

# *La Voix Des Décideurs*

*Letter from the parent of a student from the North-West to H.E. Tibor Nagy, U.S. Minister*

Douala, 4 September 2019

*Letter from the parent of a student from the North-West to H.E. Tibor Nagy,  
U.S. Minister*

Mr Stephen Yabeth Atachibey  
Teacher from Mamfe,  
IDP with my family to Douala since 31 August 2019

At Mister Tibor Nagy

Excellency,

While thanking you for your interest in the plight of the people of the North-West and South-West regions who live in fear and horror; jobless parents and children banned from school for 3 years. However, it is important to tell you that your tweet of 3 September is likely to create more problems than it would solve. As a teacher in Mamfe, I am one of the displaced people in the North-West and South-West regions, having taken refuge here in Douala, where my family and I are happy to benefit from the hospitality of our French-speaking brothers.

We live in Douala, far from the war zone since some English-speaking leaders opted for armed secession and the creation of the imaginary Republic of Ambazonia, a senseless idea to which all North-West and South-West nationals do not adhere ... **All English speakers are not "Ambazonians", and do not share any idea of secession in Cameroon.**

As we start breathing a big sigh of relief and congratulating ourselves on the return of our children to school, your September 3 tweet, which stated that "the Separatists and the Government must engage in a dialogue without preconditions", weighs badly on the balance, at the risk of compromising the inclusive dialogue expected by many.

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Excellency,

Whenever you take an ambiguous position, as equals, between the state and the separatists, you fuel the fire of war in the North-West and the South-West. You weaken the authority and notoriety of the rule of law and the government that you intentionally belittle at the same level as separatists without legality or legitimacy. This tweet is not new in its tone. Whenever you criticise the government and the national army, separatist leaders and *Amba boys* regain their strength, consume more drugs, and increase their terror. It is in the opacity of your embarrassing statements that the armed gangs have been doping and giving themselves the courage to fight for three long years even though they were already out of breath.

Whenever you put the government and the secessionists on the same scale, you give the armed militia the strength to kill the military and slaughter those who oppose them than ever before, pretending that the final victory of the separatists is close...

More than once, the position of certain so-called advanced powers and democracies has been caught in the act of partiality for terrorists. A bit like to legitimise the savage crimes committed by separatist mercenaries whose financiers live in the West, far from the front of tropical brawls. How can one admit that a legitimate Government, of a sovereign, legal and democratic State, is placed on the same pedestal as separatists, and that the Republican Defence Forces are compared to the terrorist militias? Your perplexed declarations give a clear impression that you are on the side of killers and bandits who spread terror in the North-West and South-West, as we see their operations in videos via the social media – frightful scenes showing *Amba boys*, armed with Kalashnikovs hitting poor traders who just wanted to sell some fruits to feed their children. It is through this type of tweets that the *Amba boys* find the motivation to establish the *Ghost town* and *Lock down*. Often, these predators claim to be supported by powerful people from here and elsewhere...

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In a context of school disruption in the North-West and South-West regions and high crime wave, your statements tend to formalise the legitimacy of separatist terrorists to kill! Far from overwhelming you, however, be aware that your tweets that place the separatists and the Government on the same scale legalises the armed struggle of mercenaries by compromising the return to peace.

Excellency,

Your statements heighten the insecurity and embolden the *Amba boys* to benefit from terrorist acts, to decapitate, to persecute parents, to collect an illegal tax, and to prevent the resumption of schools. However, be aware that the Anglophone crisis is also a manipulation battle on the social media with lies told to a gullible crowd. The lie mirrored in the advent of a republic of Ambazonia that will be rich and prosperous for all. This manipulation comes from abroad, it is spread and maintained by leaders who live quietly with their families abroad, in Europe and America. Before putting the country on fire, some separatist leaders took care to put their wives and children away from the bullets, and prohibiting ours from access to school. In the future, their children who have not lost a single year of school will be the bosses and leaders of tomorrow, to the detriment of our children reduced to slavery, if not to the proletariat.

Excellency,

Let's not lie to ourselves, a rebellion that lasts more than 3 years without being exhausted is a secession supported by foreign powers... Today's leaders who finance armed secession will be the leaders of tomorrow, in case where the separatist project would prosper, which is not a unanimous wish of all English-speakers...

Please Sir, do not lie to yourself. We know that 95% of the children of billionaires and millionaires in the North-West and South-West regions, attend schools abroad, ours suffer locally. We know that most of the treasurers and financiers of the armed secession that takes place in the North-West and South-West are Cameroonians of origin who have taken foreign nationalities, as a cape of immunity. I am a teacher, I know what I

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am talking about. 75% of the children of affluent families in the North-West and South-West have migrated to the French part of Cameroon where they benefit from the supervision of the Government and the hospitality of our French-speaking compatriots. Here, in Douala, for example, our children are returning to a normal life that they have not known for nearly four years. Meanwhile, 62% of the students who stayed in the North-West and South-West are from modest families and cannot find shelter elsewhere. 80% of the 62% of sedentary children benefit from the security of the Defence and Security Forces of Cameroon and school supplies graciously offered by the Head of State Paul Biya, the Government and friendly countries. In the meantime, 45% of students of both sexes are prisoners of armed gangs in bushes where they are transformed as child soldiers. They consume drugs, fight, kill, steal and rape. Know that most militiamen enlist our children in separatist militias by threats of reprisals. Several child soldiers fight under duress. Just as people sometimes act in fear. They respect and apply ghost towns for fear of reprisal rather than conviction.

Excellency,

Your compassionate tweet does not reassure us. Placing the state on the same footing as secessionists means renouncing the rule of law. However, the truth deserves to be emphasised. Since we left the bushes where separatist terrorists forced us to live and sleep on the ground, it is President Paul Biya who has helped us to live and survive, to have medicines, mattresses, blankets, soaps, drinking water and food. The military is treating us well, while separatist militias claiming to be fighting for the Anglophone cause are abusing us, kidnapping us, raping us.

The nice initiative expected from the friends of Cameroon and friendly countries is to disarm the underground militias. All dialogue goes through a ceasefire, the best of wisdoms is to isolate terrorists, before any debacle.

**Mr Stephen Yabeth Atachibey**  
**Teacher in Mamfe, moved to Douala.**