



UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



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~~PETITION FROM MR. GASTON DJOU-NGUIATSI AND OTHERS CONCERNING~~
THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

(Circulated in accordance with rule 85 of the rules
of procedure for the Trusteeship Council)

DJOU-NGUIATSI Gaston, and others
P. O. Box 31, Dschang
Cameroons under French Administration

Dschang, 19 July 1956

To Mr. B. Cohen,
Under-Secretary for Trusteeship and
Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories

Sir,

We have received your letter of 18 May 1956 (T/PET.5/882) and have the honour to submit the following information in support of our petition.

The Compagnie Pastorale has taken legal action against us, Djou-Nguiatsi Gaston and Dongmo Emilien, and the judicial authorities have ordered us to pay large sums as damages and costs in virtue of a so-called order No. 81 of 10 March 1933 under which a grazing area was leased to the Compagnie Pastorale.

We the inhabitants of the place are wholly unaware of the terms of the lease and even of the boundaries of the area (there are no boundary marks or natural borders).

We vigorously protest that this is nothing but a violation of article 7 of the Trusteeship Agreement, which provides that:

In framing laws relating to the holding or transfer of land, the Administering Authority shall, in order to promote the economic and social progress of the native population, take into consideration local laws and customs.

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No land belonging to a native or to a group of natives may be transferred, except between natives, save with the previous consent of the competent public authority, who shall respect the rights and safeguard the interests, both present and future, of the natives. No real rights over native land in favour of non-natives may be created excepted with the same consent.

We therefore hope that when the Council considers our petition at its nineteenth session, it will adopt resolutions to ensure that article 7 of the Trusteeship Agreement is respected in the case of the land of the Pastorale Bafou Juditsa and the indigenous population.

We are forwarding to you a copy of a letter sent to Mr. Sarrazin, the surveyor assigned to fix the boundaries of the parcel of land in dispute. There has been no reply to this letter.

We have the honour to be, etc.

1. Djou-Nguiatsi Gaston
2. Dongmo Emilien
3. An indigenous inhabitant

DSCHANG, 31 December 1955

Djou-Nguiatsi Gaston
residing at Bafoun
P.O. Box 31, Dschang

To Mr. H. Sarrazin, surveyor, Bafang

Sir,

This is to inform you that I received your notice of 21 December, requesting me to be present on my disputed land at exactly 12 o'clock on 29 December, the day on which the boundaries were to be redrawn.

However, I have been informed that you were here on the 28th instead of the 29th at 9 o'clock.

I would like you to clarify the situation for me and tell me if you really came and what you did.

I am attaching a stamp for your reply.

I have the honour to be, etc.
