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FRONT MATTER

FORMAL CONSOLIDATED REPRESENTATION TO THE UNITED KINGDOM GOVERNMENT

GEORGE T. NOMEN

INTERNATIONAL HISTORICAL DISCLOSURE, BAMILÉKÉ HEREDITARY ROYAL SUCCESSION, COLONIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, ANCESTRAL HUMAN REMAINS AND THE REQUEST FOR BRITISH GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

Submitted by: Reparation Nation Limited

Represented by: Derrick Lynch

On behalf of: George T. Nomen

Principal recipient: The Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs

Department: Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

Postal address: King Charles Street, London SW1A 2AH, United Kingdom

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Document status: Formal representation and request for historical disclosure, procedural clarification and governmental consideration.

Project: International Reparatory Justice Pilot Project No. 001

Supporting framework: IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice

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PURPOSE OF THIS REPRESENTATION

This document formally requests the United Kingdom Government's consideration of an international historical investigation concerning George T. Nomen's ancestral family and his claimed hereditary succession to a particular Bamiléké traditional royal authority in Cameroon.

George seeks to establish what happened to his ancestors during German colonial intervention and subsequent French administration, including the reported deaths of members of his family and community, the fate of their bodies, and the destruction or displacement of ancestral hereditary authority.

The representation requests assistance with historical records in Britain, Germany, France and Cameroon.

It also asks the British Government to consider what lawful assistance it may provide with George's proposed peaceful London-based activities, including the possibility of a government-in-exile or alternative representative institution.

Particular attention is given to Britain's historical support for General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement.

The representation does not assert that these historical circumstances are legally identical or that diplomatic recognition must follow.

It requests reasoned governmental consideration.

AUTHORITY TO SUBMIT

George T. Nomen has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to act on his behalf in pursuing the initial historical investigation and governmental engagement described in this document.

Derrick Lynch submits the representation for and on behalf of Reparation Nation Limited.

The existence of George's authorisation is confirmed.

Where the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office requires documentary verification of that authority, it is requested to specify its requirements in writing.

George will then have the opportunity to provide relevant evidence through Reparation Nation Limited.

The organisation distinguishes this personal authorisation from the separate evidential questions concerning hereditary succession, wider community representation and governmental recognition.

STATEMENT OF EVIDENTIAL INTEGRITY

The historical claims described in this representation are matters requiring independent investigation.

The document distinguishes ancestral testimony, preliminary documentary evidence, historical research, verified records and matters that remain unresolved.

No historical allegation is represented as an independently established finding merely because it forms part of George's account.

Reparation Nation Limited requests the disclosure and examination of relevant evidence, including evidence that may qualify or contradict preliminary interpretations.

The objective is to establish historical truth.

STATEMENT CONCERNING ANTI-BLACK RACISM AND INSTITUTIONAL RACISM

Reparation Nation Limited requests information concerning the safeguards against anti-Black racism and institutional racism applicable to the Government's consideration of this representation.

The organisation makes no accusations, no allegations, no assumptions and no assertions of wrongdoing against any present-day official or institution, and has reached no conclusions concerning discriminatory conduct.

The request concerns the identification and operation of relevant institutional safeguards.

PRIMARY GOVERNMENTAL ACTION REQUESTED

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office is requested to acknowledge receipt, identify the responsible department or correspondence team, clarify any documentary authorisation requirements, and provide a substantive written response to the consolidated requests in Section Eighteen.

Reparation Nation Limited requests acknowledgement within ten working days and an initial substantive response within twenty working days, or confirmation of the Department's applicable timetable.

These are requested administrative targets, not assertions of universal statutory deadlines.

DOCUMENT STRUCTURE

This representation contains eighteen substantive sections covering the ancestral claim, German and French colonial administration, reported deaths, human remains, historical evidence, Britain's involvement in Cameroon, the Free French precedent, London-based institutional proposals, international assistance, equality safeguards, reparatory justice and governmental accountability.

Section Eighteen consolidates the formal questions, requested decisions, response timetable and proposed next steps.

The supporting documents and evidence should be identified separately in the accompanying document register.

END OF FRONT MATTER

FOLLOWED BY: SECTION ONE — INTRODUCTION, PURPOSE AND FORMAL STANDING OF REPARATION NATION LIMITED

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1.1 Introduction and Formal Representation

This formal representation is submitted to the United Kingdom Government, principally through the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), by Derrick Lynch, acting for and on behalf of Reparation Nation Limited (RNL).

Reparation Nation Limited has been authorised by George T. Nomen to act on his behalf in seeking historical disclosure, governmental assistance, archival cooperation and appropriate international institutional engagement concerning the circumstances affecting his ancestral family and the traditional Bamiléké authority from which he claims hereditary succession.

George T. Nomen maintains that his ancestral family belonged to a hereditary royal line associated with a particular traditional kingdom or authority in Cameroon, whose original leadership was reportedly destroyed, displaced or otherwise prevented from exercising its traditional functions during European colonial administration.

His account concerns, in particular, interventions attributed to German colonial authorities and subsequent actions or administrative arrangements associated with French colonial administration.

The matters requiring investigation include reported killings of members of his ancestral family and community, interference with hereditary succession, the replacement or recognition of alternative traditional authorities, the possible loss of ancestral lands and the disappearance or uncertain fate of the remains of persons reportedly killed.

George seeks to establish what happened, who was involved, what records survive, where his ancestors may have been buried or otherwise disposed of, and whether the relevant historical evidence can be recovered.

This representation therefore concerns matters of considerable historical, cultural, genealogical and personal importance.

It also raises questions concerning the responsibilities, capabilities and potential assistance of the United Kingdom Government in facilitating access to historical information and supporting peaceful international efforts to establish the truth.

1.2 Identity and Position of George T. Nomen

George T. Nomen identifies himself as a descendant and claimed rightful hereditary successor of an ancestral Bamiléké traditional royal authority situated within present-day Cameroon.

His claim is associated with a particular ancestral family line, including historical references to the name Ngantcha, and with preliminary photographic, genealogical and documentary material submitted for consideration.

George maintains that the legitimate hereditary succession of his ancestral family was interrupted through colonial intervention and that subsequent administrative arrangements may have perpetuated the consequences of that intervention.

He also reports that members of his ancestral family and community were killed.

According to the account communicated to Reparation Nation Limited, knowledge of these events has survived within the family and community, but important questions remain unresolved concerning the circumstances of the deaths, the identities of those involved and the fate of the persons killed.

George's objective is to obtain the original historical evidence necessary to investigate these matters.

This representation does not ask the British Government to accept his hereditary entitlement or every aspect of his ancestral account as an independently established historical fact.

It asks the Government to assist, where possible and appropriate, in identifying the evidence through which these questions can be properly examined.

The precise identity, traditional designation, geographical boundaries and succession arrangements of the ancestral authority remain subjects for historical, genealogical and customary investigation.

George's claimed hereditary position must also be distinguished from the separate question of his authority to represent persons or communities beyond himself.

1.3 Formal Standing and Role of Reparation Nation Limited

Reparation Nation Limited is the organisation through which George T. Nomen has chosen to pursue this initial international historical disclosure initiative.

Derrick Lynch acts as the organisation's representative for the purpose of this correspondence.

George has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to act on his behalf.

The existence of that authorisation is expressly confirmed.

The organisation does not present George's authorisation as proof that his claimed hereditary royal status has already received governmental or customary recognition.

Nor does it suggest that George's authorisation automatically confers representative authority over every member of the Bamiléké community or any independent traditional institution.

These are separate matters.

Reparation Nation Limited's immediate role is to organise the available information, communicate with relevant institutions, identify sources of historical evidence, seek appropriate governmental cooperation and maintain an accountable documentary record of the investigation.

The organisation will distinguish George's personal testimony and claims from independently verified historical findings.

It will also distinguish correspondence undertaken on his behalf from any subsequent request for formal governmental recognition, diplomatic engagement, legal redress or reparatory remedies.

1.4 Confirmation of Authorisation and the Government's Evidential Requirements

George T. Nomen has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to undertake the activities described in this initial representation.

Accordingly, Derrick Lynch submits this correspondence in the capacity of a representative of Reparation Nation Limited acting on George's behalf.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office may wish to establish the nature, scope and evidential sufficiency of that authority.

Rather than presume what evidence the Department considers necessary, the organisation requests that the Department identify its requirements in writing.

Those requirements may concern George's personal identity, his authority to instruct Reparation Nation Limited, the organisation's authority to correspond on his behalf or the separate question of his claimed hereditary and community representative status.

The Department is requested to distinguish these different issues and specify the documentary or procedural requirements applicable to each.

George will then have the opportunity, through Reparation Nation Limited, to consider and respond to those requirements.

The organisation does not regard the absence of a particular document at the initial stage as evidence that George has not granted authorisation.

Equally, it acknowledges that the Department may require verification before disclosing restricted information or recognising any particular representative capacity.

The objective is to establish a transparent and orderly procedure without prejudging the Department's requirements.

1.5 Principal Purpose of the Representation

The principal purpose of this representation is to request British Government consideration and assistance concerning an international historical investigation into the reported colonial destruction or displacement of George T. Nomen's ancestral traditional authority.

The investigation seeks to identify the historical circumstances affecting his ancestors and determine what documentary evidence survives within British, German, French, Cameroonian and other relevant archives or institutional collections.

Particular attention is requested concerning reported deaths and the fate of the remains of those killed.

The investigation will also consider colonial administrative appointments, changes in hereditary leadership, military operations, territorial arrangements and the possible continuation of German-era administrative decisions under subsequent French administration.

Reparation Nation Limited seeks assistance in identifying appropriate institutions, relevant archival holdings, applicable disclosure procedures and possible avenues for international cooperation.

It also requests consideration of whether the United Kingdom Government would be prepared to provide diplomatic, institutional or other practical assistance to George's peaceful activities while he is based in London.

These requests are related but distinct.

Assistance with historical disclosure should not depend upon prior recognition of George's claimed hereditary or governmental status.

Similarly, the consideration of peaceful London-based activities need not depend upon the immediate establishment or recognition of a government-in-exile.

1.6 The British Historical Precedent: General Charles de Gaulle and Free France

An important element of George's proposed approach concerns the historical support provided by the United Kingdom to General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement during the Second World War.

Britain provided a base from which the Free French leadership could organise and continue its activities outside occupied France.

The historical relationship between Britain and the Free French movement demonstrates that the United Kingdom has previously considered the political, strategic and moral circumstances in which support could be provided to an external movement claiming continuity with displaced authority.

George wishes the British Government to consider the relevance of that historical example to his own efforts to investigate the displacement of his ancestral traditional authority and organise peaceful activities from London.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that the circumstances of the Free French movement and those concerning George's claimed ancestral Bamiléké authority are not identical.

It does not suggest that Britain's wartime decisions automatically establish a contemporary legal obligation to recognise George or any proposed government-in-exile.

Nevertheless, the historical precedent raises a legitimate question of moral and institutional consideration.

If Britain was prepared to assist a European movement operating outside its homeland in circumstances involving displaced political authority, what assistance is Britain prepared to consider for an African hereditary claimant seeking to investigate the reported destruction of his ancestral institution, the deaths of members of his family and the continuing consequences of colonial administration?

The question is presented as a request for fair, reasoned and transparent governmental consideration.

It is not a demand that the British Government disregard contemporary law, constitutional arrangements, diplomatic responsibilities or evidential requirements.

George seeks an opportunity to have his circumstances considered seriously, without premature dismissal and without his African ancestral identity being treated as a reason for lesser institutional consideration.

1.7 The Proposed London-Based Government-in-Exile

George has expressed an interest in developing a London-based government-in-exile or another appropriate representative institution associated with his claimed ancestral hereditary authority.

The proposed institution would provide an organisational framework for historical investigation, preservation of ancestral evidence, international correspondence, consultation and the pursuit of appropriate recognition or reparatory justice.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that describing an organisation as a government-in-exile does not automatically establish sovereign status, diplomatic recognition, territorial jurisdiction or authority to represent persons who have not granted such authority.

Those questions require separate examination.

At this preliminary stage, George requests that the United Kingdom Government consider whether any lawful form of assistance, engagement or facilitation may be available.

Such assistance might include the identification of appropriate governmental contacts, guidance on the legal and procedural requirements applicable to proposed representative institutions, assistance with international historical research or opportunities for dialogue with relevant officials.

George's interest in establishing an institution in exile should not obscure the immediate humanitarian and historical purpose of his request.

He seeks information about what happened to his ancestors.

The proposed institutional arrangements are intended to support that investigation and any lawful subsequent developments.

1.8 The Humanitarian and Ancestral Dimension

The reported deaths of George's ancestors and the uncertainty surrounding the fate of their remains are central to this representation.

The investigation is not confined to questions of royal succession, constitutional authority or historical political status.

It also concerns the fundamental human interest of descendants in understanding what happened to deceased family members and, where possible, identifying their final resting places.

George wishes to establish whether relevant colonial authorities recorded the deaths, burial locations, removal or transfer of remains, or other circumstances affecting the persons concerned.

The investigation may therefore require access to records beyond conventional diplomatic and administrative correspondence.

These may include military reports, hospital records, missionary accounts, burial registers, museum accession records, archaeological documentation and other surviving historical material.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that human remains were removed to Europe or that particular institutions presently possess them.

It requests assistance in establishing whether evidence exists concerning their fate.

The investigation should be capable of identifying evidence supporting, qualifying or contradicting the account transmitted through George's family and community.

The objective is the recovery of historical truth wherever the surviving evidence permits.

1.9 Anti-Black Racism, Institutional Racism and Procedural Safeguards

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that this representation concerns an African ancestral institution and the consequences of European colonial administration.

It therefore considers it appropriate to request information concerning the safeguards applied by relevant British Government institutions to prevent anti-Black racism, institutional racism and other forms of unlawful discriminatory treatment.

These concerns are particularly relevant where officials may be required to assess African traditional authority, oral historical testimony, customary succession arrangements and evidence originating from communities affected by colonial administration.

The organisation seeks clarification of how such material is considered fairly and how decisions can be reviewed where concerns arise.

No accusation, allegation or finding of racial discrimination is made against any present-day British Government official or department through this representation.

No conclusion concerning discriminatory conduct has been reached.

The request is for evidence of the safeguards, procedures and accountability arrangements that apply to the consideration of this case.

Reparation Nation Limited asks that the same principles of procedural fairness, careful historical examination and reasoned governmental decision-making applicable to other serious international representations be applied to George's request.

1.10 The Role of IBIS and the International Reparatory Justice Pilot

This initiative is designated by Reparation Nation Limited as Proposed International Reparatory Justice Pilot Project No. 001.

The project provides an opportunity to examine how the principles developed within IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice — may assist in organising an international historical investigation.

The immediate emphasis is upon identifying relevant persons and institutions, preserving evidence, documenting representative authority, recording correspondence, distinguishing verified findings from unresolved claims and monitoring institutional responses.

IBIS is not presented as a substitute for historical evidence, legal proceedings, governmental powers or independent institutional decision-making.

Its proposed role is to assist with the organisation, transparency and accountability of the process.

The investigation will also distinguish requests for assistance from assistance actually provided, acknowledgements from substantive decisions, and announced reparatory commitments from verified delivery.

These distinctions will assist Reparation Nation Limited in maintaining an accurate record of the progress of George's case.

1.11 The Nature of the Government Response Requested

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office treat this correspondence as a formal representation requiring consideration by the appropriate officials or departmental teams.

The organisation asks the Department to identify the officials or institutions competent to address the historical, diplomatic, procedural and representative-authority questions raised.

It further requests that the Department distinguish matters within its own responsibilities from matters requiring referral elsewhere.

Where a request cannot be granted, Reparation Nation Limited asks for clarification of the relevant legal, administrative, policy or practical reasons, together with any alternative procedure that may be available.

Where additional information is required, the Department is requested to identify that information rather than presume that the absence of material from the initial representation resolves the substantive historical questions.

The organisation also requests acknowledgement of receipt, an identifying correspondence reference and an indication of the anticipated arrangements for a substantive response.

These requests do not presume that every question falls within the Foreign Office's statutory responsibilities or that every historical record can lawfully be disclosed.

They are intended to establish which institution is responsible for each issue and how the investigation can proceed.

1.12 Statement of Principle and Conclusion

This representation begins from a straightforward position.

George T. Nomen seeks to discover what happened to his ancestors and to the traditional authority from which he claims hereditary succession.

He has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to assist him.

Derrick Lynch, representing Reparation Nation Limited, therefore approaches the United Kingdom Government to request historical disclosure, appropriate international cooperation and consideration of possible assistance with George's peaceful efforts from London.

The initiative does not require the British Government to accept unverified historical claims as established facts.

Nor does it require the Government to confer immediate recognition upon any proposed government-in-exile.

It does require serious consideration of the questions presented if the Government is willing and competent to examine them, together with clear explanations of the procedures available.

Britain's historical relationship with the Free French movement provides an important moral and historical comparison which George wishes the Government to address.

The reported deaths of his ancestors and uncertainty concerning their remains provide an additional humanitarian dimension which must not be lost within broader constitutional or diplomatic discussions.

Reparation Nation Limited makes no predetermined accusations, allegations, assumptions or findings against any contemporary person or institution.

Its intention is to establish the historical record, identify the responsible authorities and pursue appropriate lawful avenues for accountability, recognition and reparatory justice where supported by the evidence.

The United Kingdom Government is accordingly invited to engage with this representation constructively, clarify the applicable procedures and identify what assistance it is prepared to consider.

END OF SECTION ONE

NEXT: SECTION TWO — GEORGE T. NOMEN'S AUTHORISATION OF REPARATION NATION LIMITED AND THE FOREIGN OFFICE'S REQUIREMENTS FOR VERIFYING THAT AUTHORITY

SECTION TWO — GEORGE T. NOMEN'S AUTHORISATION OF REPARATION NATION LIMITED AND THE FOREIGN OFFICE'S REQUIREMENTS FOR VERIFYING THAT AUTHORITY

2.1 Introduction and Purpose

This section formally establishes the position of Reparation Nation Limited concerning its authorisation to act on behalf of George T. Nomen and requests clarification of the procedures through which the United Kingdom Government may wish to verify that authority.

The distinction between the existence of authorisation and the documentary requirements for proving that authorisation is fundamental to this representation.

George T. Nomen has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to act on his behalf in pursuing historical disclosure and appropriate governmental assistance concerning his ancestral family, claimed hereditary royal succession and the reported colonial displacement of the traditional Bamiléké authority associated with his family.

Derrick Lynch, representing Reparation Nation Limited, submits this correspondence pursuant to that authorisation.

The organisation does not approach the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office to ask whether George has given his consent.

That consent has been given.

The purpose of this section is to invite the Department to identify the evidence, procedures and institutional requirements it considers necessary to verify the authorisation and determine the capacity in which it is prepared to engage with Reparation Nation Limited.

This approach is intended to prevent unnecessary assumptions, inappropriate documentary demands, procedural confusion or subsequent disagreement concerning the nature of the authority being exercised.

2.2 Confirmation of George T. Nomen's Authorisation

Reparation Nation Limited formally confirms that George T. Nomen has authorised the organisation to assist him with his international historical investigation.

The authorisation concerns his efforts to establish what happened to his ancestors, obtain information concerning reported killings and missing remains, investigate the historical displacement of his ancestral hereditary authority, and pursue appropriate cooperation with governmental and archival institutions.

It also encompasses the initial approach to the United Kingdom Government concerning possible assistance with George's proposed peaceful London-based

representative activities, including consideration of a government-in-exile or an alternative institutional arrangement.

Derrick Lynch acts for Reparation Nation Limited in undertaking this correspondence.

The authorisation is not presented as a transfer of George's personal identity, hereditary rights, ancestral interests or independent decision-making authority to the organisation.

Nor does it confer upon Reparation Nation Limited any governmental or sovereign powers.

It establishes the basis upon which the organisation may communicate with relevant institutions on George's behalf within the scope of the activities he has authorised.

The organisation will remain accountable to George concerning representations undertaken in his name.

2.3 Authorisation Is Distinct from Documentary Proof

Reparation Nation Limited considers it essential to distinguish three separate questions.

The first is whether George has authorised the organisation to act on his behalf.

The answer is yes.

The second is what evidence the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office may reasonably require before recognising that authorisation for particular administrative, diplomatic or disclosure purposes.

That question is for the Department to clarify.

The third is whether George possesses the hereditary, customary, community or governmental status described within his historical claim.

That is a separate evidential and legal question requiring investigation.

These questions must not be conflated.

A requirement to provide documentary evidence of representative authority does not, in itself, establish that the underlying authorisation does not exist.

Equally, George's authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited does not automatically establish the validity of every historical or constitutional position he advances.

The organisation requests that these distinctions be expressly preserved throughout the Department's consideration of this representation.

2.4 Why Reparation Nation Limited Requests the Government's Requirements First

Reparation Nation Limited does not consider it appropriate to invent or presume the precise documentary requirements of the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office.

Different governmental activities may involve different verification procedures.

The requirements applicable to a general historical enquiry may differ from those governing access to restricted personal information, diplomatic engagement, the consideration of claimed hereditary authority or requests for governmental recognition.

It would therefore be inefficient and potentially misleading for Reparation Nation Limited to assume that a particular declaration, signature, identity document, legal instrument or form of certification will necessarily satisfy the Department.

The organisation instead requests that the Foreign Office specify its requirements in writing.

George will then have the opportunity to consider those requirements and provide the relevant evidence, explanation or clarification.

This is a deliberate procedural approach.

It is not an attempt to avoid scrutiny or documentary verification.

Its purpose is to ensure that any evidence subsequently requested is relevant to an identified governmental requirement and that neither party wastes time responding to assumptions about what may or may not be necessary.

2.5 Formal Request for Identification of Documentary Requirements

Reparation Nation Limited formally requests that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office identify the documentary evidence and procedural steps it requires in order to recognise the organisation as an authorised correspondent acting on George T. Nomen's behalf.

In particular, the Department is requested to clarify whether it requires:

1. Written confirmation personally issued by George T. Nomen.
2. An original signature, electronic signature or another recognised form of authorisation.
3. Documentary verification of George's personal identity.
4. Confirmation identifying Reparation Nation Limited and the individual authorised to correspond for the organisation.
5. A statement defining the scope and limitations of RNL's representative authority.

6. Evidence of George's claimed hereditary or community representative status, where that status is material to a particular request.
7. Any prescribed governmental form, declaration, certification, witnessing procedure or other documentary requirement.
8. Different evidence for different stages of the proposed investigation.

These are questions concerning the Department's requirements and are not statements that any particular document is legally necessary.

Reparation Nation Limited asks the Department to identify the basis for any requirement, including relevant legislation, published policy, administrative rules or other applicable procedures.

Where no prescribed form exists, the organisation requests confirmation of what alternative evidence may be accepted.

2.6 Distinction Between Personal Representation and Hereditary Royal Authority

George T. Nomen has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to act on his behalf.

That personal authorisation must be distinguished from his claimed hereditary royal position.

George maintains that he is the rightful hereditary successor of a particular ancestral traditional authority associated with the Bamiléké historical and cultural context of Cameroon.

The legitimacy of that position is a subject of the historical investigation.

It involves questions concerning ancestry, customary succession rules, colonial administrative intervention, the identity of the original traditional institution and the continuation of its hereditary line.

The present representation does not presume that the Foreign Office must accept George's claimed hereditary status before considering an enquiry made by him concerning his own family history.

A person seeking historical information about their ancestors should be able to ask what procedures apply without first having to establish every possible historical or constitutional consequence of that ancestry.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore requests that the Department distinguish the evidence needed to establish George's personal authority to instruct RNL from any evidence required to consider his hereditary claim.

These are different enquiries serving different purposes.

2.7 Distinction Between Hereditary Succession and Community Representation

A further distinction concerns representation of the wider ancestral community.

George's claimed hereditary succession relates to a particular traditional institution and ancestral family line.

It does not, merely by being asserted, establish that every member of the wider Bamiléké population has authorised him to act politically or institutionally on their behalf.

Reparation Nation Limited does not claim that George's personal authorisation automatically confers authority to represent all Bamiléké persons, families, chiefdoms, traditional kingdoms or other institutions.

Where a particular request requires proof of wider community representation, the Department is invited to identify the relevant procedures and evidential standards.

Such evidence might concern customary authority, community consultation, institutional endorsement or other applicable arrangements.

No particular form of collective representation is presumed to be necessary or sufficient at this stage.

The immediate request concerns George's own ancestral investigation and the assistance he has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to seek.

The broader representative questions may be examined separately as the investigation develops.

2.8 Reparation Nation Limited's Authority to Seek Historical Disclosure

Reparation Nation Limited's immediate responsibilities include seeking access to relevant historical information and identifying institutions capable of assisting George.

The organisation is authorised to correspond on his behalf concerning the reported deaths of his ancestors, the fate of their remains, colonial administrative decisions, the displacement of hereditary traditional authority and the possible survival of relevant evidence.

The initial enquiry may involve government departments, national archives, universities, museums, historical researchers and other relevant bodies.

However, the authority to submit an enquiry must be distinguished from any entitlement to obtain restricted information.

Some historical documents may be available publicly without proof of personal representative authority.

Other records may be subject to access restrictions, privacy protections, archival conditions or statutory disclosure procedures.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Department distinguish those categories and identify any additional requirements applicable to restricted material.

A restriction affecting one category of records should not automatically prevent assistance in locating publicly accessible material or identifying the correct archival institution.

2.9 Authorisation Concerning British Government Assistance

George's authorisation includes Reparation Nation Limited's approach to the British Government concerning possible diplomatic, administrative and institutional assistance.

This includes asking the Government to consider the relevance of Britain's historical support for General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement.

George wishes to examine whether Britain would be prepared to consider appropriate assistance with his own peaceful efforts to investigate ancestral displacement and organise related activities from London.

The organisation's authority to ask that question does not establish an entitlement to the assistance requested.

Nor does it presume that any proposed government-in-exile already possesses recognised governmental status.

Reparation Nation Limited asks the Foreign Office to explain what forms of engagement or assistance may be considered, what procedural conditions apply and whether any particular form of authorisation or representative evidence is necessary for those discussions.

The Government is requested to distinguish preliminary engagement from formal political or diplomatic recognition.

2.10 The Proposed Government-in-Exile and Separate Evidential Requirements

George has expressed an interest in the establishment of a London-based government-in-exile associated with his claimed ancestral traditional authority.

The proposal raises questions distinct from those governing ordinary historical correspondence.

These include the historical continuity of the ancestral institution, its constitutional or customary character, the scope of George's authority, the position of other persons or

institutions who may be affected, and the legal status of any organisation established in London.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that the Foreign Office may apply different considerations to a request for diplomatic recognition than to a request for archival assistance.

It therefore requests a clear explanation of the distinction.

The Department is invited to identify what governmental procedures, if any, are available for considering engagement with a proposed exile-based representative institution.

Where the Department considers that formal recognition is unavailable or inappropriate, Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification of whether alternative forms of lawful institutional engagement may nevertheless be considered.

The organisation asks that these questions be examined independently of the immediate request for historical information.

2.11 Procedures for Responding to Requests for Further Evidence

Where the Foreign Office requests additional evidence concerning authorisation, identity, hereditary succession or representative standing, Reparation Nation Limited asks that the request be made in writing.

The written request should identify the precise issue requiring verification and the reason the requested evidence is considered relevant.

It should also distinguish mandatory requirements from preferred administrative practices or discretionary requests.

Where certification, translation, witnessing or authentication is required, the Department is requested to identify the applicable standard.

If an alternative form of evidence is acceptable, the Department should explain the available options.

George will then have the opportunity, through Reparation Nation Limited, to consider the requirements and provide an appropriate response.

Where a particular item cannot reasonably be obtained, the organisation may seek clarification of whether alternative evidence or an explanatory statement can be considered.

Reparation Nation Limited also requests that any requirement for further evidence be accompanied, where appropriate, by a reasonable opportunity to respond before a substantive decision is made.

2.12 Avoiding Premature Rejection of the Historical Investigation

The purpose of obtaining historical disclosure is, in part, to discover evidence that George does not presently possess.

That distinction is important.

The absence of a complete genealogy, original colonial appointment record, verified death certificate or official traditional succession instrument may be among the reasons the investigation is necessary.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore asks the Foreign Office not to treat the lack of a complete historical evidential record as automatically disposing of every request for assistance in locating that record.

The Department may properly distinguish between evidence required to establish access rights and evidence sought as the subject of the investigation.

The organisation recognises that it may be unable to obtain particular restricted records without satisfying relevant legal requirements.

Nevertheless, it asks that publicly available research routes, catalogue information and appropriate institutional referrals remain open for consideration.

Similarly, the lack of governmental recognition of George's claimed hereditary status should not be confused with an inability to request general historical information.

The organisation seeks a procedurally fair separation of these questions.

2.13 Safeguards Against Anti-Black Racism and Institutional Racism

Reparation Nation Limited requests information concerning the safeguards applicable to the Department's assessment of authorisation, hereditary identity and representative standing in cases involving African traditional institutions.

The organisation recognises that documentary records concerning African ancestral authority may be incomplete, dispersed internationally or recorded through the terminology and administrative practices of colonial governments.

It therefore considers it important to understand how the Department avoids treating surviving colonial documentation as the exclusive source of legitimate historical authority.

The Department is requested to explain, where relevant, how African oral testimony, genealogical evidence, customary institutional records and other forms of historical information may be considered.

Reparation Nation Limited also requests identification of applicable equality policies, staff guidance, review procedures and complaint mechanisms intended to prevent racial discrimination and institutional unfairness.

These enquiries do not constitute accusations or predetermined findings of anti-Black racism or institutional racism against any present-day official or institution.

They are requests for procedural transparency and evidence of the protections in place.

The objective is to ensure that George's request receives careful consideration according to relevant legal and administrative standards, without either preferential treatment or discriminatory disadvantage.

2.14 Confidentiality, Personal Information and the Handling of Evidence

Reparation Nation Limited anticipates that some future correspondence may involve personal identity documents, family records, genealogical information and material concerning living individuals.

It therefore requests that the Foreign Office identify any relevant procedures governing the secure submission, use, retention and disclosure of such information.

The organisation does not intend to submit unnecessary personal documentation merely to anticipate requirements that have not been communicated.

Where personal evidence is requested, the purpose of collection and the intended recipients should be made clear.

George's authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited should not be interpreted as unrestricted permission to publish confidential family information or disclose sensitive material beyond the purposes of the investigation.

Appropriate distinctions should be maintained between information suitable for the public historical record and information requiring restricted handling.

Where the Department seeks additional personal documentation, Reparation Nation Limited requests confirmation of an appropriate secure submission procedure.

2.15 Record of Authorisation and Institutional Correspondence

Reparation Nation Limited intends to maintain a structured documentary record of its communications with the Foreign Office and other relevant institutions.

That record will distinguish George's instructions, the organisation's correspondence, official acknowledgements, requests for further evidence, information supplied, referrals and substantive decisions.

If the Department questions or requests verification of the organisation's authority, the precise terms of that request will be preserved.

Similarly, any documentary evidence subsequently provided by George will be recorded according to its purpose and the institutional requirement it addresses.

This procedure is intended to reduce misunderstanding and provide an accurate account of how the investigation progresses.

The organisation also proposes to assess whether appropriate elements of IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice — can assist with secure evidence organisation, institutional accountability and the preservation of verifiable records.

The use of IBIS does not replace governmental verification procedures or establish authority beyond that actually granted.

2.16 Formal Questions Requiring a Foreign Office Response

For the avoidance of misunderstanding, Reparation Nation Limited requests written answers to the following questions.

Question 2.16.1: Does the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office require documentary evidence of George T. Nomen's authorisation before it will correspond substantively with Reparation Nation Limited about this historical investigation?

Question 2.16.2: If so, precisely what documentary evidence is required, and upon what legal, policy or administrative basis?

Question 2.16.3: Does the Department prescribe a particular form of authorisation, or can an appropriately worded statement from George be considered?

Question 2.16.4: Are the requirements different for general historical enquiries, requests involving restricted records, diplomatic assistance and consideration of proposed institutional arrangements?

Question 2.16.5: What evidence, if any, does the Department require concerning George's claimed hereditary status before considering a request for general historical assistance?

Question 2.16.6: What additional evidence would be relevant to any request involving representation of a wider ancestral community or proposed government-in-exile?

Question 2.16.7: Where further documentary evidence is required, will the Department identify the precise deficiency and provide an opportunity to address it?

Question 2.16.8: What secure procedures are available for submitting identity documents, genealogical records, declarations or other potentially confidential material?

Question 2.16.9: What safeguards apply to the consideration of African customary authority and historical evidence to prevent anti-Black racism, institutional racism or other discriminatory treatment?

Question 2.16.10: Will the Department distinguish questions concerning representative authority from the separate substantive requests for archival information and assistance?

Question 2.16.11: If the Department is unable to verify or accept a particular form of authority, will it identify the appropriate alternative procedure or responsible institution?

Question 2.16.12: Will the Department provide a written response identifying the relevant procedural requirements before requesting extensive additional personal or historical documentation?

These questions are intended to establish an intelligible framework for cooperation.

They do not presume what the Department's answers must be.

2.17 Reservation of George T. Nomen's Rights and Position

Nothing in this representation should be interpreted as George T. Nomen abandoning, reducing or conceding his claimed hereditary position.

Nor should the request for clarification of documentary requirements be interpreted as an admission that Reparation Nation Limited lacks his authorisation.

That authorisation has been given.

The organisation nevertheless recognises that governmental bodies may require verification before accepting particular representations or disclosing restricted information.

George retains the right to review the scope of his instructions, approve further actions, provide additional evidence, seek independent legal advice and make decisions concerning subsequent institutional or legal steps.

No authority to commence litigation, conclude a settlement, relinquish ancestral rights, make financial commitments or bind third parties is asserted merely by virtue of the present historical disclosure representation.

Any such subsequent action would require consideration of the relevant authority, applicable law and George's instructions.

The purpose of these reservations is to protect the integrity of the investigation and prevent the initial authorisation from being represented as something broader than it is.

2.18 Conclusion and Formal Procedural Request

Reparation Nation Limited confirms that George T. Nomen has authorised it to act on his behalf in pursuing the initial historical disclosure and governmental engagement described in this representation.

Derrick Lynch submits the present correspondence as the organisation's representative.

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office is therefore requested to consider the substantive matters raised and identify the procedures through which it wishes to verify that authority for particular purposes.

The organisation does not seek to dictate the Department's evidential requirements.

It seeks to have those requirements identified clearly, accurately and in writing.

George will then have the opportunity to respond through Reparation Nation Limited.

The Department is further requested to distinguish questions of authorisation from the historical investigation itself, from George's claimed hereditary position and from any future consideration of a London-based government-in-exile.

These distinctions are essential to an orderly and accountable process.

The governing principle is straightforward: George has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to act; the Foreign Office is invited to specify what evidence it requires to verify that authorisation.

The immediate historical investigation should proceed through whichever lawful disclosure and research procedures are available, without unnecessary confusion between personal consent, hereditary claims, community representation and governmental recognition.

END OF SECTION TWO

NEXT: SECTION THREE — GEORGE T. NOMEN'S CLAIMED HEREDITARY ROYAL SUCCESSION AND THE IDENTITY OF THE ANCESTRAL KINGDOM

SECTION THREE — GEORGE T. NOMEN'S CLAIMED HEREDITARY ROYAL SUCCESSION AND THE IDENTITY OF THE ANCESTRAL KINGDOM

3.1 Introduction and Purpose

This section sets out the hereditary royal succession claim advanced by George T. Nomen, the historical identity of the ancestral traditional authority concerned, and the questions requiring investigation through British, German, French, Cameroonian and other relevant historical records.

Reparation Nation Limited submits this section pursuant to the authorisation given by George T. Nomen.

Its purpose is to establish a clear basis upon which the United Kingdom Government may understand the historical enquiry and identify what assistance it may be able to provide.

George maintains that he is the rightful hereditary successor of a particular ancestral Bamiléké traditional royal authority in Cameroon.

According to the ancestral account available to him, the legitimate hereditary line was displaced during German colonial administration, with subsequent French administrative arrangements potentially continuing, modifying or otherwise affecting the consequences of that displacement.

The reported events include the killing of members of his ancestral family and community, interference with traditional succession, the recognition or appointment of alternative traditional officeholders, and the loss or concealment of information concerning the original hereditary authority.

George seeks to establish the historical truth through original documentary evidence, genealogical reconstruction, traditional testimony and independent examination.

The purpose is not to ask the British Government to determine hereditary succession without evidence.

It is to request assistance in obtaining and identifying the evidence required for that determination to be properly considered by competent institutions.

3.2 George T. Nomen's Personal Claim

George T. Nomen maintains that his family descends from an ancestral hereditary royal line associated with a traditional Bamiléké kingdom or authority within present-day Cameroon.

He regards himself as the rightful hereditary king or successor of that particular ancestral institution.

His understanding derives from family history, genealogical information, ancestral names, material evidence and accounts concerning the displacement of the original traditional leadership.

George's position is that the historical interruption of his family's exercise of hereditary authority does not necessarily extinguish the underlying question of legitimate succession.

He therefore seeks investigation of whether the original hereditary line remained identifiable through successive generations despite the reported colonial intervention.

This is a claim of ancestral and hereditary entitlement requiring examination.

It is not presented as a finding already made by a court, contemporary government, recognised traditional authority or independent historical tribunal.

The distinction is important because the investigation seeks to establish what actually occurred and what consequences, if any, follow under the applicable customary, national and international legal frameworks.

Reparation Nation Limited asks the British Government to understand George's claim in those terms.

3.3 The Particular Ancestral Kingdom or Traditional Authority

The ancestral institution concerned must be identified as precisely as the surviving evidence permits.

The term Bamiléké refers to a wider historical and cultural context containing multiple traditional institutions and communities.

George's hereditary claim concerns a particular ancestral kingdom or traditional authority associated with his family.

It should not automatically be interpreted as a claim to hereditary authority over every Bamiléké kingdom, chiefdom, family or community.

The historical investigation must therefore establish the original indigenous designation of the particular institution, its geographical locality, its traditional functions, the relevant hereditary office and the customary procedures governing succession.

It must also examine whether different names or administrative classifications were applied to the institution during German, French and subsequent Cameroonian administration.

European colonial records may describe African traditional authorities using terminology that does not correspond precisely with their original customary functions.

Consequently, the investigation should not presume that terms such as king, chief, paramount chief, traditional ruler or administrative head necessarily describe identical offices.

Reparation Nation Limited requests assistance in identifying historical documents capable of clarifying these distinctions.

3.4 The Historical and Cultural Significance of Traditional Authority

The investigation must examine the ancestral institution within the historical and customary setting in which it operated.

Traditional authority may have involved responsibilities concerning land, succession, community governance, ritual functions, ancestral obligations and the preservation of collective identity.

The precise functions of George's ancestral institution remain to be established.

It would be inappropriate to assume that the full nature of that authority can be determined exclusively from colonial administrative classifications.

At the same time, the organisation does not presume that the family's interpretation of the original institution is complete or beyond examination.

A credible reconstruction should consider indigenous traditional sources alongside surviving European and Cameroonian documentation.

Where customary practices, titles or succession arrangements have changed over time, those changes should be identified and explained.

The objective is to reconstruct the historical institution rather than impose a modern political or constitutional description upon it without sufficient evidence.

3.5 The Ancestral Name Ngantcha

The name Ngantcha appears within the preliminary material associated with George's ancestral history.

It is an important reference for the investigation.

George wishes to establish the identity of the person or persons associated with this name, their position within the ancestral family, and any relationship to the hereditary traditional authority concerned.

The investigation should determine whether the name appears in German colonial records, French administrative documents, missionary records, genealogical material, traditional histories or other relevant sources.

It should also examine whether the name was recorded in different forms under successive administrations.

Potential spelling variations should be treated as search possibilities rather than assumed identifications.

Where a colonial record refers to an individual with a similar name, the investigation must determine whether the person is actually connected to George's ancestral family.

The existence of a name within a photograph, monument inscription or handwritten genealogical record is relevant evidence, but its precise historical significance must be established through context and corroboration.

Reparation Nation Limited requests assistance in locating records capable of supporting that examination.

3.6 The Preliminary Royal Succession Dossier

George has supplied a preliminary Royal Succession Dossier concerning the historical, genealogical and evidential foundations of his claim.

The dossier identifies an ancestral lineage, refers to hereditary custodial authority and advances an account of colonial administrative interference.

It also refers to photographic material, traditional objects, handwritten genealogical information and historical research requiring further examination.

The dossier is an important record of the case George wishes to investigate.

However, assertions within that dossier concerning established genealogical continuity, altered records, unlawful displacement or forensic findings must be distinguished from independently authenticated evidence.

Reparation Nation Limited does not ask the British Government to accept conclusions merely because they appear within the dossier.

Instead, the organisation requests assistance in locating original materials against which those conclusions can be tested.

Where an archival record supports a particular proposition, the document's origin, date, contents and relevance should be established.

Where an archival record contradicts or qualifies the preliminary account, that evidence must also be preserved and considered.

The investigation is intended to produce a historically defensible reconstruction rather than simply confirm an existing interpretation.

3.7 Photographic Evidence and the Monument Marked RSA 91

The preliminary evidence includes photographs of a monument or structure bearing the designation RSA 91 and the name Ngantcha.

These photographs may be relevant to identifying an ancestral locality, commemorative site, traditional institution or individual associated with George's family history.

Their evidential value depends upon establishing the circumstances in which the photographs were taken and the identity and historical significance of the structure depicted.

The investigation should seek to establish the monument's location, date of construction, original purpose, inscriptions, custodianship and relationship to George's claimed ancestral line.

The designation RSA 91 requires particular examination.

Its meaning should not be invented or inferred without supporting evidence.

If it corresponds to an administrative, territorial, commemorative or institutional reference, the original records explaining that designation should be sought.

Reparation Nation Limited also requests consideration of whether the site is recorded in historical maps, land documents, traditional histories or colonial administrative files.

The objective is to establish what the monument actually demonstrates.

3.8 Handwritten Genealogical Evidence

George's preliminary materials include handwritten information relating to his ancestral genealogy.

Such material may provide important leads concerning names, relationships and the transmission of family knowledge across generations.

However, a genealogical document must be examined according to its actual contents, provenance and date.

The investigation should establish who prepared the document, when it was prepared, the sources upon which it relied and whether the relationships recorded can be corroborated independently.

Where information was transmitted through oral family history, that origin should be accurately recorded.

Where names or relationships remain uncertain, they should not be invented to create an apparently complete hereditary succession.

The investigation should also identify whether relevant family information survives in birth, marriage, death, baptismal, burial, educational, missionary, land or administrative records.

Where records contain different spellings or inconsistent dates, those differences should be investigated rather than silently reconciled.

The objective is to establish the strongest evidentially supportable genealogy connecting George to the claimed original hereditary authority.

3.9 The Original Hereditary Succession

The central genealogical question concerns the identity of the original hereditary officeholder or officeholders and the customary rules governing succession to that position.

George maintains that the legitimate hereditary line was interrupted during colonial administration.

Establishing the significance of that account requires investigation of the traditional succession system that existed before the reported intervention.

The investigation should determine whether succession was governed by direct descent, particular family branches, customary selection procedures, traditional councils or another recognised arrangement.

It should also establish whether the relevant rules permitted the removal, replacement or selection of an alternative officeholder under particular circumstances.

No conclusion concerning lawful or unlawful succession can properly be reached without understanding the applicable customary arrangements.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore seeks historical evidence concerning both the original hereditary claim and the institutional rules by which that claim would have been assessed.

The investigation should distinguish genealogical descent from entitlement to hold a particular traditional office.

A person may descend from a royal family without necessarily being the individual entitled to exercise hereditary authority under the applicable succession rules.

George's claim should be examined against those rules rather than automatically accepted or rejected.

3.10 The Reported Displacement of the Hereditary Line

George's account concerns the reported displacement of his ancestral hereditary authority during German colonial administration.

He maintains that the original hereditary line was prevented from continuing to exercise its traditional position and that alternative officeholders were subsequently recognised, appointed or supported.

The precise date, location, identity of the individuals concerned and administrative circumstances have not yet been independently established through the evidence presented.

The investigation must therefore seek original records concerning the reported intervention.

These may include correspondence between colonial officials, traditional leadership registers, administrative appointment records, military reports, petitions, disciplinary proceedings or other documentation.

Where a person was appointed or recognised by colonial officials, the investigation should determine the precise character of that recognition.

It should establish whether the individual was exercising an established customary office, a newly created colonial administrative position or a combination of functions.

A colonial appointment should not automatically be accepted as proof of legitimate customary succession.

Equally, the existence of an administrative appointment does not alone establish that wrongful displacement occurred.

The relevant historical facts and customary rules must be examined together.

3.11 The Reported Destruction of the Ancestral Authority

George's historical account raises the possibility that the ancestral institution suffered destruction, suppression, reorganisation or substantial displacement during colonial administration.

These descriptions may have different historical and legal meanings.

The investigation should therefore establish what actually happened to the institution.

Relevant questions include whether its leadership was killed or removed, whether its traditional functions were abolished or transferred, whether its territory was reorganised, and whether its population or institutions were subjected to military or administrative measures.

It should also examine whether the institution continued to exist informally or under modified arrangements.

The destruction of buildings, the removal of an officeholder, the suppression of a traditional institution and the extinction of a hereditary lineage are distinct matters.

They should not be treated as interchangeable without evidence.

George seeks to understand the extent of the harm experienced by his ancestors and its consequences across subsequent generations.

Reparation Nation Limited asks that the investigation be capable of identifying each relevant event separately.

3.12 The Reported Killing of Ancestral Family Members

George has communicated an account that members of his ancestral family and community were killed during the historical events affecting their traditional authority.

The reported deaths are central to his request.

He seeks information concerning the identities of the persons killed, the circumstances of their deaths, the forces or individuals involved, and any surviving documentation.

He also wishes to establish what happened to their bodies.

The investigation should therefore seek death records, military reports, burial documentation, missionary accounts, hospital records, detention records and any other relevant historical sources.

Where a person was reportedly killed, the investigation must distinguish that account from other possible circumstances such as detention, disappearance, forced relocation, death from illness or removal from traditional office.

These distinctions are necessary to establish the historical facts accurately.

Reparation Nation Limited does not ask the Foreign Office to determine responsibility for particular deaths before the evidence has been obtained.

It requests assistance in identifying the sources through which the circumstances can be investigated.

The humanitarian importance of this enquiry should not be overlooked merely because the events occurred during an earlier period of colonial administration.

3.13 The Relationship Between German and French Colonial Administration

The investigation must examine whether decisions made during German colonial administration continued to affect the ancestral institution under subsequent French administration.

George's account raises the possibility that the original hereditary displacement was maintained, modified or reinforced through later administrative decisions.

However, the existence of a historical sequence does not establish that each successive administration adopted identical arrangements.

The investigation should establish the decisions actually made by the relevant authorities.

Particular attention should be given to the identity of traditional officeholders recognised during the transition between administrations and to any petitions or disputes concerning succession.

Records explaining why particular individuals were appointed, retained or removed may be especially significant.

The investigation should also identify whether colonial officials relied upon earlier administrative descriptions without independently examining the applicable customary succession arrangements.

These questions are relevant to reconstructing the historical continuity of the institution.

They may also assist in determining whether the reported displacement had consequences extending beyond the original intervention.

3.14 The Reported French Administrative Instrument of Approximately 1933

George's preliminary historical materials refer to a French colonial administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933.

This reported instrument is a priority research target.

Its precise date, official reference, original wording, administrative purpose and relevance to the ancestral authority have not yet been independently established within the material supplied.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore requests assistance in identifying whether such an instrument exists and, if so, locating an authentic copy.

The investigation should establish whether the document concerns traditional leadership, administrative recognition, territorial arrangements, succession disputes or other matters relevant to George's family history.

If located, the complete French text should be preserved and accurately translated.

Any accompanying administrative correspondence, reports, maps, petitions or related decisions should also be identified.

The instrument should not be presented as proof of George's hereditary entitlement merely because it appears relevant.

Its evidential significance must be determined by examining its actual contents and relationship to the wider historical record.

The identification of this document may provide an important connection between the reported German intervention and subsequent French administrative arrangements.

3.15 Traditional Oral History and Community Evidence

The investigation should not depend exclusively upon documentary records produced by European colonial administrations.

George's family and community accounts may contain information concerning names, ancestral relationships, traditional offices, reported violence, burial locations and the circumstances of historical displacement.

Such evidence requires careful preservation and examination.

Where possible, testimony should be recorded with the identity of the witness, the date of the account, the source of the information and the distinction between direct knowledge and inherited family memory.

Independent accounts should be compared without assuming that agreement necessarily proves accuracy or that disagreement automatically invalidates the underlying history.

Community knowledge may provide leads capable of directing archival research towards particular individuals, places or events.

Equally, original archival records may assist in explaining differences between accounts transmitted through successive generations.

The objective is to examine all relevant evidence according to its actual character.

Reparation Nation Limited considers that indigenous oral and customary evidence should receive serious consideration alongside European documentary sources.

This does not require the Government to accept unverified testimony as conclusively established fact.

It requires the evidence to be considered without arbitrary dismissal.

3.16 The Distinction Between Colonial Recognition and Traditional Legitimacy

A central issue concerns whether colonial administrative recognition corresponded with legitimate authority under the relevant traditional succession arrangements.

European colonial administrations may have appointed, classified or recognised traditional officeholders according to their own systems of governance.

Those administrative acts may have affected the practical exercise of authority.

However, an administrative appointment does not necessarily resolve the independent question of customary legitimacy.

Conversely, a colonial appointment may have recognised an officeholder whose position was also legitimate under traditional rules.

The investigation must therefore examine both possibilities.

It should determine whether the original hereditary line was recognised by the relevant community, whether an alternative officeholder possessed customary legitimacy, and whether colonial decisions changed the relationship between the two.

This distinction is particularly important where surviving official records appear to identify one individual as chief while ancestral testimony identifies another as the legitimate hereditary successor.

The objective is not to reject colonial records or family testimony automatically.

It is to determine what each source establishes and whether the apparent differences can be explained.

3.17 Hereditary Legitimacy, Political Representation and Sovereign Status

George's claimed hereditary succession must be distinguished from contemporary political representation and sovereign governmental status.

These are separate questions.

Hereditary legitimacy concerns entitlement to a particular traditional office according to the relevant historical and customary arrangements.

Political representation concerns authority to act for particular persons, families, communities or institutions.

Sovereign status concerns different legal and constitutional questions.

The establishment of one does not automatically establish the others.

George has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to assist him in his historical investigation and initial governmental engagement.

That authorisation exists independently of any eventual determination concerning hereditary entitlement.

Nevertheless, his claimed succession does not automatically establish authority to represent every Bamiléké community or create a government possessing internationally recognised sovereign powers.

The investigation must preserve these distinctions.

They will become particularly relevant when examining George's proposal for a London-based government-in-exile or alternative representative institution.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore requests that the Foreign Office address each question according to its proper character rather than treat all aspects of the case as dependent upon a single recognition decision.

3.18 Why the United Kingdom Government's Assistance Is Requested

The United Kingdom Government is approached because Britain possesses historical connections with the administration of Cameroon and may hold, identify or facilitate access to records relevant to George's investigation.

The British Government may also be able to clarify appropriate procedures for seeking information from German, French and Cameroonian institutions.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that every relevant record is held by the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office.

Nor does it presume that the Department can compel foreign governments or independent archival institutions to provide information.

It requests assistance in identifying the relevant records, institutions, procedures and lawful forms of cooperation.

The Department is also asked to consider whether Britain's historical experience of providing support to the Free French movement offers a relevant moral precedent for considering assistance with George's peaceful efforts from London.

The immediate request for historical disclosure remains distinguishable from any later request for recognition or institutional support.

A refusal or inability to provide one form of assistance should not automatically determine the availability of another.

3.19 Formal Questions Concerning the Ancestral Kingdom and Hereditary Succession

Reparation Nation Limited requests written consideration of the following questions.

Question 3.19.1: What British governmental or archival records may assist in identifying the particular ancestral Bamiléké traditional authority associated with George T. Nomen's claim?

Question 3.19.2: What records are available concerning German and subsequent French administrative decisions affecting traditional hereditary succession in the relevant part of Cameroon?

Question 3.19.3: Can the Department identify appropriate institutions capable of assisting with the reconstruction of the original customary succession arrangements?

Question 3.19.4: What assistance can be provided in identifying historical records concerning the name Ngantcha and the ancestral family line described in the preliminary materials?

Question 3.19.5: Are there British records concerning traditional leadership appointments, removals, succession disputes or administrative recognition in the relevant locality?

Question 3.19.6: What procedures are available for obtaining relevant historical maps, administrative boundary records or descriptions of the traditional institution?

Question 3.19.7: Can the Department identify appropriate sources for investigating the reported displacement of the original hereditary line during German colonial administration?

Question 3.19.8: What assistance may be available in locating records concerning the reported killings of members of the ancestral family and community?

Question 3.19.9: Can the Department identify institutions holding records concerning burial sites, human remains or the possible removal or transfer of ancestral remains?

Question 3.19.10: What assistance can be provided in locating the reported French administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933?

Question 3.19.11: Where relevant records are held outside the United Kingdom, what diplomatic or institutional referral procedures may be available?

Question 3.19.12: What procedures apply where African traditional oral evidence and European colonial administrative records present different accounts of hereditary authority?

Question 3.19.13: Does the Foreign Office distinguish the examination of hereditary succession from the separate consideration of political representation or governmental recognition?

Question 3.19.14: What evidence would the Department consider relevant if George later requests formal engagement concerning his claimed hereditary position?

Question 3.19.15: If the Department does not consider itself responsible for particular questions, will it identify the relevant institution or procedure where possible?

These questions are intended to establish the available avenues for historical investigation and governmental assistance.

They do not presume that the Department possesses every requested record or has authority to determine the underlying hereditary claim.

3.20 Conclusion and Statement of Purpose

George T. Nomen maintains that he is the rightful hereditary successor of a particular ancestral Bamiléké traditional authority whose legitimate succession was reportedly interrupted during European colonial administration.

His account includes serious questions concerning German colonial intervention, subsequent French administrative arrangements, reported deaths of ancestors, changes to traditional leadership and the fate of the original hereditary line.

Reparation Nation Limited has been authorised to assist him in pursuing the historical evidence.

The present representation does not ask the British Government to accept the claim without investigation.

It asks the Government to identify what information may be available, what assistance can lawfully be provided and what procedures should be followed to establish the historical record.

The investigation must distinguish ancestral testimony from verified findings, genealogical descent from customary entitlement, colonial administrative recognition from traditional legitimacy, and hereditary succession from political or sovereign authority.

These distinctions are not reasons to avoid the investigation.

They are reasons for conducting it carefully.

The central objective is to establish the historical identity of George's ancestral institution, reconstruct the relevant succession, investigate the reported displacement and determine what happened to the members of his ancestral family and community.

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office is accordingly requested to consider the questions presented, identify relevant governmental and archival responsibilities, and provide appropriate procedural guidance and assistance.

George seeks historical truth, not the substitution of assumption for evidence.

Reparation Nation Limited requests the British Government's assistance in establishing that truth through the surviving documentary, customary, genealogical and institutional record.

END OF SECTION THREE

NEXT: SECTION FOUR — GERMAN COLONIAL INTERVENTION, REPORTED KILLINGS AND THE DESTRUCTION OR DISPLACEMENT OF TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY

SECTION FOUR — GERMAN COLONIAL INTERVENTION, REPORTED KILLINGS AND THE DESTRUCTION OR DISPLACEMENT OF TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY

4.1 Introduction and Purpose

This section concerns the reported intervention of German colonial authorities in the ancestral Bamiléké traditional institution associated with George T. Nomen's family, the alleged displacement of its hereditary leadership, the reported killing of ancestral family members and the historical evidence required to establish what occurred.

Reparation Nation Limited submits this section pursuant to the authorisation given by George T. Nomen.

George maintains that his ancestral family belonged to the legitimate hereditary royal line of a particular traditional kingdom or authority in Cameroon and that the exercise of that authority was interrupted through German colonial intervention.

His account includes reports of serious violence against members of his ancestral family and community, the removal or replacement of traditional leadership and the disruption of hereditary succession.

He wishes to establish whether these events occurred as described, when and where they happened, which authorities or individuals were involved and what became of the persons reportedly killed.

The purpose of this section is not to present unverified historical allegations as established findings.

It is to identify the matters requiring investigation and request assistance from the United Kingdom Government in locating relevant historical evidence.

The investigation must distinguish general historical knowledge concerning German colonial administration in Cameroon from documentary evidence relating specifically to George's ancestors and the particular traditional authority concerned.

This distinction is essential to maintaining the accuracy and credibility of the proposed international investigation.

4.2 German Colonial Administration in Cameroon

Germany established colonial control over Kamerun in 1884.

During the subsequent period of German colonial administration, European governmental, military and administrative institutions exercised authority over substantial areas of the territory associated with present-day Cameroon.

The precise development and extent of that authority varied geographically and over time.

German colonial administration involved relationships with existing African political and traditional institutions, including arrangements concerning local administration, recognised chiefs, taxation, labour, territorial control and the enforcement of colonial authority.

Those arrangements require examination in their particular historical contexts.

The existence of German colonial rule provides the broader historical setting for George's account.

However, general evidence concerning colonial administration does not, by itself, establish that particular actions were taken against George's ancestors.

The investigation must therefore establish the relevant locality, administrative district, historical officials and surviving documentary record.

Reparation Nation Limited requests assistance in identifying records that could connect the wider colonial administrative system with the particular ancestral authority concerned.

4.3 George T. Nomen's Account of German Intervention

According to the account supplied by George T. Nomen, German colonial authorities interfered with the legitimate hereditary traditional authority associated with his ancestral family.

He understands that the original hereditary leadership was displaced and that alternative traditional officeholders were appointed, recognised or otherwise supported under colonial administrative arrangements.

He further reports that members of his ancestral family and community were killed during the period of intervention.

George considers these events central to understanding the interruption of his family's hereditary succession.

The account transmitted to him raises serious historical questions.

