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UNIVERSITÉ DE YAOUNDÉ I

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CENTRE DE RECHERCHE DE FORMATION  
DOCTORALE EN SCIENCES HUMAINES  
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UNITÉ DE RECHERCHE ET DE FORMATION  
DOCTORALE SCIENCES HUMAINES  
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## THE CIVIL-MILITARY ACTIONS OF THE NATIONAL GENDARMERIE OF CAMEROON (1990-2023)

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To my mother and my grandfather, Pamboundem Awawou and Elhadj Ndassah Abdou,  
both of blessed memory.

To, all the Gendarmes fallen on the conflict Zones in Cameroon.

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## ABBREVIATIONS, ACRONYMS, SIGLES

<b>ANG</b>	: Archives of the National Gendarmerie
<b>BIR</b>	: <i>Bataillon d'Intervention Rapide</i>
<b>CECIG</b>	: <i>Commandement des Écoles et Centres d'Instructions de la Gendarmerie</i>
<b>CEI</b>	: <i>Centre des Écoles d'Instruction de la Gendarmerie</i>
<b>CNDDR</b>	: <i>Centre National de Désarmement Démobilisation et Réinsertion</i>
<b>CPDM</b>	: Cameroon People Democratic Movement
<b>FAP</b>	: <i>Forces Armées et Polices</i>
<b>FCA</b>	: French Central Africa
<b>FEA</b>	: French Equatorial Africa
<b>FWA</b>	: French West Africa
<b>GIACM</b>	: <i>Groupement d'Intervention des Actions Civilo-Militaires</i>
<b>GPIGN</b>	: <i>Groupement polyvalent d'Intervention de la Gendarmerie</i>
<b>GBHSK</b>	: Government Bilingual Hight School Koutaba
<b>MHG</b>	: Military Hospital of the Gendarmerie
<b>SDAC</b>	: <i>Service des Actions Civiles</i>
<b>SDAC/GN</b>	: <i>Service des Actions Civic de la Gendarmerie National</i>
<b>SDI</b>	: <i>Service Domaniale et Infrastructure</i>
<b>SDO</b>	: Senior Divisioner Officer
<b>SED/CGN</b>	: Secretary of state to the Defence in Charge of National Gendarmerie
<b>SOAGN</b>	: <i>Stages d'Application des Officiers de la Gendarmerie National</i>
<b>TOD</b>	: Territory Operational Defense
<b>UCAC</b>	: <i>Université Catholique d'Afrique Centrale</i>
<b>UNICEF</b>	: United nations International Children Emergency Fund
<b>UNOCHA</b>	: United Nations Organization Cabinet of Humanitarian Affaires
<b>UPAC</b>	: <i>Université Protestante d'Afrique Centrale</i>
<b>UPC</b>	: <i>Union des Populations du Cameroun</i>
<b>EMIA</b>	: <i>Ecole Militaires Inter Armée</i>
<b>NOSO</b>	: North West South West
<b>CDGA</b>	: Chief of Division of General Administration.
<b>DCC</b>	: Director of Central Cordination
<b>DES</b>	: Director of Employment and Structure

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**ABSTRACT**

This work titled “the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon 1990-2023” explores the missions of the national Gendarmerie through the civil- military actions in the protection of persons, goods and service in Cameroon from 1990 to 2023. It shows how this defense and security corp of Cameroon carryout its missions under the Nations-army synergy. Two approaches were used in order to concretize the theoretical field in this work. The theory of functionalism and that of interactionalism are the main theories implemented. This opens the gape of reflections on the civil-military relations in the conflict and non-conflict zones in Cameroon. The use of this concept as a strategy through civil-military initiatives aimed at ensuring the cooperation of the civilian population in defense and security operation. Concerning the methodology, this work is based on the Hypothetico-deductive method. To require good information, we took in account the primary and secondary sources. Here, we exploited oral information extracted on the terrain, archive of some administrations were exploited. For the secondary sources, test books, Articles, thesis and dissertations highly helped us. we were guided by the interdisciplinary considerations convoking other scientific disciplines like psychology, sociology, geography, political sciences through Geostrategy. This holistic approach helped to better understand the actions of the Gendarmerie bases on creating a good rapport with the civilian population in their Biotopes. It charges in the protecting force from the oral sources, archival sources and divers’ documents reviews. All these data have helps to arrives at the result according to which, in 33years, the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon has in an extent succeeded in the protection of the population. She has done some activities such as, the construction of some hospitals, schools. The corps of defense and security has practiced many campaigns of sensitisations, of training and teaches and has offers multiple gifts to the civilian populations.

**Key words:** Civil-military Action, Gendarmerie, zone of crises, civilian population, Cameroon.



## RÉSUMÉ

*Ce travail scientifique intitulé " Les actions civilo-militaires de la Gendarmerie Nationale du Cameroun (1990-2023)", explore les missions de la Gendarmerie nationale à travers les actions civilo-militaires en ce qui concerne la sécurité des personnes, de leurs biens et services de 1990 à 2023. Il montre comment ce corps de l'armée camerounaise à travers ses missions qui lui sont dévolues pour une synergie Armée-Nation. Deux approches théoriques ont été mobilisées pour la réalisation de cette recherche : la théorie du fonctionnalisme et celle de l'interactionnisme. Celles-ci permettent de voir la Gendarmerie Nationale du Cameroun construire de bonnes relations entre elle et la population civile, à travers de nombreuses actions. Cette bonne entente permet à la Gendarmerie d'"infiltrer" les populations pour mieux se renseigner au quotidien, surtout dans les zones de crise et/ou de guerre. Sur le plan méthodologique, cette recherche s'appuie sur la méthode hypothéticodéductive. Elle prend également en compte les considérations interdisciplinaires en convoquant d'autres disciplines scientifiques notamment la Psychologie et Sociologie, la Géographie, la Science politique et la géostratégie. Cette pluridisciplinarité aide à comprendre les actions de la Gendarmerie Nationale, qui relèvent d'une stratégie de rapprochement des populations dont elle a la charge de la protection. Ce travail s'appuie sur des sources orales, archivistiques et une riche documentation. Des sources consultées dans les archives et les bibliothèques. Toutes ces données ont permis d'aboutir aux résultats suivants. En 33 ans, la Gendarmerie Nationale du Cameroun a pu assurer la protection et la sécurité des populations. Elle a mené des actions telles que la construction de plusieurs hôpitaux et écoles. Ce corps de l'armée a effectué de nombreuses campagnes de sensibilisation, de formation et d'enseignemen. Elle a offert plusieurs dons aux nécessiteux.*

**Mots clés :** *Actions Civilo-Militaire, Gendarmerie, Zone en Crise, Population Civile, Cameroun.*

## GENERAL INTRODUCTION

The Title of this dissertation is, "The civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon (1990- 2023)" and falls under the branch of History known as present History. The investigations are based on the observations of actual phenomenon in our society today. In fact, it covers current realities of Cameroon's defense and security forces in general and the National Gendarmerie in particular.

### I. GENERAL CONTEST OF STUDY

The French military tradition from which descends the Cameroonians National Gendarmerie desire it to be placed on the primordial position over other security and defense forces, justifying its capture as an elite force<sup>1</sup>. She is on the one hand the most visible defense force due to its fast deployment to the contact with the civilian population, notably in the urban and in the rural zones where she plays a vital role in the maintenance of peace and order and in the assistance to the civilian populations in divers forms<sup>2</sup>. The national gendarmerie of Cameroon that is a copy from the French system developed in her modern form during the French revolution of 1791, and was called *la Gendarmerie Nationale*. Before, it was called *marechaussée*. Here, it was a local guard force commanded by a Marshal which had its origin dating back to pre-modern or even late medieval period<sup>3</sup>. Due to the Grand French's influence over other Europeans countries, the French gendarmerie was present in some Europeans countries in order to assure their peace and security roles.

With the desire to enlarge her influence in other parts of the world during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, France implanted the Gendarmerie in other Continents and it was in this perspective that Gendarmerie will entered in the French African colonies, protectorates in general and Cameroon in particular. Julius Nkeh in his PhD Thesis titled "the police and the Gendarmerie Forces in West Cameroon 1961-1972: A History of the understanding and misunderstanding in public security" makes us to understand the profound studies of Bakayoko on the French military tradition and their unique characteristics. It is true that, in all French dominated Africans States, The security system which was a principal role of the ancient French Gendarmerie was to be seen as a direct heritage from the structure put in place under colonial

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<sup>1</sup> V. Hameni Bieleu, *Politique de défense et sécurité nationale du Cameroun*, Paris, L'Harmattan, 2012, p. 385.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup>J. Nkeh, "The police and Gendarmerie forces in west cameroon1961-1972: A History of understanding and misunderstanding in public security", Thesis of Doctorat/Ph.D in History, University of Yaounde 1, 2019, p. 34.

rule and dominations<sup>4</sup>. He proceeded by indicating that, it was maintained from the 1960s by the independent Governments. Since the process of colonization could also be characterized as an aim of migration by the Europeans in general and the French in particular who were establishing themselves in the African territories for different reasons and moved with a form and a system of security that was acceptable to their military culture. The Gendarmerie which existed in the French system of defense since 1791 was reasonably to be counted among the group of the French system of security and defense system that arrived in Africa during colonization.

It was in this sense that, the independence of these Africans territories was marked by the adoption of the colonial master's system of security and defense which was largely marked by the French National Gendarmerie which proved its efforts throughout the end of the domination of the "colonial master" in the Africans countries. The continuation of the Gendarmerie in the independent Africans territories could also be explained by the slow pace of "Africanization" of the armies in general and the Gendarmerie in particular. The colonial Gendarmerie was first established in Senegal in 1843 by governor Boue Willaumez. He did this by bringing "*spahis*" from Algeria to serve as Gendarmes and to maintain law and order in the newly acquired French territories in West Africa to well perform in their missions<sup>5</sup>. Two Gendarmerie Brigades were established, one in Dakar and the other in St. Luis. Owing to budget limitations, the ministry of colonies abolished these stations around 1890<sup>6</sup>. By 1899, the governor declared his desire to cover the expenses and these defense and security personnel were then re-established in Senegal and latter extended in all West African countries collectively refer to as French Equatorial Africa (FEA).

After the West African countries, the Gendarmerie was also established in French Equatorial African countries collectively refer to as, French Occidental Africa (FOA). Since the Gendarmerie was also the unit of other military forces, some rules and regulations were similarly applied to them as the case to other Armies. They had as the main assignment to approaches the indigenous civilian population in order to establish essential contacts and collect information for the colonial master since they were also to save as the eyes and ears of the colonial Government. This was also recognized as the main tool of reinforcing law and orders. It was in this perspective that the colonial Gendarmerie debuted the recruitment of the

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<sup>4</sup> Nkeh, "The police and Gendarmerie"...p. 240.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*

indigenous civil Africans in 1904.<sup>7</sup> the existence in the field of the colonial Gendarmerie by indigenous Africans as auxiliaries of Gendarmerie was improved with some conditions for instance, some of these auxiliaries were not real Gendarmes but were under a category of neglected system of defense that were called scouts. Others were even to be categorized as interpreters. This series of conditions made the indigenous auxiliary forces to be supported by the indigenes. This was for instance the case in Cameroon and in Congo<sup>8</sup>.

The establishment of the French Gendarmerie in French Cameroon can be traced back to 1920 after the first World War. This was in order to prevent any negativity that would have engendered the “colonial master’s” security in French Cameroon. It is important to mention that; the French system of Gendarmerie was established in Cameroon existed at a period of drastic changes. Firstly, firstly, the French were trying to put in measures in order to prevent the return of the Germans in Cameroon. Secondly, the policy of “Frenchification” was being implemented to abolish the “Germanization” of the natives that was during the Germans protectoral period. Also, France was to think of all the measures in other to assure their personals security face to the indigenous black Africans and Cameroonians which others such as the Dualas, the Bamouns resisted to their rules in the territory. For these reasons, French could not go long way without a unit of defense and security such as the French Gendarmerie imported in French Cameroon.

The French also use the Gendarmerie in the application of their policies on the indigenous population in order for the blacks to respect the application of these laws. The French maintained this unit of defense and security till the independence and unifications of the two Cameroons. After the independence and the unifications of Cameroons (French and British Cameroons), the same importance was accorded to the Gendarmerie which continued to enjoy an elevated status in Cameroon’s security apparatus. This position was enhanced due to the insecurity that was going on in the country with the actions of the *Union des Populations du Cameroun (UPC)* and other forms of criminalities which occurred after the independence. The National Gendarmerie was thus engaged in the assisting of the Government in the implementations of defense and security operations.

The “wind of change<sup>9</sup>” which swept through the Soviet Union at the end of the 1980s and led to its disintegration was experienced in several developing countries including

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<sup>7</sup> D. H. Bay Ley, *Pattern of policing. A comparative international analysis*, New Brunwish, University Press, 1985, p. 14.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 16.

<sup>9</sup> The wind of change here is the period of the 1990s with the manifestation of democracy that passes through the maximum of the countries in Africa and in Cameroon in particular.

Cameroon. The main objectives given to the Armies in Cameroon in General and to the National Gendarmerie in particular presented limitations especially with the application of concepts like “Nation Army” which were to be applied at this period. This led to the formulation of a new vision for the armies of Cameroon and the Gendarmerie as an army of the Nation. The result is that, the Gendarmerie became opened to the civilian population and the civilians were integrated in to some of their activities, leading to the better attachment of the Gendarmerie objective of the final mission which that of the protection of persons and their properties.

## **II. REASONS AND JUSTIFICATIONS OF CHOICE OF THE TOPIC**

The choice of this theme of work was not accidental. Two principal reasons motivated. These two reasons can respectively be personal and scientific. The personal motivations arose from the Government Bilingual High School of Koutaba (GBHSK) where we ended our secondary school Circle during the 2018-2019. This desire persisted up to 2020 and the middle of 2022 when we terminated a long and intensive examination of the integration in the Gendarmerie Body and the Army which was not successful. Firstly, Koutaba which is a military training area, gave us the love of the arm forces since we were at time living with uniform men who were coming to train themselves, stages, and other examinations and even those who were already affected in the subdivision of Koutaba.

This cohabitation with military men gave us not only the love of the military uniform but also the military passion. Since 2018, we started to think on the military’s importance in the sub-division of Koutaba which we were experiencing the security challenges. But there was a negligible importance that was not really taken in to consideration which was the developmental importance of the militaries and the military camp in Koutaba. This could be seen with the socio-economic development that the arrival of these soldiers bring to Koutaba subdivision such as Schools, Churches, Hospital, and some businesses that emerged without forgetting the growth in the size of the market in Koutaba and also the increase of the purchasing power of the population of Koutaba<sup>10</sup>. This could be considered as what we called the Civil-Military actions and socio-economics development<sup>11</sup>. After our Advance level, the studies send us in the Center region, notably in Yaounde were we continued our higher studies, Due to our orientations and environmental influences, more particularities due to regular contacts with

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<sup>10</sup> I. Mounchipou, “Contribution des forces Aéroportées Camerounaises : De la compagnie parachutiste au Bataillons des troupes Aéroportées 1968-2010” Mémoire de Maîtrise en Histoire, Université de Yaoundé 1, 2013, p. 18.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, p.18.

Gendarmes officers and even the institution of the National Gendarmerie some ways of observations, some environmental influences, and some regular contacts with the national Gendarmerie in terms of the gendarmes and even the institutions of the Gendarmerie such as the Secretary of State at the ministry of defense in charge of the National Gendarmerie (SED), the First Legion of the gendarmerie and the region of the gendarmerie without forgetting the ministry of defense , we debuted to put in place some questions to see how the concentration of these institutions has play a vital role on the behalf of the civil-military actions more especially in the zones of crises in Cameroon since the 1990s taking in to considerations the main crises that has been observes till 2023.

The scientific motivation came up through the fact that, most of the works on the questions of the National Gendarmerie is largely taking in to consideration the tree missions which are the judiciary mission, the military mission and the administrative missions. This can be seen in one of the scientific Articles of Wanyaka Bonguen Oyongmen Virginie. She makes us to understand the tree main missions of the National Gendarmerie. She states missions such as,

*La mission de police administrative qui couvre 30% de ses missions. L'autorité administrative doit garantir la sureté, la tranquillité, et le maintien de l'ordre public dont elle reste responsable de l'exécution. La police judiciaire représente 50% environs des missions confiés à la Gendarmerie. Elle a pour objet de constater les infractions aux lois pénales, d'en rassembler les preuves, de chercher les auteurs afin de leur livrer à la justice, d'exécuter les mandats et les décisions de la justice. La mission de police militaire intermédiaire entre les autorités militaires et les civils. Dans ce cas de figure, la gendarmerie exerce à la fois la mission de police militaire générale a caractère préventif et la mission de police militaire judiciaire à caractère a vocation répressive.<sup>12</sup>*

Based on affirmation from Historians which Wanyaka Virginie Bonguen Oyongmen is among them that our position was turn on the neglected mission of the national gendarmerie which is the socio-economic initiative through the civil-military actions of the gendarmerie. This can be observed in Cameroon with the efforts of the national gendarmerie through her civil-military actions in conflicts and non-conflict zones basely on the battle to fulfil their main missions which are that of the protection of persons and their properties.

### **III. DELIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY**

In other to render comprehensive the delimitation of the study, J. Ki-Zerbo intervenes with his affirmation that, “*l'Historien qui veut reconstituer le passer sans le repère chronologique est comparable à un voyageur qui effectue un parcours dans une voiture sans compteur*”<sup>13</sup>. In this same perspective, the present study registers itself within the specialize

<sup>12</sup> V. Wanyaka Bonguen Oyongmen, “Sites militaires et sécurisation de la ville de Yaoundé : analyse des stratégies de périmètre Urbain”, *SIFOE, Revue électronique d'Histoire*, n°3, juin 2015, p. 6.

<sup>13</sup> J. Ki-Zerbo, *Histoire de l'Afrique noire d'hier a demain*, Paris, Hatier, 1972, p. 16.

area which is economic and social History in general and in the History of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. This brings us to think on the situations and the activities of the Gendarmerie of Cameroon during the periods of crises and in the zones of those crises and even in the zones where those crises are not materializing at the moment. The activities in particular could integrate the civilian populations in her programs and in her services. These civil-military actions could be seen on the constructions of the hospitals that are basically a military hospital but which help the civilians and again at a low cost for health treatments. They also apply the reductions of the money to the civilians at a considerable amount; we can also cite actions in the primary school which is located in the Camp Yeyap in Yaounde with the last action in December 2023.

The period of this study begins from 1990. At the beginning of the year 1990, the regime of Yaounde since 8 years on power in Cameroon trembled. The popular strikes were through the entire country, the desire of liberty was a need of the population of Cameroon<sup>14</sup>. Strikes and other forms of civil disorders arrived the point of saturation in the country. Nothing was not on its positive way as before the wind of change which swept through the Soviet Union in the 1990s and led to its disintegrations which felt in several developing countries including Cameroon. Many Cameroonians criticized the dictatorial political regime, the military system, the objectives, the missions and the actions of the Armies in general and the National Gendarmerie in particular. Programs of stabilities were put in place in order to galvanize the population. This started with initiatives put in place in some African countries like Benin and Cape Verde in February 1990, Gabon in April 1990, and Zaire were some examples in Africa which advanced in the moderations of the population. This could also be situated with the end of the cold war which liberated the super powers from their bunkers mind-set through which they had viewed all nationalist and pro- democracy agitations as a battle between communism and capitalism<sup>15</sup>. Cameroon finally arrived the point of the democracy in all her systems and scientifically on the domain of defense and security. According to the report of the U.S state department Human rights sighted by Victor Julius Ngoh, the security and defense forces were accused of repression and human rights abuses. "Security forces continue to torture, beat and otherwise abuse prisoners and detainees... prisoners partly are chained and savagely flogged at

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<sup>14</sup> J.-B. Tagne, *Accordée avec fraude. De Ahidjo à Biya, comment sortir du cycle des élections contestées*, Yaoundé, les Editions du Schabel, 2019, p. 47.

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*, p.47.

times in their cells... two forms of physical abuses... include the “bastinade” ... and the “*balançoire*”<sup>16</sup>.

So, the period of 1990s came with another forms of doing things and other objectives were given to the National Gendarmerie and the integration of the concept of the “Army of the Nation” render the democratization of the Armed and security forces in General and the National Gendarmerie in Particular. It was in this perspective that the body will multiply her outreach to the civilian population and also will highly accentuate her objectives on the securization of people, their goods and services. They will also create a climate of cohabitation with the civilian population providing them security, giving help to them in terms of materials and services. They also perform their service with the civilians and in intelligence gathering. All these led to the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie.

The upper limit of our research period 2023 is justified by the continuing war between the Cameroon Armies and Bokoharam in the Northern Regions of Cameroon were the National Gendarmerie is performing some activities for the civilian population and at times collaborate with the other defense and security forces. We can also mention the Anglophone crises that are going on in the North West and south west regions of Cameroon. In these two regions since 2016, a manifestation for trade unions reformed by lawyers and teachers transformed in to an armed conflict and the intervention of the Gendarmerie as the police of the defense and security in the country, in conflict and non-conflict zones.

The persistence of these crises till 2023 has demonstrated the contributions of the National Gendarmerie in order to help the affected populations. We can equally register the remarkable accelerations of the National Gendarmerie in the performance of civil-military actions in the Year of 2023. We can see the activities of sensitization organized in the southern region on the 16<sup>th</sup> of February, the activities of the 19<sup>th</sup> February on the exposition of the Armed forces materials for the civilian population to have the occasion of torching them, organisation of educational activities and campaigns of the Education and conferences organized on the International day of African Child were the Service of defense and Civic Actions of the central administration of the National Gendarmerie deployed themselves on the field and carried out Civil-military Actions<sup>17</sup>. We cannot also forget the donation of chairs by the National Gendarmerie to the Benedictine Monastery on the 28<sup>th</sup> of September 2023 and the the didactic material to the students of the Camp Yeyap Moussa in December 2023.

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<sup>16</sup> V. J. Ngoh, *Cameroon 1884-present (2018) The History of a people*, Limbe, DESIGN House Limbe, 2019.

<sup>17</sup> G. L. Etoga, “Les Actions Civilo-Militaires: Osmose entre Gendarmerie et la population”, *Echos du Pandores*, n°19, mai 2022, p. 27.



The Geographical areas that our work takes in to consideration are directly those of Crises where the National Gendarmerie has intervened in order to act on the missions of the social and economic police, be adjacent and cover the civilian populations from the vulnerability of the crises. These areas can be the actual North-West and south west regions of Cameroon, the northern regions, the Eastern Regions, the Littoral and the Western region. We also take into consideration the non-conflict the National Gendarmerie has performed activities there like the South, and the Center and the region of Cameroon.

#### IV. CONCEPTUAL FRAME WORK

All new students on the soil of writing history have as an assignment to render his work explicit so as to make comprehensive. For this to be done, we have to clarify key words of our work. It is in this sense that Robert Marichal indicates that,

*Un historien ne doit jamais aborder l'histoire d'une idée ou d'une institution sans faire méthodologiquement et exhaustivement l'histoire des mots par les quel ont l'a exprimée ou désignée, et c'est là... non pas hâtivement en feuilletent les lexiques, mais par sondage, naturellement dans les textes mêmes<sup>18</sup>.*

This explanation of the obligation to clarify our concepts extracted from the memory dissertation of Emile Zola Eyigla pushed us to clarify our concepts base on the definitions of different authors. These concepts that we desire to clarify can be segmented into two groups: tangible and intangible concepts. The tangible concepts are those that can directly be seen on the theme of work such as, civilian, military, Gendarmerie, Cameroon.

We also have some concepts which can be classify under the indirect concepts. These are concepts that we have them in our work repetitively which are not directly physical on the theme of our work. As far as our work is concern, we have concepts such as, cohabitation, coexistence, relations, participations, police, mission, economic missions, police.

According to the decree n°2001/181 of the 25 of June 2001, in the first article, The National Gendarmerie is part of the composition of the defense forces. It excises its actions on the entire of the national territory and more particularly in the rural zones and on the Communication lines<sup>19</sup>. The decree gives us a result on the explication of what is the National Gendarmerie and also makes us to note the missions of this body of defense. The decree also shows to us the democratization of the Cameroonians Army as it makes us to understand that *“la Gendarmerie national est une force a caractere militaire et assurant également des*

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<sup>18</sup> E. Z. Eyigla, “Réfugiés, Déplacés internes et incidences sécuritaire au Cameroun : Le cas de la ville de Douala, 1967-2018”, Mémoire de Master en Histoire, Université de Yaoundé 1, 2020, p. 10.

<sup>19</sup> AGN, Décret n° 2001/181 du 25 juillet 2001 portant organisation de la Gendarmerie nationale.

*missions Civile elle peut aussi employer les personnel civils*”<sup>20</sup>. This definition and the explicitation favorises the intotos comprehension of the National Gendarmerie.

For the *Grand Larousse Universel*, Civilian is far away from the defense force and have all characteristics of positivity’s in the society. In the Dictionary, the civilian is “*Le civil se dit de quelqu’un, de son comportement qui observe la politesse, les bonnes manières dans les relations sociales ; courtois, poli*”. This definition of the Civilian explains the positivity of good citizens keeping from the issues of militarism as it mentions characteristics such as good morality, good comportments and good manners. Based on these definitions, we risk thinking of the no civilians, that is, the personnel of the defense as people lacking values of all the positivity cited above in the grand encyclopedia.

As far as the French dictionary is concern, the word “civil” is parallel attaches to simple Civilians<sup>21</sup>. It continues by giving the explicitation that, *civil relatif à L’enssemble des citoyens, la vie, la societ e civile*<sup>22</sup> . The *dictionnaire larouse* shows the Claire definition mostly concentrated on the civilians which does not take in to consideration the existence of a military society.

According to the *grand Larousse universel*, military comes from a Latin word “militaris” that is,

*Se dit de ce qui est relatif à L’arm e, a son organisation, de ce qui la concerne, de ce qui lui appartient : organisation militaire d’un pays, Hi erarchie militaire, vie militaire, terrain d’aviation militaire. Se dit  galement de ce qui est de fait de l’arm e, des soldats : Op eration militaire, victoires militaire*<sup>23</sup>.

It still proceeds to elaborate definitions of Military such as, *ce qui se fond de L’arm e*<sup>24</sup>. If we take into consideration the different definitions of military as provided by the *grand larousse universel*, we are then going to establish a grand relation with our work as it makes mentions of all the characteristics of a military force and the actions even as it limits as far as the defense mission is concerned.

According to the French dictionary, military is relative to the Armed forces. It gives closely the same definitions as the *grand larousse universel*. It explicitates, the latin Word, “militaris” *qui signifie, “soldat relatif a la force Arm e*”<sup>25</sup>, *a son organisation, a ses activit es, en particulier au cour d’un conflit*. It demonstrates the military through its warrior aspect, it tactical aspect and it hierarchy. We study from it that, *L’art militaire : strat egies militaires*,

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<sup>20</sup> AGN, D cret n  2001/181 du 25 juillet 2001 portant organisation de la Gendarmerie nationale.

