled in the Council. I do not intend to speak at length. My colleague from Haiti has already explained the draft resolution. I merely associate my delegation with what has been said by him and by the representative of the United States.

My delegation hopes that this draft resolution will be adopted by the Council, thus enabling it to comply with the requirements of General Assembly resolution 1282 (XIII). We believe that its adoption will be a significant and vital step towards the final evolution of the people of the French Cameroons to independence.

I take this opportunity of conveying our best wishes to the people of that Territory for a happy and prosperous future as an independent State and record the appreciation of my delegation for the part played by France in the achievement of that status by the Territory.

Mr. VITELLI (Italy): I have already had an opportunity to express the views of my delegation on the question of the future of the Cameroons under French administration. In my statement I was happy to stress that in the opinion of my delegation the Cameroons was definitely ready for independence and that the Trusteeship Council would be well advised to recommend the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement relating to the Cameroons under French administration on its attainment of independence on 1 January 1960.

It is therefore in the full realization of the progress made by the Territory under the guidance of the Administering Authority that my delegation is happy to confirm its attitude on this question. I should like to add that my delegation is also pleased to accord its sponsorship to the draft resolution now under

(Mr. Vitelli, Italy)

consideration, together with the delegations of the United States of America, Haiti, New Zealand and Paraguay.

There is only one thing left for me to do at this stage and that is to reiterate to the Administering Authority our most friendly congratulations for this successful venture in training an African nation for freedom and independence. I also want to express the very best wishes of my delegation to the people of the French Cameroons for a happy and prosperous future.

Mr. MONTERO de VARGAS (Paraguay) (interpretation from Spanish): In keeping with the general statement made by my delegation at today's meeting, I should like, with great pleasure, to associate myself with the draft resolution which was tabled on behalf of the sponsors by the representative of Haiti and with the necessary explanations which he gave. My delegation need only refer to our general statement for the Council to understand full well the scope and support which we give to this draft resolution.

As was already pointed out, my delegation feels that the Cameroons under French administration is fully prepared to achieve its freedom on the date laid down in the resolution adopted by the Legislative Assembly of the Cameroons and by the Administering Authority.

With reference to paragraph 6 of the draft resolution, may I say that this is a very good measure which the Council is called upon to adopt because in that way we will afford an opportunity to all those inhabitants of the Cameroons, of given zones, to return and participate in the by-elections. We would like to express the wish at present that this Council will adopt the draft resolution unanimously, because this is an easier way and because we feel that there would be no difficulty in reaffirming the fact that the future of the Cameroons, which will become independent on 1 January 1960, should be something viable and provided with this opportunity to establish its independent life.

U THANT (Burma): I would like to make a very brief statement by way of explanation of vote on the draft resolution now before the Council, sponsored by Haiti, Italy, New Zealand, Paraguay and the United States of America. My delegation will vote for the draft resolution primarily because we are in agreement

with the conclusions and recommendations of the Visiting Mission on the Cameroons under French administration and we are convinced that the Territory of the Cameroons under French administration is now fully ready for independence. My delegation, in the circumstance, cannot pose any other attitude than full support of any measure that will enable the French Cameroons to attain full national independence with effect from 1 January 1960.

My delegation appreciates the point of view expressed in this Council that the consideration of the matter could very well have been deferred to the General Assembly at its resumed session. But we feel that the basic issues have been exhaustively discussed, both by the Visiting Mission and the Trusteeship Council, and that this Council is now in a position to make specific recommendations to the General Assembly. The draft resolution before us, in the view of my delegation, reflects the considered views of my delegation and therefore we will vote for it.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): Does any other member care to speak on the draft resolution? If not, is the Council prepared to vote upon the draft resolution?

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics' (interpretation from Russian): The draft resolution was only tabled five minutes ago by the sponsors and some delegations -- I refer particularly to my own -- have not had time to study it. The question is of considerable importance and, therefore, the text should be studied thoroughly. Hence, I would draw the attention of the President to rule 57 of our rules of procedure, in accordance with which the Soviet delegation reserves its right to state its views on the draft resolution and, if necessary, to present amendments. Following that, it will be able to define its position by a vote.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): The representative of the Soviet Union has invoked rule 57, which reads as follows:

"Reports, draft resolutions and other substantive motions or amendments shall be introduced in writing and handed to the Secretary-General. The Secretary-General shall, to the extent possible, circulate copies to the representatives twenty-four hours in advance of the meeting at which they are to be considered. The Trusteeship Council may decide to postpone the consideration of draft resolutions and other substantive motions or amendments, the copies of which have not been circulated twenty-four hours in advance."