Nevertheless, the precise dates, locations, identities of the individuals involved and circumstances of the reported intervention require independent investigation.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore asks that the account be treated as a substantive historical enquiry rather than either an established finding or an allegation to be dismissed without examination.

The objective is to locate contemporaneous records capable of establishing the sequence of events.

Where relevant evidence supports George's account, it should be documented.

Where evidence qualifies or contradicts the account, it should also be identified and examined.

4.4 Identification of the Original Traditional Authority

Before the specific German intervention can be reconstructed, the ancestral traditional authority must be identified with sufficient precision.

The investigation should establish its indigenous name, location, traditional jurisdiction, customary functions and historical relationship with neighbouring institutions.

It should also examine how the authority was described in German administrative records.

Colonial officials may have recorded indigenous names through German spelling conventions or classified traditional institutions according to administrative categories that did not precisely correspond with their customary character.

The investigation should therefore consider possible variations in institutional and geographical names.

Relevant sources may include administrative district records, historical maps, colonial gazetteers, ethnographic reports, traditional leadership registers and correspondence concerning local governance.

The purpose is to identify the institution as it existed before and during the reported intervention.

Without that identification, there is a risk that records concerning different communities or traditional authorities could be incorrectly associated with George's ancestral claim.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that all such identifications remain provisional until adequately supported by evidence.

4.5 Identification of the Relevant German Administrative District

The investigation should establish which German colonial administrative district exercised authority over the ancestral locality during the relevant period.

This may assist in identifying the officials responsible for administrative decisions and the archival collections in which relevant records could survive.

The boundaries and names of colonial administrative districts changed over time.

Accordingly, present-day geographical descriptions should not automatically be assumed to correspond with the administrative boundaries applicable during German rule.

Reparation Nation Limited requests assistance in identifying historical maps and administrative records that could establish the appropriate district.

Once identified, that district may provide the basis for more targeted archival searches involving appointments, military operations, petitions, disciplinary measures and communications with traditional authorities.

The investigation should also examine whether the locality was affected by military expeditions or changes in colonial administrative control.

No particular district or official is identified as responsible at this stage without supporting evidence.

4.6 The Reported Removal of Hereditary Leadership

George's account raises the question of whether the legitimate hereditary ruler or successor of his ancestral institution was removed, displaced, killed or otherwise prevented from exercising traditional authority.

These possibilities must be investigated separately.

Removal from office, imprisonment, exile, forced displacement, killing and withdrawal of administrative recognition are distinct events.

Each may have different historical consequences.

The investigation should establish whether German colonial authorities issued a formal decision affecting the original hereditary officeholder.

Where such a decision existed, the original document and its stated reasons should be sought.

The investigation should also determine whether the affected individual was recognised by the relevant community under customary succession arrangements.

If the original hereditary ruler was removed, the evidence should establish who made the decision, when it occurred, what legal or administrative authority was claimed and whether the decision was accompanied by military action.

The absence of a surviving written order would not necessarily establish that no intervention occurred.

Equally, family testimony alone cannot establish the precise legal and administrative circumstances without further examination.

Both documentary and traditional sources should be investigated.

4.7 The Reported Appointment of Alternative Traditional Officeholders

George maintains that alternative traditional officeholders were appointed, recognised or supported following the displacement of his ancestral hereditary line.

The investigation should determine whether this occurred and identify the individuals concerned.

Particular attention should be given to records explaining the basis upon which German officials recognised or appointed traditional leaders.

The investigation should establish whether the individuals concerned belonged to the original hereditary line, another family branch or an unrelated lineage.

It should also examine whether the relevant appointments were accepted, contested or resisted within the community.

A colonial appointment could have created or recognised administrative authority without necessarily resolving customary entitlement.

Conversely, colonial officials may have recognised persons already possessing legitimate traditional authority.

The evidence must establish which circumstances applied.

Reparation Nation Limited does not accuse any present-day traditional officeholder of unlawful occupation of an ancestral position.

The investigation concerns the historical origin and subsequent development of the relevant administrative and customary arrangements.

Any implications for contemporary succession must be assessed separately under the applicable evidence, customary rules and law.

4.8 The Reported Killing of Ancestral Family Members

George's family account includes reports that members of his ancestral family and community were killed during the historical events affecting their traditional authority.

He seeks to establish the identities of the persons concerned, the circumstances of their deaths and their relationship to the reported displacement of the hereditary institution.

The investigation should determine whether the deaths occurred during military operations, detention, administrative enforcement, local conflict or other circumstances.

No particular explanation should be presumed before the evidence has been examined.

Reparation Nation Limited requests the identification of surviving military reports, casualty records, administrative correspondence, judicial records, medical records, missionary accounts and other sources capable of clarifying the events.

Where names are available, the investigation should seek individual records rather than rely exclusively upon general descriptions of colonial violence.

Where the names of deceased persons are uncertain, family testimony and genealogical material may provide starting points.

The investigation should also examine whether the reported deaths were connected directly to the removal or replacement of hereditary leadership.

That connection must be established through evidence rather than inferred merely because the events are believed to have occurred during the same historical period.

4.9 The Reported Death of an Ancestral Royal Figure

George's account raises the particular question of whether an ancestral royal figure was killed during German colonial intervention.

He wishes to establish the identity of the individual concerned, the person's hereditary or traditional position and the circumstances in which death occurred.

The investigation should determine whether the person was exercising authority at the time, was recognised as an intended successor or belonged to another relevant branch of the ancestral family.

It should also establish whether the person died as a result of military action, detention, deliberate killing, illness or another cause.

Where oral history identifies a killing, the investigation should seek contemporaneous records capable of supporting or clarifying that account.

The absence of a readily available colonial record should not automatically result in the dismissal of family testimony.

However, the historical account must accurately distinguish between what is remembered, what has been documented and what remains unresolved.

Reparation Nation Limited seeks the strongest available evidential reconstruction of the person's life, position and death.

4.10 The Fate of the Bodies of Those Reportedly Killed

A central purpose of George's investigation is to establish what happened to the bodies of his ancestors following their reported deaths.

This question is of profound personal, familial and cultural significance.

George wishes to know whether their bodies were buried, transported, concealed, destroyed, retained by colonial authorities or otherwise dealt with.

These are possibilities for investigation, not established descriptions of what occurred.

Reparation Nation Limited requests assistance in identifying any surviving records concerning burial locations, mass graves, individual graves, exhumations, transportation of remains or related administrative decisions.

Relevant sources may include military correspondence, burial registers, cemetery records, missionary documentation, medical reports, museum collections and other historical material.

Where records identify the location of human remains, George wishes to understand what procedures may be available for further examination and, where justified, appropriate family or community consultation.

The organisation does not presume that remains were removed to Germany or any other European country.

It seeks evidence establishing whether any removal or transfer occurred.

The investigation should preserve the distinction between the discovery of a record and the independent identification of particular human remains.

Any future examination involving physical remains would require appropriate professional, legal, cultural and ethical safeguards.

4.11 German Military Operations and Their Possible Relevance

The investigation should examine whether German military operations occurred in the ancestral locality during the period associated with George's family account.

Relevant records may identify military commanders, units, objectives, reported casualties, destruction of settlements, detentions or actions affecting traditional leadership.

However, the existence of a military operation in a broader region does not automatically establish its involvement in the specific events described by George.

The investigation should therefore establish geographical and chronological connections wherever possible.

Military records may also need to be compared with civilian administrative correspondence and accounts preserved by local communities.

Descriptions of events written by colonial personnel may differ from those transmitted through the affected population.

Such differences should be examined critically.

Reparation Nation Limited seeks assistance in identifying both military and non-military sources relevant to the ancestral locality.

The purpose is to establish the circumstances of any intervention, not to attribute responsibility without evidence.

4.12 Possible Destruction of Settlements and Traditional Institutions

George's account raises questions concerning the destruction or suppression of the ancestral traditional authority.

The investigation should determine whether this involved physical destruction of settlements or ceremonial structures, removal of officeholders, confiscation of property, administrative reorganisation or restrictions upon traditional practices.

These events should be distinguished from one another.

Evidence concerning the destruction of buildings or settlements may appear in military reports, colonial maps, land records, missionary correspondence or later local histories.

Evidence concerning suppression of traditional authority may appear in administrative decisions, leadership registers or correspondence between officials.

The investigation should also examine whether any traditional institutions continued to operate despite the reported intervention.

The survival of ritual practices, traditional objects, oral genealogies or community institutions may be relevant to assessing historical continuity.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that every component of the ancestral institution was physically destroyed.

It requests evidence capable of establishing the nature and extent of the reported disruption.

4.13 Land, Territory and Property

The investigation should examine whether the reported German intervention affected ancestral land, territorial control or property associated with George's family and traditional institution.

Traditional authority may have involved responsibilities concerning land or territorial stewardship, but the precise nature of those responsibilities must be established within the relevant customary system.

Reparation Nation Limited requests assistance in identifying historical maps, land registers, administrative boundary decisions and correspondence concerning changes in control over the ancestral locality.

The investigation should determine whether land was confiscated, transferred, reassigned or placed under different administrative arrangements.

Where such decisions occurred, their dates, legal character and consequences should be established.

Historical evidence concerning ancestral land does not automatically determine present-day ownership or legal entitlement.

Any contemporary land claim would require separate examination under the applicable law and evidence.

Nevertheless, the reconstruction of territorial arrangements may be important to understanding the broader consequences of the reported displacement.

4.14 The Possible Concealment or Loss of Ancestral Knowledge

George's account suggests that information concerning the original hereditary line was preserved within his family despite circumstances that may have discouraged open discussion.

The investigation should examine whether fear, violence, displacement or other historical conditions affected the transmission of ancestral knowledge.

This question requires care.

The fact that information was preserved privately does not, by itself, prove deliberate concealment by a colonial administration.

Equally, the absence of particular information from official records does not prove that the underlying events did not occur.

The investigation should distinguish the loss of records, incomplete documentation, deliberate suppression of information and the private preservation of family history.

These are different possibilities requiring different forms of evidence.

Traditional testimony may provide important information about how ancestral knowledge survived.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that such testimony be recorded accurately and examined alongside the surviving documentary record.

4.15 The Relevance of the Monument and the Name Ngantcha

The photographs supplied by George include a monument or structure bearing the designation RSA 91 and the name Ngantcha.

This material may provide a historical or geographical lead.

The investigation should determine whether the monument is associated with an ancestral ruler, deceased family member, traditional officeholder or another relevant person or institution.

Its location, date, purpose and inscription should be independently established.

The designation RSA 91 requires specific clarification.

No meaning should be assigned to that designation without supporting evidence.

The name Ngantcha should be investigated across relevant family, traditional and colonial records.

If a person bearing that name can be connected to the original hereditary line or the reported German intervention, the connection should be documented through identifiable sources.

Photographic evidence should be preserved with appropriate information concerning its origin and circumstances.

It should not be presented as conclusive proof of a particular historical event before its significance has been established.

4.16 German Government and Archival Responsibilities

Germany is a principal jurisdiction for this investigation because George's account identifies intervention during German colonial administration as a central historical cause of the reported displacement.

Reparation Nation Limited intends to seek appropriate cooperation from German governmental and archival institutions.

Relevant research may include records associated with the former Reichskolonialamt, German Kamerun administration, military operations, traditional leadership appointments and administrative correspondence.

The German Federal Archives and other relevant repositories may hold material capable of assisting the investigation.

The precise holdings must be established through professional archival enquiry.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that the present German Government possesses every relevant document or that all historical records remain intact.

The organisation seeks assistance in identifying which repositories may hold the relevant evidence and the procedures for obtaining access.

The United Kingdom Government is asked to consider whether appropriate introductions, referrals or diplomatic cooperation could assist this process.

Such assistance need not involve the British Government making findings concerning Germany's historical or legal responsibility.

4.17 Britain's Position and Potential Assistance

Although the reported intervention concerns German colonial administration, Britain possesses historical connections with Cameroon and may hold records relevant to the period before, during or after the transition from German rule.

British records may contain reports, correspondence, maps or other material concerning German activities and subsequent administrative arrangements.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office consider whether relevant information may exist within British governmental holdings or associated archival collections.

The Department is also asked to identify whether it can facilitate appropriate institutional enquiries involving Germany.

The organisation recognises that Britain cannot automatically compel a foreign government or archive to release records.

Nevertheless, it asks what assistance, if any, is available through diplomatic communication, archival cooperation, research referrals or other lawful arrangements.

Where the Department considers that another British institution is better placed to assist, Reparation Nation Limited requests an appropriate referral.

The immediate objective is to identify evidence and establish workable disclosure routes.

4.18 Identification of Individuals and Institutional Responsibility

A properly conducted historical investigation should seek to identify the individuals and institutions involved in any relevant colonial decisions.

This may include administrators, military personnel, traditional officeholders, interpreters and other persons appearing in the surviving records.

The identification of an official within a historical document does not automatically establish responsibility for a particular act.

The investigation must determine the official's role, the decision concerned and the evidence connecting that person to the reported events.

Where responsibility for a decision can be established, the relevant documents should be preserved and accurately described.

Where an individual's involvement remains uncertain, that uncertainty should be recorded.

The purpose is to reconstruct historical decision-making, not to produce unsupported accusations.

Any subsequent consideration of legal or governmental responsibility would require a separate assessment of the relevant evidence and applicable law.

4.19 Historical Accountability and Possible Reparatory Consequences

George wishes to determine whether the reported colonial intervention gives rise to grounds for historical acknowledgement, correction of records, recognition of ancestral interests or other forms of reparatory justice.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that historical evidence of harm does not automatically establish a presently enforceable legal claim.

Questions of responsibility, jurisdiction, limitation, immunity, available remedies and the applicable historical and contemporary legal frameworks may arise.

These issues should not be predetermined before the underlying events have been investigated.

The immediate purpose is to establish the historical record.

Where evidence supports particular findings, the organisation may subsequently consider appropriate requests for acknowledgement, access to information, correction of records, institutional cooperation or other available remedies.

Any proposal concerning litigation, settlement, repatriation or formal governmental recognition would require separate consideration and appropriate authority.

The investigation should therefore preserve both the historical evidence and the distinctions between potential remedies.

4.20 Safeguards Against Anti-Black Racism and Institutional Racism

Reparation Nation Limited requests information concerning the safeguards applicable to the consideration of historical enquiries involving African communities affected by European colonial administration.

The organisation considers it important that African traditional institutions, ancestral testimony and customary historical evidence receive careful and fair examination.

This includes avoiding an assumption that colonial administrative records necessarily provide a complete or definitive account of indigenous authority.

At the same time, the investigation must remain open to evidence that contradicts or qualifies George's account.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office identify any relevant equality policies, procedural safeguards, guidance or review arrangements applicable to its handling of the representation.

No accusation, allegation or finding of anti-Black racism or institutional racism is made against any present-day official or institution.

The request concerns transparency and the prevention of discriminatory treatment.

The organisation seeks evidence of the procedures through which fairness and accountability are maintained.

4.21 Formal Questions Requiring Governmental Consideration

Reparation Nation Limited requests written consideration of the following questions.

Question 4.21.1: What British governmental or archival records may contain information concerning German colonial military or administrative intervention affecting traditional authorities in Cameroon?

Question 4.21.2: Can the Foreign Office identify appropriate German institutions or archival repositories capable of assisting with this investigation?

Question 4.21.3: What historical records may assist in identifying the German administrative district responsible for the ancestral locality associated with George T. Nomen?

Question 4.21.4: What records may exist concerning the removal, appointment or recognition of traditional rulers during German colonial administration?

Question 4.21.5: Are there identifiable records concerning military operations, detentions, reported killings or destruction of settlements in the relevant locality?

Question 4.21.6: What procedures are available for obtaining records concerning the identities and deaths of persons reportedly killed during colonial intervention?

Question 4.21.7: Can the Department identify appropriate sources concerning burial locations, human remains, exhumations or the possible transfer of remains?

Question 4.21.8: What assistance can be provided in investigating the name Ngantcha and its possible connection to the ancestral hereditary institution?

Question 4.21.9: Are there historical maps, administrative registers or territorial records that may assist in identifying the original traditional authority?

Question 4.21.10: What assistance may be available in identifying the individuals or institutions responsible for particular colonial administrative decisions?

Question 4.21.11: Can the Department facilitate or recommend appropriate channels for requesting cooperation from German governmental and archival institutions?

Question 4.21.12: What procedures exist for accessing British records concerning German Kamerun and subsequent changes in colonial administration?

Question 4.21.13: Where the Department does not hold relevant records, will it identify the responsible British institution or appropriate foreign repository where possible?

Question 4.21.14: What safeguards apply to ensure that African oral history, customary evidence and colonial administrative records are examined fairly?

Question 4.21.15: Will the Department distinguish requests for historical evidence from any future request concerning governmental responsibility, legal remedies or reparatory justice?

These questions seek procedural clarification and practical assistance.

They do not presume that the Foreign Office holds every requested record or possesses authority to make determinations concerning all historical matters raised.

4.22 Request for a Coordinated Historical Investigation

Reparation Nation Limited proposes that the investigation proceed through coordinated but separately identifiable research enquiries.

German records should be examined for evidence concerning the original colonial intervention.

French records should be examined for evidence concerning subsequent administrative arrangements and possible continuation of earlier decisions.

British records should be examined for information generated through Britain's historical involvement in Cameroon and related governmental correspondence.

Cameroonian records, traditional sources and community testimony should be examined for evidence concerning the original institution, customary succession and local historical continuity.

The purpose of coordination is to establish a reliable chronology.

Different records may describe the same individual, locality or event using different terminology.

Consequently, names, dates, locations and administrative references should be carefully cross-checked.

Where evidence is contradictory, the contradiction should be documented rather than concealed.

Where evidence is missing, the investigation should distinguish the absence of a located record from proof that no record ever existed.

This approach is intended to produce an independently reviewable historical reconstruction.

4.23 Conclusion and Formal Request

George T. Nomen seeks to establish what happened to his ancestral family and traditional authority during German colonial administration.

His account raises serious questions concerning the reported displacement of hereditary leadership, the appointment or recognition of alternative officeholders, military or administrative intervention, the deaths of family members and the fate of their remains.

Reparation Nation Limited has been authorised to assist him in investigating these matters.

The organisation does not ask the United Kingdom Government to accept unverified historical allegations as established facts.

It asks the Government to assist in locating the evidence through which the events can be investigated.

The immediate objective is historical disclosure.

That disclosure may subsequently assist in determining questions of hereditary succession, historical accountability, recognition and possible reparatory justice.

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office is therefore requested to identify relevant British records, appropriate German archival institutions, available referral procedures and any lawful assistance it is prepared to consider.

The organisation also requests that the humanitarian importance of locating information concerning George's deceased ancestors and their remains be recognised as a distinct purpose of the investigation.

The central question remains: what happened to George T. Nomen's ancestors, what became of their bodies, and what evidence survives concerning the reported destruction or displacement of their ancestral traditional authority?

Reparation Nation Limited requests the British Government's cooperation in helping to establish the historical truth.

END OF SECTION FOUR

NEXT: SECTION FIVE — FRENCH COLONIAL ADMINISTRATION, SUCCESSION CHANGES AND THE REPORTED 1933 ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUMENT

SECTION FIVE — FRENCH COLONIAL ADMINISTRATION, SUCCESSION CHANGES AND THE REPORTED 1933 ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUMENT

5.1 Introduction and Purpose

This section concerns the role of French colonial administration in Cameroon following the end of German colonial rule, the possible continuation or modification of earlier arrangements affecting George T. Nomen's ancestral hereditary authority, and the reported French administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933.

Reparation Nation Limited submits this section pursuant to the authorisation given by George T. Nomen.

George maintains that the legitimate hereditary traditional authority of his ancestral family was displaced during German colonial administration and that subsequent French administrative arrangements may have perpetuated, modified or otherwise affected the consequences of that displacement.

His account raises questions concerning the treatment of the original hereditary line, the recognition of alternative traditional officeholders, the possible destruction or suppression of ancestral institutions, and the historical treatment of members of his family and community.

Of particular importance is a reported French administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933, which George considers potentially relevant to the history of his ancestral authority.

The precise identity, date, reference, contents and legal significance of that instrument have not yet been independently established from the materials available to Reparation Nation Limited.

The immediate objective is therefore to locate the original instrument, determine its authenticity, examine its contents and establish its relationship to the wider historical record.

This section requests British Government assistance in identifying appropriate French archival and governmental procedures, together with any relevant British records concerning the administration of Cameroon during the period in question.

5.2 The Transition from German to French Colonial Administration

German colonial authority in Kamerun was displaced during the First World War.

Following the military campaign and subsequent international arrangements, territories formerly administered as German Kamerun came under British and French administration.

The League of Nations mandate system subsequently provided an international framework for the administration of the relevant territories.

The transition was not merely a change in the nationality of the European administration.

It involved questions concerning territorial boundaries, administrative records, local political relationships, traditional authorities and the continuation or alteration of existing governmental arrangements.

George's historical account raises the possibility that decisions affecting his ancestral hereditary institution under German colonial administration continued to have consequences during the subsequent French period.

However, the organisation does not presume that French authorities simply adopted every earlier German decision.

The investigation must establish what decisions were actually made, which traditional officeholders were recognised and what information French administrators possessed concerning the original hereditary succession.

The historical transition therefore represents a central evidential link between the reported German intervention and the later administrative position of George's ancestral institution.

5.3 Identification of the Relevant French Administrative Territory

The investigation must establish the precise French administrative jurisdiction within which George's ancestral traditional authority was located.

Present-day administrative divisions cannot automatically be assumed to correspond with those existing under French colonial administration.

The historical locality, relevant district, administrative subdivision and responsible officials must therefore be identified according to the records applicable at the time.

This is particularly important in relation to the reported administrative instrument of approximately 1933.

An instrument issued in one administrative jurisdiction may not have applied to a traditional authority situated elsewhere.

The investigation should accordingly establish the geographical relationship between the ancestral institution and the French authority responsible for the reported decision.

Relevant sources may include colonial maps, administrative directories, official bulletins, territorial registers and correspondence concerning traditional leadership.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office consider whether British records or appropriate French archival referrals could assist in identifying the correct historical jurisdiction.

5.4 The French Administration's Treatment of Existing Traditional Authorities

A principal question concerns how French colonial authorities dealt with traditional institutions previously recognised, appointed or reorganised under German administration.

The investigation should establish whether French officials undertook independent examinations of local hereditary succession or relied upon existing administrative arrangements.

Where a traditional officeholder was recognised during French administration, the original decision and its stated basis should be sought.

The investigation should also determine whether French authorities distinguished customary hereditary entitlement from administrative appointment.

Such distinctions may be particularly significant where George's family account identifies an original hereditary line displaced during earlier colonial intervention.

The organisation does not presume that every traditional leader recognised by French administrators lacked customary legitimacy.

Nor does it presume that every French administrative decision was unlawful.

The purpose is to establish what occurred and whether the relevant decisions affected the ancestral authority from which George claims descent.

Where evidence indicates that French officials received objections or petitions concerning hereditary succession, those records should be located and examined.

5.5 The Possible Continuation of German-Era Appointments

George's account raises the possibility that persons appointed or recognised during German colonial administration continued to exercise traditional authority under French administration.

If this occurred, the investigation should establish the historical and administrative circumstances.

Relevant questions include whether French officials formally confirmed existing officeholders, made new appointments, recognised successors or altered the functions attached to particular traditional offices.

The original German and French records should be compared wherever possible.

A continuation of personnel or administrative arrangements does not necessarily establish that the original appointment was illegitimate.

Equally, a later French decision should not automatically be treated as independent validation of customary hereditary entitlement.

The investigation must distinguish administrative continuity from customary legitimacy.

This distinction is essential to understanding whether the reported displacement of George's ancestral family had consequences extending across successive colonial administrations.

5.6 The Reported French Administrative Instrument of Approximately 1933

George's preliminary historical materials refer to a French administrative instrument, potentially an *arrêté*, dating from approximately 1933.

The document is regarded as a potentially important research lead.

Its original text has not been independently authenticated within the material presently available to Reparation Nation Limited.

Accordingly, the organisation does not represent the instrument as established proof of the reported displacement, the appointment of a particular traditional officeholder or George's hereditary succession.

Instead, it requests that competent archival and governmental institutions assist in determining whether the instrument exists.

If located, the investigation should establish its exact title, issuing authority, date, reference number, geographical application, operative provisions and any individuals or traditional institutions named.

The original French wording must be preserved.

A reliable translation may subsequently be prepared, but it should not replace the original document.

The investigation should also seek associated records explaining the circumstances in which the instrument was issued.

The objective is to determine what the document actually establishes.

5.7 The Importance of Obtaining the Complete Original Instrument

Reparation Nation Limited considers it essential that the complete administrative instrument be obtained wherever possible.

An isolated quotation, summary or later reference may not provide sufficient information to understand its purpose or effect.

The original instrument may contain introductory provisions, references to earlier decisions, descriptions of administrative authority or conditions affecting its application.

Its full contents are therefore important.

Where the instrument was published in an official bulletin or administrative collection, the investigation should identify the relevant publication, issue, page numbers and surrounding entries.

Where it survives only within an administrative file, its archival reference and associated correspondence should be recorded.

The investigation should also establish whether the instrument was subsequently amended, repealed, replaced or interpreted through later decisions.

No conclusion concerning its legal or historical significance should be reached solely from its reported date or apparent subject matter.

5.8 Identification of the Issuing Authority

The reported 1933 instrument should be examined to determine which French colonial authority issued it.

The investigation should establish whether the instrument originated from a territorial administrator, regional authority, senior colonial official or another competent body.

Its legal and administrative significance may depend upon the authority under which it was issued.

The investigation should therefore seek any statutory, regulatory or administrative provisions referred to within the instrument.

It should also establish whether the official concerned possessed authority over the particular ancestral locality.

The name and official position of the issuing authority should be recorded accurately.

However, the identification of an official as the author or signatory of a document does not automatically establish personal responsibility for every historical consequence alleged by George.

Such questions require separate evidential examination.

5.9 Identification of Traditional Officeholders Named in the Instrument

If the reported administrative instrument concerns traditional leadership, the investigation should identify every relevant individual named within it.

The full names, titles, localities and stated capacities of those individuals should be recorded.

The investigation should determine whether any person identified was associated with the original hereditary line, an alternative family branch or another traditional institution.

Where names appear in different forms, the original spellings should be preserved.

Possible equivalences should be investigated rather than assumed.

The name Ngantcha should be examined where it appears in relevant records, but no connection should be invented merely because another historical individual bears a similar name.

The purpose is to determine whether the document provides evidence concerning the traditional authority associated with George's family.

5.10 French Administrative Recognition and Customary Hereditary Succession

A principal issue concerns the relationship between French administrative recognition and the customary rules governing hereditary succession.

An individual recognised by French officials may have exercised administrative functions on behalf of the colonial government.

Those functions may or may not have corresponded with the original traditional office.

The investigation must establish whether the relevant appointment or recognition was based upon customary entitlement, administrative preference, local consultation or another stated consideration.

Where a disputed succession existed, the investigation should seek evidence concerning the positions advanced by the competing parties.

This may include petitions, traditional testimony, administrative reports or correspondence with colonial officials.

The objective is not to presume that French administrative recognition was illegitimate.

It is to determine whether that recognition accurately reflected the applicable customary succession arrangements.

The distinction is particularly important where George's family maintains that the original hereditary line was displaced before French administration began.

5.11 The Possible Exclusion of the Original Hereditary Family

George's account raises the question of whether his ancestral family was excluded from the exercise of its claimed traditional authority during the French colonial period.

The investigation should determine whether members of the original hereditary line sought recognition, submitted petitions, challenged appointments or maintained claims to succession.

Where such actions occurred, the original records should be sought.

The investigation should also establish whether French officials possessed information concerning the family's claimed hereditary entitlement.

If objections were rejected, the stated reasons should be identified.

If no formal objection was recorded, the investigation should examine whether the absence of a record can be explained by the historical circumstances.

The lack of a located petition does not automatically establish acceptance of an administrative arrangement.

Equally, an ancestral account of exclusion does not itself establish that French officials knowingly disregarded a legitimate claim.

The historical evidence must be examined before conclusions are reached.

5.12 The Reported Deaths and the French Administrative Period

George seeks to establish what happened to ancestors and community members reportedly killed during the historical events affecting their traditional authority.

Although his account particularly identifies German colonial intervention, the subsequent French administrative period may contain relevant records concerning those earlier events.

French officials may have encountered surviving family members, traditional representatives or administrative records referring to earlier deaths.

They may also have documented changes in traditional leadership connected with the deaths or disappearance of previous officeholders.

The investigation should therefore examine whether French records contain information about individuals who died before French administration began.

It should also establish whether any additional incidents occurred during the French period.

The two historical periods must be distinguished.

Deaths attributed to German intervention should not be reassigned to French administration without evidence.

Similarly, French involvement in later administrative decisions should not automatically be treated as proof of participation in earlier violence.

The objective is to reconstruct the complete historical chronology accurately.

5.13 The Fate of Human Remains and Burial Information

The investigation into the reported deaths must include the possibility that French administrative or institutional records contain information concerning burial locations or the treatment of human remains.

Reparation Nation Limited seeks to establish whether any relevant records identify graves, burial grounds, exhumations, transfers or other actions affecting the remains of George's ancestors.

These may include administrative correspondence, health records, missionary reports, archaeological documentation and museum acquisition records.

The organisation does not presume that French authorities removed or retained the remains of George's ancestors.

It requests investigation of whether evidence exists concerning their fate.

Where relevant records are identified, their provenance and reliability should be examined.

Any potential identification of particular human remains would require a separate professional assessment.

George's objective is to obtain accurate information concerning what happened to the deceased members of his family and community.

The historical investigation should therefore treat burial and remains-related evidence as a distinct priority.

5.14 Possible French Records Concerning Ancestral Lands

The reported displacement of traditional authority may have had consequences for land and territorial administration.

The investigation should establish whether French authorities altered boundaries, recognised particular traditional jurisdictions, reassigned land or recorded disputes involving the ancestral locality.

Relevant sources may include historical maps, land registers, administrative surveys and correspondence concerning territorial governance.

The investigation must distinguish customary territorial authority from ownership interests recognised under particular legal arrangements.

Evidence that an ancestral institution exercised traditional responsibilities concerning land does not automatically establish a contemporary legal entitlement to particular property.

Nevertheless, historical land records may assist in identifying the original traditional institution and reconstructing changes following colonial intervention.

Reparation Nation Limited requests assistance in identifying any relevant French or British records concerning the ancestral locality.

5.15 French Official Publications and Archival Sources

The investigation should seek relevant French colonial official publications and administrative records.

Potential sources include official bulletins, government correspondence, administrative directories, reports concerning traditional chiefs, historical maps and files relating to succession disputes.

The competent repository must be identified according to the date, issuing authority and administrative jurisdiction concerned.

Relevant holdings may be found within French national or overseas archives, as well as institutions retaining material from the former French administration of Cameroon.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that every relevant document survives or is accessible without restrictions.

The organisation asks for clarification of the appropriate research procedures.

Where the reported 1933 instrument cannot be located immediately, the investigation should seek associated references, indexes, official publication registers and related correspondence.

The absence of an immediate search result should be distinguished from evidence that the instrument never existed.

5.16 The Role of the Archives Nationales d'Outre-Mer

The Archives nationales d'outre-mer in Aix-en-Provence are an important potential research institution for records concerning French overseas administration.

Reparation Nation Limited intends to establish whether relevant holdings include documentation relating to Cameroon, traditional authority, administrative appointments and the reported 1933 instrument.

The investigation should identify the appropriate archival series and catalogue references.

Where records are digitised, access procedures should be clarified.

Where records require physical consultation, the relevant arrangements should be established.

Where access restrictions apply, the legal or administrative basis should be identified.

The organisation requests that the Foreign Office consider whether any appropriate British governmental or institutional referral could assist in directing the enquiry to competent French authorities.

Such assistance would not require the British Government to determine the validity of George's historical claim.

It would concern the practical identification of records and procedures.

5.17 The Relevance of Records Held in Cameroon

The historical records generated during French administration may not all be held in France.

Some may remain within Cameroonian governmental, archival or traditional institutions.

The investigation should therefore examine the possibility of parallel records surviving in Cameroon.

These may include administrative correspondence, local registers, succession records, traditional histories, land documentation and material preserved by families or customary authorities.

Reparation Nation Limited considers it important that the investigation not rely exclusively upon European archival sources.

Cameroonian records and traditional evidence may provide essential information concerning the local application of colonial decisions.

Where French and Cameroonian records describe the same event differently, the differences should be examined.

The objective is a comprehensive reconstruction rather than an account based solely upon the documents of one administration.

5.18 The Relevance of British Records

Britain's historical involvement in Cameroon may have resulted in records concerning French administrative arrangements or communications between British and French officials.

The investigation should establish whether relevant material exists within British governmental collections.

This may include correspondence concerning territorial administration, traditional authorities, boundary matters or political developments.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that British officials were directly involved in the particular decisions affecting George's ancestral institution.

The request is for assistance in identifying whether relevant records exist.

Where the Foreign Office does not hold the records, it is asked to consider appropriate referral to The National Archives or another competent institution.

British archival assistance could complement the separate requests to French and Cameroonian authorities.

5.19 Historical Responsibility and the Distinction Between Successive Administrations

The investigation must distinguish the conduct and responsibilities of German, French, British and subsequent Cameroonian institutions.

The existence of successive colonial administrations does not establish that every administration participated in the same acts.

Where German officials made an original decision, the evidence should identify that decision separately.

Where French officials subsequently adopted, altered or reversed an arrangement, the later decision should be independently documented.

Where British officials recorded or communicated information, their role should be established according to the evidence.

The investigation should distinguish knowledge of historical events from direct responsibility for those events.

Similarly, historical administrative responsibility must be distinguished from any contemporary enforceable legal liability.

These distinctions will assist in preventing inappropriate attribution of responsibility.

They will also support any future consideration of historical acknowledgement or reparatory remedies.

5.20 The Importance of Preserving Original French Terminology

French colonial administrative documents may use terminology whose meaning depends upon the historical legal and administrative context.

The investigation should therefore preserve the original wording of relevant instruments.

Terms concerning traditional chiefs, customary authority, appointment, recognition, removal, territorial jurisdiction or administrative control should not be translated in a manner that predetermines their significance.

Where a translation is prepared, the original French text should remain available for comparison.

Any material ambiguity should be identified.

Reparation Nation Limited considers that accurate translation is particularly important in relation to the reported 1933 administrative instrument.

An apparently minor difference in terminology may affect the interpretation of whether an official was appointed, recognised, confirmed, removed or assigned particular administrative functions.

The objective is to establish the meaning of the document within its original historical context.

5.21 The Possibility of Later Administrative Decisions

The investigation should not end with the reported 1933 instrument.

If the instrument is located and found relevant, subsequent decisions may be necessary to establish its actual consequences.

The investigation should determine whether later authorities confirmed, amended, replaced or reversed the arrangements described.

It should also examine whether the affected traditional institution or its successors continued to be recognised under later administrative systems.

Such evidence may assist in reconstructing the continuity of the hereditary office.

However, administrative continuity does not automatically resolve customary legitimacy.

Nor does evidence of historical displacement automatically establish that a particular contemporary individual is entitled to recognition.

The relevant genealogy, customary rules and subsequent institutional history must be considered together.

5.22 Preservation of Evidence and Documentary Integrity

All records obtained through the investigation should be preserved in a manner that enables independent examination.

Where possible, the original archival reference, issuing authority, document date, language and repository should be recorded.

Copies should be distinguished from transcriptions and translations.

Summaries should not be substituted for original documents where the originals are available.

Where a record is incomplete, illegible or uncertain, those limitations should be identified.

Reparation Nation Limited intends to maintain an organised documentary record of the investigation, potentially supported by appropriate elements of IBIS.

The system should distinguish documents that have been located from those merely reported to exist.

It should also distinguish authenticated records from preliminary materials awaiting verification.

These procedures are intended to prevent later disagreement concerning the evidence upon which conclusions are based.

5.23 Safeguards Against Anti-Black Racism and Institutional Racism

Reparation Nation Limited requests information concerning the safeguards applicable to governmental and archival handling of historical claims arising from European colonial administration in Africa.

The organisation considers it important that African customary evidence and traditional accounts receive fair consideration alongside European administrative documentation.

The historical circumstances through which records were produced may affect their completeness and perspective.

That does not mean that colonial records should be rejected.

It means that their content and limitations should be examined critically.

Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification of any relevant equality policies, decision-making safeguards and review procedures applicable to the Foreign Office's consideration of this enquiry.

The organisation makes no predetermined accusation, allegation or finding of anti-Black racism or institutional racism against any contemporary official or institution.

Its request is for transparency and demonstrable procedural fairness.

5.24 Formal Questions Requiring Governmental Consideration

Reparation Nation Limited requests written consideration of the following questions.

Question 5.24.1: What British governmental or archival records may contain information concerning French colonial administration of the ancestral locality associated with George T. Nomen?

Question 5.24.2: Can the Foreign Office identify the appropriate French governmental or archival institutions capable of assisting with this investigation?

Question 5.24.3: What procedures are available for locating the reported French administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933?

Question 5.24.4: Can assistance be provided in identifying official bulletins, administrative registers or correspondence that may contain or refer to that instrument?

Question 5.24.5: What records may exist concerning French recognition, appointment or removal of traditional officeholders in the relevant locality?

Question 5.24.6: Are there identifiable records concerning the continuation, modification or reversal of German-era traditional leadership arrangements under French administration?

Question 5.24.7: What procedures may assist in determining whether French officials received petitions or objections concerning hereditary succession?

Question 5.24.8: Can the Department identify appropriate sources for examining the name Ngantcha in French colonial administrative records?

Question 5.24.9: What records may assist in establishing whether the reported deaths of ancestral family members were documented or subsequently investigated during French administration?

Question 5.24.10: Can appropriate institutions be identified for enquiries concerning burial locations, human remains or possible transfers of remains?

Question 5.24.11: What records may exist concerning the ancestral institution's land, territorial boundaries or administrative jurisdiction?

Question 5.24.12: Can the Department facilitate or recommend appropriate channels for seeking cooperation from French governmental and archival institutions?

Question 5.24.13: What assistance can be provided in identifying related records held within Cameroon?

Question 5.24.14: Are there British records concerning communications with French authorities that may be relevant to the investigation?

Question 5.24.15: What procedures apply where original French documents require authentication, certified reproduction or specialist translation?

Question 5.24.16: If the reported 1933 instrument cannot be located, what further research or archival referral procedures may be available?

Question 5.24.17: What safeguards exist to ensure that African traditional and oral historical evidence is not arbitrarily disregarded in governmental consideration of this case?

Question 5.24.18: Will the Department distinguish assistance with historical disclosure from any separate question concerning legal responsibility, hereditary recognition or reparatory remedies?

These questions are intended to establish the appropriate avenues for investigation.

They do not presume that the Foreign Office possesses every requested record or has authority to determine the underlying historical and customary questions.

5.25 Request for Coordinated French, German, British and Cameroonian Disclosure

Reparation Nation Limited considers that the reported French administrative instrument cannot be examined adequately in isolation from the earlier and later historical record.

If the ancestral hereditary authority was affected during German colonial administration, the investigation must identify the original decisions.

If French officials subsequently recognised or altered the relevant traditional arrangements, those later decisions must also be documented.

If British records contain information concerning the historical transition or subsequent administration, that information should be examined.

Cameroonian records and traditional testimony may assist in establishing the local consequences.

The objective is to reconstruct the sequence of events from the original ancestral institution through the periods of German and French administration and into the subsequent institutional history.

This approach may reveal whether an apparent succession change resulted from a single decision, a series of decisions or circumstances not yet adequately understood.

Reparation Nation Limited requests British Government assistance in identifying the available channels for such coordinated enquiries.

5.26 Conclusion and Formal Request

George T. Nomen maintains that his ancestral hereditary authority was displaced during German colonial administration and that subsequent French arrangements may have affected the continuation of the original royal succession.

The reported French administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933 represents an important potential source of evidence.

However, its precise identity, contents and significance remain to be established.

Reparation Nation Limited has been authorised to assist George in obtaining the relevant historical information.

The organisation requests that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office consider what assistance may be available in identifying appropriate French institutions, relevant British records and lawful international archival cooperation procedures.

The investigation must establish whether French authorities continued, altered or reversed earlier arrangements concerning traditional leadership.

It must also seek any records relevant to the reported deaths of George's ancestors, the fate of their remains and the continuing history of the hereditary institution.

No predetermined conclusion is advanced concerning the lawfulness of particular historical decisions or the liability of any present-day government.

The purpose is to obtain and examine the evidence.

The organisation therefore requests that the British Government assist, where possible and appropriate, in identifying the documentary route through which these serious historical questions can be investigated.

The central question is whether surviving French records, particularly the reported administrative instrument of approximately 1933, can establish what happened to George T. Nomen's ancestral hereditary authority following the earlier German colonial intervention.

The answer may be essential to reconstructing the historical succession and understanding the continuing consequences of the reported displacement.

END OF SECTION FIVE

NEXT: SECTION SIX — THE MISSING ANCESTORS: DEATHS, HUMAN REMAINS, BURIAL SITES AND HISTORICAL ACCOUNTABILITY

SECTION SIX — THE MISSING ANCESTORS: DEATHS, HUMAN REMAINS, BURIAL SITES AND HISTORICAL ACCOUNTABILITY

6.1 Introduction and Purpose

This section addresses one of the most serious and personally significant elements of George T. Nomen's historical investigation: the reported killing of members of his ancestral family and community during European colonial administration in Cameroon, and the continuing uncertainty concerning the circumstances of their deaths and the fate of their remains.

Reparation Nation Limited submits this section pursuant to the authorisation given by George T. Nomen.

George maintains that members of his ancestral family and community were killed during the historical events associated with the reported displacement of their hereditary traditional authority.

His account particularly concerns German colonial intervention and the possible continuation or consequences of earlier administrative arrangements under subsequent French administration.

He seeks to establish who was killed, when and where the deaths occurred, what circumstances surrounded those deaths, who may have been involved, and what subsequently happened to the bodies of the deceased.

These questions are distinct from, although historically connected with, the claim concerning hereditary royal succession.

The investigation into the fate of the deceased should not depend entirely upon the resolution of George's claimed hereditary position or the proposed establishment of a London-based government-in-exile.

The purpose of this section is to identify the historical, archival, humanitarian, cultural, forensic and institutional questions requiring examination, and to request appropriate assistance from the United Kingdom Government.

Reparation Nation Limited does not present the reported killings or particular circumstances concerning the handling of human remains as independently established findings.

It seeks the evidence necessary to determine what occurred.

6.2 The Humanitarian Importance of Establishing the Fate of the Deceased

The circumstances surrounding the death of an ancestor may remain important to descendants long after the event itself.

For George T. Nomen, the investigation concerns more than a dispute about hereditary succession or the historical administration of an African traditional institution.

It concerns the lives and deaths of members of his family and community.

The reported violence and uncertainty surrounding the deceased raise questions about the preservation of ancestral identity, family history, traditional burial practices and the ability of descendants to understand their own historical circumstances.

George wishes to establish whether the deceased were buried, whether their places of burial were recorded, whether their bodies were moved and whether any identifiable remains may still exist.

He also seeks to understand whether colonial administrations documented the deaths and what information, if any, was subsequently retained by governmental or other institutions.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the British Government consider this humanitarian dimension independently of the broader political and constitutional questions raised by George's claim.

The organisation does not suggest that the passage of time can be ignored when considering the availability of records or possible remedies.

It asks that the historical age of the events not be treated as a reason to dismiss an enquiry without considering what evidence may still be available.

6.3 Identification of the Ancestors Reportedly Killed

The first substantive requirement is to establish the identities of the persons reportedly killed.

George's preliminary materials contain ancestral names and genealogical information, including the name Ngantcha.

However, the complete identities and circumstances of death of the persons concerned have not yet been independently established through the records supplied.

The investigation should therefore seek to construct a register of the relevant ancestors.

For each person, the investigation should attempt to establish the full name, alternative recorded names, approximate dates of birth and death, family relationships, traditional position where applicable, and the locality associated with the reported events.

Where information derives from family testimony, that source should be identified.

Where information derives from an original historical document, the relevant archival reference should be preserved.

Where a person's identity remains uncertain, the uncertainty must be recorded rather than concealed.

The objective is to create a reliable starting point for targeted enquiries into the circumstances of the reported deaths.

A reconstructed family relationship should not be treated as independently verified merely because it appears within a preliminary genealogy.

6.4 Establishing the Circumstances of Death

The investigation should distinguish the different circumstances in which an ancestor may have died.

These may include death during armed conflict, deliberate killing, death in detention, death following displacement, illness, injury or other causes.

The fact that a person disappeared from the family or customary record does not, by itself, establish the cause of death.

Similarly, the existence of colonial military activity in a particular region does not prove that a specific ancestor was killed during that activity.

The investigation must therefore seek evidence connecting identifiable persons to identifiable events.

Potential sources include military reports, death registers, administrative correspondence, medical records, missionary accounts and traditional testimony.

Where records describe the circumstances of a death, their provenance and reliability must be examined.

Reparation Nation Limited asks that the investigation distinguish information obtained directly from contemporary records from later accounts or interpretations.

The objective is not to select an explanation before examining the evidence.

It is to establish what can reliably be known.

6.5 The Reported Killing of an Ancestral Royal Figure

George's account raises the specific question of whether an ancestor associated with the original hereditary royal authority was killed during colonial intervention.

This question requires particular attention because the reported death may be connected to the interruption of hereditary succession.

The investigation should seek to identify the individual concerned and establish their position within the ancestral family and traditional institution.

It should determine whether the person was exercising hereditary authority, had been designated as a successor, or occupied another relevant position.

The circumstances of death should be investigated independently.

Where the account identifies a killing, the evidence should establish whether the event occurred as described.

If evidence indicates that the individual was removed, detained, exiled or otherwise prevented from exercising traditional authority rather than killed, that distinction must be recorded.

The investigation should also consider whether the death affected subsequent succession arrangements.

However, a causal connection between a death and a change in traditional leadership should not be presumed merely because the events are associated within family memory.

Reparation Nation Limited requests assistance in identifying records that may clarify these matters.

6.6 Identification of the Location of the Reported Deaths

The geographical location of the reported deaths is essential to locating historical evidence.

The investigation must establish the ancestral locality associated with George's family and determine whether the reported events occurred within that locality or elsewhere.

Relevant locations may include settlements, traditional administrative centres, military stations, detention facilities, routes of forced movement or other sites mentioned in surviving testimony.

No particular location should be identified as the scene of a killing without supporting evidence.

Historical place names may differ from contemporary geographical names.

German, French and Cameroonian records may use different spellings or administrative classifications.

The investigation should therefore preserve original names and investigate possible correspondences.

Historical maps and territorial records may assist in identifying the relevant places.

Once geographical locations have been established, more focused enquiries can be directed to the appropriate archival collections.

6.7 Establishing What Happened to the Bodies

George has expressly raised the question of what happened to the bodies of the persons reportedly killed.

This is a central objective of the investigation.

Reparation Nation Limited seeks information concerning whether the deceased were buried, whether their bodies were removed from the place of death, whether identifiable remains were retained by any institution and whether surviving records may explain their ultimate fate.

These are questions for investigation.

The organisation does not presume that the remains were transported to Europe, concealed by particular authorities or retained in museums.

Nor does it presume that the bodies were disposed of through any particular method.

The investigation should seek evidence capable of distinguishing among the possible historical circumstances.

Where records identify burial or disposal arrangements, the original evidence should be obtained and examined.

Where no records can be located, the limits of the archival search should be documented.

The inability to locate a record must not be represented as proof of any particular explanation.

6.8 Burial Sites and Graves

The investigation should seek to identify any burial sites associated with the deceased members of George's ancestral family and community.

Relevant evidence may include cemetery registers, missionary burial records, traditional burial testimony, maps, archaeological reports and administrative correspondence.

The investigation should determine whether any surviving grave or burial site can reasonably be connected with an identifiable ancestor.

Where a burial location is identified, the evidence supporting that identification should be recorded.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that historical burial practices may differ according to cultural, religious and local circumstances.

The investigation should therefore avoid assuming that all deceased persons would have been recorded in formal European-style burial registers.

Traditional testimony may be important in identifying sites that were never documented in colonial records.

Any proposed physical examination of a burial site would require separate consideration of applicable law, local authority, family and community consent, cultural practices and professional archaeological standards.

No authority to disturb graves or remove human remains is asserted through this representation.

6.9 Possible Collective Burial Sites

The reported deaths of multiple members of an ancestral family or community raise the question of whether any collective burial arrangements existed.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the investigation consider whether historical records refer to collective graves, emergency burials or other burial arrangements associated with relevant military or administrative events.

The existence of such sites is not presumed.

The investigation should first establish whether any relevant historical event occurred and whether records connect that event to a particular locality.

Where evidence suggests a possible collective burial site, specialist advice may be necessary before any further investigation is undertaken.

A historical reference to a grave or burial area does not, by itself, establish the identity of the persons buried there.

The organisation requests a careful distinction between suspected sites, documented sites and scientifically or otherwise reliably identified human remains.

This distinction is necessary to avoid creating false expectations or inaccurate public claims.

6.10 Possible Removal or Transfer of Human Remains

The investigation should examine whether human remains associated with the relevant historical events were removed from their original location.

Possible historical records may include administrative authorisations, transport records, correspondence with researchers, museum accession documentation or records of medical and anthropological collections.

The purpose is to determine whether any removal or transfer occurred.

Reparation Nation Limited does not assert that the remains of George's ancestors were transported to Germany, France, Britain or any other country.

That question remains unresolved.

The organisation requests assistance in identifying appropriate research procedures where historical evidence suggests that remains may have been transferred.

Any investigation into institutional collections should seek to establish provenance, acquisition circumstances, original location and the identity of the persons concerned.

Where the identity of remains cannot be established, the uncertainty should be recorded.

The investigation should not attribute particular remains to George's family without reliable supporting evidence.

6.11 Museums, Universities and Anthropological Collections

European museums, universities and other institutions may hold historical collections relevant to research into colonial-era human remains.

The possibility of relevant material being held by such institutions should be examined where justified by the evidence.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office identify, where possible, appropriate institutional referral routes concerning collections originating from Cameroon during the relevant historical period.

The investigation may require examination of accession registers, collection inventories, acquisition correspondence and provenance research.

However, a collection originating from Cameroon should not automatically be treated as connected to George's ancestors.

The investigation must establish the geographical, chronological and personal connection.

Where relevant records exist, their contents should be assessed alongside family testimony and other historical sources.

If potentially identifiable ancestral remains are discovered, appropriate specialist and institutional procedures would be required before any conclusion or action concerning them.

The present representation seeks information and cooperation, not immediate possession or transfer of unidentified material.

6.12 German Military and Administrative Records Concerning Deaths

German records may be particularly relevant because George's account identifies German colonial intervention as a principal historical cause of the reported deaths.

The investigation should seek records concerning military operations, civilian administration, detention, casualties and the treatment of persons affected by colonial enforcement.

Relevant material may include reports prepared by commanding officers, administrative correspondence, incident reports and records concerning traditional leadership disputes.

The investigation should determine whether any relevant document identifies George's ancestral locality or named family members.

General historical accounts of German colonial violence may provide context but cannot independently establish the circumstances of particular deaths.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the United Kingdom Government consider whether appropriate referrals or cooperation could assist with enquiries to competent German archival institutions.

The organisation does not presume that the British Government possesses authority to compel German disclosure.

It seeks clarification of the assistance that may lawfully be available.

6.13 French Administrative Records Concerning Earlier Deaths

French colonial records may contain references to events that occurred during the preceding German administration.

Such records could potentially include information about displaced traditional families, contested succession, earlier military interventions or individuals who disappeared or died.

The investigation should therefore examine whether French officials recorded accounts of the reported deaths.

It should also determine whether any petitions or complaints were submitted concerning the treatment of the ancestral family.

Where French documentation refers to earlier German actions, the original source upon which the description was based should be identified wherever possible.

A later administrative summary should not automatically be treated as an eyewitness account.

The investigation should distinguish direct evidence, official repetition of earlier reports and statements attributed to local informants.

These distinctions may be essential to reconstructing the historical circumstances accurately.

6.14 British Government Records and Possible Historical Knowledge

The United Kingdom's historical involvement in Cameroon provides a potential route to records concerning German and French colonial administration.

British officials may have generated or received correspondence, maps, reports or other information relevant to the region.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office consider whether relevant material may exist within British governmental archives.

The request includes records concerning military operations, traditional leadership arrangements, reported deaths, population movements and communications with German or French authorities.

The organisation does not presume that Britain possessed knowledge of every relevant event.

Nor does it suggest that the existence of a British record would automatically establish British responsibility for the events described.

The purpose is to identify whether British documentation may contribute to the historical reconstruction.

Where the Department does not hold the records, it is requested to identify appropriate research routes through The National Archives or other relevant institutions.

6.15 Missionary, Religious and Medical Records

Missionary, religious and medical institutions may have generated records relevant to the deaths of persons during colonial administration.

Such records could include burial registers, correspondence, hospital documentation, diaries or reports concerning local events.

The availability and relevance of these sources must be established through research.

Reparation Nation Limited requests consideration of whether institutions operating in the relevant locality during the relevant period maintained surviving records.

The investigation should identify the particular institution, its period of activity and the location of its archives.

Records created by missionaries or medical personnel should be examined according to their original purpose and evidential limitations.

The organisation does not presume that such institutions possessed direct knowledge of George's ancestors.

They represent additional potential research routes which may become relevant once the ancestral locality and historical dates are established.

6.16 Oral Testimony Concerning the Dead

George's family and community accounts may contain information concerning the names, deaths and burial places of ancestors.

The investigation should preserve such testimony carefully.

Where possible, statements should identify the person providing the information, their relationship to the events or ancestral family, and the source through which their knowledge was acquired.

Direct personal knowledge should be distinguished from accounts transmitted across generations.

Where different witnesses provide accounts of the same event, the information should be compared without prematurely assuming either agreement or contradiction establishes the truth.

Names, locations, dates and descriptions of burial practices should be recorded as accurately as possible.

Where testimony identifies a possible burial site, the information should be preserved for appropriate historical examination.

The organisation recognises that ancestral knowledge may have survived through oral traditions where written records are incomplete.

Such material should be treated seriously while remaining subject to appropriate evidential examination.

6.17 Historical Maps and Location Reconstruction

Historical geographical reconstruction may be necessary to identify places associated with the reported deaths.

German, French, British and Cameroonian maps may describe the same locality differently.

Administrative boundaries may also have changed.

The investigation should therefore establish the historical names and geographical coordinates of relevant settlements, traditional centres, military stations and possible burial locations where evidence permits.

A historical map should be examined according to its date, purpose, scale and reliability.

A place appearing on a map should not automatically be connected with the reported deaths merely because it lies within the broader ancestral region.

The objective is to establish reliable geographical connections between persons, events and locations.

Where uncertainty remains, that uncertainty should be clearly recorded.

6.18 Archaeological and Forensic Considerations

If the historical investigation identifies a credible burial site or possible human remains associated with George's ancestral family, specialist archaeological or forensic advice may become appropriate.

Such work must be distinguished from the initial archival enquiry.

The discovery of a possible site does not automatically justify excavation or disturbance.

Any proposed examination would require consideration of applicable national law, local permissions, traditional and family interests, ethical requirements and relevant professional standards.

Where human remains are involved, appropriate procedures may be necessary concerning identification, preservation, consultation and possible repatriation or reburial.

The organisation does not presume that scientific identification will necessarily be possible after the passage of time.

Nor does it assert any present entitlement to undertake excavation or obtain possession of remains.

The current objective is to identify the historical evidence necessary to determine whether specialist investigation is justified.

6.19 Identification and the Limits of Forensic Evidence

Where human remains are discovered, their identification may require analysis of multiple forms of evidence.

These may include archaeological context, historical documentation, burial records, associated objects and, where appropriate and feasible, scientific examination.

No single method should be presumed sufficient in every case.

The historical age, condition and circumstances of remains may limit what can be established.

DNA analysis, where legally and ethically appropriate, may sometimes contribute to identification, but its usefulness would depend upon the quality of the remains, suitable comparative evidence and specialist assessment.

Reparation Nation Limited does not request that any institution undertake forensic testing without proper authority.

It seeks clarification of the procedures that would apply if relevant remains were identified.

The organisation also requests that any potential identification be communicated with appropriate regard for uncertainty and the interests of affected families and communities.

6.20 Cultural and Traditional Responsibilities Concerning the Dead

The investigation should recognise that the treatment of ancestral remains may carry cultural and traditional significance beyond conventional historical research.

George's interest in discovering the fate of his ancestors includes the possibility of understanding whether they received burial or other treatment consistent with the customs of their community.

The relevant customary practices must be established through appropriate consultation.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that all Bamiléké communities follow identical funerary or ancestral traditions.

Nor does it claim authority to determine the wishes of every descendant or traditional institution.

Where decisions concerning identified remains become necessary, the relevant family members, customary authorities, communities and legal institutions may need to be consulted.

The purpose of the present investigation is to obtain information that may allow such decisions to be considered responsibly in the future.

6.21 The Possible Repatriation of Ancestral Remains

If identifiable remains associated with George's ancestors are eventually located outside their original community, the question of repatriation may arise.

That possibility should be preserved within the broader strategy.

However, Reparation Nation Limited does not assert that repatriation is presently required or that any institution holds identifiable remains belonging to George's family.

Those matters remain to be established.

Any future request would require consideration of provenance, identification, applicable law, institutional procedures, family and community authority, and the wishes of relevant stakeholders.

The organisation asks the British Government to identify, where appropriate, institutions capable of explaining procedures applicable to potential claims involving human remains held in the United Kingdom.

Where relevant remains are held abroad, separate procedures may apply.

A request for historical disclosure should therefore be distinguished from any future request for transfer or repatriation.

6.22 Historical Accountability for the Reported Deaths

George wishes to understand not only how his ancestors died but also whether the historical evidence identifies persons or institutions responsible for the relevant events.