<sup>21</sup> Larousse, *Grand Dictionnaire encyclop dique Larousse*, Tome 4, Paris Cedex, Larousse, 1993, p. 2275.

<sup>22</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>23</sup> Larousse, *Grand Dictionnaire encyclop dique Larousse*, Tome 10, Paris Cedex, Larousse, 1993, p. 6944.

<sup>24</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>25</sup> Dictionnaire le grand...p. 1087.

*école militaire, hiérarchie militaire circonscription, région militaire, préparation militaire, services militaires et les autorités civiles et militaires. Cours civile et militaire*<sup>26</sup>. On the same perspective of defining military, French dictionary provide to us that, *un militaire est celui qui appartient à l'armée*. This true definition of a military makes us to simplify him as one who is under the responsibility of Army. This then pushes to understand the first missions of the national Gendarmerie which is cover by military as a mission of defense and security of people and their goods.

The civil-military actions can be defined as the social actions done by the Armies on the theatre of operations for the maximum benefit of the civilian population<sup>27</sup>. It represents in a real time the operations which illustrates the building of Armies-Nations link<sup>28</sup>. This is illustrated through the actions like,

*Un pond par ici, une salle de classe construite ou refaite par là-bas, des dons dans les établissements, des dons des fournitures<sup>29</sup> scolaires dans les établissements. Ce sont des actes posés ça et là par les forces de défense et de la sécurité (FDS) en faveur de la population. Le coup ces œuvres n'est pas souvent à la hauteur de satisfaction...<sup>30</sup>*

In it definition, the French dictionary present the armed force as having existed in France for a long period of time. *Ancien corps de la Gendarmerie, cavalerie lourde, corps de troupes de police qui revient de maréchaux de France*. It is also define as, *corp militaire chargée d'assumer la police administrative du territoire, la surveillance des armées de terre et de mer et de collaborer a la police judiciaire*<sup>31</sup>. The second definition corresponded with the concept of Gendarmerie in our works. It explains the missions of the national gendarmerie which are for instance the defense, the judiciary and the mission of the control of the territory. Gendarmerie can also be define accordind to Gervais Monkam as,

*La Gendarmerie est un corps militaire qui remplit a la fois les missions civiles et militaires*<sup>32</sup>. *Napoléon Bonaparte était le créateur. Il augmentait les effectifs, mais sélectionnais rigoureusement le personnel et leurs donnais les chefs prestigieux. Il constitue 27 légions de Gendarmerie territorial forment corps a 5 compagnies contrôlent chacune un département et une région d'élite charger de garder le gouvernement*<sup>33</sup>.

<sup>26</sup> Dictionnaire le grand...p. 1087.

<sup>27</sup> C. J. Dimbo Oubinhou , "Les Actions civilo-militaire dans la conquête des cœurs et des esprits des populations sur les théâtres d'opérations : cas des régions de l'Extrême-Nord, du Nord-Ouest et du Sud-Ouest", Inédit, 2021, p. 5.

<sup>28</sup> G. Etoga, "Les Actions Civilo-Militaires: Osmose entre Gendarmerie et la population", *Echos du Pandores. Magazine Trimestriel et Bilingue de La Gendarmerie Nationale*, n°19 de mai 2022, p. 26.

<sup>29</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>30</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>31</sup> Dictionnaire le grand...p. 1087.

<sup>32</sup> G. Mounkam, "La Gendarmerie au Cameroun de 1920 A 2010 : Aperçu historique", Thèse de Doctorat/Ph. D en Histoire, Université de Yaoundé 1, 2012. p. 15.

<sup>33</sup> *Ibid.*

This definition of the gendarmerie proposed and explicitated by Mounkam, put a base of relation with our work as the author debuts with the civil-military aspects of the gendarmerie which is an aspect which highly interests us in our work and also pursuits with the origin and the creation of the national gendarmerie which according to him it was created by Napoléon Bonaparte

The definition of the conflict zone could well be done in a segmenting way. So, the *grand Larousse universel*, render an explanation as far as the understanding of zone is concern<sup>34</sup>. The document makes mention of example of zone as economic zone, educative zone and from it we can come out with conflict zones. As far as crises are concern, this referential document makes us to understand the situations of crises. It sets out facts like, the security conflict which we are working on. This is a dense period of insecurity observed in a particular geographical area. Then, zone of crises could then come out from this reflection as the milieu characterised with persistent insecurity. These zones can be identified today in the country like the regions of the North West, South west, the Northern regions of Cameroon, the eastern region. We can also talk of the regions which are adjacent to these regions which assume the consequences of these activities. Then from here also, a category will then come out such as the zones of non-crises where we can instead observe the maximum migration of the population in other to found refuge there during the crises period. Example in Cameroon can be observed the centre region, the South, the Littoral region.

Cameroon is situated in central Africa at the north of the Equator. It is geographically limited at the north with the republic of Tchad, the West by Nigeria, at the East by the Central Africa Republic and to the South by Congo, Equatorial Guinee and Gabon. The official languages here are French and English.

## **V. INTEREST OF THE STUDY**

Talking of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie in Cameroon, we direct our self on presenting the realizations of the National Gendarmerie which they have done for the maximum benefit of the civilians population and which can contribute in the establishment of good relations between the Gendarmes and the civilian population in conflict zones of Cameroon so as to permit acquire valuable information in other to succeed in their missions of the protections of the civilian populations, their goods and services.

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<sup>34</sup> Dictionnaire le grand..., p. 11051.

This work has as the focus, to explain the socio-strategical importance of the Civil-Military Actions of the national Gendarmerie in Cameroon. It has as ambitions to contribute on the historiographical production of the socio importance of the civil-military actions of the national Gendarmerie in Cameroon in general and in the zones of crises in the country. It this study is of interest because it shed light on the neglected mission of the National Gendarmerie which is the mission of the police of security (the mission of the protection of people and their goods). Also, this research rapport a contribution to the edification on the civil-military cooperation between the civilian population of Cameroon and the National Gendarmerie of the country taking in to considerations that, it is the unique branch of the forces of defense and security in Cameroon which is more closer to the civilian population if we classify from the Central administration to the posts of the Gendarmerie most often in the non-expected villages.

It also attracts the attentions of both the populations of some zones of crises in Cameroon and the Gendarmes on the goodness of the civil-military cohabitations and it impotence to the wellbeing of the population in term of the protection of the people and their goods.

## VI. CRITICAL LITERATURE REVIEW

To give a pertinent explanation on the litterature revue, Michel Beaud mentions that, *"aucun étudiant si brillant soit-il ne peut faire tout seul ce que l'humanité a mis des siècles à enfanter. Toute réflexion solide est avant tout, réflexion sur la pensée des autres auteurs"*<sup>35</sup>

It is in this same scientific proximity that we register our self in order to open our field of research out of others that has already been elaborated in this domain.

The main question on the participation of the National Gendarmerie in the provision of security of people, their goods and services through her Civil-Military Actions in the world and Africa in general and in Cameroon in particular has not be very important in the mind of the scientific community more especially in Africa and as far as Cameroon is concern. This could be seen due to the fact that since the period marking the beginnings of colonization, particularly in Africa, the French Gendarmerie that was transferred in to the French colonies had a unique mission which was more lucrative as the oppressive mission. This was more essentially to ensure the security of the colonizers that were found in the interiors of the continent. Even As far as Cameroon is concern, there was no considerable attention paid in term securing the civilian population till the end of the first regime after the independence.

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<sup>35</sup> M. Beaud, *L'art de la thèse*, Paris, La Découverte, 1985, p. 143.

The emphasis was on the mission assigned to the National gendarmerie and of policies put in place in other for the National Gendarmerie to think on the socio-economic advancement of the country as actions were put in place but they were reasonably not for any possible positive advancement of the civilian population So, this imposes another vision not only of the scientific community on the National Gendarmerie but also of the civilians or the entire society which was at time resume on the maltreatments of the population. Even though, the question of the national Gendarmerie of Cameroon as a unit with a high proximity to the population has arrives the scientific field since the last three decades in Cameroon and more especially in the state's universities since last two decades and from there, so many researchers started giving more importance to this domain of research with the objective to come out with results and attract the humanity attention. A good number of scientific productions has been carried out on the question precisely at the national and the global level.

To demonstrate the existing relation between politics and the Armies in Cameroon, and also the perceptions of the military by the population of Cameroon and Vice versa, Colonel Mahamat Ahmed Kotoko, proceed by describing installations and evolution of the National Gendarmerie in Cameroon from the period of 1960., the importance accorded by the different Heads of states of Cameroon in the different ceremonies of the state<sup>36</sup>.

The author when talking of the existence of the National Gendarmerie in Cameroon bases on the detachment of a group of thirteen Gendarmes to Cameroon under the appellation of the “*Marine Nationale*” and he precised that,

*la marines nationale est constitué dès le 09 Décembre 1960 par un détachement de treize Gendarmes détachés et quelques expatriés servant au titre de L'assistance technique française. En octobre 1960, elle deviant “Marine Fédérale”<sup>37</sup>.*

From here, we understand the explanations of the bases of the Cameroon National Gendarmerie and the point of departure as far as the evolution of the corps is concern. With the decree of the 22<sup>nd</sup> february 1960 putting in place the organization, the admiration. The author also make mention of the end of the “Cameroonization” of the Cameroon National Gendarmerie on the 12 of February 1966 which marked equally the submission of the Gendarmerie under the General Delegate in charge of the National Gendarmerie which will finally become the General Secretary to the Defense in charge of the National Gendarmerie<sup>38</sup>.

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<sup>36</sup>Hameni Bieleu, *Politique de défense...*p. 384.

<sup>37</sup>S. Ombe, “La participation de la Marine Nationale dans la lutte contre la piraterie Maritime au Cameroun (1990-2018) : Essai d’analyse Historique”, Mémoire de Master, Université de Yaoundé 1, 2022, p. 31.

<sup>38</sup> C.G. Mounkam, “La Gendarmerie au Cameroun sous administration Française 1916-1960“, Mémoire Diplôme d’Études Approfondies (DEA) en Histoire, Université de Yaoundé 1, 2007, p. 34.

The insufficiencies of this book can be seen on the fact that, the author only elaborates partially, information's on the issue of the responsibility of the organization and the administration of the National Gendarmerie to the Cameroonians. He neglects the explanations on the origins of the Gendarmerie, the missions assigned to the national Gendarmerie and the strategies the National Gendarmerie should capitalize in the zones of Crises for the requirement of information in order to well accomplish her missions of the security of people, their goods and services<sup>39</sup>.

V. Hameni Bieleu, when talking of the policy of defense and the national security in Cameroon, in which he generalizes all the Armies, come back particularly on the national Gendarmerie of Cameroon. The author in a brief manner debuts by recalling the origin of the national Gendarmerie and also a sort of valorization of the Gendarmerie. He forward with progressive explanation of the History of Gendarmerie. He also recalled the missions assigned to the Force<sup>40</sup>.

In analysing the History of the National Gendarmerie, Hameni Bieleu decided to segment into different periods marking the different facts that were going on. The author opened the door with the Gendarmerie under Colonization since the 1919 and makes us to understand the existence of a system of the Gendarmerie in the French Cameroon territory after the First World War. Due to the defeat of Germany in the territory, France and Britain were to take the administration of Cameroon and were in an obligation to apply their own laws and order in the territory which was also to serve as means of in storing their respect on the “indigenes” in the French sight, the main force for the maintenance of peace and application of laws was the Gendarmerie<sup>41</sup>.

He also advanced with the Gendarmerie under the period of mandate. The author presents the effective installation of the National Gendarmerie in Cameroon at the period of the mandate precisely on the 4th of January 1920<sup>42</sup>. He insisted on the importance of a defense force such as the Gendarmerie in Cameroon at this period more especially in Douala where the first unit was installed. He makes us to understand in Douala due to the importance accorded to the sea port and the qualification of Douala as a new urban center at this period which saw the immigration of so many Cameroonians coming from so many parts of the territory for diverse

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<sup>39</sup> Hameni Bieleu, *Politique de défense...*p. 384.

<sup>40</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>41</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 386.

<sup>42</sup> Ombe, “La participation de...”, p. 31.

reasons, the insecurity that the whites were facing at this period. All this necessitated the putting in place of a means of security which was the Gendarmerie.

The author attracts the attention on the fact that, the instaurations of the different missions to the National Gendarmerie was to be seen on the discours pronounced by his president Ahmadou Ahidjo not only on the missions assigned to the national gendarmerie, but also on the political visions that was reserved for the national gendarmerie. This author however makes a totally partial description of the National Gendarmerie because he consider its solely as a politico-military instrument. He does not explore the socio-economic role of the National Gendarmerie. The book focuses on the defense and the security role of the National Gendarmerie but forgetting the Humanitarian part of the corps notably in the zones of Crises of Cameroon. Even when explaining the missions assigned to the National Gendarmerie, He do not insist on the fact that the accomplishment of this missions bring in the Civil-Military actions of the National Gendarmerie which is an important element in the Zones of crises permitting the Gendarmerie on the field of operations to capitalizes information helping in the fulfillment of their final missions which is the protection of people, their goods and services.

Meganda Bella talks of the National Gendarmerie and the respect of humans rights. He opens the research by presenting the Social History of the National Gendarmerie. According to him, the National Gendarmerie existed in France since the 12<sup>th</sup> century under king Philippe II also called Philippe August. This Army were in charge of performing a system of jurisdictions in the court<sup>43</sup>. He proceeds here to show how the armies succeeded to establish itself throughout French overseas territories. in the hole international French territories. The author also presents the missions of the national Gendarmerie. He indicates the three main missions of this body of security which are the missions of the security police, the mission of the administrative police and lastly, the missions of the judiciary police. These missions are those that the author classifies under the general missions of the National Gendarmerie. There are also some missions of the body which can be useful for some ministerial departments such as, the ministry of Territorial administration, the ministry of finance and others. The author arrives at his point of terminator by the presentation of the negativities of some people that are always violated the humans right of some citizens.

This dissertation permitted to have the history of the origin of the national Gendarmerie, the evolutions of the corps and also the missions of the National Gendarmerie. The limitations

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<sup>43</sup> I. W. Meganda Bella, "Gendarmerie Nationale et Respect des droits de l'Homme : traitements des gardes à vue dans les chambres de Yaoundé", Mémoire de Diplôme d'Étude Approfondie (D.E.A) en Sociologie, Université de Yaoundé1, 2004-2005, p. 32.



of the document include the fact that, the author has firstly concentrate his self on the applications of the Human right by the gendarmes, he also methodologically applies that of the sociologies why we are purely using the historical method. The author is also very superficial as far as the exploitations of the missions of the national Gendarmerie is concerned and do not take into considerations the actions of the National Gendarmerie and her actors on the field of operations.

Nkeh<sup>44</sup> talks to us about the civilo-military cohabitations between the Gendarmerie and the populations of the former West Cameroon. He debuts by showing the arrival and the installations of the French Gendarmerie in west Cameroon, the Gendarmerie public relations in west Cameroon. The author proceeds by demonstrating the police and the Gendarmerie coexistence and the instauration of defense and security in west Cameroon where he makes us to understand the efforts that were to be imposes by the authorities of the national Gendarmerie. in order to put in place national security and defense in the territory. He also shows the impacts of the police and the Gendarmerie in west Cameroon led it be the positive or the negative domain. This book is interesting to us in the sense that the author permits us to understand the arrival of the origin and the arrival of the National Gendarmerie in Africa and in Cameroon, the missions of the Gendarmerie and the perceptions that the Gendarmes had vis-a-vis to the Cameroonians and also the perception of the population vis-à-vis o the Gendarmes. The principal weaknesses of this book reside in the fact that, the author remains in his pessimism to evaluates the Economic importance of the national Gendarmerie in the west Cameroon. He also analyses the coexistence of the police and the Gendarmerie in the other feel that is in the actual North west and South west where they were to have another orientations and in the old period of 1961-1972 when they were still laying the basis of the objectives and reasons of the implantation of the Gendarmerie in the different parts of the territory. The author also keeps aside development of the reactions of the Gendarmerie in French Cameroon making the information on the National Gendarmerie insufficient.

With the desire to show the success of the military institution implanted in Koutaba in the social and economic development and their rapprochement to the civilian population<sup>45</sup>, Mounbagna Youssouf talks of the consolidation of the Army Nation in Cameroon. This article plays a vital scientific role in our work since it relates the true civil-military actions done by the

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<sup>44</sup> Nkeh, "The police and...", p. 67.

<sup>45</sup> Y. L. Mounbagna, "L'armée Camerounaise au service des communautés : le bataillon des troupes Aéroportées de Koutaba (1968-2020)" in *Commission Camerounaise d'Histoire Militaire, Armée Camerounaise : 60 ans de dévouement au service de la Nation, de l'Unité Nationale et de la défense de l'Intégrité du Cameroun*, Dschang, Premières Lignes, 2023, p. 133.

elements of the military camp of Koutaba in the locality of Koutaba<sup>46</sup>. The diversity with the article arrives only on the sense that the author mainly focalizes in the locality of Koutaba and also remains on the Airborne Troops Battalion of Koutaba, the author do not also take into considerations the period of crises in Cameroon and the conflict zones in the country. Koutaba is truly a military zone and having a grand Center of instruction which is very important. The existence of this training center already gives to the subdivision the notoriety to see the existence on the land all the services which we can found in the zone of crises at the complicated moment such as schools, hospitals, even at times the fact that, other militaries transforming them self into teachers in this schools. But since the National Gendarmerie is at time not having the same method of putting security in the zones and the work mostly base on it, the scientific Article of Moumbagna persit it limitations in this dissertation as he limits the civil-military actions here on the establishment of schools, hospitals in Koutaba<sup>47</sup>.

Nfi Joseph edify on the Changing public perception of the Cameroon Army within the context of NOSO crises<sup>48</sup> The author makes a Historicity of the existence of the Armies in the country, he proceed by the recapitulation of some moments of crises in Cameroon and In the North west and the South west regions, he also density on the civil-military relations in these zones of crises of Cameroon<sup>49</sup>. This specific scientific work helps us to understand the relations that has exist between the civilian population and the Gendarmes in the zones of the NOSO. The limitation of this scientific article focalises on the sense that, it makes grand considerations but only of the Anglophone zones of the Country. It is also residing on the periodicity that the works over.

Nama, in her scientifif article titled, "*les recompenses militaires et la problématique des bavures au sein de l'armée camerounaise dans la lute subversive (2015-2020)*" discauses of the rewards issued to the uniform men during the subversive fights<sup>50</sup>. The writer asks an interesting question which is who do we recruits in the army, men who flee poverty or those who have the vocation to protect the territorial integrity? She proceeded in the presentation with the presentation of the missions of the armies of Cameroon. The author has not forgotten the causes and the consequences of the military braveries more especially in the zones of crises of

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<sup>46</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>47</sup> Moumbagna, "L'armée Camerounaise au...", p.133.

<sup>48</sup> L. J. Nfi, "Changing public perception of the Cameroon Army within the context of NOSO crises (1960-2020)", (in) V. Wanyaka Bonguen Oyongmen, *l'Armée au Cameroun. État de lieu et enjeux épistémologique pour une contribution à l'histoire militaire africaine*, Dschang, Premières Lignes, 2023, p. 217.

<sup>49</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 219.

<sup>50</sup> A. M. Nama, "les recompenses militaires et la problématique des bavures au sein de l'armée camerounaise dans la lutte subversive (2015-2020)", (in) V. Wanyaka Bonguen Oyongmen, *l'Armée au Cameroun. État de lieu et enjeux épistémologique pour une contribution à l'histoire militaire africaine*, Premières Lignes, 2023, p. 329.

Cameroon. The author brings some solutions for the avoiding of the inclusion of the militaries of the republic in some excesses<sup>51</sup>. From this scientific reflection, we have extracted the acts committed by the militaries in general and the gendarmes which can contribute to the failures of the civil-military actions. Nama continued in this work to demonstrate the contributions of some grand power masters of the army who do not arrive at the respective point of motivation of the soldiers pushing them to commit acts of bandits on the theatre of operations<sup>52</sup>.

The limitation of the work in the dissertation is found at the level where, the scientific work is not specifically concerned with the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. It treats a very short period of time which is from 2015 to 2020 which is only in five years. The other main failure here is the fact that, the author is not really accentuating on the civil-military actions of the armies in general and the National Gendarmerie in particular as it is a veritable point in the strategy of operations.

Nkeudom<sup>53</sup> makes us to see the National Gendarmerie in a diplomatic sense. He inscribes the national Gendarmerie in a canal of the French-Cameroon cooperation. This dissertation defended in the University of Yaounde 1 in 2008 explicates to us the notions of the National Gendarmerie beginning on the year 1959 with the grand step of independence of French Cameroon till 2008 when the work was validated and defended in front of the members of Jury. This author debuts by showing the foundations of the Cameroon Gendarmerie where he opens the large comprehension on the origins and the installations of the National Gendarmerie in French Cameroon and later the restructuralization of this Gendarmerie which was at this moment seen as the French National Gendarmerie. He proceeds by showing the Cameroonization of the national gendarmerie and the missions assigned to the National Gendarmerie.

He equally proceeds to show how the cooperation between Paris and Yaoundé was done with the utilization of the Gendarmerie, by rendering comprehensive what is a cooperation, a judiciary and military acts that put together the two countries. The author talks of the Gendarmerie from the cooperation, assistance to partnership. He terminates by presenting the advantages and the disadvantages of the French Cameroon military Cooperation. This engages to show that it was on the one hand mutual beneficiary cooperation, as it permitted the Cameroonians to receive assistances, be technical, materiel and operational from Paris<sup>54</sup>. On

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<sup>51</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 335.

<sup>52</sup> Nama, "Les récompenses militaires...", p.335.

<sup>53</sup> Nkeudom, "La Gendarmerie National...", p. 23.

<sup>54</sup> *Ibid.*

the other hand, it was to show how the military cooperation between Paris and Cameroon was condemned and a means for the French colonial master to be involved in Cameroon. It was also to add a weight on the French defense Budget.

This work is interesting in the sense that, it puts in place evidences of the foundation of the national Gendarmerie in Cameroon, the author also demonstrates the first two missions of the national Gendarmerie in Cameroon and also making us to understand that the National Gendarmerie has military and civilian's missions and depend on many ministerial departments such as the ministry of justice, territorial administration, ministry of defense and the ministry of finance. Referring to its organization, he mentions that state police have to look after national safety<sup>55</sup> this persisted on the defense mission of the national Gendarmerie at this period. The main limitations of this memory dissertation reside on the sense that the author do not take in to considerations the grand importance of the Civil-military actions of the national Gendarmerie and only remains on the politico-diplomatic values of the defense corp. This limits the importance of the national Gendarmerie and render pejorative her fantastic actions on the feel of crises and wars and even on the milieus which are characterizes as those with no signs of crises. The author also goes far away from the explicitations of the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie which is very importance in the missions of the national Gendarmerie and also as the corps was to be inscribe in her concretization of attaining her missions of the protection of people, good and services.

Njipendi in the desire to attract the attention of the high command of the National Gendarmerie on the Territory Operational Defense (TOD) as far as the use of their motor circles are concern on the Armed conflicts<sup>56</sup>. This was the case of the confrontation of the Armies in general and the National Gendarmerie in particular in the North west and the south west since 2016, the case of the Boko haram in the Northern part of Cameroon since 2014<sup>57</sup>. This article opens a way to think of the military actions of the National Gendarmerie in the zones of conflicts.

The Scientific article only picks a non-interesting way concerning my work on the sense that, the author has not thought even minimally on the central concept of our work which is the civil-military actions and particularly of the National Gendarmerie. He only focalizes on the

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<sup>55</sup> Nkeudom, "La Gendarmerie National...", p. 23.

<sup>56</sup> M. F. Njipendi, "La Gendarmerie routière à l'épreuve des questions sécuritaires au Cameroun : état des lieux et stratégies opérationnelles(2014-2020)", in II<sup>ème</sup> colloque National d'Histoire militaire organisé à l'occasion de la célébration du 60<sup>ème</sup> anniversaire de l'Armée Camerounaise, (dir), *Armée Camerounaise : 60ans de dévouement au service de la Nation, de l'unité Nationale et de la défense de l'intégrité du Cameroun*, Dschang , Edition Premières lignes, 2023, pp. 609-611.

<sup>57</sup> *Ibid.*

observation of the military actions of the Motor bike riders on the TOD. The author also analysis their efficiencies, insufficiencies in the zones and periods of crises in the country since 2014.

Ngagoum, scientifically talks of the great mute which is talking<sup>58</sup>. With this considerable concept, the author has insisted on the tactical change of the Cameroonian army which since the independence period adopted a long-distance method vis-à-vis to the civilian population. This was due to the consequence of the civil-military relations that has existed between Cameroonians and the militaries since the period of the fight for independence<sup>59</sup>. The Cameroonian author has also situated the debut of the Civil-military actions in the programs of the Cameroon's armies. The writer in the scientific article has also interrogated between the classical and the new military tactics of the deployments on the field of operation to understand the most important. This scientific article contributes in our good comprehension of the concept of civil-military actions. It helps to also understand the objective of the opening of the armies to the civil populations in the context of crises and the reception of these activities by the civilian population.

The points of divergences with the author installs here as the author tries to have a broad view on all the forces of defense and security of the country. Ngagoum also, in his desire to situate the beginning of the Civil-military actions in Cameroon has not the in to consideration a historical retrospective and is not also clear on the periodization of the debutation of the Civil-military actions. He has also afforded the scientific milieu of the civil-military actions but taking into considerations the entire armed forces while we have insisted but on the National Gendarmerie.

Mounkam<sup>60</sup> shows the national Gendarmerie under the French administration in Cameroon taking from the end of the First World War in 1916 to the attainment of independence in 1960. The author presents to us the Gendarmerie that was typically under the French control. He debuts by showing the structuralizations of the Gendarmerie in Cameroon under the French administrations in the oriental and the occidental parts of the territory. The author proceeds by demonstrating the organizations and the missions of the National Gendarmerie. Here the author presents the organizations of the Cameroonians Gendarmerie, the missions of the

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<sup>58</sup> E. F. Ngagoum, "La "grande muette" qui parle désormais : esquisse de compréhension des imaginaires sur l'Armée camerounaise à l'aune des ACM et des dispositifs de communications", in II<sup>ème</sup> colloque National d'Histoire militaire organisé à l'occasion de la célébration du 60<sup>ème</sup> anniversaire de l'Armée Camerounaise, (dir), *Armée Camerounaise : 60ans de dévouement au service de la Nation, de l'unité Nationale et de la défense de l'intégrité du Cameroun*, Dschang, Edition Premières lignes, 2023, p. 475.

<sup>59</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>60</sup> C. G. Mounkam, "La Gendarmerie au Cameroun sous administration Française 1916-1960", Mémoire du Diplôme d'Études Approfondies (DEA) en Histoire, Université de Yaoundé 1, 2007.

