

UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL



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TEN PETITIONS CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

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

Note by the Secretariat: The petitions circulated in this document all contain complaints concerning material damage and loss of property resulting from the incidents of May 1955 in the Nkongsamba Subdivision, Mungo Region. The Secretariat has grouped together the various articles enumerated in the unduly long lists attached to some of the petitions; where this has been done, the abridged lists are given in square brackets.

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1. Petition from Mr. Paul Fondjieu

FONDJIEU Paul, planter, member of the Manjo local committee of the UPC, Nkongsamba Subdivision, Mungo Region, released political prisoner.

To the Secretary-General of the United Nations
New York, 21, U.S.A.

Sir,

It is with tears in my eyes that I observe the situation in Kamerun since 25 May 1955, when Mr. Roland Prè, French Government in Kamerun, launched a cold war against a people which is asking for the unification and independence of its country.

Speaking for my family and myself, we support the Joint Declaration of 22 April 1955:

CONSEQUENTLY:

I ask for the independence and immediate unification of Kamerun, the appointment of a United Nations High Commissioner in Kamerun, the adoption of the Kamerunian flag, the cancellation of warrants for the arrest of the leaders and representatives of the progressive movements in Kamerun; I attach a statement of my material losses.

	<u>Francs</u>
Cash	800,000
10 Shirts, 8 undervests, 7 suits	87,000
8 pairs of trousers, 10 pairs of shorts, 6 pairs of shoes	36,000
3 pairs of tennis shoes, 3 hats, 5 saucepans	25,800
5 bowls, 24 plates, 2 flat-irons	9,500
2 gramophones, 75 records, 45 sacks of coffee	348,000
2 Aida lamps, 20 chickens, 10 roosters, 4 pairs of scissors	21,200
1 pig, 200 metal sheets, 100 sacks of cement	48,000
2 tons of planks, 4 beds, 4 blankets	31,000
4 blankets, 8 loin-cloths, 4 mattresses	12,400
10 pullovers, 4 pick-axes, 5 hoes, 40 spoons, 40 forks,	
2 overcoats, 2 tablespoons	6,900

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	<u>Francs</u>
4 ornamental loin-cloths, 3 tables, 20 chairs	25,900
2 cupboards, 4 large mirrors	12,200
2 iron chests, including children's clothing, miscellaneous articles	60,000
4 sacks of ground-nuts, 2 chests of women's clothing	109,500
2 goats, 2 sacks of cocoa, 4 overcoats	32,950
8 mosquito-nets, 20 baskets, 2 umbrellas	11,600
4 empty demi-johns	3,400
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Total	1,707,150

FONDJIEU Paul

Maquis, 3 September 1956.

2. Petition from Mr. François Fotso

FOTSO François, planter, member of the MANJO Committee of the UPC, NKONGSAMBA Subdivision, Mungo Region, released political prisoner.

Material losses

	<u>Francs</u>
1 chest, 2 chests	6,000
cash	406,000
1 iron bed, 10 pillows, 10 blankets	41,500
45 table glasses, 5 tables, 45 chairs	64,500
2 flat-irons, 6 towels, 4 lamps	7,700
2 Aida lamps, 4 pairs of boots, 3 cupboards	71,600
5 dogs and their pups	29,889
2 bicycles	39,099
15 tons of planks and 88 sacks of cement	230,009
2 mills and 2 sewing machines	104,339
1 indigenous rifle	7,120
12 goats	300,000

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Material losses

	<u>Francs</u>
8 drums of palm-oil	12,030
45 sacks of coffee berries	225,009
10 woollen blankets	30,000
family bank money	80,720
/miscellaneous articles of clothing	283,863
14 pairs of shoes	15,600
miscellaneous household articles	17,920
total	<u>2,049,898</u> 7

I ask for the immediate independence and unification of Kamerun, the adoption of the Kamerunian flag, the appointment of a United Nations High Commissioner in Kamerun, the cancellation of warrants issued for the arrest of the leaders and representatives of the progressive movements in Kamerun, the end of the Trusteeship System in the Territory of Kamerun, the organization, in the very near future, of a popular referendum for a sovereign Kamerunian State.