The investigation should therefore seek records concerning orders, military operations, administrative decisions and the circumstances surrounding the reported deaths.

Where evidence establishes that an identifiable official made a particular decision, the nature and consequences of that decision should be documented.

However, the identification of an official in a historical record does not automatically prove responsibility for a death.

Responsibility must be established through the available evidence.

Historical responsibility must also be distinguished from any contemporary legal liability.

The passage of time, changes in governmental authority and applicable legal principles may affect the availability of formal remedies.

Reparation Nation Limited does not ask the Foreign Office to determine criminal or civil responsibility before the evidence has been obtained.

It seeks the records necessary for an informed assessment.

6.23 Historical Acknowledgement and Possible Reparatory Measures

The investigation may eventually establish facts supporting requests for historical acknowledgement, correction of records, memorialisation, access to archives, repatriation of identified remains or other appropriate forms of reparatory action.

Such possibilities should not be confused with remedies already established or agreed.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that different outcomes may require different institutions, legal procedures and forms of authority.

A historical acknowledgement does not automatically constitute legal liability.

A commitment to investigate does not establish that relevant records will be found.

A willingness to discuss repatriation does not establish the identity or ownership of particular remains.

The organisation seeks to preserve these distinctions throughout the investigation.

Where evidence supports further action, George should have the opportunity to consider the relevant options.

His instructions concerning the initial historical investigation should not be treated as unlimited authorisation for future litigation, settlements or decisions affecting human remains.

6.24 The Right to Seek Information and the Limits of Governmental Disclosure

George seeks historical information concerning deceased members of his ancestral family.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office identify the procedures available for obtaining that information.

The organisation recognises that not every document may be publicly available or held by a government department.

Some records may have been destroyed, lost, transferred or never created.

Others may be subject to restrictions or require consultation with the institution holding them.

The request for information should therefore distinguish records that are publicly accessible, records requiring a formal access application and records that cannot presently be located.

The organisation does not assert an unrestricted legal entitlement to every requested document.

It asks the Government to clarify the applicable procedures and, where appropriate, identify alternative routes for obtaining historical information.

A refusal to disclose a particular record should, where feasible and consistent with applicable law, be accompanied by an explanation of the relevant procedure or restriction.

6.25 Safeguards Against Anti-Black Racism and Institutional Racism

This investigation concerns the reported deaths of African ancestors during European colonial administration.

Reparation Nation Limited considers it important that the associated humanitarian, cultural and historical questions receive fair and careful consideration.

The organisation therefore requests information concerning safeguards against anti-Black racism and institutional racism within relevant governmental and archival processes.

Particular attention is requested concerning the treatment of African ancestral testimony, customary funerary practices, historical identification and institutional decisions involving human remains.

Reparation Nation Limited makes no predetermined accusation, allegation or finding of racial discrimination against any present-day official or institution.

Its purpose is to understand the safeguards in place and the procedures through which concerns may be addressed if they arise.

The organisation asks that the historical distance of the events and the African identity of the persons concerned not result in arbitrary dismissal of legitimate research enquiries.

Any assessment should remain grounded in relevant evidence, law and administrative responsibility.

6.26 Preservation of Documentary and Physical Evidence

The integrity of the investigation depends upon careful preservation of evidence.

Photographs, genealogical notes, historical documents, witness accounts and other materials should be recorded in a manner that permits later independent examination.

Where original materials are available, their provenance and condition should be documented.

Copies, transcriptions and translations should be distinguished from originals.

Where photographs depict monuments, inscriptions or potential burial locations, the date and location of the photograph should be established where possible.

Where documentary evidence is obtained from an archive, the institution, catalogue reference and conditions of access should be recorded.

Any future physical evidence would require appropriate specialist procedures.

Reparation Nation Limited intends to maintain a structured documentary record and may examine whether appropriate elements of IBIS can assist with evidence management and institutional accountability.

The use of such infrastructure does not replace professional archaeological, forensic or archival procedures.

6.27 International Cooperation Concerning the Dead

The investigation may require cooperation between institutions in Cameroon, Germany, France and the United Kingdom.

Different jurisdictions may possess records relating to different stages of the historical events.

German records may concern the original intervention.

French records may concern subsequent administration or historical references to earlier events.

British records may provide additional correspondence, reports or archival leads.

Cameroonian institutions and traditional sources may preserve information unavailable in European collections.

Reparation Nation Limited seeks to establish a coordinated approach through which information obtained from one institution can inform enquiries to another.

The organisation recognises that each jurisdiction has its own laws and procedures.

It does not presume that the United Kingdom Government can direct the decisions of foreign governments or independent institutions.

It requests consideration of whether appropriate referrals, introductions, diplomatic enquiries or other forms of cooperation may be available.

6.28 Formal Questions Requiring Governmental Consideration

Reparation Nation Limited requests written consideration of the following questions.

Question 6.28.1: What British governmental or archival records may assist in identifying persons reportedly killed during German or subsequent French colonial administration in the relevant part of Cameroon?

Question 6.28.2: Can the Foreign Office identify appropriate institutions in Germany, France and Cameroon capable of assisting with enquiries concerning the reported deaths?

Question 6.28.3: What procedures are available for obtaining historical military, administrative, medical, detention or death records concerning identifiable ancestors?

Question 6.28.4: Are there British archival collections containing information about colonial military operations or reported killings in the relevant locality?

Question 6.28.5: What assistance may be available in identifying burial registers, grave records or other documentation concerning the disposal or burial of bodies?

Question 6.28.6: Can the Department identify appropriate research routes concerning possible collective burial sites associated with the reported historical events?

Question 6.28.7: What institutions should be approached if evidence suggests that human remains were removed from Cameroon during colonial administration?

Question 6.28.8: What procedures exist for researching the provenance of human remains in British museums, universities or other institutional collections?

Question 6.28.9: Can the Department identify appropriate German or French institutions holding potentially relevant museum, medical, anthropological or archival records?

Question 6.28.10: What assistance may be available in identifying missionary or religious archives containing relevant death or burial information?

Question 6.28.11: What procedures apply if a historical investigation identifies a possible burial site requiring specialist examination?

Question 6.28.12: If potentially relevant human remains are identified, which institutions can advise upon lawful and ethical identification procedures?

Question 6.28.13: What procedures would apply to a future request concerning the repatriation of identifiable ancestral remains held by an institution in the United Kingdom?

Question 6.28.14: Can the Department identify appropriate channels for seeking cooperation from Cameroonian governmental and traditional institutions concerning burial sites and ancestral history?

Question 6.28.15: What assistance may be available in reconstructing historical place names and geographical locations associated with the reported deaths?

Question 6.28.16: Where records cannot be located, can the responsible institution explain the scope of its search and identify any further research avenues?

Question 6.28.17: What safeguards apply to ensure fair consideration of African ancestral testimony and culturally significant questions concerning human remains?

Question 6.28.18: Will the Department distinguish requests concerning the fate of deceased ancestors from separate questions of hereditary succession, governmental recognition and reparatory liability?

Question 6.28.19: Where the Foreign Office is not the competent institution, will it identify an appropriate department, archival body or other organisation to which the relevant enquiry may be directed?

Question 6.28.20: Will the Department provide a written explanation of what practical assistance it is prepared to consider concerning this humanitarian and historical investigation?

These questions seek information, procedural clarification and appropriate cooperation.

They do not presume that the Foreign Office possesses every relevant record or has authority to resolve all matters raised.

6.29 A Proposed Register of Missing and Deceased Ancestors

Reparation Nation Limited proposes that the investigation establish a structured register of persons whose deaths or disappearances are relevant to George's family account.

The register should distinguish identifiable individuals from persons whose names remain unknown.

Where possible, it should record names, family relationships, approximate dates, traditional positions, relevant locations and the sources supporting each entry.

The register should also distinguish reported deaths from independently documented deaths.

Where a possible burial location is identified, that information should be recorded separately from any claim that human remains have been positively identified.

Where an archival institution provides information, the relevant reference and date of disclosure should be preserved.

The register would serve as a research instrument rather than a declaration that every reported event has been verified.

Access to personal or sensitive information should be controlled appropriately.

The purpose is to prevent the loss or confusion of evidence as the international investigation develops.

6.30 A Separate Human Remains Investigation

Reparation Nation Limited considers that the question of ancestral remains warrants a separate investigative workstream within the wider project.

That workstream should concentrate upon identifying the deceased, reconstructing possible places of death, locating burial information and determining whether any relevant remains may survive.

It should remain distinct from the political and constitutional investigation concerning George's claimed hereditary succession.

This separation is important because the humanitarian enquiry may be capable of progressing even where questions of traditional authority remain unresolved.

It may also require different institutions, professional expertise and procedures.

The organisation therefore requests that the British Government consider the human remains enquiry on its own merits.

Where assistance is unavailable through the Foreign Office, appropriate referrals should be identified where possible.

6.31 Request for an Accountable Government Response

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office provide a written response identifying which aspects of the enquiry fall within its responsibilities.

Where the Department is able to assist, the form of assistance should be explained.

Where another institution is responsible, the relevant referral route should be identified where practicable.

Where additional identifying information is required, the Department is requested to specify the information needed.

The organisation recognises that a comprehensive historical investigation may require substantial time and multiple institutional enquiries.

Accordingly, it does not presume that every substantive historical question can be answered immediately.

Nevertheless, it asks that the initial governmental response establish a clear procedural route rather than leave the enquiry without identifiable next steps.

Any acknowledgement, referral, request for further evidence or substantive decision will be recorded by Reparation Nation Limited as part of the international pilot project.

6.32 Conclusion and Formal Request

George T. Nomen seeks to establish what happened to members of his ancestral family and community who were reportedly killed during colonial intervention affecting their traditional authority in Cameroon.

He wishes to know who died, when and where the deaths occurred, what circumstances surrounded those deaths and what became of their bodies.

The possibility that surviving records may identify burial sites, human remains or relevant institutional collections is a legitimate subject for historical investigation.

However, Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that particular remains survive, were removed to Europe or are presently held by any identified institution.

These questions require evidence.

George has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to assist him in pursuing that evidence.

The organisation therefore requests that the United Kingdom Government consider what archival, institutional, humanitarian and diplomatic assistance may lawfully and practically be provided.

The investigation should proceed independently of any requirement for the immediate recognition of George's hereditary royal status or the proposed establishment of a government-in-exile.

The central purpose is the recovery of historical information concerning deceased members of his family and community.

Any subsequent consideration of historical accountability, memorialisation, repatriation or reparatory remedies must be based upon the evidence obtained and the applicable legal, cultural and institutional procedures.

The central question is simple but profound: what happened to George T. Nomen's ancestors, where are their remains, and what information do governmental and other institutions possess that may help their descendants establish the truth?

Reparation Nation Limited formally requests the British Government's assistance in identifying the appropriate procedures and institutions through which those questions can be investigated.

END OF SECTION SIX

NEXT: SECTION SEVEN — EXAMINATION OF GENEALOGICAL EVIDENCE, PHOTOGRAPHS, MONUMENTS, ORAL HISTORIES AND EXISTING DOCUMENTS

SECTION SEVEN — EXAMINATION OF GENEALOGICAL EVIDENCE, PHOTOGRAPHS, MONUMENTS, ORAL HISTORIES AND EXISTING DOCUMENTS

7.1 Introduction and Purpose

This section concerns the identification, preservation, examination and verification of the preliminary evidence supplied by George T. Nomen in support of his historical investigation into the reported displacement of his ancestral hereditary royal authority in Cameroon.

Reparation Nation Limited submits this section pursuant to the authorisation given by George T. Nomen.

George has supplied preliminary photographic, genealogical and documentary materials concerning his ancestral family, the traditional Bamiléké authority from which he claims hereditary succession, and the reported events associated with German and subsequent French colonial administration.

The materials include photographs of a monument or structure bearing the designation RSA 91 and the name Ngantcha, handwritten genealogical information, and a preliminary Royal Succession Dossier.

They also include strategic documents prepared by Reparation Nation Limited concerning international historical disclosure, hereditary succession, the proposed London-based government-in-exile and potential British Government assistance.

These materials provide a starting point for investigation.

They do not, merely by existing, establish the authenticity of every historical assertion, the accuracy of every genealogical relationship or the legitimacy of the claimed hereditary succession.

The objective is to organise the evidence so that its origin, meaning, reliability and relevance can be independently examined.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the United Kingdom Government consider what assistance may be available in identifying original historical records and appropriate institutions capable of supporting that examination.

7.2 The Importance of an Evidence-Based Investigation

The purpose of this representation is to obtain historical evidence rather than substitute assertion for proof.

George maintains that his ancestral hereditary authority was displaced during colonial intervention and that members of his ancestral family and community were killed.

He also seeks to establish what became of the bodies of those reportedly killed.

These are serious matters.

An investigation capable of producing credible historical findings must distinguish personal testimony, inherited ancestral knowledge, photographs, contemporary documents, later historical accounts and independently authenticated archival records.

Different forms of evidence may establish different matters.

A photograph may demonstrate the appearance of a monument at a particular time.

A handwritten genealogy may record the relationships understood by the person who prepared it.

An administrative record may establish that a colonial official made or recorded a particular decision.

An oral account may preserve knowledge transmitted through a family or community.

None of these sources should automatically be treated as conclusive evidence of every proposition associated with it.

Equally, potentially relevant evidence should not be dismissed merely because it does not originate from a European governmental archive.

The investigation should establish what each source actually supports.

7.3 Categories of Preliminary Evidence

For the purposes of this investigation, Reparation Nation Limited proposes to distinguish the preliminary materials according to their evidential character.

The first category concerns physical and photographic evidence associated with ancestral monuments, inscriptions, objects and possible traditional sites.

The second concerns handwritten genealogical material and other records of ancestral relationships.

The third concerns oral testimony and family or community accounts transmitted across generations.

The fourth concerns official historical documents created by German, French, British, Cameroonian or other governmental authorities.

The fifth concerns missionary, religious, educational, medical, museum, university and private institutional records.

The sixth concerns subsequent historical research, analysis, correspondence and interpretative documents.

The seventh concerns strategic and procedural documents prepared for the present international investigation.

These categories should remain distinguishable.

In particular, a strategic proposal explaining how historical evidence might be obtained is not itself proof that the events under investigation occurred.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that these distinctions be preserved throughout governmental correspondence and subsequent research.

7.4 The Photographic Materials Supplied by George T. Nomen

George has supplied photographs which appear potentially relevant to his ancestral history.

The images include views of a monument or structure bearing inscriptions and identifying marks.

The designation RSA 91 and the name Ngantcha are particularly relevant research leads.

The photographs should be examined as records of what is visibly depicted.

Their wider historical significance remains to be established.

The investigation should determine who took the photographs, when they were taken, where the depicted structure is located and what relationship it has to George's ancestral family.

Where original digital image files are available, their associated metadata may assist in establishing provenance.

However, metadata must itself be assessed carefully and should not be treated as infallible.

Where photographs have been forwarded, copied or altered in format, some original information may no longer be available.

The absence of such information should be documented rather than replaced with assumptions.

Reparation Nation Limited proposes that the original photographic files be preserved wherever possible.

7.5 The Monument Bearing the Designation RSA 91

The designation RSA 91 appears within the preliminary photographic material.

Its meaning has not been independently established.

Reparation Nation Limited does not attribute a particular governmental, territorial, royal, military or commemorative meaning to the designation without supporting evidence.

The investigation should seek to establish whether RSA 91 corresponds to a historical reference, local administrative designation, monument identification, traditional institutional record or another form of marking.

The location and history of the monument should be investigated.

Relevant evidence may include local records, monument registers, administrative maps, photographs from earlier periods and testimony from persons familiar with the site.

Where the designation appears in an official document, the original reference and context should be recorded.

Where no documentary explanation can be located, that uncertainty should remain explicit.

The monument may provide an important research lead, but its evidential significance must be established before historical conclusions are drawn.

7.6 The Name Ngantcha

The name Ngantcha appears within George's preliminary ancestral material.

It is therefore a principal identifying reference for the investigation.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that relevant institutions assist in determining whether the name appears in surviving colonial, traditional, genealogical or other historical records.

The investigation should establish the identity of the individual or individuals associated with that name.

It should also determine whether the name is connected to a traditional office, particular locality, ancestral family or historical event.

Possible differences in spelling should be considered.

German and French administrative records may have recorded indigenous names according to different linguistic conventions.

Nevertheless, spelling similarity must not automatically be treated as proof that two references concern the same person.

The investigation should seek corroborating information concerning dates, geographical locations, family relationships and traditional titles.

The objective is to determine whether the name provides a reliable connection between the preliminary family materials and original historical records.

7.7 The Handwritten Genealogical Material

The preliminary materials include handwritten information concerning the ancestral family line.

Such evidence may be important because it preserves names and relationships that may not be readily identifiable within European colonial documentation.

However, the significance of the handwritten material depends upon its provenance and contents.

The investigation should seek to establish the identity of its author, the approximate date of preparation, the information sources used and the circumstances in which it was preserved.

Where the document was created from inherited family knowledge, that origin should be recorded accurately.

Where it contains information derived from earlier written records, those sources should be identified where possible.

The investigation should not assume that every recorded relationship has been independently verified.

The handwritten material should instead be used as a starting point for genealogical reconstruction.

Each relationship should be examined against other available sources.

7.8 Reconstruction of the Ancestral Family Tree

George's hereditary claim requires examination of the family relationships connecting him to the original traditional authority.

Reparation Nation Limited proposes that the genealogy be reconstructed generation by generation.

The investigation should seek to identify the relevant ancestors, their relationships, dates where available, traditional positions and historical localities.

Where a relationship is supported by a particular source, that source should be recorded.

Where information is derived from oral tradition, the person providing the account and the route through which the information was transmitted should be identified where appropriate.

Where the evidence is incomplete, the family tree should indicate the uncertainty.

Missing generations should not be supplied through speculation.

Similarly, apparent contradictions should not be silently removed.

The purpose is to establish a genealogy capable of independent examination.

A complete-looking family tree is not necessarily a reliable family tree.

Its evidential strength depends upon the quality of the information supporting each connection.

7.9 Genealogical Descent and Hereditary Entitlement

The reconstruction of George's ancestral genealogy must be distinguished from the separate determination of customary hereditary entitlement.

Establishing descent from a particular ancestor does not automatically establish entitlement to a traditional office.

The investigation must also determine the succession rules applicable to the original institution.

These may concern particular family branches, recognised lines of descent, customary selection arrangements or other traditional procedures.

The actual rules must be established through appropriate historical and customary evidence.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume a particular succession system.

Nor does it suggest that European administrative recognition necessarily established legitimate customary succession.

The objective is to examine genealogy and traditional institutional rules together.

Only then can the historical significance of George's claimed hereditary position be properly assessed.

7.10 The Preliminary Royal Succession Dossier

George has supplied a document entitled *The Royal Succession Dossier — Part I: Historical, Forensic and Genealogical Foundations*, together with associated sections concerning archival enquiries and supporting material.

The dossier records the historical and genealogical position advanced in support of his claim.

It refers to ancestral lineage, traditional custodial authority, colonial administrative interference, photographic evidence and potential documentary discrepancies.

The dossier also contains statements presenting particular historical and forensic conclusions as established.

Reparation Nation Limited considers it essential that these statements be distinguished from independently verified findings.

For example, assertions concerning altered records, unauthorised changes to documents, continuous hereditary succession or the unlawful displacement of traditional officeholders require identifiable supporting evidence.

The investigation should establish whether the underlying original documents and analytical reports are available.

Where an assertion is supported by original evidence, that evidence should be identified.

Where supporting material has not yet been produced or authenticated, the assertion should remain provisional.

This approach protects the credibility of George's case and avoids presenting preliminary interpretations as completed historical determinations.

7.11 Claims of Documentary Alteration or Historical Usurpation

The preliminary dossier raises questions concerning whether historical records were altered or whether traditional authority was transferred contrary to the applicable hereditary arrangements.

These are serious propositions requiring careful examination.

An apparent inconsistency between documents does not necessarily establish deliberate alteration.

Different records may have been prepared for different administrative purposes, at different times or by persons possessing different information.

Similarly, variation in handwriting, ink, formatting or terminology does not automatically establish unauthorised interference.

Where document alteration is suspected, the original materials and their provenance must be identified.

Specialist document examination may be appropriate if the available evidence justifies it.

Any forensic conclusion should identify the methods used, the materials examined, the qualifications of the examiner and the limitations of the findings.

Reparation Nation Limited does not advance a final allegation that particular historical records were deliberately falsified.

It requests the evidence necessary to investigate that possibility.

The distinction between suspected irregularity and established alteration must be preserved.

7.12 Oral Histories and Family Testimony

George's ancestral account includes information transmitted through family and community knowledge.

Such material may be particularly important where colonial administrative records are incomplete.

The investigation should therefore provide an appropriate means of preserving oral testimony.

The identity and relationship of each witness should be recorded where consent and circumstances permit.

The investigation should distinguish personal recollection from information inherited through previous generations.

Where witnesses identify specific persons, places, deaths, burial locations or traditional institutions, those details should be preserved accurately.

Independent accounts should be compared carefully.

Agreement between accounts may be relevant, but it does not automatically establish their historical accuracy.

Differences between accounts should also be documented.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that African oral historical evidence be considered according to its actual evidential characteristics rather than dismissed simply because it was not created within a colonial administrative system.

7.13 Traditional Authorities and Local Historical Custodians

The investigation may benefit from consultation with persons or institutions possessing knowledge of the ancestral locality and its traditional history.

These may include family elders, traditional officeholders, local historians and custodians of relevant cultural or genealogical material.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that any particular person or institution endorses George's hereditary claim.

Consultation should be conducted without attributing agreement or representative authority where none has been established.

The purpose is to obtain information concerning the historical institution, succession arrangements, ancestral names and reported colonial events.

Where competing accounts exist, they should be recorded fairly.

No witness should be required to accept George's interpretation as a condition of contributing information.

The investigation should preserve the distinction between providing evidence and endorsing a hereditary or political claim.

This distinction is particularly important where contemporary traditional institutions may have interests affected by the historical questions under examination.

7.14 German Colonial Documentary Evidence

German colonial records represent an important potential source of evidence concerning the reported original intervention.

The investigation should seek documents identifying the ancestral locality, traditional officeholders, military operations, administrative appointments and correspondence concerning changes in leadership.

Relevant holdings may include material associated with German Kamerun administration and the former Reichskolonialamt.

The precise archival references remain to be established.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that appropriate German archival institutions be approached through the procedures available to researchers.

The organisation also asks whether the British Government can provide suitable institutional referrals or other lawful assistance.

German administrative records should be examined critically.

They may contain valuable contemporary information while also reflecting the purposes, terminology and perspectives of their authors.

The investigation must establish what those records actually demonstrate.

7.15 French Colonial Documentary Evidence

French colonial records may assist in reconstructing the subsequent administrative history of the ancestral institution.

The reported administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933 is a particular research priority.

Its precise identity and significance remain to be verified.

The investigation should seek the original instrument and any related records concerning traditional leadership, administrative recognition, succession disputes or territorial arrangements.

Where French records refer to earlier German decisions, those references should be investigated.

The original French terminology should be preserved.

Any translation should distinguish the source text from interpretative commentary.

The objective is to determine whether French administrative decisions continued, modified or reversed earlier arrangements affecting the hereditary line.

7.16 British Documentary Evidence

The United Kingdom may hold historical material relevant to the administration of Cameroon and the transition from German colonial rule.

Reparation Nation Limited requests assistance in identifying British governmental records, including relevant Colonial Office, Foreign Office and associated archival collections.

Potentially relevant documents may concern territorial administration, traditional leadership, military operations, communications with French authorities or historical reports concerning German activities.

The organisation does not presume that British records contain decisive evidence.

Their relevance must be established through appropriate catalogue searches and examination.

Where material is held by The National Archives rather than the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, the appropriate research procedure should be identified.

British records may provide independent or additional descriptions of events documented elsewhere.

They should be examined alongside German, French, Cameroonian and traditional sources.

7.17 Cameroonian Documentary and Traditional Evidence

The investigation must include records and historical knowledge preserved within Cameroon.

European archives should not be treated as the exclusive repositories of information concerning African traditional institutions.

Relevant material may include local administrative records, traditional registers, family documents, historical maps, customary evidence and community testimony.

The competent Cameroonian institutions must be identified according to the ancestral locality and nature of the records sought.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that all relevant materials are publicly accessible or centrally held.

The investigation should determine what research routes are available.

Where Cameroonian and European records provide different accounts, the differences should be examined.

The purpose is to construct a historical account informed by the full range of available evidence.

7.18 Museum Objects and Traditional Cultural Evidence

The preliminary dossier refers to traditional objects associated with hereditary and ritual authority, including a royal stool.

Such objects may be relevant to the history of a particular traditional institution.

However, possession or depiction of a traditional object does not automatically establish hereditary entitlement.

The investigation should seek to establish the object's origin, age, custodial history, traditional significance and relationship to the ancestral family.

Where photographs rather than the original object are available, the evidential limitations should be recorded.

If an object is held by a museum or another institution, the relevant acquisition and provenance records may assist.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that objects mentioned in the dossier have been independently authenticated.

Their significance remains subject to examination.

7.19 The Relationship Between Physical Evidence and Historical Claims

Physical objects, monuments and inscriptions may provide important evidence concerning ancestral identity and institutional continuity.

However, the investigation must establish precisely what each item demonstrates.

A monument may establish that a particular name was commemorated at a particular place.

A traditional object may demonstrate association with a family, office or ceremonial practice.

A photograph may record an object's appearance at the time the image was taken.

Additional evidence may be necessary to establish the original meaning, date or historical significance.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore proposes that physical evidence be examined alongside documentary and oral sources.

No object should be represented as conclusive proof of royal succession, colonial violence or historical displacement unless the evidence supports that conclusion.

7.20 Authentication and Provenance

The investigation should preserve the provenance of every material item relied upon.

For documentary evidence, this includes the author or issuing institution, date, original location and archival reference where available.

For photographs, it includes the source, photographer where known, approximate date and location.

For physical objects, it includes the known custodial and acquisition history.

For oral testimony, it includes the source of the information and the circumstances in which it was recorded.

Where provenance cannot be established, that limitation should be made explicit.

An unidentified source should not automatically be treated as unreliable, but uncertainty concerning its origin affects the conclusions that can properly be drawn from it.

The purpose is to enable independent reviewers to understand how the evidence was obtained and what it supports.

7.21 Preservation of Original Documents

Original documents should be preserved wherever possible.

Reparation Nation Limited does not propose unnecessary physical handling, alteration or removal of historical materials.

Where originals are privately held, suitable preservation advice may be required.

Where copies are made, they should be identified as copies.

Digital reproductions should be retained in their original form where practicable.

Any later enhancements, transcriptions or translations should be preserved separately.

The investigation should avoid presenting altered or enhanced material as an unmodified original.

Where a document is damaged or partly illegible, the uncertainty should be recorded.

Appropriate preservation procedures will protect both the evidence and the credibility of the historical investigation.

7.22 Translation and Linguistic Accuracy

The investigation may involve records in English, German, French and relevant Cameroonian languages.

Accurate translation will therefore be important.

Names, traditional titles and geographical designations should be preserved in their original forms wherever possible.

A translated term should not automatically be treated as equivalent to a familiar European political or constitutional title.

Particular care is required when translating descriptions of hereditary authority, administrative recognition, traditional office and succession.

The original document should remain available alongside the translation.

Where terminology is uncertain, alternative interpretations should be identified.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that important translations be reviewed by appropriately qualified persons where necessary.

7.23 Contradictory Evidence and Historical Disagreement

A credible investigation must remain open to evidence that contradicts George's preliminary account.

This is essential to the integrity of the project.

Where one record identifies a particular person as traditional ruler and another identifies someone else, the difference should be investigated.

Where dates or locations conflict, the sources should be compared.

Where oral testimony differs from colonial documentation, neither source should be accepted or rejected solely because of its origin.

The investigation should identify the reasons for any differences where the evidence permits.

Some contradictions may be resolved through additional research.

Others may remain unresolved.

Reparation Nation Limited does not intend to conceal contradictory evidence or manufacture certainty where the historical record is incomplete.

The objective is a defensible reconstruction capable of independent scrutiny.

7.24 Standards of Historical Verification

Reparation Nation Limited proposes that the investigation distinguish claims according to their evidential status.

A matter reported by George but not independently verified should be identified as his account or a preliminary research proposition.

A matter supported by an identified historical source should be described according to what that source actually establishes.

A matter supported by multiple independent and mutually consistent sources may warrant greater confidence, subject to assessment of their reliability and independence.

A matter contradicted by substantial evidence should be recorded accordingly.

Where the available evidence does not permit a conclusion, the question should remain open.

These distinctions should be applied consistently.

The purpose is not to impose unreasonable certainty upon historical events for which records may be incomplete.

It is to prevent unverified assertions from being presented as established findings.

7.25 Independent Historical and Specialist Examination

Some materials may require examination by specialists.

Historical administrative documents may require colonial-era archival expertise.

Genealogical records may require knowledge of relevant naming practices and customary succession.

Handwritten documents may require palaeographic or forensic examination.

Monuments or traditional objects may require archaeological, art-historical or local customary expertise.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that every specialist examination is necessary at the initial stage.

The need for such work should arise from identifiable evidential questions.

Where an expert opinion is obtained, the qualifications of the examiner, materials considered, methodology and limitations should be recorded.

The purpose is to strengthen the reliability of the investigation.

Expert commentary should not be represented as an official governmental or judicial determination unless it has that status.

7.26 Preparation of an Evidence Register

Reparation Nation Limited proposes that the preliminary materials be entered into a formal evidence register.

Each entry should identify the item, its source, date where known, description, relevant historical questions and present verification status.

The register should also identify whether the item is an original, copy, photograph, transcription, translation or interpretative document.

Where a document has been authenticated, the basis for authentication should be recorded.

Where verification remains outstanding, the necessary next steps should be identified.

The register should distinguish evidence already possessed by George or Reparation Nation Limited from evidence requested from external institutions.

It should also identify documents that are reported to exist but have not yet been located.

This procedure will assist in preventing confusion as the number of records increases.

7.27 Evidence Concerning the Reported Deaths and Human Remains

Evidence relating to the reported deaths of George's ancestors should be identified as a distinct category within the register.

Such evidence may include names of deceased persons, reported circumstances of death, possible burial locations and references to missing or transferred remains.

Each proposition should be linked to its source.

A family account of a killing should not be recorded as an independently verified death unless supporting evidence has been established.

Similarly, a suspected burial location should not be represented as a confirmed grave.

Where potentially relevant museum or archaeological records are identified, their connection to George's family should remain provisional until examined.

The purpose is to allow the humanitarian investigation to progress without introducing unsupported conclusions.

7.28 Confidentiality and Protection of Living Persons

The investigation may involve genealogical information concerning living family members or other identifiable individuals.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises the need to protect personal information appropriately.

Not every document obtained during the investigation should automatically be published.

The organisation intends to distinguish material suitable for public disclosure from information requiring restricted handling.

Where personal identity documents, contact details or sensitive family information are requested by an institution, appropriate procedures should be followed.

The existence of George's authorisation to Reparation Nation Limited does not automatically establish consent from every living person whose information may appear within the investigation.

Where further consent or another lawful basis is required, that issue should be addressed separately.

7.29 The Role of IBIS in Evidence Management

Reparation Nation Limited proposes to examine whether IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice — can assist with the organisation and preservation of evidence.

Potential functions include document registration, identification of sources, recording of institutional correspondence, verification status and tracking of outstanding enquiries.

The system may also assist in distinguishing personal identity, representative authority and historical recognition.

These matters should not be conflated.

The existence of a person's identity record does not establish hereditary entitlement.

The existence of a representation record does not establish governmental recognition.

The existence of a historical claim does not establish that the claim has been verified.

IBIS is proposed as supporting infrastructure rather than an authority capable of determining these questions independently.

Any use of the system must respect confidentiality, appropriate access controls and the limitations of the evidence.

7.30 Request for British Government Assistance With Evidence Identification

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office consider what practical assistance may be available in identifying relevant historical evidence.

The organisation does not ask the Department to authenticate every item within George's preliminary dossier.

It requests clarification of the institutions best placed to examine particular categories of material.

Where governmental records are held by The National Archives, the appropriate research route should be identified.

Where evidence may be held by foreign archives, the Department is asked to consider whether suitable referrals or other lawful assistance may be available.

Where specialist historical examination is required, the Department may be able to identify appropriate institutional resources, although no obligation to commission research is presumed.

The central request is for a clear route from preliminary material to independently reviewable historical evidence.

7.31 Formal Questions Requiring Governmental Consideration

Reparation Nation Limited requests written consideration of the following questions.

Question 7.31.1: What British archival records may assist in verifying the identity and history of the ancestral traditional authority associated with George T. Nomen?

Question 7.31.2: Can the Foreign Office identify appropriate institutions capable of assisting with the historical identification of the name Ngantcha?

Question 7.31.3: What research procedures may assist in determining the origin and significance of the monument bearing the designation RSA 91?

Question 7.31.4: What British records may assist in reconstructing traditional leadership and hereditary succession during German and French colonial administration?

Question 7.31.5: Can the Department identify appropriate German, French or Cameroonian institutions holding relevant genealogical or traditional authority records?

Question 7.31.6: What procedures are available for locating original colonial documents referred to within George's preliminary Royal Succession Dossier?

Question 7.31.7: What assistance may be available in identifying the reported French administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933?

Question 7.31.8: What procedures apply when historical documents require certified reproduction or authentication?

Question 7.31.9: Can the Department identify appropriate institutions capable of examining historical maps and administrative boundaries relating to the ancestral locality?

Question 7.31.10: What research routes may be available for historical documents written in German, French or relevant African languages?

Question 7.31.11: Are there British archival or institutional resources capable of assisting with research into traditional objects or monuments connected with colonial-era Cameroon?

Question 7.31.12: What assistance may be available in identifying missionary, religious, university or museum records relevant to the ancestral family?

Question 7.31.13: What procedures apply where historical evidence obtained from different jurisdictions is contradictory or incomplete?

Question 7.31.14: Does the Department possess or publish guidance relevant to the evaluation of customary or oral historical evidence within matters requiring governmental consideration?

Question 7.31.15: What safeguards apply to the handling of personal genealogical information submitted during an international historical enquiry?

Question 7.31.16: Where the Department is unable to examine particular evidence, can it identify an appropriate institution or research procedure?

Question 7.31.17: What practical assistance is the British Government prepared to consider in supporting an independently reviewable investigation into George's ancestral history?

These questions concern the identification of evidence and appropriate procedures.

They do not presume that the Foreign Office has responsibility for conducting or funding the entire historical investigation.

7.32 Safeguards Against Anti-Black Racism and Institutional Racism

Reparation Nation Limited considers it appropriate to seek information concerning the safeguards that apply when British governmental institutions assess African historical and customary evidence.

The investigation concerns an ancestral Bamiléké traditional authority and the consequences of European colonial administration.

It therefore involves historical material whose production and preservation may have been shaped by unequal colonial relationships.

The organisation requests that African testimony, genealogical records and traditional material receive fair consideration according to their evidential character.

This does not require the Government to accept unverified claims.

It requires that relevant material not be dismissed arbitrarily because of its African origin or because it does not correspond to European administrative record-keeping conventions.

Reparation Nation Limited requests information concerning applicable equality policies, staff guidance, review procedures and accountability arrangements.

No predetermined accusation, allegation or finding of anti-Black racism or institutional racism is made against any contemporary official or institution.

The request concerns demonstrable safeguards and procedural fairness.

7.33 Avoiding Documentary Drift and Misrepresentation

The investigation will involve numerous documents prepared at different stages and for different purposes.

Reparation Nation Limited considers it essential to prevent changes in terminology or interpretation from obscuring the original historical questions.

George's account should remain identifiable as his account until independently verified.

The organisation's strategic proposals should remain distinguishable from personal statements expressly adopted by George.

Historical records should not be paraphrased in a manner that alters their meaning.

Translations should preserve the original terminology.

Unverified claims should not become established findings merely through repetition across multiple documents.

Similarly, an acknowledgement from a government department should not be described as official endorsement of the underlying historical claim.

A referral should not be represented as a commitment to provide evidence.

A willingness to consider a request should not be represented as diplomatic recognition.

These distinctions will be maintained throughout the correspondence.

7.34 Conclusion and Formal Request

George T. Nomen has supplied preliminary materials that provide a basis for investigating his ancestral family history and the reported displacement of its hereditary traditional authority.

The materials include photographic evidence, the monument bearing RSA 91, references to Ngantcha, handwritten genealogical information and the preliminary Royal Succession Dossier.

They also include strategic and procedural documents prepared to support international historical disclosure.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises the importance of distinguishing these different materials according to what they actually establish.

It does not ask the United Kingdom Government to treat the preliminary dossier, photographs or genealogical material as conclusive proof of hereditary entitlement or particular colonial actions.

It asks for assistance in identifying original historical records and institutions capable of supporting an independent investigation.

George has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to pursue that objective on his behalf.

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office is therefore requested to identify appropriate archival, governmental and institutional procedures through which the preliminary evidence may be examined and supplemented.

The investigation should preserve original materials, document their provenance, identify uncertainty, examine contradictory evidence and distinguish independently established facts from matters requiring further research.

Particular attention should be given to evidence concerning the reported deaths of ancestral family members and the uncertain fate of their remains.

The governing principle is that every significant historical claim should be connected, wherever possible, to identifiable evidence capable of independent examination.

Reparation Nation Limited requests the British Government's assistance in establishing the appropriate procedures for obtaining that evidence.

END OF SECTION SEVEN

NEXT: SECTION EIGHT — BRITAIN'S HISTORICAL INVOLVEMENT IN CAMEROON AND RELEVANT RESPONSIBILITIES CONCERNING SURVIVING RECORDS

SECTION EIGHT — BRITAIN'S HISTORICAL INVOLVEMENT IN CAMEROON AND RELEVANT RESPONSIBILITIES CONCERNING SURVIVING RECORDS

8.1 Introduction and Purpose

This section examines the historical involvement of the United Kingdom in Cameroon, the possible relevance of British governmental and colonial records to George T. Nomen's ancestral investigation, and the assistance requested from the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office concerning the identification, preservation, accessibility and disclosure of surviving historical evidence.

Reparation Nation Limited submits this section pursuant to the authorisation given by George T. Nomen.

George seeks to establish what happened to members of his ancestral family and community during German colonial intervention and subsequent French administration, including the reported destruction or displacement of hereditary traditional authority, the deaths of ancestors and the uncertain fate of their remains.

Although the reported original intervention is associated principally with German colonial administration, Britain's historical involvement in Cameroon may have generated or preserved information relevant to the wider investigation.

British officials may have received reports, exchanged correspondence, prepared maps, documented administrative transitions or recorded information concerning traditional authorities and events in neighbouring territories.

The organisation does not presume that the British Government possesses every relevant record or that Britain was directly involved in the particular events described by George.

It requests a transparent examination of the relevant historical record and clarification of the institutions responsible for assisting with access.

The purpose is to establish what Britain may know from its surviving records, what documentary material it holds or has transferred to archival custody, and what assistance it can provide in identifying additional evidence.

8.2 Britain's Historical Relationship With Cameroon

The territory historically known as Kamerun became a German colony in 1884.

During the First World War, British and French military forces participated in operations against German colonial control.

Following Germany's defeat, the former German territory was divided into areas administered by Britain and France.

These arrangements developed into separate League of Nations mandates and subsequently United Nations trusteeship arrangements.

The British-administered territories were historically associated with the administration of Nigeria, while the French-administered territory followed a different administrative course.

These historical arrangements are relevant because British governmental institutions generated records concerning Cameroon during the transition from German rule and throughout the subsequent mandate and trusteeship periods.

The surviving documentation may include information about territorial boundaries, traditional authorities, population movements, colonial administration and relations with French officials.

However, the fact that Britain administered part of the former German Kamerun territory does not establish that the particular ancestral institution associated with George's claim was situated within British-administered territory.

That geographical question requires investigation.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore requests that the relevant historical administrative boundaries be established before conclusions are drawn about which government possessed direct responsibility for particular decisions.

8.3 British Participation in the First World War Campaign in Kamerun

British participation in the military campaign against German colonial forces may have resulted in surviving military and governmental records.

These may include operational reports, intelligence assessments, military correspondence, maps and communications between British and French forces.

Such records could potentially provide information concerning German administrative arrangements, traditional authorities, military installations or events affecting local populations.

Their relevance to George's ancestral history remains to be established.

The investigation should determine whether the ancestral locality appears within surviving British records of the campaign or its aftermath.

Where reports concern violence, casualties, destruction of settlements or changes in local authority, the original documents should be examined.

General descriptions of military activity should not automatically be treated as proof of events affecting George's family.

The purpose is to identify whether relevant contemporary information exists.

8.4 The Division of Former German Kamerun

The territorial division following the First World War is an important element of the proposed historical reconstruction.

It may help establish which European administration held responsibility for the ancestral locality during particular periods.

The investigation should distinguish the original German colonial administrative boundaries from the subsequent British and French arrangements.

Historical maps, boundary agreements, administrative reports and official correspondence may be relevant.

Where a traditional authority was affected by changes in territorial administration, the records may explain how the transition occurred.

The investigation should also establish whether existing German administrative records were transferred, copied or consulted by successor authorities.

No assumption should be made that all records followed the same route.

Some may have remained in local administrative offices, while others may have been transferred to European governmental institutions or subsequently lost.

Reparation Nation Limited requests assistance in identifying the documentary history of the relevant administrative transition.

8.5 The British Mandate and Trusteeship Periods

British administration of parts of former German Kamerun continued under the international mandate and trusteeship systems.

This administration generated governmental correspondence and reports concerning the territories under British responsibility.

Relevant material may include information about traditional authority, local administration, customary institutions, territorial arrangements and relations with neighbouring French-administered areas.

The investigation should establish whether these records contain references to the ancestral locality or to the traditional institution associated with George's claim.

Where the locality was outside British-administered territory, records may nevertheless contain information through boundary administration, official correspondence or reports involving neighbouring jurisdictions.

However, the existence of such possibilities does not establish that the relevant documents survive.

The organisation requests a properly directed archival enquiry rather than an assumption that British administrative involvement necessarily produced evidence concerning every traditional institution.

8.6 British Records Concerning German Colonial Administration

British authorities may have obtained or generated information concerning German colonial administration before, during or after the First World War.

Such records may contain descriptions of German governmental structures, administrative districts, traditional leadership arrangements and military activities.

Reparation Nation Limited requests assistance in identifying records that may be relevant to the particular ancestral institution associated with George's family.

Potential subjects include German appointments or removals of traditional officeholders, reported violence against local populations and changes in hereditary authority.

The investigation should determine whether any British document refers directly to the name Ngantcha or to the ancestral locality once its historical designation is established.

Where British records repeat German accounts, the original source should be identified wherever possible.

A British summary of German administrative information may be valuable evidence of what British officials knew or recorded.

It does not automatically establish the independent accuracy of the original account.

These distinctions should be preserved.

8.7 British Records Concerning French Administration

Britain's historical relationship with French-administered Cameroon may have generated diplomatic, colonial or other governmental correspondence.

Such material could potentially contain information about traditional authority, administrative boundaries, succession disputes or developments affecting the territory.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office consider whether relevant correspondence survives within British collections.

Particular attention should be given to records concerning the period surrounding the reported French administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933.

The organisation does not presume that British officials possessed a copy of that instrument.

It requests investigation of whether British records contain references to the decision, the affected locality or the traditional officeholders concerned.

Where relevant material exists, the original archival references should be provided.

Where the Department considers that another institution holds responsibility for the records, the appropriate referral should be identified.

8.8 The Reported 1933 French Administrative Instrument

The reported French administrative instrument of approximately 1933 remains a central research priority.

Although its existence, contents and significance have not yet been independently established, its possible relevance to George's ancestral claim warrants investigation.

Reparation Nation Limited requests consideration of whether British governmental correspondence from the relevant period contains references to French decisions concerning traditional leadership in the ancestral locality.

British records may also assist in identifying the administrative geography and official terminology necessary to locate the instrument within French archives.

However, the absence of a British reference would not establish that the French instrument did not exist.

The principal search for the original instrument must be directed to appropriate French and Cameroonian repositories.

Britain's potential contribution is supplementary.

It may assist through its own historical records, archival expertise or appropriate institutional referrals.

8.9 The Name Ngantcha in British Historical Records

George's preliminary evidence identifies the name Ngantcha as a significant ancestral reference.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that relevant British archival search procedures be considered for identifying possible appearances of this name.

The enquiry should account for historical spelling variations without assuming that similar names necessarily identify the same individual.

Where a reference is located, the document should be examined for geographical, chronological and genealogical context.

The investigation should establish whether the person concerned was associated with a traditional office, administrative decision, military event or another relevant circumstance.

A name appearing in isolation may not provide sufficient evidence to establish a connection with George's family.

The objective is to identify records capable of supporting a reliable historical reconstruction.

8.10 British Records Concerning Traditional Authorities

British colonial administrative records may contain information concerning traditional rulers, chiefs and customary institutions.

Such material may be relevant to understanding how European administrations identified and classified African traditional authority.

The investigation should determine whether records exist concerning the specific ancestral institution associated with George's claim.

Where traditional officeholders are identified, the records should be examined to establish whether the references concern customary hereditary entitlement, colonial administrative recognition or another form of authority.

These matters must remain distinct.

A British administrative record recognising an officeholder does not automatically establish that the person held legitimate hereditary office under the relevant customary system.

Conversely, an administrative reference may accurately record an existing traditional position.

The evidence must be assessed according to its contents and historical circumstances.

8.11 The National Archives and Relevant Governmental Record Series

The National Archives at Kew is a principal institution for research into surviving British governmental records.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office identify relevant records and, where appropriate, direct the investigation to the responsible archival specialists.

Potential research areas include Colonial Office correspondence relating to the British Cameroons, records concerning the administration of Nigeria, Foreign Office correspondence, historical military records and documentation associated with the League of Nations mandate and United Nations trusteeship periods.

Relevant Colonial Office record series may include CO 649 and CO 724, together with related material in CO 583.

The relevance of individual files must be established through catalogue examination.

These series should be treated as potential research routes rather than evidence that particular records concerning George's ancestors have already been located.

The organisation requests assistance in identifying more precise file references once the ancestral locality, historical names and relevant dates have been established.

8.12 Records of the Colonial Office

The Colonial Office was responsible for substantial areas of British colonial administration and generated extensive documentary material.

Records relating to the British Cameroons may contain information concerning local government, traditional authority, territorial administration and relations with neighbouring territories.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that relevant archival holdings be identified.

The investigation should seek records concerning traditional leadership where they relate to the ancestral locality or to administrative decisions potentially affecting George's family.

Correspondence involving Cameroonian affairs and the administration of Nigeria may also provide useful historical context.

However, the existence of a record series covering Cameroon does not automatically establish that it contains information concerning the particular Bamiléké institution under investigation.

Searches should therefore proceed according to identifiable names, localities, administrative districts and historical dates.

8.13 Records of the Foreign Office and Successor Departments

The historical Foreign Office and its successor departments may have generated or received correspondence concerning German colonial administration, French Cameroon and British international responsibilities.

Such records may include diplomatic communications, reports from overseas representatives and information exchanged with other governments.

Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification of the appropriate historical record series and research procedures.

The present Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office is not necessarily the direct custodian of every relevant historical document.

Many records may have been transferred to The National Archives or other institutions.

The organisation therefore asks the Department to distinguish records presently held within government from those preserved by archival repositories.

Where records remain under departmental control, applicable access procedures should be identified.

Where records have been transferred, the relevant archival references or search routes should be provided where practicable.

8.14 British Military and Intelligence Records

British military and intelligence records may contain information relevant to German colonial operations and the subsequent transition in Cameroon.

The investigation should seek to establish whether any such records concern the ancestral locality associated with George's family.

Potential subjects include military operations, traditional leaders, local resistance, detention, population movements and reports of violence.

The organisation does not presume that military or intelligence material contains information about the reported deaths of George's ancestors.

It requests assistance in determining whether relevant collections exist.

Where an archival institution identifies potentially relevant material, the records should be examined according to their original purpose and reliability.

Military intelligence reports may contain unverified information, estimates or statements attributed to third parties.

Those limitations must be preserved.

8.15 Historical Maps and Boundary Records

Historical maps may be essential to identifying the ancestral authority and locating records concerning its administration.

German, French and British territorial descriptions may not correspond precisely.

The investigation should therefore seek maps covering the ancestral locality across successive administrative periods.

Boundary records may assist in determining which government or colonial administration exercised authority over the area at a particular date.

Such information may also help identify the relevant archives and administrative officials.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office consider whether appropriate British historical map collections can be identified.

The objective is to establish the correct geographical framework for the investigation.

No assumption should be made that a present-day administrative boundary accurately represents the historical jurisdiction of the ancestral institution.

8.16 British Knowledge of Reported Colonial Violence

George's account includes the reported killing of members of his ancestral family and community during German colonial intervention.

Reparation Nation Limited requests consideration of whether British records contain information about relevant military operations, reports of killings or other serious incidents.

The investigation should determine whether British officials received reports concerning violence in the ancestral locality.

Where such records exist, their contents and sources should be examined.

The organisation does not presume that British officials knew about the particular events described by George.

Nor does it suggest that Britain's historical receipt of information would automatically establish legal responsibility.

The purpose is to identify what was documented and what surviving evidence may contribute to establishing the facts.

8.17 British Records Concerning Deaths and Human Remains

George seeks to establish what became of the bodies of ancestors reportedly killed during colonial intervention.

British governmental records may potentially contain information concerning burials, military casualties, population movements or subsequent reports of the relevant events.

The existence of such records remains uncertain.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that appropriate research routes be identified.

Where relevant British records contain references to deaths or burial arrangements, their original archival references should be preserved.

Where human remains are mentioned, the investigation should distinguish descriptions of burial, exhumation, transfer, retention or other treatment.

The organisation does not presume that the remains of George's ancestors were brought to Britain.

It seeks evidence capable of establishing whether any relevant records exist.

If subsequent evidence identifies human remains held by a British institution, the appropriate research and consultation procedures should be examined separately.

8.18 Britain's Responsibilities Concerning Records in Its Custody

The United Kingdom Government is requested to clarify its responsibilities concerning historical records that remain in departmental custody.

The organisation recognises that different legal and administrative arrangements may apply to records held by government departments and those transferred to The National Archives.

Where records are publicly available, the relevant access procedure should be identified.

Where records are subject to restrictions, the applicable legal or administrative basis should be explained.

Where records are believed to have been transferred, the receiving institution should be identified where possible.

Where records cannot be located, Reparation Nation Limited requests an indication of the searches undertaken and any further available research routes.

The organisation does not assert that the British Government possesses an unrestricted obligation to locate or create historical information that does not exist within its records.

It seeks clarity concerning the records that are held, the procedures applicable to them and the assistance that can reasonably be provided.

8.19 The Distinction Between Archival Assistance and Diplomatic Assistance

Reparation Nation Limited considers it essential that the British Government distinguish two principal forms of assistance.

The first concerns archival assistance with identifying and accessing British historical records.

The second concerns possible diplomatic or institutional assistance with enquiries involving Germany, France and Cameroon.

These are separate matters.

The Foreign Office may not be the appropriate institution to carry out detailed historical research within every archival collection.

Nevertheless, it may be able to clarify governmental responsibilities or identify appropriate contacts.

Similarly, The National Archives may assist with research into British records without possessing authority to conduct diplomatic representations to foreign governments.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Department identify the appropriate institution for each form of assistance.

A limitation affecting one route should not automatically dispose of the other.

8.20 International Archival Cooperation

The investigation may require the comparison of documents held across several countries.

British records may refer to German or French administrative decisions.

German records may identify officials, localities or events subsequently mentioned in French documentation.

French records may provide evidence concerning traditional leadership arrangements after German colonial administration ended.

Cameroonian records and traditional accounts may supply essential local information.

Reparation Nation Limited requests consideration of whether the United Kingdom Government can assist with appropriate introductions, referrals or institutional cooperation.

The organisation recognises that each country applies its own legal and archival procedures.

It does not presume that Britain can compel foreign institutions to release documents.

The request is for lawful and practical assistance in identifying the relevant routes for international historical disclosure.

8.21 The Public Interest in Historical Transparency

The questions raised by George's investigation concern not only a private family history but also the wider historical record of European colonial administration in Africa.

Where government records document changes in traditional authority, military operations or the treatment of local populations, their preservation and accessibility may contribute to historical understanding.

Reparation Nation Limited considers that the examination of such records can serve the public interest in historical transparency.

However, public interest does not automatically override every lawful restriction upon archival disclosure.

The appropriate legal and administrative procedures must be followed.

The organisation therefore asks the British Government to identify available routes for research and access.

Where records can lawfully be disclosed, the organisation requests assistance in obtaining or locating them.

Where disclosure is restricted, the relevant reasons and possible review procedures should be identified.

8.22 Historical Transparency and Institutional Accountability

Reparation Nation Limited seeks to establish an accountable record of its communications with the British Government.

The organisation requests acknowledgement of its enquiries, identification of responsible departments and clarification of substantive decisions.

Where the Foreign Office refers a question to another institution, that referral should be recorded accurately.

Where an archival search is undertaken, the scope and results should be distinguished from general statements about the existence of historical collections.

Where no relevant record is identified, the organisation asks that this be described as the outcome of the search undertaken rather than as proof that no relevant record exists anywhere.

This distinction is particularly important where records may be dispersed internationally or catalogued under unfamiliar historical names.

The objective is to preserve an accurate account of institutional responses and outstanding questions.

8.23 Safeguards Against Anti-Black Racism and Institutional Racism

Reparation Nation Limited requests information concerning the safeguards applicable to governmental decisions involving historical records of African traditional institutions and colonial administration.

The organisation considers it appropriate to understand how African oral testimony, customary historical evidence and genealogical material are treated alongside European administrative records.

The historical circumstances in which colonial documents were produced may affect their terminology and perspective.

Such records may nevertheless contain important evidence.

The appropriate response is critical examination rather than automatic acceptance or rejection.

Reparation Nation Limited asks the Foreign Office to identify any relevant equality policies, staff guidance, procedural safeguards and review arrangements applicable to the handling of this representation.

No predetermined accusation, allegation or finding of anti-Black racism or institutional racism is made against any contemporary person or institution.

The request is for evidence of fair and accountable procedures.

8.24 Requests for Identification of Governmental Responsibility

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office is requested to identify which matters fall within its responsibilities and which require referral elsewhere.

The organisation seeks clarification concerning historical governmental correspondence, diplomatic assistance, colonial records, archival access and possible engagement with George's proposed London-based activities.

Different matters may be handled by different departments or institutions.

Reparation Nation Limited does not seek to impose responsibility upon a department that lacks the relevant authority.

It asks that responsibility be explained clearly.

Where the Foreign Office is not the competent institution, the organisation requests an appropriate referral where practicable.

Where a question concerns more than one institution, the Department is asked to identify the respective roles.

This approach is intended to prevent the representation from being treated as a single enquiry incapable of consideration because it contains several distinct subjects.

8.25 Formal Questions Requiring Governmental Consideration

Reparation Nation Limited requests written answers to the following questions.

Question 8.25.1: What historical British governmental records are relevant to the administration of Cameroon during and following German colonial rule?

Question 8.25.2: Which British institutions presently hold or administer the principal surviving records concerning the British Cameroons?

Question 8.25.3: What Colonial Office, Foreign Office or other governmental record series may contain information concerning traditional authorities and succession arrangements in the relevant territory?

Question 8.25.4: What research procedures are available for identifying British records concerning German colonial intervention in Cameroon?

Question 8.25.5: Can the Department identify historical records concerning the territorial division of former German Kamerun and the transfer of administrative responsibilities?

Question 8.25.6: What British records may contain information concerning French administrative decisions affecting traditional leadership?

Question 8.25.7: Are there identifiable British records from the period surrounding the reported French administrative instrument of approximately 1933 that may be relevant to George's ancestral locality?

Question 8.25.8: What procedures are available for researching the name Ngantcha within surviving British governmental or archival material?

Question 8.25.9: Can the Department identify appropriate historical maps and administrative boundary records that may assist in locating the ancestral traditional authority?

Question 8.25.10: What British military or governmental records may contain information concerning reported violence, killings, detention or the destruction of settlements during the relevant colonial periods?

Question 8.25.11: What research routes may assist in locating records concerning deaths, burial arrangements or the treatment of human remains?

Question 8.25.12: Does the Foreign Office hold any relevant historical records that have not been transferred to The National Archives, and what procedures apply to accessing such material?

Question 8.25.13: Where relevant records are held by The National Archives, can the Department identify the appropriate referral or research procedure?

Question 8.25.14: What forms of British governmental assistance may be available in seeking historical records from Germany, France and Cameroon?

Question 8.25.15: Can the Department identify relevant intergovernmental or institutional archival cooperation arrangements?

Question 8.25.16: What procedures apply where records are restricted, incomplete, transferred, lost or not located?

Question 8.25.17: Where a requested record cannot be identified, can the relevant institution explain the scope of the search undertaken and suggest further research routes?

Question 8.25.18: What safeguards apply to ensure fair consideration of African customary history and ancestral testimony within the relevant governmental processes?

Question 8.25.19: Which departmental teams or institutions are responsible for examining requests concerning Britain's historical involvement in Cameroon?

Question 8.25.20: Will the Foreign Office provide a reasoned written response distinguishing the archival, diplomatic and institutional forms of assistance it is prepared to consider?

These questions seek procedural clarity, access to relevant information and appropriate governmental cooperation.

They do not presume that the Foreign Office holds every relevant document or possesses authority over independent archival institutions.

8.26 Request for a Written Archival Referral Framework

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the British Government consider providing a written framework identifying the most appropriate institutions and procedures for the different categories of historical evidence sought.

The framework should distinguish governmental correspondence, military records, colonial administrative material, maps, traditional authority records, records concerning deaths and potential information about human remains.

It should also identify where foreign archival enquiries are likely to be necessary.

The organisation recognises that the Government may not be able to provide an exhaustive inventory of relevant records.

Nevertheless, appropriate guidance concerning record series, institutions and research procedures would constitute practical assistance.