Cameroonians Gendarmerie and the progressive creation of the Units of the National Gendarmerie. The author progressively shows the processes of the “Cameroonization” of the Gendarmerie. He also demonstrates the military assistances provided by the French to Cameroon<sup>61</sup>. This was on the missions of The French militaries in Cameroon, the missions of the organizations of the Cameroonians Gendarmerie.

The dissertation of Gervais Mounkam is interested to us in the simple fact that The author simplifies the conceptualization of the Cameroon national Gendarmerie. Here we understand that after the independence, the Government put in place was to take the responsibility of the defense situation of the nation and the national gendarmerie in particular. It is in this processes that came the concept of “Cameroonization” of the Gendarmerie was at the departure of French Gendarmerie. The work still interests us on the fact that, he presents the roles and the functions and also thy impact of the national Gendarmerie. Here, he explained that the national Gendarmerie has Tree functions which are the function of the military police, the function of the administrative police, and the function of the criminal police<sup>62</sup>. This dissertation has its limitation at some levels such as will be elucidated bellow. The author failed to show the different actions of the National Gendarmerie and their functions since the French period to the period of the Cameroonisation. The author is also too superficial even on the questions of the defense of the national Gendarmerie which can enter under the social functions of the national Gendarmerie led it be under the French control or after the independence of Cameroon.

Badiana Mouko<sup>63</sup>, has also intervene on the point of the Gendarmerie in his memory dissertation. He generalizes the Armies of Cameroon taking from a long period from 1959 to the period of 1970<sup>64</sup>. The author debuts by segmenting the work in to two grand parts. The first part where he talks of the birth and the first step of the Cameroonians arm forces, and present the factors that were turning round the creation of the Cameroonians Armies. Here, the author explains on the reasons of the creations of the Cameroonians armies, the attributes and the instruments of the instauration of the public order and defense. The author also proceeds by presenting the second part of this work which was concentrated on the consolidations and the development of the structures of the Armies from 1965 to 1970. Here the author opens our visions on the administration of the Armies and their logistics. He also pursuit with the

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<sup>61</sup> Mounkam, “La Gendarmerie au...”, p. 53.

<sup>62</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>63</sup> C. R. Badiyana Mokou, “L’armée Camerounaise de 1959-1970“, Mémoire de Maitrise, Université de Yaoundé 1, 2001, p.36.

<sup>64</sup> *Ibid.*

processes of “Cameroonization” of the Armies without keeping aside the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon.

This work is interesting to us as it gives the detailed explanation on the putting in place of the whole Cameroon’s defense forces and the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon in particular. The author also returns on the processus of the “Cameroonization” of the Cameroonians Army in general which also envelopes the national gendarmerie in particular. Badiyana Mouko also touches on the origin and the instauration of the French Gendarmerie in Cameroon. He insisted that,

*C’est à l’occasion de la première guerre mondial que les troupes Française et Anglaises ont pris pied au Cameroun, au détriment de l’Allemagne en 1916. Le 04 /03 de la même année, un accord de partage est signé par ces deux pays. Au Cameroun occidental, les Britanniques mettent en place des forces de police pour assurer la sécurité, au Cameroun oriental ou des problèmes de maintien de l’ordre et de sécurité publique se posent, la garde régionale est créée le 14septembre 1919. Le commissaire de la république qui commande la garde régionale entend par cet créer une Gendarmerie locale d’élite. Il est seule habilité à mobiliser les troupes. Les chefs des circonscriptions et des divisions commende les troupes qui leur sont affectées. L’évolution du garde camerounais ne se fait pas de manière distincte de celle de la Gendarmerie Française. Toute au contraire, le 04 janvier 1920, le détachement de la Gendarmerie du Cameroun est créé pour surveiller le port de Douala.*<sup>65</sup>

Clear explanations brought by the author render our work comprehensive concerning the origin and the arrival of the Gendarmerie in Cameroon in it primitive form. The author equally comes back on the defense mission of the Gendarmerie. This dissertation presents it limitations as he has omitted to show the civil-military actions of the national gendarmerie which could pushes him to see the sight of the operational aspect o the Gendarmerie and the help the National Gendarmeie bring for the Civil populations on the feel of operations. His limitations of capitalizing the actions of the Nations of the National Gendarmerie in the Zones off crises has make him not see the national Gendarmerie and the Civil-Military Actions of the National Gendarmerie as a medium of the accomplishment of the Missions of the protections of people, their goods and services in the fronts of crises.

Wanyaka Bonguen Oyongmen.<sup>66</sup> puts on the analyses on the town of Yaounde, making allusion of the militarization and the strategies of defense of this Urban perimeter. Here, she talks of the instauration of the different military posts in the town of Yaounde, she also talks of the evolution of these military units in Yaounde. She insists on the secure and militarizes appearance of the town of Yaounde. Virginie Wanyaka in this riche article clarifies on the fact that, the principal failures of the forces of defense and security is an attraction of the attention of the military authorities and civil authorities on the risks they are going through if in case

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<sup>65</sup> Badiyana Mokou, “L’armée Camerounaise de...”, p.36.

<sup>66</sup> Wanyaka Bonguen Oyongmen, “Site Militaire et...”, p. 1.

measures of protecting are not taken. Particularly on the national Gendarmerie, the author of this scientific article insist on the origins and the reasons of the putting in place of this Unit of defense in Cameroon, the evolution of the National Gendarmerie and also on the missions of the national Gendarmerie, where she categorizes the missions of the National Gendarmerie in to “*la mission de police administrative, la police judiciaire, la police militaire intermédiaire entre l’autorité militaire et les citoyens*”<sup>67</sup>, “. The author insists that, the National Gendarmerie performs some missions that she receives from some ministerial department.

This work is very interesting for us as the author elucidates the different missions of the national Gendarmerie, the developmental sight of the National Gendarmerie since She shows how it performs on the control of prices, taxation, air navigations etc. this attracts our attention on the economic exercise of the national Gendarmerie. The author has some limitations in this article which can be indicated such as, the author is too superficial on the demonstrations more especially when explain developmental missions of the national Gendarmerie. She also only insists maximally but on the visible missions of the national Gendarmerie which for us and in our work, they are the missions of the national Gendarmerie but could be considered as classical missions, she does not also demonstrate the Civil-Military Actions of the National Gendarmerie.

This reflection around the question of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon from 1990 to 2023 obliges to take into consideration the contribution of other authors as far as this question is concern. As illustrated above, things have had been done but with some limitations and is that scientific point neglected that we thought it better to demonstrate in this work. Many authors focalized themselves on the History of the institution of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon taking massively the consideration of its progression in 1922 Cameroon, its missions, its actors. Others basically focalize on the missions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. But their work led it be an article or any other document helped us. Other category of the authors entered the question of the civil-military actions but also carrying a considerable point of limitation as they pointed the other forces without essentially basing on the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. The last Category of the authors based on the History of the country Cameroon and not going out of the neglecting as far as this question is concern.

## **VII. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

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<sup>67</sup> Wanyaka Bonguen Oyongmen, “Site Militaire et...”, p. 6.



The Gendarmerie that marks its origin in France since the 18th century and which later spread into some European countries where Paris had its influence. This force of defense and security later migrated to Africa with the phenomena of colonization imposed by the Europeans on Africa. With the installation of the French in their colonies in Africa known as the French Central Africa (FCA) and the French Equatorial Africa (FEA), the French encountered so many forms of insecurities notably with the local resistances and also the grand first World War that was going on at the beginning 1914, that rendered the relation between France and some European countries such as Germany very troublesome as far as the question of the acquisition of territories in Africa was concerned. It is in this same perspective that France who considered Cameroon as her territory and thought it better to transfer this body of army in territory of Cameroon.

The French Gendarmes' arrival on the land of Cameroon in 1920; among the multiple missions assigned to them by the colonial authority was to serve as some sort of measure of security and defense to the French nationals that were found in the "Dark Continent" that was full of insecurity such as (resistances, ignorance and mal practices). This was also to solve the multiple crises that the French armies were going through in Cameroon. The period of 1920 also marked a change of the status of Cameroon from a territory of the League of Nations.<sup>68</sup> This change in political status had some impacts on the French Gendarmerie that existed in Cameroon but not on the missions of the corps.

The French Gendarmerie stayed in place till the year 1959 following Cameroon's "autonomisation". This process continued till 1960 with the independence of Cameroon and the National Gendarmerie took another form in the Country. The corps was no more for the maximum security of the colonizer, but at this period there will be the desire to utilize the Gendarmerie for other missions even if for security but in the other sense. Cameroon was going through some problems which were essentially socio-political as far as the independence was concerned. But in this orientation, the National Gendarmerie was already performing the actions of security of people and their goods through the construction of its structures in 04/1960, such as Grand commandment of the Gendarmerie, the school of the Gendarmerie, the Legion of the Gendarmerie, the group of the squadrons, the pelotons, the territorial Brigands and the Health centre. In April 1960, Four Legions of the National Gendarmerie was created<sup>69</sup> and had the need of a main mission of the protection of people and their goods in the Country. It was also to forward the project of the National Gendarmerie which was on the process of going closer to

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<sup>68</sup> Nkeudom, "La Gendarmerie Nationale...", p. 10.

<sup>69</sup> Bela, "Gendarmerie Nationale et...", p. 10.

the civilian population with the territorial mailing. This scientific work then poses the problem of the perception of the National Gendarmerie in the zones of crises. Is from this problem that descend the main question which is,

What are the challenges of the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie in the accomplishment of their main missions? In other words, how have the Civil-Military actions of the National Gendarmerie has advances from 1990 to 2023? Which type of civil-military actions for a good operation of the National Gendarmerie given the Socio-Political context Cameroon is experiencing? What are the obstacles of their Optimization? And what can be the perspectives for the better civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon?

### **VIII. HYPOTHESES OF RESEARCH**

To give a comprehensive definition of hypotheses, madeleine Grawitz mentions in her book on the method of social sciences that,

*L'hypothèse est une proposition de réponse à la question posée. Elle tant à formuler une relation entre des faits significatifs. Même plus ou moins précise, elle aide à sélectionner les faits observés. Ceux-ci rassemblés, elle permet de les interpréter, de leur donner une signification qui vérifié, constituera un élément possible du début de théorie<sup>70</sup>.*

From this scientific explanation, we can reinforce that, the hypothesis can be seen as the proposition given to the central question of the research.<sup>71</sup> The present work turns around the general Hypotheses on which descends the specifics hypotheses of research.

#### **1. The General Hypotheses**

The putting in place of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie in Cameroon passed through a complex procedure. This can be seen with the period of observations of the actions and also the places where the actions are always observed. Talking of the civil-military action of the National Gendarmerie, register our self on the study of the places and the periods of crises in Cameroon, more especially from the period 1990s to now our days in Cameroon and also with the transformation of the Army in General and the National Gendarmerie in particular, Armies are not only trained on the caring of Arms and War materials but that of the Civilians and of the protection of Civilians. This then calls for the integration of concept nation's Army. Then, since the year 1990, the National Gendarmerie to better accomplish its missions put an emphasis on the Civil-Military Action in Order to be police of proximity and accomplish her mission of the protection of the citizens of the country, their

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<sup>70</sup> M. Grawitz, *Méthode des sciences sociales*, Paris, Dalloz, 2001, p. 398.

<sup>71</sup> Ombe, "La participation de...", p. 19.

goods and services. From these main hypotheses derived the secondary hypotheses or the specific hypotheses.

## 2. Specific Hypotheses

The national Gendarmerie which from the outset was not a Cameroonians branch of army was nationalized since the independence of Cameroon in the 1960s and arrived to the democratization till the 1990s with the wave of strikes and the political calamities that blows in Cameroon and pushed the army in General and the National Gendarmerie in particular to be opened to the Civil population and to their pre-occupations more especially those in the Zones of Crises;

The Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie have their different domains of realizations

The Civil-Military Actions of the National Gendarmerie are always observed in the zones of Crises and Those of non-crises of Crises;

Face with the situation of renewed insecurity disturbances, and the insufficient means, the civil-military-actions of the National Gendarmerie present some limitations;

The civil-military actions of the Gendarmerie of Cameroon need some readjustment for the better accomplishment of the mission of the protection of persons and their properties.

## IX. AIM OF STUDY

The advent of colonization's, of wars and grand insecurities vis-à-vis to the whites that were in Cameroon and even some Cameroonians, necessitated the implantation of the Gendarmerie which was a source of security. The Gendarmerie which originated from the French model had its official missions which were highly based on the missions of security. That is to guarantee a vital space of wellbeing and security for the whites among the blacks whom they considered to be ignorant, barbaric and non-civilized<sup>72</sup>. With the advancement and the putting in place of the Cameroonians national gendarmerie after the independence of the two Cameroons, the national Gendarmerie of Cameroon came up with other objectives and missions mainly officially based on the peace and security missions. The perpetuations of the officializations of the security and the defense missions of the national Gendarmerie is our push factor to the presentation of this work which have as a principle objective to study the challenges of the Civil-Military Actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon from 1990 to 2023.

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<sup>72</sup> A. Moukong, *presoner without crime*, Limbe, Aresco Books, 1985, p. 219.

Away from the main objective, we can present the specific objectives such as is illustrated below;

- Make an appraisal of the implementation of the so-called Civil-Military Actions of the National Gendarmerie in Cameroon;
- Evaluate the implementation of domains of the said Civil-Military Actions of the National Gendarmerie in Cameroon;
- Study how these Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie take place in fulfilment of the Socio-economic missions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon;
- Evaluate the limitations and proposes the perspectives of the Civil-Military Actions of the national Gendarmerie in Cameroon.

In the desire to render our work more comprehensive, compact and complex of sources were utilized and also an adoption of a methodology in order to accomplish our objectives.

## **X. SOURCES AND METHODOLOGY**

For us to give concrete elements of answers to different questions raised, our regard was turned to the exploitation of different sources and the utilization of useful methods. Sources can be perceived by one who is writing History as a hoe is to a farmer<sup>73</sup>. This explains the vital importance of the sources in the writing of Historical scientific documents. As far as the method is concerned, it is the mechanism put in place in order to produce a scientific work.

### **1. Technique of data collection**

The good performance of studies demands maximally the opening of the visions on the perfect choice of the method and the strategy of research. This act as a push factor to the new researcher to require the acceptable information for his studies, for it to arrive the terminator, two types of information were required which are the primary and the secondary information. So, we have use at the first point the primary information such as, information extracted from the archives and oral sources of information which was required during the descending on the terrain. The motivations for us to go for these types of primary information are their grand impacts in the production of the Historical Scientific knowledge and their necessities in Scientific production in all the Scientific domains in general and in History in particular.

The information from the Archives where from so many types such as decrees, laws, orders etc. These could be seen in the SED, the First regions of the Gendarmerie found in all the parts in Cameroon, The legions of the Gendarmerie in all the headquarters of the regions in

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<sup>73</sup> R. B. Onomo Etaba, *Précis de Méthodologie en Histoire*, Yaoundé, Presses de L'UCAC, 2013, p. 26.

Cameroon especially in the zones of Crises, the Ministry of defense, the camp Yeyap in the political capital of Cameroon. We have made the use of the archives of the central administration of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, the archives of the legion of the Gendarmerie of the south west regions, North west and the littoral legions archives. We exploited the archives of some personalities such as that of the Head of the service of employment and structure of the Gendarmerie and the archives of Colonel Mimbolo Brice. The Vice Director of employment and Structure of the Gendarmerie

As far as the oral sources are concerned, we have accorded a large space to the use of oral sources still under the primary sources. We gave importance to the people who could give us qualitative information adaptable for the realization of this scientific work such as the main officials of the National Gendarmerie such as the Director of the Central Coordination (DCC), the Director of Employment and Structure (DES), the Chief of the Division of the General Affaire (CDGA) and also The Heads of services and offices of the central administration of the National Gendarmerie. The Heads of legions of Gendarmerie like the commanders of the South west, the Littoral and the North West legions. We have gone adjacent to administrative authorities such as, the Divisional Officer of Douala 1<sup>st</sup>, the Divisional Officer of Buea, the chief of Cabinets of the North west and the south west regions. The other category usually neglected by some scientists was taken into consideration. Here, we made mention of the civil populations whom we expect to be the beneficiaries of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie. For that, we descended in the zones where we could found them like in the quarters, markets without distinguish of the zones of crises and non-crises

Concerning the secondary information, they can be seen as information required from written documents and these are usually documents of the libraries. These can be such as, test books, Scientifics articles, the results and reports of conferences from divers origins, and some web sites. This then pushed us to go for the research of these documents in the libraries such as the History Geography and Archaeology Club, The phylo, Psyc, Socio, and Anthropology Club, the two in the University of Yaounde 1, the library of the FALSH, the library of the ministry of scientific research etc.

## **2. Technique of data analysis**

To explain the act of the civil-military actions of the national Gendarmerie in Cameroon, we have opted for the hypothetico-deductive method. This method often used by many historians consists of evaluating facts through formulation of the hypothesis and proceeding via the verification on the field. This could be evaluated in our work through the demonstrations of

the existence of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, the types of the actions, the difficulties faced to totalizes the success of the activity in the protection of people, their goods and services in Cameroon.

Taking into consideration the fact that we are in the social sciences and to valorizes the multidisciplinary in History, we have borrowed from disciplines such as Sociology, Geography, Philosophy, Anthropology, Economics, the political sciences, in order to clarify the inter-disciplinarily character of the work.

We have also adopted the synchronic and the diachronic method in order to arrange the information into themes in one way and in other way to work on these themes taking into consideration the space and the changes of time in order to discover how the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie can be evaluated and how it has contributed to protection of people in the Zone of crises.

We have not also set aside the utilization of the qualitative and the quantitative information acquired through questionnaires, interviews and documentary researches. This can be seen through the use of the information collected with the aid of the questionnaire, interviews, and from documents.

## **XI. THEORITICALS CONSIDERATIONS**

The Civil-Military Actions of the National Gendarmerie is supported by two theories which are the Functionalism and Interactionism. Concerning the theory of Fonctionnalisme, Madeleine Grawitz indicates That,

*La notion de fonction soufre D'abord d'une ambiguïté de langage souvent déplorée dans les sciences sociales. L'usage populaire retient l'aspect social là confond avec la profession. La publicité emploie le terme fonctionnel dans le terme d'utile<sup>74</sup>.*

The theory of Functionalism as presented here by the author in other way remind of the classical comprehension of the theory. He persists by saying that, in a large sense, the word functionalism designs a way of analysis in which social facts are studies according to their functions<sup>75</sup>. This theory which carries it roots from Anthropology and which was very dominant in social sciences more especially between the 1930s and the 1960s. This theory was under the influence of great scientists like Brolisnow Manilowski, Talkott Parsons, one of the principal authors of this school of thought which desired to elaborate a general theory of Humans actions.

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<sup>74</sup> M. Grawitz, *Méthodes des sciences sociales*, Paris, Dalloz, 2001, p. 424.

<sup>75</sup> Grawitz, *Méthodes des sciences...*, p.424.

Other scientist of this school is Robert King Merton. American sociologist is considered as the Father of functionalism of the modern age. He takes into consideration three postulate but the one which interest us is where he thinks that, one element is not forcefully positive for a system but can have considerably many functions. Other authors of social sciences still make good intervention of this theory.

When adapted to the Civil-military actions of the Gendarmerie of Cameroon, put in evidences the functions of the National Gendarmerie more especially as Economic police and the police of security which are specifically for the provision of the security of people, the protection of the people goods and services. There is also her performance of the provision of the facilities or the civilian populations in the zones of crises and zones of non-crisis in other to serve the civilian populations in all the fronts.

This theory was put in place by B. Malinowski. He is considered the Father of functionalism and segmented his explanations into propositions and the second proposition took our attention. He proposed that, all the social elements fulfil a sociological function. This then goes with the National Gendarmerie which apart from its security mission, administrative missions, then finally acts in the social and economic advancement of the Country through her Civil-military Actions. Malinowski also makes us to understand, through observation and explanations that there existed the grand inter dependent facts that we are studying and their links with the global society<sup>76</sup>. This then helps to understand the importance of the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie in the society of Cameroon led it be to the civilian populations, the organizations the administrative personnel and also to the gendarme. It also permits to explain how the efforts of the Gendarmerie body through her Civil-Military Actions permits in other to construct a link of inter dependence and cooperation between the Civilians and the Gendarmerie personnel.

As far as the theory of interactionism is concern, it is a theory put in place by George Herbert Mead as a defender of the pragmatism and of the subjectivity of the social realities. He is considered as the pioneer of the development of Interactionism. According to the author, the society is conceived as the result of multiple interactions between individuals. This clarifies the interactions that could exist between the civilian population and the Elements of the National

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<sup>76</sup> <sup>76</sup> Grawitz, *Méthodes des sciences...*, p.425.

Gendarmerie led it be in the zones of crises or zones of non-crises. This is through the benedictions of the civil-military done on favours of the civilian populations.

## **XII. DEFINITION OF THE OPERATORY FRAME WORK**

The National Gendarmerie is part of the composition of the defense forces. It excises it actions on the entire of the national territory and more particularly in the rural zones and on the Communication lines

Participation: This can be an action put in place by the National Gendarmerie in other to help in the well been of the civil populations. They participate in the social stability of the civilian populations.

Zones of non-conflicts. These are zones which are experiencing the absence of physical confrontations as is the case of other regions in the country such as the Northern regions, the North West and the South west regions and he Eastern Regions. Example are centre region, south and Adamawa region.

Gendarmerie of proximity. This is the activities put in place by the National Gendarmerie in order to maximally be adjacent to the civil population. The proximity of the Gendarmerie of the country can be materialize on the representative manner of the institution as it is present even in the unimaginable.

Security. Perfect situation in which someone or something is not exposes to any form of danger.

## **XIII. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED**

To affirm that this scientific research was totally easy is to be at the same level with one who forgets some facts that he has gone through or the person who lies as far the facts that he has gone through are concern. Since all scientific works that are always carried on the security and defense forces in general and on the National Gendarmerie in particular are not always easy since the requirement of information to realize the scientific works present a problem as it is considered as "*la grand muette*<sup>77</sup>". This then explains difficulties we have encountered in the requirement of information. There were also the administrative problems as the documents deposited at the level of the Ministry of defense, the Secretary of state at the defense in charge of the National Gendarmerie, the legions and the regions of the Gendarmerie took time to be

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<sup>77</sup> *La grande muette* is just a qualification given to the Cameroon Forces of defense and security in general and the National gendarmerie in particular to signify the fact that the informations are not supposed to go out from there without control.



responded, making it not appropriate for us to consider this research as to be as easy. We also went through the problem of non-availability of the archive. It is true to affirm that; the National Gendarmerie is still not open for the keeping at the disposition of the researchers all their archives as they still play on the stadium of secret information. A grand number of the documents that was at our disposition was in French while we are from the English expression. The non-disponibility of some potential informers in the zones of crises like was the case in the NOSO of Cameroon due to the fear of the fact that, others saw us for their first time.

#### **XIV. PLAN OF WORK**

For a good organisation of this dissertation, we thought it important to advance a segmentation of our work in to four chapters.

For the first chapter, we have presented the origin of the civil-military actions in the adopted concepts of the national gendarmerie of Cameroon. Here, presentations were focused on, from where this National Gendarmerie institution in the present day Cameroon. That is, the Historical background of the National Gendarmerie. Also, we intervene in the chapter by going back to the study of those Factors which has favours the adoption of the concept Civil-Military Action by the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. Equally, the chapter investigates on the mechanisms of the implementations of the Civil-Military Actions by the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon.

On the second chapter, we have presented the types of Civil-Military actions of the National Gendarmerie. Here the exploration attaches on three main parts which are the Cultural and sportive Actions of the National Gendarmerie, The educative and the Health actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon and The Socio-Economic Actions of the National Gendarmerie

On the third chapter, we have the confrontations of the Civil-Military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. This chapter is segmented in to three great parts, with the first part titled, the conceptions of the actual Gendarmerie and the limited level of training on the question of Civil-military Actions. The second main part of this work comes to enlighten on the administrative problems that encounters the Gendarmerie of Cameroon in the administrative domain. Here we are called to explore on the hierarchical respect and haw it install the limitations in carrying out the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie on the Zones of physical operations or even on zones were the initiatives need to be taken in order to carry on the civil-military actions by the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. The last part

of this chapter studies the limitations of civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie bases on the financial domain.

In the fourth chapter, we have presented the new orientations for the better application of Civil-Military Actions of the National Gendarmerie. Here, we are going to see the finality to assure the security of the Gendarmes and that of the Civilian population through the requirement of confidential information, to participate in the socio-economic development of the country and to assure the link of Nations-Army between the Gendarmes and the civilian population. Secondly, we are going to evaluate the appreciations of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. Lastly, we are going to elaborate some perspectives for the advanced civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon.

## **CHAPTER I: FROM THE NESSERCITY TO THE ADOPTED CONCEPTS OF CIVIL-MILITARY ACTIONS BY THE NATIONAL GENDARMERIE OF CAMEROON**

As a French colonial heritage, the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon was copied from the French system of Gendarmerie. This was due to the long time that the French has passes in Cameroon and their effort to put in place a security and a defense system which was adapted to their comprehension for a better control of the French colonies in Africa and Cameroon which was also under their total control<sup>1</sup>. The National Gendarmerie is a body of the Cameroon army often seen to be present in the Urban, peri-urban and rural areas of Cameroon. A body of carrier, well organized hierarchically and imposes its discipline. Also detaining a double competency which is civil and military, the national Gendarmerie is an institutional organization, directly adjacent to the population, having the comprehension of the people and their areas. She appears as a precious utile of extraction of important information which is put to the dispositions of the competent authorities in charge of conceiving orders, the defense of the rural and urban population and the conservation of the state's integrity and Image in the international level<sup>2</sup>. This National Gendarmerie of Cameroon since after the 1990, has been adopting according to their strategies of exercise some concepts adapting them on the programs and the desire of the philosophy they put in place for the security of people and their goods. This philosophy also takes in to considerations the protections of the state's properties and the image of the country at the internatonal level. This could be the case of the concept of Civil-Military Actions of the National Gendarmerie put in place and among the concepts used in the Gendarmerie of Cameroon.

This chapter which is considered as the point of departure of our study deals principally on the understanding origin of the National Gendarmerie institution in the present-day Cameroon. That is, the Historical background of the National Gendarmerie. Also, we intervene in the chapter by going back to study factors that favoured the adoption of the concept Civil-Military Action by the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. Equally, the chapter investigates the mechanisms of the implementations of the Civil-Military Actions by the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon.

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<sup>1</sup> I. W. Menganda Bela, "Gendarmerie Nationale et Respect des Droits de L'homme : Traitement des gardes à vue dans les chambres des suretés de Yaoundé", mémoire de Diplôme d'Études Approfondies (D.E.A) en Sociologie, Université de Yaoundé1, 2005, p. 33.

<sup>2</sup> J. Nkeh, "The police and" ..., p. 238.