I have the honour to be, etc.

FOTSO François

Maquis, September 1956.

3. Petition from Mr. Jacob Nkomga

NKOMGA Jacob, planter, member of the Manjo local committee of the UPC,
Nkongsamba Subdivision, Mungo Region

Released political prisoner

To the Secretary-General of the United Nations
New York 21, U.S.A.

Sir,

Despite the incidents of May 1955, Mr. Roland Pré, French Government in Kamerun, launched a cold war against an unarmed people only because those people

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claimed their legitimate right, namely: THE IMMEDIATE INDEPENDENCE AND UNIFICATION OF KAMERUN.

I submit a statement of my material losses.

	<u>Francs</u>
75 sacks of coffee berries	375,000
1 sewing machine, 1 mill	42,959
2 Aida lamps, 3 wristwatches	9,080
cash	950,000
10 pairs of shorts, 19 shirts, 6 undervests	11,900
4 bérêts, 9 loin-cloths, 2 bicycles	32,780
5 jackets, 60 chickens, 1 gramophone	28,376
3 tons of planks, 3 straw mats	20,080
4 goats, 2 pigs, 3 belts	27,450
20 miscellaneous booklets	4,000
2 dogs, 2 towels, 2 chests	23,000
4 hammers	303
Total	<u>1,113,928</u>

NKOMGA Jacob

Maquis, 3 September 1956

4. Petition from Mr. Joseph Nkonguem

NKONGUEM Joseph, planter, member of the Manjo local committee of the U.P.C.
Nkongsamba Subdivision, Mungo Region

Released political prisoner

REPORT OF MATERIAL LOSSES

	<u>Francs</u>
19 sacks of coffee berries	79,375
12 chairs, 2 tables, 3 shelves, 45 dresses	32,100
1 sewing machine, 35 dishes, 5 dozen plates	37,425

REPORT OF MATERIAL LOSSES

	<u>Francs</u>
6 pairs of ladies' shoes, 24 kerchiefs	16,200
2 saucepans, 5 pairs of children's shoes	6,500
4 towels, 4 vests, 6 children's head-dresses	6,500
1 bicycle, 5 beds, 6 soup-tureens, 3 chests	82,950
19 pairs of trousers, 15 shirts, 20 undervests	50,000
12 pairs of shorts, 9 pairs of pants, 8 jerseys,	
2 Aida lamps	13,150
3 paraffin lamps, 2 heaters, 4 hats	7,200
2 dozen teaspoons, 2 dozen forks	2,160
6 pairs of tennis shoes, 30 empty sacks, 1 flat-iron	6,600
cash savings	650,000
3 dozen table glasses, 2 cupboards	41,440
5 belts, 6 ties, 15 chickens	17,070
10 ducks, 5 woollen blankets	32,068
6 loin-cloths, 3 pails	3,970
cash in the cupboard	<u>150,000</u>
Total	1,236,203

CLAIM

I ask for the immediate unification and independence of Kamerun, the adoption of the Kamerunian flag, the cancellation of warrants issued for the arrest of the leaders and representatives of the progressive movements in Kamerun, the appointment of a United Nations High Commissioner in the Territory of Kamerun in anticipation of a sovereign Kamerunian State. I support the Joint Proclamation of 22 April 1955, namely: THE IMMEDIATE UNIFICATION AND INDEPENDENCE OF KAMERUN.

I have the honour to be, etc.