Is there any objection on the part of the Council to the proposal of the representative of the Soviet Union to postpone discussion of the draft resolution until tomorrow morning?

There appears to be no objection, and it is, therefore, so decided.

The Council will meet this afternoon at three o'clock.

The meeting rose at 12.35 p.m.

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Trusteeship Council
23rd Session, 17th Meeting (AM)

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16 February 1959

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 1

The Trusteeship Council this morning continued general debate on the future of the Cameroons under French administration. Before it is the report (Doc. T/1427) of the Council's visiting mission which made a first-hand study of the situation in the territory last fall.

CHANDER SHEKHAR JHA (India), the first speaker this morning, praised the representatives of France for their "candid" answers to questions raised by Council members. He also expressed appreciation of the visiting mission's reports which, he said, were a "valuable contribution" to the Council's discussion of the Cameroons.

The prospect before the Council was the birth of a new nation, always a moving event and of great importance to mankind, Mr. JHA stated. The Trusteeship Council had contributed to the attainment of independence for many countries. In India's opinion, the question of the future of the two Cameroons, involving the future of five million persons, was one of the most important that has come before the Council.

Confining his further comments today to the French Cameroons, the representative of India cited Article 76 of the UN Charter which, he said, "provides the soil" in which trust territories grow toward independence.

In the French Cameroons, he went on, there had been a progressive development of democratic institutions. He referred to the recent elections to the Legislative Assembly as highly representative, but said it was "deplorable" that elections could not be held in two constituencies where disturbances had occurred. However, this did not affect the main factor of independence and it was not a valid reason for delaying the date of independence, he declared.

Mr. JHA pointed out that, as the visiting mission's report showed, the Cameroonians had been clamoring for independence for a long time and the recently-elected Legislative Assembly was representative in character. In his opinion, the "noble aspirations" of the people were universal and the administering authority had responded "magnanimously" to these desires.

While it might have been more appropriate to have held the popular consultation with the people under UN auspices, nevertheless his delegation agreed with the visiting mission that no further consultation on the question of independence was necessary.

On the question of whether the Cameroonians would have all the attributes of

(more)

sovereignty following the granting of independence, he referred to the statements made by the representative of France and by the special representatives for the French Cameroons in this regard.

Another important question, he noted, was whether the people now enjoyed, and would enjoy in future, all the fundamental freedoms and human rights without discrimination.

In India's view, fundamental freedoms must obtain in the territory and the state now emerging must be one where freedoms flourish. In this connection he referred to the earlier disturbances in the territory and to the fact that one of the several political parties had been banned and did not now enjoy the right of freedom of association. He would not go into the question of the events which led to these unfortunate happenings.

It was his earnest wish, however, that the bitterness and conflict would become a thing of the past. He strongly urged that the widest possible amnesty, in fact unconditional amnesty, be granted. The further measures proposed by the Legislative Assembly did not go far enough, in his view. He hoped further details would be made available to the forthcoming resumed session of the General Assembly.

His delegation could not approve of any methods of violence, Mr. JHA stated, and he appealed to all political parties to eschew violence in the future.

On the question of by-elections for four vacant seats in the Legislative Assembly, he hoped these elections would be held at the earliest possible date and conducted in an atmosphere of political freedom and amnesty. He had been glad to hear from the French representative that French troops had been withdrawn from the territory and also that political exiles were free to return to their homeland.

Mr. JHA recommended that the General Assembly should take a decision, in the light of the visiting mission's report and after hearing any of the parties concerned, that the trusteeship agreement should be terminated on 1 January next. He would support any resolution in the Council which was "consonant" with the views expressed. In conclusion, he expressed "great joy" at the prospect of the emergence of the new state and wished the Cameroonian people "every success."