## I. BRIEF HISTORY OF THE NATIONAL GENDARMERIE OF CAMEROON

Like all research works, before the beginning of all scientific exercises on the institution of National Gendarmerie, necessitates understanding of the back ground and the evolutions of this important institution of defense and security in Cameroon<sup>3</sup>. In this main part of the chapter, we debut with the demonstrations of the French origins of the Gendarmerie which is today Cameroonized and baptized as the Cameroon National Gendarmerie. The subsequent part of the chapter one will proceed with explore of the period of the independence in Cameroon and the birth of the Cameroon's National Gendarmerie. It equally advances in a logical manner with the organization and the missions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon.

### 1- The French origin of the Gendarmerie

The old appellation of this institution was known as the French Gendarmerie. This descended from the French military tradition. From this philosophy<sup>4</sup>, the Gendarmerie was to be in the primordial position as far as the other Armies were concerned. This security and defense force, that is the National Gendarmerie has a valorized and comfortable history. The history of the National Gendarmerie debut in the 12<sup>th</sup> century the *Sergents royaux* of King Philippe II also called Philippe August<sup>5</sup> who put in place the first signs and symbols of the actual national Gendarmerie<sup>6</sup>. It was up to the 15<sup>th</sup> of February 1791 that the Gendarmerie officially came into existence through a law which will concretize it as *la Maréchaussée*<sup>7</sup> From here, the National Gendarmerie registered some dynamisms. This was a local guard force commanded by a Marshal. It was until the beginnings of the year 1780s that the National Gendarmerie registered some points of dynamisms and mutations in Europe. At that moment, there were the registrations of some establishments of the National Gendarmerie in so many side and countries in the European continent. It could have arrived because of some direct or indirect influences or powers that the French were having on some countries in the continent.

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<sup>3</sup> The Africans miniature indicated here is the country Cameroon. Cameroon as the Africans miniature simply means that practically the high percent of what are found in the other countries of Africa can be seen in Cameroon. This then makes Cameroon as a political, social, economic resume of Africa. This can be the case of the National Gendarmerie which we can found in Senegal, Gabon, Chad, the Central African Republic.

<sup>4</sup> From the perceptions and the orientations, the French wanted to give or to attributes to this body of security and defense.

<sup>5</sup> Menga Bela, "Gendarmerie Nationale et..." , p. 32.

<sup>6</sup> These sergeants were attached to some military heads in charge of exersing some military jurisdictions at the court, to the armies.

<sup>7</sup> Menga Bela, "Gendarmerie Nationale et..." , p. 32.

This could be countries such as Switzerland, Belgium and others<sup>8</sup>. These European countries saw the existences of the French Gendarmerie on their lands. But, since this body of Army has played a vital role in some European countries where she was established as far as the prevention of crises, securities against grand banditism and aggressions were concerned. Because the Gendarmerie could not stay different during the existence of crises and war between countries, and also because the European powers were not moving without their security apparatus, the French could then find themselves migrating to colonize Africa with the French Gendarmerie<sup>9</sup>.

Colonialism was a domination program put in place by the European powers and the French in particular. This desire to dominate African countries by the French concerned all the aspects of life of the Africans and civilization, and the Gendarmerie was integrating the civilization of the whites notably as far as the defense and security was concerned. It is this question of civilization that Kange Ewane insisted that, *“Lorsqu’une civilisation en juge une autre, elle le fait sauf rarissime exception, d’après ses propres critères pour s’estimer elle-même évidemment très supérieure”*<sup>10</sup>. He persisted to confirm the fact that, the same way of marginalisations and stigmatisation continuous in security as was the case of writing history by the white’s authors. This could be well elaborated if we observe the anarchic arrival and the management of the Gendarmerie on the land of the Africans and on the Africans by the Europeans.

It will also be important to see that all the institutions of the Gendarmerie in Africa architecturally respected the French model and also politically was copied on the French traditions of reactions and application on the field. It was in this perspective that Julius Nkeh recalled the research concerning the French military traditions. Here, he insisted that, Bakayoko studied French military traditions and their unique characteristics and submitted as it is true that in all Francophone African state, the security system was a direct heritage from the structure put in place by the colonial rule and maintained from the 1960s onward by the independent government<sup>11</sup>. The security machine in the territories where the French were exerting their power of domination opened their hand to the French gendarmerie in terms of organizational

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<sup>8</sup> S. A. M. M’minla Nkeudom, “La Gendarmerie Nationale Camerounaise au cœur de la coopération Militaire France-Cameroun de 1959 à Nos jours”, Mémoire de Maîtrise en Histoire, Université de Yaoundé 1, 2008, p. 9.

<sup>9</sup> Nkeh, “The Police and...”, p. 158.

<sup>10</sup> F. Kange Ewane, *Semence et moisson coloniales : un regard d’Africain sur l’Histoire de la colonisation*, Yaoundé, édition CLÉ, 1985, p. 14.

<sup>11</sup> Nkeh, “The police and...”, p. 239.

structure, equipment, deployment and nomenclature<sup>12</sup>. This convincing exploitation put in place negativities at which point the National in Africa was not programmed and thought by the Africans. That is, it was not based on the internal social needs of the Africans, but it was based on a context that was animating the entire world, that is, the climate of the desire to acquire territories in the newly discovered part of the world by the Europeans in general and the French in particular.

It is important to understand the challenges that the French were going through in Europe as there were all the mechanisms put in place by peoples like chancellor Bismarck the Germans chancellor through a policy known as the policy of Isolationism which largely impacted on the French and on the French desire to turn out of Europe for the acquisition of Territories. The French outward movement from Europe for the acquisition of territories in Africa will consequently bring the establishment of the French National Gendarmerie in Countries like Gabon, Senegal, Ivory Coast, Cameroon, Mali and other Countries that were under the French administration. This same observation continues with the understanding of Lutterbeck who says that, the Gendarmerie could be found in the entire former French territories in the newly discovered part of the world by the Europeans through physical or non-physical impact of the French<sup>13</sup>. The French troops in the French territories had a mechanism of the French operations and originated with what was called colonial troops and was to be segmented in to practically two grands categories. These segmentations could be the French long service volunteers<sup>14</sup>. These members were mandated to serves in the Garrison of French Western Africa (FWA), French Equatorial Africa (FEA), Madagascar as well as Indochina and New Caledonia<sup>15</sup>.

The other category in which could be classified the other troops of the French Gendarmerie was known as the Indigenous troop<sup>16</sup>. They were recruited to be integrated in diverse zones where their need could be manifested such as in Cameroon, the Ivory Coast, Senegal, Mali, Burkina-Faso. What is interesting here is that these people were Africans from different countries who could be force by the colonial masters to serve in the other countries were the colonial masters had their needs. They acted as the branch of the French officers and

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<sup>12</sup> Nkeh, "The police and...", p. 239.

<sup>13</sup> L. Derick, *The paradox of the Gendarmerie: between expansion, Demilitarization and Dissolution* (Geneva: Geneva center for the democratic control of Arm forces (DCFA), 2013), p. 8.

<sup>14</sup> These French troops or those who constituted this group of Gendarmes were French people that were in the colonies and were to play the role of Gendarmes.

<sup>15</sup> Nkeh, "The Police and...", p. 241.

<sup>16</sup> This troop of the French Gendarmes were different from the colonial troop as it was to be constituted of young Africans.

where refers to as the “*Tirailleurs*”<sup>17</sup>. The qualification was given to the Africans to show at which point they were ignorant in the affairs of modern system of security of defense brought to them by the Europeans. The dictionary facilitates the comprehension of this notion as it makes us to understand that “*Soldat détaché en avant comme éclaireur, soldat appartenant à certain corps d’infanterie français. Cette appellation se maintenu pendent la colonisation pour tous ceux qui étai recruté parmi les autochtones des anciens territoires d’outre-mer*”<sup>18</sup>.

These Africans who were savagely perceived by the Europeans were found in the entire French administrated territories. Among these, was a type of “*Tirailleurs*” known as the (Tirailleurs *Senegalais*, *Tirailleurs Malgaches*)<sup>19</sup>. This name was used to show the Central and the West Africans personnel that were recruited in the colonial Gendarmerie and without forgetting the Northern Africans that were also taken in corps. The arm service in the French system of colonization was registering some delicacies as it was a persistent and continuous activity. Whether French or indigenous troop, both were mostly long service regulars and contrary to how the army activities where going on in the English speaking dominations where the policy of colonization was not highly consumptive like in the French dominated Africans territories which made in such a way that French colonial troops should be enlisted in practically the entire Africans territories under French rule, not taking in to considerations the origins of the Africans<sup>20</sup>.

The colonial Gendarmerie was first put in place probably in Senegal and in 1843, this colonial troop began to recruits the body of Africans auxiliaries<sup>21</sup>. The existence of the Africans auxiliaries came with some regrettable conditions which impacted not only the indigenous personnel recruited from Africa to integrate the colonial Gendarmerie but also the points of service and the quality of services they were performing. Which might push us to ask our self a question if the Civil-Military Actions of the National Gendarmerie has not inherited some negativities but from the right moment when this was carried in Africa notably on her first field of operation in Senegal. This question could come from the treatments that were given to the

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<sup>17</sup> This was an infant qualification that the Europeans gave to the Africans that were found at the first moments of the arrival of the Gendarmerie in the corp.

<sup>18</sup> *Grand Dictionnaire encyclopédique Larousse*, Tome 9, Paris Cedex, Larousse, 1993, p. 10248.

<sup>19</sup> This was a kind of division of the Africans who were in the French Gendarmerie taking in to consideration the color of the skin and their geographical origins. Those they called *les tirailleurs Sénégalais* where the blacks and those known as les “Tirailleurs” *Malgaches* where the white Africans of the northern part of the Continent.

<sup>20</sup> N. Bagayoko, “Security system in Francophone Africa”, *Institute of Development Studies*, N°64 of May 2010, pp. 13-14.

<sup>21</sup> These Africans auxiliaries that the French started to include in the colonial gendarmerie were there continues with their activities of the last neglected and un considered members of the corps of the Gendarmerie. This could be sein on the place that they were to be occupied and those activities they were performing as members of a body of defense and security.

Gendarmes recruited in Africa at this period. Since their mal treatment, the inhuman considerations and the perceptions that the whites had of them was going to influence their performance and their reactions when faced with the civilian populations who were not in the body of defense but also having receiving the bad conceptions from the Europeans who sow them as second class people of God's creatures.

For Julius Nkeh, the colonial Gendarmerie that was established in Senegal in 1843, was due to the efforts of Governor Bouet Willaumez<sup>22</sup>. The applications of the efforts of the Governor as demonstrated by Nkeh could be seen as he brought the *spahis* who were soldiers from the French dominion territories of the northern part of Africa. They acquired the principal mission which was to play the role of maintaining peace and order in the present and newly acquired territory which was Dakar at the period<sup>23</sup>. There nestled and put in place of remarkable institutions of the Gendarmerie. In order to make a good use of this, two Gendarmeries were established, one in Dakar and the other in St Louis which saw its eradications from 1890 due to the lack of finance of these important institutions. Then, on the demands of the Governor to the ministry of colonies to re-install, the Gendarmeries institutions saw the provisions of the finances for the survivals of the Gendarmerie institutions. And the putting in place of the Gendarmerie's brigades and the payment of the personnel of the Gendarmerie at that period was introduced. This was to be done through the local budget which then gave the chance for the reinstallation of the Gendarmeries in Senegal. This also pushed the establishment in practically all the territories of the French west Africa<sup>24</sup>. These countries were such as Gabon, Chad, Central African Republic (CAR) and Cameroon which is the point of study in the work.

## **2- The independence and the "Cameroonization" of the National Gendarmerie**

The year 1960 will arrive with a change in the History of Cameroon. Protests in the large part of French Cameroon, international pressure mounted on the French and the desire of the Cameroonians to take over the political, economics and even social responsibilities of the Country. It is on one part due to some of these reasons that, on the 01-01-1960, the French Cameroon becomes independent, and so, since a country needs some capacities of defense and security, she will provide herself with institutions which could guarantee her these important factors of an independent country. It is in this optic that among the institutions in charge of the maintenance of peace and order more especially the internal peace that the Cameroon Gendarmerie will be created.

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<sup>22</sup> Nkeh, "The Police and" ..., p. 240

<sup>23</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>24</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 243



The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon results on the merging of the Auxiliaries of the of the French Gendarmerie known as the “*Auxiliaires de la Gendarmerie Française*” and the local forces known as the Cameroonians Guards “*la garde Camerounaise*”. As was mentioned by Aladji Sadou Daoudou, Minister of Arm Forces that, “*Aucun pays au monde ne peut se passer des forces Armées car le pays est confronté à des menaces dont il doit se protéger à travers son Armée. Ces menaces peuvent êtres interne et ou externes du pays*”<sup>25</sup>.

This pertinent demonstration of the powerful minister of Arm forces of Cameroon convince scientifically to understand the Importance of the Armies in General and the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon in particular. Due to the difficulties of a new Government face to the perpetual development of the nationalist sentiments in Cameroon, and also of the lack of the competencies of the young Gendarmerie, the French Gendarmes were force to proceed with the administration of this institution while putting in place the structure of the country and at this important period of transition. The main objective of these actions of was the transfer of competences to the benefit of Cameroonians<sup>26</sup>. This important process of transfer of competences shows the great positivity on the performances of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon as the defense and security force had a large and complex competences as they cover the entire country taking into considerations the urban and the rural areas.

### **3- Organization and missions of the National Gendarmerie**

The organization of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon since it “Cameroonization” till today is copied from the French colonial model. It organization is respective to the laws put in place for it. For instance, the decree N° 60/20. The National Gendarmerie such as other armies, have at the top of the decisions the Head of state who is automatically the Head of Armed forces. He also defines and organizes the National Gendarmerie in to central services, territorial commends, and special trainings centers. For Julius Nkeh, the organisations and missions of the National Gendarmerie was enshrined in three main texts namely, Ordinance 60-20 of February 1960 on the organization of the National Gendarmerie, the criminal instruction code and the criminal procedure ordinance<sup>27</sup>.

The organization of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon passes through the strict respects of the texts of Law and were respectively stated that, the National Gendarmerie is an integral part of the Cameroon Arm forces. It actions is exercise on all the areas of the territory more particularly on the rural zones and on the ways of communications. Then as a force placed

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<sup>25</sup> D. Abwa, *Sadou Daoudou parle de l'Armée Camerounaises*, Yaoundé, Presses de l'UPAC, 2001, p. 55.

<sup>26</sup> Mpina M'minla Nkeudom “La Gendarmerie Nationale...”, p. 28.

<sup>27</sup> Ngoh, “The Police and...”, p. 247.

under the authority of the Secretary General specially in charge of the Gendarmerie, the National Gendarmerie can be organized as, the central service; the territorial Command, the commands and special training<sup>28</sup>.

With the process of rendering the National Gendarmerie to Cameroonians, in 1966 the Delegation of the Gendarmerie was put in place with first Delegate Mr. Issah Bakary then after the reorganizations of this body of defense and Security in 1973, the central services of the National Gendarmerie were constituted, a General delegation which was having an *Etat major* and an administrative and Technical Center. Then there was the decree n° 83/569 of the 12 of November 1983 which created the Secretary of state in charge of the National Gendarmerie<sup>29</sup>. The decree 2001 reorganized the Central services of the National Gendarmerie. This was the N°2001/177 of 25, July 2001<sup>30</sup>. It then placed the SED under the authority of the ministry of defense and indicated that the SED was specifically in charge of the National Gendarmerie and her administration, conceptualization and the elaborations of rule and the regulations important for the accomplishment of the missions of the National Gendarmerie. These services consist of; the particular secretary, the division of General affairs, the General inspections of the National Gendarmerie, the coordination direction, the central direction of administrations and logistics. These respective points of the administration of the National Gendarmerie was placed under the supervisions of senior officers of the National Gendarmerie placed on their positions by the degree of the Head of state and they were to accompany the Secretary of State to the Defense in charge of the National Gendarmerie in his work.

We had at the first point the Territorial commands. National gendarmerie of Cameroon which was described as having the power of control in the rural and the urban areas also had a characteristic that was found in all areas of the country. The Territorial Commandments of the National Gendarmerie shows its competence which enlarges at the level of the Regions of the Country. These services of the National Gendarmerie are organized as the regions of Gendarmerie, the Legions of the Gendarmerie, the territorial grouping of Gendarmerie, the companies of the Territorial Gendarmerie, the brigades of the territorial Gendarmerie and the Brigades of the specialized Gendarmerie, and lastly the Gendarmerie posts<sup>31</sup>.

According to the Decree of 2001, the Region of the National Gendarmerie is in charge of the command, administration, the coordination and the help in the training in the National

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<sup>28</sup> A. N.G, Decree N° 2001 du 25, July 2001 portant sur la réorganisation de la Gendarmerie Nationale.

<sup>29</sup> A. Ongolo, "Gendarmerie Camerounaises : Plaque commémorative des cinquantièmes de l'indépendance et de la réunification", *Gendarmerie camerounaise*, 2011, p. 2.

<sup>30</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 3.

<sup>31</sup> A. G. N, Décret N°2001/181 portant réorganisation de la Gendarmerie Nationale, 25 Juillet 2001, Article 55.

Gendarmerie in the execution of their missions<sup>32</sup>. In order to fulfil their missions, the Regions of the Gendarmerie is organized as follows: The first Region of the Gendarmerie. It covers the Center Region, the South and the East Region and has as post of Command in Yaoundé. The region of Adamawa, and other region of Gendarmerie was the one having as the territorials of Command the Region of Littoral, the North west, the west and the South west Region. This Region of the Gendarmerie has as post of command Douala. There was also the third Region of Gendarmerie which occupies the Regions Extreme North and the Norther Region of Cameroon. The third Region of the National Gendarmerie has as the head of poste in Garoua. The Region of the National Gendarmerie is placed under the authority of a Commander of the Region of the Gendarmerie, he was usually an Officer of the National Gendarmerie placed by the Head of State through a decree of his nomination<sup>33</sup>.

The Legion of the National Gendarmerie comes after the region of the Gendarmerie. It is in charge of the command, administration, the coordination, and the help of the training and specialized the territorial units and they assist the National Gendarmerie in the executions of their missions<sup>34</sup>. The legion of the Gendarmerie such as other organ of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, will also register some changes with the advancement of time from the period of independence. After 1982, the Political History of Cameroon will change as the new head of state change many things in the Gendarmerie. It is in this dynamic that in 1984, there will be a mutation in the National Gendarmerie but before that, the National Gendarmerie was having seven Legions during the period of the General Delegation of the National Gendarmerie. But with the new administrative configuration and the reorganization that took place in 1884, the National Gendarmerie counts Ten legions of the Gendarmerie. These legions were organized territorially according to the limitations of the Regions and their posts of Commands are directly the headquarters of these regions<sup>35</sup>.

Placed under the supervision of an Officer of the National Gendarmerie, the legion of the Gendarmerie is commanded by a commander of the Legion who is position here by the head of state through a degree<sup>36</sup>. He is assisted commander and a head of the Etat-major, officer of the Gendarmerie receives his nomination through a decree of the president of the republic<sup>37</sup>.

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<sup>32</sup> *Ibid.*, Article 57.

<sup>33</sup> *Ibid.*, Article 60.

<sup>34</sup> *Ibid.*, Article 71.

<sup>35</sup> Mpina M'minla Nkeudom, "La Gendarmerie Nationale...", p. 28.

<sup>36</sup> <sup>36</sup> Mpina M'minla Nkeudom, "La Gendarmerie Nationale...", p. 28.

<sup>37</sup> A. G. N, décret N°2001/181..., Article 73.

This officer of the Gendarmerie has as mission, the direction, the control of the condition of training, the planification, the execution of the mission of security and defense<sup>38</sup>.

There is equally the formations, territorial units and specialize of the Gendarmerie which are in charge of the execution of the entire mission of the National Gendarmerie in their circumscriptions. So, she executed the mission of general security and the maintenance of peace and order, the missions of the administrative and the judiciary police, the missions of the administrative, the military police and the National Defense<sup>39</sup>. The formations and the territorial unites specialize are as follows: the territorial Gendarmerie which can be seen such as, the grouping of the Gendarmerie, the Gendarmerie Companies, the Territorial Brigades of the Gendarmerie, the territorial posts of the Gendarmerie<sup>40</sup>. The specialized Units on their way, are made up of, the specialized companies of the National Gendarmerie, the specialized Brigades and also the specialized posts of Gendarmerie.

We cannot also forget the Formations and units of the Mobile Gendarmerie. These are military types structures. The formations and units of the mobile Gendarmerie are in charge of the execution of the missions of maintaining and re-establishment of public order<sup>41</sup>. She reinforces formations and specialize territorial units in the execution of the missions assigned to the National Gendarmerie. The formations and mobile Gendarmerie are composes of: the squadron groups, Squadron and the pelotons<sup>42</sup>. The commands and specialized formations. The commands and specialized formations of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon constitute of: *Comendement des Ecoles et Cercles d'Instruction de la Gendarmerie Nationale (CECIG) which include a Stage d'Application des Officiers de la Gendarmerie Nationale (SAOGN), l'Ecole des sous-officiers de la Gendarmerie Nationale (ESOGN)* ; the Instructions Centers; the improvement Centers<sup>43</sup>. Among this the commands and specialized formations of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, we also have the *Groupement Polyvalent d'Intervention de la Gendarmerie Nationale (GPIGN)*. The *GPIGN* was put in place since 1998 in order to serve as a tool for fighting against some form of aggravated criminalities that was going on in Cameroon such as for instance the phenomenon of the “*coupeurs des routes*”, the phenomenon of hostage-taking, plane hijacking, the interventions in the penitentiary milieu, protection of important personalities in case of menace<sup>44</sup>. “*Le GPIGN est un élément du groupement de*

<sup>38</sup> Mpina M'minla Nkeudom, “La Gendarmerie Nationale ...”, p. 29.

<sup>39</sup> A. G. N, décret N°2001/181..., Article 87.

<sup>40</sup> *Ibid.*, Article 88.

<sup>41</sup> Mpina M'minla Nkeudom, “La Gendarmerie Nationale...”, p. 29.

<sup>42</sup> Menganda Bella, “Gendarmerie Nationale et ...”, p. 31.

<sup>43</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 33.

<sup>44</sup> Wanyaka Bonguen, “Sites militaires et...”, p. 7.

*sécurité et d'interventions de la Gendarmerie Nationale. Le GPIGN est une unité d'élite fortement entraîné et spécialement équipée, elles interviennent généralement pour faire face à des situations particulièrement dangereuses*<sup>45</sup>.

The other important point of the Gendarmerie is the squadrons group of intervention of the Secretary of state at the defense specially in charge of the National Gendarmerie. It takes into consideration all the human resources in service in the Central services of the SED<sup>46</sup>. These personnel are those in service in other formations under the National Gendarmerie, the personnel of the Presidential Guard, the personnel of the Presidential Security, the personnel of the service of security of the prime ministry and the service of the security if the president of the General Assembly are organized and called the detachment of the Gendarmerie of the Ministry of defense<sup>47</sup>. The music of the National Gendarmerie is place under the head of music who is assisted by the Vice chief of Music, officer of the national Gendarmerie appointed by order of the minister in charge of the defense<sup>48</sup>. It constitutes of a platoon of command, a Brass band drum and an Orchestra.

The missions assigned to the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon are in diverse forms and could be classified in different categories. According to the article two and three of the decree n°2001/181 of the 25<sup>th</sup> of July 2001 concerning the organization of the National Gendarmerie, the body of defense and security had the following missions as sighted in article two and three:

*Sous l'autorité du ministre charger de la défense, la Gendarmerie exécute des missions au profit du ministre de L'administration Territoriale et du ministre de la justice. Elle se tient également à la disposition des autres chefs des départements ministériels dans le cadre des missions qui lui sont dévolues conformément à la réglementation. La Gendarmerie Nationale exécute des missions de police administrative et de police judiciaire prévus par des textes en vigueurs*<sup>49</sup>

Article 3 : *“Missions particuliers : Elle concourt à la défense Nationale, elle concourt au maintien de la sureté intérieure de l'état. Elle assure des missions de police militaire et de police judiciaire militaire”*<sup>50</sup>.

Article two and three gives clarifications on the missions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon conforming to the laws. The complexities of the missions of the national Gendarmerie due to it density and complexity necessitated the integration of the point of views of other authors. According to Menganda Mbella in his dissertation, the missions of the National

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<sup>45</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>46</sup> A. G. N, décret N°2001/181..., Article 113

<sup>47</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>48</sup> *Ibid.*, Article 115.

<sup>49</sup> *Ibid.*, Article 2.

<sup>50</sup> A. G. N, décret N°2001/181..., Article 2.

Gendarmerie of Cameroon are numerous and diverse. For the author, the missions of the national Gendarmerie are segmented into four which are, the General missions, the mission of police, the divers missions and the other missions consider as the mission of National Defense<sup>51</sup>. Other authors also intervene such as Wanyaka Virginie in her scientific article render the missions of the National Gendarmerie into three great categories with their various percentages. For the author, the National Gendarmerie has the missions which she performs as, the administrative police. She has elaborate the missions such as,

*La mission de police administrative qui couvre 30% de ses missions. L'autorité administrative doit garantir la sureté, la tranquillité, et le maintien de l'ordre public dont elle reste responsable de l'exécutions. La police judiciaire représente 50% environs des missions confier à la Gendarmerie. Elle a pour objet de constater les infractions à la lois pénale, d'en rassembler les preuves, de chercher les auteurs afin de leur livrer à la justice, d'exécuter les mandats et les décisions de la justice. La mission de police militaire intermédiaire entre les autorités militaires et les civils. Dans ce cas de figure, la gendarmerie exerce à la fois la mission de police militaire générale à caractère préventif et la mission de police militaire judiciaire à vocation répressive.<sup>52</sup>*

Contrary to Mbenganda Bella, Virginie Wanyaka evaluates the missions of the National Gendarmerie in to percentages which shows the differences in the levels of the performances of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon to these different missions and also the pertinence of the author in the analysis. The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon could also perform some activities which enters in the social domains such as the provision of gifts to the people who are victims of some crises and efforts, they usually apply in Zones of crises to teach. These activities enrich their Civil-Military actions. The main difference that exist in the activities of the Gendarmerie between the first Gendarmes and the Gendarmes after the 1990s are on the objectives of the performance of their activities as they simply at the first period performs their activities in order to protect the Head of state and ensure the good implementation of his policies. This was a replica of the Napoleonic system of defense and security.

The Napoleonic system of defense and security as mention in the scientific work was that system of defense and security thought and put in place by Napoleon the King were by the actors were to feel them self in the simple security of the King and not for the security of the Civil population. This system could well be observed in the defense group of the termites<sup>53</sup>.

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<sup>51</sup> Walter, *La Gendarmerie...*, p. 42.

<sup>52</sup> Wanyaka, "Site militaires et...", p. 6.

<sup>53</sup> *Ibid.*

It could also be contextualized as “Head of statization”<sup>54</sup> of the National Gendarmerie<sup>55</sup>.

