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This issue, which has been unavoidably delayed, is necessarily limited to the most important actions affecting Africa during the first half of this year, omitting matters of peripheral concern. It includes a summary of all significant issues affecting Africa which were considered by the last session of the General Assembly, which met in "resumed session" this February. The next issue of the Bulletin will summarize information about the important questions which will arise in the next session of the Assembly.

Tanganyika: ACOA's Executive Director Presents a Petition: The UN Trusteeship Council, starting its 23rd session this January, had before it a petition by George M. Houser, Executive Director of ACOA, asking an explanation of his exclusion from the British trust territory of Tanganyika when he attempted to visit it in 1957. The exclusion order stated simply that he was banned under the Immigration Control Ordinance; and Mr. Houser was unable to obtain any more specific details when he inquired (although he suspected the order was based on a South African blacklist resulting from his activities in opposing apartheid). Mr. Houser asked for the right to present his case orally before the Trusteeship Council, and this was granted -- the second time such a right has ever been granted to a person not a national or an authorized representative of nationals of a trust territory. Although the Tanganyikan government official refused to reveal the basis for the order, he did state that it was personal and did not arise out of the activities of the ACOA.

After lengthy debate in the Standing Committee on Petitions, a resolution was finally agreed and favorably acted upon by the Council. The effective clause of the resolution reads: "[The Trusteeship Council] recommends to the Administering Authority that it give the most careful consideration to any future application which the petitioner may submit for entry into Tanganyika."

Future of British and French Cameroons Trust Territories:

BACKGROUND. As reported in Bulletin No. 13 (December 12, 1958), the thirteenth session of the UN General Assembly, which adjourned last December, requested the Trusteeship Council to report to the Fourth (Trusteeship) Committee on the findings of its visiting mission, then in the Cameroons, not later than February 20, 1959, when the Assembly would convene in a "resumed session" to deal exclusively with the question of the future of the British and French Cameroons. The visiting mission was composed of one representative each of the United States, New Zealand, Haiti, and India, and it spent about three weeks in each territory. Its report to the Trusteeship Council was in two volumes, one covering each territory.

FRENCH CAMEROONS. The French Cameroons received considerable internal autonomy as of the first of last year, and is scheduled, in accordance with the request of the Cameroons legislature, to receive independence on January 1, 1960; the legislature also indicated that reunification with the British Cameroons (both territories having been part of the German Kamerun colony before World War I) was a primary political goal. The visiting mission concluded that the present transfer of

all remaining powers in 1960 would be "full and complete"; it also concluded that the great majority of the population supported independence and reunification. It reported that the legislative assembly is representative in character and that new elections prior to independence were not necessary although it recommended by-elections as soon as possible to fill certain seats not filled in the elections of December, 1956, due to a local rebellion; the rebels, adherents of the UPC (Unions des Populations du Cameroun), which was banned sometime earlier, have virtually disappeared and have no appreciable following at present, the mission found. Nevertheless, it favored a broad amnesty and reported that the Prime Minister had promised the enactment of such a measure.

BRITISH CAMEROONS. The visiting mission's report on the British Cameroons is divided into two sections, one on the Northern Cameroons and the other on the Southern. The two areas, which are physically separated by a strip of Nigerian territory, are so different ethnically, culturally, and in political development as to make uniform treatment impossible, it stated.

The Southern Cameroons have developed rapidly, both politically and socially and have sought and obtained increasingly autonomous status within the Nigerian Federation. On January 24, after the mission's return, the Kamerun National Democratic Party (KNDP), a new party favoring independence from Nigeria and ultimate reunification with the French Cameroons, won 14 out of 26 seats in an election to the Southern Cameroons legislature. The mission's report, considering this event, was that the Southern Cameroons must be given time to determine the consequences of separation from Nigeria; in the absence of some general agreement on future political status, however (since the previous coalition government of the Kamerun National Congress -- KNC -- and the Kamerun People's Party -- KPP -- now the opposition with 12 seats, favored some form of unification with Nigeria), the mission recommended a plebiscite to determine the future of the territory.

By contrast, the mission reported that the Northern Cameroons were substantially united on unification with Nigeria (the territory has been administered as an integral part of the Northern Region of Nigeria) and stated that it believed a plebiscite unnecessary.