NKONGUEM Joseph

Maquis, 3 September 1956

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5. Petition from Mr. Elias Nkwatze

NKWATZE Elias, planter, member of the Manjo local committee of the UPC, Nkongsamba Subdivision, Mungo Region; political prisoner

	<u>Francs</u>
1 seven-room hut, 1 mill	210,000
270 sacks of coffee berries, 500 planks	660,670
27 goats, 5 chairs, 2 tables, 3 shelves	67,400
2 cupboards, 50 plates, 3 basins	38,600
15 pairs of trousers, 10 pairs of shorts, 18 undervests	26,200
4 vests, 7 jerseys, 8 shirts, 60 teaspoons	11,300
8 beds, 2 iron springs, 10 mattresses	27,900
20 blankets, 10 cushions, 10 mosquito-nets	29,500
65 chickens, 6 pairs of shoes, 2 pairs of boots	22,250
5 pairs of tennis shoes, 7 pairs of shoes	3,950
1 Aida lamp, 5 paraffin lamps, 6 axes	8,800
5 pick-axes, 11 machetes, 4 pruning-shears	4,750
5 saucepans, 1 heater, 4 umbrellas, 3 coats	16,900
cash	1,500,000
7 hats and 7 caps	3,450
4 loin-cloths, 10 files, 83 empty sacks	13,900
30 ducks, 5 sacks of cola-nuts, 5 drums of oil	76,000
7 hoes, 3 bicycles, 4 rakes, 5 carpets, 50 baskets of coffee	71,850
8 sacks of ground-nuts, 3 flat-irons, 40 table glasses	10,000
3 mortars, 1 barrel of oil, 2 empty casks	5,650
3 knives, 3 sacks of salt, 3 cigarette cases	4,325
6 belts, 5 pails, 10 sacks of maize	33,250
3 sacks of beans, 4 wooden buckets	9,300
2 sacks of pistachio nuts, 4 kettles, 8 lengths of material	25,000
4 cocoa spears, 3 goats, 2 pigs	24,500
2 chests, 28 dresses, 30 kerchiefs	26,200
5 pairs of tennis shoes, 4 pairs of shoes	6,700
3 loin-cloths, 2 sieves, 1 sack of pimento	11,900
miscellaneous articles of children's clothing	30,078 ...
	/...

Francs

9 pairs of children's tennis shoes, 4 sacks of taros

7,200

Total

2,986,523

KWATZE Elias

Maquis, 3 September 1956

6. Petition from Mr. Janvier Nonkam

Nonkam Janvier, planter at Ngol Manten, supporter of the 12 December 1953 Tanko Manjo Committee of the UPC and former political prisoner at the Nkongsamba prison, 5 June 1955, released on 5 March 1956.

Subject: PETITION

To the President of the eleventh session of the United Nations General Assembly New York, U.S.A.

Sir,

I respectfully submit to you and to the General Assembly the following statement concerning my country, Kamerun, citing the events from the incidents of May 1955 onwards.

In the course of those incidents I was arrested with other Kamerunian men and women and we were imprisoned throughout the territory. Others were shot and fell dead. Others were wounded and others reached the maquis. We therefore request the immediate unification and independence of our dear country.

Recently the French colonialists have been threatening us with the Loi-Cadre, even though Kamerun is not a French colony.

I protest emphatically against the Loi-Cadre. Arbitrary arrests have been playing havoc with the people of Kamerun since the incidents of 1955.

I protest against the election of a new A.T.C.A.M. (Territorial Assembly) after the complete unity and victory of Kamerun.

Consequently:

1. I request the immediate Unification and Independence of our country, Kamerun;

2. The release of all political prisoners;

3. The cancellation of warrants for the arrest of the leaders of the leaders of the Kamerunian progressive movements.

You will find attached my report on the property damaged by the French colonialists in the war of 25 May 1955, by the Government of the French colonies, little Pré in Kamerun.

	<u>Francs</u>
personal capital	250,000
1 cupboard containing my clothing	40,000
5 pairs of shoes	7,500
20 dishes and 4 saucepans of different sizes	7,900
18 chairs and plank tables	12,600
25 sacks of unhulled coffee	
40 planks and rafters	14,500
1 gramophone, 30 records and 1 Raglet bicycle	34,000
30 dresses, 4 pairs of ladies' shoes and 4 large basins	19,200
3 dishes with lids and 1 kettle	2,600
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Total	388,300

I am relying on you in hopes of the complete unification and victory of Kamerun, which is on the agenda of the eleventh session of the United Nations General Assembly of 12 November 1956; we hope you will satisfy our national claims concerning Kamerunian problems.