As far as the new Gendarmerie is concern, they have a great interest of going toward the civilian population in order to improve on the new vision and the philosophy that was given to them due to the new phase of politics that was imposed to all the states because of the internal political winds that blows on the world since the 1990s. Other activities which the National Gendarmerie could perform which could enter in her missions of police and also seen in her services are such as, during mobilizations. At the moments of such activities, the national Gendarmerie was called to inform the population and the administrative authorities. She was also to take in to consideration her mission which was highly base on the maintenance of peace and order, whether urban or rural areas. For this to be done, she has to acquire maximum information so as to anticipate some situations.

Civil-Military actions of the National Gendarmerie is the central theme of this work. The objective way which is that of all students in History is the treatment of this work by presenting first of all the National Gendarmerie which is our institution of interest. It is for this reason that we have debut this work by presenting the French origin of the National Gendarmerie, the Cameroon National Gendarmerie and lastly, we have explored the organization and the missions of the National Gendarmerie. The main thing to be noted of this first part of the scientific work is that the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon has advances progressively from the French origin to the independence of Cameroon which made that all the Armies should passes through a process of “Cameroonization” which was effective in the Gendarmerie in 1966 with the arrival of the first black on the head of the institution known as Mr Issah Bakary<sup>56</sup>. The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon even though copied on the French model of the Gendarmerie is a well-organized institution with it respective missions which are demonstrated above. The security and the defense force have adopted a concept known as the Civil-Military concept which it is important to explore on the next part of the chapter.

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<sup>54</sup> This was a policy that was put in place by the state in other to resume the actions of security of the Gendarmes should only resumes on the Head of state and the members of his Government. This caped away the importance of the National Gendarmerie to the Civil population and making them to only think of the civil population when there was a moment of brutality on the civil population. This non consideration in the maximum of the actions and the program of the National Gendarmerie has make in such a way that the Gendarmes should stay on the logic whereby they are superior to the civil populations.

<sup>55</sup> The “governmentalism” of the National Gendarmerie was a way to describes the way the first Cameroon Gendarmerie were oriented as it was oriented on the objectives of protecting the interests of the Head of states and the members of his Government but setting as sight the interests of the civil population.

<sup>56</sup> Ongolo, “Plaque presenting the...”, p. 1.

## **II- THE FACTOR WHICH HAVE STIMULATED THE NEED FOR THE CONCEPT CIVIL-MILITARY ACTIONS IN THE NATIONAL GENDARMERIE.**

A new way of managing crises installed itself progressively going from the principle that, peace constructs itself not only on the diplomatic plan, political, military but also on the humanitarian, socio-economics and industrial plan. The Civil-Military cooperation seeks to mobilize public expertise with the objective of restoring the society affected by a situation of crises or conflicts<sup>57</sup>. The National Gendarmerie of Cameroun since a long period of time has changed in term of her strategies concepts. In this sense, she has adopted many strategies since the period of independence to the 1990s when she integrated the Civil-Military Cooperation. This concept imposes an additional component on the missions of the National Gendarmerie, while improving her mode of operation<sup>58</sup>.

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon which is the arm of the defense force which is most adjacent to the population started doing some things not for the defense of the state integrity, the defense of the state face to the international menaces but will practically be on the sight of the population, for the population and for the service of the population. In this vein, she started undertaking some missions such as constructions of classes, teaching students in zones of crises, construction of hospitals which they put on the service of the population, sensitizing the youths on the negative phenomenon that is going on in the society and many other things that could endanger the security of persons and their goods. In this part of our work, we explore the factors which have necessitated the need for the Civil-Military Actions in the concepts of day to day life of the National Gendarmerie. We started by studying the Historical context of the 1990s. Additionally, we have explored the desire by the National Gendarmerie to reinforce the link and cooperation between the civilian population and the Army. Lastly, we have talk of the desire by the National Gendarmerie to contribute on the socio-economic development of the Country.

### **1- The political and security context of the 1990s**

The period of 1990 arrived with a change in the plan on the management of conflicts in the world and in Cameroon in particular. The complexification of conflicts<sup>59</sup>, the privatization,

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<sup>57</sup> M. Thonier, "Les Actions Civilo-Militaires : une finalité opérationnelle", *Revue inflexions*, N° 05, p. 77.

<sup>58</sup> Wanyaka Bonguen, "La politique sociale des Forces Armées Camerounaises de 1961-1997", *Mélanges, Revue Scientifique pluridisciplinaire du département d'Histoire de la Faculté des Arts, Lettres et Sciences Humains*, N°1 de juin 2013, p. 3.

<sup>59</sup> The complexification of conflicts here explains the complications that the conflicts that was passing at this period of the 1990s was comporting. This could be observing on the change of the ways that the conflicts were manifesting themselves from the boundaries of the country to the interior and even with the change of the actors of the conflicts



the multiplication of the civil actors and the challenges of managing conflicts imposed on the military the necessity to conceive strategies suitable to an environment experiencing multiple forms of insecurities like terrorism and youth delinquency<sup>60</sup>. The military institutionalization of the management of conflicts by the militaries was adopted by Cameroon. It is true that the concept was an English military concept which will be deported to France. France will manage this concept through a branch of armies known as the *Groupement Interarmées des Actions Civilo-Militaire* (GIACM). This was created within the armies to cooperate with the complex civilian world and work in support of the force in contact with the population. The GIACM also at times carry out projects that are similar to those of the nongovernmental organizations but with different finalities. This branch of army will be transferred in the Ivory coast where she did her proves her positivity as, the armies realized gigantic projects such as the reparation of pump of water, the renovation of maternities, provision of didactics materials to students who were going to school, construction of bridges and issuing of gifts to the civilian populations.

In Cameroon, the adoption of this concept was to maintain the way of advancing from a History full of passion taking its roots from the wind of change<sup>61</sup> that blows around the world at the 1990s. The wing of democratization that will come and change the system of powers that was existing in some countries and the manners in which there were orienting the armies. Particularly as Cameroon was concerned<sup>62</sup>,

At the beginning of the year 1990, the regime of Yaounde since 8 years on power in Cameroon trembled. The popular striking was through the entire country, the desire of liberty was a need of the population of Cameroon.<sup>63</sup> Strikes and other forms of civil disorders arrived the point of satiation in Cameroon. Nothing was not more on its positive way as before the wind of change which swept through the Soviet Union in the 1980s and led to its disintegrations which felt in several developing countries including Cameroon. Many Cameroonians criticized the dictatorial political regime, the military system, objectives of the missions of the militaries and the actions of the Armies in general and the National Gendarmerie in particular led it to be on

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which at times were the citizens of the country as for instance were the case of political insecurities of the 1990s in the country in the towns like Douala, Yaounde and some towns in the entire of the Country. After these multi forms of conflicts like was also the cases in the 2008, the National Gendarmerie have the desire to a grand interest to the future life of the population that are on the field where there was the conflict and this pushes them to provide some ways of survivals to the Civil populations and which enters in the agenda of the Civil Military cooperation.

<sup>60</sup> Thonier, "Les Actions Civilo...", p. 71.

<sup>61</sup> The wind of change was a change of the forms of the dictatorial governments that were existing in the maximum of the countries of the world.

<sup>62</sup> M. Motte, George and all, *La mesure de la force : traité de stratégie de l'Ecole de Guerre*, Paris, Tallandier, 2018, p. 241.

<sup>63</sup> J. B. Tagne, *Accordée avec Fraude de AHIDJO à BIYA, comment sortir du cycle des élections contestées*, Yaoundé, les Editions du schabel, 2019, p. 47.

the Zones of crises or on the zones of peace and hospitability. Programs were put in place in other to galvanize the population<sup>64</sup>. This started with initiatives put in place in some African countries like Benin in 1990, Gabon and Zaire were some examples in Africa which advanced in the moderations of the population.

In Cameroon particularly, the National Gendarmerie inscribed this both the political and security situation with the adoption of some military policies that will bring other ways of going out of the crises in other to avoid any possible evitable situation occasioned by owners of popular security of the Country. This new concept, the Civil-military Cooperation which is treated in this scientific registered itself on the scientific agenda in Cameroon taking in to consideration some backgrounds which could also be Socio-Economics<sup>65</sup>.

The Concept of the Civil-Military Actions which could be verifiable in other armies in Cameroon in General and in the National Gendarmerie in particular registered a long History which could be studied in the Socio-Economic angle. The period of the 1990s will arrive in the society of Cameroon after some social facts which was from passing and could still be consider has been aggravated in the mentalities of the Cameroonians. We could start by mentioning the period of 1982 which proves a political change in the regime of Yaounde<sup>66</sup>. This political transition marks a point of change on the decisions taking on the society of Cameroon and the armies also since is the politics that thinks an orientation of the army of a country and consequently the case with the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon<sup>67</sup>.

This decision that could also passes through an important utilization of the instrument of defense that was on our disposition notably the National Gendarmerie. The capitalization of this instrument of defense and security could be captivant through a long process, the putting in place of the well-established strategies through which one important strategy of this Gendarmerie was the Civil-Military cooperation of the Gendarmerie. This strategy of amelioration of the activities of the National Gendarmerie which could see the necessities of her employment in the concepts of army of this sector of security and defense force peak some elements of debutations from the phenomenon of transition that was recorded by the society of Cameroon since 1982 since this integration of the Civil-Military Action in the Concept of the National Gendarmerie was just a process which was just on her vertical movement. This reflection can proceed with the period of 1984 which could fill in the society in General, and

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<sup>64</sup> Tagne, *Accordée avec Fraude...*, p. 49.

<sup>65</sup> V. J. Ngoh, *Cameroon 1884-present (2018): The History of a people*, Limbe, Disigne house Limbe, p. 406.

<sup>66</sup> V. G. Fanso, *Cameroon History for secondary schools and colleges volume 2*, Limbé, Macmillan, 1989, p. 179.

<sup>67</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 180.

the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon in Particular. In 1984, we make mention of the failed coup d'état that manifested in Cameroon on 06-04-1984<sup>68</sup>.

This abortive coup d'état that will take away the life of many Cameroonians led it be the Armies and also the Civilians, also came with the destruction of some publics and private properties which made it to be highly seen as a fact that preoccupy the society of Cameroon and which also demanded the grand and serious intervention of the national Gendarmerie and which made her to found herself opening the door of some of her services after the 1990 such as those of her hospitals to the civil populations, her schools and some of her services which could still make her founding herself out of the field of her missions, her space of activities and operations.

It is also good to mention that, the period of 1984 came with the vertical movement of high crime waves<sup>69</sup>. The failed coup d'état which was a military activity left back some phenomenons such as poverty and hunger in the towns of Cameroon and particularly in the Yaounde city<sup>70</sup>. The coup d'état of 1984 was very rude and attacked the Civilian population mentally and even physically. As some people who were operating some socio-economic activities saw themselves out of business which was their source of revenue and their source of survival. Some of These activities resulted from vandalism that military activities caused in the city; that is, the destruction of some points of activities such as stores and some points of minor activities in full view of youths. These youths who lost their activities and found their selves no longer having a means of survival resulted to criminals of anti-social activities.<sup>71</sup>

This added the rate of crime in the country and the prosperity of criminal activities. But the National Gendarmerie which is the watch dog over persons properties mobilized it personnel to fight against this negative activity which started growing in the country in order to continue to guarantee the wellbeing of the civilian population and their goods. This could be seen as the socio-economic background of the Civil-Military actions of the National Gendarmerie. The Gendarmes not only seeked to save themselves and their commanders but to also think of the low-class population by multiplying activities like the days and night patrol in the town, arresting suspected persons, multiplying actions in the fight against Drug

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<sup>68</sup> Ngoh, *Cameroon 1884–present...*, p. 409.

<sup>69</sup> The period of 1984 was also a period of high crime wave in the society of Cameroon. This was explicable due to the military activities that came up in the period. These activities which were the mobilization of groups of militaries to attacked the regime of Yaounde. This caused the dead of some people and even the arrestation of others. These consequently made people to use the occasion do acts of bandicizm and others to be on the positions of the absence of their perrents found themselves in the negative groups.

<sup>70</sup> Tagne, *Accordée avec Fraude...*, p. 146.

<sup>71</sup> *Ibid.*

consumption<sup>72</sup>. All these were to set the civilian population free and there were other activities that took part at this period of instability which shows the National Gendarmerie on the side of the civilians. This was the phenomenon of migration in the Country. As a result of the crises going on in Cameroon, migration which is the movement of people from one place to another for diverse reasons mostly instability in their areas of departure. This reason necessitated the help of the National Gendarmerie to protect the population of people from negative effects of conflicts<sup>73</sup>.

Due to the unsupportable tensions that were going on in the political capital at this period, large number of people found themselves looking for way to go out of the capital in order to save themselves from the semi-war that was going on at this period. So, the National Gendarmerie which is the competent and qualified tool to ensure the security of the population provided the security of this people and ensured their wellbeing in their zones of destination. The massive population that saw this kind of facilities of the National Gendarmerie, more especially those of Melen in Yaounde, the populations who were at messas, the *Quartier Generale* and even the Gendarmes also carried out arrests against those who were in these affaires<sup>74</sup>.

Also, the members of security and defense forces benefited for the facilities put in place by the populations as the populations who were also moving from one town to another serves as a source of information to the Gendarmes which serves them not only to protect the populations, but to also protect themselves. As “one Gendarme looses on the place of crises is the exposition of the population”<sup>75</sup>. The services which were put at the disposal of various populations that were in the zone of this particular crisis were also placed at the disposal of some of the Gendarmes that founded themselves in the city capital to protect the new president’s power. These services could be such as houses, reduction on the Hospital bill, water provided by the institution, schools for the children of the Gendarmes, they will also receive gifts issued by international organization. We also have to mention the fact that the period of 1984 was a

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<sup>72</sup> J. H. Endougou, “La participation de la Gendarmerie Nationale du Cameroun aux opérations de soutien à la paix depuis 1990”, Mémoire de fin du 42<sup>ème</sup> stage d’application des officiers de la Gendarmerie Nationale, High Command for Schools and Training Center, 2021, p. 12.

<sup>73</sup> Ndam, A. R, “Enjeux et défis de l’accueil et de la Gestion des réfugiés au Cameroun : cas de la ville de Yaoundé”, Mémoire de fin de 41<sup>ème</sup> stage d’Application des officiers de Gendarmerie, High Command for Schools and Training Center, 2021, p. 12.

<sup>74</sup> Fanso, *Cameroon History for...*, pp. 177-179.

<sup>75</sup> It is often important for the Gendarme on the place of crises to make sure that his place of defense should be well organized, he should have good equipments and also he should mostly not stay alone on the dangerous zones so as to avoid a lonely defense as one Gendarme loses on the place of crises, war or what so ever is a systematic advancement of the enemies closer to the civil population that the Gendarmes are called to provides their protections and their goods and services.

year of change in the National Gendarmerie. It is in this year that the National Gendarmerie will change from the Delegation in charge of the National Gendarmerie to the Secretary General to the ministry of Defense in charge of the National Gendarmerie<sup>76</sup>. These phenomenon appears in the society and saw some reactions of the National Gendarmerie in the domain of the re-enforcing the link between the civilian and the Gendarmes could make us to deduce the beginning of some elements of the Civil-Military actions in the country before the “win of change” that blows on the word in the 1990s.

Directly at the period that the wind of democracy blows on the world, new forms of insecurity appeared in the country such as terrorism, youth’s delinquency and even some socio-political crises that deteriorated the peace and security in Cameroon. These then presented a new form of insecurity and an adapted strategy was to be used in order to solve these by proving a positive image of the National Gendarmerie in front of the civilian population. This clean image guaranteed a good relation with population and permits the collection of real-time information which could permit the security of the persons and their properties.

## **2- The desire to improve the civilian-National Gendarmerie link**

The Civil-Military action can be the totality of social actions realized by the forces of defense and security to the maximum benefit of the Civilian population in the theatres of operations. Important to distinguish her from a Humanitarian action which in reality can be qualify to be having different finalities with the Civil-Military actions. That is, the Altruism<sup>77</sup> Carry by other category of independent actors and often said on the first plant to be effectuated in the situations of Crises<sup>78</sup>. We can also deduce that, the Civil-Military actions, notably with the national Gendarmerie takes place even away of zones considers to be zones of crises and also the periods consider as those of Crises. So, we can then understand it as those actions that the Gendarmes effectuate for the benefit of the civilian populations and which equally drains some profits for them as the police of security of the Civilian population in Cameroon in zones of crises and of non-crises.

The National Gendarmerie with her main missions which is that of the police of security, the police of justice and the police of administration will show the need of the adoption and the application of the concept of Civil-Military cooperation. The first observation which merit a

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<sup>76</sup> Wanyaka, “Site militaire et...”, p. 5.

<sup>77</sup> The Civil military cooperation is very different from the actions of the humanitarians. The actions can be done on the same feel but they have different finalities and the humanitarians can be seen to be carrying the same activities with the Gendarmes but not having some materials that the Gendarmes are possessing such as Guns and other weapons of their personal protection. This could be physical in the periods and places of crises.

<sup>78</sup> Thonier, “Les Actions Civilo...”, p. 77.

good examination is that, the Gendarmerie in order to improve her attachment to the civilian population and improve on her final mission which is that of the protection of people and their goods, saw it important to quite from her classical objectives<sup>79</sup>. The period of the arrival of the concept Civil-Military Actions in all the Armies and in the National Gendarmerie particularly demonstrate the engagement face to the new form of insecurity such as the increase of terrorism, youth delinquency and aggravated banditism, socio-political crises taught the National Gendarmerie that security attention must be accorded at the interior of the state and not more obligatorily out sight<sup>80</sup>.

The emphasis was no longer to exclusively concentrate on frontiers security, “the state” integrity but also maximizes information to solve the new menaces that were emerging and which was a new form of insecurity then necessitated some modernized strategies to fight against. And it was in this perspective that the Gendarmerie of Cameroon found it good to be adjacent to the civilian population, give them confidence of their desire of their well-being in the society and environment in order to better assume their objective of the security of people and their good<sup>81</sup>. It is good to mention the desire of the National Gendarmerie to whitens their face in front of the Civil population. During the period of crises, the national Gendarmerie is estimated to have caused so many negativities to the civil population and so needs to go adjacent to them, offers gifts to them, construct and arrange some of their infrastructures, sensitizes the youths on the importance of the presence of the Gendarmes<sup>82</sup>. All these participate to make in such a way that the face of the National Gendarmerie be clean vis-a-vis the civilian population. When they provide gifts to the population, they render them happy and makes that the people be happy of the goods offers to them and creates a vital place in their head for the Gendarmerie then accept the fact that the presence of the Gendarmes are not usually against them, but those anti republicans who renders life difficult to the Gendarmes and to their activities. This can also be observed when the National Gendarmerie participates in the construction of infrastructures which are used by the civil population<sup>83</sup>. They do it to show their multiplication and diversifications in terms of domains of helping the population. This is to show a positive sense

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<sup>79</sup>Thonier, “Les Actions Civilo...”, p. 77.

<sup>80</sup> J. Njock Siele, 38years, Adjudant to the Gendarmerie and Journalist at the Gendarmerie, Yaounde, May 2023.

<sup>81</sup> C. Souboura Woulsou, “La cooperation entre le Ministère des transports et la Gendarmerie Nationale dans l’inversion de la courbe des accidents : Etats des lieux, difficultés et perspectives”, Mémoire de fin du 42<sup>ème</sup> stage d’application des officiers de la Gendarmerie Nationale, High Command for Schools and Training Center, 2021, p. 6.

<sup>82</sup> R. Ndam Abdou, 33years, Lieutenant at the Gendarmerie and head of office of structure at the central Administration of the Gendarmerie, Yaounde, april 2023.

<sup>83</sup> D. Elokobi Njock, 67 years, Brigadier General of the National Gendarmerie, Director of the Central coordination of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, Yaounde, 27 june 2023.

of their actions to the population and makes them to understand that the Gendarmes are not only for the repressive objectives but also for the social and economic purposes then need the cooperation of the population. This example can be seen in the North west and the south west of Cameroon to day where the National Gendarmerie is present and providing some actions on the behave of the Civil population but which serves to be well seen by the civilian population<sup>84</sup>.

Another important thing to explore here is the desire of the National Gendarmerie to bring her own contribution on the good behavior of the civilian population and improve on their respects of the national institutions, of non-governmental institutions and The National Gendarmerie which is a security and defense institution had an attachment with the civilian population and through the Civil-Military actions.<sup>85</sup> For this, the national Gendarmerie organizes educative discussions in schools in order to sensitize the youth on the good and responsible attitude to be adopted by good citizens of a country. This passes when they decent in some schools, they also do it in some spaces of social media which is today another space of communication where people needs to be educated on the ways they use them. This permits the contribution for the growth of a responsible generation of the country who contributes to the construction of the nation with peace and prosperity. One can take the example on the uncountable decent that the Gendarmerie effectuates in the secondary and primary schools in Cameroon to discuss and educates the youths<sup>86</sup>. Like the case of the 1<sup>st</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021, the National Gendarmerie did some actions in this sense as demonstrated by the magazine of the Gendarmerie<sup>87</sup>.

On the occasion of the 56<sup>th</sup> edition of youth's day, partnership with the ministry of the youths and civic education with The team of the Defense and Civics Actions Service (SDAC) of the National Gendarmerie puts in place a series of campaign of sensitization of the Young students of the Civil society of the dangers of drugs consumption and other native products. This processes took place in a large number of regions in Cameroon. The young students of primary, secondary schools and even those of the University of the towns of Bafang, of Yaounde, and Kye-Ossi beneficiated of the meetings of reflections organized by the DCESE<sup>88</sup>. This discussion turned round the sensibilisation which went from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> of February

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<sup>84</sup> D. Elokobi Njock, 67 years, Brigadier General of the National Gendarmerie, Director of the Central coordination of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, Yaounde, 27 June 2023.

<sup>85</sup> S. S. Ndutumu, "Region du Nord-ouest et du Sud-Ouest : Consolidation de la situation sécuritaire", *Honneur et fidélité*, n° spéciale de mai 2023, p. 86

<sup>86</sup> A. J. Njock Sieleye, "Lutte contre le repli identitaire chez les jeunes : la Gendarmerie National dans la sensibilisation", *Echos du Pandore*, spécial N° of may 2021, p. 15.

<sup>87</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>88</sup> A. N. G. Arrêté N° 102-CAB-PR du 23mars 2004, portant sur le service défense et de L'action Civique de la Gendarmerie Nationale.

2021, it also took in to consideration the up going in power of the speeches of hatreds, the violence in the school milieus and the enrolment of the youths in the armed groups, the consequences of the exchanges, the cultivation and the consumption of drogues<sup>89</sup>. According to the explanations Adjutant Njock Sieleye, the activities were coordinated by an officer of the National Gendarmerie, Amogou Brigitte, Head of Squadron.

The activities were often accompanied by experts of high classes such as Dr Bingono Bingono François who in Yaoundé entertained with people on the ways of using the Social Medias and the Cibber criminalities, there was also Chief Brigitte who was often going back on the dispositions which the jurisdictions took phase to the negative activities which could be practiced by the youths. He also makes us to understand that, organizing these campaigns, the National Gendarmerie had as the desire to contributes on the education and also to bring this generation to the adoption of good attitude and these youths accorded a great interest to this activity of sensitizations<sup>90</sup>. This case of activities indicates the love that the National Gendarmerie have to be adjacent to her Civil population.

### **3- The desire by the National Gendarmerie to participates on the Socio-Economic development of the country.**

The national Gendarmerie which was the defense force that had the missions of police of security, police of jurisdiction and the police of administration adjacent to some governmental institutions, had as motivation of the adoption of civil-military action, the desire to participates in the Socio-economic development of the Country. The social and Economic development will be observing in the constructions and the refection of schools and Hospitals which is equally puts in the disposition of the civil populations. As far as schools are concern, much of them are in the perimeters of the National Gendarmerie. this on the first sense shows that it is equally put in place to serve the children of the Gendarmes and the Civil populations are taking the occasions then sending their children in these schools. This already permits the civilians to have the reductions in the coast of transports or taking schools in longue distances for students. It also helps to increases the number of educational facilities in the country.

The national Gendarmerie also participates on the refection of some schools which are already in the uncomfortable stages. This can be the cases of the schools in the Camp Yeyap in Yaounde, the schools in the zones of crises where the National Gendarmerie has acted in terms of Civil-Military actions since 2016 in the north west and south west of the actual Cameroon.

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<sup>89</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>90</sup> I. Amougou Ba'ana, Captain at the Gendarmerie, Head of Service of Defense and Civic Actions, Yaounde, 13-06-2023



There is also the act of providing teachers who are Gendarmes for the care taking of these schools which at times some of them lack teachers like the case of the schools the zones of crises where teachers run away to find security and the Gendarmes take on them to maintain the level of education in the zones in order to avoid the problem of imbalance in terms of education in the country.

Concerning the case of Hospitals, the National Gendarmerie plays a vital role in the development of the domain. The institution of defense and security realizes the construction of many of them, train personnel who work there and provides materials for the better functioning<sup>91</sup>. The maximum of these Hospitals are found in the interior of the National Gendarmerie gates. They provide services for the Gendarmes and to the Civil populations. They can be found in about half of the number of regions of Cameroon today. The main example can be the Hospital of the central administration in Yaounde, the hospital of the Camp Yeyap Moussa in Yaounde, and others that are found in the regions of crises like in the Far north region of Cameroon. We can also see the massive participation of the Gendarmes in other military hospitals which are not also that of the Gendarmerie.

Away from the participation of the National Gendarmerie in the Social and Economic development on the domain of Education and Health, the institution also wanted to help in the filling of the state's fund. Here the National Gendarmerie was talking of the Civil-Military actions due to the efforts they were providing on the Highways and the place where the money extracted from their activities on the road was going and how it was useful for the country. The National Gendarmerie through their missions of police of security notably on the high ways extract money from the users of the roads which was directed to the coffers of the national treasury of Cameroon. This which permits to pay the civil population and also solves some problems in the country as far as financing was concerned.

This was also a way of participating in the economic advancement of the Country. These activities of the National Gendarmerie have permitted her to fight against road insecurity which was a barrier to economic development. This can be supported with the intervention of the Commander and head of the service of Employment and structure of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon who says that, "it is still an evidence for the specialists of economic and durable development is tributary to the global security. One of the aspects of the insecurity which was

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<sup>91</sup>D. C. Sangon A Mpamg, Lieutenant of the Gendarmerie and Head of the service of the Technical and logistics in the Military's Medical Center of the National Gendarmerie.

at the origin of the” loss of human life stays road insecurity”<sup>92</sup> it is equally in this sense on the grand roads that the national Gendarmerie plays a vital role which was her pre occupation that pushes them for the adoption of the concept of Civil-Military actions.