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL. After several days' debate the Trusteeship Council transmitted the visiting mission's report to the Fourth Committee with a recommendation to grant independence to the French Cameroons on January 1, 1960, and to examine the report on the British Cameroons and take such action as it deems appropriate. The Russian delegate opposed the resolution on the French Cameroons on the grounds that it was wrong to separate the questions of the two Cameroons, and the delegate from the United Arab Republic abstained; the Soviet delegate alone abstained on the resolution on the British Cameroons.

FOURTH COMMITTEE. The relatively complacent attitude of the Trusteeship Council did not carry over to the Fourth Committee. Where the Trusteeship Council had limited its hearings to Cameroonians who were named members of the British or French delegations, the Committee heard 27 petitioners representing 28 organizations; and where the visiting mission's proposals had carried overwhelming weight in the Council, these proposals were immediately challenged in the Committee by almost the entire African bloc (Ethiopia and the Union of South Africa excepted). The African states, embittered by the "defection" of India, asked for new UN-supervised elections prior to independence (which they of course supported) and for complete amnesty under which the UPC could contest and its leaders campaign freely. (Prime Minister Ahidjo described the official amnesty, which granted pardon to all guilty of direct or indirect political crimes carrying penalties of 20 years or less, and mitigation of

more severe sentences.) The Africans claimed that the last elections to the legislative assembly, held more than three years before the proposed independence date, were the first carried out under universal suffrage (which had been granted by a law promulgated shortly before in a sharp reversal of French colonial policy); that they were incomplete in that the only party then advocating independence (the UPC) was then banned and its leaders proscribed; that certain seats (where the UPC was in rebellion) were never filled; that the basis for the election was entirely different (in that independence itself and not post-independence arrangements were at issue) and that many new parties had not had time to organize since universal suffrage was granted; and that the present government was not the one elected in 1956, but an erstwhile opposition party.

The colonial powers and their supporters accepted the Indian premises, that the present government was representative of the populace, since it had called for independence as soon as it came to office and negotiated for independence with the French; that the UPC had forfeited all present electoral rights when it called for a boycott of elections in 1956 (the boycott was not very successful) and that anyway it no longer represented any significant sector of public opinion; and that new elections would in any case be required by law within two years after independence. The United States, which had no direct interest in the controversy, nevertheless led the colonial bloc because of its "cold war" psychosis. Fearing the triumph of the allegedly Communist-dominated UPC in new elections -- despite the evidence of every other competent observer that the UPC was currently in decline, which might well be reversed when the terrible problems of independence, with no colonial scapegoat, followed the excitement of its attainment -- it indulged in a kind of pressure typical of the worst local political machines to compel support of its position. An American resolution to terminate the trusteeship agreement upon attainment of independence on January 1, 1960, as amended by conciliatory Asian delegates to express confidence that elections will be held as soon as possible thereafter and that the Cameroons will be admitted to UN membership upon attaining independence, was forced through the Fourth Committee. The eight African states which had sponsored a resolution calling for elections under UN supervision before 1960 and for a complete amnesty were thus prevented from bringing their draft resolution to vote; their attempts to amend the American resolution to bring it closer to their viewpoint were also voted down.

As far as the British Cameroons were concerned, the quarrel between the African states and the colonial powers centered on the future of the Northern Cameroons. It was generally agreed that there must be a plebiscite in the Southern Cameroons, unless general agreement was reached among the contending political parties, and that the exact proposition must await developments in the near future. The resolution, as early amended, which was submitted to the Committee provided for a plebiscite in which Northern voters would be asked to choose between incorporation in the Northern region of an independent Nigeria and a decision on the future of the Northern Cameroons postponed till the future. Five African states attempted to change the second alternative to union with an independent Cameroons, but they were defeated 36-32 with 13 abstentions. The most amusing contretemps then occurred as the Liberian delegate, one of the outstanding African leaders, proposed that the plebiscite be based on universal adult suffrage instead of electoral lists then in preparation for Nigerian elections. (The effect would have been to enfranchise women, who do not vote in the Moslem North, as well as numerous pagans against whom the Moslem emirs allegedly discriminate.) This amendment was voted down decisively, as substantially all the countries with women's suffrage lined up with the British to protect "local customs" which disfranchise women. After the resolution on the British Cameroons was passed with a sizeable margin, all the powers which voted down the Liberian amendment lined up to explain their votes for the public record. Only

the Arab countries which do not allow women to vote at home, but which had supported the Liberian amendment, let good enough alone!