I have the honour to be, etc.

Long live the United Nations.

Long live World Peace.

Long live the People's Union of Kamerunian Men and Women, who are fighting for their interests and the right to self-determination.

Maquis, 29 October 1956

Informer

Nokam Janvier

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7. Petition from Mr. Clément Djoumbosie

DJOUMBOSIE Clément, planter, member of the Mantem I local committee of the UPC Nkongsamba Subdivision, Mungo Region

To the President of the United Nations
New York 21, U.S.A.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you of the present situation in Kamerun.

Kamerun is being intimidated by the French colonialist gaol; on account of the delay caused by my imprisonment since 25 May 1955, I wish respectfully to submit to your international inspector this statement about my ransacked hut and all my property looted by Roland Pré's mercenaries. You will find attached a statement of my property. I reaffirm, in accordance with the numerous petitions sent from Kamerun, that we have sworn to fight until we obtain the immediate Reunification and Independence of our country.

	<u>Francs</u>
1 house ransacked and 2 chests	225,000
cash	170,000
9 petticoats, 4 tables, 2 drums of oil, 10 chairs	13,100
3 arm-chairs, 5 beds, 4 basins, 7 saucepans	15,775
15 sacks of coffee berries, 4 woollen blankets	87,600
2 pairs of ladies' shoes, 1 pair of boots, 1 sewing machine	20,600
1 gramophone, 3 tablecloths, 5 machetes, 6 soup-tureens, 12 plates	58,025
2 cupboards, 4 pairs of sandals, 1 sack of salt, 4 pairs of tennis shoes	17,950
Miscellaneous articles of clothing	56,379
Miscellaneous household articles	<u>5,925</u>
Total	680,359

Speaking for my family and myself, we support the immediate Unification and Independence of Kamerun. We call for the appointment of a United Nations High Commissioner in Kamerun, the adoption of our Kamerunian flag and the outright cancellation of the Decree of 13 July 1955 in Kamerun.

I have the honour to be, etc.

DJOUMBOSIE CLEMENT

Maquis, 5 March 1956.

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8. Petition from Mr. Gabriel Mounkam

Mounkam Gabriel, planter, member of the Mantem I local committee of the UPC, Nkongsamba Subdivision, Mungo Region

To the Secretary-General of the United Nations
New York, 21, U.S.A.

Sir,

At midnight on 2 June 1955 the officer commanding the Nkongsamba gendarmerie, accompanied by TCHAD soldiers, entered my home and arrested me; I was taken, naked, to the Nkongsamba gendarmerie headquarters and imprisoned forthwith. My hut was looted and my property was seized, with the help of the local authorities, and then they asked me about TEGUIA Richard, the U.P.C. secretary in the village of Mantem I, who was disturbing the peace. The village chief called TCHITCHT André said that I was the direct associate of Mr. TEGUIA Richard, the uncompromising UPC member of this village. If I did not answer, I would be condemned to death.

In the NKONGSAMBA cell for political prisoners, there are twenty-five minutes of light a day and the only food a piece of macabo each day. And these political prisoners sleep on the damp cement floor. Numbers of patriots have been arrested, imprisoned, deported, tortured and killed; others have gone to the maquis and some have scattered.

I ask for the immediate unification and independence of Kamerun, the cancellation of warrants issued for the arrest of the representatives and leaders of the progressive movements in Kamerun, the adoption of the Kamerunian flag and appointment of a United Nations High Commissioner in the Territory of Kamerun. You will find attached a statement of my material losses.

	<u>Francs</u>
1 eight-room hut	109,095
9 sacks of coffee berries	45,000
7 drums of oil, 1 sewing machine	27,500
24 plates, 24 dishes, 6 pairs of trousers	9,675
2 woollen blankets, 6 table glasses	6,025
3 empty casks, 45 clusters of palm nuts	10,009
4 pullovers, 3 beds, mosquito-nets	3,500

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Francs

8 blankets, 2 chests, 3 pairs of shoes	15,850
4 pairs of tennis shoes, 2 black jackets	4,650
[- Miscellaneous household articles	20,910
Miscellaneous tools	<u>61,980</u>
Total	322,275 <u>7</u>

MOUNKAM Gabriel

Released political prisoner

Maquis, 5 March 19569. Petition from Mr. Christoph Nkongka

NKONGA Christoph, planter, member of the Mantem I local committee of the U.P.C.,
NKONGSAMBA Subdivision, Mungo Region.