Such guidance could substantially improve the efficiency and reliability of George's investigation.

It would also demonstrate that the Department has considered the procedural substance of the request independently of the unresolved hereditary and governmental recognition questions.

8.27 The Relevance of Britain's Historical Support for Free France

Britain's support for the Free French movement during the Second World War forms a separate but related element of George's wider representation.

The relevance of that historical precedent will be examined fully in Section Nine.

For the purposes of the present section, the important distinction is between Britain's historical archival responsibilities and its possible contemporary willingness to consider international assistance.

The organisation does not suggest that British support for Free France creates an automatic legal obligation to provide identical assistance to George.

It does, however, provide a historical context within which George wishes the Government to consider the moral and practical dimensions of his request.

Reparation Nation Limited asks that the archival enquiry not be rejected or postponed merely because the separate proposal concerning a government-in-exile remains unresolved.

The historical investigation is capable of proceeding independently.

8.28 Conclusion and Formal Request

Britain's historical involvement in Cameroon provides a relevant basis for examining whether surviving British governmental records may assist George T. Nomen's ancestral investigation.

The investigation concerns the reported displacement of hereditary traditional authority, the deaths of ancestral family and community members, the uncertain fate of their remains and the possible continuation of earlier administrative arrangements under French rule.

Reparation Nation Limited has been authorised by George to pursue the relevant historical information.

The organisation does not presume that Britain possesses every relevant document or bears responsibility for every historical event under examination.

It requests that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office identify what records or institutional responsibilities may be relevant and what forms of practical assistance are available.

Where records are held by The National Archives or another institution, appropriate research routes should be identified.

Where records are held abroad, the Government is asked to consider whether lawful diplomatic or institutional cooperation may assist.

The organisation seeks an accurate account of the available procedures, the responsible institutions and any limitations affecting disclosure.

The central question is what the United Kingdom's surviving records can contribute to establishing what happened to George T. Nomen's ancestors and their traditional authority, and what assistance Britain is prepared to provide in identifying and obtaining the relevant evidence.

Reparation Nation Limited formally requests the Government's consideration of those questions and a substantive written response addressing the matters within its responsibilities.

END OF SECTION EIGHT

NEXT: SECTION NINE — BRITISH SUPPORT FOR GENERAL CHARLES DE GAULLE AND FREE FRANCE: THE HISTORICAL AND MORAL PRECEDENT

SECTION NINE — BRITISH SUPPORT FOR GENERAL CHARLES DE GAULLE AND FREE FRANCE: THE HISTORICAL AND MORAL PRECEDENT

9.1 Introduction and Purpose

This section concerns the historical support provided by the United Kingdom to General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement during the Second World War, and the moral, diplomatic and institutional questions arising from George T. Nomen's request for British assistance with his own peaceful activities while based in London.

Reparation Nation Limited submits this section pursuant to the authorisation given by George T. Nomen.

George seeks to establish what happened to his ancestors during German and subsequent French colonial administration in Cameroon, including the reported deaths of family and community members, the fate of their remains and the displacement of the hereditary traditional authority associated with his family.

He also wishes to examine the establishment of a London-based government-in-exile or alternative representative institution through which historical disclosure, international cooperation and possible reparatory justice may be pursued.

George has identified Britain's historical support for General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement as an important precedent.

His argument is not that the two historical situations are legally identical.

Rather, he asks whether the moral principles of refuge, assistance, political engagement and support for displaced authority that informed Britain's historical actions can also inform its consideration of an African hereditary claimant seeking historical accountability.

This section therefore requests that the British Government address the historical comparison seriously, identify the distinctions it considers relevant and explain what forms of assistance it is prepared to consider.

9.2 The Historical Circumstances of Free France

In June 1940, following the German military campaign in Western Europe and the collapse of organised French military resistance, General Charles de Gaulle travelled to Britain.

From London, he called for the continuation of French resistance to Nazi Germany.

The Free French movement subsequently developed political, military and administrative structures through which its supporters sought to continue the struggle against German occupation and the authority of the Vichy regime.

Britain provided an important base for those activities.

The relationship between the British Government and the Free French leadership developed under extraordinary wartime conditions.

Those circumstances involved military strategy, international alliances, competing claims concerning French governmental authority and the continuation of resistance during an ongoing war.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that George's contemporary circumstances are different.

Nevertheless, the historical example demonstrates that Britain has previously considered whether and how to support political leadership operating outside the territory with which it claimed an institutional connection.

George wishes the British Government to explain whether any comparable principles of assistance and international engagement can be considered in his own case.

9.3 Britain's Recognition of General Charles de Gaulle

On 28 June 1940, the British Government publicly recognised General Charles de Gaulle as leader of the Free French who rallied to him.

This recognition represented a significant political decision concerning a movement operating from British territory.

It did not, at that stage, amount to an unrestricted recognition of de Gaulle as the sovereign government of all France.

The distinction between recognition of a movement's leadership and recognition of a sovereign government is important.

Reparation Nation Limited expressly preserves that distinction.

George is not asking the British Government to disregard the requirements governing contemporary diplomatic recognition.

He asks whether Britain would consider some form of engagement or practical assistance with a London-based initiative concerned with his claimed ancestral authority and the investigation of historical wrongs.

Such engagement need not amount to recognition of an independent state or government.

It could involve consideration of the initiative's historical, humanitarian, research and institutional purposes.

9.4 London as a Base for Free French Activities

London provided a base from which General de Gaulle and the Free French movement could organise, communicate and develop their activities.

The movement used British territory for political organisation, international engagement and the coordination of wartime efforts.

The former Free French headquarters at 4 Carlton Gardens, London, has particular historical significance in this context.

George has drawn attention to this example because he seeks to organise his own peaceful activities from London.

His proposed activities concern historical research, ancestral documentation, international correspondence, the examination of hereditary succession and possible institutional development.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that the presence of a movement in London does not itself confer governmental authority.

Nevertheless, Britain may consider forms of cooperation with organisations operating from its territory without necessarily recognising them as sovereign governments.

George therefore requests clarification of the assistance and engagement that may be available within the contemporary legal and administrative framework.

9.5 The Historical Connection Between Free France and Cameroon

Cameroon possesses a particular historical connection with the Free French movement.

In August 1940, French-administered Cameroon rallied to Free France and became an important early base of support for de Gaulle's movement.

This connection is relevant to George's proposed historical comparison.

The territory from which George traces his ancestral history was affected by European colonial administration and subsequently formed part of the wider historical circumstances associated with Free France.

However, the participation of French-administered Cameroon in the Free French movement must not be represented as evidence that George's particular ancestral kingdom endorsed de Gaulle or participated in the relevant decisions.

That would require separate historical evidence.

Reparation Nation Limited instead asks the British Government to recognise that Cameroon was not merely geographically distant from the history of Free France.

It formed part of the movement's wider political and territorial history.

That connection strengthens the grounds for requesting serious historical consideration, although it does not establish a contemporary legal entitlement to equivalent recognition or assistance.

9.6 The Question of Historical Reciprocity

George wishes the British Government to consider whether principles of historical reciprocity have any moral relevance to his request.

Britain assisted a French movement that sought to maintain and eventually restore political authority during wartime.

George now seeks assistance in investigating the reported destruction or displacement of an African hereditary traditional authority during European colonial administration.

The situations differ in their historical circumstances, legal character and political context.

Nevertheless, both raise questions concerning the relationship between displaced authority, historical continuity and the willingness of another state to provide assistance.

George's request is not that Britain reproduce its wartime arrangements with Free France.

It is that Britain consider what support can reasonably and lawfully be provided to an African historical and representative initiative operating from London.

The organisation asks whether the moral considerations informing assistance to displaced European leadership can contribute to an equally serious consideration of requests concerning displaced African traditional authority.

No claim of automatic equivalence is advanced.

The request is for principled and transparent consideration.

9.7 The Distinction Between Moral Pressure and Legal Entitlement

Reparation Nation Limited considers it important to distinguish the moral argument from any claim of legal entitlement.

Britain's historical decisions concerning Free France were made within particular wartime circumstances.

Those decisions do not automatically establish a legal obligation to recognise George or any proposed government-in-exile.

They do, however, provide a historical precedent that George wishes the Government to examine.

Moral pressure in this context means a request that the British Government explain how its stated principles and historical practices relate to a contemporary appeal for assistance.

It does not involve threats, misrepresentation or demands for treatment that the law does not permit.

George seeks an explanation of what assistance Britain is willing to consider and the reasons for any limitations.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore requests a reasoned response rather than an assumption that the comparison is irrelevant merely because the applicant is an African hereditary claimant rather than a European wartime leader.

9.8 The Difference Between France in 1940 and George's Ancestral Claim

The circumstances of General de Gaulle and the Free French movement involved an existing sovereign state, foreign occupation, international armed conflict and competing claims concerning the legitimate continuation of French governmental authority.

George's claim concerns an ancestral traditional institution situated within present-day Cameroon.

The historical, customary and legal status of that institution remains subject to investigation.

Its claimed hereditary authority is distinct from contemporary sovereign statehood.

Its relationship with the present Cameroonian constitutional system must also be considered.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises these differences.

It does not seek to conceal or minimise them.

The argument is that differences in legal status do not necessarily prevent Britain from considering practical assistance with historical research, peaceful organisation, consultation or international dialogue.

Such assistance may be available without recognition of George as a sovereign ruler or head of government.

The Government is therefore requested to examine the different possible forms of engagement separately.

9.9 The Proposed London-Based Government-in-Exile

George wishes to examine the establishment of a London-based government-in-exile associated with his claimed ancestral hereditary authority.

The proposed institution would seek to organise historical investigation, preserve evidence, coordinate international correspondence and pursue appropriate consideration of historical accountability and reparatory justice.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that the term government-in-exile carries significant constitutional and diplomatic implications.

The adoption of that title does not automatically establish governmental authority, international recognition or jurisdiction over a population or territory.

The organisation therefore requests that the British Government identify the relevant legal and diplomatic considerations before any definitive governmental status is asserted.

George's proposed activities may also be undertaken through an alternative representative, research or reparatory justice institution if that is considered more appropriate.

The question for the British Government is whether it is prepared to discuss lawful forms of support and engagement while the historical and constitutional issues are being examined.

9.10 Peaceful Organisation in London

George's proposed activities are intended to be peaceful and directed towards historical disclosure, institutional consultation and reparatory justice.

Reparation Nation Limited does not present this initiative as an attempt to exercise governmental powers within the United Kingdom.

Nor does the organisation seek authority to interfere with the lawful institutions of Cameroon or represent persons who have not authorised such representation.

The proposed London-based activities would remain subject to applicable British law.

Potential activities could include historical research, meetings, conferences, archival enquiries, correspondence with governments, consultation with relevant communities and the publication of properly verified findings.

These activities should be distinguished from the separate question of formal diplomatic recognition.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office clarify whether any governmental cooperation or institutional engagement may be considered in relation to these lawful activities.

9.11 What Forms of British Assistance Are Actually Requested?

Reparation Nation Limited requests consideration of several possible forms of assistance.

First, the organisation seeks a formal acknowledgement and substantive consideration of George's historical investigation.

Second, it requests the identification of appropriate British governmental and archival contacts.

Third, it asks whether the Foreign Office can assist with appropriate referrals or communications involving German, French and Cameroonian institutions.

Fourth, it requests consideration of a meeting with relevant officials to discuss the historical investigation and proposed London-based activities.

Fifth, it seeks clarification of the legal and diplomatic distinctions between a government-in-exile, a representative institution, a historical research organisation and other possible institutional arrangements.

Sixth, it asks whether the Government would consider any appropriate public or institutional acknowledgement of the seriousness of the historical questions raised.

Seventh, it requests clarification of whether any relevant research, heritage or international cooperation programmes may be accessible through established procedures.

These requests are alternatives or complementary possibilities.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that all of them are available or that the British Government is obliged to grant them.

The purpose is to obtain a clear statement of what may be considered.

9.12 Assistance Without Formal Recognition

One of the most important procedural distinctions concerns the difference between assistance and recognition.

A government may engage with individuals, researchers, community organisations or representative institutions without recognising them as governments.

The nature of that engagement depends upon the circumstances and applicable law.

George seeks to understand whether Britain would consider assisting his historical investigation while questions concerning hereditary succession and governmental status remain unresolved.

Such assistance might involve procedural guidance, archival cooperation, meetings or appropriate institutional introductions.

Reparation Nation Limited asks that the Foreign Office not treat the absence of recognised governmental status as automatically disposing of every other request.

The organisation recognises that some forms of diplomatic engagement may depend upon established governmental or representative authority.

Those requirements should be identified clearly.

Other forms of historical and administrative assistance may be capable of consideration without such recognition.

The Department is requested to distinguish these categories in its response.

9.13 The Moral Importance of the Reported Deaths

The Free French historical comparison is not the only moral dimension of George's request.

His immediate concern includes the reported killing of ancestors and uncertainty concerning the fate of their remains.

George wishes to establish whether governmental or archival records can explain what happened to those individuals.

Reparation Nation Limited asks the British Government to consider whether this humanitarian objective warrants practical assistance independently of any constitutional or diplomatic question.

A request for information about deceased ancestors should not necessarily require the establishment of a recognised government-in-exile.

The organisation does not suggest that Britain is legally responsible for locating every missing historical record.

It requests consideration of available assistance, referrals and archival cooperation.

The purpose is to help George establish the historical truth through lawful and reliable procedures.

9.14 Africa, Europe and the Consistency of British Principles

George's proposed historical comparison also raises questions concerning the consistency with which Britain considers requests relating to displaced authority and historical accountability.

The organisation recognises that governmental decisions must reflect differences in law, evidence, international relations and practical circumstances.

Different decisions do not automatically establish discrimination.

Nevertheless, Reparation Nation Limited considers it legitimate to ask whether relevant principles of fairness and equal treatment are applied to requests concerning African traditional institutions.

The organisation seeks clarification of the criteria through which Britain considers proposals for international engagement, historical assistance and institutional cooperation.

Those criteria should be sufficiently clear to permit applicants to understand the reasons for decisions.

George asks that his African ancestral claim be considered on its merits rather than dismissed through generalisations about the status or significance of traditional African institutions.

Reparation Nation Limited makes no predetermined accusation of discriminatory treatment.

It requests evidence of the safeguards and decision-making principles applied.

9.15 Safeguards Against Anti-Black Racism and Institutional Racism

Reparation Nation Limited requests information concerning safeguards against anti-Black racism and institutional racism in the Government's consideration of this representation.

The request concerns a Black African ancestral history and the consequences of European colonial administration.

It is therefore appropriate to ask how relevant governmental institutions ensure fairness when assessing historical claims, customary authority and proposals for international engagement.

The organisation seeks clarification of applicable equality policies, decision-making procedures, staff guidance, review mechanisms and routes for raising concerns.

It also asks whether relevant officials receive guidance concerning African traditional institutions and the treatment of colonial historical evidence.

These questions are not allegations that any particular official has acted unlawfully.

No accusation, assumption or predetermined finding of racial discrimination is advanced.

The purpose is to establish whether appropriate safeguards exist and how they operate in practice.

The organisation asks that the Free French comparison be addressed according to its actual historical and legal significance, without either exaggeration or arbitrary dismissal.

9.16 The Risk of Misrepresenting the Free French Precedent

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that the historical precedent must be presented accurately.

Britain's support for General de Gaulle and the Free French movement should not be described as proof that Britain has a general obligation to recognise every organisation calling itself a government-in-exile.

Nor should the historical circumstances of France in 1940 be treated as equivalent in every respect to those of George's ancestral institution.

The legal status of the Free French movement changed over time.

Its relationship with Britain also developed through different stages.

The investigation should therefore distinguish refuge, political support, military cooperation, recognition of leadership and governmental recognition.

These were not necessarily identical acts.

George's moral argument is strengthened, rather than weakened, by recognising those distinctions.

The central request is that Britain explain what contemporary assistance it can consider, not that it mechanically repeat a wartime decision.

9.17 Cameroon's Historical Contribution to Free France

The role of Cameroon in the Free French movement deserves particular consideration.

French-administered Cameroon rallied to Free France in August 1940, forming part of the movement's early territorial and political support.

This history establishes a connection between Cameroon and the Free French movement that is relevant to the wider context of George's representation.

However, the investigation should not presume that George's ancestral institution participated in that decision or consented to the political arrangements of the period.

Those matters would require separate evidence.

The organisation asks the British Government to acknowledge the historical connection when considering the broader moral comparison.

George's request arises from a territory whose people and institutions were affected by European colonial administration and whose history intersected with the movement Britain supported.

The Government is asked to explain whether that historical context has any bearing upon the forms of contemporary assistance it is willing to consider.

9.18 Respect for Cameroon and Existing International Relations

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that Cameroon is an independent sovereign state.

George's hereditary claim and his interest in establishing a London-based institution do not automatically alter that status.

The organisation does not ask Britain to disregard Cameroon's sovereignty or its own international obligations.

Nor does it assert that historical evidence concerning a traditional institution necessarily establishes a right to separate statehood.

The investigation must distinguish customary hereditary authority, cultural and historical identity, community representation and sovereignty.

Those questions may require different evidential and legal assessments.

Reparation Nation Limited seeks peaceful international cooperation directed principally towards historical truth and accountability.

The Government is therefore requested to clarify whether assistance can be considered within its existing diplomatic relationship with Cameroon.

Any concerns about diplomatic recognition or sovereign authority should be addressed separately from the request for archival disclosure.

9.19 The Importance of a Formal Meeting

Reparation Nation Limited considers that a meeting with an appropriate Foreign Office representative may assist in clarifying the different elements of George's request.

The proposed discussion would concern the historical investigation, potential archival assistance, the Free French precedent and the procedural position of George's proposed London-based activities.

A meeting would not itself constitute diplomatic recognition or governmental endorsement.

It would provide an opportunity to identify the relevant issues and determine whether practical cooperation is possible.

The organisation therefore requests that the Foreign Office consider whether such a meeting may be arranged.

If a meeting is not considered appropriate, the Department is asked to provide written guidance identifying the correct institutional route for the matters raised.

No entitlement to a meeting is presumed.

The request is made in the interest of procedural clarity and constructive engagement.

9.20 The Opportunity for a Constructive British Response

A constructive response from the British Government need not require immediate acceptance of George's historical or constitutional claims.

It could consist of identifying appropriate archival routes, clarifying the Department's responsibilities, providing relevant institutional contacts or explaining the forms of assistance that may be available.

It could also identify evidential requirements for any future consideration of representative or governmental status.

Such a response would allow the investigation to proceed on a more informed basis.

Reparation Nation Limited considers this preferable to a response that addresses only the most difficult question of governmental recognition while leaving the historical disclosure requests unanswered.

The organisation therefore asks the Department to consider the constituent requests separately.

The availability of limited assistance should not be overlooked merely because other forms of assistance may be unavailable.

9.21 The Request for Reasoned Governmental Decision-Making

George wishes the British Government to explain its position.

If the Government considers that the Free French precedent has no practical relevance to his circumstances, Reparation Nation Limited requests that the reasons be identified.

If the Government considers that some forms of engagement are possible but others are not, the organisation asks that those distinctions be explained.

If particular documentary evidence is required before a request can be considered, the Department is requested to specify that evidence.

If another department is responsible, an appropriate referral is requested where practicable.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that not every governmental decision or correspondence response is subject to identical legal duties to provide reasons.

Nevertheless, the organisation asks for sufficient explanation to understand the Department's position and identify any appropriate next step.

The objective is transparent and accountable engagement.

9.22 George's Authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited

George T. Nomen has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to act on his behalf in pursuing the initial historical disclosure and governmental engagement described in this representation.

Derrick Lynch submits this request as the organisation's representative.

That authorisation includes the approach to the British Government concerning possible assistance with George's peaceful London-based initiative.

Reparation Nation Limited does not ask the Foreign Office to presume a particular form of documentary proof.

Instead, the Department is invited to identify whatever evidence of authorisation it requires for the activities under consideration.

George will then have the opportunity to respond through Reparation Nation Limited.

The distinction between the existence of authorisation and the Department's verification requirements must be preserved.

The separate question of George's claimed hereditary and community representative status remains subject to investigation.

9.23 The Role of Reparation Nation Limited and IBIS

Reparation Nation Limited proposes to maintain a formal record of all governmental correspondence, requests, responses and outstanding questions.

This initiative forms part of Proposed International Reparatory Justice Pilot Project No. 001.

The organisation also intends to examine whether IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice — can assist with evidence organisation, institutional accountability and the verification of outcomes.

IBIS is not presented as an alternative government or a source of sovereign recognition.

Its proposed role is administrative and evidential.

The investigation will distinguish requests for assistance from assistance actually provided.

An acknowledgement will not be represented as an endorsement.

A meeting will not be represented as diplomatic recognition.

A referral will not be represented as a commitment to disclose information.

These distinctions will protect the accuracy of the official and public record.

9.24 Formal Questions Requiring British Government Consideration

Reparation Nation Limited requests written consideration of the following questions.

Question 9.24.1: Does the United Kingdom Government acknowledge that Britain provided refuge, organisational facilities and political support to General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement during the Second World War?

Question 9.24.2: What distinctions does the Foreign Office draw between Britain's recognition of de Gaulle as leader of the Free French and recognition of a sovereign government?

Question 9.24.3: What historical and legal considerations does the Government regard as relevant when examining the Free French precedent?

Question 9.24.4: Does the Government consider that this precedent offers any relevant principles for the consideration of contemporary requests for assistance from persons or institutions claiming displaced hereditary or traditional authority?

Question 9.24.5: If the Government considers the historical situations materially different, will it identify the differences relevant to its decision?

Question 9.24.6: What forms of lawful assistance may be considered for George T. Nomen's historical investigation while he is based in London?

Question 9.24.7: Would the Government consider providing appropriate archival referrals or institutional introductions concerning records held in Germany, France and Cameroon?

Question 9.24.8: Would the Foreign Office consider a formal meeting with Derrick Lynch, representing Reparation Nation Limited, to discuss the proposed historical investigation?

Question 9.24.9: What procedures apply where an individual wishes to establish a peaceful representative or historical research institution in London associated with an ancestral traditional authority abroad?

Question 9.24.10: What distinction does the Government draw between engagement with an organisation and diplomatic recognition of that organisation as a government?

Question 9.24.11: Can the Government identify any forms of cooperation that would not require recognition of a government-in-exile?

Question 9.24.12: What evidence would the Government require before considering George's claimed hereditary or wider representative status for diplomatic purposes?

Question 9.24.13: What relevance, if any, does the Government attach to Cameroon's historical relationship with the Free French movement?

Question 9.24.14: How would the Government ensure that any assistance considered remains consistent with Cameroon's sovereignty and the United Kingdom's international obligations?

Question 9.24.15: What equality safeguards apply to the consideration of requests involving African hereditary institutions and alleged historical colonial displacement?

Question 9.24.16: What procedures are available if an applicant considers that relevant historical or customary evidence has not received fair consideration?

Question 9.24.17: If the Government declines to provide a requested form of assistance, will it identify the principal reasons and any appropriate alternative procedures?

Question 9.24.18: Will the Department consider the archival, humanitarian and institutional requests separately rather than treating them as entirely dependent upon governmental recognition?

Question 9.24.19: Which governmental team or official is responsible for considering the diplomatic and institutional questions raised by this representation?

Question 9.24.20: What practical assistance is the British Government prepared to consider in response to George T. Nomen's request?

These questions seek reasoned consideration of the available options.

They do not presume that the British Government has a legal obligation to replicate its historical relationship with the Free French movement.

9.25 The Central Moral Question

Reparation Nation Limited places the following question before the United Kingdom Government.

Britain provided a base and significant support to General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement when they sought to continue their activities outside occupied France.

George T. Nomen now seeks to organise peaceful activities from London to investigate the reported destruction or displacement of his ancestral traditional authority, establish what happened to members of his family and community, identify the fate of those reportedly killed and pursue historical accountability.

He does not ask the Government to accept his historical or constitutional claims without examination.

He asks for assistance in establishing the truth and clarification of what institutional support Britain may be willing to consider.

If Britain was prepared to assist a European movement operating outside its homeland in circumstances involving displaced political authority, what forms of assistance is Britain prepared to consider for an African hereditary claimant seeking historical disclosure, accountability and the opportunity to organise lawful representative activities in London?

The organisation recognises the substantial differences between the two situations.

It nevertheless asks that the moral question receive a serious and reasoned response.

9.26 Conclusion and Formal Request

George T. Nomen has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to approach the British Government concerning his ancestral investigation and proposed London-based activities.

The historical support provided by Britain to General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement offers a significant precedent for examining questions of refuge, institutional assistance and engagement with displaced authority.

That precedent does not establish an automatic legal entitlement to contemporary diplomatic recognition.

Nor does it prove that George's claimed hereditary authority possesses sovereign status.

Nevertheless, it raises a legitimate moral and institutional question concerning the assistance Britain may be prepared to consider.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore requests that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office examine the Free French precedent, distinguish the relevant historical and legal considerations and identify the forms of assistance potentially available.

The organisation asks that the Government consider archival cooperation, appropriate diplomatic referrals, institutional engagement and the possibility of a formal meeting.

These requests should be assessed separately from any application for recognition of a government-in-exile.

Particular consideration is requested concerning the humanitarian purpose of George's investigation into the reported deaths of ancestors and the uncertain fate of their remains.

No accusations, allegations, assumptions or predetermined findings are advanced against any present-day British Government official or institution.

The request is for evidence-based consideration, procedural fairness and a clear written explanation of the Government's position.

The ultimate objective is not merely to invoke a historical precedent, but to ask Britain to demonstrate how the principles of assistance, fairness and international cooperation can be applied to George T. Nomen's contemporary request.

Reparation Nation Limited formally invites the United Kingdom Government to respond.

END OF SECTION NINE

NEXT: SECTION TEN — GEORGE T. NOMEN'S PROPOSED LONDON-BASED GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE AND ALTERNATIVE REPRESENTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

SECTION TEN — GEORGE T. NOMEN'S PROPOSED LONDON-BASED GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE AND ALTERNATIVE REPRESENTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

10.1 Introduction and Purpose

This section concerns George T. Nomen's proposal to establish a London-based government-in-exile or alternative representative institution associated with the ancestral Bamiléké traditional authority from which he claims hereditary succession.

Reparation Nation Limited submits this section pursuant to the authorisation given by George T. Nomen.

George maintains that his ancestral hereditary royal authority was displaced during European colonial administration in Cameroon and that members of his ancestral family and community were killed.

He seeks to establish what happened to his ancestors, discover the fate of their remains, investigate the historical circumstances affecting the traditional institution and pursue appropriate historical accountability and reparatory justice.

George has identified London as a possible base from which to organise those activities.

His interest in establishing a government-in-exile arises from his understanding that the legitimate hereditary authority of his ancestors was displaced and that the historical and institutional consequences remain unresolved.

The proposal also draws upon Britain's historical support for General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement during the Second World War.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that the expression government-in-exile carries substantial political, constitutional and diplomatic implications.

The use of that expression does not automatically establish sovereign authority, lawful jurisdiction over territory or persons, or recognition by another government.

The purpose of this section is therefore to request that the United Kingdom Government consider the proposal, identify the relevant legal and institutional requirements, and clarify whether any appropriate form of assistance or engagement may be available.

10.2 George T. Nomen's Proposed Institutional Objective

George wishes to establish an organised means of pursuing the historical investigation concerning his ancestral family and the traditional authority associated with his claimed hereditary succession.

The proposed institution would provide a framework for preserving historical evidence, coordinating international correspondence, consulting relevant persons and organisations, and pursuing appropriate governmental consideration.

Its central purpose would initially be historical and reparatory.

The proposed activities would include investigation of the reported German colonial intervention, subsequent French administrative arrangements, the deaths of ancestors, the fate of their remains and the historical continuity of the original hereditary institution.

George also wishes to consider whether the evidence obtained may eventually support requests concerning recognition of ancestral authority or other appropriate remedies.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that every objective requires the immediate establishment of a government.

Some activities may be capable of being undertaken through an authorised research, representative or reparatory justice institution.

The Government is therefore requested to consider the objectives separately from the institutional title eventually adopted.

10.3 The Historical Basis of George's Proposal

George's proposal originates from his understanding that the original hereditary authority associated with his family was displaced during German colonial administration.

He maintains that subsequent French administrative decisions may have continued or otherwise affected the consequences of that displacement.

The precise events and their historical significance remain subjects of investigation.

George considers that an institution operating from London could provide continuity for the organised pursuit of the ancestral claim while the necessary historical evidence is obtained.

That objective must be distinguished from any assertion that the proposed institution already possesses the legal or constitutional powers of the original traditional authority.

The establishment of a modern organisation cannot itself prove the continuity of an ancestral institution.

Nor can it automatically restore hereditary office or territorial jurisdiction.

Those questions require independent historical, customary and legal examination.

The proposed London-based institution would therefore need to describe its actual status accurately.

10.4 The Meaning of Government-in-Exile

The term government-in-exile is commonly associated with political or governmental bodies operating outside the territory over which they claim authority.

Historically, such arrangements have arisen under different circumstances, including war, occupation and political displacement.

The legal and diplomatic significance of a particular government-in-exile depends upon its circumstances.

The term does not possess a single automatic legal effect.

An organisation cannot acquire sovereign authority merely by adopting the title government-in-exile.

Nor does the title compel recognition by the United Kingdom or another state.

It does not automatically confer diplomatic privileges, governmental immunity or jurisdiction over persons and territory.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises these limitations.

George's proposal is therefore presented for examination rather than as an institution whose sovereign status has already been established.

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office is requested to identify the considerations it would apply to such a proposal.

10.5 Hereditary Royal Authority and Sovereign Governmental Status

A central distinction concerns the difference between traditional hereditary authority and contemporary sovereign statehood.

George claims succession to a particular ancestral traditional royal authority in Cameroon.

That claim concerns the historical identity of the institution, the relevant customary succession rules and the continuity of his ancestral family line.

Sovereign governmental status raises different questions.

These may concern territorial authority, constitutional legitimacy, international recognition and the applicable principles of international law.

The establishment of hereditary entitlement does not automatically establish the existence of a separate sovereign state.

Equally, the absence of sovereign status does not necessarily resolve the historical question of customary hereditary legitimacy.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore requests that the Government distinguish these matters.

The proposal should not be dismissed as an historical enquiry merely because sovereign recognition has not been established.

Nor should historical research assistance be represented as recognition of governmental status.

10.6 George's Authority to Represent His Ancestral Family

George T. Nomen has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to act on his behalf.

That authorisation is established between George and the organisation.

The separate question of George's hereditary position remains part of the historical investigation.

His personal claim may concern rights or interests associated with an ancestral family line.

However, his authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited does not automatically establish that every descendant or family member has authorised him to represent their individual interests.

Where the proposed institution develops activities involving wider family representation, the relevant authority should be established according to the circumstances.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office identify what evidence of representative authority it would consider relevant for particular forms of governmental engagement.

The organisation does not presume the answer.

It asks for the Department's requirements in writing.

10.7 Representation of the Wider Bamiléké Community

George's proposed institution may raise questions concerning the interests of persons beyond his immediate ancestral family.

The Bamiléké historical and cultural context contains multiple traditional institutions, communities and family histories.

George's claim concerns a particular ancestral hereditary authority.

Reparation Nation Limited does not assert that he has automatically acquired authority over every Bamiléké person or traditional institution.

Any proposed wider representation would require separate consideration of the relevant customary, institutional and consent-based arrangements.

The organisation considers it important that persons and institutions whose interests may be affected have an appropriate opportunity to express their positions.

Their participation should not be presumed.

Nor should disagreement automatically be treated as evidence that George's ancestral account is invalid.

Historical succession, community representation and contemporary political authority are separate questions.

The proposed institution should preserve those distinctions.

10.8 Why London Is Proposed

George has identified London as a possible location for organising the investigation and related institutional activities.

London provides access to British governmental institutions, historical archives, universities, researchers, legal professionals and organisations concerned with international affairs.

It may also provide a practical base for correspondence with German, French and Cameroonian institutions.

The historical presence of the Free French movement in London provides an additional consideration for George.

However, the practical advantages of London must be distinguished from the legal consequences of operating there.

Establishing an office or organisation in London does not automatically confer diplomatic recognition or governmental status.

Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification of the lawful institutional options available to George while he pursues the investigation.

10.9 The Free French Precedent and Britain's Moral Position

Britain's historical support for General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement forms an important part of George's request.

The British Government provided a base and substantial support for Free French activities during the Second World War.

George wishes Britain to consider the moral significance of that precedent when examining his own proposed London-based initiative.

The circumstances are not identical.

The Free French movement operated during a major international war and advanced claims connected with the continuation of authority associated with an existing sovereign state.

George's proposed institution concerns an ancestral traditional authority whose historical status and continuity require investigation.

Nevertheless, the comparison raises a question about Britain's willingness to assist a peaceful initiative concerned with displaced authority and historical accountability.

Reparation Nation Limited asks the Government to consider that question on its merits.

The organisation does not claim that the Free French precedent creates an automatic entitlement to recognition.

It requests that Britain explain what forms of contemporary assistance may be considered and the reasons for any limitations.

10.10 Proposed Activities of the London-Based Institution

The proposed institution would initially concentrate upon historical research, documentation, international communication and consultation.

Its activities could include the preservation of ancestral testimony, preparation of genealogical records, identification of colonial administrative decisions and the coordination of archival enquiries.

It could also assist in locating records concerning the reported deaths of George's ancestors and the fate of their remains.

Further activities might include conferences, meetings with researchers, communications with relevant traditional institutions and the publication of evidence-based historical reports.

Where appropriate, the institution could seek governmental responses concerning historical accountability and available reparatory procedures.

These activities would be undertaken peacefully and subject to applicable law.

No authority to exercise coercive governmental powers is asserted.

The initial objective is to establish an organised and credible institutional foundation for the investigation.

10.11 Alternative One — A Historical Research and Documentation Institution

One possible arrangement is a London-based historical research and documentation institution.

Its purpose would be to collect, preserve, examine and organise information concerning George's ancestral history.

Such an institution could coordinate research involving archives in Britain, Germany, France and Cameroon.

It could maintain a register of documents obtained and identify questions remaining unresolved.

It could also commission or seek independent historical and genealogical examination where appropriate.

This arrangement would not require the institution to represent itself as a sovereign government.

It may therefore provide a practical route for beginning work while broader hereditary and constitutional questions remain under investigation.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office clarify whether any appropriate institutional assistance or referral arrangements may be available.

10.12 Alternative Two — An Ancestral Representative Council

A second possible arrangement is a representative council concerned with the history and interests of George's ancestral family and any other persons or institutions who voluntarily agree to participate.

Such a council could coordinate consultation, preserve traditional evidence and assist with the development of a shared historical record.

Its representative authority would need to be established through appropriate procedures.

The council should not presume authority over persons who have not consented or who are not otherwise lawfully represented.

Its constitution would need to define membership, decision-making arrangements and the limits of its activities.

The institution could engage with historical and reparatory questions without necessarily claiming sovereign status.

Whether this arrangement is appropriate would depend upon the wishes of George and the relevant participants.

10.13 Alternative Three — A Provisional Reparatory Justice Institution

A third possibility is a provisional reparatory justice institution.

Such an institution could concentrate upon investigating historical harms, identifying responsible archival bodies, organising evidence and considering appropriate avenues for historical acknowledgement or remedies.

It could operate in cooperation with Reparation Nation Limited and relevant researchers or community representatives.

Its functions would need to be clearly defined.

The institution should distinguish historical investigation from legal representation, political recognition and the management of any eventual reparatory resources.

Any financial or administrative responsibilities would require appropriate governance and safeguards.

This arrangement could support the immediate objectives without predetermining the outcome of George's hereditary claim.

10.14 Alternative Four — A Government-in-Exile Subject to Further Examination

George's preferred concept of a government-in-exile remains an option for examination.

However, its historical, customary, constitutional and international legal foundations would require careful assessment.

The investigation should establish the original nature of the ancestral authority, its continuity, its relationship to existing institutions and the scope of any representative mandate.

The proposed governmental structure would also need to define its officers, constitution, decision-making procedures and claimed powers.

Its relationship with Cameroon and other states would require consideration.

Reparation Nation Limited does not propose that the Foreign Office recognise an unexamined institution merely because George has expressed an intention to establish it.

Instead, the organisation requests clarification of what evidence and procedures the Government would consider relevant to any future proposal.

George should then have the opportunity to consider those requirements.

10.15 The Relationship Between the Proposed Institution and Cameroon

Cameroon is an independent sovereign state.

George's ancestral traditional authority is associated with territory situated within present-day Cameroon.

Any proposed London-based institution must therefore consider its relationship with Cameroon's existing constitutional and legal arrangements.

Reparation Nation Limited does not assert that George's hereditary claim automatically creates a separate sovereign state.

Nor does the organisation ask Britain to disregard Cameroon's territorial integrity or international legal status.

George seeks historical disclosure and appropriate consideration of the consequences of the reported displacement of his ancestral authority.

The organisation asks whether lawful institutional engagement may be possible without prejudging questions of sovereignty.

Where consultation with Cameroonian governmental or traditional institutions is appropriate, the relevant procedures should be identified.

10.16 Institutional Legitimacy and Community Consultation

The legitimacy of a proposed representative institution cannot depend solely upon its title or the intentions of its organisers.

The institution must accurately identify whom it represents and the basis upon which that representation has been established.

Where George acts in his personal capacity as a hereditary claimant, that position should be stated.

Where Reparation Nation Limited acts pursuant to George's authorisation, that authority should be distinguished.

Where wider community participation is proposed, appropriate consultation or authorisation must be established.

The organisation should not attribute support to persons or institutions that have not provided it.

A transparent process may also identify differences of opinion requiring consideration.

Such differences should be recorded accurately rather than concealed.

The purpose is to create an institution whose actual authority corresponds with the claims it makes.

10.17 Proposed Constitutional Arrangements

If George proceeds with a formal London-based institution, its constitutional arrangements should be examined.

A constitution or governing instrument would need to identify the institution's objectives, membership, officers, powers, responsibilities and procedures.

It should distinguish internal organisational authority from governmental or sovereign authority.

It should also establish how decisions are made, how representatives are appointed and how disputes are addressed.

Appropriate safeguards would be required concerning financial management, documentary records, conflicts of interest and accountability.

Where the institution relies upon customary hereditary authority, the relevant traditional rules should be identified.

Where it relies upon voluntary participation, the terms of participation should be clear.

The organisation does not presume that a particular constitutional form is already required or appropriate.

The purpose is to establish what would need to be examined before an institutional claim is presented formally.

10.18 The Role of Reparation Nation Limited

Reparation Nation Limited has been authorised by George T. Nomen to assist with his historical investigation and the initial governmental engagement described in this representation.

Derrick Lynch acts as the organisation's representative.

Reparation Nation Limited's immediate functions concern research coordination, correspondence, evidence management and the preparation of appropriate institutional requests.

The organisation does not claim to possess hereditary royal authority.

Nor does it assert that George's authorisation transfers sovereign or governmental powers to the company.

If a separate institution is established, the relationship between that institution, George and Reparation Nation Limited would need to be defined.

Any additional responsibilities would require appropriate authorisation and governance arrangements.

The present representation does not establish an unlimited mandate for future litigation, financial commitments, settlements or governmental decisions.

10.19 Documentary Verification of George's Authority

George has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to undertake the present representation.

The existence of that authorisation is confirmed.

However, the Foreign Office may require particular documentary evidence before accepting RNL as a representative for specific administrative or diplomatic purposes.

The organisation does not propose to presume those requirements.

It requests that the Department identify them in writing.

The evidence needed to verify George's personal authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited may differ from the evidence needed to consider his hereditary position.

Further evidence may be necessary if the proposed institution seeks to represent persons or communities beyond George himself.

Different standards may also apply to requests for historical information, meetings, institutional assistance and governmental recognition.

The Department is requested to distinguish these matters clearly.

George will then have the opportunity to respond through Reparation Nation Limited.

10.20 The Possibility of British Institutional Assistance

Reparation Nation Limited requests consideration of whether the United Kingdom Government would provide or facilitate appropriate assistance with George's proposed London-based activities.

Such assistance could involve procedural guidance, identification of relevant officials, archival referrals or consideration of an introductory meeting.

The Government might also be able to identify existing public programmes or institutions concerned with historical research, international heritage or archival cooperation.

The organisation does not presume that any particular programme is available or that George would necessarily qualify for support.

It requests clarification of the available procedures and eligibility requirements.

The organisation also asks whether the Foreign Office would consider providing guidance concerning the distinctions between historical research activity, representative organisations and requests involving governmental recognition.

A limited form of assistance should be considered separately from formal diplomatic endorsement.

10.21 The Importance of Avoiding Premature Recognition Claims

Reparation Nation Limited considers that premature assertions of governmental recognition could create unnecessary confusion.

The proposed institution should not represent itself as recognised by Britain unless such recognition has actually been granted.

An acknowledgement of correspondence would not constitute recognition.

A meeting with an official would not constitute recognition.

An archival referral would not constitute recognition.

Similarly, permission to conduct lawful activities in London would not establish sovereign governmental status.

The organisation proposes to preserve these distinctions throughout its records and public communications.

George's interest in a government-in-exile should be presented as a serious proposal for examination, not as an accomplished constitutional or diplomatic fact.

This approach allows the historical investigation to proceed while protecting the integrity of any subsequent request.

10.22 The Humanitarian Purpose of the Proposed Institution

The proposed London-based institution must remain connected with George's immediate humanitarian and historical objectives.

He seeks to establish what happened to ancestors reportedly killed during colonial intervention.

He wishes to know where their bodies were taken, whether they were buried and whether records survive concerning their remains.

The proposed institution could assist by organising those enquiries and preserving the evidence obtained.

These activities do not necessarily require governmental recognition.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore requests that the Foreign Office consider whether practical assistance may be available independently of the broader constitutional question.

The humanitarian investigation should not be delayed solely because George's proposed institutional status remains unresolved.

The organisation asks that the two matters be considered separately.

10.23 The Potential Role of Independent Historians and Legal Specialists

The proposed institution may require assistance from qualified historians, genealogists, archivists and legal specialists.

Historical expertise may be needed to identify original colonial records and reconstruct administrative decisions.

Genealogical expertise may assist in examining the ancestral family line.

Knowledge of customary institutions may be required to understand traditional succession arrangements.

Legal advice may become appropriate if questions of representation, constitutional status, diplomatic recognition or remedies arise.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that every specialist will endorse George's claim.

Independent examination must remain capable of identifying contradictory or qualifying evidence.

The proposed institution should preserve the distinction between research findings, professional opinions and governmental or judicial determinations.

10.24 The Role of IBIS in Supporting the Proposed Institution

Reparation Nation Limited proposes to examine whether IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice — can provide administrative support for the investigation.

Potential functions include evidence registration, correspondence tracking, documentary verification and the recording of institutional responses.

IBIS may also assist in distinguishing personal identity, membership, representative authority and institutional recognition.

These are separate matters.

Identity does not automatically establish membership.

Membership does not automatically establish representation.

Representation does not automatically establish governmental recognition.

The existence of a historical claim does not establish that the claim has been verified.

Reparation Nation Limited intends to preserve these distinctions.

IBIS would not itself confer hereditary entitlement, governmental authority or sovereign recognition.

Its proposed function is to assist with the organisation and accountability of the investigation.

10.25 Financial Independence and Institutional Accountability

Any proposed London-based institution would require appropriate financial and administrative arrangements.

Reparation Nation Limited considers that the institution's resources, expenditure and responsibilities should be clearly documented.

Financial support, if obtained, should not be confused with governmental endorsement or diplomatic recognition.

Any future donations, grants or other resources would need to be administered according to applicable law and the terms upon which they were provided.

The proposed institution should maintain appropriate records and safeguards against misuse.

George's present authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited does not automatically authorise the organisation to incur unlimited financial obligations on his behalf.

Any material future commitment would require appropriate authority.

Financial accountability should therefore be established as part of the institutional framework rather than deferred until a dispute arises.

10.26 Safeguards Against Anti-Black Racism and Institutional Racism

Reparation Nation Limited requests information concerning safeguards against anti-Black racism and institutional racism in the Government's consideration of the proposed institution.

The proposal concerns an African traditional authority and the historical consequences of European colonial administration.

The organisation considers it appropriate to ask how the Foreign Office ensures fair assessment of requests involving African customary institutions and hereditary claims.

Such consideration should recognise relevant differences in historical evidence and constitutional arrangements without introducing discriminatory treatment.

Reparation Nation Limited does not suggest that different outcomes necessarily demonstrate racial discrimination.

The legal and factual circumstances of different cases may legitimately differ.

Nevertheless, applicants should be able to understand the relevant criteria and procedures.

The organisation requests information concerning equality safeguards, appropriate decision-making guidance, review arrangements and routes for raising concerns.

No predetermined allegation or finding of unlawful discrimination is advanced against any present-day official or institution.

10.27 Distinguishing Recognition, Support and Engagement

For clarity, Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office distinguish three principal categories.

Recognition concerns the particular status that a government may formally acknowledge.

Support concerns assistance that may be provided to an individual, organisation or initiative.

Engagement concerns communication, consultation or other interaction with relevant persons or institutions.

These categories may overlap in particular circumstances, but they are not identical.

A government may communicate with an organisation without recognising it as a government.

It may provide information or referrals without endorsing every claim advanced by the recipient.

The organisation therefore requests that the Foreign Office explain which forms of engagement may be considered in George's circumstances.

If recognition is unavailable or considered inappropriate, the Department is requested to address whether other forms of lawful assistance remain possible.

10.28 Formal Questions Requiring Governmental Consideration

Reparation Nation Limited requests written consideration of the following questions.

Question 10.28.1: What legal, constitutional or diplomatic considerations would the United Kingdom Government apply to a proposal for a London-based government-in-exile associated with a claimed ancestral traditional authority in Cameroon?

Question 10.28.2: Does the Foreign Office distinguish recognition of a sovereign government from engagement with an unrecognised representative institution?

Question 10.28.3: What forms of governmental communication or institutional assistance may be available without formal recognition?

Question 10.28.4: Would the Government consider an introductory meeting with Derrick Lynch, representing Reparation Nation Limited, concerning George T. Nomen's proposed activities?

Question 10.28.5: What evidence would the Department require concerning George's claimed hereditary status before considering any request for engagement based upon that status?

Question 10.28.6: What evidence would be required to establish authority to represent persons or institutions beyond George himself?

Question 10.28.7: What documentary evidence does the Department require to verify George's existing authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited?

Question 10.28.8: Does the Government recognise a procedural distinction between a government-in-exile, a representative council, a historical research institution and a reparatory justice organisation?

Question 10.28.9: What existing legal arrangements govern the establishment of peaceful representative or research organisations in London?

Question 10.28.10: What considerations would apply if the proposed institution sought to describe itself publicly as a government-in-exile?

Question 10.28.11: What relevance would the Government attach to the historical continuity and customary legitimacy of the original ancestral authority?

Question 10.28.12: How would the Department assess the relationship between a proposed institution and the sovereignty of Cameroon?

Question 10.28.13: Would the Government consider providing appropriate archival or institutional referrals concerning George's ancestral investigation?

Question 10.28.14: What forms of diplomatic or administrative assistance may be available in approaching German, French and Cameroonian institutions?

Question 10.28.15: Does the Government consider Britain's historical support for the Free French movement relevant to any contemporary request for assistance involving a proposed institution operating in exile?

Question 10.28.16: If the historical precedent is considered inapplicable, will the Department identify the material reasons?

Question 10.28.17: What safeguards apply to ensure fair consideration of African traditional authority and customary historical evidence?

Question 10.28.18: What procedures are available where additional evidence or clarification is required before a proposal can be considered?

Question 10.28.19: If formal governmental recognition is unavailable, what alternative arrangements for lawful engagement may be considered?

Question 10.28.20: Will the Department provide a written response distinguishing the assistance it is prepared to consider from any recognition it is unwilling or unable to grant?

These questions are intended to establish a clear procedural basis for future decisions.

They do not presume that Britain is under a legal obligation to recognise a proposed government-in-exile.

10.29 Proposed Sequence of Institutional Development

Reparation Nation Limited proposes that George's London-based initiative be examined through identifiable stages.

The first stage is the formal approach to the British Government and the clarification of the applicable procedures.

The second is the continuation of historical and genealogical research, including investigation of the reported deaths and the fate of ancestral remains.

The third is the identification and consultation of persons and institutions whose participation may be relevant.

The fourth is the examination of the constitutional, customary and legal foundations of any proposed representative institution.

The fifth is the consideration of appropriate institutional arrangements, including a research organisation, representative council or government-in-exile proposal.

The sixth is the submission of any further governmental request supported by the evidence and authority established.

These stages are proposed for orderly development.

They do not require every historical question to be resolved before archival enquiries begin.

Nor do they presume that formal recognition will necessarily follow.

10.30 The Government's Opportunity to Identify an Appropriate Way Forward

The purpose of approaching the Foreign Office is not to impose a predetermined institutional outcome.

George seeks assistance in determining what arrangements may be available and what requirements would apply.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore invites the British Government to identify any appropriate alternative to formal recognition that could support the immediate investigation.

If a historical research institution is considered more appropriate for certain activities, the Department may explain the relevant procedures.

If a representative council would require further evidence of community authority, the Department is requested to identify the nature of that evidence.

If the Government considers that it cannot engage with a proposed government-in-exile, it is asked to address separately whether archival, humanitarian or institutional assistance may nevertheless be provided.

This approach preserves George's freedom to pursue his objectives while allowing the Government to explain its position.

10.31 Request for a Reasoned and Recorded Decision

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office's response identify the aspects of George's proposal that it has considered.

The organisation seeks clarification of the applicable legal and diplomatic principles, the evidence required and any practical assistance available.

Where the Government declines a particular form of engagement, Reparation Nation Limited asks for an explanation of the principal reasons, where appropriate.

Where another institution is responsible, a referral is requested where practicable.

Where further documentary evidence is necessary, the Department is invited to specify its requirements.

The organisation recognises that not every preliminary enquiry is subject to a formal legal duty to provide a detailed decision.

Nevertheless, it requests sufficient written information to enable George to understand the Government's position and determine the appropriate next step.

All correspondence will be preserved as part of the project's documentary record.

10.32 Conclusion and Formal Request

George T. Nomen wishes to pursue an organised international historical investigation and to examine the establishment of a London-based government-in-exile or alternative representative institution associated with his claimed ancestral hereditary authority.

He has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to act on his behalf in making the present representation.

His immediate objectives concern the discovery of historical evidence, the reported killing of ancestors, the fate of their remains and the circumstances surrounding the displacement of hereditary traditional authority.

The proposed London-based institution is intended to provide an organised means of pursuing those objectives.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that a government-in-exile cannot establish sovereign authority merely through its own declaration.

The historical, customary, constitutional and representative foundations of any proposed institution require examination.

Nevertheless, the absence of recognised governmental status should not automatically prevent consideration of lawful historical, humanitarian and institutional assistance.

Britain's historical support for General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement provides an important moral and historical comparison which George wishes the Government to address.

The organisation therefore requests that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office identify the relevant procedures, evidence requirements and forms of engagement it is prepared to consider.

Where formal recognition is unavailable, the Government is asked to address possible alternative arrangements.

Where evidence of George's authority or representative status is required, the Department is invited to identify its requirements in writing.

George will then have the opportunity to respond through Reparation Nation Limited.

The central request is that the United Kingdom Government consider how it may lawfully and practically assist George T. Nomen's peaceful London-based efforts to investigate his ancestral history, preserve evidence and pursue appropriate

historical accountability, without requiring premature conclusions concerning sovereign recognition.

Reparation Nation Limited formally requests a substantive written response.

END OF SECTION TEN

NEXT: SECTION ELEVEN — MORAL RESPONSIBILITIES, EQUAL TREATMENT AND THE CASE FOR BRITISH ASSISTANCE

SECTION ELEVEN — MORAL RESPONSIBILITIES, EQUAL TREATMENT AND THE CASE FOR BRITISH ASSISTANCE

11.1 Introduction and Purpose

This section concerns the moral, historical, humanitarian and institutional considerations supporting George T. Nomen's request for assistance from the United Kingdom Government.

Reparation Nation Limited submits this section pursuant to the authorisation given by George T. Nomen.

George seeks to establish what happened to his ancestors during German colonial intervention and subsequent French administration in Cameroon, including the reported deaths of members of his ancestral family and community, the uncertain fate of their remains and the displacement of the hereditary traditional authority associated with his family.

He also wishes to organise peaceful activities from London to support historical disclosure, international archival cooperation and the pursuit of appropriate historical accountability and reparatory justice.

The request raises questions extending beyond the technical availability of particular archival records.

It concerns whether the British Government is prepared to consider practical assistance to an African hereditary claimant seeking to investigate serious historical events affecting his ancestors.

It also concerns the relevance of Britain's historical support for the Free French movement and the principles of fairness, equality, transparency and institutional accountability applicable to the Government's response.

Reparation Nation Limited does not ask Britain to accept unverified historical claims, recognise a government-in-exile automatically or assume responsibility for acts not established by evidence.

It asks that George's circumstances receive serious consideration and that the Government identify what assistance it can lawfully and practically provide.

11.2 The Central Moral Question

George's request raises a fundamental moral question concerning the treatment of descendants seeking information about ancestors who reportedly suffered serious violence during colonial administration.

He maintains that members of his ancestral family and community were killed and that the hereditary traditional authority associated with his family was displaced.

He wishes to establish what actually happened.

His concern includes the identities of the deceased, the circumstances of their deaths, the individuals or institutions involved and the fate of their bodies.

The available preliminary material does not yet independently establish every element of this account.

That uncertainty is a principal reason for seeking historical disclosure.

Reparation Nation Limited asks whether the British Government considers it appropriate to assist, within its powers and available resources, a person seeking to investigate such matters.

The moral request is not that officials should accept a particular historical narrative without evidence.

It is that they should consider what reasonable steps may be available to help identify the evidence.

A request for historical truth should be distinguished from a demand for a predetermined historical conclusion.

11.3 The Human Dignity of the Deceased

The reported deaths of George's ancestors form a central part of the representation.

Reparation Nation Limited considers that the investigation should recognise the human dignity of the persons concerned.

Their historical significance should not depend exclusively upon whether they occupied hereditary royal office.

A person who died during colonial administration remains a subject of legitimate historical enquiry whether or not their precise traditional or political position can be established.

The investigation should therefore seek information concerning all identifiable deceased persons relevant to George's account.

Where evidence establishes a death, the circumstances should be recorded as accurately as possible.

Where the location or fate of remains remains unknown, that uncertainty should be preserved.

The organisation does not presume that all missing records can be recovered.

Nevertheless, it requests that the possibility of identifying relevant information be examined seriously.

The humanitarian purpose of this enquiry should remain distinct from the constitutional questions concerning hereditary succession and governmental recognition.

11.4 The Interests of Descendants in Historical Truth

Descendants may have profound personal, cultural and historical interests in understanding the circumstances surrounding the deaths of their ancestors.

George seeks information that may assist him and other interested descendants in reconstructing their family history.

This includes determining whether ancestors were killed, whether their deaths were recorded and whether burial or other information survives.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that such interests do not automatically create an unrestricted legal entitlement to every historical record.

Different archival and legal procedures may apply.

Nevertheless, the existence of potential access restrictions does not make the underlying enquiry illegitimate.

The organisation asks the British Government to identify the lawful research and disclosure routes that may be available.

Where records are held by another institution or government, appropriate referrals are requested.

The objective is to establish whether meaningful historical information can be obtained.

11.5 The Historical Context of European Colonial Administration

George's ancestral account concerns a period during which European colonial authorities exercised governmental and military power over territories associated with present-day Cameroon.

Germany established colonial administration in Kamerun during the nineteenth century.

Following the First World War, British and French authorities administered different parts of the former German territory.

The historical arrangements created documentary records, administrative decisions and institutional relationships that may remain relevant to contemporary research.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that the responsibilities of the different administrations must be distinguished.

The existence of European colonial rule does not, by itself, establish the particular events reported by George.

Nor does Britain's historical involvement in Cameroon automatically establish responsibility for German or French decisions.

Nevertheless, Britain may possess relevant records and may be able to facilitate appropriate international institutional cooperation.

The organisation therefore asks that the historical context be treated as a legitimate basis for examining what assistance Britain can provide.

11.6 Britain's Historical Support for Free France

Britain's historical support for General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement provides an important moral comparison.

During the Second World War, Britain allowed Free French leadership and organisations to operate from London and provided substantial support to their activities.

The relevant circumstances involved war, foreign occupation, an existing sovereign state and competing claims concerning French governmental authority.

George's circumstances are different.

His claim concerns an ancestral African traditional institution whose historical continuity and customary legitimacy require investigation.

Reparation Nation Limited does not suggest that Britain is legally required to reproduce the arrangements established during the Second World War.

The comparison instead raises a question concerning the principles that may inform decisions to assist people or institutions seeking to preserve or investigate displaced authority.

George asks whether Britain is prepared to consider practical assistance with his peaceful London-based initiative.

The Government is invited to explain the forms of assistance available and the reasons for any limitations.

11.7 The Relevance of Cameroon to the Free French Movement

The historical relationship between Cameroon and the Free French movement gives the comparison an additional dimension.

French-administered Cameroon rallied to Free France in August 1940 and formed part of the movement's early territorial support.

This history establishes a connection between Cameroon and the movement that Britain assisted.

It does not establish that George's particular ancestral traditional authority supported the Free French movement or participated in the relevant decisions.

Such a proposition would require separate historical evidence.

Reparation Nation Limited does not advance it as an established fact.

Nevertheless, the wider historical connection is relevant to George's request that Britain consider its relationship with Cameroon and the consequences of European colonial administration.

The organisation asks that this context be considered without exaggerating its legal implications.

11.8 The Principle of Consistent Moral Consideration

Reparation Nation Limited asks the British Government to consider whether comparable moral concerns receive comparable seriousness, while recognising relevant differences in legal and historical circumstances.

A request involving European displaced political authority and a request involving African hereditary traditional authority may raise different legal questions.

