



# THINK LIKE A SCCOPPER

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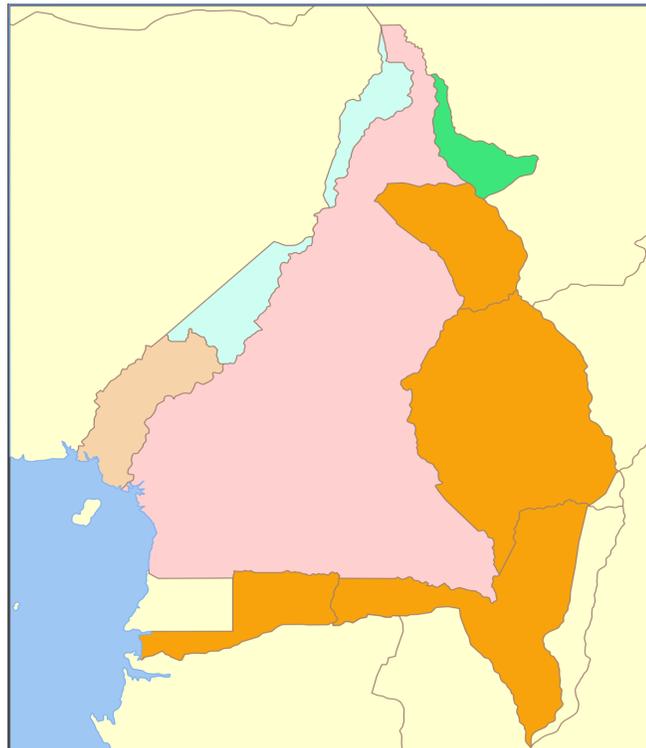
## “Re-Unification”, The Beginning of the Illusion

By Denis Atemnkeng

Historical mistakes are costly! Very often, they can be undone only through bloodshed and war! History captures excellently the saying that “small causes, big effects.” The history of the world is littered with those mistakes that have brought wars and devastation and cost lives, and which yet, could be predicted by just a casual glance at history. The one single mistake that persists in history is that of bringing incompatible peoples together through demagoguery, beautiful and flowery speeches and sometimes open lies, only for wars of separation or domination and subjugation to begin after that. But as history has also shown, very few people have the ability to learn from history; the majority is subject to repeated deceptions. We can see this by observing the number of unions of peoples that have broken down in history; by seeing the imperial and colonial mentality that has always been defeated but has never given up trying to conquer other peoples.

One of those fatal mistakes occurred in the history of the two Cameroons; specifically, the illusory and deceitful idea of “re-unification”.

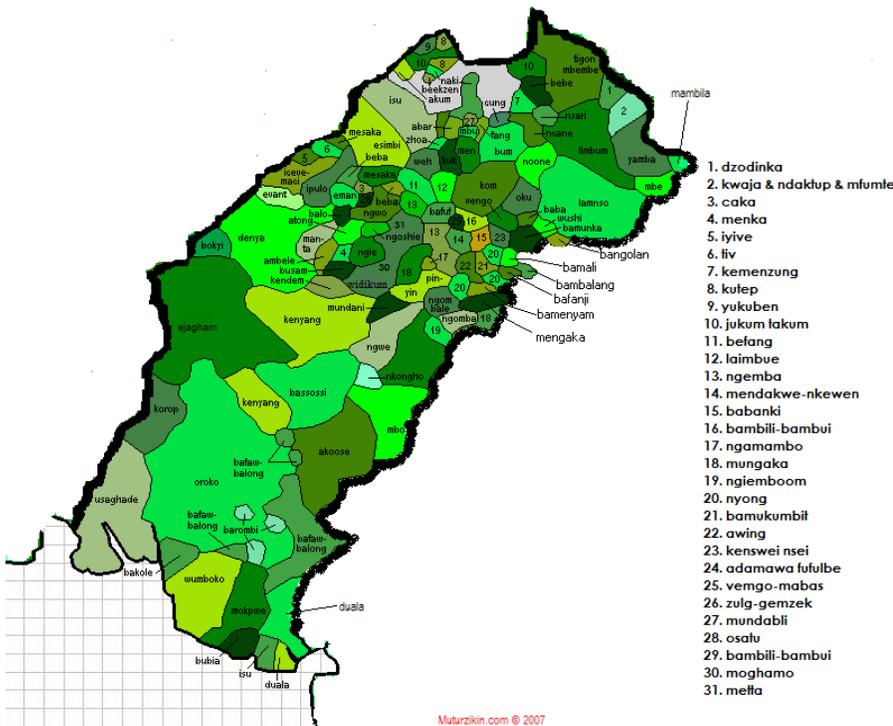
German Kamerun was born through the Berlin Conference of 1884-1885. It existed only for about thirty years before WWI broke out and two years later in 1916, the French and the British chased out the Germans and partitioned the territory between themselves. This partition was confirmed by the League of Nations. During the thirty years of German rule, one can hardly speak of any sense of nationhood developing among the people, because the Germans were just beginning to have a grip on the territory when the war broke out. Road infrastructure to link the entire country was just being put in place. There were no common