GEORGES SALOMON (Haiti) declared that the time had come for the Council to make final and appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly concerning the future of the French Cameroons and the termination of the trusteeship agreement. Having served as a member of the visiting mission to the territory, he said he would not dwell at length on the question.

Members of the visiting mission, he observed, had tried to report all facts objectively. He was glad to see that this objectivity of the mission was recognized by the majority of the Council members.

The conclusions and observations of the visiting mission, he said, coincided, to a considerable extent, with the views of Haiti.

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TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 2

Continuing, Mr. SALOMON (Haiti) said there were two points in the visiting mission's report which he felt were of special importance. One was the question of the amnesty and in this regard he was glad to note the statement of the representative of France that a draft amnesty law would be introduced in the Legislative Assembly without delay. He hoped the adoption and promulgation of such a law would have the expected effect in bringing about a reconciliation in the territory.

The second point, he continued, concerned the by-elections in the Sagana-Maritime region. Here, too, he noted the assurance that, as soon as the new amnesty law had been passed, new elections would be held in that region.

He hoped these steps would finally close the door to a "painful situation," which was already a thing of the past, and enable all Cameroonians to work together in building a future state.

Mr. SALOMON hoped that the Council would support a draft resolution which would give the General Assembly the opportunity, after hearing the views of Cameroonian petitioners, to decide on the termination of the trusteeship for the French Cameroons on the date the territory attained independence on 1 January 1960.

Dr. PACIFICO MONTERO DE VARGAS (Paraguay) noted that the demand of the government of the Cameroons for independence on 1 January 1960 was supported by the people of the territory and endorsed by the Government of France.

He also noted the efforts of the Cameroons government and of France to bring about national reconciliation in the territory after the recent troubles. The promulgation of the new amnesty law, as promised, would contribute to the restoration of harmony in the territory.

The conclusions of the visiting mission, he declared, should be supported by the Trusteeship Council. They reflected the aspirations of the people and government of the Cameroons.

However, he continued, his delegation wished to state for the record that, in its view, it would be inadvisable to call for new elections in the French Cameroons prior to 1 January 1960. The domestic policies of the future state, he said, should be decided only by the people themselves.

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Dr. MONTERO DE VARGAS believed that the carrying out of the by-elections for the Sanaga-Maritime region would strengthen the political position of the Cameroons.

He had sufficient confidence in the political maturity of the leaders and people of the Cameroons to believe that they would not accept anything short of true democracy.

He accepted the assurances concerning the promulgation of a new amnesty law.

The chief task before the Trusteeship Council, in his view, was to facilitate, as far as possible, the independence of the Cameroons on 1 January 1960. His delegation would approve a draft resolution which embodied the points he had mentioned.

Paraguay, he said, was happy to greet the birth of the future state. He paid tribute to the leaders and the people of the Cameroons, and to the Government of France for preparing the Cameroonian people for their independence.

OMAR LOUTFI (United Arab Republic) expressed satisfaction at the approaching independence of the Cameroons. He said he was happy to see another new African state gain independence and join the international community. He wished all happiness and success to the Cameroonian people.

His delegation, he said, would take a final position on the question in the General Assembly, after having studied the report of the visiting mission more thoroughly, listened to the leaders of the Cameroons, and consulted with other African states. Only then, he said, would his delegation be in a position to state its views more definitely.

For these reasons, Mr. LOUTFI said, his delegation would abstain on the joint draft resolution (Doc. T/L.895 and Press Release PM/3717) just circulated to Council members. He hoped that his abstention would not be misinterpreted. It did not indicate a lack of interest in the independence of the Cameroons. On the contrary, it was a token of the special importance attached by his delegation to the question and of its concern that a final position should be taken only after more careful study.

(END OF TAKE 2)

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TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 3

SIR ANDREW COHEN (United Kingdom) said it was evident from the course of the debate that there was general agreement in the Council with the views of the visiting mission.

The United Kingdom, he said, would fully support the final recommendation of the visiting mission that the Council should recommend that the General Assembly should take the necessary steps to terminate the trusteeship agreement for the French Cameroons on the day the territory attained independence.

While it would be premature for him to comment now on the draft resolution just circulated, Sir ANDREW said his delegation would support it.