Those differences may justify different governmental responses.

However, the existence of differences does not prevent serious consideration of the humanitarian or historical issues common to both situations.

George asks that his African ancestry and the traditional character of his claimed institution not become reasons for dismissing his request without examination.

Reparation Nation Limited does not demand identical outcomes regardless of circumstances.

It requests a decision-making process that identifies the relevant criteria and applies them fairly.

Where the Government considers that the Free French precedent does not support a particular form of assistance, the organisation asks it to explain the material distinctions.

The objective is principled consideration, not artificial equivalence.

11.9 Equal Treatment and Procedural Fairness

The organisation requests that George's representation be considered according to relevant law, policy, evidence and administrative responsibility.

Fair consideration does not require the Government to accept his historical or hereditary claims.

It requires that decisions not be affected by unlawful discriminatory considerations and that relevant evidence be examined appropriately.

Reparation Nation Limited considers it important that African customary institutions and oral historical evidence are not dismissed merely because they differ from European constitutional or documentary traditions.

At the same time, such evidence must remain subject to critical historical examination.

No form of evidence should receive automatic acceptance merely because of its origin.

The organisation seeks a process that distinguishes the quality of evidence from assumptions about the identity of the persons presenting it.

Where the Department applies particular evidential criteria, those criteria should be identified where appropriate.

This will assist George in understanding how to respond.

11.10 Safeguards Against Anti-Black Racism

Reparation Nation Limited formally requests information concerning the safeguards against anti-Black racism applicable to the Department's consideration of this representation.

The request arises because the investigation concerns an African ancestral family, African traditional authority and historical events associated with European colonial administration.

It is therefore appropriate to establish how relevant officials ensure fair treatment in such circumstances.

The organisation requests information concerning applicable equality policies, staff guidance, procedures for identifying discriminatory treatment and arrangements for reviewing decisions.

It also asks how concerns may be raised if George or Reparation Nation Limited considers that relevant information has not received appropriate consideration.

These questions are preventive and procedural.

No allegation or finding of anti-Black racism is made against any particular Foreign Office official.

No conclusion concerning discriminatory conduct has been reached.

The organisation seeks evidence of the safeguards in place.

11.11 Safeguards Against Institutional Racism

Reparation Nation Limited separately requests information concerning safeguards against institutional racism.

This enquiry is not limited to the conduct of individual officials.

It concerns whether relevant institutional policies, procedures and decision-making practices are designed and monitored to prevent discriminatory outcomes.

The organisation requests clarification of how the Department addresses potential unfairness arising from the treatment of African historical evidence, customary authority and applications for international engagement.

It also asks what review arrangements exist where an applicant considers that institutional procedures have produced an unfair result.

The organisation does not assert that the Department's procedures are institutionally racist.

It requests information enabling the adequacy and application of relevant safeguards to be understood.

The absence of an immediately supplied policy document should not itself be treated as proof of unlawful conduct.

The purpose is evidence-based examination.

11.12 The Significance of African Oral and Customary Evidence

George's ancestral account includes information transmitted through family and community knowledge.

Such evidence may be particularly important where colonial administrative records are incomplete.

Reparation Nation Limited considers that the investigation should examine oral testimony and customary historical material alongside European documentary sources.

Colonial records may contain important contemporary evidence.

However, they were often produced for administrative purposes different from those of the communities whose institutions they described.

The investigation should therefore consider the purpose, language and perspective of each source.

Similarly, oral accounts should be examined according to their provenance, consistency, historical context and relationship to other evidence.

Neither form of evidence should be accepted or rejected automatically.

The organisation asks that relevant British governmental or archival procedures permit a fair examination of the different sources.

11.13 Historical Knowledge and the Power to Preserve Records

European colonial administrations possessed substantial power to generate, classify, preserve and transfer official records.

The descendants of persons affected by colonial decisions may not have equivalent access to those records.

This historical imbalance may create practical difficulties for contemporary investigations.

George seeks to establish what happened to his ancestors, but some relevant evidence may be held in institutions outside Cameroon.

Reparation Nation Limited considers that this circumstance supports a request for practical archival cooperation.

The organisation does not suggest that the historical location of records automatically establishes wrongdoing by their present custodians.

Nor does it assume that every record can lawfully be disclosed.

It requests clarity concerning where records are held, how they may be accessed and what assistance can be provided.

Where archives hold relevant information, access to that information may contribute to a more complete and balanced historical record.

11.14 Moral Responsibility and Legal Responsibility

A central distinction must be maintained between moral considerations and legally enforceable obligations.

Britain may be asked to consider providing assistance because of its historical involvement in Cameroon, its possession of relevant records, its diplomatic capabilities or the humanitarian importance of the investigation.

Those considerations do not automatically establish legal liability for particular events.

Historical responsibility for German or French colonial actions must be examined according to the actual evidence and applicable law.

Similarly, the moral argument arising from Britain's support for Free France does not create an automatic legal entitlement to diplomatic recognition or financial assistance.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises these distinctions.

It asks the Government to consider whether assistance may be appropriate even where no enforceable duty to provide that assistance has been established.

The absence of legal liability does not necessarily prevent voluntary cooperation.

Equally, voluntary cooperation should not be misrepresented as an admission of legal responsibility.

11.15 The Case for Practical Assistance

Reparation Nation Limited submits that the immediate requests are capable of being considered without resolving every historical or constitutional question.

The Government may be able to identify relevant British archives, clarify access procedures, refer enquiries to appropriate departments or explain the possibility of international cooperation.

It may also be willing to consider a meeting or provide guidance concerning George's proposed London-based activities.

These forms of assistance are distinct from recognition of a government-in-exile.

They are also distinct from a decision concerning reparations or historical liability.

The organisation requests that the Foreign Office consider them separately.

Where assistance is unavailable, the Department is asked to identify the principal reasons and any appropriate alternative procedure.

The purpose is to establish a practical route through which the investigation can proceed.

11.16 The Case for Diplomatic and Institutional Cooperation

The historical investigation may require records held in Germany, France and Cameroon.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that the United Kingdom cannot automatically compel foreign governments or archival institutions to release information.

Nevertheless, the organisation asks whether appropriate diplomatic or institutional cooperation may be available.

Such cooperation might include identifying official contacts, explaining established communication channels or referring requests to competent institutions.

The organisation does not presume that the Foreign Office possesses a general obligation to conduct historical research for private applicants.

It asks what assistance falls within the Department's responsibilities or discretion.

Where such assistance is not available, a clear response would enable George to pursue alternative routes.

The objective is to avoid unnecessary procedural confusion.

11.17 Britain's Potential Contribution Without Recognition

George's proposed government-in-exile raises complex questions concerning historical authority, contemporary representation and international law.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that the Government may decline or be unable to recognise such an institution.

However, the organisation asks that this question remain distinct from the possibility of assisting with historical research.

A decision concerning diplomatic recognition does not necessarily determine whether Britain can provide information about archival holdings or identify relevant institutions.

Similarly, the absence of recognised governmental status does not automatically prevent lawful historical research or community consultation.

The organisation therefore requests that the Foreign Office explain what forms of engagement are available without recognition.

This is an important practical distinction.

It allows the Department to consider limited assistance without prejudging George's ultimate constitutional objectives.

11.18 The Moral Importance of Reasoned Responses

Reparation Nation Limited considers that the quality of the Government's response is significant.

A response that merely acknowledges receipt may not resolve the procedural questions raised.

Similarly, a general statement that hereditary succession is not a Foreign Office responsibility would not necessarily address the separate requests concerning British archives and possible international referrals.

The organisation therefore asks that the Department distinguish the different matters presented.

Where a request falls outside its responsibilities, the Department is invited to identify the appropriate institution where practicable.

Where evidence is required, the Department is asked to specify that evidence.

Where assistance is declined, the organisation requests an explanation of the principal reasons, where appropriate.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that every response is subject to a statutory duty to provide detailed reasons.

It seeks sufficient clarification to understand the Government's position and determine the next step.

11.19 The Risk of Prematurely Dismissing the Historical Claim

George seeks historical information partly because the available family evidence remains incomplete.

It would therefore create procedural difficulty if every request for help locating evidence were treated as requiring the historical claim to be proved in advance.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that particular records or forms of governmental engagement may require proof of identity, representative authority or another qualification.

Nevertheless, the evidence needed to establish access rights should be distinguished from the evidence being sought through the investigation.

The organisation requests that preliminary archival research routes remain open where legally available.

George's claimed hereditary status may require extensive investigation before any conclusion can be reached.

That circumstance should not automatically prevent enquiries concerning publicly accessible historical records.

The purpose is to establish the evidence necessary for an informed assessment.

11.20 The Question of the Missing Ancestors

George's request concerning the fate of his ancestors deserves particular emphasis.

He wishes to determine whether records exist concerning their deaths and the treatment of their bodies.

Reparation Nation Limited considers that this enquiry should be capable of receiving independent consideration.

The organisation does not assert that the remains were removed to Europe or retained by particular institutions.

It asks whether any records may establish what occurred.

Relevant research may involve military documents, death and burial records, missionary accounts, museum records and other historical sources.

The Government is requested to identify what assistance may be available in locating such material.

Where responsibility lies with another institution, an appropriate referral is requested.

The investigation should proceed without requiring premature conclusions concerning hereditary entitlement or governmental recognition.

11.21 The Possibility of Historical Acknowledgement

The investigation may eventually establish facts supporting requests for historical acknowledgement.

Such acknowledgement might concern particular deaths, administrative decisions, the disruption of traditional authority or the preservation of an incomplete historical record.

However, Reparation Nation Limited does not demand that the British Government acknowledge unverified events as established facts.

The purpose of the present representation is to obtain the evidence necessary for an informed assessment.

Where evidence is subsequently established, appropriate requests may be considered.

Historical acknowledgement must also be distinguished from legal liability, diplomatic recognition and financial reparations.

Those matters may require separate procedures and decisions.

The organisation asks that the possibility of future acknowledgement remain open without being presumed.

11.22 The Possibility of Reparatory Justice

George's wider objectives include the pursuit of appropriate reparatory justice.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that the form of any potential remedy cannot be determined before the historical circumstances and applicable legal framework have been examined.

Possible future questions may concern access to information, correction of historical records, recognition of ancestral interests, memorialisation, cultural property, human remains or other forms of reparatory action.

These possibilities should not be represented as remedies already established or owed.

The organisation requests that historical disclosure be treated as an essential preliminary stage.

Where evidence supports further consideration, the relevant institutions and procedures can then be identified.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that Britain bears responsibility for every possible remedy arising from events under German or French administration.

Any such question would require separate assessment.

11.23 The Public Interest in Historical Disclosure

The proposed investigation may contribute to public understanding of European colonial administration and African traditional institutions.

Although George's immediate concerns arise from his family history, relevant archival findings may have wider historical significance.

Records concerning hereditary succession, military operations, administrative appointments and the treatment of local communities may assist researchers and descendants beyond the immediate case.

Reparation Nation Limited considers that this potential public interest supports a request for appropriate archival access and cooperation.

Nevertheless, public interest does not automatically override confidentiality, statutory restrictions or other lawful access conditions.

The organisation requests clarification of the available procedures.

The objective is to promote reliable historical knowledge rather than predetermined political or legal conclusions.

11.24 The Opportunity for Constructive British Engagement

Reparation Nation Limited considers that the British Government has an opportunity to respond constructively without prejudging George's historical claims.

A constructive response could identify relevant archives, clarify departmental responsibilities, explain verification requirements or provide appropriate institutional referrals.

It could also address whether a meeting or other form of preliminary engagement is available.

Such steps would not automatically constitute endorsement of George's hereditary claim or recognition of a government-in-exile.

They would demonstrate that the Government has considered the requests within their appropriate procedural categories.

The organisation asks that the Foreign Office identify what it is prepared to do rather than treating the entire representation as a single request for diplomatic recognition.

This distinction is essential to the practical progress of the investigation.

11.25 The Government's Historical Principles and Contemporary Decisions

George asks the United Kingdom Government to explain the relationship between its historical practice of supporting Free France and its contemporary approach to requests involving displaced ancestral authority.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that governmental policy develops over time and that historical decisions do not automatically determine present responsibilities.

Nevertheless, historical examples may legitimately inform moral and institutional discussion.

The organisation seeks an explanation of the principles relevant to the Government's consideration of George's request.

Those principles may include legality, diplomatic relations, historical evidence, humanitarian considerations, equality and practical feasibility.

The Foreign Office is invited to identify which considerations are relevant and what effect they have upon the assistance requested.

The objective is not to require the Government to adopt George's preferred conclusion.

It is to obtain a reasoned and transparent explanation of its position.

11.26 Formal Questions Requiring Governmental Consideration

Reparation Nation Limited requests written consideration of the following questions.

Question 11.26.1: What moral, humanitarian or public-interest considerations does the Foreign Office regard as relevant when assessing requests for assistance with historical investigations concerning colonial-era deaths and displacement?

Question 11.26.2: What forms of assistance may be available to descendants seeking information about ancestors reportedly killed during colonial administration?

Question 11.26.3: Does the Department distinguish requests for historical disclosure from requests for diplomatic recognition, legal remedies or reparations?

Question 11.26.4: What consideration would the Government give to the fact that potentially relevant records may be held outside the country in which the historical events occurred?

Question 11.26.5: What practical assistance can Britain provide in identifying records held by British governmental or archival institutions?

Question 11.26.6: What assistance may be available in identifying appropriate German, French and Cameroonian archival or governmental contacts?

Question 11.26.7: Does the Government consider Britain's historical support for General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement relevant to George's request for peaceful institutional assistance from London?

Question 11.26.8: If the Government considers the circumstances materially different, will it explain the distinctions relevant to its decision?

Question 11.26.9: What forms of engagement may be available without recognition of a government-in-exile?

Question 11.26.10: Would the Department consider a meeting with Derrick Lynch, representing Reparation Nation Limited, concerning George's historical and institutional objectives?

Question 11.26.11: What procedures are available for seeking British institutional assistance with the investigation into the reported deaths and fate of ancestral remains?

Question 11.26.12: What safeguards against anti-Black racism apply to the Department's assessment of requests involving African hereditary and traditional institutions?

Question 11.26.13: What safeguards against institutional racism apply to the relevant policies, procedures and decision-making systems?

Question 11.26.14: How does the Department ensure that African oral history and customary evidence receive fair consideration alongside European colonial records?

Question 11.26.15: What procedures exist for reviewing decisions where concerns arise about the handling of relevant historical evidence?

Question 11.26.16: What documentary evidence does the Department require to verify George's authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited for any particular form of engagement?

Question 11.26.17: What additional evidence, if any, would be required concerning George's claimed hereditary or wider representative status?

Question 11.26.18: If a particular request for assistance falls outside the Department's responsibilities, will it identify an appropriate alternative institution or procedure where practicable?

Question 11.26.19: Will the Department explain the principal reasons for any refusal or limitation upon assistance, where appropriate?

Question 11.26.20: What assistance is the United Kingdom Government prepared to consider in response to George T. Nomen's historical, humanitarian and institutional requests?

These questions seek clarification of the Government's position.

They do not presume that the Government possesses a legal duty to provide every form of assistance requested.

11.27 The Importance of Separating Governmental Decisions

Reparation Nation Limited asks that the Government avoid treating the different elements of this representation as dependent upon a single decision.

The request for access to historical information is distinct from the request for international archival cooperation.

The request for cooperation is distinct from the proposal for a London-based institution.

The proposal for an institution is distinct from any request for diplomatic recognition.

A request for recognition is distinct from any future claim for reparatory remedies.

Different evidential and legal requirements may apply to each matter.

A negative decision concerning one should not automatically determine the others unless there is a specific legal or practical reason.

The organisation therefore requests separate consideration wherever appropriate.

This approach would enable George to understand what avenues remain available.

11.28 The Role of Reparation Nation Limited in Maintaining Accountability

Reparation Nation Limited intends to preserve an accurate record of its communications with the British Government.

The organisation will distinguish acknowledgements, requests for evidence, referrals, substantive responses and decisions.

Where assistance is offered, the precise form of assistance will be recorded.

Where assistance is declined, the stated reasons will be preserved.

Where further information is requested, George will have the opportunity to respond through the organisation.

The initiative forms part of Proposed International Reparatory Justice Pilot Project No. 001.

Appropriate elements of IBIS may assist with organising the documentary record and distinguishing claims from verified outcomes.

The organisation will not represent an acknowledgement as an endorsement or a referral as a commitment to provide historical evidence.

The objective is accuracy and institutional accountability.

11.29 Statement of Non-Accusation and Evidential Independence

Reparation Nation Limited expressly confirms that this representation does not advance predetermined accusations, allegations or findings of misconduct against contemporary British officials or institutions.

It does not presume that Britain possesses records which it has deliberately withheld.

It does not assert that the Government bears legal responsibility for the reported German or French colonial actions without supporting evidence and legal assessment.

It does not presume that George's hereditary claim has already been independently established.

Nor does it presume that the proposed government-in-exile possesses recognised sovereign authority.

The organisation requests serious consideration precisely because these matters require evidence and procedural clarification.

Questions concerning anti-Black racism and institutional racism are presented as enquiries about safeguards, not findings of discriminatory conduct.

This position will be maintained throughout the investigation.

11.30 Conclusion and Formal Moral Representation

George T. Nomen seeks to discover what happened to his ancestors, establish the fate of those reportedly killed and investigate the historical displacement of the hereditary traditional authority associated with his family.

He has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to act on his behalf.

Derrick Lynch submits the present representation as the organisation's representative.

The United Kingdom Government is asked to consider the humanitarian importance of the investigation, the possible relevance of British historical records and the forms of international cooperation that may be available.

It is also asked to examine the moral significance of Britain's historical support for General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that the historical circumstances are different and that the precedent does not establish an automatic legal right to equivalent recognition or support.

Nevertheless, George requests that his African ancestral claim receive serious consideration according to relevant principles of fairness, evidence, legality and institutional accountability.

The organisation does not ask Britain to accept unverified historical events as established findings.

It asks Britain to consider helping establish what happened.

It does not demand recognition of an unexamined government-in-exile.

It requests clarification of what lawful institutional assistance may be available.

It does not presume that every requested record is held by the British Government.

It asks for appropriate disclosure procedures and research referrals.

The central moral question is whether Britain is prepared to offer meaningful, lawful and practical assistance to an African hereditary claimant seeking historical truth concerning reported colonial violence, ancestral deaths and displaced traditional authority, while organising his peaceful efforts from London.

Reparation Nation Limited formally requests that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office provide a reasoned written response identifying the assistance it is prepared to consider, the applicable procedures and any relevant limitations.

END OF SECTION ELEVEN

NEXT: SECTION TWELVE — REQUESTS FOR DIPLOMATIC, INSTITUTIONAL, ARCHIVAL AND PRACTICAL ASSISTANCE

SECTION TWELVE — REQUESTS FOR DIPLOMATIC, INSTITUTIONAL, ARCHIVAL AND PRACTICAL ASSISTANCE

12.1 Introduction and Purpose

This section formally identifies the assistance requested from the United Kingdom Government by Reparation Nation Limited on behalf of George T. Nomen.

George T. Nomen has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to act on his behalf in pursuing historical disclosure, governmental engagement and appropriate international cooperation concerning his ancestral family and the traditional Bamiléké authority from which he claims hereditary succession.

Derrick Lynch submits this representation for and on behalf of Reparation Nation Limited.

George seeks to establish what happened to his ancestors during German colonial intervention and subsequent French administration in Cameroon, including the reported killing of members of his ancestral family and community, the fate of their remains, and the destruction or displacement of the original hereditary traditional authority.

He also seeks British Government consideration of his proposed peaceful London-based activities, including the possibility of a government-in-exile or alternative representative institution.

These objectives require different forms of assistance.

Some may fall within the responsibilities of the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office. Others may concern The National Archives, foreign governments, independent archival institutions, museums, universities or other bodies.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore requests that the Foreign Office distinguish the assistance it can provide directly from assistance requiring referral or cooperation with another institution.

The purpose is to establish a practical and accountable process rather than allow the investigation to become obstructed by uncertainty concerning departmental responsibility.

12.2 The Four Principal Areas of Assistance

Reparation Nation Limited requests consideration of four broad categories of assistance.

The first concerns diplomatic assistance in identifying appropriate governmental contacts and possible channels for cooperation with Germany, France and Cameroon.

The second concerns archival assistance in locating and accessing surviving historical records.

The third concerns institutional assistance with George's proposed London-based activities, including clarification of the status and procedures applicable to a government-in-exile or alternative representative institution.

The fourth concerns practical assistance with organising the investigation, identifying specialist expertise and establishing appropriate routes for obtaining information concerning deceased ancestors and their remains.

These categories are connected but distinct.

The Department is requested to consider them separately.

A decision that one form of assistance is unavailable should not automatically dispose of the remaining requests.

12.3 Formal Request for Diplomatic Assistance

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office consider whether diplomatic assistance may be available in connection with George's international historical investigation.

The investigation concerns historical events associated principally with German and French colonial administration in Cameroon.

Relevant records may therefore be held by institutions operating under different national jurisdictions.

George seeks assistance in identifying the competent authorities and determining the appropriate procedures for submitting enquiries.

The organisation does not presume that the British Government can compel another sovereign state to disclose historical material.

It requests clarification of whether the Foreign Office is prepared to facilitate appropriate contact, provide institutional introductions or identify established channels for official historical enquiries.

Where the Department considers that diplomatic involvement is unnecessary or inappropriate, Reparation Nation Limited requests identification of any alternative route.

The objective is to establish whether Britain's international relationships can assist in obtaining information that may otherwise be difficult for an individual descendant to locate.

12.4 Request for Assistance Concerning Germany

Germany is a principal jurisdiction because George's account identifies German colonial intervention as a central historical cause of the reported displacement of his ancestral hereditary authority.

Reparation Nation Limited intends to seek information from relevant German governmental and archival institutions.

The requested investigation concerns traditional leadership appointments, administrative decisions, military operations, reported killings, the treatment of ancestral families and any surviving records concerning the fate of the deceased.

Particular attention is requested concerning records associated with German Kamerun and the former Reichskolonialamt.

The organisation asks whether the British Government can identify appropriate German contacts or established procedures through which assistance may be requested.

Where relevant documents are held by the German Federal Archives or other repositories, the appropriate enquiry routes should be clarified.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that any particular collection contains decisive evidence.

The purpose is to identify and examine the surviving records.

12.5 Request for Assistance Concerning France

France is a principal jurisdiction because subsequent French colonial administration may have continued, altered or otherwise affected arrangements concerning the traditional authority associated with George's ancestral family.

The investigation seeks original French administrative records concerning hereditary succession, recognised traditional officeholders and the treatment of the ancestral institution.

Particular importance is attached to the reported French administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933.

Its precise date, title, reference, contents and significance have not yet been independently established from the preliminary material supplied.

Reparation Nation Limited requests assistance in identifying the appropriate French governmental and archival institutions capable of locating the original document.

The organisation also seeks information concerning any associated correspondence, petitions, maps, appointment records or subsequent administrative decisions.

Where appropriate, the Foreign Office is asked to consider whether it can facilitate an institutional introduction or identify an established channel for the enquiry.

No conclusion concerning French responsibility for particular historical events is requested before the evidence has been examined.

12.6 Request for Assistance Concerning Cameroon

Cameroon is central to the investigation because the ancestral traditional institution is situated within its historical and contemporary territory.

Reparation Nation Limited requests consideration of whether appropriate British assistance may be available in identifying relevant Cameroonian governmental, archival and institutional contacts.

The investigation may require access to local administrative records, traditional histories, genealogical evidence, land documentation and information concerning burial sites or ancestral monuments.

It may also involve consultation with relevant traditional authorities, family members and local historical custodians.

The organisation does not presume that every Cameroonian institution supports George's claim.

Nor does it assert authority to represent persons or institutions that have not authorised such representation.

The purpose is to establish the historical evidence and identify appropriate procedures for obtaining information.

Any institutional cooperation should respect applicable Cameroonian law and the independence of relevant authorities.

12.7 Request for British Archival Assistance

Reparation Nation Limited requests assistance in identifying British governmental records relevant to German, French and British involvement in Cameroon.

Potential research areas include Colonial Office correspondence, Foreign Office records, military documentation, historical maps and material associated with the administration of the British Cameroons.

The organisation requests that the Foreign Office identify any relevant records remaining within departmental custody and, where appropriate, refer archival enquiries to The National Archives.

The identification of specific record series should not be treated as evidence that records concerning George's ancestors have already been located.

The investigation requires targeted research based upon ancestral names, historical localities, administrative districts and relevant dates.

The Department is requested to identify what assistance it can provide in establishing the appropriate research route.

Where records are publicly accessible, the relevant procedures should be explained.

Where restrictions apply, the organisation asks for clarification of the applicable requirements.

12.8 Request for Assistance Identifying Records Concerning the Dead

George's request concerning deceased ancestors is a distinct humanitarian and historical priority.

He wishes to establish who was killed, where the deaths occurred and what happened to the bodies.

Reparation Nation Limited requests assistance in identifying possible sources of death and burial information.

These may include military records, administrative reports, missionary documents, medical records, detention records, burial registers and historical correspondence.

The organisation does not presume that such records survive or are held by the British Government.

It asks that the relevant research possibilities be identified.

Where records are held in Germany, France or Cameroon, appropriate referral routes are requested.

The investigation should distinguish reported deaths from independently documented deaths and suspected burial locations from confirmed sites.

The objective is to establish what can reliably be known.

12.9 Request for Assistance Concerning Human Remains

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office identify appropriate institutional procedures for investigating whether human remains associated with colonial-era Cameroon may be held within British or other European collections.

The organisation does not allege that identifiable remains belonging to George's ancestors are presently held by any institution.

Nor does it presume that the remains were removed from Cameroon.

The purpose is to determine whether historical records indicate such a possibility.

Potential research may involve museums, universities, medical collections, anthropological institutions and archival repositories.

Where potentially relevant material is identified, provenance and personal identification would require separate specialist examination.

Any future request concerning repatriation or reburial would require appropriate legal, ethical, cultural and family or community consultation.

The present request is for information about applicable procedures and institutions.

12.10 Request for Assistance Concerning Historical Maps and Territorial Identification

The investigation must establish the historical location of George's ancestral traditional authority.

This is necessary for identifying the relevant German and French administrative jurisdictions.

Reparation Nation Limited requests assistance in identifying historical maps, boundary records and administrative directories concerning Cameroon during the relevant colonial periods.

The organisation also seeks information that may assist in connecting historical place names with contemporary geographical locations.

The exact locality must be established through evidence.

No present-day administrative boundary should automatically be assumed to correspond with the jurisdiction of the original traditional authority.

Accurate geographical identification may substantially improve the efficiency of subsequent archival searches.

12.11 Request for Assistance Concerning the Name Ngantcha

The name Ngantcha appears within George's preliminary ancestral materials.

Reparation Nation Limited requests assistance in identifying historical records that may contain references to this name.

Potential sources include German and French colonial correspondence, genealogical records, traditional histories, missionary documents and administrative registers.

The investigation should consider possible historical spelling variations.

However, similarity of names must not automatically be treated as proof of personal identity or family connection.

Where relevant records are located, their geographical, chronological and genealogical context should be examined.

The objective is to determine whether the name provides a reliable link between the surviving documentation and George's claimed ancestral hereditary line.

12.12 Request for Assistance Concerning the Reported 1933 French Instrument

The reported French administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933 represents a particular research priority.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office consider whether any appropriate assistance can be provided in identifying the competent French archival authority.

The investigation seeks the original instrument, its official reference, issuing authority, date, contents and related administrative documentation.

Where possible, associated records should be identified, including earlier decisions, petitions, correspondence and subsequent amendments.

The organisation requests that the original French text be preserved.

Any translation should be distinguishable from the source document.

No legal or historical conclusion is advanced merely from the reported existence of the instrument.

The purpose is to establish what the document actually records and whether it concerns George's ancestral traditional authority.

12.13 Request for Institutional Engagement With the Foreign Office

Reparation Nation Limited formally requests consideration of an initial meeting with appropriate officials of the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office.

The proposed meeting would concern the historical investigation, the relevant international archival procedures and the possibility of British assistance with George's peaceful London-based activities.

Derrick Lynch would attend as the representative of Reparation Nation Limited.

George's personal participation could be considered according to his wishes and the arrangements proposed.

The meeting would not be represented as governmental recognition of George's hereditary claim or proposed government-in-exile.

It would provide an opportunity to clarify the Department's responsibilities and identify practical next steps.

If a meeting is unavailable, the organisation requests equivalent procedural clarification in writing.

12.14 Request for Consideration of the Free French Historical Precedent

George has identified Britain's support for General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement as an important moral and historical precedent.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office consider the relevance of that history to George's proposed peaceful activities from London.

The organisation recognises the substantial differences between the wartime Free French movement and George's contemporary hereditary and reparatory justice initiative.

It does not assert a legal entitlement to identical treatment.

Nevertheless, the comparison raises questions concerning the principles informing Britain's willingness to provide assistance to organisations operating outside their claimed territorial or institutional base.

The organisation asks the Government to identify whether any forms of assistance or engagement may be considered.

A reasoned explanation is requested where the Department considers the historical comparison inapplicable to a particular form of support.

12.15 Request for Practical Support for London-Based Activities

Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification of what forms of practical institutional assistance may be available to George while he pursues his historical investigation from London.

Potential activities include archival research, international correspondence, consultation, meetings and the organisation of a historical research programme.

The Government is asked whether any existing institutional contacts or public programmes may be relevant to those activities.

No assumption is made that George or Reparation Nation Limited qualifies for financial or other support.

The organisation requests identification of any applicable eligibility criteria and procedures.

Such assistance should be distinguished from formal diplomatic recognition.

The existence of practical cooperation would not automatically establish governmental endorsement of the underlying hereditary claim.

12.16 Request for Guidance Concerning a Government-in-Exile

George wishes to examine the possibility of establishing a London-based government-in-exile associated with his claimed ancestral hereditary authority.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office explain the relevant legal, constitutional and diplomatic considerations.

The organisation recognises that the title government-in-exile does not itself establish sovereign status.

Nor does George's hereditary claim automatically confer authority over the wider Bamiléké population.

The Government is therefore asked what evidence and procedures it would regard as relevant if a formal proposal were presented.

These may differ from the requirements applicable to an ordinary historical research institution.

Rather than presume the Department's position, Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification in writing.

George can then consider the requirements and decide what further steps he wishes to pursue.

12.17 Request for Consideration of Alternative Institutions

Reparation Nation Limited asks that the Foreign Office consider whether forms of engagement may be available through institutions other than a formally recognised government-in-exile.

Possible arrangements include a historical research organisation, ancestral documentation centre, representative council or reparatory justice institution.

Each would require an appropriate legal and governance structure.

Any representative authority must correspond with the consent, customary authority or other lawful basis actually established.

The organisation does not ask the Foreign Office to select an institutional structure for George.

It requests clarification of what forms of engagement or assistance may be available.

Where formal governmental recognition is unavailable, the Department is asked to address whether alternative forms of cooperation remain possible.

12.18 Request for Clarification of Authorisation Requirements

George T. Nomen has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to act on his behalf.

Derrick Lynch submits the present representation pursuant to that authorisation.

The organisation does not ask the Foreign Office to determine whether George has given consent.

It confirms that he has.

However, the Department may require particular evidence before recognising that authorisation for specific administrative, diplomatic or disclosure purposes.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that those requirements be identified in writing.

The Department is asked to distinguish evidence concerning George's personal identity, his authorisation of RNL, his claimed hereditary position and any wider community representative authority.

These are separate matters.

George will then have the opportunity to consider and respond to the requirements through Reparation Nation Limited.

The organisation does not intend to invent documentary requirements that the Department has not identified.

12.19 Request for Identification of the Responsible Government Department

The present representation raises several distinct matters.

Some concern the Foreign Office's international responsibilities.

Others concern British governmental records, historical archives, museums, cultural institutions or legal and constitutional questions.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office identify the relevant departmental responsibilities.

Where a request falls outside its competence, the organisation asks for an appropriate referral where practicable.

Where several departments have relevant responsibilities, the respective roles should be clarified.

The organisation does not presume that the Foreign Office must personally undertake every requested investigation.

It seeks a coherent route through which the relevant questions can be directed to competent bodies.

This is intended to prevent the representation from being rejected in its entirety merely because some elements fall outside the Department's functions.

12.20 Request for Written Archival and Institutional Referrals

Reparation Nation Limited requests that any referrals provided by the Government identify the appropriate institution and purpose of the referral.

Where available, the organisation asks for the relevant department, archival series, published guidance or official enquiry procedure.

A general reference to an entire national archival system may provide useful direction but may not resolve the practical difficulty of identifying records concerning the ancestral locality.

Accordingly, more specific guidance is requested where practicable.

The organisation recognises that detailed archival research may need to be undertaken independently.

The Government is not presumed to possess an obligation to conduct that research on George's behalf.

The purpose is to establish the correct institutional routes and avoid unnecessary duplication.

12.21 Request for Access to Restricted Records

Some historical records may be subject to legal or administrative access restrictions.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the responsible institution identify the procedures applicable to any relevant restricted material.

Where access depends upon proof of identity, representative authority or another qualification, the precise requirement should be explained.

Where a statutory request procedure is available, the organisation asks that it be identified.

Where restrictions cannot be overcome, the relevant basis should be clarified where lawful and appropriate.

The organisation does not assert an unrestricted right to all requested records.

It seeks transparent information concerning the lawful means of obtaining available evidence.

Where one category of material is restricted, publicly accessible records and research assistance should remain separately available for consideration.

12.22 Request for Assistance With Historical Authentication

The investigation may require examination of original administrative instruments, genealogical records, photographs and other materials.

Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification of which institutions may be capable of providing authenticated reproductions or archival certification where such services exist.

The organisation recognises that authentication of a document does not automatically establish the truth of every statement contained within it.

An authentic colonial record may accurately establish that an official recorded a particular decision.

The legitimacy of that decision under traditional succession rules may remain a separate question.

Similarly, the authentication of a handwritten genealogy does not by itself verify every relationship recorded.

The objective is to establish reliable source material capable of supporting independent examination.

12.23 Request for Assistance With Translation

The investigation may involve records written in German, French, English and relevant African languages.

Reparation Nation Limited requests information concerning any appropriate research or institutional resources capable of assisting with historically accurate translation.

The original terminology should be preserved wherever possible.

Traditional titles, administrative classifications and succession-related terms may carry meanings that cannot be reproduced precisely through simplified translation.

Where specialist interpretation is necessary, the relevant uncertainty should be recorded.

The organisation does not presume that the Foreign Office must provide translation services.

It requests clarification of any relevant institutional assistance or alternative procedures that may be available.

12.24 Request for Independent Historical Examination

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that some historical questions may require specialist examination.

These include the interpretation of colonial administrative records, reconstruction of customary succession, analysis of genealogical information and investigation of the reported deaths.

The organisation requests that the Foreign Office consider whether any appropriate research institutions or professional resources can be identified.

It does not ask the Government to certify George's hereditary claim without independent evidence.

Nor does it presume that public funds will be made available for specialist work.

The purpose is to determine whether appropriate research routes or existing programmes may assist.

Any independent examination should remain capable of identifying evidence that supports, qualifies or contradicts George's account.

12.25 Request for Assistance Concerning Cultural Property

The preliminary Royal Succession Dossier refers to traditional objects potentially associated with the ancestral institution.

These include references to a royal stool and other forms of cultural or ceremonial material.

The existence, provenance and significance of particular objects require verification.

Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification of appropriate institutional procedures for researching cultural property that may have been documented, acquired or transferred during colonial administration.

The organisation does not allege that any identified British institution unlawfully possesses objects belonging to George's family.

It seeks information about how relevant collections and acquisition records may be examined.

Any future question concerning restitution would require separate evidence, lawful authority and appropriate institutional procedures.

The present request concerns research and disclosure.

12.26 Request for Equality Safeguards

Reparation Nation Limited requests information concerning the safeguards against anti-Black racism and institutional racism applicable to the Government's consideration of this representation.

The enquiry involves African traditional authority, ancestral testimony, colonial historical records and possible institutional recognition.

The organisation therefore wishes to understand the procedures ensuring fair and non-discriminatory decision-making.

The request includes applicable equality policies, staff guidance, review arrangements and procedures for raising concerns.

No accusation, allegation or finding of anti-Black racism or institutional racism is advanced against any contemporary official or institution.

The organisation seeks information enabling the safeguards to be understood and assessed.

George's request should be considered according to relevant evidence and law, without discriminatory disadvantage or preferential assumptions.

12.27 Request for a Clear Governmental Response

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office provide a written response identifying the assistance it is prepared to consider.

The organisation asks that the response distinguish assistance available directly, assistance requiring referral and assistance that is unavailable.

Where the Department requires additional information, the relevant requirements should be identified.

Where a request is declined, the principal reasons should be explained where appropriate.

Where the Department is not responsible, the appropriate institution should be identified where practicable.

The organisation recognises that the Government may not be able to answer every historical question immediately.

The initial response should nevertheless establish the procedural next steps.

An acknowledgement of receipt should be distinguished from a substantive response.

12.28 Formal Consolidated Requests for Assistance

For the avoidance of doubt, Reparation Nation Limited formally requests that the United Kingdom Government consider the following matters.

Request 12.28.1: Confirm the appropriate governmental contact for this international historical and institutional representation.

Request 12.28.2: Identify any relevant British historical records or archival research routes concerning the ancestral locality associated with George T. Nomen.

Request 12.28.3: Clarify the assistance available in approaching appropriate German governmental and archival institutions.

Request 12.28.4: Clarify the assistance available in approaching appropriate French governmental and archival institutions.

Request 12.28.5: Clarify the assistance available in approaching appropriate Cameroonian governmental, archival and traditional institutions.

Request 12.28.6: Identify appropriate procedures for investigating the reported killings of George's ancestors.

Request 12.28.7: Identify appropriate procedures for researching burial locations, missing human remains and possible institutional records concerning their fate.

Request 12.28.8: Assist, where possible, in identifying the original French administrative instrument reportedly dating from approximately 1933.

Request 12.28.9: Identify relevant British records concerning German and French traditional leadership arrangements in Cameroon.

Request 12.28.10: Clarify whether appropriate institutional introductions or diplomatic enquiries may be considered.

Request 12.28.11: Consider whether a preliminary meeting may be arranged with Derrick Lynch, representing Reparation Nation Limited.

Request 12.28.12: Explain the relevance, if any, of Britain's historical support for the Free French movement to the forms of assistance now requested.

Request 12.28.13: Clarify the legal and diplomatic considerations applicable to a proposed London-based government-in-exile.

Request 12.28.14: Identify alternative forms of institutional engagement that may be possible without recognition of a government-in-exile.

Request 12.28.15: Specify the documentary evidence required to verify George's authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited for particular purposes.

Request 12.28.16: Distinguish those authorisation requirements from any evidence required concerning hereditary succession or wider community representation.

Request 12.28.17: Identify relevant equality safeguards concerning anti-Black racism and institutional racism in the applicable decision-making procedures.

Request 12.28.18: Identify the appropriate route for reviewing or seeking clarification of decisions where concerns arise.

Request 12.28.19: Provide appropriate referrals where requests fall outside the Foreign Office's responsibilities.

Request 12.28.20: Provide a written response explaining what assistance the United Kingdom Government is prepared to consider and what further information, if any, it requires.

These requests concern different forms of governmental and institutional activity.

They should be considered separately where appropriate.

12.29 The Importance of Avoiding Unnecessary Delay

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that historical investigations involving multiple jurisdictions may take considerable time.

The organisation does not demand an immediate final determination of every issue.

Nevertheless, the identification of responsible institutions and applicable procedures should not necessarily require the completion of the entire historical investigation.

Where a question can be answered at the preliminary stage, the organisation requests that it be addressed without unnecessary delay.

Where additional evidence is required, the relevant requirement should be specified.

Where a matter is subject to further consideration, the anticipated process should be explained where possible.

Reparation Nation Limited also requests that archival enquiries capable of proceeding independently should not be suspended solely because questions concerning hereditary recognition or a government-in-exile remain unresolved.

The objective is orderly progress.

12.30 Proposed Governmental Coordination

The organisation requests that the Foreign Office consider identifying an appropriate coordinating contact for correspondence concerning this representation.

Such a contact would assist in distinguishing the different matters raised and directing enquiries to relevant institutions.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that the Department is required to appoint a dedicated officer or establish a special administrative unit.

It asks whether a suitable point of contact can be identified within existing arrangements.

Where different departments are responsible for different matters, their respective roles should be explained.

The purpose is to reduce duplication and maintain an accurate record of correspondence.

12.31 Reparation Nation Limited's Correspondence Register

Reparation Nation Limited intends to maintain a documentary register of all requests and responses relating to the investigation.

The register will record the recipient, date of submission, subject, supporting evidence and response received.

Where an institution requests additional information, that requirement will be recorded.

Where information is supplied, the relevant source and verification status will be preserved.

Where a matter remains outstanding, it will be identified accordingly.

The register may be supported by appropriate elements of IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice.

This system is intended to assist with transparency and accountability.

It does not replace governmental records or establish that any institution has accepted George's historical claims.

12.32 The Role of George T. Nomen in Subsequent Decisions

George remains the person on whose behalf Reparation Nation Limited undertakes the present investigation.

The organisation will communicate relevant governmental requirements and responses to him.

Where further documentary evidence is requested, George will have the opportunity to consider what is required.

Where a future decision concerns litigation, financial commitments, settlement, repatriation, governmental recognition or authority over other persons, additional instructions and appropriate procedures may be necessary.

The present authorisation should not be represented as unlimited permission for every conceivable future action.

The objective is to preserve George's control over his interests while enabling the initial governmental representation and historical investigation to proceed.

12.33 Statement of Non-Accusation and Procedural Integrity

Reparation Nation Limited makes no predetermined accusation, allegation or finding against any present-day British Government official or institution.

The organisation does not presume that relevant historical documents have been deliberately withheld.

It does not assert that Britain possesses legal responsibility for particular German or French colonial actions without evidence and legal examination.

It does not presume that George's hereditary royal succession has been conclusively established.

Nor does it claim that a proposed government-in-exile already possesses recognised sovereign authority.

The organisation seeks information, cooperation and procedural clarification precisely because these matters remain to be investigated.

Questions concerning anti-Black racism and institutional racism are requests for evidence of safeguards and institutional accountability.

They are not predetermined findings.

12.34 Conclusion and Formal Request

George T. Nomen has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to act on his behalf in seeking international historical disclosure and British Government assistance.

Derrick Lynch submits this representation for and on behalf of the organisation.

The requested assistance concerns four principal matters: diplomatic cooperation, archival disclosure, institutional engagement and practical support for the historical investigation.

The immediate objectives include establishing what happened to George's ancestors, identifying the circumstances of the reported killings, investigating the fate of their remains and reconstructing the history of the ancestral hereditary authority.

The wider objectives include examining the possibility of a London-based government-in-exile or alternative representative institution, informed by the historical precedent of Britain's support for General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises the limits of British governmental authority and the distinction between assistance, engagement and formal recognition.

It does not presume that every request must be granted.

It asks that the Government identify what assistance it can provide, what procedures apply and what evidence may be required.

In particular, where the Foreign Office requires proof of George's authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited, it is invited to specify its requirements in writing.

George will then have the opportunity to respond.

The central request is that the United Kingdom Government identify practical and lawful ways in which it can assist George T. Nomen, through his authorised representative Reparation Nation Limited, in establishing the historical truth concerning his ancestors and pursuing appropriate peaceful institutional activities from London.

A substantive written response is formally requested.

END OF SECTION TWELVE

NEXT: SECTION THIRTEEN — FORMAL HISTORICAL DISCLOSURE REQUESTS INVOLVING BRITAIN, GERMANY, FRANCE AND CAMEROON

SECTION THIRTEEN — FORMAL HISTORICAL DISCLOSURE REQUESTS INVOLVING BRITAIN, GERMANY, FRANCE AND CAMEROON

13.1 Introduction and Purpose

This section establishes the proposed international historical disclosure programme concerning the ancestral family, claimed hereditary royal succession and reported colonial displacement of traditional authority associated with George T. Nomen.

Reparation Nation Limited submits this section pursuant to the authorisation given by George T. Nomen.

Derrick Lynch acts for and on behalf of Reparation Nation Limited in undertaking the present governmental correspondence.

George seeks to establish what happened to his ancestors during German colonial intervention and subsequent French administration in Cameroon.

His account includes the reported killing of members of his ancestral family and community, the destruction or displacement of hereditary traditional authority, the recognition or appointment of alternative traditional officeholders, and the unresolved fate of the bodies of those reportedly killed.

The investigation also concerns the reported French administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933, the ancestral name Ngantcha, the monument bearing the designation RSA 91, genealogical materials and surviving records associated with the original traditional institution.

These matters require coordinated historical research involving several jurisdictions.

The principal countries concerned are Germany, France, Cameroon and the United Kingdom.

Each may possess different categories of evidence.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that the present governments of these countries possess every relevant document or bear identical historical or legal responsibilities.

The purpose is to identify the records held by each jurisdiction, establish the applicable access procedures and obtain the evidence necessary for an independently reviewable historical reconstruction.

13.2 The Principle of International Historical Disclosure

The investigation should proceed on the principle that relevant historical evidence may be distributed among different governmental and institutional archives.

Records created during German colonial administration may survive in Germany, Cameroon or elsewhere.

Records created during French administration may survive in France, Cameroon or other repositories.

British military, colonial and diplomatic records may contain information concerning the transition from German administration, the historical division of Cameroon or subsequent developments.

Cameroonian governmental, family and traditional sources may preserve information unavailable within European records.

No single national archive should automatically be treated as possessing the complete historical account.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore proposes parallel enquiries capable of identifying evidence across the relevant jurisdictions.

The organisation asks that each institution identify what it holds, what access procedures apply and which other repositories may possess related material.

Where records cannot be located, the outcome of the search should be distinguished from proof that the records never existed.

The objective is international documentary reconstruction rather than dependence upon one government's account.

13.3 The Scope of the Historical Investigation

The disclosure programme concerns a defined set of historical questions.

First, it seeks to establish the identity, locality and customary succession arrangements of the original ancestral traditional authority.

Second, it seeks records concerning German colonial intervention and the reported displacement of the hereditary family.

Third, it seeks evidence relating to reported killings, detention, displacement and other events affecting the ancestral family and community.

Fourth, it seeks information concerning what happened to the bodies of the persons reportedly killed.

Fifth, it seeks records concerning the recognition or appointment of alternative traditional officeholders.

Sixth, it seeks French documents concerning the subsequent administration of the institution, particularly the reported instrument of approximately 1933.

Seventh, it seeks genealogical, geographical and traditional evidence capable of connecting the ancestral institution to George's claimed hereditary line.

These enquiries are connected, but each must remain capable of independent investigation.

The failure to locate evidence concerning one question should not automatically terminate research into the others.

13.4 The Four-Jurisdiction Disclosure Framework

Reparation Nation Limited proposes that the four jurisdictions be approached according to their respective historical and institutional relevance.

Germany should be approached principally concerning the original colonial intervention, military operations, administrative decisions and surviving records from German Kamerun.

France should be approached concerning the subsequent administration of the ancestral locality, traditional leadership decisions and the reported 1933 administrative instrument.

Cameroon should be approached concerning the original locality, traditional institutions, genealogical material, local administrative records and information concerning burial sites or ancestral monuments.

The United Kingdom should be approached concerning records generated through Britain's military, colonial and diplomatic involvement in Cameroon and possible assistance with international governmental or archival referrals.

This framework is not intended to establish equal responsibility.

It provides an organised research structure.

Each jurisdiction should be asked questions corresponding to the records and responsibilities it may actually possess.

13.5 Formal Disclosure Requests to Germany

Reparation Nation Limited proposes to submit a formal historical records enquiry to appropriate German governmental and archival institutions.

The enquiry will concern German colonial administration in Kamerun and the historical locality associated with George's ancestral traditional authority.

The principal objective is to identify records concerning the reported intervention affecting the original hereditary leadership.

The request should seek administrative correspondence, traditional officeholder registers, appointment or removal decisions, military records, reports of violence, petitions and other potentially relevant documentation.

Particular attention should be given to records containing the name Ngantcha or possible historical variations.

The investigation should also seek documents concerning relevant German officials and administrative districts once those have been identified.

The request will not assert that particular German records conclusively establish George's account before those records have been obtained and examined.

It will seek their disclosure for historical investigation.

13.6 German Records Concerning Colonial Military Operations

German military records may assist in determining whether military operations occurred in the ancestral locality during the relevant period.

The enquiry should seek records identifying operational dates, locations, commanding officers, military objectives, reported casualties, detention and the treatment of local populations.

Where documents identify traditional leaders or members of the ancestral family, the relevant names and circumstances should be recorded.

The investigation must distinguish general military operations in Cameroon from events specifically connected to George's ancestors.

The existence of colonial military activity in a broader region does not automatically establish the reported deaths.

The purpose is to identify contemporary evidence capable of supporting, qualifying or contradicting the ancestral account.

Where records survive only in fragmentary form, the limitations should be documented.

13.7 German Records Concerning Traditional Leadership

The investigation should seek German administrative records concerning the recognition, appointment, removal or replacement of traditional officeholders in the ancestral locality.

Such records may assist in establishing whether colonial authorities intervened in the succession arrangements of the original institution.

The enquiry should identify the names and stated positions of the individuals involved.

It should also examine the reasons recorded for particular administrative decisions.

A colonial appointment does not automatically establish customary legitimacy.

Equally, the existence of an appointment does not by itself establish wrongful displacement.

The relevant customary rules and historical circumstances must be examined alongside the administrative evidence.

The objective is to reconstruct the sequence of decisions affecting the hereditary traditional authority.

13.8 German Records Concerning the Reported Deaths

George's account includes the reported killing of members of his ancestral family and community.

The German disclosure request should therefore seek any relevant military, medical, administrative, judicial or other records concerning deaths in the ancestral locality.

Where names are available, individual searches should be undertaken.

Where names remain uncertain, the investigation may require research into reports concerning particular settlements or military operations.

The enquiry should also seek information about burial arrangements and the disposal or movement of bodies.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that German officials transported ancestral remains to Germany.

That possibility should be investigated only through relevant historical evidence.

Where records concerning human remains are identified, the appropriate specialist and institutional procedures should be considered separately.

13.9 Formal Disclosure Requests to France

Reparation Nation Limited proposes to submit a separate formal enquiry to relevant French governmental and archival institutions.

The enquiry will concern the French colonial administration of Cameroon and the historical locality associated with George's ancestral traditional authority.

Particular attention will be given to traditional leadership appointments, succession decisions, administrative recognition and the possible continuation or modification of German-era arrangements.

The investigation will also seek records concerning petitions or disputes involving the original hereditary family.

Relevant sources may include administrative correspondence, official bulletins, traditional leadership registers, historical maps and associated records.

The purpose is to establish what decisions French authorities made and whether those decisions affected the hereditary succession associated with George's family.

The enquiry will not presume that every French administrative decision was unlawful.

It will seek the original documentary evidence.

13.10 Priority Request for the Reported 1933 French Instrument

The reported administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933 will be treated as a priority research target.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the appropriate French institutions determine whether such an instrument exists and whether it concerns the ancestral traditional authority associated with George T. Nomen.

The enquiry should seek its exact date, official title, issuing authority, reference number and complete original text.

Where the instrument was published within an official bulletin, the relevant publication details should be identified.

Where the document survives within an administrative file, the complete archival reference should be supplied.

Associated correspondence, petitions and subsequent administrative decisions should also be sought.

The investigation should determine whether the instrument concerns the appointment, recognition, removal or reorganisation of traditional authority.

The original French terminology must be preserved.

No legal conclusion should be inferred from the reported existence of the instrument before its contents have been examined.

13.11 French Records Concerning Earlier German Decisions

French officials may have received or relied upon information generated during German colonial administration.

The investigation should determine whether French records describe earlier decisions affecting the original hereditary authority.

Where such references exist, the original German records should be sought wherever possible.

A French summary of an earlier German event may provide evidence of what French officials recorded or believed.

It may not independently establish every fact described.

The investigation should therefore identify the source and circumstances of each reference.

This process may assist in reconstructing the transition from German to French administrative arrangements.

It may also establish whether particular decisions affecting the ancestral family continued into the later period.

13.12 Formal Disclosure Requests to Cameroon

Cameroonian institutions represent a central source of potential historical evidence.

The investigation concerns an ancestral traditional authority located within present-day Cameroon.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore proposes to approach appropriate Cameroonian governmental, archival and traditional institutions.

The enquiries should concern the identity and geographical location of the original traditional authority, its customary succession rules, historical officeholders and the reported displacement of the hereditary family.

They should also seek surviving records concerning colonial administrative decisions, family genealogy, traditional objects and ancestral monuments.

Information concerning the name Ngantcha and the designation RSA 91 should be included.

Where appropriate, the investigation may involve consultation with local historians, family elders and traditional custodians.

The purpose is to establish the historical record, not to presume that any particular Cameroonian institution has already endorsed George's claim.

13.13 Cameroonian Records Concerning Burial Sites

George's concern about the fate of his ancestors requires particular attention within the Cameroonian investigation.

Local archives, traditional sources and community testimony may contain information concerning places of death, burial arrangements and ancestral sites.

The enquiry should seek evidence capable of identifying burial locations associated with the reported colonial events.

Where potential sites are identified, their status should be carefully described.

A location identified through oral testimony should not automatically be presented as a confirmed grave.

Similarly, the presence of a monument does not establish the identity of the deceased or the location of human remains without additional evidence.

Any proposed physical investigation would require appropriate permissions, professional expertise and family or community consultation.

The immediate request is for historical information.

13.14 Formal Disclosure Requests to the United Kingdom

Reparation Nation Limited formally requests assistance from the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office in identifying British governmental records relevant to the investigation.

The request concerns Britain's military, colonial and diplomatic involvement in Cameroon and the potential survival of documents relating to German and French administrative activity.

Relevant research may include Colonial Office and Foreign Office records, military documentation, historical maps and correspondence concerning the British Cameroons.

The Department is asked to identify records within its custody or appropriate research procedures involving The National Archives.

Where relevant material is publicly accessible, the organisation requests suitable catalogue references or research guidance.

Where restrictions apply, the relevant procedures should be explained.

Where the Department does not hold the records, appropriate referral is requested.

13.15 The National Archives at Kew

The National Archives at Kew represents an important potential research institution for British governmental records concerning Cameroon.

Relevant enquiries may involve Colonial Office correspondence, Foreign Office records, military documentation and historical territorial administration.

Potential Colonial Office research routes include CO 649 and CO 724, together with relevant material associated with CO 583.

The actual relevance of individual files must be established through catalogue examination.

Reparation Nation Limited does not claim that these series have already yielded documents proving George's historical account.

They are identified as research starting points.

The organisation requests assistance in narrowing the search according to the ancestral locality, the name Ngantcha, historical administrative districts and the relevant dates.

Where material is held by another institution, the appropriate archival route should be identified.

13.16 British Records Concerning the Transition Between Administrations

The investigation should examine whether British records contain information about the transfer of administrative authority following the end of German colonial rule.

Relevant documentation may include territorial reports, maps, correspondence with French authorities and records concerning traditional leadership.

These may assist in determining whether earlier German arrangements were continued or modified.

The investigation should distinguish information recorded directly by British officials from descriptions received from other sources.

Where possible, references to German or French documents should be traced to their original records.

The objective is to establish the historical sequence rather than rely upon isolated later summaries.

13.17 Disclosure Requests Concerning the Name Ngantcha

The name Ngantcha should be included within appropriate archival enquiries across the four jurisdictions.

The investigation should preserve the exact spelling appearing within George's preliminary materials.

Potential historical variations may be considered where justified.

However, possible variations should be treated as research leads rather than established alternative identities.

Where a document contains a relevant name, the surrounding information should be examined.

This includes the person's locality, dates, traditional position, family relationships and historical circumstances.

The objective is to determine whether an identified historical person is connected to George's ancestral family.

13.18 Disclosure Requests Concerning the Monument Marked RSA 91

The photographic material depicting a monument bearing RSA 91 and the name Ngantcha represents another specific research lead.

The investigation should establish the monument's location, date, purpose and historical significance.

Relevant enquiries may involve Cameroonian administrative records, local historical institutions and any colonial-era documents concerning the site.

The meaning of RSA 91 remains unverified.

It should not be assigned a governmental, royal, military or territorial meaning without evidence.

The disclosure programme should seek any original register, map, document or other record explaining the designation.

If no relevant record is located, the uncertainty should be preserved.

13.19 Disclosure Requests Concerning Ancestral Genealogy

Reparation Nation Limited proposes to pursue documentary evidence capable of supporting the reconstruction of George's ancestral family line.

The investigation may include traditional registers, family documents, missionary records, administrative correspondence and other relevant materials.

Each genealogical relationship should be examined according to the evidence available.

Where historical documents record different names or dates, the discrepancies should be investigated.

The purpose is not merely to create a complete family tree.

It is to establish the relationships connecting George to the particular hereditary authority concerned.

The investigation should also establish the customary rules governing succession.

Genealogical descent alone does not automatically establish entitlement to a traditional office.

13.20 Disclosure Requests Concerning Traditional Leadership Changes

The investigation should seek records documenting changes in traditional leadership during German and French administration.

Such records may include appointment decisions, administrative registers, petitions, correspondence and reports concerning succession disputes.

The enquiry should seek to identify the original officeholder, any replacement or successor, the relevant decision-makers and the stated reasons for changes.

The investigation must distinguish traditional hereditary succession from colonial administrative recognition.

A colonial appointment does not automatically establish that customary succession rules were followed.

Equally, a recorded leadership change does not automatically establish unlawful displacement.

The evidence must be examined in its historical and customary context.

13.21 Disclosure Requests Concerning Land and Territory

George's historical account raises questions concerning the ancestral locality and any territorial consequences of the reported displacement.

The investigation should therefore seek historical maps, administrative boundary records, land registers and correspondence concerning traditional jurisdiction.

The objective is to identify the original institution and determine whether relevant territorial changes occurred.