Map of German Kamerun showing its division between Britain and France. Notice only the area in pink corresponds to LRC. It will be interesting to hear their justification for not laying claim to parts of Chad, CAR, Congo and Gabon (in green and honey colour). This clearly shows that French designs are behind LRC's colonization of the Southern Cameroons, since the other areas are already subject to France.

### Editorial Comment

In this edition, our guest writer, Denis Atemnkeng, the Philosopher of Ambazonia to those who know him, takes us back to learn historical lessons from the botched decolonization of the Southern Cameroons. Denis does not mince words when he condemns the lies behind the idea of “reunification”. To him, this is merely a password used by Britain, France and their puppet Ahidjo to ensnare our people and lead them into captivity in a French Cameroon that France already controlled through the colonial pact. The author highlights the absurdity of LRC's claim of heritage to German Kamerun. It is an important lesson because even today, four years into the open face of our confrontation with LRC, many Southern Cameroonians are still confused whether we are engaged in decolonization, internal political revolution, secession, rebellion, restoration, and other words that capture similar political processes. Please, read, share, and most importantly, give us feedback.



This map showcases the Southern Cameroons’ cultural diversity which was manipulated by the LRC colonizers to divide us through and Endeley vs Foncha political feud. Our diversity should be a strength and not a liability today and this is why we must turn on a new leaf.

By the early 1960s when each of the Cameroons gained independence, it could be said that French Cameroon had been indelibly imprinted with French culture and English Cameroon indelibly imprinted with English culture. They were as different from each other as the English are different from the French. English Cameroon saw Britain as its only “colonial” master and French Cameroon saw only France as its “colonial” master. Excuse the use of the word “colonial”.

Independence came with new conditions, chief among which was the obligation to respect the boundaries inherited at independence. This implies of course an end to the unexplainable sentimentality about going back to a certain German Kamerun which no longer existed.

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Enter the deceitful idea of re-unification. In the absence of any common bond during the German period or any sense of nationhood or even a sense of common belonging, where did the so-called idea of “re-unification” come from? British declassified documents record the hatred that British Southern Cameroonians had for the French system: they hated French law; did not want to speak the French language; hated the brutality of the gendarmerie; hated the bloodshed in French Cameroon and their manner of settling political disputes. They

assemblies. The German language, culture, state culture and habits or even foods had not taken root. What was the frequency of contacts between people living in Buea and those living in Yaounde, for example? What percentage of the population spoke German? Under these circumstances, what could create a sense of belonging among all the citizens except for the fact that they were all under the Germans? One can only say that by the time the Germans were ousted, they had left no indelible marks on the people or imprinted the people in any way with anything German.

The English and the French abolished German Cameroon and formally buried it in the Versailles Treaty. The territory was divided between them and each one took

their own part as new a “owner” to give it the destiny they wanted. Although the territory still bore the name Kamerun, the name could have been changed had any of the new owners decided to. Just as the boundaries of German Kamerun were decided by Treaty, the boundaries of French Cameroon and English Cameroon were decided by treaty. None of the treaties was less valid than the other. In fact, the rejection of the idea of colonial rule by the League of Nations and the decision to turn the territories into Mandates under international supervision means that the status of each of these territories was higher under the international system than that of German Kamerun which was a colony. Everything German was abolished in the territory and new systems of the new masters were put in place.

did not want anything to do with that country.