Political prisoner

To the President of the United Nations
New York, 21, U.S.A.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you of the present situation in Kamerun.

Since the incidents of May 1955, Kamerun has been in danger of French colonialist acts of repression, by Roland Prè as well as Messmer; Kamerunian patriots are serving heavy sentences in the cells, only because these peoples claim their legitimate rights.

In the Bafang Subdivision and thereabouts the authorities order the huts of active members to be searched in the absence of the owners; in the village of MBamfam in the same subdivision several active members were arrested and imprisoned, their property was seized, and there were countless wounded.

CONSEQUENTLY

I ask for the immediate unification and independence of Kamerun, the adoption of the Kamerunian flag, the appointment of a United Nations High Commissioner in anticipation of a sovereign Kamerunian State, the cancellation of warrants issued for the arrest of the leaders and representatives of the progressive movements in Kamerun. Enclosed is a statement of my material losses:

	<u>Francs</u>
30 sacks of coffee berries, 1 six-room hut	235,000
cash	230,800
cash savings	330,803
1 cupboard, 30 soup-tureens, 30 plates	22,570
3 saucepans, 30 shirts, 25 dresses	36,110
2 chests, 2 dozen table glasses	5,137
2 dozen spoons, 5 beds, 5 mattresses	13,570
5 pillows, 7 pairs of shoes, 7 pairs of women's shoes	17,300
7 pairs of sandals	8,050
1 bicycle, 1 sewing machine	36,895

10. Petition from Mr. Noah Yami

YAMI NOAH, planter, member of the Maitem I local committee of the UPC,
Nkongsamba Subdivision, Mungo Region

To the President of the United Nations
New York 21, U.S.A.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit to you a statement of my material losses suffered
on 25 May 1955 at the hands of Roland Fré, the mercenary.

	<u>Francs</u>
1 twelve-room house, 1 cook-house	995,000
cash	1,800,000
5 sewing machine belonging to my wives	67,500
4 round tables, 1 mirror, 3 flat-irons, 1 Aida lamp	21,660
8 lamps, 8 chests, 8 basins, 6 cardboard suitcases	23,780
8 saucepans, 24 three-gallon saucepans, 1 horse's tail	20,240
80 dishes, 92 soup-tureens, 130 plates, 5 caps, 3 hats	49,930
1 small bell, 36 dozen spoons, forks and glasses	8,410
10 water buckets, 29 goats, 68 chickens, 48 ducks, 1 thermos	115,880
1 complete medicine chest, 1 gramophone, 12 pairs of shoes, 6 pairs of tennis shoes	83,350

	<u>Francs</u>
8 mosquito-nets, chimes, 1 mattress, 28 blankets	101,900
10 blankets, 1 dozen files, 3 bicycles, 1 bitch	109,000
family savings kept in the cupboard	857,400
miscellaneous articles of furniture	184,820
miscellaneous articles of clothing	385,500
miscellaneous tools	<u>69,876</u>
total	4,393,150/

Speaking for my family and myself, we favour the immediate unification and independence of Kamerun. We ask for the adoption of our Kamerunian flag and the appointment of a United Nations High Commissioner in the Territory of Kamerun. We call for the cancellation of warrants issued for the arrest of the leaders and representatives of the progressive movements in Kamerun. My report is delayed because I was arrested and shut up in a French colonialist cell, from which I was released in March 1956.

YAMI NOAH, political prisoner released on 5 March 1956, and imprisoned on 25 July 1956 in a cell at Nkongsamba because it was proved that I am a Member of the UPC. I do not know what has happened to my family since then.

YAMI NOAH

Done on 28 July 1956
