



UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL



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PETITION FROM MR. ANDRE-MARIE MBIDA CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

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rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council)

President

Trusteeship Council United Nations Lake Success New York U.S.A.

Honour inform you Administering Authority Cameroons under French administration attempting open violation express provisions article 3 Trusteeship Agreement, concerning maintenance of law and order, for it has decided to give Cameroonian Government, before official end of trusteeship, responsibility for law and order in the country, also administration of criminal justice, by so-called agreements to be reached between Administering Authority and Cameroonian Government. Such agreements are illegal, improper, contrary to the United Nations Charter and Trusteeship Agreement, for there can be no valid legal agreement between guardian and ward or minor. Trusteeship Council and General Assembly are totally unaware of existence of these draft so-called agreements. We urgently call on Trusteeship Council and General Assembly to study them and to oppose them outright because they are contrary to international instruments and may lead to trouble in the country. If France Administering Authority and trustee considers that it has no further responsibility in the Cameroons let it ask United Nations to grant us immediate independence. It is fantastic for example that when a decision is handed down at first hearing in the Cameroons in the name of the Cameroonian people, on appeal or final appeal the decision should be given in France in the name of the French people, as one of the agreements provides. Moreover Administering Authority is not ensuring that Cameroonian Legislative Assembly respects express provisions Article 76 Charter on consultation peoples concerned with regard to their ultimate destiny; Legislative Assembly

cannot and must not take the place of the people. Above all present Legislative Assembly has not been elected to take a decision on the end of trusteeship or on independence. We therefore ask for a properly conducted free referendum among people concerned, with no direct or indirect reference to or aim of French Union or Community which people of the Cameroons wholly reject. Finally we ask that a total and unconditional amnesty be declared before referendum so that all Cameroonians can take part in the consultation and that after referendum or at the same time elections for the Cameroonian Constituent Assembly should be held under the supervision of a very broad United Nations Mission. The present Assembly cannot legally become a Constituent Assembly, it should be dissolved.

I have the honour to be etc.

André Marie MBIDA, Deputy
Former Prime Minister of the Cameroons
General Chairman of the Parti Démocrate
Cameroonais
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Paris VII
France

(Signed) André Mbida

Paris, 12 November 1958