Three major factors seemed to have been at the root of this deceitful idea. First, the Ibo domination of Southern Cameroonians in Nigeria. It was this domination which led to the policy of benevolent neutrality and finally the walk-out from the Eastern House of Assembly by BSC in 1954. Endeley who suggested the idea of unification with French Cameroon was using it only as scare tactic for the people.

The factor on the side of French Cameroon was the terror and killings that were going on there. Their citizens who fled to BSC found for the first time a country of order, democracy and peace in which they could express themselves. The UPC, for example, which was being pursued in French Cameroon found a temporary home in the BSC. It was these immigrants who championed the so-called “re-unification” illusion. At the international level, especially the UN, the balkanization of Africa met with stiff resistance from Nkrumah and others, and re-unification was welcomed as a step in the right direction for Africa. UPC clung to this idea to gain international sympathy. No one bothered to examine in some detail the implications of this ideology. Whoever could use “re-unification” as a tool for his own political ends, used it. Re-unification was merely a tool which later on became an ideology for domination by predatory minds in French Cameroon.

What were they “re-unifying” and how could they justify it? The idea of re-unification that was originally just a tool to be used as circumstances demanded soon became a policy in the hands of imperialistic-minded citizens of French Cameroon. In this idea of “re-unification” was buried and hidden the repugnant idea of reviving a dead and buried

colonial empire! It was like the dream of putting back together contiguous territories of the Roman Empire. But under which new colonial master? The more you examine this



Misled by China’s example in Tibet and bolstered by French loans and advice, LRC hopes to use military aid provided in its fight against Boko Haram to terrorise SCs into surrendering our sovereignty.

in detail, the more you see the illusion.

The imperialistic dream of recreating German Kamerun was styled by predatory minds in Cameroon as “re-unification”. Fanfare and propaganda was made about a certain “motherland” to which the two Cameroons were returning! Beautiful speeches were made and monuments created. But ask yourself: what was there in German Kamerun to glorify? What bond had been created among the people? What were the indelible marks of German Kamerun on the people? Where did the so-called brotherhood under German Kamerun come from? What assemblies existed to bring the people together? How did the fraternity develop or was it just the name and the word “Cameroon”? How could people who did not speak the same language; did not have the same identity or culture; did not share anything in common be so affectionate about coming together? Was there any substance to this

hype about some Cameroonians? It was nothing but hot air! Because of this, the present Cameroon is not seen by LRC as a union of two states, but as a re-unification of its territory, that territory being not the territory of French Cameroon it inherited, but of German Kamerun that was dead and buried before LRC came into existence! Hear Ahidjo at his party Congress in Ebolowa in 1962: “The reunification of the Southern Cameroons and the Republic of Cameroon did not necessitate a fundamental change of the constitution of the Republic of Cameroon but only a minor amendment to allow for part of the territory to rejoin the motherland. It was the Republic of Cameroon which had to transform itself into a federa-

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tion, taking into account the return to it of a part of its territory, a part possessing certain special characteristics.”

Cameroon Republic did not succeed German Kamerun. It was not a continuation of German Kamerun. There was no special bond between Cameroon Republic and German Kamerun, except as a distant colonial master. German Kamerun was dead and buried in the Versailles Treaty of 1919 and new masters took over its territories through that treaty. Cameroon Republic was born only on 1 January 1960, after German Kamerun had long been buried. It was the successor state to French Cameroon, not German Kamerun. There was no miracle by which French Cameroon could

inherit German Kamerun territory! Under the French, all the French colonies in Equatorial Africa belonged to one federation called French Equatorial Africa. It comprised Congo Brazzaville, Gabon, Chad, Central African Republic. These states were and are contiguous to French Cameroon. They had the same French culture: language, education, law, government system and everything else. Here were people more compatible to French Cameroon and under the same contemporary colonial administration than British Southern Cameroons. Why was French

Cameroon not seeking to unite with them but seeking to unite with British Cameroons which had nothing in common with it? Was there more similarity between citizens of a long defunct German Cameroon than citizens of contemporary French colonies? French Equatorial Africa, made of the same French-speaking peoples and culture, did not last, how does anyone expect the illusion of “re-unification” between the Southern Cameroons and French Cameroon to last? Not even small countries like Gabon and Congo Brazzaville were seeking to unite, where did the idea

