

UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL



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THREE 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 contain complaints concerning material damage and loss of property resulting from the incidents of May 1955 in the Bamiléké Region, Bafang Subdivision. The Secretariat thought it necessary to group together the various articles itemized in the excessively long lists sent with two of these petitions; the abridged lists are given in square brackets.

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1. Petition from Mr. David Kameni^{1/}

Kameni David, notable and member of the local committee of the Union des Populations du Cameroun of Bandoungia Village, Bafang Subdivision, Bamiléké Region, Kamerun.

Subject: Report of Damage

During the bloody events of May 1955 in Kamerun, the French colonialists destroyed and looted the following articles:

	<u>Francs</u>
5 huts of beaten earth destroyed	360,000
containing: 1 ton of coffee	360,000
1 phonograph	12,000
bedding	2,000
1 nursery with 3,000 seedlings at 3 francs	9,000
2 pigs and 5 goats	58,000
1 chicken-run with 30 hens and 5 cocks	6,000
1 children's and ladies' set	36,700
2 gloves, <u>boubous</u> , 2 traditional dancing costumes and ornaments	43,000
1 drum of paraffin and four blankets	15,000
cash	200,000
2 saws and one native rifle	15,000
<u>/</u> miscellaneous articles of furniture	42,800
miscellaneous articles of clothing	14,400
4 pairs of shoes	9,000
miscellaneous household articles	34,200
miscellaneous tools	37,700
Total:	<u>1,254,800</u>

Maquis, 27 October 1956

1/ Note by the Secretariat: The author of this petition is apparently also the author of the petition reproduced in section 10 of document T/PET.5/905.

2. Petition from Mr. Gabriel Ouépimbe (Wépenmbé)^{2/}

Plaintiff's report:

Ouépimbé Gabriel, age 40, farmer, domiciled at Bandoumgia, Bandakpuendjié Quarter, father of 18 children, Bafang Subdivision, Bamiléké Region, (Cameroons)

To the President of the United Nations General Assembly, New York

Sir,

I have the honour to submit to you an account of the property belonging to me which was damaged and stolen by the soldiers of Roland Pré and Orabona François, former administrator of Bafang Subdivision, on 1 June 1955. The detailed list is as follows:

	<u>Francs</u>
27 goats	54,000
10 pigs	50,000
7 hens	2,100
1 wooden chest	800
4 native dress lengths (Zeudop at 10,000 francs each)	40,000
4 horses' tails, Bamiléké style, at 1,000 francs	4,000
1 phonograph, His Master's Voice, at 11,000 francs	11,000
16 phonograph records at 250 francs each	4,000
2 rifles	310
1 sewing machine at 15,000 francs	15,000
2 fields of macabos at 15,000 francs each	30,000
1 field of maize	22,000
1 field of yams, unharvested	10,000
2 fields of native beans at 12,000 francs each	24,000
money kept in the cupboard for the family reunion	58,000
[miscellaneous articles of furniture	26,700
miscellaneous articles of clothing	74,175
miscellaneous bedding articles	22,900
32 pairs of shoes	20,300

^{2/} Note by the Secretariat: The author of this petition is apparently also the author of the petition reproduced in section 19 of document T/PET.5/905.

	<u>Francs</u>
miscellaneous household articles	26,415
miscellaneous tools	16,000
foodstuffs	23,310
2 huts of dried bricks	300,000
3 bamboo huts	300,000
Total:	<u>1,143,700</u>

The account of the damage and thefts suffered by me on 1 June 1955 amounts to a total of ONE MILLION ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-THREE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED FRANCS C.F.A.

For the immediate unification and independence of our country the Cameroons

Long live the United Nations
Long live the national liberation movements
Long live the UPC, the immortal soul of the
Cameroonian people.

Done at Bafang, 20 August 1956
Ouépimé Gabriel

5. Petition from Mr. Michel Dento

Union des POPULATIONS DU CAMEROUN
Kamerunian branch of the Rassemblement Démocratique Africain
Local Committee of Mamalek-Bakondji

Dento Micehl, provisional heir of the late Chief Towo Henri
of the Village of Mamalek-Bajondji
c/o P.O. Box 39, Bafang

Mamalek, 3 June 1956

To the President of the United Nations

Sir,

I have the honour to bring to your kind attention this complaint against Mer Moumi, Chief of the Bakindji tribe and leader of the Administration's mercenaries in this village during the events of May 1955.

/...

Using his administrative power, he relieved us of a sum referred to in precise detail in the attached report.

He did so on an undertaking not to include our houses in the fire and destruction reigning during that month.

Hoping for a favourable reception, we thank you in advance and have the honour to be, etc.

Dento Michel

Dento Michel, provisional heir
of the late Chief Towo Henri of the
Village of Mamalek-Bakondji

Mamalek, 3 June 1956

On behalf of the population of Mamalek, Mer Towo Henri, Chief of this Village, deceased on 12 October 1955 owing to poison following upon the events of May 1955, was forced to give to the Chief of Bakondji, Mer Moumi, a sum amounting to the following total to prevent him from destroying or ruining the entire population.

	<u>Francs</u>
A sum of	550,000
5 drums of palm oil	6,000
4 goats	6,000
Total:	<hr/> 562,000

(Signed): Dento Michel