Historical customary responsibilities concerning land should be distinguished from contemporary legal ownership.

A record establishing traditional authority over an area does not automatically establish present-day property rights.

Any future land claim would require separate legal and evidential examination.

The immediate objective is accurate historical reconstruction.

13.22 Disclosure Requests Concerning Colonial Officials

Where relevant documents identify colonial administrators, military personnel or other decision-makers, the investigation should seek records clarifying their roles.

The identification of a person within a historical record does not automatically establish responsibility for a particular act.

The investigation should determine what decisions the individual made, what authority they exercised and what evidence links them to the events concerned.

Where responsibility remains uncertain, that uncertainty should be recorded.

The purpose is to reconstruct historical decision-making rather than produce unsupported accusations.

Any subsequent assessment of historical or legal responsibility would require separate consideration.

13.23 Disclosure Requests Concerning Human Remains

The international disclosure programme should include specific enquiries concerning the fate of the bodies of George's ancestors.

The investigation should seek records of burial, exhumation, transportation, retention and possible transfer of human remains.

Potential sources may include military documentation, medical records, museum acquisition records, university collections and anthropological archives.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that relevant remains were removed to Europe.

It asks whether evidence exists supporting or excluding particular possibilities.

Where potentially relevant remains are identified, their provenance and possible connection to George's family must be independently examined.

Any future request concerning repatriation would require separate legal, cultural and institutional procedures.

13.24 Requests to Museums and Universities

Certain aspects of the investigation may require enquiries to museums, universities and other non-governmental institutions.

Relevant records may concern cultural objects, human remains, historical collections or research conducted during colonial administration.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that appropriate institutions be identified where evidence justifies further enquiry.

The organisation does not presume that such institutions hold identifiable materials associated with George's family.

Nor does it allege unlawful possession.

The purpose is to investigate provenance and establish whether relevant evidence exists.

The handling of cultural property and human remains should be distinguished from ordinary archival research.

Different professional and legal procedures may apply.

13.25 Requests to Missionary and Religious Archives

Missionary and religious archives may contain historical information concerning local communities, family relationships, deaths, burial arrangements and colonial events.

The investigation should identify whether relevant institutions operated in the ancestral locality during the period concerned.

Where records survive, their location and access procedures should be established.

The organisation does not presume that missionary records contain information about George's ancestors.

They represent an additional potential source.

The investigation should assess such records according to their original purpose, provenance and evidential limitations.

13.26 Freedom of Information and Archival Access Procedures

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that different legal procedures govern access to records held by different institutions.

In the United Kingdom, information held by public authorities may fall within the scope of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, subject to its provisions and exemptions.

However, a request under that Act does not require a public authority to create historical information it does not hold or undertake unrestricted research.

General archival searches and formal statutory information requests should therefore be distinguished.

German, French and Cameroonian institutions may apply different legal and administrative arrangements.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the competent institutions identify the appropriate procedures.

Where a request is refused or restricted, the relevant grounds and any applicable review arrangements should be explained.

The organisation does not presume that identical disclosure rights apply across all four jurisdictions.

13.27 Preservation and Authenticity of Disclosed Records

The integrity of the investigation depends upon maintaining reliable records of the materials obtained.

Each disclosed document should, where possible, be associated with its original repository, archival reference, date, issuing authority and language.

Copies should be distinguished from originals.

Translations should be distinguished from source documents.

Summaries and interpretations should not replace the underlying evidence.

Where a document is incomplete or partly illegible, those limitations should be recorded.

The organisation also requests that significant documents be preserved in their original form wherever practicable.

This procedure will support independent examination and reduce the risk of later misunderstanding.

13.28 Classification of Evidential Status

Reparation Nation Limited proposes that evidence obtained through the international disclosure programme be classified according to its actual verification status.

A document reported to exist but not yet located should remain recorded as an outstanding research target.

A located document should be identified according to its provenance.

An authenticated document should be distinguished from an unauthenticated copy.

A historical interpretation should be distinguished from the source upon which it relies.

An established fact should not be inferred merely because a proposition appears repeatedly in correspondence.

Where evidence is contradictory, the contradiction should be recorded.

Where a conclusion remains uncertain, that uncertainty should be preserved.

The objective is an independently reviewable record.

13.29 The Importance of Parallel Disclosure Requests

Reparation Nation Limited proposes that enquiries to the four jurisdictions proceed in parallel where practical.

The investigation should not necessarily wait for Germany to provide a complete response before commencing appropriate enquiries to France.

Nor should it wait for the resolution of George's hereditary claim before approaching British archives.

Cameroonian genealogical and traditional evidence may be pursued alongside European documentary research.

This approach recognises that different sources may provide leads relevant to one another.

Where new information is obtained, subsequent enquiries can be refined.

The purpose is to reduce avoidable delay while preserving documentary accuracy.

13.30 International Coordination Without Presuming Authority

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office consider what role, if any, Britain may be prepared to undertake in facilitating international archival cooperation.

The organisation does not presume that Britain has authority to direct German, French or Cameroonian institutions.

Each jurisdiction possesses its own legal and administrative responsibilities.

The request is therefore for appropriate introductions, referrals, procedural guidance or other lawful assistance where available.

If the Foreign Office considers that such cooperation falls outside its functions, it is asked to explain the relevant limitation and identify alternative routes where practicable.

Reparation Nation Limited will preserve the distinction between assistance requested and assistance actually offered.

13.31 George T. Nomen's Authorisation

George T. Nomen has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to act on his behalf in pursuing the initial international historical investigation and related governmental correspondence.

Derrick Lynch represents the organisation in this matter.

The authorisation is confirmed.

However, individual institutions may require documentary verification before accepting particular forms of representation or disclosing restricted information.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that such requirements be identified precisely.

The organisation does not propose to presume the contents of any required declaration, signature or legal instrument.

George will have the opportunity to consider and respond to the institution's requirements.

Evidence of his authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited should be distinguished from evidence concerning his claimed hereditary status or wider community representative authority.

These are separate matters.

13.32 Safeguards Against Anti-Black Racism and Institutional Racism

Reparation Nation Limited requests information concerning safeguards against anti-Black racism and institutional racism within the relevant British governmental disclosure and decision-making processes.

The investigation concerns African ancestral history, traditional authority and historical records created under European colonial administrations.

The organisation considers it important that African genealogical, oral and customary evidence receive fair consideration.

Such material should be examined according to its evidential characteristics rather than arbitrarily dismissed because it differs from European administrative documentation.

At the same time, the evidence must remain subject to critical historical examination.

Reparation Nation Limited makes no predetermined allegation or finding of racial discrimination against any present-day official or institution.

The request concerns procedural fairness, transparency and accountability.

The organisation seeks identification of applicable safeguards, review arrangements and complaint procedures.

13.33 Record of Governmental and Institutional Responses

Reparation Nation Limited intends to maintain a consolidated register of all international historical disclosure requests.

The register will identify each institution contacted, the date of the request, the subject matter and the response received.

Where additional information is required, the requirement will be recorded.

Where a record is disclosed, the relevant document reference and source will be preserved.

Where disclosure is refused, the stated reasons and any available review procedure will be recorded.

Where no response is received, the request will remain outstanding until appropriately resolved or closed.

The register may be supported by relevant elements of IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice.

Its purpose is accountability.

The register will not treat an acknowledgement as a substantive disclosure or a referral as proof that the requested evidence exists.

13.34 Formal Questions to the United Kingdom Government

Reparation Nation Limited requests written consideration of the following questions.

Question 13.34.1: What British governmental or archival institutions hold potentially relevant records concerning German, French and British administration of Cameroon?

Question 13.34.2: Can the Foreign Office identify appropriate German governmental and archival contacts for enquiries concerning the reported displacement of hereditary traditional authority?

Question 13.34.3: Can appropriate French governmental and archival contacts be identified for enquiries concerning traditional leadership and the reported 1933 administrative instrument?

Question 13.34.4: Can appropriate Cameroonian governmental and archival contacts be identified for enquiries concerning ancestral genealogy, traditional authority and burial information?

Question 13.34.5: What British records may assist in identifying the historical locality associated with George T. Nomen's ancestral family?

Question 13.34.6: What research procedures are available for locating records containing the name Ngantcha?

Question 13.34.7: What assistance may be available in identifying the historical meaning of the designation RSA 91?

Question 13.34.8: What British records may contain information concerning German military or administrative intervention affecting traditional authorities in Cameroon?

Question 13.34.9: What records may assist in identifying French decisions concerning traditional leadership during the period surrounding 1933?

Question 13.34.10: What research procedures may assist in locating records concerning the reported deaths of George's ancestors?

Question 13.34.11: What institutions may hold records concerning burial sites, human remains or possible transfers of remains?

Question 13.34.12: What procedures apply to enquiries involving historical cultural objects or human remains held by British institutions?

Question 13.34.13: What statutory or administrative procedures are available for obtaining relevant British governmental records?

Question 13.34.14: What procedures apply where records are restricted or unavailable?

Question 13.34.15: Can the Department identify appropriate international archival cooperation channels?

Question 13.34.16: What assistance may be available in obtaining original documents or authenticated archival reproductions?

Question 13.34.17: What safeguards apply to the assessment of African traditional and oral historical evidence?

Question 13.34.18: What evidence does the Department require to verify George's existing authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited for particular forms of engagement?

Question 13.34.19: If the Foreign Office cannot provide particular assistance, will it identify the relevant institutional responsibility or alternative route where practicable?

Question 13.34.20: Will the Department provide a substantive written response identifying the international historical disclosure assistance it is prepared to consider?

These questions concern procedural cooperation and the identification of evidence.

They do not presume that the Foreign Office holds all requested records or possesses authority over foreign institutions.

13.35 Proposed International Disclosure Sequence

Reparation Nation Limited proposes that the international investigation follow a coordinated documentary sequence.

The first stage is to establish the ancestral locality, traditional institution and principal historical names.

The second is to identify the corresponding German, French, British and Cameroonian archival jurisdictions.

The third is to submit targeted requests for records concerning traditional leadership, colonial intervention and the reported deaths.

The fourth is to prioritise the reported 1933 French instrument and any related administrative documentation.

The fifth is to investigate evidence concerning burial sites, human remains and cultural property.

The sixth is to compare the records obtained across the relevant jurisdictions.

The seventh is to prepare an independently reviewable account distinguishing established facts, disputed evidence and unresolved questions.

The stages need not be completed strictly one after another.

Parallel work may be appropriate wherever the available information permits.

13.36 The Relationship Between Historical Disclosure and Reparatory Justice

Historical disclosure is a foundational part of George's wider reparatory justice objectives.

However, disclosure must be distinguished from the determination of legal responsibility or remedies.

A document establishing that a historical event occurred may provide a basis for further investigation.

It does not automatically establish a presently enforceable claim.

Similarly, evidence of customary hereditary succession does not automatically determine contemporary sovereignty or governmental recognition.

The investigation should therefore establish the historical facts before advancing particular legal or institutional conclusions.

Where evidence supports further action, George may consider appropriate requests for acknowledgement, correction of records, memorialisation, repatriation or other remedies.

Such decisions would require separate examination and appropriate authority.

The purpose of the present section is to obtain the records necessary for that assessment.

13.37 The Need for a Substantive Government Response

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office provide more than an acknowledgement of receipt.

The organisation seeks a substantive response identifying the Department's responsibilities, the archival or institutional routes available and any practical assistance it is prepared to consider.

Where the Department requires further identifying information, the requirements should be specified.

Where records are held elsewhere, appropriate referrals should be identified where practicable.

Where a request is declined, the principal reasons should be explained where appropriate.

The organisation recognises that the Government may not be able to resolve the historical investigation through a single response.

Nevertheless, the initial reply should provide sufficient procedural clarity to enable the enquiry to progress.

13.38 Conclusion and Formal Request

George T. Nomen has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to pursue international historical disclosure concerning his ancestral family and claimed hereditary traditional authority.

The investigation concerns the reported German colonial intervention, subsequent French administration, the deaths of ancestors, the fate of their remains and the historical continuity of the original hereditary institution.

The relevant evidence may be distributed among institutions in Germany, France, Cameroon and the United Kingdom.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore proposes a coordinated four-jurisdiction disclosure programme.

The organisation does not presume that each government possesses equal responsibility or that every relevant record survives.

It requests that the responsible institutions identify their holdings, access procedures and appropriate research routes.

The United Kingdom Government is asked to consider what assistance it can provide through its own historical records, archival institutions and available diplomatic or institutional channels.

The immediate purpose is to establish reliable historical evidence.

Any subsequent consideration of hereditary recognition, governmental status, historical accountability or reparatory remedies must remain grounded in that evidence.

The central request is for the United Kingdom Government to assist, where lawfully and practically possible, in establishing a coordinated international documentary investigation capable of determining what happened to George T. Nomen's ancestors and their hereditary traditional authority.

Reparation Nation Limited formally requests a substantive written response identifying the assistance available, the responsible institutions and the next procedural steps.

END OF SECTION THIRTEEN

NEXT: SECTION FOURTEEN — INVESTIGATION OF HUMAN REMAINS, MUSEUM COLLECTIONS, CULTURAL PROPERTY AND POSSIBLE REPATRIATION

SECTION FOURTEEN — INVESTIGATION OF HUMAN REMAINS, MUSEUM COLLECTIONS, CULTURAL PROPERTY AND POSSIBLE REPATRIATION

14.1 Introduction and Purpose

This section concerns the investigation of the reported deaths of members of George T. Nomen's ancestral family and community, the unresolved fate of their bodies, the possibility that relevant human remains or cultural objects may be held by institutions outside Cameroon, and the procedures through which identification, historical accountability and possible repatriation may be pursued.

Reparation Nation Limited submits this section pursuant to the authorisation given by George T. Nomen.

Derrick Lynch acts for and on behalf of Reparation Nation Limited in the preparation and submission of this representation.

George maintains that members of his ancestral family and community were killed during European colonial intervention affecting the hereditary traditional authority associated with his family.

He seeks to establish what happened to those individuals and where their bodies were taken or buried.

His investigation also concerns traditional objects, ancestral monuments and historical materials that may assist in reconstructing the identity and continuity of the original hereditary institution.

The possibility that relevant human remains or cultural property may have been removed from Cameroon requires investigation.

However, Reparation Nation Limited does not assert that identifiable remains belonging to George's ancestors are presently held by a particular museum, university, government or other institution.

Nor does it presume that ancestral objects were unlawfully acquired or transported to Europe.

These questions remain to be established through evidence.

The purpose of this section is to request that the United Kingdom Government identify appropriate procedures, institutions and forms of international cooperation capable of assisting with that investigation.

14.2 The Distinction Between Missing Ancestors and Missing Human Remains

Reparation Nation Limited considers it essential to distinguish the historical account of missing or deceased ancestors from the separate question of the present location of their remains.

George's account concerns individuals who were reportedly killed during colonial intervention.

The circumstances of those deaths require independent examination.

Even if the deaths are established, the location and fate of the bodies remain separate questions.

An ancestor may have been buried locally, moved to another burial site, subjected to exhumation or dealt with in circumstances that were never documented.

Other possibilities may arise from historical evidence.

No particular explanation should be presumed.

The organisation therefore proposes that the investigation maintain separate records concerning the identity of each ancestor, the evidence of death, the reported circumstances and any information concerning burial or subsequent handling of remains.

This distinction is necessary to prevent uncertain information from being presented as established fact.

14.3 The Humanitarian Importance of the Investigation

The fate of deceased ancestors may remain a matter of profound importance to surviving families and communities.

For George T. Nomen, the investigation concerns the identity, dignity and historical treatment of members of his ancestral family.

He wishes to establish what happened to those reportedly killed and whether information survives concerning their burial or other treatment.

Reparation Nation Limited considers that this humanitarian purpose should receive independent consideration.

It should not depend entirely upon whether George's claimed hereditary royal succession is ultimately recognised.

Nor should it depend upon recognition of his proposed London-based government-in-exile.

The investigation into the deceased is capable of proceeding through appropriate archival, historical and institutional procedures.

The organisation requests that the British Government consider what practical assistance may be available with this distinct humanitarian enquiry.

14.4 Identification of the Persons Concerned

Before particular human remains can be linked to George's ancestral family, the identities of the deceased must be investigated.

The preliminary materials include ancestral names and genealogical information, including the name Ngantcha.

However, the complete identities of the persons reportedly killed have not yet been independently established from the available evidence.

The investigation should seek their names, family relationships, approximate dates of death, historical localities and any traditional positions they occupied.

Where names appear in different forms, those variations should be examined carefully.

An apparent similarity between names does not automatically establish that they refer to the same individual.

Each proposed identification should be linked to supporting evidence.

The objective is to create a reliable foundation for subsequent enquiries concerning burial locations, museum holdings or other possible evidence.

14.5 The Original Places of Death

The investigation should establish where the reported deaths occurred.

This may require historical maps, military reports, administrative correspondence and traditional testimony.

The relevant ancestral locality must first be identified with sufficient precision.

German, French and contemporary Cameroonian geographical descriptions may differ.

Accordingly, historical place names and administrative boundaries should be examined rather than assumed.

Once the relevant locations are established, searches concerning burial and the possible movement of human remains can be directed more effectively.

Reparation Nation Limited does not identify any particular location as a confirmed site of killing without supporting evidence.

The purpose is to establish the geography of the reported events through reliable sources.

14.6 The Original Burial Arrangements

George seeks information concerning whether his ancestors received burial following their reported deaths.

The investigation should examine any surviving records describing burial arrangements, grave locations or the treatment of bodies.

Potential sources may include military documentation, administrative reports, missionary registers, medical records and local traditional accounts.

The absence of a formal burial register should not automatically establish that no burial occurred.

Historical burial practices and record-keeping arrangements may have differed significantly across communities and institutions.

The investigation should therefore include appropriate consideration of indigenous customary evidence.

Where a possible burial location is identified, its evidential status should be recorded accurately.

A reported grave should not be described as a confirmed burial site without adequate supporting evidence.

14.7 Possible Collective Burial Sites

Where historical evidence suggests that multiple persons died during the same event, the investigation may need to examine whether collective burial arrangements existed.

This is a possibility for investigation rather than an established fact.

Reparation Nation Limited does not assert that mass graves associated with George's ancestors have been located.

The investigation should first establish the relevant historical event, the persons concerned and the locality.

Where documentation or reliable testimony identifies a possible collective burial site, professional archaeological advice may become appropriate.

Any physical investigation would require applicable permissions and consideration of cultural, legal and ethical requirements.

The organisation does not claim authority to excavate, disturb or remove human remains.

Its immediate request concerns historical information and appropriate research procedures.

14.8 Possible Exhumation or Movement of Bodies

The investigation should examine whether any of the bodies were subsequently exhumed or moved from their original burial locations.

Relevant evidence might include official permissions, transport documentation, medical correspondence, museum records or testimony concerning later disturbance of burial sites.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that exhumation occurred.

Nor does it assume that any movement of remains was associated with a particular government or institution.

The purpose is to determine whether relevant records exist.

Where a transfer is documented, the investigation should establish its date, destination, stated purpose and the individuals or institutions involved.

Any conclusion concerning the present location of remains should be supported by a reliable documentary or physical connection.

14.9 Possible Transfer of Human Remains to Europe

The history of European colonial collecting practices makes it appropriate, where the evidence supports the enquiry, to examine whether human remains originating from Cameroon entered institutional collections outside Africa.

This possibility does not establish that remains belonging to George's ancestors were transferred.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore requests a carefully defined provenance investigation.

The enquiry should seek records concerning collections originating from the relevant historical locality and period.

Where institutional holdings are identified, their geographical and chronological relationship to George's ancestral history should be examined.

A general connection with Cameroon is insufficient to establish family identity.

The organisation asks that no conclusion concerning the presence of George's ancestral remains in Europe be reached without appropriate supporting evidence.

14.10 Museums Holding Human Remains

Museums may hold human remains acquired through historical collecting, research or other institutional activities.

The procedures governing those collections vary according to the institution and applicable law.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the British Government identify appropriate research and enquiry routes where potentially relevant collections are located in the United Kingdom.

The investigation may require examination of collection catalogues, accession registers, acquisition correspondence and provenance documentation.

The organisation does not allege that any particular British museum holds George's ancestors.

It asks how such a possibility may be investigated if evidence provides a credible basis for doing so.

Where a relevant collection is identified, the institution should be asked to explain the available research and consultation procedures.

14.11 University and Medical Collections

Historical human remains may also be associated with universities, medical institutions, teaching collections or former research establishments.

The investigation should consider these possibilities where relevant evidence exists.

Such enquiries may require examination of historical accession records, research publications, departmental archives and records of transfers between institutions.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that these collections contain human remains from George's ancestral locality.

The purpose is to identify whether particular records justify further investigation.

Where material is held by an institution, the appropriate legal and ethical procedures should be established.

Any proposed examination of physical remains would require separate professional consideration.

14.12 German Institutional Collections

Germany is a principal jurisdiction because George's account identifies German colonial intervention as central to the reported historical events.

Where evidence indicates that human remains or traditional objects from the relevant locality entered German institutional collections, appropriate provenance enquiries should be undertaken.

Potential research may involve museums, universities, archives and institutions holding colonial-era material.

The investigation should seek original acquisition records, donor correspondence, historical inventories and documentation concerning geographical origin.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that German collections contain identifiable remains belonging to George's family.

It requests the identification of relevant institutions and procedures capable of establishing whether any connection exists.

Where the United Kingdom Government can provide appropriate institutional referrals, such assistance is requested.

14.13 French Institutional Collections

French institutions may also hold historical records or collections relevant to colonial-era Cameroon.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that appropriate research routes be identified for investigating potential human remains, cultural objects and associated provenance documentation.

The enquiry should be guided by evidence concerning the ancestral locality and relevant historical period.

The reported French administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933 may assist in reconstructing the institution's administrative history, but its relationship to any human remains or cultural property has not been established.

The organisation does not presume that French institutions hold materials belonging to George's ancestors.

It seeks information concerning the procedures for investigating that possibility where justified.

14.14 British Institutional Collections

Britain's historical involvement in Cameroon and its extensive museum and university collections provide a potential basis for appropriate preliminary enquiries.

However, Britain did not administer all of Cameroon, and the location of George's ancestral traditional authority remains a question requiring precise historical identification.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore requests that the Foreign Office distinguish its diplomatic responsibilities from the responsibilities of independent museums, universities and archival institutions.

Where relevant British collections may exist, the appropriate institutions should be identified.

Where no connection can be established, the limitations of the evidence should be recorded.

The organisation does not ask the Government to attribute particular remains to George's family without proof.

It requests appropriate procedural guidance.

14.15 Collections Remaining Within Cameroon

The investigation should not presume that relevant remains or traditional objects were necessarily removed from Cameroon.

Important evidence may remain within local burial sites, traditional institutions, museums, family collections or governmental archives.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore proposes that enquiries within Cameroon proceed alongside any justified European provenance research.

The original locality should remain central to the investigation.

Local knowledge may assist in identifying burial traditions, ancestral objects and historical sites.

Where physical evidence is identified, appropriate local law and customary procedures must be respected.

The purpose is to investigate the full range of possibilities rather than begin from an assumption of European removal.

14.16 Provenance Research

Provenance research concerns the origin and custodial history of an object or collection.

For the purposes of this investigation, it may help establish whether particular human remains or cultural objects originated from George's ancestral locality.

Relevant evidence may include acquisition registers, correspondence, historical descriptions, transport records and later institutional inventories.

The investigation should establish the sequence through which an item entered its present collection.

Where gaps exist, they should be recorded.

The possession of an object by a European institution does not automatically establish unlawful acquisition.

Equally, a historical acquisition record does not necessarily resolve all ethical or legal questions concerning possession.

The relevant circumstances must be examined.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that provenance conclusions remain distinguishable from broader interpretations of colonial history.

14.17 Identification of Human Remains

If potentially relevant human remains are located, the question of identification becomes central.

The investigation must establish whether reliable evidence connects the remains to a particular individual, family or historical community.

Possible evidence may include collection records, archaeological context, historical descriptions and specialist scientific examination.

No single method should be presumed conclusive in every case.

The condition and age of remains may limit the possibility of identification.

Reparation Nation Limited does not propose that unidentified remains be attributed to George's ancestors merely because they originated from Cameroon.

Any individual or family identification must be supported by appropriate evidence and specialist assessment.

Where identification remains uncertain, that uncertainty should be communicated accurately.

14.18 Forensic Examination and Scientific Methods

Specialist forensic or scientific examination may become relevant if identifiable remains or a credible burial site are discovered.

The appropriate methods would depend upon the circumstances.

Such work could involve archaeological assessment, osteological examination, historical comparison or other specialist procedures.

DNA analysis may sometimes contribute to identification, but its feasibility cannot be presumed.

Relevant considerations include the condition of the remains, availability of suitable comparative material and applicable legal and ethical requirements.

Reparation Nation Limited does not request immediate scientific testing of unidentified collections.

It requests clarification of the procedures that would apply if evidence justified such examination.

Any testing should be undertaken only with proper authority, appropriate expertise and relevant consultation.

14.19 Consent, Consultation and the Interests of Descendants

The investigation may affect persons beyond George T. Nomen.

Where identifiable human remains or culturally significant objects are discovered, other descendants, families or traditional institutions may possess relevant interests.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that George has been authorised to make decisions on behalf of every person or institution potentially affected.

His authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited concerns the representation described in this document.

Any future decision concerning physical remains, repatriation, reburial or the disposition of traditional objects may require additional consultation or authority.

The relevant legal and customary requirements should be identified.

The organisation requests that the interests of affected descendants and communities be treated seriously.

No claim of exclusive authority over human remains is advanced merely through the present representation.

14.20 The Cultural Significance of Ancestors

George's interest in the fate of his ancestors may involve cultural and customary considerations concerning death, burial and ancestral identity.

The precise traditions associated with his particular ancestral institution require examination.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that every Bamiléké community follows identical customary practices.

Nor does it assume that George's interpretation necessarily represents every affected descendant.

Appropriate consultation may assist in identifying the relevant traditions and interests.

Where future decisions concern identified remains, those considerations should form part of the applicable ethical and institutional process.

The immediate objective remains historical disclosure.

14.21 Traditional Objects and Hereditary Authority

The preliminary Royal Succession Dossier refers to traditional objects associated with ancestral custodianship and hereditary authority, including a royal stool.

Such objects may be relevant to the historical identity and continuity of the traditional institution.

However, their existence or possession does not automatically establish George's hereditary succession.

The investigation should establish the origin, age, history and traditional meaning of each relevant object.

Where photographs are available, the original objects should not be presumed authenticated merely from their appearance.

Where objects are held by museums or other institutions, relevant provenance records should be sought.

The organisation requests that material evidence be examined alongside genealogy, customary rules and historical documentation.

14.22 Distinguishing Cultural Property From Human Remains

Human remains and cultural objects may raise different legal, ethical and institutional questions.

The investigation should not treat them as interchangeable categories.

A traditional object may be associated with a family or ceremonial office.

Human remains concern deceased persons and may require additional safeguards relating to dignity, identification and the interests of descendants.

Different acquisition, retention and repatriation procedures may therefore apply.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that relevant institutions identify the appropriate rules for each category.

Where a collection contains both cultural objects and human remains, their provenance and status should be examined separately.

The purpose is to ensure that each matter receives appropriate consideration.

14.23 The Possibility of Repatriation

If identifiable human remains or cultural objects associated with George's ancestral family are eventually located outside Cameroon, repatriation or restitution may become a matter for consideration.

However, no present entitlement to receive particular remains or objects is asserted without establishing their identity, provenance and applicable legal position.

The procedure may differ according to the institution, jurisdiction and nature of the material.

Reparation Nation Limited requests information concerning the relevant procedures and evidential requirements.

Any future request would need to identify the material concerned, the proposed recipient, the basis of the request and any necessary family, community or governmental consultation.

The organisation does not ask Britain to order the transfer of unidentified material.

It asks what processes are available if relevant evidence is subsequently established.

14.24 British Law and Institutional Procedures

The United Kingdom has legal and institutional arrangements governing the possession, treatment and possible transfer of human remains.

The Human Tissue Act 2004 is relevant to aspects of the management and transfer of human remains, including provisions enabling certain museums to transfer human remains from their collections under specified circumstances.

However, the applicability of particular provisions depends upon the nature of the institution, the remains and the proposed action.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that the legislation provides an automatic right to repatriation.

Nor does it presume that every institution is subject to identical requirements.

The organisation requests that the competent British institutions identify the relevant law, guidance and decision-making procedures.

Where particular remains are eventually identified, specialist legal and institutional advice may be necessary.

14.25 Professional and Ethical Guidance

Museums and other institutions may apply professional guidance concerning the care, management and consideration of requests involving human remains.

Such guidance may address provenance, consultation, dignity, research and possible return.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that relevant institutions identify the guidance applicable to their collections.

The organisation recognises that professional guidance does not necessarily create a legal right to obtain particular material.

Nevertheless, it may provide a framework for submitting appropriate enquiries and understanding how decisions are made.

Where a future request is considered, the institution should explain the applicable procedure and evidential requirements.

The organisation seeks transparency rather than predetermined outcomes.

14.26 The Question of Historical Acquisition

The investigation may reveal that particular human remains or cultural objects were acquired during colonial administration.

If so, the circumstances of acquisition should be examined.

Relevant questions may concern the identity of the person or institution transferring the material, the date and location, the purpose of the transfer and the existence of consent or other authority.

The investigation must distinguish what the surviving records establish from what remains uncertain.

An incomplete acquisition record does not automatically prove unlawful removal.

Equally, an administrative record describing an acquisition does not necessarily resolve its ethical legitimacy.

Any subsequent legal or reparatory assessment would require consideration of the applicable historical circumstances and contemporary institutional procedures.

Reparation Nation Limited does not advance allegations against unidentified institutions before relevant evidence has been obtained.

14.27 Possible Reburial and Memorialisation

If identifiable ancestral remains are located, future decisions may concern reburial, preservation or memorialisation.

These are matters requiring appropriate consultation.

George may wish to consider whether any recovered remains should be returned to an ancestral locality or otherwise treated according to relevant family and cultural traditions.

However, the organisation does not presume that the preferred outcome has already been established.

The views and interests of other descendants, traditional institutions and relevant authorities may be material.

Applicable law and professional requirements must also be considered.

Reparation Nation Limited's immediate objective is to establish the historical evidence necessary for those future decisions.

14.28 A Proposed International Human Remains Register

Reparation Nation Limited proposes establishing a structured register for evidence concerning the reported deaths and possible surviving remains.

The register should distinguish deceased persons from unidentified remains.

It should identify the evidence of each reported death, any suspected or confirmed burial location and any relevant archival or institutional reference.

Where a possible collection item is identified, the institution, catalogue reference and provenance information should be recorded.

The register should not describe a suspected connection as a confirmed identification.

Where evidence remains incomplete, the uncertainty should be explicit.

The purpose is to prevent confusion and allow subsequent research to be directed efficiently.

Appropriate safeguards should protect confidential family information and sensitive site details.

14.29 The Role of IBIS

Reparation Nation Limited proposes to examine whether IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice — can assist with organising the human remains investigation.

Potential functions include registering research questions, preserving archival references, recording institutional responses and distinguishing verified findings from outstanding enquiries.

The system may also help identify when an institution has acknowledged a request, undertaken a search, disclosed records or provided a substantive decision.

These stages should remain distinct.

An acknowledgement does not establish that relevant remains exist.

An institutional search does not establish personal identification.

A possible provenance connection does not amount to a confirmed family relationship.

The organisation intends to preserve these distinctions throughout the project.

IBIS is proposed as supporting infrastructure rather than a substitute for professional forensic, archaeological or institutional procedures.

14.30 Britain's Potential Diplomatic Role

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office consider whether it can provide appropriate assistance with enquiries involving German, French and Cameroonian institutions.

The British Government is not presumed to possess authority over foreign museums or archives.

Nevertheless, it may be able to identify relevant diplomatic or institutional communication routes.

Where assistance is unavailable, the Department is asked to explain the limitation and identify alternative procedures where practicable.

The purpose is to establish whether Britain's international relationships can help clarify the fate of George's ancestors.

Any cooperation should respect the sovereignty of the countries concerned and the independence of relevant institutions.

14.31 Britain's Potential Domestic Institutional Role

Within the United Kingdom, relevant enquiries may involve government departments, museums, universities, archives and other institutions.

The Foreign Office may not be the body responsible for individual collection decisions.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore requests that the Department identify the appropriate domestic referral routes.

Where a collection is held by an independent institution, the organisation asks for clarification of the applicable enquiry process.

Where records are held by The National Archives, the appropriate archival procedure should be identified.

Where questions involve human tissue or museum law, the relevant institutional or regulatory guidance should be specified where practicable.

The objective is to avoid confusion between governmental assistance and the independent responsibilities of collection-holding institutions.

14.32 Safeguards Against Anti-Black Racism and Institutional Racism

Reparation Nation Limited requests information concerning safeguards against anti-Black racism and institutional racism in the handling of enquiries involving African ancestral remains and cultural property.

The investigation concerns people whose lives and institutions were affected by European colonial administration.

The organisation considers it important that their descendants' enquiries receive fair consideration.

It asks how institutions ensure that African oral testimony, customary practices and family interests are appropriately considered in provenance research and decisions involving remains.

It also requests information concerning equality policies, review arrangements and procedures for raising concerns about discriminatory treatment.

No predetermined accusation, allegation or finding of racism is made against any present-day official, museum, university or institution.

The purpose is to understand the safeguards in place and ensure transparent decision-making.

14.33 International Legal and Ethical Distinctions

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that historical restitution and repatriation questions may involve different legal frameworks.

A request concerning human remains held by a British museum may be governed by different rules from a request concerning an object held by a German or French institution.

The historical date and circumstances of acquisition may also be relevant.

The existence of international cultural heritage instruments does not necessarily mean that every treaty applies retrospectively to every colonial-era event or collection.

The organisation therefore requests that relevant procedures be identified without presuming their legal effect.

Where further action becomes appropriate, specialist examination should determine the applicable framework.

The immediate purpose is to establish provenance and available institutional routes.

14.34 The Need for Independent Verification

The investigation should not proceed from the assumption that all material associated with colonial Cameroon belongs to George's ancestral family.

A credible claim requires a demonstrable connection between the material, its origin and the relevant persons or institution.

That connection may depend upon several independent sources.

Where records are incomplete, conclusions should be qualified.

Where evidence contradicts a proposed identification, it should be preserved and examined.

Where no reliable connection can be established, the material should not be publicly described as belonging to George's ancestors.

This requirement protects the credibility of the investigation and the interests of other families and communities.

14.35 Formal Questions Requiring British Government Consideration

Reparation Nation Limited requests written consideration of the following questions.

Question 14.35.1: What British governmental or institutional procedures are available for investigating the possible location of human remains associated with colonial-era Cameroon?

Question 14.35.2: Can the Foreign Office identify appropriate British museums, universities or archival institutions capable of advising on provenance research concerning human remains?

Question 14.35.3: What procedures apply where descendants seek information concerning the burial, exhumation or possible transfer of ancestral remains?

Question 14.35.4: What assistance may be available in identifying German institutions holding relevant colonial-era human remains or acquisition records?

Question 14.35.5: What assistance may be available in identifying French institutions holding relevant collections or provenance records?

Question 14.35.6: What cooperation may be available with Cameroonian governmental, archival and traditional institutions concerning burial sites and ancestral remains?

Question 14.35.7: What research procedures may assist in identifying the persons reportedly killed during the events affecting George T. Nomen's ancestral authority?

Question 14.35.8: What procedures may be available for identifying the historical locations of possible burial sites?

Question 14.35.9: What institutions are competent to advise concerning archaeological or forensic investigation if relevant evidence is located?

Question 14.35.10: What evidential requirements apply before particular human remains may be associated with an identified individual or ancestral family?

Question 14.35.11: What legal and ethical procedures apply to requests for the return of identifiable human remains held by British institutions?

Question 14.35.12: How does the Government distinguish its responsibilities from those of independent museums and universities?

Question 14.35.13: What procedures exist for researching traditional objects and cultural property potentially associated with George's ancestral institution?

Question 14.35.14: What guidance is available concerning provenance research, consultation and possible repatriation of cultural objects?

Question 14.35.15: Where records identify colonial-era acquisition of human remains or cultural property, what procedures are available for examining the circumstances of acquisition?

Question 14.35.16: What safeguards apply to ensure fair consideration of African customary practices and descendants' interests?

Question 14.35.17: What safeguards against anti-Black racism and institutional racism apply within the relevant British governmental decision-making processes?

Question 14.35.18: What documentary evidence would the Department require to verify George's authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited for particular information requests?

Question 14.35.19: Where another institution is responsible for a particular enquiry, will the Foreign Office identify the appropriate referral route where practicable?

Question 14.35.20: Will the Department provide a written explanation of what practical assistance it is prepared to consider concerning the fate of George's deceased ancestors?

These questions seek information and procedural cooperation.

They do not presume that any institution possesses identifiable remains belonging to George's family.

14.36 A Proposed Sequence for the Investigation

Reparation Nation Limited proposes that the investigation proceed through identifiable evidential stages.

The first stage is the reconstruction of the ancestral genealogy and identification of persons reportedly killed.

The second is the establishment of the relevant historical localities and circumstances of death.

The third is the identification of potential burial records and sites.

The fourth is the examination of any documentary evidence suggesting exhumation, transfer or institutional retention of remains.

The fifth is targeted provenance research involving relevant collections where justified.

The sixth is specialist assessment of any potentially identifiable remains.

The seventh is consultation concerning appropriate next steps if an identification is established.

The eighth is consideration of possible repatriation, reburial, memorialisation or other appropriate measures.

These stages are intended to prevent premature conclusions.

They may overlap where the available evidence permits, but later actions should remain supported by the necessary evidence and authority.

14.37 The Distinction Between Disclosure and Repatriation

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Government distinguish the immediate request for historical disclosure from any future request for repatriation.

Disclosure concerns obtaining information.

Provenance research concerns establishing the origin and history of particular material.

Identification concerns determining whether remains or objects are connected to specific persons or institutions.

Repatriation concerns a subsequent decision about transfer or return.

These are related but distinct processes.

An institution may be able to disclose collection records without accepting a request for transfer.

Similarly, the discovery of relevant remains does not automatically determine the appropriate recipient or final disposition.

The organisation requests that each stage be considered according to its applicable procedures.

14.38 The Importance of an Accountable Documentary Record

Reparation Nation Limited intends to preserve a complete record of enquiries involving human remains and cultural property.

The record will distinguish institutions contacted, information requested, responses received and evidence disclosed.

Where a possible collection item is identified, its catalogue reference and provenance status will be recorded.

Where an institution declines to assist, the stated reason will be preserved.

Where further research is recommended, the next step will be identified.

The purpose is to avoid repeated enquiries and prevent unsupported claims concerning the location or identity of ancestral material.

Any future public communication will distinguish verified findings from unresolved possibilities.

14.39 Statement of Non-Accusation

Reparation Nation Limited expressly confirms that it makes no predetermined accusation, allegation or finding against any present-day government, museum, university or collection-holding institution.

The organisation does not assert that the remains of George's ancestors were stolen, transported to Europe or retained by a particular institution without evidence.

It does not presume that any cultural object associated with his ancestral institution was unlawfully acquired.

Nor does it claim an established entitlement to obtain possession of unidentified remains or objects.

The purpose is to seek the evidence necessary to determine what occurred.

Questions concerning historical wrongdoing, institutional responsibility or reparatory remedies may be considered separately if relevant facts are established.

The organisation's position remains evidence-based.

14.40 Conclusion and Formal Request

George T. Nomen seeks to establish what happened to members of his ancestral family and community who were reportedly killed during colonial intervention affecting their hereditary traditional authority in Cameroon.

He wishes to know where their bodies were buried, whether they were subsequently moved and whether information survives concerning their remains.

He also seeks to investigate traditional objects and cultural materials potentially associated with his ancestral institution.

Reparation Nation Limited has been authorised to pursue these enquiries on his behalf.

The organisation does not presume that identifiable remains or cultural objects belonging to George's family are presently held in Britain, Germany, France or another country.

It requests the historical and institutional evidence necessary to investigate those possibilities.

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office is therefore asked to identify relevant British procedures, institutions and available international cooperation routes.

The immediate purpose is information, identification and historical accountability.

Any subsequent request for repatriation, restitution, reburial or another remedy would require separate consideration of the evidence, applicable law, relevant family and community interests, and institutional procedures.

The central question is whether the surviving historical, archival, museum and scientific record can establish what happened to the bodies of George T. Nomen's ancestors and whether any identifiable remains or cultural materials connected to his ancestral family can now be located.

Reparation Nation Limited formally requests British Government assistance in identifying the appropriate procedures through which that question may be investigated.

END OF SECTION FOURTEEN

NEXT: SECTION FIFTEEN — SAFEGUARDS AGAINST ANTI-BLACK RACISM, INSTITUTIONAL RACISM AND DISCRIMINATORY DECISION-MAKING

SECTION FIFTEEN — SAFEGUARDS AGAINST ANTI-BLACK RACISM, INSTITUTIONAL RACISM AND DISCRIMINATORY DECISION-MAKING

15.1 Introduction and Purpose

This section formally requests information concerning the safeguards against anti-Black racism, institutional racism and discriminatory decision-making applicable to the consideration of George T. Nomen's historical, hereditary, humanitarian and institutional representation.

Reparation Nation Limited submits this section pursuant to the authorisation given by George T. Nomen.

Derrick Lynch acts for and on behalf of Reparation Nation Limited in preparing and submitting this representation to the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office.

George seeks assistance with an investigation concerning the reported killing of members of his ancestral family and community, the uncertain fate of their remains, and the destruction or displacement of the hereditary Bamiléké traditional authority associated with his family during European colonial administration in Cameroon.

He also seeks consideration of peaceful London-based institutional arrangements, including the possibility of a government-in-exile or alternative representative institution.

These matters involve African ancestral identity, customary hereditary authority, European colonial records, international diplomatic procedures and potentially sensitive questions of historical responsibility.

Reparation Nation Limited considers it necessary to establish what safeguards exist to ensure that these matters are considered fairly, consistently, transparently and without unlawful racial discrimination.

The organisation does not presume that discriminatory treatment has occurred.

It requests information concerning the systems intended to prevent such treatment.

15.2 Express Statement of Non-Accusation

For the avoidance of doubt, Reparation Nation Limited expressly confirms that it makes no accusations, no allegations, no assumptions and no assertions of wrongdoing against any present-day official or institution, and has reached no conclusions concerning discriminatory conduct.

In particular, the organisation does not allege that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, the British Government or any individual official has engaged in anti-Black racism or institutional racism in the handling of George's representation.

The questions raised in this section are preventive, procedural and evidential.

They concern the identification and examination of safeguards.

A request for information about safeguards is not itself an allegation that those safeguards are absent.

Similarly, the absence of a document supplied in response to an initial enquiry would not, by itself, establish that unlawful discrimination has occurred.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Department preserve these distinctions throughout its consideration of this representation.

15.3 Why Safeguards Are Relevant

George's representation involves historical events occurring under European colonial administrations and concerning an African traditional hereditary institution.

The records available for examining those events may have been produced by officials exercising colonial authority over African communities.

Such records may contain important evidence, but their language, classifications and scope may reflect the purposes and perspectives of the administrations that created them.

Other relevant evidence may survive through African family histories, traditional institutions, oral testimony, monuments and customary practices.

The investigation therefore raises questions concerning how different forms of historical evidence are assessed.

Reparation Nation Limited seeks assurance that relevant African evidence will not be disregarded merely because it differs from European documentary conventions.

The organisation also requests clarity concerning the procedures applicable to George's proposed institutional arrangements.

The objective is to establish whether decisions are based upon relevant law, evidence and policy rather than inappropriate assumptions concerning African identity or traditional authority.

15.4 Anti-Black Racism as a Distinct Subject of Enquiry

Reparation Nation Limited specifically requests information concerning safeguards against anti-Black racism.

The organisation uses this expression to identify the particular racial discrimination risk relevant to Black African individuals, families, communities and institutions.

The request should not be reduced to a generic statement that the Department is opposed to discrimination.

Reparation Nation Limited seeks to understand whether and how the Department identifies risks affecting Black applicants and African historical or customary claims.

This includes any relevant policies, guidance, training, assessment arrangements and review mechanisms.

The organisation does not presume that a separate policy document bearing the exact title anti-Black racism must exist.

It asks the Department to identify the safeguards that actually apply, whether those safeguards appear within general equality policies or more specific arrangements.

The objective is substantive clarification.

15.5 Institutional Racism as a Separate Subject of Enquiry

Reparation Nation Limited also requests information concerning institutional racism.

This enquiry concerns the operation of institutional policies, practices and procedures, not merely the intentions or conduct of individual officials.

An organisation may have formal commitments to equality while still needing to examine whether its processes create unjustified disparities.

The present representation therefore asks what arrangements exist to identify, prevent and address such risks.

Relevant matters may include decision-making guidance, supervision, equality assessments, complaints, quality assurance and organisational review.

Reparation Nation Limited does not assert that any particular Foreign Office procedure is institutionally racist.

It seeks information about how the Department examines the fairness of its procedures and responds to credible concerns.

The distinction between individual discrimination and institutional processes should be preserved in the Government's response.

15.6 The Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 provides an important statutory framework concerning racial discrimination in Great Britain, subject to its scope and the activities to which particular provisions apply.

Race is a protected characteristic under the Act.

For the purposes of the legislation, race includes colour, nationality and ethnic or national origins.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office identify the relevant provisions and internal procedures applicable to its consideration of George's representation.

The organisation does not presume that every action concerning foreign policy, diplomatic recognition or overseas historical events is governed in the same manner by every provision of the Act.

The applicability of particular duties and remedies depends upon the circumstances and applicable law.

The request is therefore for an accurate explanation of which equality obligations and safeguards apply to the specific governmental decisions under consideration.

15.7 The Public Sector Equality Duty

Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 establishes the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Subject to its statutory terms and application, the duty requires relevant public authorities, when exercising their functions, to have due regard to the need to eliminate prohibited discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between persons sharing protected characteristics and those who do not.

Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification of how the Department applies this duty to relevant aspects of its correspondence, administrative procedures and decision-making.

The organisation recognises that the duty does not automatically require any particular substantive outcome.

It does not create an automatic entitlement to diplomatic recognition, historical assistance or the acceptance of George's hereditary claim.

Nevertheless, where the duty applies, it is relevant to understanding the framework within which governmental decisions are made.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Department identify any applicable guidance or procedures through which compliance is supported.

15.8 Identification of Relevant Decision-Makers

Reparation Nation Limited requests clarity concerning which officials, teams or departments will consider the different elements of George's representation.

The investigation involves archival disclosure, diplomatic cooperation, traditional hereditary claims, the proposed London-based institution and historical accountability.

Different functions may be exercised by different decision-makers.

The organisation asks that the relevant responsibilities be distinguished.

Where a decision requires specialist knowledge, the Department is requested to explain whether appropriate expertise or guidance is available.

Where an official lacks authority to determine a particular matter, an appropriate referral should be identified where practicable.

The purpose is to reduce the risk of decisions being made without consideration of the relevant historical, legal or institutional context.

15.9 Safeguards Concerning African Customary Authority

George's claim concerns a particular ancestral Bamiléké traditional authority.

The investigation must distinguish customary hereditary legitimacy from colonial administrative recognition.

Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification of how the Foreign Office approaches matters involving African customary institutions.

In particular, the organisation asks whether officials are guided to distinguish traditional succession arrangements from governmental appointments made during colonial administration.

A colonial document identifying a person as chief may establish that an administration recognised that person.

It does not necessarily resolve the separate question of legitimate hereditary succession under the applicable customary rules.

Conversely, family testimony identifying an alternative hereditary line does not automatically establish that the colonial record was incorrect.

Both forms of evidence require examination.

The organisation seeks safeguards ensuring that neither source is automatically accepted or rejected because of its institutional or cultural origin.

15.10 Safeguards Concerning African Oral History

The investigation may depend partly upon ancestral information transmitted through family and community testimony.

Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification of how relevant governmental procedures treat oral historical evidence.

Oral testimony may provide important information concerning names, relationships, historical events and traditional institutions.

Its reliability must be assessed according to its provenance, consistency, context and relationship to other evidence.

The organisation does not request preferential acceptance of oral accounts.

It requests that African oral history not be dismissed arbitrarily because it is not contained within a colonial administrative document.

Where the Department considers that a particular form of evidence is insufficient for a specific decision, the relevant evidential requirement should be identified.

George should then have the opportunity to consider whether further corroboration is available.

15.11 Safeguards Concerning Colonial Records

European colonial records may contain terminology and classifications reflecting the political and administrative systems under which they were created.

Reparation Nation Limited considers it important that such documents be examined critically.

The organisation requests clarification of whether officials are guided to distinguish the authenticity of a colonial document from the correctness or customary legitimacy of the decisions described within it.

An authentic administrative order may establish that a particular decision was issued.

It does not necessarily establish that the decision was fair, lawful under every relevant framework or accepted by the affected community.

Similarly, a historical record may omit information that survives through other sources.

The organisation asks that these limitations be recognised where relevant.

The objective is accurate historical interpretation rather than automatic distrust of European documents.

15.12 Safeguards Concerning Names and Identity

George's preliminary materials include the ancestral name Ngantcha.

The investigation may involve historical variations in the spelling of African names, geographical locations and traditional titles.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that appropriate allowance be made for such variations during archival searches and identification procedures.

This does not mean that similar names should automatically be treated as identifying the same person.

It means that relevant variations should be investigated where reasonably justified.

The organisation asks whether applicable procedures permit clarification or correction of identifying information where historical records use inconsistent terminology.

An applicant should not be disadvantaged by avoidable administrative misunderstanding concerning names.

At the same time, identity must remain subject to appropriate verification.

15.13 Safeguards Concerning Hereditary Succession

George maintains that he is the rightful hereditary successor of a particular ancestral traditional authority.

The claim requires examination of genealogy, customary succession rules and historical institutional continuity.

Reparation Nation Limited requests safeguards ensuring that his claim is considered according to the evidence relevant to that particular institution.

It should not be assumed that all Bamiléké traditional authorities possess identical succession arrangements.

Nor should European political or constitutional models automatically be treated as defining the structure of the original institution.

Where the Department considers that it lacks authority to determine customary succession, that limitation should be explained.

The organisation does not ask the Foreign Office to recognise George as hereditary ruler without evidence.

It asks that requests for historical assistance be distinguished from any eventual decision concerning recognition.

15.14 Safeguards Concerning the Government-in-Exile Proposal

George wishes to examine the establishment of a London-based government-in-exile or alternative representative institution.

The proposal raises legitimate legal and diplomatic questions.

Reparation Nation Limited does not suggest that the Government must accept it.

Nevertheless, the organisation requests that the proposal be assessed according to relevant legal, constitutional and diplomatic considerations rather than assumptions concerning African traditional authority.

The historical comparison with Britain's support for General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement should be examined accurately.

The substantial differences between the situations may justify different responses.

However, the reasons for those differences should be identified where appropriate.

A decision declining governmental recognition should not automatically dispose of separate requests for archival assistance or lawful institutional engagement.

15.15 Safeguards Against Unconscious Bias and Stereotyping

Reparation Nation Limited requests information concerning any relevant training or procedures intended to reduce inappropriate stereotyping and bias in administrative decision-making.

The organisation is particularly concerned that African hereditary institutions should not be assessed through general assumptions about their historical legitimacy or contemporary relevance.

Each claim should be examined according to its particular evidence and applicable legal framework.

The organisation does not presume that unconscious bias has affected the present case.

It asks whether the Department maintains relevant safeguards and how those safeguards are applied.

Where staff guidance or training is available, the organisation requests identification of the relevant material, subject to applicable disclosure rules.

15.16 Safeguards Concerning Translation

The investigation may involve German, French, English and African languages.

Translation can affect the interpretation of names, customary titles and historical administrative decisions.

Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification of how the Department addresses relevant translation uncertainties where they materially affect its consideration of evidence.

The original wording of important documents should be preserved wherever possible.

A translated term such as king, chief or traditional ruler may not reproduce every aspect of the original institutional meaning.

The organisation requests that material uncertainty be identified rather than concealed through simplified language.

The purpose is to avoid misunderstanding of the ancestral institution and its history.

15.17 Safeguards Concerning the Reported Deaths

George's account concerns the reported killing of members of his ancestral family and community.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the humanitarian significance of those enquiries be considered appropriately.

The organisation does not ask officials to accept the reported deaths without evidence.

It requests assistance in identifying available research procedures and appropriate institutions.

Where an enquiry concerns deceased African ancestors, its historical age should not automatically determine whether useful information can be located.

The organisation asks that the applicable records and access procedures be considered according to the evidence and institutional responsibilities.

It also requests information concerning safeguards relevant to decisions about whether and how such enquiries receive assistance.

15.18 Safeguards Concerning Human Remains

The possible identification of ancestral human remains raises cultural, ethical and historical questions.

Reparation Nation Limited requests information concerning safeguards applicable to governmental or institutional enquiries about African human remains.

These may concern provenance research, consultation, appropriate identification and the treatment of descendants' interests.

The organisation does not presume that George's ancestors are held in European collections.

Nevertheless, where a credible evidential connection is identified, the relevant procedures should be explained.

The organisation asks that African customary and familial considerations receive fair attention within the applicable legal and ethical framework.

No automatic right to repatriation or possession of unidentified remains is asserted.

15.19 Safeguards Concerning Cultural Property

The preliminary materials refer to traditional objects associated with the ancestral institution.

Any investigation into their origin or possible transfer must be evidence-based.

Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification of safeguards applicable to the consideration of African cultural property within relevant British institutional procedures.

The organisation seeks assurance that provenance and traditional significance will be assessed fairly.

It does not presume that every object associated with colonial Cameroon was unlawfully acquired.

Nor does it claim that George has established ownership of particular objects.

The purpose is to identify the appropriate procedures for examining such questions.

15.20 Safeguards Concerning Documentary Verification

Governmental and archival institutions may require evidence of identity, authorisation or representative standing before taking particular actions.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that such requirements may be legitimate.

However, it requests that the requirements be clear, relevant and appropriately distinguished.

George has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to act on his behalf.

The Department is invited to identify what documentary evidence it requires to verify that authorisation.

The organisation also asks that evidence concerning George's hereditary status not be confused with evidence of his personal authorisation of RNL.

Similarly, any requirement concerning wider community representation should be identified separately.

The objective is to prevent unnecessary procedural obstacles arising from the conflation of different questions.

15.21 Safeguards Against Moving Evidential Requirements

Reparation Nation Limited requests that documentary requirements be communicated clearly wherever practicable.

The organisation is concerned to avoid a process in which evidence is repeatedly requested without explanation of the specific issue it is intended to establish.

Different stages of an investigation may legitimately require different forms of evidence.

However, the purpose and basis of material additional requirements should be identified.

Where the Department determines that previously supplied evidence is insufficient, the organisation requests clarification of the deficiency.

Where alternative evidence may be accepted, the available options should be explained.

The organisation does not presume that changes in evidential requirements necessarily demonstrate unfairness.

It seeks transparency enabling George to respond effectively.

15.22 Safeguards Against Procedural Drift and Distortion

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Department preserve the distinctions established throughout this representation.

George's identity is distinct from his claimed hereditary status.

His hereditary claim is distinct from authority to represent a wider community.

His authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited is distinct from governmental recognition.

Historical disclosure is distinct from reparatory liability.

Institutional engagement is distinct from diplomatic recognition.

A request for safeguards against racism is distinct from an allegation that racism has occurred.

The organisation is concerned that confusion between these matters could result in incomplete or misleading responses.

It therefore asks that official correspondence identify which question is being addressed.

Where the Department considers that two matters are legally connected, the nature of the connection should be explained.

The objective is accuracy.

15.23 Safeguards Concerning Departmental Referrals

Different parts of this representation may fall within the responsibilities of different institutions.

Reparation Nation Limited requests safeguards against the loss or mischaracterisation of substantive questions during referral.

Where the Foreign Office refers a matter to another department, the purpose of the referral should be clear.

A referral concerning archival access should not automatically be treated as disposing of a separate diplomatic question.

Similarly, a response concerning governmental recognition should not be represented as a decision concerning the validity of George's family history.

Where appropriate, the organisation requests separate responses or clear identification of the issues remaining outstanding.

The objective is to maintain an accurate and accountable administrative record.

15.24 Safeguards Concerning Reasons for Decisions

Reparation Nation Limited requests that decisions be accompanied by sufficient explanation to identify the relevant legal, evidential or administrative considerations, where appropriate.

The organisation recognises that the extent of any duty to provide reasons depends upon the decision and applicable law.

Nevertheless, meaningful explanations can help applicants understand the outcome and determine whether further evidence or review is appropriate.

Where a request is declined because the Department lacks responsibility, that distinction should be stated.

Where a request is declined because necessary evidence has not been supplied, the requirement should be identified.

Where a request cannot be granted because of diplomatic or legal considerations, the relevant limitation should be explained to the extent appropriate.

The organisation seeks transparency rather than a predetermined outcome.

15.25 Safeguards Concerning Internal Review

Reparation Nation Limited requests information concerning available procedures for reviewing decisions or administrative handling.

Different types of governmental decisions may be subject to different review mechanisms.

The organisation therefore asks that applicable procedures be identified rather than assumed.

Where an applicant believes a factual error has occurred, there should be clarity concerning how that error may be raised.

Where relevant evidence has apparently been overlooked, the organisation requests information about the appropriate route for seeking reconsideration.

Where concerns involve discrimination, the applicable complaint or escalation procedure should be identified.

The organisation does not presume that every disagreement creates a legal right of appeal.

It seeks clarification of the mechanisms actually available.

15.26 Safeguards Concerning Complaints

Reparation Nation Limited requests identification of the Department's complaints procedures relevant to the handling of this representation.

The organisation asks how a concern may be raised concerning delay, inaccurate recording of information, failure to address a substantive question or possible discriminatory treatment.

It also requests clarification of any applicable escalation process.

The availability of a complaint mechanism should not be confused with proof that a complaint is justified.

No complaint concerning racial discrimination is advanced merely by submitting this section.