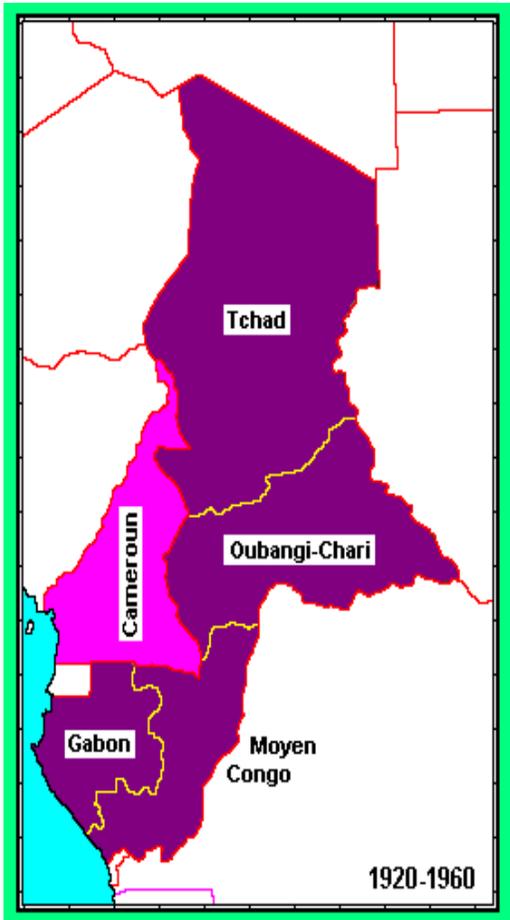


Despite threats like this, Southern Cameroonians are determined to fight LRC colonization to its end and with all they have.

And look at this war today and see our attitude again!

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Cameroon imperialism, founded on the fake idea of re-unification, has scorned the respect of boundaries inherited from colonization and laid claim to the territory of the British Southern Cameroons. But as sure as the day will follow night, so also will this illusion precede its dismantlement. Power never surrenders; it is only defeated. The will of the people will continue to defeat imperialism, even that of Cameroon Republic. But let our people learn from the consequences of these “small” mistakes and think twice before they again embrace some hollow agenda for any reason whatsoever.  
End



Instead of claiming fake brotherhood with the SCs, LRC will be well advised to “reunite” or form its federation with French Equatorial Africa. Notice the geographical fit which comes to add to the cultural fit within the French-speaking sphere in Central Africa, including Chad, CAR, Congo and Gabon, all of which are French-speaking neighbors whose territories are contiguous to LRC and include parts of the former German Kamerun.

of French Cameroon uniting with British Southern Cameroons come from?

This hypnotic idea about “re-unification” has remained ingrained in the minds of many. It cannot be justified in any sense, and yet it has taken hold of people and has produced war and disastrous consequences. It is indeed strange that demons in the human mind hide themselves from the owner of the mind, for those who sing this hollow song of “re-unification” will go to tears about it but cannot explain what it is all about! Even the fact that it is destructive of harmony and peaceful co-existence will not convince them! It was the foolishness of our own people, and even today, which allowed the idea into existence within our own state! Whether those were political games or not, the consequences are here today for us not merely to see, but to live through! One would not hesitate to say the stupidity of our own people gave Cameroon Republic a tool to colonise us.

# THE SOUTHERN CAMEROONS CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE

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*The Southern Cameroons Congress of the People (SCCOP) is committed to the complete decolonization of the Southern Cameroons and to molding a new crop of pan-African leaders to complete the liberation and development of Africa. To this effect, we believe in the argument of force and the force of argument, and work by the principles of discipline, loyalty and sacrifice. THINK LIKE A SCCOPPER is the voice of the Southern Cameroons Congress of the People. We are dedicated to sourcing and publishing politically educating content to raise awareness and organize the grassroots population to be active and conscious agents of our own liberation. Join us at [www.sccop.org/join](http://www.sccop.org/join) and let us achieve together. Ubuntu.*



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