Below is the table showing the different ways of the National Gendarmerie has undertaken Civil-military actions

**Table 1: Domains of civil-military actions in which the National Gendarmerie is engaged**

<b>SOCIAL DOMAIN</b>	<b>ECONOMIC DOMAIN</b>
Gift of benches to schools	The construction roads
Gift of materials to hospitals for the civilian population	Construction of bridges
Serving as teachers in conflict zones	Gift of agricultural materials
Sensitizations of students in the schools	Participation in revenue collection for the state treasury
Sensitization of the civilian populations on the social situations	
Organization of games with the civilian populations	
Gift of food items to the civilian populations	
Construction of water boreholes	

The above table demonstrate the domains in which the National Gendarmerie reacts in civil-military actions. From it we can easily assimilates the segmentation of the civil-military actions in two main parts which are the Social and the Economic ways. We can already see from the table that; the social domain of interventions far exceeds the economic ones. This can be explained by the fact that, civil-military actions react directly on the population and easily creates a grand relation between the Gendarmes and the civilian population making it easy together intelligence from the civilian population important for the eradication of those who are threatens social peace and endangers the security of persons and their goods and services.

For the national Gendarmerie to arrive on her objective of desiring to adopt the concept Civil-Military actions she adopted some mechanisms or we could still say she mobilizes some tools for the implementation of this concept Cameroon.

### **III- MECHANISMS OF IMPLEMENTATION (TOOL OF EXERCISE) OF THE CONCEPT CIVIL-MILITARY ACTIONS IN THE NATIONAL GENDARMERIE**

<sup>92</sup> J, NNA Nkoto, “Bilan des actions menées par la Gendarmerie National dans le cadre de la “ décennie d’action pour la sécurité routière ”, *Echos du Pandore*, N° spécial du 20mai 2021, p. 19.

The national Gendarmerie of Cameroon which is the defense and security force highly adjacent to the population came in contact with a new strategic concept which was the Civil-Military actions since after the 1990s. She took it as an occasion to implements it in the country and includes the manifestations of the concept in her activities. In other to assures a better implementation of this concept, the National Gendarmerie passes though the utilization of tools such as, the introduction of the concepts during the training of the Gendarmes, the organization of seminaries, sensitizations, conferences, the integration of the Gendarmerie in some special units of Defense, the putting in place of the services such as the SDAC and the Social services in the Gendarmerie.

### **1- The integration of the National Gendarmerie in some units of defense**

Since the 1990s, the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon have been the subject of significant amounts of doctrinal production devoted to security sector Reform. However, beyond the efforts of building fragile security apparatuses, it is worth to indicate that, one dimension has been underestimated: the process of Civil-military hybridization of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. It is at times used under the expression the “dual force of security and defense” which can be register in the catalogue of the strategies of the National Gendarmerie proving how it plays not only the security and the defense mission but also fulfils the missions of the local development of the Country<sup>93</sup>. This mission is possible through the integration of the National Gendarmerie to the special Unite of Army which is the military engineers. The military engineer also called the “engineer of combat” have militaries specialist of Military engineering and their putting in place in the conditions of fighting<sup>94</sup>. A military engineer can then accomplish a grand variety of missions that is for the fortification, construction or the reparation of the roads, bridges, of rail ways and many other means of transports. In a general way, she permits the easy movement of the arm force and also have to disturbs the movement of the enemies of the armies in the zones which are in crises.

For the classic definition of the civil-military actions of the Armies in General, and the National Gendarmerie which is the point of concern in this work, the Civil-Military action is only applied in the Zones of crises in order help the armies to consolidate their relations with the civil population<sup>95</sup>. But, the incontestable work which the Military engineers are operating in zones which at time are not in conflict but needs the help of the government for the local

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<sup>93</sup> J. H. Stiehm, *Armed Forces and Society, Florida*, Winter, 2001, pp. 273.

<sup>94</sup> G. Bainkong, “Civil military actions: Inspiring Army Population Bond”, *Cameroon tribune*, N°18<sup>th</sup> of may 2021, p. 6.

<sup>95</sup> Abba Saidou, 49 years, Commander second of the North west legion of Gendarmerie, Bamenda, 11-07-2023.

development in terms of Road construction, the construction and the reparation of some infrastructures are cataloged in the civil-military actions<sup>96</sup>. The National Gendarmerie takes the occasion of her integration in this special unite of the armies to also participates in the economic development of the country. This is to permits her to continue to be adjacent of her Civil population assisting her and also helping and participating in the emancipation of the population. These efforts gave her a way in the positive relation with the population making it easy for the accomplishment of her missions of the protections of people and their goods. This main job is usually also observed in the zones which are inaccessible. A good example can be mention with the job the military engineers effectuated in the construction of a modern market in the eastern region of Cameroon in 2017<sup>97</sup>.

They have also participated in the construction of infrastructures like the actual direction of Academic affair of the University of Yaounde 1<sup>98</sup>. They have also constructed a church in Olezoa in Yaounde, without counting the efforts they have effectuated in the North west and the south west region of Cameroon and the Northern region which are zones of conflicts since 2014 with “Boko Haram” and 2016 with the re enforcement of order maintaining in the north west and the south west of actual Cameroon. The military engineers also plays a vital role in the construction of the military infrastructures. This could be observed on the night numbers of plaques that are found in the interior of the central administration of the National Gendarmerie. There are high number of plaques which on it we can found the military engineering which shows that they have highly engage themselves and their materials in the construction of the maximum of structures in the central administration of the Gendarmerie.

## **2- The putting in place of the services such as the Service of Defense and Civics**

### **Actions (SDAC) and the Social services in the Gendarmerie**

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon adopted some mechanism for the applications of the Civil-Military Actions. These mechanisms which are based on services like SDAC and some services such as social service and the service of domains and infrastructures. It is in the article 31 of the law of 2014 carrying the reorganization of the National Gendarmerie the SDAC is under the responsibility of a head of service, officer of the Gendarmerie. This officer arrives through the nomination of the chief of armies, head of state by a decree. This service is

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<sup>96</sup> J. S. Nwachock A. Fingon, 45, Captain at the Gendarmerie, head of the Service of estate and infrastructure, Yaounde, 31-05-2023.

<sup>97</sup> A. Augé, "Le Génie Militaire au Cameroun : une force duelle pour l'aménagement du territoire et le développement", *Revue internationale des études du développement*, N° 245 de Janvier 2001, pp. 201-223.

<sup>98</sup> Ongolo, “Plaque presenting the...”, p. 03.

segmented in to the office of defense and the office of mobilization and civics actions<sup>99</sup>. The SDAC plays a vital role in the Civil-Military Actions on the side of the militaries and also on the side of the Civil population. The service found in the interior of the National Gendarmerie, it assures the securisation of the Unites of the Gendarmerie, assures the sensitization of the Young Gendarmes and also assures the organization of the festival activities of the Gendarmes such as the 08<sup>th</sup> of March that is also organized for the women of the Gendarmerie every year. The SDAC also on the other hand organizes the sensitization of the youth who are civils, organizes exercises of education vis-à-vis of the youth in other to educate them on the dangers of some negative activities in the society such as the consumption of drugs, the selling of the drugs, prostitution, criminalities, youths delinquencies and others.

More so, the Gendarmes takes time to open the eyes of the youths on the punishments that the law reserves to those who joint these mal practices<sup>100</sup>. This exercises of massive sensitization and education of the population always takes place all the years with the collaboration of the ministry of the youths and the civics education without forgetting the participation of some respected personalities. In the optic by the National Gendarmerie to fight against the non-survival of the society during and after the crises in some parts of the country, she takes on her through the SDAC to not only educate the population on the possible way of avoiding some crises, but they also provide gifts for the population who have passes through the crises and have on them the effects of the crises. The National Gendarmerie also have tools or the mechanisms of the Civil-Military Actions Social Service. The social services are found in practically all the legions of the Gendarmerie in the country. The social services solve social problems. Specifically in the central administration of the Gendarmerie in Yaounde, the social service is found under the service discipline and litigation which are found under the direction of the personnel of the Gendarmerie<sup>101</sup>. It is with the help of social service that the Gendarmerie solves some of the familial problems this through the advices given to the members of the Families. These families are at times members of a Gendarme who can be his wife who is maltreated by the husband who is a Gendarme, or even the Gendarme who decides to takes his wife there like in some cases, in other to avoid dangers if he try to solve some cases caused by the woman<sup>102</sup>.

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<sup>99</sup> Amougou Bana'a, 35 years, Captain at the Gerndarmerie and Head of service of civil actions at the central administration of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 13-06-2023.

<sup>100</sup> Njock Siele, 38 years, Adjutant to the Gendarmerie and Journalist at the Gendarmerie, Yaounde, May 2023

<sup>101</sup> A. Elondom, 46 years, Adjudand chief at the Gendarmerie, worker at the Defense and Civic Actions Service, Yaounde, 06-06-2023.

<sup>102</sup> Ndam Abdou, 33 years, Lieutenant at the Gendarmerie and head of office of structure at the central Administration of the Gendarmerie, Yaaounde, april 2023.

The social service which was often managed by the personnel of the ministry of social Affaires detached to the National Gendarmerie was also in the advising the wife of a Gendarme. The advices coming from here usually is to helps the wife of the Gendarme to understand the military characteristics of the husband and also understand the issue of belonging of a Husband who is a Gendarme to the high commandment and not to his biological family. This psychological training permits to the family of the military to avoid some negligible problems. They also train the women on the comportment of the military during and after crises and how to stay with them evitating some of the dangers of the post war that usually reacts on them. The advices that usually comes from the social service permits to the Gendarme to study in the domains of the social affairs<sup>103</sup>. This mechanism of application of the Civil-Military actions has permits the comprehension of the actions done by the National Gendarmerie though this service in two axes, that is, on the side of the Civilians who are generally the wives of the Gendarmes and on the behalf of the militaries who are the Gendarmes. Since the mechanism or the tools of the implementation of the Civil-Military actions of the National Gendarmerie could not only be the integration of the National Gendarmerie in some special corps of the militaries such as the military engineers, the putting in place of service in the Gendarmerie which was in charge of the construction infrastructures in the National Gendarmerie known as the *Service Domaniel et Infrastructure (SDI)* also, through the servives such as the SDAC and the social services of the National Gendarmerie. The National Gendarmerie also took in to consideration to be introducing this concept during the training of the Gendarmes.

### **3- The introduction of the concepts during the training of the Gendarmes**

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon adopted mechanisms of implementation of the Civil-Military Actions such as introducing the ideology during the training of the future Gendarmes. At the end of the first chapter of this scientific work, answers have started to be coming on for some questions which was asked for the entire work. From the departure, the aim was to explore primo, on the historical comprehension of the National Gendarmerie, which has permits the comprehension of the French origin of the National gendarmerie, the arrival of the Gendarmerie in Cameroon and the organization of this security and defense force after the independence of the French and British Cameroon. Secondly, we entered in the real question of civil-military actions where we insisted on the factors which have stimulates the need for the civil-military actions in the National Gendarmerie<sup>104</sup>. Here, importance was given to securito-

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<sup>103</sup> *Idem*.

<sup>104</sup> Kotoko, “La défense populaire...”, p. 59.

political contest of the 1990s, the desire by the National Gendarmerie to take the participation in the socio-economic development of Cameroon and the attraction of the body of the army to be close to the population. The last part of this chapter study the mechanisms or tools of the implementation of the Civil-military cooperation by the national Gendarmerie of Cameroon. The study in them drained here on the integration of the National Gendarmerie in some special bodies of armies and the existence within the Gendarmerie, the DIS, secondly, the capitalization of services in the Gendarmerie such as CADS and social services<sup>105</sup>.

The introduction of this concept during the training of the Gendarmes as expressed in this chapter has permits the comprehension of the Background of the National Gendarmerie the different steps it has passes through in it emergency till today and the missions of the body of security and defense in Cameroon. In this chapter which is the opening point of this study has permits the understanding of what could pushes the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon to go to for the need of the Civil-Military cooperation in the concepts employed. The international and the national securito-political context of the period of 1990s could be bases on the comprehension here has insist also on the comprehension of the concept civil-military actions, it finality, the actors and the implementation.

Ways of realization of actions by the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. All these has then helps us to finally stay on the position where the Civil-military cooperation which was not Cameroonians army concept was copied from the French who implemented this concept through the putting in place of a special branch of force of defense which was to take this mission and was known as the *GIACM*. This branch of armies played a vital role which was not be juxtaposed with efforts done by the humanitarians in the domain of helping the population to go out of crises. The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon has taken part in the same actions since the 1990s as was the case of the *GIACM* in her period and are more remarkable in the north west and the south west of Cameroon today. The other point of interest here is that the National Gendarmerie plays this vital role even in zones which are not characterized to be zones of crises and in the periods which are not full of crises. These analyses take it mode of continuation in the second chapter of the scientific work which arrives to explores the different Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon.

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<sup>105</sup> Amougou Bana'a, 35 years, Captain at the Gendarmerie and Head of service of civil actions at the central administration of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 13-06-2023.

## **CHAPTER II: THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF THE CIVIL-MILITARY ACTIONS OF THE NATIONAL GENDARMERIE OF CAMEROON**

The National Gendarmerie is an essential instrument in the preservation of social peace<sup>1</sup>. This role which comes from high the security surface she covers in the country. It is also of her strategic position adjacent to the civilian population on which the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon puts on exercising her expertise of security and defense in a permanent manner. Here, we can see on her decomposition from the central administration in Yaounde, to the regions of the Gendarmerie, to the legions of the Gendarmerie going to the Squadrons of the Gendarmerie down to the company of the Gendarmerie, the peloton of the Gendarmerie, the Brigades of the Gendarmerie, the posts of the Gendarmerie in the extreme rural areas<sup>2</sup>. The rapprochement to the civil population makes us to understand that, all the actions of instauration of peace done by the National Gendarmerie is due to the collaboration of the civil population and the National Gendarmerie.

In this chapter of our scientific work, the study is proceeding on a respective manner but base on the understanding of the different civil-military actions of the national gendarmerie of Cameroon. Here the exploration attaches on three main parts which are the Cultural and sportive Actions of the National Gendarmerie, The educative and the Health actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon and The Socio-Economic Actions of the National Gendarmerie. the exploration of the different sub parts of this chapter will permits the understanding of the different types of the Civil-military cooperation of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon basing of the activities that are going on in the zones which are characterized as the zones of crises in the country and also the activities which are going on in the zones which are characterizes as zones of non-cries in Cameroon. Then the first part of the chapter has explored the Cultural and sportive Actions of the National Gendarmerie.

### **I- THE CULTURAL AND SPORTIVE ACTIONS OF THE NATIONAL GENDARMERIE.**

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon has reacted toward the numerous crises that has taken part in the country since 1990. The reactions which could be before the crises, during the crises and after the crises<sup>3</sup>. This has always been in order to permits to solve the crises that

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<sup>1</sup> G. Etoga, "The National Gendarmerie in the Informations Society", *Echos du Pandore*, n°21, mai 2023, p. 9.

<sup>2</sup> Calipco, the tracts indicating the Brief Overview of the Cameroon National Gendarmerie

<sup>3</sup> Mesmin Eloundou, 52 years, Colonel at the Gendarmerie, Director of Employment and Structures of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 26<sup>th</sup> of June 2023.



exist in the society and also retarding some of our social, political and mostly economics important objectives. These crises which have often deteriorated the relations that exist between the civilians and the armies. The civilians and the Gendarmes of Cameroon has received since 1990s the new forms of crises that traumatizes the peace that took a longue moment to be constructed by the political power of the country.

It is true to be position on the side which thinks that the main moments Cameroon recorded the interior crises was the period from the 1955 with the refuser of the actions of the UPC in Cameroon by the French “colonial power”<sup>4</sup>. This refusal that caused the desire of the members of this first political party to talk of their non-happiness face to the French who was stopping them not to achieves their objectives at the right moment. This pushed them to descend on the on the strict and touches the point which the French saw as an attack to them then which at the same time led to the replication of the French and consequently the arrival of the French colonial illiterate Gendarmes who molested the members of the UPC and any other Cameroonian that they were coming in contact with him on the way<sup>5</sup>. These mal intentioned illustrate simply that, Gendarmes were too loyal to the French till the point that they were capable of causing disasters to their own brothers and sisters for the maximum advantage of the French.

This emotional system of management of crises by the Gendarmes continued in Cameroon under the French domination. They were focalized on the maltreatment of the civil population, torturing, abusively arresting, imprisoning and even killing the population which they at time qualifies as the stubborn populations<sup>6</sup>. It went till after the independence notably in 1971 with the date estimated to carry the end of the fight for independence according to authors like V.G Fanso <sup>7</sup>. Even if the independence was acquired since 1960 and 1961. The first political regime totalizes their reign in that way of solving crises without totally thinking of the life and the survivals of the civil population of the milieu were the crises were found.

It was in the 1990s that the model of solving crises through the concept of the Civil-Military Actions was copied from the Europeans. The Cameroon’s Gendarmerie debuted to intervenes on the situations of the Civil populations during and after the crises. The most

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<sup>4</sup>T. Deltombe et all, *Kamerun : une guerre cachée aux origines de la Françafrique 1948-1971*, Paris, La Découverte, 2011, p. 198.

<sup>5</sup> Deltombe et all, *Kamerun : une...*, p. 199.

<sup>6</sup> D. Abwa, *Cameroun : Histoire d’un nationalisme 1984-1961*, Yaoundé, Editions CLE, 2010, p. 282.

<sup>7</sup> Fanso, *Cameroon History ...*, p. 113.

important way that the Gendarmerie was taking in to consideration was in the cultural and the sportive domains.

### **1- The participation in the National sport activities and the organization of sport activities with the civilians**

On the sport domain, the National Gendarmerie was not only organizing activities, but also participating in the national sport activities. It is right that the Gendarmes takes in their program a period of effectuating some exercises permitting to have a good health. But if we do a retrospective on the periods of crises, we are going to see the activities of the same pattern for other reasons. These can be organized by the militaries to create a relationship with the civil population in other to fight against the crises that can be going through in a particular milieu of a region or in the country. The actions in the sportive domain could takes in to consideration the activities such as football, hand ball, and even other disciplines of the sport activities. Most of these activities are often organized more especially football in other to consolidates the relations that exist between the civils and the militaries.

These activities have also been used as a medium of solving the crises that has been existing in the society. The case demonstrated by commander Nna Koto Junior can be an important example. He state That,

*Dans le cadre du processus de réinsertion des ex-combattants de la promotion de la paix, la Gendarmerie Nationale c'est associée au Centre Régional du CDDR pour l'organisation le 18 mars 2019 de la finale d'un tournoi interne de football des ex-sécessionnistes<sup>8</sup>.*

The Head of the office of the structure of the central service of the Gendarmerie for him indicates that, in the occasions of matches organizes by the National Gendarmerie, they take's the dispositions such as, giving sport attires to the finalists, they even gave money and it always finish by an important activity of coming together to eats what the gendarmerie has provides in terms of food for the population to eats and be happy of the National Gendarmerie<sup>9</sup>. Another example can be the actions maximized by the forces of security and defense which is the National Gendarmerie in zones which also integrate crises such as those who are adjacent to the zones of crises and which finally receives some consequences of the crises that are going on in the zones that are geographically closed to them. A good comprehension could be through

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<sup>8</sup> Nna Koto Junior, 41 years, Head of the service of employment and structure in the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, the 17<sup>th</sup> of march 2023.

<sup>9</sup> Ndam Abdou Ramani, Lieutenant at the Gendarmerie, Head of the office of Structure at the Gendarmerie, Yaounde, March and April 2023.

the explanation of Fifen Ousseni who makes us to understand the actions of the Gendarmes in Kouoptamo precisely in the village of Kouham Njitapon.

The Gendarmes arrived Njitapon in 2019 during the period which was qualify as Anglophones crises arrives at a high level<sup>10</sup>. They organized sportive activities such as football, marches and even other activities apart from that<sup>11</sup>. These activities permitted the personnel of the Gendarmerie to acquire information from the population on the movements of those who were implicated in the socio-political crises that was going on in the other side of the country. For the Gendarmes to have a good relation with the population of the village, they had no choice than to only create sportive activities like this because it could permit them to be considered by the population on the angles of brothers and not on the angles of the Gendarmes and the civil population. This could permit them not only to have friends but to also have advisors who could always advices them on the population of the village, the constructions and the contains or the constitutions of the village (what were found in the village which could interest them led it be on the positive or on the negative way) they could also advices them on the dangerous milieus and the things that could be negative for their security. This was passing through familial activities that can be organized between the militaries and the civilians.

Even in some zones of no crises, the Gendarmes often organizes activities more especially in terms of football games. These initiatives of the Gendarmes make's in such a way that, the links that exist between the Gendarmes and the Civils be well attached and opened the ways of communications and a way of sympathizing in other to avoid a running away from the Gendarmes. But it does not blocks the Gendarmes to impose their importance and their military sight to the civils as the fear of a Gendarme is the beginning of wisdom<sup>12</sup>. This principle only makes the Gendarmes to keep their position of those who have on their responsibilities the security of the civil population.

## **2- The organization of festivities for Civil employees**

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<sup>10</sup> Fifen Ousseni, 49 years, moto taxi man, Yaounde, 23 March 2023.

<sup>11</sup> One of the important questions to ask here with reason is to know what could cause the presence of the Gendarmes and notably the GPIGN in the locality of Kouham Njitapon in the Western region of Cameroon. It is due to the socio-political crises that was going on in the North West and the South west of Cameroon. The western region been close to the North west region and the population of Njitapon in Kouoptamo have a limit which is a river and making it easy for anyone to crosses from one sight to another. The economic activity here is bases on Fishing. The populations of the two region cohabitate's together making in such a way that crises could easily be transferred from the North West to the village of Njitapon. This is why the GPIGN was installed in the village in other to control the actions of the desire of the Amba to transfer their activities in the western region.

<sup>12</sup>Ndjock Sielye Junior, Adjudant of the Gendarmerie and Journalist, Yaounde, 14 of May 2023.

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon in context of Crises and away of milieu of crises takes in to considerations the organization of festivities for the civil populations more especially working for the institution. These activities can be seen such as the activities of the week of the 08<sup>th</sup> -March which is an international day of the women and the 01-mai which is a labour day and also an international day. These days represents some days that the Gendarmerie of Cameroon also capitalizes to give them ahead the valorisation of the civil population. Cases such as the 08<sup>th</sup> of March which is organized in all the national and international organizations. Administrative and non-administrative institutions, private and government institutions guided it as a tradition. The National Gendarmerie did not stay away from this initiative which often bring to attain some civil-military objectives.

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon through the women day succeed to create a space of harmony between the women who are civilians and the militaries. This creation of the space of harmony is in order to avoid some frustrations that may arrives in the social and professional life of the people. It eradicates the high complexity face to the Gendarme, it also elaborates a system of friend ship between the woman Gendarme and the woman civilian who has assist and performs the same activity with the Gendarme on the same place and for the same objective in term of success of the activity<sup>13</sup>.

The civil women and military women mixt can also be for the creation of the space of organization of the activities with the Gendarmes so as to avoid the spirit of marginalization and the idea that the civil women are not taken in to consideration in the National Gendarmerie. During the periods of this activity, the civil woman is usually taken in to consideration in the organization, the celebration is note mainly centralized on the Gendarmes and the civil women are also misted with the Gendarmes to prove their values in the prosperity of the institution. They participate in the activities such as the health activities, the sportive activities. With the sportive activities, it is usually constituted of activities such as hand ball, football, long distance marches. Other activities are also organized which they participate such as the cultural and scientific activities.

These activities are such as the sensitization, conferences organized in the week of the 08<sup>th</sup> of march which civilians usually takes part actively. Some activities are usually taken in to consideration like the excursions of National anthem, the presentations of the talents that others have which can help the emancipation of each of the women who are participating in the activity organized by the Gendarmerie irrespective of the statute of if they are Gendarme or

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<sup>13</sup> Elondem Abel, 46 years, Adjutant Chief at the Gendarmerie, worker at the defense and Civic actions Service of the Central Administration of the National Gendarmerie.

civilians working in the National Gendarmerie. They also go through some activities of competitions usually among the civilians and against the female Gendarmes<sup>14</sup>.

The organization of scientific conferences which integrate the civilians and at times on the themes that takes in to considering the realities of the civilians and the militaries. For LT Sangon A Mpang, these activities are very important to be organized because it brings some elements in the relations between the civils and the militaries which are stimulating the living together, so the demand for the unity of the civils and the armies, it also permits to accomplish some missions of security of the National Gendarmerie<sup>15</sup>.

A considerable illustration could be seen with the case of the 08<sup>th</sup> of march 2021 in a full moment of covid-19, which was form of crises and which also traumatizes Cameroon and her institutions. The National Gendarmerie was not set a sight of these negativities that nation was going through. As far as the organization of this activity was concern, a conference was organized by the service of Defense and Civic Actions of the National Gendarmerie to the profit of the civil and military personnel of the institution on the theme: “The Role of a woman Gendarme during crises”<sup>16</sup>. Also, this activity of celebration organized by the Gendarmerie for the women Gendarme and the civilians was characterized by sport activities notably a longue distance movement, a football match, and a volley ball match organized for the profit of the women Gendarmes and the civilians working in the National Gendarmerie.

The mixture of civil and military Gendarme women united them self at the camp Yeyap Moussa wearing their uniforms which were issued by the secretary of state mister Etoga Galax. This remarkable ceremony was presided by the General of Brigade Director of Center of Coordination representing the SED/CGN. This ceremony was opened by the words of Colonel Viorong Bienvenue, the focal point of gender of the national gendarmerie<sup>17</sup>. He debuted by presenting words of salutations face to SED/CGN who offered this remarkable feast to the feminine gender of the Gendarmerie even with the context of crises that were disturbing. During message passed to the people, he recalled to the women that the 08th of march was a day of happiness and festivities that given to them so that they should capitalizes and make a feel back of their situation and sensitization in other to fight for their rights, equalities and justice. On the

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<sup>14</sup>Matchinde, “37<sup>ème</sup> édition de la journée internationale de la femme : la gendarmerie nationale de concret” *Echos du pandore*, n°19 mai 2022, p.13.

<sup>15</sup> Sangon A Mpamg Donald Chamberlin, Lieutenant of the Gendarmerie and Head of the service of the Technical and logistics in the Military’s Medical Center of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 14 of May 2023.

<sup>16</sup> Mpina M’Minla Nkeudom, “la Gendarmerie Nationale” ..., p. 33.

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 33.

other hand, she called for the attentions of the women to the respect of barriers measures edited by the Government for the efficacy fight against the of Covid-19 that was torturing the society<sup>18</sup>.

The representative of the SED/CNG took the flour, the Brigadier General and Director of Central Coordination of the National Gendarmerie invited the women to take seriously the pandemic that was touching the nation, by speaking on the respect of barriers measures, be discipline, loyal, and double the energy to work. He was also recalling to the Gendarmes that the High command receives the reports of the jobs that they perform adjacent to their brothers in the theatres of operations<sup>19</sup>. This ended with some enthusiastic feeling of the women notably the civils and even on the other hand the military women. The consideration which was an offer of a considerable fist and their mixture with the Gendarmes to realizes a better environment of relations marks a Civil-Military action as a large space of sensitization, of festivity and happiness that was the space organized and secures by the National Gendarmerie for the women led it be civilians or militaries which the civilians that interests us so much benefited maximally.