The purpose is to establish the procedures available if a concern subsequently arises.

15.27 Safeguards Concerning the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman

Where relevant, Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification of the role and jurisdiction of the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman in relation to complaints about government administration.

The organisation recognises that the Ombudsman's jurisdiction and referral requirements are governed by applicable law.

It does not presume that every diplomatic, foreign-policy or governmental recognition decision is capable of investigation through that route.

The Foreign Office is requested to identify any relevant published guidance concerning escalation of unresolved administrative complaints.

Where a matter falls outside the Ombudsman's jurisdiction, appropriate alternative procedures should be identified where practicable.

15.28 Safeguards Concerning Public Accountability

The investigation may raise questions of public interest concerning European colonial history, traditional African institutions and access to government records.

Reparation Nation Limited intends to maintain an accurate documentary account of its communications.

The organisation requests that governmental statements, acknowledgements, referrals and substantive decisions be clearly distinguishable.

An acknowledgement of correspondence should not be represented as endorsement of George's historical claim.

A request for further evidence should not automatically be represented as rejection.

A refusal of diplomatic recognition should not be represented as a determination that the reported deaths did not occur.

These distinctions are essential to accurate public accountability.

The organisation will seek to preserve them within its records.

15.29 Safeguards Concerning Confidentiality and Personal Data

The investigation may involve personal information relating to George and other living individuals.

Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification of the Department's procedures concerning the secure submission, handling and disclosure of such information.

The organisation does not intend to supply unnecessary identity or family documentation merely to anticipate requirements that have not been identified.

Where information is requested, its purpose should be explained.

Any applicable data protection requirements should be observed.

George's authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited should not be interpreted as consent to unrestricted publication of confidential information concerning other individuals.

The organisation requests that appropriate distinctions be maintained between public historical evidence and material requiring restricted handling.

15.30 Safeguards Concerning Independent Expertise

The historical and customary questions raised by George's claim may require specialist knowledge.

Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification of whether the Department can seek or consider appropriate expertise where necessary.

This may concern colonial history, African customary institutions, genealogy, archival interpretation or international legal questions.

The organisation does not demand that the Government commission independent research.

It asks how specialist evidence may be presented and assessed if it becomes relevant to a governmental decision.

Where an expert opinion is relied upon, the nature of the expertise and the limitations of the opinion should be understood.

The objective is informed decision-making.

15.31 Safeguards Concerning Conflicts of Interest

Reparation Nation Limited requests information concerning any relevant procedures for identifying and managing conflicts of interest within governmental decision-making.

A conflict should not be presumed merely because an institution has historical connections with the subject under examination.

However, where a genuine conflict exists, appropriate arrangements may be necessary.

The organisation asks the Department to identify the safeguards applicable to relevant decisions.

No suggestion is made that a particular Foreign Office official possesses an undisclosed conflict.

The request concerns the institutional procedures in place.

15.32 Safeguards Concerning Timeliness

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that complex historical and diplomatic enquiries may require substantial time.

However, unexplained delay can create uncertainty and frustrate the organisation of further research.

The organisation requests clarification of expected acknowledgement and response procedures.

Where a substantive response requires additional time, the Department is asked to explain the process where practicable.

Where another institution is responsible, appropriate referral should be considered without unnecessary delay.

The organisation does not presume that every element of the representation is subject to the same statutory response deadline.

The purpose is to establish a realistic and accountable process.

15.33 Safeguards Concerning the Burden Placed Upon Applicants

The investigation may require extensive documentary research across several countries.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that applicants may properly be required to provide relevant identifying information.

Nevertheless, the organisation requests that requirements be proportionate to the particular task.

A general request for publicly available archival information should not automatically be treated as requiring the same evidence as a request for diplomatic recognition.

Similarly, the organisation asks that the Department distinguish documents necessary to process a request from historical documents which are the object of the investigation.

Where particular evidence is required, its relevance should be explained.

The purpose is to avoid unnecessary confusion and duplication.

15.34 Safeguards Concerning Equality Monitoring and Evaluation

Reparation Nation Limited requests information concerning whether the Department monitors or evaluates equality-related risks within relevant administrative processes.

The organisation does not presume that the Department maintains statistics specific to African hereditary claims or colonial historical enquiries.

It asks what monitoring or assurance arrangements actually exist.

Where equality impact assessments or similar reviews have been conducted concerning relevant policies, the organisation requests identification of any material available for disclosure.

Where no such assessment exists, the Department is asked to distinguish that position from the existence of other equality safeguards.

The purpose is to understand how institutional arrangements are evaluated rather than assume their effectiveness or inadequacy.

15.35 Formal Request for Documentary Evidence of Safeguards

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office identify, and where lawfully available provide or direct the organisation to, relevant documentary material concerning the safeguards discussed in this section.

This may include published equality policies, staff guidance, complaints procedures, review arrangements and materials concerning the consideration of customary or historical evidence.

The organisation does not presume that every requested document exists in a separate form.

Where relevant safeguards are contained within general departmental policy, those documents should be identified.

Where material is not publicly available, the applicable disclosure procedure should be explained.

The purpose is to obtain evidence of the safeguards rather than general reassurance unsupported by identifiable procedures.

15.36 Formal Questions Concerning Anti-Black Racism

Reparation Nation Limited requests written answers to the following questions.

Question 15.36.1: What safeguards against anti-Black racism apply to the Foreign Office's consideration of this representation?

Question 15.36.2: Are those safeguards contained within general equality policies, specific guidance or other institutional procedures?

Question 15.36.3: What staff training or guidance, if any, is relevant to avoiding racial stereotyping in the consideration of African customary or hereditary institutions?

Question 15.36.4: What procedures exist for identifying and addressing concerns about potentially discriminatory treatment of Black applicants?

Question 15.36.5: How does the Department ensure that African oral, genealogical and customary evidence receives fair consideration?

Question 15.36.6: What arrangements exist for reviewing decisions where racial discrimination is alleged?

Question 15.36.7: What documentary material can the Department identify demonstrating the relevant safeguards?

15.37 Formal Questions Concerning Institutional Racism

Reparation Nation Limited separately requests answers to the following questions.

Question 15.37.1: What institutional procedures are designed to identify and prevent discriminatory outcomes within the relevant decision-making systems?

Question 15.37.2: What equality monitoring, quality assurance or internal review arrangements apply?

Question 15.37.3: How does the Department assess whether policies or procedures may create unjustified disadvantages for particular racial groups?

Question 15.37.4: What role, if any, do equality assessments play in the development or application of relevant procedures?

Question 15.37.5: What arrangements exist for escalating concerns about systemic procedural unfairness?

Question 15.37.6: Can the Department identify relevant published reports, policies or guidance concerning those arrangements?

Question 15.37.7: How are complaints concerning possible institutional discrimination distinguished from ordinary administrative disagreements?

15.38 Formal Questions Concerning George's Representation

Reparation Nation Limited requests answers to the following questions concerning the application of safeguards to this case.

Question 15.38.1: Which department, team or officials will be responsible for considering George T. Nomen's historical and institutional representation?

Question 15.38.2: What equality duties and safeguards apply to those functions?

Question 15.38.3: What evidence will be required to verify George's existing authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited?

Question 15.38.4: What separate evidence would be required concerning George's claimed hereditary succession?

Question 15.38.5: What further evidence would be required if an application involved representation of a wider community?

Question 15.38.6: How will the Department distinguish archival disclosure requests from questions of diplomatic recognition?

Question 15.38.7: What procedures apply if George disagrees with an interpretation of his customary or genealogical evidence?

Question 15.38.8: What opportunity will be available to clarify or supplement incomplete historical material?

Question 15.38.9: What review or complaint mechanisms may apply to relevant decisions?

Question 15.38.10: Will the Department provide a written response explaining the applicable safeguards and procedures?

15.39 Request for Separation of Safeguards From Substantive Conclusions

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Department not treat the questions concerning anti-Black racism and institutional racism as an allegation requiring immediate defensive rejection.

The questions concern the safeguards applicable to the administrative process.

They can be answered independently of whether George's historical claims are ultimately established.

The existence of effective safeguards would be relevant information.

The absence of a particular form of documentation may require clarification.

Neither circumstance should be treated as conclusive proof concerning the merits of George's ancestral claim.

Similarly, a decision rejecting a particular historical or constitutional proposition does not automatically establish discriminatory treatment.

The organisation seeks an accurate separation of procedural fairness from substantive historical conclusions.

15.40 Request for an Identifiable Review Route

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office identify a suitable route through which any future concerns about the handling of this representation may be raised.

The organisation seeks clarity concerning administrative complaints, factual corrections, requests for reconsideration and any applicable independent review mechanisms.

Where a particular decision is not subject to appeal, that limitation should be identified.

Where alternative routes are available, the relevant procedures should be explained.

This request does not imply that any present decision is unlawful.

Its purpose is to establish procedural clarity before unnecessary disputes arise.

15.41 The Role of Reparation Nation Limited and IBIS

Reparation Nation Limited intends to preserve a structured record of requests concerning safeguards and the responses received.

This will include documents identified by the Department, applicable procedures, requests for clarification and any substantive decisions.

Appropriate elements of IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice — may assist with the organisation and verification of that record.

The system will distinguish the existence of a policy from evidence concerning its application.

It will also distinguish a question about racism from an allegation or established finding of racism.

The purpose is documentary accuracy and accountability.

IBIS is not presented as an institution capable of independently determining legal liability or official wrongdoing.

Any such determination would require the appropriate evidential and legal process.

15.42 Statement of Procedural Principle

Reparation Nation Limited submits that the investigation should proceed according to a clear procedural principle.

George T. Nomen's African ancestral identity should neither entitle him to automatic acceptance of his claims nor subject him to an unjustified disadvantage.

His historical evidence should be examined according to its actual reliability and relevance.

His personal authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited should be distinguished from his claimed hereditary status.

His claimed hereditary status should be distinguished from wider community representation.

The request for historical disclosure should be distinguished from the proposal for a government-in-exile.

The request for safeguards against anti-Black racism and institutional racism should be distinguished from any allegation that those forms of discrimination have occurred.

These distinctions are essential to fair decision-making.

15.43 Conclusion and Formal Request

George T. Nomen has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to act on his behalf in pursuing international historical disclosure and appropriate British Government assistance.

The investigation concerns the reported deaths of his ancestors, the fate of their remains, the claimed displacement of an ancestral Bamiléké hereditary traditional authority and the possibility of peaceful London-based institutional arrangements.

These matters engage serious questions of historical evidence, African customary identity, equality and institutional accountability.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore formally requests that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office identify the safeguards against anti-Black racism, institutional racism and discriminatory decision-making applicable to its consideration of the representation.

The organisation seeks documentary evidence of relevant policies and procedures where available.

It also requests clarification of how those safeguards operate in practice, which officials or institutions are responsible and what review arrangements may apply.

Reparation Nation Limited makes no accusations, no allegations, no assumptions and no assertions of wrongdoing against any present-day official or institution, and has reached no conclusions concerning discriminatory conduct.

The request is for information and procedural assurance grounded in identifiable evidence.

The organisation does not ask the Government to adopt George's historical or hereditary claims without verification.

It asks that those claims and the associated requests for assistance be considered fairly, accurately and without unlawful discrimination.

The central question is what demonstrable safeguards the United Kingdom Government has in place to ensure that an African hereditary claimant seeking historical disclosure, humanitarian assistance and institutional engagement receives fair and accountable consideration, free from anti-Black racism and institutional racism.

Reparation Nation Limited formally requests a substantive written response.

END OF SECTION FIFTEEN

NEXT: SECTION SIXTEEN — INTERNATIONAL REPARATORY JUSTICE, POSSIBLE REMEDIES AND THE ROLE OF REPARATION NATION LIMITED AND IBIS

SECTION SIXTEEN — INTERNATIONAL REPARATORY JUSTICE, POSSIBLE REMEDIES AND THE ROLE OF REPARATION NATION LIMITED AND IBIS

16.1 Introduction and Purpose

This section concerns the potential reparatory justice consequences of the historical investigation undertaken on behalf of George T. Nomen, the forms of remedy that may become appropriate if relevant facts are established, and the roles of Reparation Nation Limited and IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice.

Reparation Nation Limited submits this section pursuant to the authorisation given by George T. Nomen.

Derrick Lynch acts for and on behalf of Reparation Nation Limited in presenting this representation to the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office.

George maintains that his ancestral hereditary traditional authority was displaced during European colonial administration in Cameroon and that members of his ancestral family and community were killed.

He seeks to establish what happened to those individuals, determine the fate of their remains, investigate the historical continuity of the original hereditary institution and obtain appropriate international assistance.

The investigation may eventually raise questions concerning historical acknowledgement, correction of records, the return of identifiable ancestral remains or cultural property, recognition of ancestral interests and other possible forms of reparatory justice.

However, Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that every reported historical event has already been independently verified.

Nor does it assert that any particular government or institution presently owes an established legal remedy to George.

The immediate objective is to establish the historical evidence, identify the relevant institutions and determine the procedures through which appropriate remedies may subsequently be considered.

16.2 The Meaning of Reparatory Justice in This Investigation

Reparatory justice concerns the examination and appropriate response to historical or continuing harm.

In George's case, the potential harms under investigation include the reported deaths of ancestors, the displacement of hereditary traditional authority, possible interference with ancestral institutions and the uncertainty concerning the fate of human remains.

The investigation may also identify questions concerning cultural property, historical records, ancestral land and the intergenerational consequences of particular colonial administrative decisions.

These matters require different forms of evidence and may give rise to different possible responses.

Reparatory justice should therefore not be reduced automatically to financial compensation.

It may involve historical truth, access to records, acknowledgement, correction of inaccurate information, memorialisation, restitution or other measures appropriate to the circumstances.

The organisation recognises that a morally persuasive request does not automatically establish a legally enforceable entitlement.

Any remedy must be considered according to the facts, applicable law, the authority of the applicant and the responsibilities of the institution concerned.

16.3 Historical Truth as the First Reparatory Objective

George's immediate objective is the establishment of historical truth.

He seeks to understand the circumstances surrounding the reported colonial intervention affecting his ancestral traditional authority.

He also wishes to establish the identities of the persons reportedly killed, the circumstances of their deaths and the fate of their bodies.

Reparation Nation Limited considers that an accurate historical record is a necessary foundation for evaluating possible remedies.

Without reliable evidence, there is a risk that requests for acknowledgement, restitution or other action will depend upon unresolved assertions.

The organisation therefore proposes that historical disclosure proceed independently of any premature determination concerning compensation or governmental recognition.

Records obtained from Germany, France, Cameroon and the United Kingdom should be preserved and evaluated according to their provenance and evidential significance.

Where information remains uncertain, that uncertainty should be clearly recorded.

The purpose is to establish what can reliably be known before determining what further action is justified.

16.4 The Distinction Between Historical Harm and Legal Liability

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that the establishment of historical harm does not automatically establish a presently enforceable legal claim.

Historical events may involve legal systems, governmental arrangements and international circumstances different from those existing today.

Questions concerning jurisdiction, limitation, state responsibility, succession of states, immunity and applicable law may arise.

The organisation does not presume that these questions have already been resolved in George's favour.

Nor does it accept that uncertainty concerning potential litigation should prevent appropriate historical investigation.

The historical facts should first be established.

If the evidence supports further consideration of legal responsibility, qualified legal advice may then be sought concerning the relevant jurisdiction and available procedures.

This distinction protects the integrity of the investigation.

It allows moral, historical, diplomatic and legal questions to be examined without treating them as interchangeable.

16.5 Possible Historical Acknowledgement

One possible reparatory outcome is formal historical acknowledgement.

If the investigation establishes that particular colonial authorities took actions affecting George's ancestral family or traditional institution, the evidence may support a request that the relevant institution acknowledge those events.

Such acknowledgement might concern the deaths of identifiable persons, changes in traditional leadership or the existence of particular administrative decisions.

The nature of any request would depend upon the evidence obtained.

Reparation Nation Limited does not ask the United Kingdom Government to acknowledge responsibility for events attributed to German or French colonial authorities without a proper evidential and legal basis.

Nor does it presume that every historical acknowledgement must amount to an admission of legal liability.

The organisation requests that the Government identify whether any procedures exist for consideration of historically evidenced matters falling within its own responsibilities.

Where another government or institution is concerned, appropriate routes for presenting the evidence should be identified.

16.6 Possible Correction of Historical Records

The investigation may reveal that particular historical records contain inaccuracies, incomplete information or descriptions that conflict with independently established evidence.

Where such circumstances arise, appropriate correction or qualification may become a reparatory objective.

However, the correction of historical records must be distinguished from the destruction or alteration of original archival evidence.

Original documents should ordinarily remain preserved as historical records of what their authors wrote or decided.

Where appropriate, an archive may be asked whether supplementary descriptions, contextual notes, corrections to catalogue metadata or links to additional evidence can be considered.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that every archival institution possesses a legal obligation to adopt George's preferred interpretation.

It requests information concerning procedures through which documented errors or omissions may be raised.

The objective is historical accuracy while preserving the integrity of original evidence.

16.7 Possible Recognition of Ancestral Hereditary Interests

George maintains that he is the rightful hereditary successor of a particular ancestral Bamiléké traditional authority.

The investigation may eventually produce evidence relevant to that claim.

However, genealogical descent, customary hereditary entitlement, contemporary community representation and governmental recognition are distinct matters.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that these distinctions remain explicit.

If the historical record establishes particular ancestral relationships or succession arrangements, George may consider whether those findings justify further approaches to relevant traditional or governmental institutions.

Such approaches would require examination of the applicable customary and national legal frameworks.

The organisation does not presume that the British Government has authority to determine succession to a traditional office within Cameroon.

It requests assistance with historical records and clarification of any appropriate institutional procedures.

Recognition of historical facts should not automatically be treated as recognition of sovereign governmental authority.

16.8 Possible Recognition of Historical Displacement

Another potential outcome concerns acknowledgement that an ancestral hereditary institution was displaced, suppressed or otherwise altered through colonial administrative intervention.

Such a finding would require evidence establishing the original institution, the relevant succession arrangements and the particular decisions affecting it.

The investigation should identify whether German colonial officials removed or replaced a traditional officeholder.

It should also examine whether French administrative decisions continued, modified or reversed earlier arrangements.

Where relevant findings are established, George may seek appropriate consideration from competent institutions.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that a historical finding of displacement automatically reverses present-day traditional leadership arrangements.

Any contemporary consequences would require separate consideration of customary law, national law, the rights of affected persons and the available evidence.

The organisation's immediate request concerns historical truth and procedural clarity.

16.9 Possible Repatriation of Human Remains

George seeks to establish what happened to the bodies of his ancestors who were reportedly killed during colonial intervention.

If identifiable remains are eventually located outside their original community, repatriation may become a matter for consideration.

However, Reparation Nation Limited does not presently assert that such remains are held by a particular institution.

Nor does it claim an automatic entitlement to their transfer.

Any future request would require reliable identification, provenance research, applicable legal procedures and appropriate consultation with relevant descendants and communities.

The organisation requests that the British Government identify procedures applicable where human remains held by British institutions become the subject of a substantiated return request.

Equivalent enquiries may be necessary in Germany, France or Cameroon.

The immediate objective is to establish the fate and possible location of ancestral remains.

16.10 Possible Restitution of Cultural Property

George's preliminary materials refer to traditional objects associated with the ancestral institution.

These may include objects connected with ceremonial functions, hereditary authority or family custodianship.

Their historical significance and provenance remain to be established.

If the investigation identifies a particular cultural object held outside its original community, questions concerning restitution may arise.

However, the mere existence of an object associated with colonial Cameroon does not establish that it belongs to George's family.

The investigation must establish an identifiable relationship between the object, the ancestral institution and any person or community claiming an interest.

Questions of legal ownership, cultural authority and appropriate recipient status may require separate examination.

Reparation Nation Limited does not advance an immediate restitution demand concerning an unidentified or unauthenticated object.

It seeks the information necessary for future informed consideration.

16.11 Possible Memorialisation

If the investigation establishes the deaths of particular ancestors or other significant historical events, memorialisation may become an appropriate form of reparatory action.

Such measures might involve preservation of names, historical records, commemorative information or appropriate family and community remembrance.

The nature of any proposed memorialisation should be determined through consultation with relevant persons and institutions.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that George alone possesses authority to determine the form of commemoration for every affected family or community.

Nor does it assume that a particular government has an established obligation to fund or undertake memorialisation.

The organisation requests that the possibility remain open if supported by verified historical findings.

Memorialisation should preserve the difference between documented events and matters that remain uncertain.

16.12 Possible Public Historical Education

The investigation may produce evidence capable of contributing to wider public knowledge concerning colonial Cameroon and African traditional institutions.

Where appropriate, verified findings could be presented through educational publications, research projects, exhibitions or other public resources.

Reparation Nation Limited considers that such activities may contribute to historical understanding.

However, public presentation must preserve the distinction between evidence and interpretation.

Unverified assertions should not be presented as established facts merely because they form part of a compelling historical account.

Contradictory evidence should be acknowledged where material.

The organisation seeks an accurate and accessible record capable of informing future generations.

Any educational or commemorative activity would require appropriate arrangements concerning source material, copyright, confidentiality and institutional authority.

16.13 Possible Financial Reparations

Financial reparations may become a question if the investigation establishes historical harm and an appropriate legal, political or voluntary reparatory process is identified.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presently assert that George is legally entitled to a specified sum.

It does not identify a defendant as liable for compensation without evidence and legal examination.

Nor does it presume that financial reparations would necessarily be the most appropriate or available response to every established historical wrong.

Questions concerning the basis of a financial claim, responsible institution, eligible recipients, calculation, jurisdiction and available remedies would require separate assessment.

The organisation requests that the historical disclosure programme remain independent of any premature financial demand.

If the evidence supports further consideration, George can decide whether to obtain specialist advice or pursue appropriate institutional discussions.

16.14 Possible Land-Related Remedies

George's ancestral claim may raise historical questions concerning territory and land associated with the original traditional institution.

However, the precise nature of any ancestral land rights remains to be established.

Historical customary stewardship, traditional jurisdiction and contemporary legal ownership are separate questions.

The investigation should seek records concerning the original locality, land administration and any changes associated with colonial intervention.

Where evidence supports a potential land-related claim, the applicable Cameroonian legal and customary framework would require examination.

Reparation Nation Limited does not assert that George presently possesses established ownership of particular land solely through his hereditary claim.

Any future request concerning land would require precise identification of the property, the relevant rights and the competent legal or administrative authority.

16.15 Possible Institutional Restoration

George's wider objectives include examination of the restoration or recognition of the ancestral traditional authority associated with his family.

Such an objective may require historical, genealogical, customary, legal and community consideration.

Restoration could mean different things depending upon the original institution and the circumstances established.

It might concern recognition of a historical family line, restoration of a ceremonial function, acknowledgement of customary interests or another arrangement.

It should not automatically be equated with the creation of sovereign governmental authority.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Government distinguish these possibilities.

Britain may be able to assist with historical records without possessing authority to determine contemporary traditional succession in Cameroon.

The organisation asks that available assistance be considered according to the appropriate institutional responsibilities.

16.16 The Proposed London-Based Institution

George wishes to examine the establishment of a London-based government-in-exile or alternative representative institution.

The organisation's potential reparatory functions may include historical research, evidence preservation, consultation, international correspondence and the pursuit of appropriate remedies.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that adopting the title government-in-exile does not automatically confer sovereign authority.

A modern institution also cannot establish hereditary legitimacy merely through its own founding documents.

Any wider representative claim must be supported by the relevant customary, constitutional or consent-based authority.

The organisation therefore proposes that the immediate historical and humanitarian work continue independently of any unresolved recognition question.

The Foreign Office is requested to explain what forms of lawful engagement or assistance may be available.

16.17 Britain's Potential Contribution to Reparatory Justice

Reparation Nation Limited asks the United Kingdom Government to consider what contribution it may reasonably make to George's historical investigation.

Britain's historical involvement in Cameroon may have generated records relevant to the enquiries.

Its archival institutions may possess documents capable of assisting with the reconstruction of events.

Its diplomatic relationships may provide appropriate routes for identifying foreign governmental contacts.

Its historical support for the Free French movement also forms part of the moral comparison advanced by George.

These circumstances do not automatically establish legal liability.

Nevertheless, they provide a basis for requesting consideration of archival, diplomatic and institutional assistance.

The organisation asks the Government to identify the forms of cooperation it is prepared to consider and any applicable limitations.

16.18 Germany's Potential Role

Germany is central to the investigation because George's account identifies German colonial intervention as a principal historical cause of the reported displacement and deaths.

Relevant German governmental and archival institutions may possess evidence concerning the original events.

Reparation Nation Limited proposes to seek historical disclosure as a first step.

If particular events are subsequently established, George may consider whether appropriate historical acknowledgement or other reparatory measures should be requested.

The organisation does not presume that the present German Government has accepted responsibility for the particular events described.

Nor does it assert that a legally enforceable remedy has already been established.

The immediate request concerns records, historical cooperation and the identification of applicable procedures.

16.19 France's Potential Role

France is relevant because its colonial administration may have continued, altered or otherwise affected traditional leadership arrangements following German rule.

The reported administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933 is an important research target.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that its original contents and historical context be established before conclusions are drawn.

If the evidence identifies French decisions affecting the ancestral hereditary institution, the implications may be examined subsequently.

Those implications could concern historical acknowledgement, correction of records or other possible responses.

However, administrative continuity does not automatically establish wrongdoing or contemporary legal liability.

The organisation seeks documentary evidence before determining whether further reparatory requests are appropriate.

16.20 Cameroon's Potential Role

Cameroon is central because the ancestral traditional authority is associated with territory within the modern state.

Cameroonian governmental, archival, family and traditional institutions may possess important evidence concerning the original institution and its subsequent history.

Any contemporary question concerning hereditary succession, traditional authority, community representation or land may require particular consideration under Cameroonian law and relevant customary arrangements.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that Britain, Germany or France can determine such matters independently of Cameroon.

The organisation seeks historical and institutional cooperation that respects the applicable legal framework and the interests of affected communities.

Where a remedy may concern a traditional institution or land within Cameroon, the relevant Cameroonian procedures must be considered.

16.21 The Role of Reparation Nation Limited

Reparation Nation Limited has been authorised by George T. Nomen to assist with his historical investigation and the initial governmental engagement described in this representation.

Its role is to organise research, prepare correspondence, maintain documentary records and assist in identifying appropriate institutional procedures.

The organisation does not claim hereditary authority over George's ancestral traditional institution.

Nor does it acquire governmental status through representing him.

It does not presume authority to bind other descendants, communities or traditional institutions.

Any further role concerning litigation, settlement, receipt of reparatory resources, restitution or governmental representation would require consideration of the relevant authority and applicable procedures.

The present representation is therefore limited to the historical, institutional and governmental objectives George has authorised.

16.22 Reparation Nation Limited as an Organisational Vehicle

Reparation Nation Limited proposes to serve as an organisational vehicle for coordinating the international investigation.

Its functions may include maintaining a correspondence register, organising documents, identifying research priorities and preparing reports.

The organisation may also assist in arranging consultations with historians, archivists, lawyers and relevant institutions.

These activities should remain distinguishable from the functions of any future ancestral representative body established by George.

Reparation Nation Limited's corporate identity does not make it the ancestral hereditary authority.

Nor does its involvement establish that all persons associated with the ancestral community have consented to its representation.

The organisation seeks transparent boundaries concerning its role.

16.23 The Role of IBIS

IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice — is proposed as supporting infrastructure for the international reparatory justice investigation.

Its purpose is to assist with the organisation, verification and tracking of relevant information.

The system may be used to register historical claims, identify evidence sources, record institutional correspondence and distinguish outstanding enquiries from completed actions.

It may also support the structured presentation of information concerning potential remedies.

However, IBIS is not an adjudicative body.

It does not independently establish historical truth, hereditary succession, legal liability or governmental recognition.

Those matters require appropriate evidence and competent institutions.

The system's role is to support transparent and accountable processes.

16.24 Identity, Membership, Representation and Recognition

Reparation Nation Limited considers it essential that IBIS preserve distinctions between identity, membership, representation and recognition.

A person's identity is not the same as membership of an organisation.

Membership does not automatically confer authority to represent other persons.

Representative authority does not automatically establish hereditary entitlement.

Hereditary entitlement does not automatically establish sovereign governmental status.

Recognition of a historical fact does not automatically constitute governmental recognition of an institution.

These distinctions are particularly important in George's case.

He has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to act on his behalf.

That authorisation is distinct from proof of his hereditary succession and from any future authority to represent a wider community.

IBIS should preserve these categories accurately rather than merge them into a single status.

16.25 The Distinction Between the Identity Engine and the Five-Factor Engine

Within the IBIS architecture, identity verification and Five-Factor assessment are distinct functions.

The Identity Engine concerns the processes used to establish and manage relevant identity information.

The Five-Factor Engine concerns a separate assessment framework.

Neither process should be represented as automatically determining hereditary royal succession, community representation or governmental recognition.

The establishment of an identity profile would not prove George's ancestral claim.

Similarly, the existence of a Five-Factor profile would not establish the legal or customary status of the ancestral institution.

Reparation Nation Limited intends to preserve these distinctions.

The investigation requires independent historical and genealogical evidence concerning the particular hereditary authority.

IBIS may organise that evidence, but it does not replace the institutions competent to evaluate it.

16.26 Evidence Registration Within IBIS

Reparation Nation Limited proposes that documents obtained during the investigation be recorded according to their source, date, provenance and verification status.

Photographs, genealogical notes, archival reproductions, translations and witness statements should remain distinguishable.

A document reported to exist but not yet located should not be recorded as obtained.

A document obtained from an archive should not automatically be treated as proving every historical interpretation associated with it.

An acknowledgement from a government department should not be recorded as endorsement of George's claim.

A referral should not be recorded as completed disclosure.

The purpose is to maintain an accurate record of what has actually occurred.

This approach is intended to reduce drift, distortion and unsupported conclusions.

16.27 The Distinction Between Reparatory Promises and Verified Delivery

Reparation Nation Limited considers that reparatory justice must distinguish announcements and commitments from actual outcomes.

A promise of assistance is not the same as the provision of assistance.

An acknowledgement is not the same as a substantive decision.

A commitment to search for records is not the same as locating those records.

A declaration concerning reparations is not the same as the transfer of reparatory value.

An allocation is not necessarily evidence of receipt by an intended beneficiary.

Receipt is not automatically verified receipt.

These distinctions are essential to the organisation's wider reparatory justice framework.

Where a government or institution offers assistance, Reparation Nation Limited intends to record what was promised, what was undertaken and what can be independently verified.

This principle is relevant to George's investigation because the value of international cooperation depends upon what information or assistance is actually delivered.

16.28 Reparation Nation Shipping as a Delivery-Tracking Framework

Reparation Nation Limited has developed a proposed shipping-based framework for recording and following reparatory activity.

Within this framework, a vessel represents an organisation or other relevant participating entity.

A voyage represents a programme or undertaking.

Cargo represents the reparatory value or assistance intended for delivery.

A destination identifies the intended recipient or beneficiary.

A route describes the process through which the assistance is expected to travel.

Hazards identify obstacles or risks.

Movements record changes in the actual status of delivery.

Safe Harbour concerns the verified arrival and appropriate receipt of the intended outcome.

These are administrative and explanatory concepts.

They do not replace legal analysis or establish that any government has agreed to provide reparations.

For George's investigation, the framework may assist in tracking concrete actions such as archival referrals, documents supplied, specialist research completed or other assistance actually received.

The objective is to distinguish measurable progress from statements of intention.

16.29 Application of the Shipping Framework to George's Investigation

The international investigation may involve several organisations undertaking different responsibilities.

Reparation Nation Limited may coordinate correspondence.

Archives may search for and provide documents.

Researchers may examine genealogical evidence.

Museums may conduct provenance enquiries.

Government departments may issue substantive responses or identify appropriate institutions.

The shipping framework could record those activities according to their actual status.

For example, a promise to provide an archival reference should not be recorded as delivery of the referenced document.

A document received should not be recorded as authenticated unless the relevant verification has occurred.

The identification of a potential collection item should not be recorded as confirmation that it belongs to George's ancestral family.

Similarly, a governmental acknowledgement should not be recorded as recognition of a hereditary claim.

The organisation intends to preserve these distinctions.

16.30 Verification of Reparatory Outcomes

Reparation Nation Limited proposes that any claimed reparatory outcome be supported by appropriate evidence.

Where a document is supplied, its source and contents should be recorded.

Where a historical correction is made, the corrected record should be identified.

Where an institution provides a formal acknowledgement, the precise wording should be preserved.

Where a cultural object or human remains is returned, the transfer and appropriate recipient should be documented.

Where financial assistance or another benefit is delivered, the actual transfer and receipt should be distinguished from the preceding commitment.

No outcome should be represented as verified merely because it was announced.

This principle is intended to promote institutional accountability and public confidence.

16.31 Financial Safeguards and the Handling of Potential Reparations

If future reparatory processes involve financial resources, appropriate safeguards will be necessary.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that any money is presently owed or allocated to George.

Nor does the organisation assert an existing right to receive money on behalf of the ancestral community.

Any future financial arrangement would require clear identification of the source, purpose, intended beneficiaries, authorised recipients and applicable legal conditions.

Conflicts of interest, financial reporting and independent verification may also require consideration.

George's present authorisation for historical investigation should not be treated as unlimited authority to receive, distribute or settle financial reparations.

Such matters would require additional instructions and appropriate governance.

16.32 Community Participation and Accountability

The investigation may eventually raise questions affecting persons beyond George's immediate family.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that wider participation or representation must be based upon appropriate authority.

The organisation does not presume that every Bamiléké person or traditional institution has endorsed George's claim.

Where a proposed remedy affects other descendants or communities, relevant consultation may be necessary.

The nature of that consultation would depend upon the matter concerned.

A request for access to George's family records may require different arrangements from a proposal concerning collective restitution or traditional authority.

The organisation seeks procedures that distinguish personal interests from collective interests.

This is important to protecting both George's position and the rights of other potentially affected persons.

16.33 Independent Review and Healthy Challenge

Reparation Nation Limited considers that the investigation should remain open to independent examination and constructive challenge.

Historical claims should be capable of being tested against original evidence.

Genealogical conclusions should identify their supporting sources.

Interpretations of customary succession should be open to examination by persons with appropriate knowledge.

Where evidence contradicts George's preliminary account, it should be preserved and considered.

The organisation does not regard disagreement as proof of hostility or discrimination.

A credible reparatory justice process should permit reasoned challenge.

The purpose is to establish the strongest historically defensible position.

This principle also applies to the performance of Reparation Nation Limited and IBIS.

Their methods and conclusions should remain open to appropriate scrutiny.

16.34 Safeguards Against Anti-Black Racism and Institutional Racism

Reparation Nation Limited requests information concerning the safeguards against anti-Black racism and institutional racism applicable to governmental and institutional decisions involving reparatory justice.

The investigation concerns African hereditary authority, ancestral deaths and the consequences of European colonial administration.

The organisation asks how relevant decision-makers ensure that African customary evidence, oral history and the interests of descendants receive fair consideration.

It also requests clarification of equality policies, review procedures and mechanisms for raising concerns.

No accusation, allegation or finding of racial discrimination is made against any present-day official or institution.

The request concerns the adequacy and application of procedural safeguards.

Reparation Nation Limited also recognises the importance of ensuring that its own activities are conducted fairly and transparently.

Appropriate safeguards should apply to every institution participating in the investigation.

16.35 The Role of the British Government

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office is requested to identify what role, if any, the United Kingdom Government may be prepared to undertake within the international investigation.

Possible assistance may concern British archival records, appropriate institutional referrals, international governmental contacts or consideration of George's peaceful London-based activities.

The organisation does not presume that the British Government is responsible for directing or financing the entire project.

Nor does it presume that Britain bears legal responsibility for particular events attributed to German or French colonial administration.

The purpose is to establish the assistance that may be lawfully and practically available.

Where the Department considers that a particular matter falls outside its responsibilities, an appropriate referral is requested where practicable.

16.36 The Separation of Governmental Assistance From Reparatory Liability

Reparation Nation Limited considers it important that requests for practical assistance not be confused with allegations of legal liability.

The British Government may be able to identify historical records or provide institutional guidance without accepting responsibility for the events described.

Similarly, a German or French institution may disclose documents without admitting contemporary liability for every historical act recorded within them.

The organisation therefore requests that historical cooperation be considered on its own merits.

A willingness to assist should not automatically be represented as acceptance of a compensation claim.

Equally, the absence of accepted legal liability should not necessarily prevent voluntary historical cooperation.

These distinctions may assist in establishing a constructive international research process.

16.37 Formal Questions Concerning Reparatory Justice

Reparation Nation Limited requests written consideration of the following questions.

Question 16.37.1: What forms of historical, humanitarian or institutional assistance may the United Kingdom Government consider in relation to George T. Nomen's ancestral investigation?

Question 16.37.2: Does the Foreign Office distinguish historical disclosure from the determination of legal responsibility or reparatory remedies?

Question 16.37.3: What procedures may be available for requesting appropriate acknowledgement of historically verified events involving British governmental responsibility?

Question 16.37.4: What procedures are available for seeking correction or contextual qualification of demonstrably inaccurate British archival descriptions?

Question 16.37.5: What assistance may be available in identifying the appropriate German and French institutions for subsequent consideration of historically established colonial actions?

Question 16.37.6: What role, if any, may the British Government undertake in facilitating international archival cooperation relevant to reparatory justice?

Question 16.37.7: What procedures apply where historically identified human remains are held by institutions within the United Kingdom?

Question 16.37.8: What procedures may apply to potential restitution requests concerning identifiable cultural objects held by British institutions?

Question 16.37.9: What assistance may be available concerning historical memorialisation or public education where relevant facts have been established?

Question 16.37.10: Does the Department distinguish possible recognition of ancestral historical facts from diplomatic recognition of a government-in-exile?

Question 16.37.11: What evidence would be required if George sought formal governmental consideration of his claimed hereditary position?

Question 16.37.12: What additional evidence would be relevant if a proposed remedy affected persons or communities beyond George himself?

Question 16.37.13: What safeguards apply to ensure that African historical and customary evidence is considered fairly?

Question 16.37.14: What safeguards against anti-Black racism and institutional racism apply to the relevant decision-making procedures?

Question 16.37.15: Will the Department identify the appropriate institutions and procedures where particular reparatory questions fall outside its responsibilities?

These questions seek procedural clarification rather than predetermined findings of liability.

16.38 Formal Questions Concerning Reparation Nation Limited and IBIS

Reparation Nation Limited separately requests consideration of the following institutional questions.

Question 16.38.1: Is the Foreign Office prepared to correspond with Reparation Nation Limited as George T. Nomen's authorised representative, subject to any documentary verification requirements it identifies?

Question 16.38.2: What evidence of George's authorisation does the Department require for particular purposes?

Question 16.38.3: Would the Department consider an introductory meeting to discuss the proposed international historical investigation?

Question 16.38.4: Would the Government consider receiving an organised documentary submission supported by a structured evidence register?

Question 16.38.5: Would the Department identify a suitable governmental contact for matters falling within its responsibilities?

Question 16.38.6: Does the Department have any relevant published guidance concerning the submission of documentary evidence in complex international historical enquiries?

Question 16.38.7: What procedures would apply if Reparation Nation Limited supplied independently verified archival evidence requiring further governmental consideration?

Question 16.38.8: Would the Government consider relevant proposals for international archival cooperation without treating participation as recognition of George's hereditary or governmental status?

Question 16.38.9: What confidentiality and information-handling requirements would apply to material submitted through an electronic evidence-management system?

Question 16.38.10: Will the Department distinguish an institutional acknowledgement, practical assistance and formal governmental recognition in its responses?

The organisation does not presume that the British Government is required to adopt or endorse IBIS.

It requests clarification of whether structured evidence can be received and considered through existing official procedures.

16.39 The Importance of Maintaining an Accurate Public Record

Reparation Nation Limited intends to preserve an accurate account of the international investigation.

This includes the requests made, the evidence supplied, the institutions contacted and the responses obtained.

Where a claim remains unverified, that status should be clear.

Where a document has been authenticated, the basis for authentication should be identifiable.

Where a government provides assistance, the nature of that assistance should be accurately described.

Where a remedy is proposed but not granted, it should not be recorded as delivered.

Where a benefit is promised but not received, the distinction should remain explicit.

The organisation considers that these safeguards are essential to public confidence in reparatory justice.

They also protect the interests of participating governments, institutions, descendants and communities.

16.40 Statement Concerning the Limits of the Present Mandate

George T. Nomen has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to pursue the initial historical investigation and governmental engagement described in this representation.

The existence of that authorisation is confirmed.

However, the present representation does not establish an unlimited mandate to commence litigation, accept settlements, transfer ancestral rights, receive financial reparations or make binding decisions concerning collective community interests.

Any such future action would require consideration of George's instructions and the applicable legal or institutional requirements.

The Foreign Office is invited to identify the documentary evidence it requires to verify the existing authorisation for particular purposes.

George will then have the opportunity to respond through Reparation Nation Limited.

This distinction preserves his personal authority while enabling the investigation to proceed.

16.41 The Proposed International Reparatory Justice Pilot

Reparation Nation Limited proposes that George's investigation serve as an international reparatory justice pilot project.

The purpose of the pilot is to examine how historical claims can be organised, investigated, documented and directed to appropriate institutions.

The pilot would seek to distinguish preliminary accounts from verified evidence and requests for remedies from remedies actually delivered.

It may also demonstrate the practical difficulties encountered when historical records are dispersed across several countries.

The pilot is not presented as proof that George's entire historical claim has been established.

Nor does its designation confer governmental recognition or legal authority.

Its value would depend upon the quality of the evidence collected, the transparency of the procedures followed and the accuracy of the outcomes recorded.

The organisation proposes to use the lessons obtained to improve the wider IBIS framework for international reparatory justice.

16.42 The Importance of Separating Research From Advocacy

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that the investigation has both historical and reparatory objectives.

However, the two functions must remain distinguishable.

Historical research seeks to establish what happened.

Advocacy seeks a response to those findings.

The desire for a particular reparatory outcome must not determine the interpretation of evidence in advance.

Where evidence supports George's account, it should be recorded.

Where evidence qualifies or contradicts the account, it should also be preserved.

The organisation considers that credible advocacy depends upon credible research.

It therefore intends to maintain an evidence-based approach.

The proposed IBIS infrastructure should support that distinction rather than obscure it.

16.43 Request for Constructive British Participation

Reparation Nation Limited invites the British Government to consider whether it wishes to participate in the limited forms of cooperation appropriate to its responsibilities.

The organisation does not demand that Britain adopt George's entire historical or constitutional position.

It asks that the Government identify whether assistance may be available concerning British archives, international institutional contacts and the consideration of peaceful London-based activities.

Such cooperation could contribute to historical understanding without predetermining questions of liability or recognition.

Where the Government declines particular assistance, the organisation asks for an explanation of the principal reasons, where appropriate.

Where other institutions are responsible, suitable referrals are requested where practicable.

The objective is to establish a practical route towards historical disclosure and possible reparatory consideration.

16.44 Statement of Non-Accusation and Evidential Integrity

Reparation Nation Limited expressly confirms that it makes no predetermined accusations, allegations or findings against any present-day British, German, French or Cameroonian governmental official or institution.

It does not presume that particular governments possess records which they have deliberately concealed.

It does not assert that George's hereditary succession has already been conclusively established.

It does not presume that the reported deaths have been independently verified in every particular.

It does not claim that identifiable human remains or cultural objects belonging to George's family have already been located.

Nor does it assert that any particular reparatory remedy is presently legally owed.

The organisation seeks evidence, institutional cooperation and procedural clarification.

Questions concerning anti-Black racism and institutional racism are requests for information about safeguards rather than predetermined findings.

The purpose is to establish the historical truth and determine what, if any, further action is justified.

16.45 Conclusion and Formal Request

George T. Nomen seeks historical truth concerning the reported colonial displacement of his ancestral hereditary traditional authority and the deaths of members of his family and community.

He also seeks to establish what happened to the bodies of those reportedly killed and whether relevant cultural or ancestral materials can be identified.

He has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to act on his behalf in pursuing the initial international investigation.

The potential consequences may include historical acknowledgement, correction of records, memorialisation, repatriation of identified remains, restitution of cultural property, recognition of ancestral interests and other appropriate reparatory measures.

However, no particular remedy is presumed to have been established.

Each must be considered according to the evidence, applicable law, relevant authority and responsible institution.

Reparation Nation Limited proposes that IBIS support the organisation, verification and accountability of the investigation.

It also proposes that its reparatory delivery-tracking framework distinguish commitments from completed and verified outcomes.

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office is therefore requested to identify what practical assistance may be available within the United Kingdom Government's responsibilities and what procedures apply to any subsequent reparatory requests.

The organisation does not ask Britain to accept historical liability without evidence.

It asks Britain to consider assisting with the historical investigation from which informed decisions may eventually emerge.

The governing principle is that reparatory justice must proceed from verified historical evidence to identifiable responsibility, appropriate remedies and demonstrable delivery.

An announcement is not delivery.

A commitment is not receipt.

A historical allegation is not an established finding.

A recognised identity is not automatically recognised hereditary authority.

A proposed government-in-exile is not automatically a recognised government.

Reparation Nation Limited intends to preserve these distinctions throughout the international pilot.

The central request is that the United Kingdom Government identify the forms of archival, diplomatic, institutional and practical cooperation it is prepared to consider, so that George T. Nomen's ancestral investigation may progress towards historical truth and any reparatory justice justified by the evidence.

A substantive written response is formally requested.

END OF SECTION SIXTEEN

NEXT: SECTION SEVENTEEN — GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY, DEPARTMENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES, PARLIAMENTARY SCRUTINY AND WRITTEN RESPONSES

SECTION SEVENTEEN — GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY, DEPARTMENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES, PARLIAMENTARY SCRUTINY AND WRITTEN RESPONSES

17.1 Introduction and Purpose

This section establishes the arrangements requested from the United Kingdom Government for the proper receipt, allocation, consideration, recording and response to the formal representation submitted by Reparation Nation Limited on behalf of George T. Nomen.

George T. Nomen has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to act on his behalf in pursuing historical disclosure, governmental engagement and appropriate international cooperation concerning his ancestral family and claimed hereditary Bamiléké traditional authority in Cameroon.

Derrick Lynch submits this representation for and on behalf of Reparation Nation Limited.

The preceding sections identify serious historical questions concerning the reported killing of George's ancestors, the fate of their bodies, the displacement of ancestral hereditary authority, German and French colonial administration, and the possible availability of British archival and diplomatic assistance.

The representation also requests consideration of George's peaceful London-based institutional proposals, including a possible government-in-exile or alternative representative institution.

These matters involve different governmental responsibilities.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore requests that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office establish a clear and accountable procedure for considering the requests within its competence and identifying those requiring referral elsewhere.

The objective is not to dictate governmental decisions.

It is to ensure that the matters raised are accurately understood, appropriately allocated and answered in writing.

17.2 The Requirement for an Identifiable Government Response

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office provide an identifiable written response to this representation.

The organisation asks that the Department distinguish acknowledgement of receipt from substantive consideration.

An acknowledgement confirms that correspondence has been received.

It does not establish that the historical questions have been investigated.

Nor does it constitute acceptance or rejection of George's claimed hereditary authority.

Similarly, a referral to another institution should not be represented as a completed response to matters remaining within the Foreign Office's responsibilities.

The organisation requests that the Department identify which matters it has considered, which remain outstanding and which have been referred.

Where a substantive response cannot be provided immediately, the anticipated next procedural step should be explained where practicable.

The purpose is to create an intelligible and verifiable governmental record.

17.3 Identification of the Responsible Department

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office is approached as the principal governmental recipient because the representation involves foreign governments, historical colonial administration, international cooperation and possible diplomatic engagement.

However, not every element necessarily falls within the Department's responsibilities.

Some questions concern records held by The National Archives.

Others may involve museums, universities, cultural institutions or authorities responsible for particular legal and administrative procedures.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore asks the Foreign Office to identify the matters for which it is responsible.

Where another department or institution is competent, an appropriate referral is requested where practicable.

Where several institutions may have relevant responsibilities, the respective functions should be clarified.

The organisation does not presume that the Foreign Office must personally conduct the entire historical investigation.

It requests that the Government identify the available administrative route.

17.4 Appointment or Identification of a Correspondence Contact

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Department identify an appropriate point of contact for the representation.

The purpose is to reduce confusion and duplication.

The organisation recognises that the Government may not appoint a dedicated case officer for every enquiry.

Nevertheless, identifying the responsible correspondence team, reference number or contact procedure would assist in maintaining an accurate record.

Where different officials or departments handle different aspects, their responsibilities should be distinguished.

The organisation requests that subsequent correspondence refer to the same case or correspondence reference wherever practicable.

This would assist George and Reparation Nation Limited in understanding the progress of the enquiry.

17.5 The Importance of Preserving the Complete Representation

This document has been deliberately organised into separate sections because the matters raised are complex and interconnected.

The representation should therefore be considered as a whole while preserving the distinct questions within it.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Department avoid reducing the entire submission to a single question concerning governmental recognition.

The request for historical records is separate from the proposed government-in-exile.

The investigation into the reported deaths is separate from the determination of hereditary succession.

The enquiry concerning anti-Black racism safeguards is separate from any allegation of discriminatory conduct.

The request for international archival cooperation is separate from any claim for financial reparations.

Each matter should be addressed according to its actual character.

Where the Department considers that particular issues are related, the connection should be explained.

The objective is to prevent material aspects of the representation from being overlooked.

17.6 Departmental Responsibilities Concerning Historical Records

Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification of the Department's responsibilities concerning historical British governmental records relevant to Cameroon.

The organisation recognises that many historical records may have been transferred to The National Archives.

Others may remain in departmental custody or be held by different institutions.

The Foreign Office is requested to identify appropriate research procedures and referrals.

Where specific records are identified, their archival references should be provided where practicable.

Where the Department does not hold the requested material, that position should be distinguished from a conclusion that no relevant records exist elsewhere.

The organisation does not presume that the Government possesses every record necessary to reconstruct George's ancestral history.

It asks that the available research routes be explained.

17.7 Departmental Responsibilities Concerning International Cooperation

The representation requests consideration of possible cooperation involving Germany, France and Cameroon.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that Britain cannot automatically compel foreign governments or archival institutions to provide historical material.

Nevertheless, the organisation asks the Foreign Office to identify what assistance may fall within its diplomatic or institutional functions.

Such assistance might include appropriate referrals, procedural guidance or identification of governmental contacts.

Where the Department is unable or unwilling to undertake a particular form of assistance, the organisation requests clarification of the relevant limitation.

A decision declining diplomatic intervention should not automatically prevent the organisation from pursuing ordinary archival enquiries.

The different available routes should be identified.

17.8 Departmental Responsibilities Concerning the Free French Precedent

George has asked the British Government to consider its historical support for General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement.

The representation recognises that the wartime circumstances were materially different from George's contemporary position.

It does not assert an automatic legal entitlement to equivalent recognition or assistance.

Nevertheless, the comparison raises a moral and institutional question.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office identify whether it considers the precedent relevant to any form of contemporary engagement or support.

Where the Department concludes that the comparison has no practical application, the organisation requests a reasoned explanation of the principal distinctions.

The response should distinguish diplomatic recognition from lesser forms of institutional engagement.

The objective is to obtain the Government's considered position.

17.9 Departmental Responsibilities Concerning a Government-in-Exile

George wishes to examine the establishment of a London-based government-in-exile or alternative representative institution associated with his claimed ancestral hereditary authority.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that the proposal raises legal, constitutional and diplomatic questions.

It does not presume that the Foreign Office is obliged to recognise such an institution.

The Department is nevertheless requested to clarify the procedures and evidence it would consider relevant to any formal request.

The response should distinguish the possible recognition of an institution as a government from communication with an unrecognised organisation.

It should also distinguish recognition from assistance with historical research or lawful activities conducted in London.

Where the Department does not consider itself able to advise upon particular organisational arrangements, appropriate alternative procedures should be identified where practicable.

17.10 Accountability Concerning the Reported Deaths

George seeks to establish what happened to members of his ancestral family and community who were reportedly killed during colonial intervention.

The investigation into the deceased is a distinct humanitarian matter.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Government identify what assistance may be available in locating historical death records, military documentation, burial information and relevant archival sources.

The organisation does not presume that Britain possesses the necessary evidence.

Nor does it assert that Britain bears responsibility for particular deaths without historical and legal examination.

It asks that the humanitarian enquiry be considered independently of questions concerning governmental recognition.

Where the Foreign Office lacks the relevant archival responsibilities, an appropriate referral is requested.

17.11 Accountability Concerning Human Remains

The representation seeks information concerning the possible burial, removal or transfer of ancestral remains.

Reparation Nation Limited does not assert that identified remains belonging to George's ancestors are held by a particular British institution.

The organisation requests clarification of the procedures through which relevant museum, university or archival records may be investigated.

Where the Foreign Office is not responsible for such records, the appropriate institution should be identified where practicable.

A response concerning diplomatic recognition should not be treated as disposing of the separate enquiry into ancestral remains.

The purpose is to establish a practical route towards historical identification.

17.12 Accountability Concerning the Reported 1933 French Instrument

The reported French administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933 represents a particular research priority.

Its precise identity, original wording and historical significance remain to be established.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office consider whether any British records or appropriate French institutional referrals may assist in identifying the document.

The organisation does not ask the Department to accept the instrument as proof of George's hereditary claim before it has been located and examined.

It seeks assistance in determining whether the document exists and what it records.

Where the Department considers that French institutions are principally responsible, the appropriate research route should be identified.

17.13 Accountability Concerning George's Authorisation

George T. Nomen has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to act on his behalf.

That authorisation is confirmed.

The Foreign Office may nevertheless require documentary evidence before accepting representative authority for particular governmental purposes.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that those requirements be identified in writing.

The Department is asked to distinguish proof of George's identity, proof of his authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited, evidence of hereditary succession and evidence concerning wider community representation.

These are separate questions.

The organisation does not intend to presume that a particular form or signature is required when the Department has not identified such a requirement.

George will have the opportunity to respond through Reparation Nation Limited once the relevant requirements are clarified.

17.14 Accountability Concerning Equality Safeguards

Reparation Nation Limited has formally requested information concerning safeguards against anti-Black racism and institutional racism.

The organisation requests that the Department address these enquiries as questions concerning institutional procedures.

They must not be misrepresented as accusations of discriminatory conduct.

No predetermined allegation or finding of racism is advanced against any present-day official or institution.

The organisation asks the Foreign Office to identify relevant equality policies, staff guidance, review arrangements and complaint procedures.

Where the Department considers that relevant material is publicly available, it is requested to provide appropriate references.

Where particular information requires a formal disclosure procedure, that procedure should be identified.

The purpose is evidence-based institutional transparency.

17.15 The Public Sector Equality Duty and Administrative Accountability

The Public Sector Equality Duty under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 is relevant to understanding the equality framework applicable to public authorities, subject to its statutory scope.

Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification of how relevant duties apply to the particular governmental functions involved in this representation.

The organisation does not presume that the duty requires a particular substantive outcome.

It does not automatically confer a right to diplomatic recognition, reparations or governmental assistance.

However, where the duty applies, it is relevant to the procedures through which decisions are considered.

The Department is requested to identify the relevant arrangements and any appropriate guidance.

The organisation seeks evidence of procedural safeguards rather than predetermined findings.

17.16 The Need for Accurate Reasons

Reparation Nation Limited requests that substantive decisions be accompanied by sufficient explanation to identify the principal considerations, where appropriate.

The organisation recognises that the extent of any legal duty to provide reasons depends upon the nature of the decision and applicable law.

Nevertheless, reasons may assist in understanding whether a request has been refused because of a lack of evidence, a legal restriction, institutional responsibility or another consideration.

These distinctions matter.

A refusal based upon insufficient genealogical evidence would differ from a refusal based upon the Government's inability to determine customary hereditary succession.

Similarly, a decision not to recognise a government-in-exile would differ from an inability to locate particular archival records.

The organisation requests that these matters not be conflated.

17.17 Accountability Concerning Referrals

Where the Foreign Office refers a question to another department or institution, Reparation Nation Limited requests that the referral identify the subject matter concerned.

The organisation also asks that the response distinguish referrals already undertaken from referrals merely recommended.

Where the Department forwards correspondence, the recipient and date should be identified where practicable.

Where Reparation Nation Limited must make a separate enquiry, that requirement should be explained.

The organisation does not presume that every institution is obliged to accept a referral.

It seeks an accurate record of the steps actually taken.

The objective is to avoid a situation in which a matter appears resolved although no competent institution has considered it.

17.18 Accountability Concerning Outstanding Questions

The representation contains numerous questions because the historical investigation involves several distinct evidential and institutional matters.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that some questions may not be capable of immediate answer.

Nevertheless, it requests that unanswered questions be identified rather than silently omitted.

Where further evidence is required, the nature of that evidence should be explained.

Where another institution is responsible, an appropriate route should be identified.

Where the Government does not intend to consider a particular request, the organisation asks that the position be stated where appropriate.

The purpose is not to require repetitive correspondence.

It is to establish an intelligible record of the matters resolved and those remaining outstanding.

17.19 Parliamentary Accountability

The United Kingdom Government is accountable to Parliament through established constitutional and parliamentary procedures.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that different matters may be raised through parliamentary questions, debates, committee activity or correspondence with Members of Parliament.

These procedures are governed by parliamentary rules and decisions made by the relevant parliamentary participants.

The organisation does not presume that it can compel a Member of Parliament to submit a question or require Parliament to conduct an inquiry.

Nevertheless, it may seek appropriate parliamentary assistance in understanding governmental responsibilities and obtaining ministerial clarification.

The purpose would be to establish transparency concerning the Government's response to the historical and institutional issues raised.

Parliamentary scrutiny should not be represented as proof that George's underlying historical claims have been accepted.

17.20 The Possible Role of a Member of Parliament

Reparation Nation Limited may consider approaching an appropriate Member of Parliament concerning the handling of the representation.