No delegation, he added, was happier than the United Kingdom to note that the Cameroons would arrive at the goal of independence in the next 12 months. The year 1960, he added, would be an important one to Africa. Apart from the French Cameroons, Nigeria, later that year, would also attain independence.

Sir ANDREW said he looked forward to welcoming these new states to UN membership. He paid tribute to the "magnificent work" done by France over the years in preparing the people of the French Cameroons for independence. He also congratulated the leaders and people of the territory for the progress attained.

As for the question of the relations between the French Cameroons and the British Cameroons, Sir ANDREW recalled an earlier statement by the representative of France that this matter concerned primarily the British Cameroons. He would not deal with the matter now, he said, as he proposed to make a statement to the Council on the British Cameroons this afternoon.

The President, MAX H. DORSINVILLE (Haiti), said the general debate on the French Cameroons was concluded. He proposed that the Council take a brief recess, after which the sponsors of the draft resolution on the French Cameroons could introduce their proposal.

This was agreed to by the Council.

Following the recess, EDMOND SYLVAIN (Haiti) introduced the draft resolution (Doc. T/L.895) on behalf of his delegation and the other four sponsors -- Italy, New Zealand, Paraguay, and the United States.

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Mr. SYLVAIN pointed out that the joint resolution included the important recommendations of the visiting mission. In spite of the fact that a member of his delegation had been a member of that mission, he said he wished to pay tribute to the constructive work achieved in spite of the "multiplicity of the shades of opinion" in the territory.

In analyzing the resolution, he said his reference to "shades of opinion" did not have anything to do with the question of independence itself. If there was one matter on which all political parties and all inhabitants agreed, he said, it was with regard to independence. Therefore, as the third paragraph of the resolution stated, there was no need for further consultation with the people.

He stressed, in connection with the fifth paragraph concerning fundamental freedoms, that his delegation was grateful to France for leading the Cameroons through the democratic processes. There was no reason to doubt the will of the future new state to follow the ideals of the UN Charter, he added. However, the sponsors felt that it was wise for the resolution to recall the "sound principles" of freedom of the press, of assembly, etc. It was also thought desirable to take note of the government's intention to hold by-elections in the Sanaga-Maritime area as early as possible, he explained.

In conclusion, Mr. SYLVAIN expressed the hope that the five-power draft would be adopted unanimously.

MASON SEARS (United States) said his delegation, as a co-sponsor, associated itself with the various points made by the representative of Haiti.

The other co-sponsors also made brief statements ⁱⁿ support of Mr. Sylvain's comments.

T.P. DAVIN (New Zealand) said he believed that the adoption of the resolution would be a "significant and vital step" in the territory's evolution toward independence.

(END OF TAKE 3)

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TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 4

In his statement, GIROLAMO VITELLI (Italy) reiterated his delegation's views that the trust territory was definitely ready for independence and that the Council should recommend the termination of the trusteeship agreement on 1 January. He congratulated the administering authority for its efforts and wished a "happy and prosperous future" to the Cameroonian people.

Dr. MONTERO DE VARGAS (Paraguay) also said the French Cameroons was fully prepared to attain its independence on the date set, and he hoped the resolution would be adopted unanimously.

By way of explanation of vote, U THANT (Burma) said the five-power resolution reflected the considered views of his delegation that the territory was now ready for independence. Burma agreed with the recommendations and conclusions of the visiting mission. He would therefore vote for the text now before the Council.

The PRESIDENT then suggested that a vote might be taken on the resolution.

Mr. SYLVAIN (Haiti) pointed out that several alterations should be made in the French text and also that the word "Cameroons" should be inserted before the word "government" in paragraphs six and seven of the English text of the resolution.

At this point, IVAN I. LOBANOV (USSR) invoked rule 57 of the Council's rules of procedure, requiring a 24-hour postponement of a vote on a newly-circulated resolution. He said he reserved the right to comment at a later stage and also to present amendments to the text.

There was no objection when the PRESIDENT proposed that further discussion of the resolution be postponed until tomorrow morning.

The Council will meet again at 3 p.m. today when the United Kingdom representative will make a statement on the Cameroons under British administration, the PRESIDENT stated.

(END OF TAKE 4 AND OF PRESS RELEASE TR/1467)