The consequence of the actions of this Assembly session, therefore, is to grant the two Cameroons trust territories their independence at somewhat different times under circumstances which will increase the difficulties in the way of unification which have been created by the last forty years of varying British and French administration. Perhaps only overall African regional organization will solve the problems which history has created.

Round-Up of 13th General Assembly Session: The 13th session of the UN General Assembly, which finally adjourned on March 13, 1959, after its "resumed" session, devoted a large proportion of its time to African problems. The most important UN actions are summarized below, along with the American position on each, and ACOA's comments.

<u>Country</u>	<u>UN Action</u>	<u>US Position</u>	<u>ACOA Comments</u>
South West Africa	Rejected proposal to partition territory, one sector to be annexed by Union, other to become trust terr.; Good Offices Committee continued.	Abstained on recorded vote on operative paragraphs.	UN action a triumph for African freedom; US position difficult because of American rep. on Good Offices Committee.
	Vote to approve report of South West Africa Committee.	Abstained on critical paragraph expressing "deep concern" about conditions.	Approves UN action.
South Africa	Expresses "regret and concern" about racial conditions in South Africa.	Approved.	First time US voted on resolution opposing apartheid, which it formerly called "domestic" matter; res. toned down to get US approval.
Trust Territories	French Togoland: Approved independence and end of trusteeship 1960; urged UN assistance.	Approved.	ACOA has supported Togo petitioners from beginning -- a great triumph.
	Approved target dates for trust territories.	Disapproved.	Only Tanganyika and Ruanda-Urundi left to be affected in Africa. US approves intermediate, but not final, target dates, it says.
	Requires report on effect of European Economic Community on certain trust terrs.	Disapproved.	US position on this and target dates have greatly weakened its prestige with Afro-Asian states.

<u>Country</u>	<u>UN Action</u>	<u>US Position</u>	<u>ACOA Comments</u>
Trust Territories (cont.)	Economic aid for Somalia.	Approved.	Unanimous.
	Directs Trust. Council to examine report of visiting mission to Cameroons by Feb. 20, 1959.	Approved.	Unanimous settlement of intermediate dispute about Cameroons.
	Fr. Cameroons: Substantially approves vis. miss. report: independence and end of trusteeship Jan. 1960; no prior elections required; admission to UN recommended.	Approved.	US was prime mover to defeat alternate African resolution requiring elections before independence as well as end to banning of UPC. Much ill. will caused by US activity.
	British Cameroons: Plebiscite based on universal adult suffrage.	Disapproved.	Amendment lost, as all countries with female suffrage voted against.
	Br. Cameroons: Amendment to allow choice on union with ind. Cameroons to voters of North.	Disapproved.	Amendment lost.
	Br. Cameroons: Plebiscite for North to choose between union with Nigeria and later decision; questions for plebiscite in South to be decided later.	Approved.	Official statements claim that time schedule will not prevent reunification with French Cameroons.
Non-self-governing territories	Resolution to take measures toward ending racial discrimination.	Approved.	Unanimous, but Belgium not participating.
	Resolution to get study of what constitutes a "non-self-governing" territory.	Disapproved.	Res. dropped for year when it could not get 2/3 vote in plenary. Res. aimed at Spain and Portugal. American opposition embittered African states.
	Res. inviting administering govts. to adopt investment policies ensuring sound econ. development and increasing per capita income for inhabitants.	Abstained.	Resolution related to fears of effect of Eur. Econ. Comm. on colonies.
	Requires report on effect of Eur. Econ. Comm. on certain n-s-g territories.	Disapproved.	See comment on similar resolution re trust territories.
	Renewal of Committee on Inf. from N-S-G Terrs.	Approved.	Victory for African states.