Such correspondence could explain the historical investigation, identify unanswered governmental questions and seek advice concerning available parliamentary procedures.

The organisation recognises that Members of Parliament exercise independent judgment concerning whether and how to raise matters.

A parliamentary enquiry may also depend upon the Member's relationship with the person making the request and the applicable procedural rules.

The organisation therefore does not presume that parliamentary assistance will be provided.

It seeks to preserve the possibility of requesting appropriate scrutiny if governmental clarification remains outstanding.

17.21 Parliamentary Written Questions

Parliamentary written questions may provide a route through which a Member of Parliament requests information from a government department.

Reparation Nation Limited may consider asking an appropriate Member to examine whether relevant questions can properly be raised through that procedure.

Potential subjects might concern Britain's historical records relating to Cameroon, the Government's procedures for international archival cooperation or the safeguards applicable to relevant decision-making.

Any question would need to comply with parliamentary rules.

The organisation does not assume that Parliament can compel the discovery of records that do not exist or require a minister to determine George's hereditary claim.

The purpose would be clarification of governmental policy, responsibility and available procedures.

17.22 The Possible Role of Parliamentary Committees

Certain parliamentary committees examine aspects of governmental policy, expenditure, administration and accountability.

Reparation Nation Limited may consider whether any relevant committee possesses a remit connected with the issues raised.

However, a committee's jurisdiction, work programme and willingness to consider evidence are matters for that committee.

The organisation does not presume an entitlement to a hearing or formal investigation.

It may nevertheless seek to identify appropriate procedures for submitting relevant information where a committee is conducting an inquiry within its remit.

Any evidence submitted should distinguish established historical facts from George's unresolved claims.

The purpose is to preserve accuracy while seeking appropriate institutional scrutiny.

17.23 Ministerial Responsibility

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office identify the ministerial responsibility applicable to the principal diplomatic and institutional questions raised.

The representation is addressed to the Government because it concerns matters potentially involving foreign relations and historical governmental records.

The organisation recognises that correspondence may be handled by officials acting under departmental procedures rather than personally by a minister.

It does not presume that every request must receive an individually drafted ministerial response.

Nevertheless, it asks for clarity concerning the responsible department and the appropriate escalation route where substantive questions remain unresolved.

Where ministerial consideration is not available or appropriate, the relevant procedure should be explained.

17.24 The Prime Minister's Office

Reparation Nation Limited may provide a copy of the representation to the Prime Minister's Office for information and appropriate consideration.

Such circulation would not alter the responsibilities of the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office or other competent institutions.

The organisation does not presume that the Prime Minister's Office will conduct the historical investigation.

Nor does it assume that a copy sent to the Prime Minister constitutes a formal appeal against decisions made by another department.

The purpose of circulation would be to bring the principal international and moral questions to the attention of the Government's central leadership.

Where correspondence is referred to an appropriate department, that referral should be recorded accurately.

17.25 The Role of The National Archives

The National Archives is an important potential source of British governmental records concerning Cameroon.

Reparation Nation Limited proposes to undertake appropriate archival enquiries separately from the broader diplomatic representation.

The organisation recognises that The National Archives does not determine the legitimacy of hereditary royal succession merely by providing documents.

Its role concerns the preservation, description and accessibility of historical records within its holdings.

The organisation requests that the Foreign Office identify any relevant records or appropriate archival referral routes.

Where a research enquiry requires more specific information, Reparation Nation Limited will seek to supply the relevant names, dates and localities as they become established.

17.26 The Role of Independent Museums and Universities

Some aspects of the representation concern human remains, cultural property and historical research.

These matters may fall within the responsibilities of independent museums, universities or specialist institutions.

The Foreign Office may not possess authority to direct every decision taken by such bodies.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore requests that their responsibilities be distinguished from those of the Government.

Where an institution holds relevant material, appropriate procedures for research and consultation should be identified.

The organisation does not presume that any particular institution possesses remains or objects belonging to George's family.

The objective is to establish lawful and evidence-based routes for further investigation.

17.27 Complaints and Administrative Review

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Department identify available complaints and review procedures relevant to its handling of the representation.

The organisation recognises that different decisions may be subject to different mechanisms.

A complaint concerning administrative delay may require a different procedure from a challenge to a substantive legal or diplomatic decision.

Similarly, a request for correction of factual information may differ from a complaint concerning possible discrimination.

The organisation asks that these routes be identified accurately.

No complaint of unlawful conduct is made merely by requesting this information.

The purpose is to establish procedural clarity before any dispute arises.

17.28 The Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman

The Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman may investigate certain complaints concerning maladministration by UK government departments and other bodies within its jurisdiction.

However, its powers and procedures are subject to statutory limitations.

The organisation does not presume that every foreign-policy or diplomatic decision falls within the Ombudsman's jurisdiction.

Nor does it assume that the Ombudsman can determine hereditary succession or require foreign governments to disclose historical records.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office identify any relevant complaints guidance and applicable escalation routes.

Where the Ombudsman may be relevant, the proper procedure should be followed.

The organisation seeks accurate information rather than unsupported assumptions concerning available remedies.

17.29 Freedom of Information and Government Transparency

Reparation Nation Limited may consider submitting separate requests under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 where information is held by a UK public authority and the legislation applies.

Such requests should be distinguished from general requests for historical research or diplomatic assistance.

The Act concerns access to recorded information held by public authorities, subject to its provisions and exemptions.

It does not require an authority to create information that it does not hold.

Where Reparation Nation Limited seeks particular recorded policies, procedural documents or historical records, an appropriately framed statutory request may be relevant.

The organisation requests that the Department identify any applicable procedures.

The existence of a Freedom of Information route should not be treated as an answer to every separate question concerning governmental discretion or international cooperation.

17.30 Personal Information and Data Protection

The investigation may involve personal information concerning George and other living individuals.

Where Reparation Nation Limited seeks access to personal information held by British institutions, different legal procedures may apply from those governing ordinary historical documents.

The organisation requests that the Department identify any relevant requirements concerning identity verification, authorisation and secure submission.

George's authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited is confirmed.

Nevertheless, particular institutions may require evidence of that authorisation before disclosing restricted information.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that such requirements be specified rather than presumed.

The organisation does not claim unrestricted access to information concerning third parties.

The appropriate data protection and confidentiality procedures must be observed.

17.31 The Need for an Official Correspondence Reference

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office assign or identify a correspondence reference where its procedures permit.

The purpose is to ensure that subsequent documents and enquiries can be linked accurately.

The organisation intends to maintain a parallel internal reference within its own records.

The existence of an official reference would not establish that the Government has accepted the historical claims.

It would simply assist with administrative identification.

Where the Department uses a different system, the organisation requests guidance concerning the appropriate means of referencing further correspondence.

17.32 Response Timetables

Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification of the Department's expected response procedures.

The organisation recognises that the different matters raised may be subject to different timescales.

A general ministerial correspondence enquiry may not be governed by the same statutory deadline as a valid Freedom of Information request.

An international archival enquiry may also depend upon the procedures of a foreign institution.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore requests that the Government identify any applicable timetable rather than assume a single deadline applies to every issue.

Where a substantive response requires additional time, an interim explanation would assist.

The organisation seeks a realistic and transparent process.

17.33 Escalation of Unanswered Questions

Where substantive questions remain unanswered, Reparation Nation Limited may seek clarification through the appropriate departmental route.

If a question falls outside the Department's responsibilities, the relevant referral should be identified where practicable.

Where an administrative complaint becomes appropriate, the applicable procedure should be followed.

Where parliamentary assistance is sought, the request should accurately describe the Government's response and the matters remaining outstanding.

The organisation does not intend to present an unanswered question as proof of misconduct.

Nor does it presume that a delay necessarily establishes discrimination or deliberate obstruction.

The purpose of escalation would be to obtain procedural clarity and an accountable response.

17.34 Preservation of Governmental Correspondence

Reparation Nation Limited intends to preserve all official correspondence relating to the investigation.

This includes acknowledgements, substantive responses, referrals, requests for further evidence and decisions.

Where a government department identifies a record or institution, that information will be recorded.

Where a request remains outstanding, its status will remain clear.

The organisation will distinguish statements made by officials from its own interpretations.

No official response will be altered or paraphrased in a manner that changes its meaning.

The objective is to establish an accurate documentary history of the investigation.

17.35 The Role of IBIS in Accountability

IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice — may assist Reparation Nation Limited with organising the institutional correspondence.

The system may record which government or institution was contacted, what was requested and what response was received.

It may also assist in distinguishing requests for information from information actually disclosed.

An acknowledgement should not be recorded as a completed investigation.

A promise to search for records should not be recorded as delivery of those records.

A meeting should not be recorded as governmental recognition.

A commitment to consider assistance should not be recorded as assistance already provided.

These distinctions are essential to the integrity of the public and institutional record.

IBIS would function as supporting administrative infrastructure, not as a substitute for official decision-making.

17.36 Accountability Through Verified Outcomes

Reparation Nation Limited considers that institutional accountability depends upon the ability to distinguish promises from completed actions.

The organisation therefore proposes that the investigation record the actual outcomes of governmental and archival engagement.

Where a record is supplied, the source and reference should be preserved.

Where an institution makes a substantive decision, the decision should be recorded accurately.

Where a referral is undertaken, the recipient and purpose should be identified.

Where no response has been received, the matter should not be described as resolved.

This method reflects the wider Reparation Nation principle that commitments must be distinguished from verified delivery.

The objective is to establish what assistance has actually reached George and his authorised representative.

17.37 Public Reporting and Accuracy

Reparation Nation Limited may report appropriate developments concerning the investigation to interested persons or communities.

Such reporting should preserve the distinctions established throughout this representation.

The organisation will not describe an acknowledgement of correspondence as an endorsement of George's hereditary claim.

It will not present an archival referral as proof of historical wrongdoing.

It will not describe a governmental meeting as diplomatic recognition.

It will not treat unanswered questions concerning anti-Black racism as proof that discrimination occurred.

Where evidence remains preliminary, that status should be stated.

The objective is accurate public communication.

Appropriate confidentiality and personal information safeguards will also be observed.

17.38 Accountability to George T. Nomen

George remains the person who authorised Reparation Nation Limited to undertake the present representation.

The organisation will preserve the distinction between his personal instructions and its administrative actions.

Governmental responses and significant developments should be communicated to him through the arrangements established between the parties.

Where additional authorisation or documentary evidence is required, George will have the opportunity to consider the matter.

The present representation does not establish an unlimited mandate to commence litigation, accept settlements, incur financial obligations or make binding decisions affecting other descendants.

Any such future action would require separate consideration of the relevant authority and applicable law.

The objective is to preserve George's control over his interests.

17.39 Formal Questions Concerning Departmental Responsibility

Reparation Nation Limited requests written answers to the following questions.

Question 17.39.1: Which department or team is responsible for receiving and considering this representation?

Question 17.39.2: Will the Foreign Office provide an identifiable correspondence reference?

Question 17.39.3: Which aspects of the representation fall within the Department's responsibilities?

Question 17.39.4: Which aspects require referral to The National Archives or another British institution?

Question 17.39.5: Which aspects concern diplomatic or institutional cooperation with Germany, France or Cameroon?

Question 17.39.6: Which governmental function is responsible for considering the request concerning the Free French historical precedent?

Question 17.39.7: Which governmental function is responsible for considering questions concerning George's proposed London-based institution?

Question 17.39.8: Where the Foreign Office is not competent to determine a particular matter, will it identify an appropriate alternative institution or procedure?

17.40 Formal Questions Concerning Written Responses

Reparation Nation Limited requests answers to the following questions.

Question 17.40.1: Will the Department provide a substantive written response distinguishing the different matters raised?

Question 17.40.2: Will it identify which questions have been answered and which remain outstanding?

Question 17.40.3: Where additional information is required, will the Department specify the relevant requirement?

Question 17.40.4: Where a request is declined, will the Department explain the principal reasons where appropriate?

Question 17.40.5: Where correspondence is referred elsewhere, will the Department identify the recipient and purpose of the referral where practicable?

Question 17.40.6: What acknowledgement and response timescales apply?

Question 17.40.7: What procedure should Reparation Nation Limited follow when seeking clarification of an incomplete response?

Question 17.40.8: What complaints or review procedures apply to the handling of the representation?

17.41 Formal Questions Concerning Parliamentary Accountability

Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification of the following matters.

Question 17.41.1: What published procedures are available for seeking parliamentary clarification of governmental responsibilities concerning international historical investigations?

Question 17.41.2: Which ministerial responsibilities are relevant to the principal questions raised?

Question 17.41.3: Where the Government's position remains unclear, what procedures exist for seeking clarification through an appropriate Member of Parliament?

Question 17.41.4: Are there relevant published ministerial statements or policy documents concerning historical archival cooperation involving Cameroon?

Question 17.41.5: What governmental information is publicly available concerning Britain's historical relationship with Cameroon and the Free French movement?

Question 17.41.6: If Reparation Nation Limited seeks parliamentary assistance, can the Department identify the appropriate publicly available procedural guidance?

These questions seek clarification of existing arrangements.

They do not presume that Parliament must undertake a particular investigation.

17.42 Formal Questions Concerning Safeguards

Reparation Nation Limited also requests the following information.

Question 17.42.1: What safeguards against anti-Black racism apply to the Department's handling of this representation?

Question 17.42.2: What safeguards against institutional racism apply to the relevant administrative and decision-making procedures?

Question 17.42.3: What equality policies, staff guidance or review arrangements are relevant?

Question 17.42.4: What procedures are available if concerns arise concerning discriminatory treatment?

Question 17.42.5: How will the Department distinguish a request for safeguards from an allegation that discrimination has already occurred?

Question 17.42.6: What procedures are available for correcting factual errors or misunderstandings in the Department's record of the representation?

The organisation requests documentary references where available.

No predetermined finding of discriminatory conduct is advanced.

17.43 Request for an Initial Governmental Action Record

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office's first substantive response identify the actions it proposes to undertake.

Such an account might distinguish matters accepted for consideration, matters referred elsewhere, information required from George and requests that the Department is unable to pursue.

The organisation does not presume that a particular formal action plan is legally required.

It asks for sufficient clarity to understand the Government's position.

Where no further action is proposed, that position should be stated where appropriate.

Where a matter requires separate correspondence, the appropriate procedure should be explained.

The purpose is to establish an accountable starting point for the next stage of the investigation.

17.44 Preservation of the Right to Seek Further Clarification

Reparation Nation Limited reserves the ability, subject to applicable law and procedure, to seek further clarification where the initial governmental response leaves material questions unresolved.

This may involve additional correspondence, archival enquiries, requests for recorded information, administrative complaints or appropriate parliamentary approaches.

The organisation does not assert that every disagreement creates a legal right of appeal or review.

Nor does it presume that the Government is obliged to engage in unlimited correspondence.

The purpose is to preserve the ability to pursue appropriate procedures where new evidence or substantive unanswered questions justify further action.

17.45 Statement of Non-Accusation and Institutional Respect

Reparation Nation Limited expressly confirms that it makes no accusations, no allegations, no assumptions and no assertions of wrongdoing against any present-day British Government official or institution, and has reached no conclusions concerning misconduct.

The organisation does not presume that relevant records have been deliberately concealed.

It does not allege that an unanswered enquiry establishes anti-Black racism or institutional racism.

It does not presume that George's hereditary claim has been conclusively established.

Nor does it assume that the proposed government-in-exile possesses recognised sovereign authority.

The purpose of the representation is to obtain historical evidence and clarification of appropriate governmental procedures.

Reparation Nation Limited requests an accurate and respectful institutional response.

17.46 Conclusion and Formal Request

George T. Nomen has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to act on his behalf in pursuing historical disclosure and appropriate British Government assistance.

The investigation raises serious questions concerning reported colonial violence, the deaths of ancestral family members, the fate of their remains, the displacement of hereditary traditional authority and the historical records held across several jurisdictions.

It also raises questions concerning Britain's historical support for the Free French movement and the possibility of peaceful London-based institutional activities.

These matters require clear identification of the responsibilities of the relevant governmental and archival institutions.

Reparation Nation Limited therefore requests that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office provide an identifiable, substantive and accountable written response.

The response should distinguish the questions falling within the Department's responsibilities from those requiring referral elsewhere.

It should identify any additional documentary evidence required, including the requirements for verifying George's existing authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited.

It should also address the requests concerning equality safeguards, procedural review and appropriate institutional assistance.

The organisation recognises the Government's lawful discretion and the limits of its authority.

It does not demand a predetermined outcome.

The central principle is that a complex international historical representation should receive a clear and accountable administrative response in which the issues considered, actions undertaken, referrals made and questions remaining unresolved can be independently identified.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Government explain what it is prepared to do, what it cannot do, and which appropriate procedures remain available.

END OF SECTION SEVENTEEN

NEXT: SECTION EIGHTEEN — CONSOLIDATED FORMAL QUESTIONS, REQUESTED DECISIONS, RESPONSE TIMETABLE AND NEXT STEPS

SECTION EIGHTEEN — CONSOLIDATED FORMAL QUESTIONS, REQUESTED DECISIONS, RESPONSE TIMETABLE AND NEXT STEPS

18.1 Introduction and Purpose

This section concludes the substantive representation submitted by Reparation Nation Limited to the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office on behalf of George T. Nomen.

Its purpose is to consolidate the principal requests arising from Sections One to Seventeen, identify the decisions and information sought from the United Kingdom Government, establish an orderly response procedure and clarify the next steps necessary to advance the international historical investigation.

George T. Nomen has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to act on his behalf.

Derrick Lynch submits this representation for and on behalf of Reparation Nation Limited.

The representation concerns the reported killing of members of George's ancestral family and community during European colonial administration in Cameroon, the uncertain fate of their bodies, the alleged destruction or displacement of hereditary traditional authority, and the historical consequences of German and subsequent French administrative decisions.

It also concerns George's claimed hereditary royal succession, the reported French administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933, the ancestral name Ngantcha, and surviving genealogical, photographic and documentary evidence.

A further element concerns George's proposal to organise peaceful activities from London through a government-in-exile or alternative representative institution, drawing attention to Britain's historical support for General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that these matters receive careful and distinct governmental consideration.

The organisation does not demand predetermined conclusions.

It requests historical evidence, procedural clarification, appropriate institutional cooperation and a substantive written response.

18.2 Confirmation of the Formal Representation

For the avoidance of doubt, George T. Nomen has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to undertake the initial historical investigation and governmental engagement described in this document.

That authorisation is confirmed.

Derrick Lynch acts as the representative of Reparation Nation Limited.

The Foreign Office is not being asked to establish whether George has granted the organisation permission to act on his behalf.

The organisation confirms that he has done so.

The Department is instead requested to identify what documentary evidence it requires to verify that authority for particular governmental, diplomatic or disclosure purposes.

Where evidence is required, the Department should specify the document, information, procedure or form of confirmation it considers necessary.

George will then have the opportunity to respond through Reparation Nation Limited.

The Department is also requested to distinguish verification of the organisation's authorisation from the separate questions concerning George's hereditary position, wider community representation and any future governmental recognition.

18.3 The Central Historical Questions

The investigation is intended to establish the historical truth concerning George's ancestral family and traditional institution.

The principal questions concern the original identity of the hereditary authority, the customary rules governing succession and the circumstances surrounding its reported displacement.

The investigation must also establish whether members of the ancestral family and community were killed, when those deaths occurred and what evidence survives concerning the events.

George particularly wishes to know what happened to the bodies of the deceased.

The enquiry should determine whether burial records, historical correspondence, military reports or other evidence may establish the fate of their remains.

Further questions concern whether German colonial authorities removed or replaced traditional officeholders and whether subsequent French administrative arrangements continued, modified or reversed those decisions.

These matters remain subject to independent historical verification.

The purpose of the representation is to obtain the evidence necessary for an informed assessment.

18.4 The Four Principal Jurisdictions

The international disclosure programme concerns Germany, France, Cameroon and the United Kingdom.

Germany is relevant to the reported original colonial intervention.

France is relevant to the subsequent administration of the ancestral locality and the reported administrative instrument of approximately 1933.

Cameroon is central to the location of the traditional institution, ancestral genealogy, customary authority and possible burial sites.

Britain is relevant because of its historical involvement in Cameroon, its surviving governmental records and its potential ability to identify appropriate international institutional contacts.

Reparation Nation Limited does not presume that these governments possess identical responsibilities.

The purpose is to establish the contribution each may make to the documentary investigation.

The Foreign Office is asked to identify the assistance available within Britain's responsibilities and any appropriate international referral procedures.

18.5 Consolidated Request One — Recognition of Reparation Nation Limited as an Authorised Correspondent

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office acknowledge its representation on behalf of George T. Nomen, subject to whatever documentary verification the Department considers necessary for particular purposes.

The organisation confirms that George has authorised the representation.

It requests that the Department identify its verification requirements rather than assume that a particular signed instrument has already been requested or supplied.

Any required evidence should be distinguished according to its purpose.

Proof of identity, proof of personal authorisation, proof of hereditary succession and proof of wider community authority are not the same matters.

A request for one should not automatically be treated as requiring all the others.

18.6 Consolidated Request Two — British Historical Records

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office identify relevant British governmental and archival records concerning the historical administration of Cameroon.

The enquiry includes records relating to German colonial rule, the First World War, subsequent territorial administration, traditional authority, military activities and communications involving French officials.

Potential research routes may involve Colonial Office, Foreign Office and military records held by The National Archives.

The organisation requests appropriate archival references or research guidance where available.

It does not presume that relevant records concerning George's particular ancestors have already been identified.

The purpose is to establish the appropriate route for targeted research.

18.7 Consolidated Request Three — German Historical Disclosure

Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification of available assistance concerning enquiries to German governmental and archival institutions.

The investigation seeks evidence of the reported original colonial intervention affecting the ancestral hereditary authority.

It also seeks records concerning appointments, removals, military operations, reported deaths and the possible treatment of human remains.

The organisation asks whether Britain can identify competent German institutions or facilitate appropriate referrals.

It does not presume that Britain can compel German disclosure.

The request is for lawful and practical assistance.

18.8 Consolidated Request Four — French Historical Disclosure

Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification of available assistance concerning enquiries to French governmental and archival institutions.

Particular importance is attached to the reported French administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933.

The investigation seeks its precise date, reference, issuing authority, original text and associated records.

It also seeks documents concerning changes in traditional leadership and any continuation or modification of earlier German administrative arrangements.

The organisation requests assistance in identifying the appropriate French research procedures.

No conclusion concerning the instrument's significance should be reached before it has been located and examined.

18.9 Consolidated Request Five — Cameroonian Historical Disclosure

Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification of available assistance concerning appropriate Cameroonian governmental, archival and traditional institutions.

The investigation requires evidence concerning the ancestral locality, original traditional authority, customary succession and historical family relationships.

It may also require local information concerning monuments, burial sites and the treatment of deceased ancestors.

The organisation does not presume that any particular Cameroonian institution endorses George's hereditary claim.

It seeks an evidence-based enquiry respecting relevant institutional responsibilities and applicable law.

18.10 Consolidated Request Six — The Reported Deaths

George seeks to establish the identities and circumstances of death of persons reportedly killed during colonial intervention.

Reparation Nation Limited requests assistance in identifying relevant military, administrative, medical, missionary, burial and other historical sources.

The investigation should distinguish reported deaths from independently verified deaths.

It should also establish whether relevant events can be connected to identifiable officials, locations or administrative decisions.

No predetermined findings concerning responsibility are advanced.

The purpose is to obtain and examine the historical evidence.

18.11 Consolidated Request Seven — Human Remains

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the British Government identify appropriate institutional procedures for investigating the fate of George's deceased ancestors.

The enquiry should consider whether records exist concerning burial, exhumation, movement or retention of human remains.

Where evidence suggests that relevant remains may be held in a museum, university or another institution, appropriate provenance research may be necessary.

The organisation does not presume that George's ancestors were transported to Europe.

Nor does it claim that identifiable remains belonging to his family have already been located.

Any future repatriation request would require separate evidence, appropriate authority and applicable legal and ethical procedures.

18.12 Consolidated Request Eight — Genealogy and Traditional Succession

Reparation Nation Limited requests appropriate research assistance concerning George's claimed hereditary succession.

The investigation should establish the original traditional institution, the applicable customary rules and the genealogy connecting George to the claimed ancestral line.

The preliminary documents, photographs and oral accounts provide research leads.

They are not presented as conclusive independent verification of every historical proposition.

The name Ngantcha and the monument marked RSA 91 require further investigation.

Genealogical descent should remain distinguishable from entitlement to a traditional office.

The objective is a credible historical reconstruction.

18.13 Consolidated Request Nine — Britain's Support for Free France

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office consider the historical precedent of Britain's support for General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement.

The organisation recognises that the wartime circumstances differed substantially from George's present position.

It does not assert an automatic legal entitlement to equivalent support or diplomatic recognition.

Nevertheless, George asks whether Britain is prepared to consider appropriate assistance with his peaceful London-based activities.

The Department is requested to identify the relevance, if any, of the historical precedent and explain the material distinctions affecting its position.

18.14 Consolidated Request Ten — London-Based Institutional Arrangements

George wishes to examine the establishment of a London-based government-in-exile or alternative representative institution.

Reparation Nation Limited requests clarification of the legal, constitutional and diplomatic considerations applicable to such a proposal.

The organisation recognises that an institution does not acquire sovereign authority merely by adopting the title government-in-exile.

It asks whether lawful forms of engagement may be possible without governmental recognition.

Alternative arrangements could include a historical research organisation, representative council or reparatory justice institution.

The Department is requested to distinguish these possibilities and identify any appropriate procedures.

18.15 Consolidated Request Eleven — A Preliminary Governmental Meeting

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office consider a preliminary meeting with Derrick Lynch as the organisation's representative.

The proposed meeting would concern the historical investigation, appropriate archival procedures, international cooperation and George's London-based institutional objectives.

The meeting would not be represented as recognition of George's hereditary claim or proposed government-in-exile.

Its purpose would be to clarify the issues and identify practical next steps.

If a meeting is unavailable, the organisation requests equivalent procedural guidance in writing.

18.16 Consolidated Request Twelve — Safeguards Against Anti-Black Racism

Reparation Nation Limited requests identification of the safeguards against anti-Black racism applicable to the Department's consideration of George's representation.

The enquiry concerns an African ancestral family, customary hereditary authority and historical records associated with European colonial administration.

The organisation seeks information concerning relevant equality policies, guidance, review arrangements and complaint procedures.

It requests documentary references where available.

No accusation, allegation or finding of anti-Black racism is made against any present-day official or institution.

The question concerns the safeguards intended to prevent discriminatory treatment.

18.17 Consolidated Request Thirteen — Safeguards Against Institutional Racism

Reparation Nation Limited separately requests information concerning safeguards against institutional racism.

The enquiry concerns the fairness of relevant governmental policies, procedures and decision-making systems.

The organisation asks what arrangements exist to identify, prevent and address discriminatory outcomes.

It also requests clarification of any relevant monitoring, equality assessment or review procedures.

The request does not presume that institutional racism has occurred.

It seeks evidence concerning the safeguards actually in place.

18.18 Consolidated Request Fourteen — Departmental Accountability

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office identify the department, team or official responsible for considering the representation.

The organisation asks for an appropriate correspondence reference where available.

It also requests clarification of which questions fall within the Department's responsibilities and which require referral elsewhere.

Where matters are transferred or referred, the purpose of the referral should be clear.

The objective is to maintain an accountable record of the Government's response.

18.19 Consolidated Request Fifteen — Parliamentary and Review Procedures

Reparation Nation Limited requests identification of appropriate procedures for seeking further clarification or review where necessary.

These may include departmental correspondence, complaints procedures, relevant statutory information rights or appropriate parliamentary routes.

The organisation recognises that different mechanisms apply to different decisions.

It does not presume that every matter is appealable or that Parliament is obliged to undertake an investigation.

The purpose is to identify the procedures actually available.

18.20 Consolidated Request Sixteen — International Reparatory Justice

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Government distinguish historical disclosure from the separate determination of legal responsibility and reparatory remedies.

Potential future measures may include historical acknowledgement, correction of archival descriptions, memorialisation, repatriation of identified remains, restitution of cultural property or other appropriate action.

None is presumed already established or legally owed.

The organisation seeks the historical evidence necessary to determine whether further requests are justified.

The Department is asked to identify any relevant procedures falling within its responsibilities.

18.21 Consolidated Request Seventeen — The Role of IBIS

Reparation Nation Limited proposes that IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice — assist with evidence management, institutional correspondence and the verification of outcomes.

The system is not presented as an adjudicative authority or source of governmental recognition.

The organisation requests clarification of whether structured documentary submissions may be received through the Department's ordinary procedures.

It does not ask the British Government to adopt or endorse IBIS.

The purpose is to establish an organised and verifiable record of the investigation.

18.22 Consolidated Request Eighteen — A Substantive Written Response

Reparation Nation Limited requests a substantive written response to this representation.

The response should distinguish matters accepted for consideration, matters requiring further evidence, matters referred elsewhere and assistance that is unavailable.

Where a particular request is declined, the principal reasons should be explained where appropriate.

Where a document or procedure is required, that requirement should be specified.

The organisation recognises that the Department may not be able to resolve the entire historical investigation through one response.

Nevertheless, the initial response should provide sufficient clarity to establish the next procedural steps.

An acknowledgement of receipt should not be confused with a substantive answer.

18.23 The Government's Requested Decisions

Reparation Nation Limited asks the Foreign Office to make or communicate the following initial procedural decisions.

Decision A — Receipt and Allocation: Confirm receipt and identify the team responsible for handling the representation.

Decision B — Authorisation: State what evidence is required to verify George's existing authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited for relevant purposes.

Decision C — Archival Responsibility: Identify the appropriate British governmental and archival research routes.

Decision D — International Cooperation: State whether any diplomatic or institutional assistance may be considered concerning Germany, France and Cameroon.

Decision E — Humanitarian Investigation: Identify any appropriate procedures concerning records of deaths, burial sites and human remains.

Decision F — Institutional Engagement: State whether the Department will consider a preliminary meeting or another form of engagement.

Decision G — London-Based Proposal: Clarify the relevant procedures and considerations concerning George's proposed government-in-exile or alternative institution.

Decision H — Equality Safeguards: Identify the applicable safeguards against anti-Black racism, institutional racism and discriminatory decision-making.

Decision I — Referrals: Identify matters outside the Department's responsibilities and appropriate alternative routes where practicable.

Decision J — Next Steps: Explain what information or action is required from George or Reparation Nation Limited and what further governmental response may be expected.

These are requests for initial procedural determinations.

They are not demands that the Government reach predetermined conclusions concerning the underlying historical claims.

18.24 Proposed Acknowledgement Timetable

Reparation Nation Limited requests written acknowledgement of receipt within ten working days of the Department receiving the representation.

This is a proposed administrative timetable.

The organisation does not assert that a universal statutory ten-working-day acknowledgement requirement applies to this correspondence.

The requested acknowledgement should, where practicable, identify the date of receipt, correspondence reference and responsible team or contact procedure.

Where the Department applies a different published acknowledgement standard, it is requested to identify that standard.

The purpose is to confirm that the representation has entered the relevant governmental correspondence process.

18.25 Proposed Initial Substantive Response Timetable

Reparation Nation Limited requests an initial substantive response within twenty working days of receipt.

The organisation recognises that this is a requested timetable rather than a statutory deadline applicable to every aspect of the representation.

Some matters may require additional research or consultation.

The initial response need not resolve all eighteen sections.

However, it should ideally identify the matters accepted for consideration, the responsible institutions, the documentary requirements and any further procedural steps.

Where twenty working days is insufficient, the Department is requested to explain the anticipated response process and provide a revised estimate where practicable.

The objective is a clear administrative timetable rather than an artificial requirement for premature historical conclusions.

18.26 Separate Statutory Timetables

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that certain requests may be subject to specific statutory access procedures.

For example, a valid request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 will ordinarily be subject to that Act's response requirements, including applicable provisions concerning time limits and extensions.

Such requests should be distinguished from general ministerial correspondence, diplomatic enquiries and ordinary archival research.

Similarly, requests involving personal information may be subject to different legal procedures.

The organisation does not seek to replace statutory requirements with the proposed timetable in this section.

Where a request must be submitted separately under a particular statutory procedure, the Department is asked to identify that procedure.

The objective is to preserve the correct legal and administrative distinctions.

18.27 Response Where Further Evidence Is Required

If the Foreign Office requires further evidence before considering a particular matter, Reparation Nation Limited requests that the requirement be communicated in writing.

The request should identify the purpose for which the evidence is needed.

Where a prescribed form or verification procedure applies, the relevant guidance should be identified.

Where no prescribed form exists, the Department is asked what alternative evidence may be considered.

George will then have the opportunity to respond through Reparation Nation Limited.

The organisation requests that a need for additional evidence concerning one matter not automatically prevent consideration of unrelated enquiries capable of proceeding.

For example, verification of wider community representative authority should not necessarily be required before an ordinary request for publicly accessible archival information can be considered.

18.28 Response Where the Government Declines Assistance

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that the Government may decline particular requests.

Where this occurs, the organisation asks that the response identify the principal reason, where appropriate.

A decision based upon lack of departmental responsibility should be distinguished from one based upon legal restrictions.

A decision based upon insufficient evidence should be distinguished from one based upon diplomatic policy.

A refusal to recognise a government-in-exile should not automatically be represented as a rejection of George's family history.

Likewise, an inability to locate a particular historical record should not be represented as proof that the reported event did not occur.

The organisation requests accurate descriptions of the Government's decisions and their scope.

18.29 Response Where the Government Offers Assistance

Where assistance is offered, Reparation Nation Limited requests that its precise nature be identified.

An institutional contact should be distinguished from a formal referral.

A referral should be distinguished from an undertaking to conduct research.

An undertaking to consider a meeting should be distinguished from confirmation that the meeting has been arranged.

A decision to search for records should be distinguished from the actual identification or disclosure of records.

These distinctions are essential to the integrity of the investigation.

The organisation intends to record what has been promised, undertaken and verified.

18.30 Proposed Initial Next Steps for Reparation Nation Limited

Following submission of this representation, Reparation Nation Limited proposes to preserve the complete document and associated correspondence within its records.

The organisation will await the Foreign Office's acknowledgement and clarification of any immediate documentary requirements.

Separate historical enquiries may proceed through appropriate British, German, French and Cameroonian archival routes.

Priority research matters include the identification of the ancestral locality, the name Ngantcha, the monument marked RSA 91, the reported 1933 French instrument and records concerning the deaths of George's ancestors.

Any information obtained will be assessed according to its source and verification status.

The organisation will distinguish research findings from unverified claims.

Where official responses identify additional requirements, those requirements will be communicated to George.

18.31 Proposed Next Steps for George T. Nomen

George will remain responsible for decisions concerning his personal interests and further instructions.

Where the Foreign Office requires documentary verification of his authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited, he will have the opportunity to consider the specified requirements.

Where additional genealogical, historical or identifying evidence is requested, the organisation will assist him in understanding what is required.

Where the investigation produces significant new information, George may consider whether further specialist advice or institutional action is appropriate.

The present representation does not presume that he must immediately sign additional documents before the Government has identified its requirements.

Nor does it establish an unlimited mandate for subsequent litigation, settlements, financial commitments or decisions affecting others.

Any such future action would require appropriate authority and consideration.

18.32 Proposed Next Steps Concerning Historical Evidence

The historical investigation should continue through organised research.

Original documents should be sought wherever possible.

Copies should be associated with their source and archival reference.

Translations should remain distinguishable from original texts.

Genealogical information should be examined generation by generation.

Photographs and monuments should be investigated according to their provenance and historical context.

Accounts of deaths and burial locations should be distinguished from independently verified findings.

Contradictory evidence should be preserved rather than concealed.

The objective is a defensible historical record capable of independent examination.

18.33 Proposed Next Steps Concerning Human Remains

The investigation concerning the deceased should remain a distinct workstream.

Its immediate objectives are to identify the persons reportedly killed, establish the circumstances of their deaths and investigate the fate of their bodies.

Where burial information is located, the evidence should be preserved.

Where documents suggest that remains may have been transferred, the relevant provenance research should be undertaken.

Where potentially identifiable remains are discovered, appropriate professional, legal and cultural procedures would be required.

Reparation Nation Limited does not propose immediate excavation, exhumation or repatriation without proper evidence and authority.

The objective is careful and accountable investigation.

18.34 Proposed Next Steps Concerning the London-Based Institution

George's proposed London-based government-in-exile or alternative representative institution should be examined according to the legal and institutional information obtained.

The organisation requests that the Government identify the procedures relevant to its consideration of such an initiative.

George may then assess whether a historical research organisation, representative council, reparatory justice institution or another arrangement is appropriate.

The choice of title should not precede an accurate understanding of the institution's actual authority.

The establishment of an organisation in London does not automatically confer governmental recognition.

Reparation Nation Limited seeks clarity before any formal institutional claim is advanced.

18.35 Proposed Next Steps Concerning the Free French Precedent

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office state its position concerning the historical comparison with General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement.

The organisation recognises that the circumstances differ.

Nevertheless, George wishes to understand what principles, if any, inform Britain's willingness to assist his contemporary initiative.

Where the Government considers the comparison irrelevant to diplomatic recognition, the organisation asks whether other forms of engagement may still be available.

The response should distinguish historical analogy, moral consideration and legal entitlement.

The purpose is constructive clarification rather than a predetermined demand for recognition.

18.36 Proposed Next Steps Concerning Equality Safeguards

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office identify the applicable safeguards against anti-Black racism and institutional racism.

The organisation seeks relevant policy documents, procedural guidance and review arrangements where available.

These materials will be examined separately from the historical merits of George's ancestral claim.

The organisation makes no predetermined allegation of discriminatory conduct.

Where the Department identifies safeguards, their existence and stated scope will be recorded accurately.

Where further clarification is required, an appropriate request may be made.

The objective is to establish an evidence-based understanding of institutional procedures.

18.37 Preservation of the Complete Documentary Record

Reparation Nation Limited intends to preserve this representation, its supporting materials and all relevant governmental responses.

The record will distinguish documents submitted from documents received.

It will also distinguish acknowledgements, referrals, requests for evidence, substantive decisions and verified outcomes.

Where a historical claim remains unresolved, its status will remain explicit.

Where evidence is independently authenticated, the basis for authentication will be recorded.

Appropriate elements of IBIS may assist with this process.

The system will not be represented as a source of governmental or hereditary recognition.

Its purpose is administrative accuracy and accountability.

18.38 The Final Consolidated Questions

For the avoidance of doubt, Reparation Nation Limited asks the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office to answer the following final questions.

Question 18.38.1: Has the Department received and registered this complete representation?

Question 18.38.2: What correspondence reference and responsible team apply?

Question 18.38.3: What documentary evidence does the Department require to verify George T. Nomen's existing authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited?

Question 18.38.4: What British historical records or archival research routes are relevant to the investigation?

Question 18.38.5: What assistance may be available concerning enquiries to Germany?

Question 18.38.6: What assistance may be available concerning enquiries to France?

Question 18.38.7: What assistance may be available concerning enquiries to Cameroon?

Question 18.38.8: What procedures are available for investigating the reported deaths and fate of George's ancestors?

Question 18.38.9: What procedures are available concerning possible human remains and relevant museum or university collections?

Question 18.38.10: What assistance may be available in locating the reported French administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933?

Question 18.38.11: What research routes may assist in identifying the ancestral traditional institution, the name Ngantcha and the monument marked RSA 91?

Question 18.38.12: Will the Government consider a preliminary meeting with Reparation Nation Limited?

Question 18.38.13: What relevance, if any, does the Government attach to the historical precedent of Britain's support for General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement?

Question 18.38.14: What legal and diplomatic considerations apply to George's proposed London-based government-in-exile?

Question 18.38.15: What alternative forms of institutional engagement may be available without formal governmental recognition?

Question 18.38.16: What safeguards against anti-Black racism apply to the consideration of this representation?

Question 18.38.17: What safeguards against institutional racism apply to the relevant decision-making procedures?

Question 18.38.18: Which matters fall outside the Foreign Office's responsibilities, and what alternative routes are available?

Question 18.38.19: What timetable applies to the initial substantive response and any further governmental consideration?

Question 18.38.20: What practical assistance is the United Kingdom Government prepared to consider, and what actions are now required from George T. Nomen or Reparation Nation Limited?

These twenty questions consolidate the essential matters raised throughout the representation.

The organisation requests that each be addressed according to its actual subject and the Department's responsibilities.

18.39 Formal Statement of Non-Accusation

Reparation Nation Limited expressly confirms that it makes no accusations, no allegations, no assumptions and no assertions of wrongdoing against any present-day governmental official or institution, and has reached no conclusions concerning misconduct or discriminatory treatment.

It does not presume that Britain, Germany, France or Cameroon possesses particular records that have been deliberately concealed.

It does not assert that all historical claims advanced by George have already been independently verified.

It does not presume that his hereditary succession has been conclusively established.

It does not claim that identified human remains belonging to his ancestors have already been located.

It does not assert that any particular reparatory remedy is presently legally owed.

Nor does it presume that the proposed government-in-exile possesses recognised sovereign authority.

The organisation requests investigation, evidence, procedural clarification and appropriate cooperation.

Questions concerning anti-Black racism and institutional racism remain requests for information about safeguards, not findings of discriminatory conduct.

18.40 Final Statement of George T. Nomen's Position

George T. Nomen seeks historical truth concerning the ancestral traditional authority from which he claims hereditary succession.

He wishes to establish what happened to members of his family and community during European colonial administration in Cameroon.

He seeks information concerning those reportedly killed and the fate of their bodies.

He wishes to understand whether German colonial decisions displaced the original hereditary authority and whether subsequent French administrative arrangements continued or modified that displacement.

He also seeks to establish the significance of the reported French administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933.

His wider objectives include historical accountability, possible reparatory justice and the examination of peaceful institutional arrangements based in London.

George has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to assist him in pursuing these objectives.

The organisation submits this representation as an initial formal request for British Government consideration and cooperation.

18.41 Final Statement of Reparation Nation Limited's Position

Reparation Nation Limited approaches the British Government as George's authorised representative.

It does not ask the Government to accept unverified historical claims.

It asks the Government to identify the evidence, procedures and institutions through which the claims may be investigated.

It does not demand automatic recognition of a government-in-exile.

It requests consideration of what lawful institutional engagement may be available.

It does not presume that Britain bears legal responsibility for historical actions attributed to Germany or France.

It asks Britain to identify the records it holds and the forms of international cooperation it is prepared to consider.

It does not demand predetermined reparatory remedies.

It seeks historical truth as the foundation for any subsequent consideration of remedies.

The organisation also requests evidence of safeguards against anti-Black racism and institutional racism.

These enquiries are made without accusations or predetermined findings.

18.42 The Final Moral Question to the United Kingdom Government

The representation concludes by returning to the historical precedent that George considers especially significant.

Britain supported General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement during the Second World War.

It permitted a displaced political movement to organise and operate from London under circumstances of major international importance.

George now seeks to organise peaceful activities from London concerning the reported destruction or displacement of his African ancestral hereditary authority.

He seeks to establish what happened to his ancestors, where their remains may be located and what historical responsibilities may arise from the evidence.

The two situations are not identical.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises the differences in sovereignty, wartime circumstances, legal status and representative authority.

Nevertheless, the comparison presents a serious moral question.

If Britain was prepared to provide significant assistance to a European political movement operating from London during a period of displaced authority, what lawful and practical assistance is Britain prepared to consider for an African hereditary claimant seeking historical truth, ancestral accountability and peaceful institutional organisation from London?

The organisation does not prescribe the answer.

It requests that the Government provide one.

18.43 Final Formal Request

Reparation Nation Limited formally requests that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office:

1. Acknowledge receipt of this complete representation and identify the responsible correspondence procedure.
2. Specify any documentary evidence required to verify George T. Nomen's existing authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited.
3. Identify the relevant British governmental and archival research routes.
4. Clarify what assistance may be available in seeking historical information from Germany, France and Cameroon.
5. Identify appropriate procedures for investigating the reported deaths of George's ancestors and the fate of their remains.

6. Consider the historical and moral significance of Britain's support for the Free French movement.
7. Clarify the relevant procedures concerning George's proposed London-based government-in-exile or alternative representative institution.
8. Identify the applicable safeguards against anti-Black racism and institutional racism.
9. Consider a preliminary meeting or provide equivalent written procedural guidance.
10. Provide a substantive written response identifying the Government's position, the assistance available and the next steps required.

The organisation requests acknowledgement within ten working days and an initial substantive response within twenty working days, or clarification of the Department's applicable timetable.

These periods are requested administrative targets and do not replace any statutory deadlines that apply to separately submitted requests.

18.44 Final Conclusion

George T. Nomen has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to undertake this formal international historical representation.

The investigation concerns matters of profound ancestral, humanitarian, historical and institutional importance.

It seeks to establish what happened to a particular Bamiléké hereditary traditional authority during European colonial administration.

It seeks to identify the circumstances surrounding the reported deaths of members of George's ancestral family and community.

It seeks to establish what became of their bodies.

It seeks to examine the historical succession of traditional authority and the administrative decisions that may have affected it.

It seeks appropriate international disclosure from Britain, Germany, France and Cameroon.

It also asks Britain to consider what assistance it may provide with George's peaceful London-based initiative in light of the historical precedent of General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that these objectives require evidence, careful legal distinctions and cooperation between competent institutions.

No predetermined historical, legal or diplomatic conclusion is demanded.

The organisation requests that the British Government consider the matters raised fairly and respond with appropriate clarity.

Historical truth must precede historical accountability.

Historical accountability must precede any properly grounded determination of responsibility.

Responsibility, where established, must be distinguished from the remedies lawfully or voluntarily available.

A proposed remedy must be distinguished from a commitment to provide it.

A commitment must be distinguished from delivery.

Delivery must be distinguished from verified receipt by the intended beneficiary.

These principles form the basis of Reparation Nation Limited's approach to international reparatory justice.

The organisation submits this representation to the United Kingdom Government in that spirit.

The immediate request is straightforward: identify what evidence exists, explain what assistance is available, state what further information is required, and provide a substantive written response.

George T. Nomen and Reparation Nation Limited await the Government's consideration.

END OF SECTION EIGHTEEN

END OF THE EIGHTEEN-SECTION SUBSTANTIVE REPRESENTATION

BACK MATTER — FORMAL DECLARATIONS, DOCUMENT REGISTER, RESERVATIONS, SIGNATURE AND AUTHORISATION BLOCK

A. PURPOSE AND STATUS OF THE BACK MATTER

This back matter forms an integral part of the formal consolidated representation submitted to the United Kingdom Government by Reparation Nation Limited on behalf of George T. Nomen.

It follows the eighteen substantive sections of the representation and provides the administrative framework for identifying the parties, recording the authority under which the representation is submitted, distinguishing established information from matters requiring investigation, identifying supporting documents and preserving the integrity of subsequent correspondence.

The back matter does not replace, qualify or withdraw any of the substantive questions or requests contained within Sections One to Eighteen.

The complete representation should be considered together with any supporting materials expressly identified in the accompanying document register.

B. FORMAL DECLARATION OF REPRESENTATIVE AUTHORITY

George T. Nomen has authorised Reparation Nation Limited to act on his behalf in pursuing the initial international historical investigation and governmental engagement described in this representation.

Derrick Lynch acts for and on behalf of Reparation Nation Limited.

The organisation confirms the existence of George's authorisation.

The representation is therefore submitted on that basis.

Reparation Nation Limited recognises that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office may require documentary verification of this authority for particular governmental, administrative, diplomatic or disclosure purposes.

The Department is expressly invited to identify those requirements in writing.

George T. Nomen will then have the opportunity to consider and provide the relevant evidence through Reparation Nation Limited.

The organisation does not presume that a particular form of signed mandate is required before the Department has identified its procedures.

The present declaration does not constitute independent governmental certification of George's hereditary status or authority to represent every member of the wider Bamiléké community.

Those questions remain separate.

C. DECLARATION CONCERNING THE HISTORICAL CLAIM

George T. Nomen maintains that he is the rightful hereditary successor to a particular ancestral Bamiléké traditional royal authority in Cameroon.

He further maintains that the institution was affected by German colonial intervention and subsequent French administrative arrangements.

His account includes the reported killing of members of his ancestral family and community and unresolved questions concerning the fate of their remains.

The representation seeks historical records and independent examination concerning those matters.

Reparation Nation Limited does not present preliminary family accounts, documentary references or historical interpretations as conclusive proof.

The precise identity and legal significance of the reported French administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933 remain subject to verification.

The significance of the ancestral name Ngantcha and the monument designation RSA 91 also remains subject to historical investigation.

The organisation requests that these matters be examined through appropriate archival, genealogical, customary and institutional procedures.

D. DECLARATION CONCERNING THE PROPOSED GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE

George T. Nomen wishes to consider the establishment of a London-based government-in-exile or alternative representative institution.

This remains a proposal for further historical, constitutional, legal and diplomatic examination.

The representation does not assert that a sovereign government-in-exile has already been established or recognised by the United Kingdom.

Nor does it assert that the establishment of an institution in London automatically confers diplomatic privileges, territorial jurisdiction, governmental immunity or authority over persons who have not been lawfully represented.

The historical precedent of Britain's support for General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement is advanced as a subject for moral and institutional consideration.

It is not presented as establishing an automatic legal entitlement to identical treatment.

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign Office identify what lawful engagement or assistance may be available.

E. DECLARATION CONCERNING HUMAN REMAINS AND CULTURAL PROPERTY

George's request concerning the fate of his ancestors is a central humanitarian element of the representation.

Reparation Nation Limited seeks information concerning the reported deaths, possible burial locations and any records describing subsequent treatment of the bodies.

The organisation does not presume that identifiable ancestral remains were transferred to Europe.

It does not assert that any named museum, university, archive or governmental institution presently possesses remains belonging to George's family.

Similarly, it does not presume that particular cultural objects associated with his ancestral institution were unlawfully acquired.

Any future identification, repatriation, restitution or reburial proposal would require appropriate evidence, lawful authority and relevant family, community and institutional consultation.

The immediate request concerns investigation and disclosure.

F. DECLARATION CONCERNING ANTI-BLACK RACISM AND INSTITUTIONAL RACISM

Reparation Nation Limited expressly requests information concerning the safeguards against anti-Black racism and institutional racism applicable to the consideration of this representation.

This request concerns institutional policies, procedures, decision-making safeguards, equality obligations and available review arrangements.

Reparation Nation Limited makes no accusations, no allegations, no assumptions and no assertions of wrongdoing against any present-day official or institution, and has reached no conclusions concerning discriminatory conduct.

The enquiry is preventive, evidential and procedural.

It should not be interpreted as a predetermined finding concerning the British Government, the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office or any other institution.

The organisation requests documentary evidence of relevant safeguards where available.

G. DECLARATION CONCERNING THE USE OF IBIS

Reparation Nation Limited proposes to use appropriate elements of IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice — to support the organisation, preservation and verification of material relating to the investigation.

IBIS may assist in maintaining a record of correspondence, historical evidence, institutional referrals, outstanding questions and verified outcomes.

The organisation will preserve the distinction between identity, membership, representation, hereditary status and governmental recognition.

An identity record does not automatically establish hereditary succession.

A membership record does not automatically establish community representation.

A historical document does not automatically establish every conclusion attributed to it.

A governmental acknowledgement does not constitute recognition of the proposed government-in-exile.

IBIS is supporting administrative infrastructure.

It is not an adjudicative authority and does not replace governmental, judicial, archival or professional determinations.

H. DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE REGISTER

The following register identifies the principal categories of material associated with the investigation.

The register is intended to be completed and checked against the actual documents accompanying the final submission.

A document should only be marked as enclosed when it has been physically or electronically included.

Reference	Document or evidence category	Status or purpose
H-01	Formal consolidated representation, Sections 1–18	Principal document
H-02	Personal Royal Declaration of George T. Nomen	Supporting declaration; verify final version and enclosure
H-03	Documentation concerning George's authorisation of Reparation Nation Limited	Available or to be provided in response to specified requirements

H-04	International Strategy for Bamiléké Hereditary Royal Succession	Supporting strategy; verify final version and enclosure
H-05	Preliminary royal succession and genealogical dossier	Historical research material requiring verification
H-06	Ancestral photographs and related visual evidence	Supporting research material; provenance to be established
H-07	Material concerning Ngantcha and monument RSA 91	Specific historical research lead
H-08	Material concerning the reported French administrative instrument of approximately 1933	Original instrument and archival reference to be established
H-09	German colonial historical documents and references	Existing research material and future disclosure targets
H-10	French colonial historical documents and references	Existing research material and future disclosure targets
H-11	Cameroonian family, traditional and administrative material	Existing or requested evidence
H-12	British governmental and archival references	Research material and disclosure targets
H-13	Future responses from governmental, archival and cultural institutions	To be added upon receipt
H-14	Supplementary translations, certifications and independent specialist reports	To be added where obtained

This register does not certify that every listed item is enclosed, authenticated or historically conclusive.

Before submission, Reparation Nation Limited should identify the precise title, date, version and enclosure status of each supporting document.

Any separate document supplied subsequently should be clearly linked to the original representation.

I. RESERVATION CONCERNING ADDITIONAL HISTORICAL EVIDENCE

Reparation Nation Limited reserves the ability, subject to applicable procedures, to submit additional evidence relevant to the investigation.

This may include newly located archival records, authenticated reproductions, translations, genealogical materials, photographs, witness accounts and professional historical assessments.

The submission of additional evidence should not be interpreted as confirmation that earlier preliminary claims were conclusively established.

Where new evidence qualifies or contradicts an earlier interpretation, the organisation intends to record that development accurately.

The purpose is to maintain a reliable and progressively informed historical record.

J. RESERVATION CONCERNING FUTURE LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL ACTION

The present representation seeks historical disclosure, governmental consideration and clarification of available procedures.

It is not, by itself, a commenced legal claim, judicial proceeding, demand for a specified compensation payment or application conferring recognised sovereign governmental status.

George T. Nomen may subsequently consider further action if historical evidence and appropriate legal or institutional advice justify it.

Such action may concern historical acknowledgement, hereditary interests, human remains, cultural property, institutional recognition or other appropriate remedies.

No legally available right or procedure is intended to be waived merely by submitting this representation.

This statement does not create rights, extend statutory time limits or remove procedural requirements that otherwise apply.

Any future action must be assessed separately.

K. REQUEST FOR PRESERVATION AND IDENTIFICATION OF RELEVANT RECORDS

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office identify relevant record-holding institutions and appropriate procedures concerning historical British governmental material relating to Cameroon.

Where relevant documents remain within governmental custody, the Department is asked to clarify the applicable preservation, access and disclosure arrangements.

Where records have been transferred to The National Archives or another repository, an appropriate referral is requested.

This is a request for procedural assistance.

It is not an allegation that any institution has destroyed, concealed or improperly withheld records.

Where particular documents are not located, the organisation requests that the outcome of the search be described accurately.

L. REQUEST FOR SUBSTANTIVE WRITTEN RESPONSES

Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Department's written response distinguish the following matters:

1. Receipt and registration of the representation.
2. Verification requirements concerning George's authorisation.
3. Matters falling within the Foreign Office's responsibilities.
4. Relevant British archival and institutional referrals.
5. Possible cooperation concerning Germany, France and Cameroon.
6. Procedures relating to the reported deaths and fate of ancestral remains.
7. Consideration of the Free French historical precedent.
8. Consideration of George's proposed London-based institution.
9. Safeguards against anti-Black racism and institutional racism.
10. Matters requiring further evidence, separate procedures or subsequent governmental consideration.

The organisation requests acknowledgement within ten working days and an initial substantive response within twenty working days, or confirmation of the applicable departmental timetable.

These are requested administrative targets and do not replace statutory deadlines applicable to separate procedures.

M. CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENT CONTROL

Principal document title: Formal Consolidated Representation to the United Kingdom Government — George T. Nomen

Submitting organisation: Reparation Nation Limited

Organisation representative: Derrick Lynch

Principal represented person: George T. Nomen

Principal recipient: Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

Thursday, 15 October 2026 15/10/2026 23:22:18

Original document date: 15 October 2026

Substantive sections: Eighteen

Supporting framework: IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice

Project designation: International Reparatory Justice Pilot Project No. 001

Government correspondence reference: To be assigned or identified by the Department

Actual date of dispatch: To be entered upon submission

Supporting enclosures: To be confirmed against the final document register

Any later revision should be identified by date and version.

The organisation should preserve an unaltered copy of the material actually submitted.

N. FORMAL SIGNATURE AND SUBMISSION

For and on behalf of Reparation Nation Limited

Signed:



Derrick Lynch

Representative of Reparation Nation Limited

Acting pursuant to the authorisation given by George T. Nomen

23 Jersey House
2 Eastfield Road
Enfield
EN3 5UY

This signature records the submission of the representation by Derrick Lynch on behalf of Reparation Nation Limited.

It does not purport to constitute George T. Nomen's personal signature.

Where the receiving Department requires a particular form of documentary verification from George, Reparation Nation Limited requests that the Department identify that requirement in writing so that George may respond.

O. FINAL DECLARATION

This representation is submitted in pursuit of historical truth, institutional accountability and appropriate international reparatory justice.

It seeks to establish what happened to members of George T. Nomen's ancestral family and community during European colonial administration in Cameroon.

It seeks to determine the fate of those reportedly killed, examine the displacement of hereditary traditional authority and identify the historical significance of relevant German and French administrative decisions.

It requests British assistance with appropriate archival, diplomatic and institutional procedures.

It also seeks consideration of peaceful London-based institutional arrangements, informed by Britain's historical support for the Free French movement.

Reparation Nation Limited does not demand predetermined historical findings, legal liability, sovereign recognition or reparatory remedies.

It requests the evidence and procedural clarity necessary to determine what further action may be justified.

The fundamental request is that the United Kingdom Government identify what it knows, what records may be available, what assistance it can provide, what further evidence it requires and what procedures George T. Nomen may lawfully pursue through his authorised representative, Reparation Nation Limited.

A substantive written response is respectfully requested.

END OF BACK MATTER

END OF FORMAL CONSOLIDATED REPRESENTATION