Another point of analyses that can permits the qualification as a civil-military action may be the period this attention accorded to the civil women working in the Gendarmerie arrives, that is, the period of continuous health crises in 2021.

This was the same case with the 37<sup>th</sup> edition of the international women day in the National Gendarmerie. this perfect activity which was bringing together the Civil women and the militaries. One of the points of the occasions capitalizes by the National Gendarmerie's authorities in other to open the high possible space of friendship with the civil women in other to shows their desire to be adjacent of the civilians and protect them in the context, the milieus of crises and the milieus characterizes as those of non-crises<sup>20</sup>. The international women day in 2022 was organized under the theme: "Gender equality for a durable destiny". This festivity which was organized for the women Gendarmes and Civilians that were working in the National Gendarmerie. During these festivities, the women civilians of the National Gendarmerie feel themselves consider positively in the milieu of the National Gendarmerie. Numerous activities were usually organized without keeping away the civil women of the National Gendarmerie making them to practically familiarizes themselves not only with the institution but with the actors. It is in this sense of not only acting on the favour of the Gendarmes but also on the behalf

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<sup>18</sup> Ndjock Sielye, 38 yeas, Adjudant of the Gendarmerie, Journalist, Yaounde, mai 2023.

<sup>19</sup> Nkeh, "The Police and" ..., p. 156.

<sup>20</sup> Mathide, "37<sup>ème</sup> édition de la journée internationale de la femme : la gendarmerie nationale de concret" *Echos du pandore : magazine trimestriel Bilingue d'information de la Gendarmerie Nationale*, n°19 mai 2022, p. 13.

of the civil women which enters in the missions of the civil-military actions program or the missions of the national Gendarmerie of Cameroon.

A palpable illustration was done by the journalist of the National Gendarmerie when she shows the management of the 37<sup>th</sup> day of the women day in the National Gendarmerie. This activity which was highly marked by socio-cultural activities, sportive and ended with a charring of meal in honour to the women of the National Gendarmerie the Country with colours of the flag green red yellow<sup>21</sup>. As far as the socio-cultural activities were concerned, a scientific discussion took place in the *Commandement des Ecoles et Centre d'Instructions de la Gendarmerie* (CECIG). This meeting permitted the edification of not only the civil personnel of the National Gendarmerie, but also the military personnel of this body of defense and security on the theme and the challenges of the edition. This was through the rich presentations done by the eminent professors of the University, female officers of the National Gendarmerie, after a stage of training on the manufacturing of products such as soap, natural drinks such as jus<sup>22</sup>.

A health activity was also organized. On this plan, the female personnel in general were to gain a check-up campaign and essentially based on cancer in diverse domains in the military medical centre of the National Gendarmerie. For the sport activities, a sport movement was organized, a match was organized between the women of the Gendarmerie and the women of the FAP volleyball. March passed the 08<sup>th</sup> of March and the activities ended with an honor drink offered by the National Gendarmerie. This activity was at the presence of Colonel Ze Onguene, the vice of the central director of coordination representing the SED/CNG. In her allocution of the circumstance, Lieutenant Colonel Viorong addressed her deep gratitude to the High Commandment to have given the occasion to the woman Gendarme and to the female personnel of the Gendarmerie to celebrate the day even with the corona virus pandemic that was disturbing the world and Cameroon in particular. She encouraged women to be disciplined, work and preserve their notions so as to easily adapt themselves to the professional obligations<sup>23</sup>. This activity of the women of the National Gendarmerie which takes into consideration the women of non-uniform who also attract some benefits takes place in the entire of the country notably in all the regions and legions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. They even when ahead in the zones qualified as zones of crises to provide security to those women on that weak. This permits the ameliorations of the conditions of the relations which exist between the

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<sup>21</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>22</sup> Ndjock Sielye, Adjudant of the Gendarmerie and Journalist, Yaounde, 29 of May 2023

<sup>23</sup> Mathide, "37<sup>ème</sup> édition de...", p. 13.

civilians and the Gendarmes and create to the Gendarmes a positive occasion to perform their missions of the protection of people and their goods.

The national gendarmerie also puts on the word of satisfaction the civil employees working in the National Gendarmerie in General by organizing as other institutions the activities of festivities for her civil employees at the moments of labour day. This gigantic activity that is usually propelled in the National Gendarmerie uniquely to the civil workers takes the attention of the National Gendarmerie which also employs many people<sup>24</sup>. During this period, the National Gendarmerie usually opens the free organization of activities in one week which during the week, the civilians working in the services of the National Gendarmerie in the entire Country benefit from some activities organized such as sport matches that is usually for a long distance depending on the people, a football game usually between the civilians of the National Gendarmerie and the Civil workers of the defense forces of the ministry of defense. There are also some activities such as hand ball and volley ball between the civil women of the National Gendarmerie and the women of the Ministry of defense of Cameroon<sup>25</sup>. Other activities enter here like conferences, a match pass which is also a way for the civil personnel of the National Gendarmerie to manifest their desire to the high commandment to ameliorate their condition of work in the National Gendarmerie ameliorates the degree of their perception in the National Gendarmerie since they are at times set away during the decisions taking about the institution that they estimate they are also serving like the others.

### **3- The liberalization of Gendarmerie archives to the researchers and University students for the realization of their scientific works**

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon has since the 1990s inscribed herself in the perspective of reinforcing her relations with the civil population of the Country. For this way, methods were adopted between the Civil-Military actions of the National Gendarmerie. These civil-military actions which is essentially crisisogenic historically<sup>26</sup>. But which in the facts takes place also in the non-crisogenic areas like in Yaounde, Douala, Kyé-ossi, and the other towns where there has never been an arm disorder as the case of the period of 2014 till 2023 was concern. The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon created this atmosphere of good relations between the militaries and the civilians in order to require good information for the prevention of crises in those areas where they are not existing. They also wanted to fight against those who are not respecting the integrity of the country, and to get away from the negative effects of

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<sup>24</sup> Mathide, “37<sup>ème</sup> édition de...”, p. 13.

<sup>25</sup> Ndjock Sielye, Adjudant of the Gendarmerie and Journalist, Yaounde, 29 of May 2023.

<sup>26</sup> Thonier, “ Les Actions Civilo“, p. 79.



destructive crises which has caused some elements of the downfall of the area such as the destructions of classes, hospitals, the burning up of the markets. This was a very high unsupportable situation in the society of Cameroon and the scientist highly interested themselves in different ways and with different themes.

Memory dissertations, thesis, text books, articles were written with a high concentration on the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. But taking in to consideration the fact that, the writing the History of the National Gendarmerie necessitate sources. Onomo Etaba Roger Bernard define History as “that social science that base on sources such as archeological sources, written sources, oral sources, permits us to learn the pass, understand present and project the future”. He continued by demonstrating that, “sources were considered by a Historian like a hole is to the Famer”<sup>27</sup>. So, from this demonstration, we can deduce that sources are important materials used in writing History, as without sources we might be doing something else rather than writing History. In this sense, the scientists more especially the students who are debuting their steps in research accord a vital importance to the sources disposed by the National Gendarmerie in other to participate in the military historiography in General and on the Gendarmerie historiography in particular.

Many researchers have interested themselves in the study of the National Gendarmerie in so many ways and in many disciplines. The National Gendarmerie in her sense of opening herself to the civil population and also encouraging them more especially in the research domains. The defense and security body accords authorizations to students to do research on the questions of the National Gendarmerie, spaces are also opened to researchers in other to entertain with them in other to provides to them information credible for the realizations of their scientific works. Commander Nna koto junior recalled here as he says that,

*La Gendarmerie Nationale a ouvert le champ a la recherche scientifique notamment au profile des étudiants et chercheurs et Universitaires qui auparavant exprimais des difficultés liées à l'accès aux documents militaires de la Gendarmerie National du Cameroun dans le cadre de leurs travaux scientifiques*<sup>28</sup>.

This explanation of the Commander at the Gendarmerie makes us to stabilize our comprehension on the reception and the opening of the Archives of the National Gendarmerie to the researchers and university students for the realizations of their scientific works. The same

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<sup>27</sup> Onomo Etaba, *Précis de méthodologie en Histoire...*, p. 14.

<sup>28</sup> Nna'a Nkoto Junior, 49 years, Commander at the National Gendarmerie and Head of service of employment and structure of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 27 march 2023.

arguments are advances by General Elokobi Daniel Njock in an interview presented in the magazine of the institution of the National Gendarmerie. He indicated that,

*En plus des actions infrastructurelles menées par le Génie Militaire, La Gendarmerie Nationale a ouvert le champ à la recherche scientifique notamment au profit des étudiants, chercheurs et universitaires qui auparavant exprimaient des difficultés liées à l'accès aux documents militaires de la Gendarmerie Nationale du Cameroun dans le cadre de leurs travaux scientifiques<sup>29</sup>*

These two main arguments of the General Director of Central coordination of the National Gendarmerie and that of the Head of the service of the structure and the employment under the colonel director of Structure and employment makes us to full our bucket of veracity with their argument, but which we stays on the side of those who thinks of the possible amelioration of the conditions of research in the National Gendarmerie since the military milieus in General and the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon in particular still stay on the positions of prudence on giving some information to the persons that are non-militaries due to some reasons which are not open to the civilians but which among are the absence of confidences since they at times ignored the full utilizations of the information by the civilians. Others even needs long procedure before acquiring them.

At the end of this first part of the second chapter of our work which is on the Cultural and sportive Actions of the National Gendarmerie, successes played on our favor in other to explores through the liberalization of Gendarmerie archives to the researchers and University students for the realization of their scientific works, we have also pouches the study on the organization of festivities for Civil employees and lastly, we have explore the participation in the National sport activities and the organization of sport activities with the civilians. This has permits us to pass on the other part of this work which consist really on the educative and the health actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon.

## **II- THE EDUCATIVE AND THE HEALTH ACTIONS OF THE NATIONAL GENDARMERIE OF CAMEROON**

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon puts in practice the civil-military action. These actions which attracts the attention of the scientific community today and which is discussed in this scientific document. The description of these actions could be important through the explanation of people like Colonel Mevono who says that,

The concept civil-military actions come first of all due to the existence of war. So proprietarily the civil-military action is carries during a war or during crises since it was from there that the concept arrived. During this period the National Gendarmerie put in place he expertise of that army that is closer to the

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<sup>29</sup> Elokobi Njock Daniel, 67 years, Brigadier General of the National Gendarmerie, Director of the Central coordination of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, Yaounde, 27 June 2023.

population. And also that her characteristics of a force which have a military characteristics and military characteristic<sup>30</sup>.

Colonel Mevono also insist on the fact that, the Civil-military actions as a concept also have it vital observations when it is materialized on the zones that are not considered as zones of crises since the same actions are carried on here by the National Gendarmerie. Here, he joints Colonel Gambalet who according to her, the civil-military actions as far as the Armies of Cameroon in General and the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon in particular observes in all the entire of the country without taking in to considerations the three grand zones considered as the zones of crises in Cameroon which are the Northern parts of Cameroon taken by Bokoharam, the North west and the south west covered by the Ambazonians separatists who thinks on the segmentation of the country. Then she insisted on the Fact that those where the actions done by the armies out of the theatre of their missions in favour for the civil population<sup>31</sup>. It is right that the civil-military actions are also a way of positive immediate reactions of the armies toward the population and the environment in other to solve the consequences of war or crises. It is this sense that thinking on the domains of the civil-military actions were very important. We then mention the civil-military actions in the educative domains, the social domains and the other domains that is demonstrated in this part of our scientific work.

### **1- The opening of the Gendarmerie Health centers and reduction of tariffs of care taking to the civil populations in Cameroon**

The national Gendarmerie of Cameroon has inscribed herself in the utilization of the concept civil-military actions since it arrival in Cameroon. This concept was extracted from the nature and putted in to exercise by Europeans in some theatres of wars and crises even in African territories after the 1990s. This was through an Army known as the *Groupement Inter Armée des Actions Civilo Militaires*. This group of armies highly in the responsibility of countries like France played their impacts in the zones of conflicts in those countries. These countries such as the Ivory Coast were benefiting on the numerous of facilities that the *GIAACM* was offering to them with the objectives that the people should be favourable to the armies and accept to provides to them information susceptible to put an end to of the crises<sup>32</sup>. But with the case of Cameroon particularly with the National Gendarmerie, an uncountable realization was

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<sup>30</sup>Mevono Ngoumba Dieudonné, 47 years, Colonel at the Gendarmerie and Head of Division of the General Affaires of the National Gendarmerei, Yaounde, the 9<sup>th</sup> june 2023.

<sup>31</sup>Ngabalet Annie, 52 years, colonel medicine, Head of service of Health of the Medical Military Center of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 07<sup>th</sup> june 2023.

<sup>32</sup> Thonier, “ Les Actions Civilo...“, p. 77.

done which were in the favour of the civil populations in diver domains and the most interested at this level was the health domain.

In the domain of Health, it is important to recall that the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon mobilizes her troops and her materials during all negativities that occurs in the country concerning the civil populations. This might be during accidents, catastrophic situations which could be natural or not, the periods of Pandemics and epidemics. The health personnel and material could be deployed for the situations that concerns the Gendarmes themselves also more especially those who goes across tragic situations in the zones of wars like the situation that is going on in the North west and the south west region of Cameroon with the separatist groups who are going against the principles of the state, the situation in the Northern Region with the Bokoharams. During all the negativities of these situations, the health services of the National Gendarmerie in Cameroon are deployed on the field.

The *Pandores*<sup>33</sup> of Cameroon, taking in to consideration the fact that they are the most closer to the civil population in their missions, they covers all the social tissues of the country and are also found in all the milieus in the country led it be in the cities or in the peripheries in Cameroon. The Gendarmes can be seen as those who are not only in contact with the population but also those who can quickly understand the problems of the populations in any side of the country. This is also one of the reasons why the Gendarmes can vividly have the health difficulties of the population and can react in any way they can in other to save the vulnerabilities of those populations. In this sense, the National gendarmerie in the zones of crises and also in the zones considered as non-crises puts in exercises some actions so as to save the civil populations for their health<sup>34</sup>. These activities can be such as, health sensitization, campaigns of vaccinations, the act even of taking in charge of the civil populations in the Gendarmerie Hospitals without any distinctions and with no discrimination. For the health sensitization the National Gendarmerie has been carrying the activity for a long period of time. This can be seen through activities organized by the government of Cameroon such as football, in the stadium, it might also depend with the context.

If a retrospective is done, comprehensions will be that, the National Gendarmerie has organized campaigns of health sensitization in the stadiums of Cameroon during the *CAN* in all the entire Country from the 09<sup>th</sup> of January to the 06<sup>th</sup> of February 2022. This was highly

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<sup>33</sup>Pandore is the new name given to the Gendarmes of Cameroon. This is just like the players are the lions, the Gendarmes are the Pandores.

<sup>34</sup>Ntep Ngue Jean Jacques, 38 years old, Head of unit of medical biology technique of the medical center of the Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 30<sup>th</sup> of may 2023.

motivated by the Pandemic of corona virus that was animating the entire world in general and Cameroon in particular. The National Gendarmerie presented her personnel and her materials under the coordination of colonel commander in second of the Center legion of the National Gendarmerie who did a remarkable job as they were not only focalizes on their main mission which was bases on the security of the milieu of the stadium, but they found themselves distributing face masks to people, recalling people on the dangers of the pandemic that was animating the country at that period and the measures to gate away from it contaminations and other risks of the Pandemic in the country. They were going ahead providing vaccines to the people of the country with zero money. They checked the existence of the pandemic on those who could be admitted to enter the stadiums.

During the periods of the crises, the Hospitals of the National Gendarmerie takes on them to carry some percentages of the care taking of the patients who are often civilians. These crises which are at time Great accidents, natural catastrophes, pandemics and epidemics, the situations of wars like what is going on today in the country notably in the south west and the north west regions, the northern regions. They also put in practice when there are festivities like the 08<sup>th</sup> of March that they carry in the hospital of the Gendarmerie some sensitization campaigns and even the reduction at 50% the bill.<sup>35</sup> This permits the high participation of the National Gendarmerie in the good health of the civil population of the country. It can be in the zones considers as those of crises and those consider as zones of non-crisis. It also plays a vital role in the creation of a climate of friendship between the civil population and the Gendarmes.

During crises like the case today in some parts of the country, the national Gendarmerie organizes the civil-military operations in to naturally three phases.<sup>36</sup> This usually goes from the repression, the investigations, and the installation of the object of civil-military action.<sup>37</sup> In the domain of health, it is important also to take in to consideration the note of the ministry of the defense which was published on the 12<sup>th</sup> of May 2021. This note which was referenced note of service n°1292/NS/MINDEF/01 of the 11/06/1996<sup>38</sup>. This was to be taken in to consideration in all the Hospitals of the militaries in general and of all the Gendarmerie hospitals in Cameroon

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<sup>35</sup>Ngabalet, 52 years, colonel medicine, Head of service of Health of the Medical Military Center of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 07 june 2023.

<sup>36</sup>Ndjock Saley, 38 years, Adjutant of the Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 26<sup>th</sup> may 2023.

<sup>37</sup> In other to do a civil-military action, the National Gendarmerie first of all mobilizes a group of Gendarmes who militarily descend on the fill to observe the fill, after them, they sent the group of those who only takes people from one person to another understanding the difficulties they are facing directly during or after the crises or war, then the last stage, they descend on the terrain with the goods they provided for the civil population.

<sup>38</sup> A.N.G, note of service n°02695/NDS/MINDEF/01 of 12/05/2021 with object, "*Prise en charge des militaires et des personnels civils au sein des formations sanitaires relevant du Ministère de la Défense et droit à la réduction des frais des actes médicaux y pratiqués.*"

in particular. The service notes highly took in to consideration the civil personnel working in the National Gendarmerie and also the Gendarmes in the different military formations. The biological families of the Gendarmes and the biological family members of the civil personnel of the National Gendarmerie were to benefited on the advantages that this note was presenting in the formations of the ministry of defense in general and the national Gendarmerie in particular. The object of this service note was “*Prise en charge des militaires et des personnels civils au sein des formations sanitaires relevant du Ministère de la Défense et droits à la réduction des frais des actes médicaux y pratiqués*”<sup>39</sup>

This note was followed by another one signed again by the same minister. This was on the reduction of the tariff of medical acts practice in the health formations of the ministry of defense to the profit of the military and civil personnel

*Il est accordé, pour compter de la date de signature de la présente note de service au sein des formations Hospitalières militaires, une réduction sur les tarifs du Ministère de la Défense et leurs familles (époux et enfants légitimes à charge) sur présentation du livret de famille*<sup>40</sup>.

This civil-military action which was practically on the profit of both the militaries and the civils led it be those working in the National Gendarmerie, but also with the members of their families that are not militaries. This note of service was signed directly with a grand incline of the separatist’s forces in the south west and the north west, the *bokoharam* in the northern regions of the country and the civils who are seiten members of the families of the Gendarmes will require health services in those health services who are even in the zone of non-wars in Cameroon. This then pushes the interrogations on the reactions of the National Gendarmerie on the medical centers of the institutions, those of other military institutions and even in the civil institutions.

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon in her desire to play a role in the solving of crises in Cameroon, adopted a method which was one among the others known as the civil-military actions. This was as far as the domain of health was concern, the taking in charges of the civilians in the Gendarmerie hospitals. These Hospitals are found in the zones of crises and also on the zones seen to be free from the crises but which register their own kinds of menaces which are not at the same ways with remarkable zones of crises in Cameroon. The main hospitals of the National Gendarmerie will be such as the Military Medical Center of the National Gendarmerie found in the Central services of the National Gendarmerie in Yaounde.

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<sup>39</sup>A.N.G, note of service of the 12/05/2021, 02691, “*Prise en charge des militaires et des personnels civils au sein des formations sanitaires relevant du Ministère de la Défense et droit à la réduction des frais des actes médicaux y pratiqués*”

<sup>40</sup>A.N.G, Note de service 12/05/2021, n° 02692, “*taux de réduction des frais des actes médicaux pratiqués dans les centres et formations Hospitaliers militaires au profit des personnels civil et militaires*”.

Colonel Annie Ngambala, Head of the Health service of the National Gendarmerie indicates in an interview intitle “*le Centre médicale militaire de la Gendarmerie Nationale, une structure des santés de proximité à l’écoute de chaque Gendarme et à moindre cout*” That,

*Le Centre médicale militaire de la Gendarmerie Nationale est une structure sanitaire créée par le décret présidentiel n°2001/181 du 25 juillet 2001 portant organisation de la Gendarmerie Nationale. Il est placé sous la responsabilité du colonel Ngambalet Annie, chef service santé de la Gendarmerie Nationale. Il est situé à l’entrée des services centraux de la Gendarmerie Nationale du côté du Camp Yeyap Moussa<sup>41</sup>.*

There is also the participation of the Gendarmes in other Military medical health centers like is the Case in the Military Garrison of Yaounde, the Military garnizon of Koutaba in the western region, the military garrison of Douala in the Littoral region, the military health centers in the hole military health institution in Cameroon permits the National Gendarmerie to reacts in the resolution of crises in the country, the prevention even of those crises which more often deteriorates the quality of the relations that exists between the Civilians and the militaries since 1990 till 2023. It is also important to say that the health centers of the National Gendarmerie and the participation of the Gendarmes in other military hospitals has permits the interventions on the Behalf of those civil Cameroonians who left from the zones of wars since 2014 and 2016 till 2023 to the other zones which are note dangerous in terms of security.<sup>42</sup> The existence of the service of health in the National Gendarmerie was supported by a part of the decrees signed by the president of the republic in 2004. It was in the section 96 of these decrees and at article 218 that the health service was charged to be in the organization of campaigns of vaccination to the profit of the personnel of the National Gendarmerie. It was also in charge of the care taking of the personnel of the National Gendarmerie<sup>43</sup>.

This health centers which will have a principal mission which was the care taking of the personnel of the National Gendarmerie also plays a vital role in the health of the Civil population since they have also engages them self in the care taking of the civil population which was through the momental reduction of prices of charges of the hospital at 50% to the patients, free campaigns of vaccinations, the national Gendarmerie’s hospital also takes care of the patients of accidents before their families continues. This arrives during some accident on the high ways. When there are some accidents, make sure that all the patients should be evacuated in the hospitals and those who have lost their life should be identify and their families be contacted then enter in to possession of their corps. Those at life stay in the hospital if they

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<sup>41</sup>A. Ngambala, “Le Centre Médical Militaire de la Gendarmerie Nationale”, *Echos du Pandore*, n°21 du 20 mai 2023, p. 34.

<sup>42</sup> Anonymous, civil beneficiary of the health service of the Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 28<sup>th</sup> march 2023.

<sup>43</sup> ANG, Les treize décrets et Arrêtés du Président de la République signes les 23,30mars 2004 et 02 avrils concernant les Forces de défenses, p. 49.

are adjacent to the Gendarmerie hospitals. They are taken in charge be for their families arrives where they are in order to take over their familial responsibilities on the member of their family<sup>44</sup>.

The National Gendarmerie's Hospitals were equally of a good importance to the Militaries as they were transferred here when they have some problems from the wars milieus. The gendarmes been very important for the society, the hospitals were also imposed to takes some charges on them freely and at other moments with the reduction of prices which is usually shared between the Gendarmerie's hospital and the Gendarme.

The following picture shows the treatment of a civilian in a Gendarmerie Hospital. Notably that of the Central services of Yaounde, That of the Yeyap Moussa camp.

### Planche 1: Military medical center of the Gendarmerie in Yaounde



Source: photo Njikam, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2023

This military medical Center of the National Gendarmerie, even though installed principally for the personnel of the National Gendarmerie, the head of the health service of the National Gendarmerie make us to understand that,

*Il concourt à l'amélioration de la santé de la population de tous les horizons militaires et civils et de toutes les classes ou couche sociale sur tous les aspects (biologique, psychologique et sociologique). Avec une capacité d'hospitalisation de 120 malades, il offre plusieurs services médicaux repartis dans plusieurs unités qui le constituent et ainsi, favorise la mise en œuvre du concept "Armée-Nations"*<sup>45</sup>.

<sup>44</sup> Ngabala, "Le centre Medical" ..., p. 34.

<sup>45</sup> Ngabalet, 52years, colonel medicine, Head of service of Health of the Medical Military Center of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 07<sup>th</sup> june, 2023



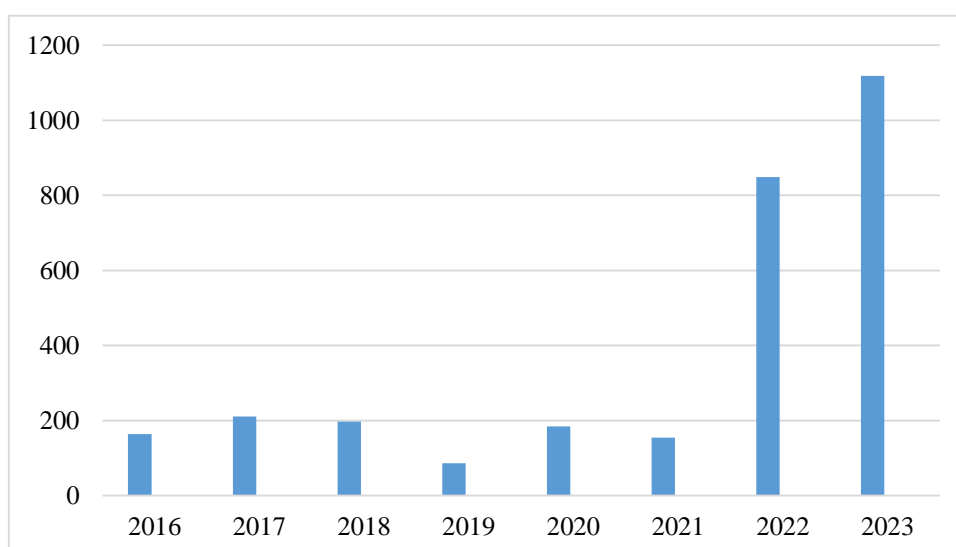
Below is a board which shows the civil population that passes in the military Hospitals of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon.

**Table 2: The reception of the civilian populations in the military hospitals in Yaoundé (2016 to 2023)**

YEARS	NUMBER	HOSPITAL
2016	164	Camp Yeyap
2017	211	Camp Yeyap
2018	197	Camp Yeyap
2019	86	Camp Yeyap
2020	184	Camp Yeyap
2021	154	Camp Yeyap
2022	849	Camp yeyap and GMH
2023	1118	Camp Yeyap and GMH

**Source:** Archives of the Health service of the National Gendarmerie

**Graphic 1: The reception of the civil populations in the military hospitals in Yaoundé (2016-2023)**



**Source:** Books of consultations in the Military Medical center of the Gendarmerie

The above graph shows the reception of the civilian populations in the military hospitals in Yaoundé from 2016 to 2023. The explanation of the graph is clear and physical on the sense that, the year 2016 falls in the middle of 1990 and 2023. So, the information required from the source shows the changes of the rate of the reception of the civilians in the military hospitals. From the year 2016 to 2018, the rate of the passage of the civil population in the Gendarmerie

Hospital in the Camp Yeyap was not imposing considerable changes. But, when we take the period of the 2019, the number of the people coming to the Hospital highly falls and according to the information required on the field, this was due to the fact that, the Gate of camp Yeyap was locked and the civil population was not more going there. Only the family and the friends of the militaries were going to the hospital because they were accompanied at times by the Gendarmes and others who were going by curiosity. It is like this that the civilians were going till 2021 and in 2022, there was the establishment of the Military Hospital of the Gendarmerie (MMHG). and the effective of the civil population passing the Hospital was going up word.