<u>Country</u>	<u>UN Action</u>	<u>US Position</u>	<u>ACOA Comments</u>
Algeria	Recognized principle of Algerian independence and asked "negotiations."	Abstained.	Res. lost in plenary. US voted against draft res. in Special Political Com.
Libya	Fin. assistance granted.	Approved.	Unanimous.
Ethiopia-Somalia	Settlement of question how "terms of reference" of border dispute arbitration to be made.	Approved.	Unanimous.
Guinea	Admission to UN.	Approved.	Crucial question was whether Guinea should be admitted in time to vote in plenary on questions affecting Afr. terrs.; accomplished over Amer. and Eur. objections.
Self-determination	Establish commission to survey rights of peoples to permanent sovereignty over their natural wealth and resources.	Disapproved.	This res. won over a competing ECOSOC res. to study the concept of self-determination. US subsequently agreed to serve on commission.
All Africa	Constitution of Economic Commission for Africa provides for associate (non-voting) membership for n-s-g and trust territories.	Opposed.	Struggle occurred in committee over associate membership. No votes against ultimate res.

First Meeting of Economic Commission on Africa: The Economic Commission on Africa held its first meeting in Addis Ababa between December 29 and January 6. All the independent African states except the Union of South Africa, and all the British colonies and the Trust Territory of Somalia attended as associate members. After some discussion English and French were chosen the official languages.

The most serious problem arose over the admission of a representative of the European Economic Community as an observer, and this was finally turned down along with a proposal to admit an observer from the Maghreb Union (Tunis, Morocco, and the Provisional Government of Algeria). Otherwise there was general agreement. The Commission issued a request for all available publications on Africa to build up a library, as well as an inventory on studies currently being made. It decided to stress expertise and to limit publications to technical documents. The Commission decided to stress and give assistance particularly to joint projects for economic development undertaken by more than one African State, as "balkanization" of the continent is a serious threat to progress. The Commission decided that it should not undertake large general projects or surveys, at least at the present stage, but should furnish expert assistance in limited areas for specific projects.

The Commission's next meeting is scheduled for Tangiers in March, 1960.

South West Africa Committee Hears Urgent Pleas: The lonely duo of Rev. Michael Scott and Mburumba Kerina, who have been representing the indigenous peoples of South West Africa before the UN, was this spring joined by Fanuel Jariretunda Kozonguizi, a Herero who fled his homeland to deliver a desperate plea for help in the face of continually deteriorating conditions. His testimony did not present essentially different facts, but recited atrocities with which he was personally familiar, and stressed that the breaking point of the African peoples was near. He asked that a UN committee investigate on the scene.

Another plea was received from Rev. Marcus Kooper, formerly resident elder of the African Methodist Episcopal Church at Hoachanas, who was, as his petition stated, "removed as a useless waste matter . . . [and] together with my family consisting of seven souls . . . thrown in the desert on 29th January 1959." He stated that the removal was accomplished with brutal force after members of the community had attempted to prevent it and that others had been informed that they would also be removed by the government. As a consequence of the apparent intention of the South African Government to drive the Namas from their ancestral lands in the Hoachanas reserve, which had been permanently allotted to them by a treaty with the German Government, which the Union as mandatory power had promised to honor, the South West Africa Committee drafted a resolution for approval at the next meeting of the General Assembly asking the Union Government to desist from carrying out this policy and to return the Reverend Kooper to his community.

Committee Considers Education in Non-Self-Governing Territories: The Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories opened its tenth session on April 20. The Committee's work at this session was largely devoted to a review of education in the world's colonial areas.

The representatives of the non-administering powers on the Committee made some rather scathing analyses of certain aspects of the problem, but there was general agreement that progress was being made generally, although not fast enough to suit most of the non-colonial countries. Some of the important conclusions which were reached included the following: Strengthening of agricultural education and extension work is needed, as there is generally, for valid social and economic reasons as well as questionable psychological ones, a considerable prejudice against agricultural (and manual) labor among the ambitious young people of most underdeveloped countries. Higher education needs to be developed to keep pace with the advances in primary and secondary education, and equally full utilization of higher educational resources must be achieved to keep the cost per student at a reasonable level. Education of girls and women lags in a great many African communities and should be spurred on. Separate education of children of different racial groups was condemned except in the very lowest grades when different linguistic skills might warrant the apparent discrimination; it was obvious that the British colonies were bad offenders in this respect, as they were also in requiring fees for education at substantially all levels.