This up word advancement was simply due to, firstly, there was the hospital of the Camp Yeyap which was in a slow motion continuing to provide medical services to the civil population of Yaounde and MMHG which was doing the function in an appreciable way. The high increase in the advancement of the civil population to the MMHG could be seeing due to some free activities going on in the MMHG. We can take for example the activities of checkup, the campaigns that the MMHG usually organized more especially at the period from the 07<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> of March where by in 2023 the Hospital registered about 193 civilians from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> of March 2023. And from here, we can understand the galloping reason of the graph in 2022 and 2023.

## **2- The Gendarmerie and youths Sensitizations: A domain of Civil-military action**

After the 1990s, the forms of disturbances that was going on the word changes it ways and methods of going on. That is, instabilities changes from the externals where by the instabilities where at the level of frontiers but was found in the interior of the country such as political instabilities, high crime waves, consumption of drogues<sup>46</sup>. The national Gendarmerie has changed her ways of operation as to modernise with a moderate way of operating on the feel of situations. This has been due to the changes in the manner of ways of instabilities that was usually occurring in the society. The years of the 1990s arrived with the consumption of Drogues by the youths, the high crime waves in the society and other non-comfortabilities in the society of Cameroon as was described by the Head of the service of Defense and Civic Actions of the National Gendarmerie<sup>47</sup>. Then National Gendarmerie as force of defense and security in a desire to extract what the Director employment and structures of the National

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<sup>46</sup> Djoungang Kamdoum Patrick, 40 years, Head of Squadron at the Gendarmerie, Head of the Administrative and Financial Affaire of the Central Service of the Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 16<sup>th</sup> june 2023.

<sup>47</sup> Amougou Ba'ana Isabelle, 35 years, Captain at the Gendarmerie, Head of Service of Defense and Civic Actions, Yaounde, 13<sup>th</sup> june 2023.

Gendarmerie called “*Renseignement d’origine Humaine*”<sup>48</sup>, the body of Army opted to go more adjacent to the civil population in order to have good information which could help them to well attain their objectives of protection of people and their goods.

For the National Gendarmerie to arrive at her point of satisfaction in terms of information, for the eradication of negativities in the society, she opted to create spheres of education and advice for the populations of Cameroon. The personnel of the force of defense and security would be in front. This idea coupled with that of the state of Cameroon that is anxious of the consequences of drug consumption led it to be on the physical or behavioral plan on her population ratifies on the international domain some conventions constituting some international jurisdictional rules in the fight against the consumption and the commercialization of drugs, traffics and detention of drugs. On the national plan, the law n° 97/019 of 07 of August 1997 relative to the control, the cultivation, and the consumption and traffics of drugs and of the mind-altering substances, precursors, to the extraction and to the jurisdictional inter aid. The law n° 2016/007 of 12 July 2016 instituting Cameroonians penal code promulgated<sup>49</sup>. These similar actions were taken in hand by the National Gendarmerie through the service of defense and civic actions.

To perform well in these actions, the National Gendarmerie adopted methods which she thought could be that of massive extraction of information from the population. They took systems such as sensitization; massive education of the populations and at times organizations of descends in schools such as secondary schools and Universities. Also, the National Gendarmerie takes in to consideration personal education. That is, if a Gendarme see a youth who is integrating any negative way of life, led it to be in the domains of smoking, stilling or committing any form of crime, the Gendarme was to call him or her and sensitizes on the dangers the person is facing led it to be toward the law of the country, the society and even as far as the physical damages of the person was concern. This could create some sorts of friendship between the civil populations and the body of defense and security and favors the extraction of the information for the Gendarmes for the arrest of the bad spirits of the society. This could be illustrated with affirmations of the Head of Division of the General Affairs of the National

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<sup>48</sup> Eloundou Mesmain, 51 years, Colonel at the Gendarmerie, Director of Employment and Structures of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 20<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

<sup>49</sup> Note Ntako Désiré, 45 years, Captain at the National Gendarmerie, Head of office Defense Action of the Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 05<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

Gendarmerie which he says that, “it is important to notes that, the contribution of the population is important to highly favors the requirement of good information.

The Gendarmerie has also in the same perspective put’s in place the Gendarmerie of proximity”<sup>50</sup>. This permits the coming adjacent to the populations in other to require information susceptible to persist in missions of the protection of people and their goods. The body of defense and security which is the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon also went for methods such as the organization of conferences and scientific discussions<sup>51</sup>. These conferences initiated by the personnel of the National Gendarmerie is usually in spaces where we found the youths and the themes are usually oriented on the situations of the contemporary world which is covers with tones of negativities practice by the youths and it disturbs the security of the nation<sup>52</sup>. The National Gendarmerie then organizes conferences to cultivates the mind of the youths on the laws of the country, the high needs of the youths in terms of their participation in the construction of a good country. The National Gendarmerie personnel takes on her the mission of sensitization on some negativities that also bring in some conflicts in the country which may be seen as the tribalism which is the love and the valorization of one’s culture at the detriment of that of the others. This permits the National Gendarmerie to work on the sense of avoiding conflicts and insecurities in the country. One of the good examples will be seen from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021, as is mention in the magazine of the *Echos Pandore* that,

*Du 1er au 11 février 2021, dans le cadre de la 56ème édition de la fête nationale de la jeunesse et en partenariat avec le Ministre de la jeunesse, l’équipe du Service Défense et Action Civique de la Gendarmerie Nationale a entrepris une série de campagne de sensibilisation des jeunes élèves et de la société civile sur les dangers liés au repli identitaire et à la consommation des drogues et autres psychotropes*<sup>53</sup>.

These activities of the National Gendarmerie were based on the system participating for a good society of Cameroon. So she expected that, even if they could already be noting in 2021 a grand participation of students in the schools of the towns of Yaounde, Bafang, Fouban, and Douala, the National Gendarmerie was still to boost her partnership with the ministry of the Youths and civics Education in the sphere of mobilizations every year. Then, the National Gendarmerie will always be at the side of the Cameroonian population more constituted of the Youths to bring her for a good change more especially as the comportment is concern for the

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<sup>50</sup> Mevono Ngomba Jules, 47 years, Colonel at the National Gendarmerie, Head of the Division of General Affaires of the Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 04<sup>th</sup> june 2023.

<sup>51</sup> Ndjock Sielye Achille Junior, 38 yeaes, Adjudant of the Gendarmerie, Journalist, Yaounde, 12<sup>th</sup> may 2023.

<sup>52</sup> Meloupou, Armée et Développement..., p. 37.

<sup>53</sup> A. J. Njock, “Lutte contre le repli identitaire chez les jeunes : La Gendarmerie Nationale dans la sensibilisation”, *Echos du Pandore*, n° spéciale du 20 mai 2021, p. 15.

emergency of the Years 2035<sup>54</sup>. This same proposal can be extracted from the interview done with General Elo Kobi Njock in the Magazine of the National Gendarmerie when he intervened that,

*Bien plus, le Service défense et Action Civique de la Gendarmerie Nationale mène des actions sociales sur l'étendue du territoire national Camerounais. En effet, il organise régulièrement des tournées sensibilisation et d'éducation des jeunes dans les établissements scolaires notamment sur les dangers de la drogue, et les grossesses précoces<sup>55</sup>*

This intervention indicates the efforts done on the fees of operations by the National Gendarmerie to provide a better society without high crime wave, killing of people without motives. The National Gendarmerie multiplied these efforts till the 16<sup>th</sup> of May 2023 with the occasion of the 20<sup>th</sup> may and organized campaigns of sensitization in the southern region of Cameroon notably in the secondary schools and colleges of Kye-ossi with the group of Gendarmes under the responsibility of Captain Amougou Ba'ana Isabelle. And they discuss with the youths on the questions of Tribalism, identity reply. They also talked on the sign and symbols of the state, the respect of the law, the respect of elders, teachers and the sign and symbols of the country. This operation was done with the help of the Elements of SEDAC such as Captain Note Ntako Dézirée, and the elements of the service of Communication of the Central administration of the National Gendarmerie such as Adjutant Ndjock Sielye Achille Junior who also intervened on the question of tribalism and tribalism. He was putting in evidence the facts that, Tribalism was the slight opposite of tribalism. As tribalism is the state of being organized by or advocating for tribes. It is also in other word the rejection of the other tribes. It can also be the supreme valorization of our tribe to the detriment of the others<sup>56</sup>.

Tribalism on her sight, is the love of the tribe without according any spirit of negativity vis a vis to the other tribes. He sensitized the students on the good choice which was tribalism instead of tribalism as tribalism have so many negative consequences more especially in a country full of diversities like Cameroon and a country which we were going for an emergency in 2035. This discussion with students in the southern region permitted to recall some points on the Gendarmes to the students and the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. The Gendarme and journalist recalled some signs and symbols of the Country to the students of the secondary school. There was equally a pace of word that was given to his Majesty Dr Binguo Binguo,

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<sup>54</sup> Ibid., p. 16.

<sup>55</sup> G. L. Etoga, "Les Actions Civilo-Militaires: Osmose entre Gendarmerie et la population", *Echos du Pandores*, n°19 de mai 2022, p. 27.

<sup>56</sup> Dictionnaire Encyclopédique, Grand Larousse Universel Tom 14, Hors Commerce, Paris, p. 10263.

Anthropologist and lecturer in the University of Yaounde 1. Who came back on the History, customs and cultures of the different eras of Cameroon. Led it be the Grassfeeld, the Fang-Beti bulu, the Sawa and the Sudano-Sahelians<sup>57</sup>.

The following image illustrates an example of the sensitization organized by the National Gendarmerie in other to continue in her desire to fulfill the mission of Civil-military actions which is her modern way of maintaining peace and fighting against Crises in Cameroon.

**Planche 2: images of sensitization campaigns organized in a secondary school in Kye-Ossi on the 16-05-202**



Source: A.N.G, Photo sensitization organized by the SEDAC/NG, may 2023.

The above image shows the presence of a Gendarme in a class room exchanging with the students. This Gendarme who is a Captain of the Gendarmerie is exchanging with the students on the compartments a responsible citizen of a Country should adopts, the History of the National Gendarmerie, their missions and the importance to the Civil population. She has also exchanges with the students on the different things that one can do which cannot be tolerable by the laws of the country. These can be things like appurtenances to grand bandit's groups, consumption and commercialization of drogues, and the traffic of some products such as human boons. This exchange which was interactive and interested as the photo presents and also boosted the asking of questions and which also encourages the girls for the persistence in school when they saw a woman who was having a good grade in the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. This made them to understand they could also schools and become one day like the young captain that was in front of them<sup>58</sup>.

<sup>57</sup> Ndjock, 38years, Adjudant of the Gendarmerie, Journalist, Yaounde, mai2023

<sup>58</sup> Amougou, 35years, captain at the Gendarmerie, Head of service of the Service of defense and Civic actions, Yaounde, 08<sup>th</sup> june 2023.

This photo demonstrates a good Civil-military action of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon as we are seeing the personnel of the National Gendarmerie deploys on the field at the period when Cameroon is facing the problems of crises of values and nationalism through the youths and even some bad practices that are going on in the schools like violence and consumption of bad products such as cocaine, cannabis, marijuana. Taking in to considerations the fact that this is mainly passing among the youths which the government of Cameroon is basin her power of development on them, the National Gendarmerie saw it important to adopt passive ways to solve this problem by educating the youths and the most important place to massively meets them is in the school and encourages them to denounce those doing some of these mal practices<sup>59</sup>.

Another civil-military action acted by the SDAC/NG was seen on the 21 of June 23, 2023. When the International Community was commemorating the 33<sup>rd</sup> edition of the International day of the African chil. It was in the perspective that the National Gendarmerie holed a day of sensitization on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> of June, 2023 in the Technical <sup>60</sup>secondary school of Kolbisson in Yaoundé to the profit of the youth deputies. It was under the supervision of Captain Amougou Ba'ana Isabelle Annick Murielle, Head of the Service of Defense and Civic Actions of the National Gendarmerie and the help of personnel such as Captain Note Ntako Dézizé, Chef Aminatou, Adjudant Njock Sielye Achille Junior that an entertainment was done with the Young Parliamentarians on the symbols of the State Flag, National Anthem, evolution of the flag, the appropriation of the patriotic spirit and the good understanding of the National emblems<sup>61</sup>.

They also proceeded on presenting in a methodological manner the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon to the young parliamentarians of Cameroon in other to boost the vocation on the youths. If the youth parliamentarians were very receptive to the comprehensions preached by the personnel of the National Gendarmerie, and they very happy with their lecturers and desired that, these activities of learning should be enlarged at the level the entire territory and particularly in their different schools. During the exchanges which the method adopted was typically pedagogic and inter active, the lecture one has extracted could be that of the youths

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<sup>59</sup> G. Etoga, "Les actions Civilo-Militaires : osmose entre Gendarmerie et Populations", *Echos du Pandore*, n° 19 mai 2022, p. 28.

<sup>60</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>61</sup> N. Ekobo Bamou, 27 years, lieutenant at the Gendarmerie, Head of the Office of Civic actions of the central administration of the National Gendarmerie, 6<sup>th</sup> of june 2023.

ready to contribute on the unity of the father land which is Cameroon<sup>62</sup>. The below photo can edify on the illustration of this important Civil-military Action done by the personnel of the SEDAC of the Central administration of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon.

### **Planche 3: the sensitization campaigns organized by the Gendarmerie for young parliamentarians**



**Source:** Face book page of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, Civilian and Military activities: The National Gendarmerie attends the 22<sup>th</sup> session of children's Parliament, consulted on the 24<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at 2:36 pm.

These above images, shows on the first and the second one the presence of the civil-military action acted by the SDAC/NG. This was seen on the 21 to 23 of June, 2023. When the International Community was commemorating the 33<sup>rd</sup> edition of the International day of the African child. It was in the perspective that the National Gendarmerie holed a day of sensitization on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> of June, 2023 in the Technical <sup>63</sup>secondary school of Kolbisson in Yaoundé<sup>64</sup>.

### **3- The Gendarmerie's actions in the educative domain: a Veritable Civil-Military Action.**

The Pandora's of Cameroon friendly activities on the field helped in building mutual understanding for federated efforts against common enemies of peace and National concord across the country. In the face of mounting security challenges staring Cameroon since for some times now, concerted efforts aimed at solidifying the bond between the Gendarmes and the Civil population are adopted by the body of security and defense of Cameroon. This was also

<sup>62</sup> Face book page of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, Civilian and Military activities: The National Gendarmerie attends the 22<sup>th</sup> session of children's Parliament, 24 June 2023.

<sup>63</sup> Face book page of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, Civilian and Military activities: The National Gendarmerie attends the 22<sup>th</sup> session of children's Parliament, 24 June 2023.

<sup>64</sup> *Ibid.*



for the environmental profit and to encourages the population to accepts the militaries who are the Gendarmes and also favours an easy extraction of information during operations. So, commander Egamba, Head of service of the instructions in the central Administration of the National Gendarmerie indicates that,

*La maîtrise de l'environnement opérationnel actuel impose aux différents acteurs qu'ils soient civils ou militaires de fédérer leurs énergies et leurs compétences. Les Actions Civilo-Militaires qui contribuent à favoriser l'acceptation de la Gendarmerie Nationale au sein de la population apparaissent dès lors comme une nécessité absolue<sup>65</sup>*

This explicit explanation provided by the Commander could be helpful to understand that the efforts of the National Gendarmerie is not only to keep the people and their environment in peace, but also to provides a good relation between the Armies and the Civil population of the country Cameroon. This emotions of works are those that will be seeing in this part of our work but concerning the reflections of schools, gifts of benches in some schools acceptance of the children of the Civilians in the schools said to be those of the Gendarmerie and found in the military milieus of the Body of Army, the provision of security at the period of crises for the students in other to permits them continue to go to schools without having any fear of what so ever because they are adjacent to the militaries. All these activities done by the elements of the National Gendarmerie for the educative favors of the civil populations. Concerning the schools of the National Gendarmerie, we can register the nurseries and the primary schools of Group1, Group2, Goup3 of the Gendarmerie found in the gates of the National Gendarmerie in Yaounde notably in the Yeyap Moussa camp, we can see the case of the *Lycée Joss* in the Littoral region of Cameroon specifically in Douala. For the participation in the advancement in education in the zones of crises, the National Gendarmerie has provided gifts for the schools and these were often in the nature of the didactic materials, benches, they have also put in exercises their expertize of capeilities of teaching in the schools were crises caused the absence of so many teachers. These purposes of education can be validated with the argument advance by General Elokobi who is the Central Director of Cordination of the National Gendarmerie who insist that,

*Apart from the other realizations of the National Gendarmerie on the entire of the territory, the body of defense and security has so many times illustrates them self in the zones of crises through some commodities realized to the profiles of the civil population more especially in terms of didactic materials such as benches, sport attires for students, chalks, and others<sup>66</sup>*

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<sup>65</sup> Egamba Eba'a, 36 years, Head of Service of Instruction of the central administration of the Gendarmerie, 22<sup>th</sup> 2023, Yaounde.

<sup>66</sup> Elokobi Njock, 67years, Brigardier General of the National Gendarmerie, Director of the Central coordination of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, the 27<sup>th</sup> june 2023.

These affirmations of the General could also be assimilated to the propositions of the Head of squadron, Head of service of Employment and Structure of the National Gendarmerie who also relates that,

as far as the educative domain is concern, the National Gendarmerie has provided the gifts on the 23of January 2020, 250 benches to two schools of the town of Manfe in the south west region of Cameroon sub divided as follow, 150 for *Lycée clasique* and 100 to the profit of the *complex scolaire* small Manfe regrouping Six primary and nursery schools<sup>67</sup>.

These interventions indicate right as the participation of the National Gendarmerie is concerns as far as the education of the civil population are concern. The support of the arguments can also be illustrated with the photo bellow which indicates the presence of the personnel of the National Gendarmerie for the issue of the materials of Educations in a school in the south west region of Cameroon. This information was also endorsed by the archives extracted from the block of the documentation of the Legion of the Southwest region as it permitted us to discover that, these benches and the didactic materials were given by the Secretary of State to the Defense in charge of the National Gendarmerie to the disposition of the Colonel Commander of the Legion of the Gendarmerie of the South west to be distributed to the population in the Zones of crises<sup>68</sup>

The next picture shows the presence of the Gendarmes and the other forces of defense and security in a school in Manfe. Here, the Colonel commander of the legion of Gendarmerie of the Southwest region gave didactic materials, benches and repaired classes which were destroyed.

**Image 1: the gift of didactic materials by the Colegion of the Southwest region of Cameroon**



<sup>67</sup> Nnang Nkoto, 49 years, Head of Squadron at the Gendarmerie, Head of the Service Employment and structure (SES), Yaounde, march and april 2023.

<sup>68</sup> Mevono Ngomba, 47 years, Colonel at the National Gendarmerie, Head of the Division of General Affaires of the Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 04<sup>th</sup> june 2023.

**Source:** Face book page of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, Civilian and Military activities: The colonel commander of the legion of the southwest in front, consulted on the 24<sup>th</sup> of March 2023.

This image collected from the face book page of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon gives the explanation on a civil-military action don by the Colonel commander of the legion of the Gendarmerie of the South West region in secondary schools. This was refection of school, the gift of benches.

The second part of This chapter can be characterized as the fruit of the reflections elucidated on the following subparts above. This was titled the educative and the health actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. Here, we were to see the main Civil-military actions of the Pandoras<sup>69</sup> of Cameroon. This Civil-military-Actions were also to be included on some balances so as to think on their appreciations. These were practically in the domains of education and Health. the requirement that one can shows here is that, some Civil-military Actions of the National Gendarmerie are mostly bases on these domains and also on some domains that will be explores on the part three on the Chapter two bellow.

### **III- THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ACTIONS OF THE NATIONAL GENDARMERIE**

The Civil-Military Actions of the National Gendarmerie has taken a longue river to be at this point today in Cameroon led it be in the milieu of all the Cameroon armies in general or in the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon in particular. With the same objective of capitalizing it as a method of friendship between the Gendarmes and the population to fight against the negativities of the criminals, and terrorists, it passes through some actions which are different from the others presented above. These actions already examined by the Pandoras of the country has been as presented on the following sub-parts of grand part three. Firstly, we have presented the actions of the opening of points of drinking water by the National Gendarmerie for the frofit of the Civil populations, secondly, we have passes on the recruitment of the civil population to be working in the milieu of the National Gendarmerie. and lastly, we have arrived on the filling of the states treasury and the regularization of the prices in the market by the National Gendarmerie.

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<sup>69</sup> Pandora is the Name of the first farm The opening of points of drinking water mortelle of the Humanity sent on the erth by Zeus to revenge agains the men serieuse, she was the one who opened the boite de pandore and who echaper of all the malheurs which men have today. Pandora is then in some sort the pendant of Eve a Historical figure symbolizing the Temptation. The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon appropriated hre self of the concept in other to show the efficacy of the against the defaulters.

**1- The provision of the goods of the first necessities for the populations such as drinking water, food and electricity.**

Drinking water, food and electricity are some necessities primordial and very important in the life of every day. The population of the zones of crises always lost the line of these necessities at appoint of the crises. This is more essentially when the crises attain it pic, there are some exigence that imposes to the civil population as they are always forces to stay in the house without going to work again, there are some negative acts likes the destructions of some goods. These acts always lead to the destruction of currents of electricity, the pollution of drinking water and there are the exigencies of lack of food. A good demonstration can be done on the photo presented below.

**Image 2: Provision food by the commander of the legion of Gendarmerie of the Southwest for the civilian Population**



**Source:** A.N.G, Photo of distribution of goods of first necessity to the Civilian population of the south west, may2023.

The above image, demonstrate a civil-military action done by the commander of the legion of the Gendarmerie of the south west region for the civilian population for their survival during the period of crises principally in 2019. Knowing fully of the need of approaching the civilian populations in other to require information to help them for their protection from the hands of the secessionists, the commander of the legion of the National Gendarmerie of the southwest provided to them the good of first necessity in other to make them understand the love the uniform men have for then and at which point they needed their help in the provision of sweetable information to fight against the common enemies.

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon as that body of Army which is called to be adjacent to the civil population is then usually call to intervenes on the behalf of the population by providing to them the goods of the first necessity. As the case of water provided by the National Gendarmerie is concern, the body of defense and security has make a non-significant effort to satisfy the population led it be in the Zones of crises or in the zones of non-crisis. the Gendarmerie has established pumps on the dispositions of some populations. This can be confirm with the explanation provided by population to enjoy water”<sup>70</sup> the same indication was also done by the Head of office of structure of the central Administration of the National Gendarmerie as he said that, “*la Gendarmerie met à la disposition de la population civile les puits d’eau notamment dans les zones en crise, ce qui est également une véritable action civilo-militaire.*”<sup>71</sup> The similar precision is done in the magazine of the National Gendarmerie, stipulating that,

*Tout comme on engage des actions allant dans le sens de maintenir la jeunesse loin des enrôlements des leaders sécessionnistes, certaines unités de Gendarmerie construites comportent chacune en leurs seines un forage permettant la distribution d’eau portable tant pour l’unité que pour la population avoisinantes*<sup>72</sup>

These different interpellations around the provision of good drinking water for the population by the National Gendarmerie led it be in the zones of crises or on the non-crisis zones chows simply a grand civil-Military Actions done by the National Gendarmerie. We can also persist the comprehension of this point through the photo of the point of water provided by the Gendarmerie to the population of sodikombo which is illustrated bellow.

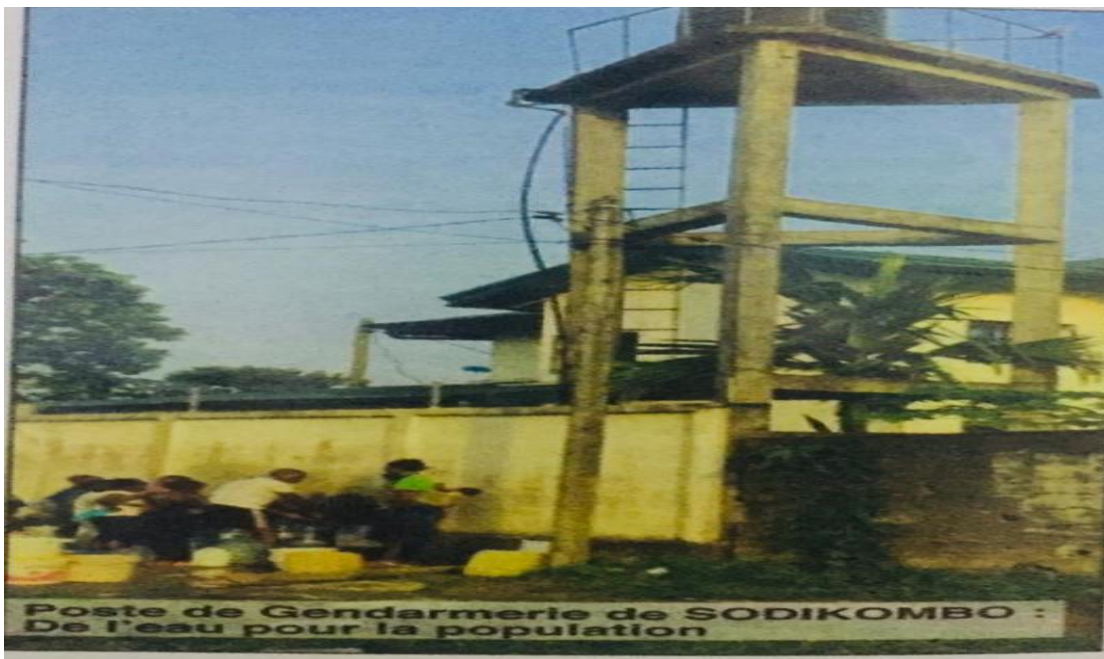
### **Image 3: Provision of water for the civil population in Sodikombo by the National Gendarmerie**

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<sup>70</sup> Elokobi Njock, 67 years, Brigardier General of the National Gendarmerie, Director of the Central coordination of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, the 27<sup>th</sup> june 2023.

<sup>71</sup> Ndam Abdou, 33 ans, Lieutenant at the Gendarmerie, Head of the office of Structure at the Gendarmerie, Yaounde, March and April 2023.

<sup>72</sup> G. Etoga, *Les actions Civilo*. p. 26.



**Source** : G. Etoga, “les Actions Civilo-Militaires : Osmose entre Gendarmerie et Population”, *Echos du Pandore*, n° 19, mai 2022, p. 26.

The above photo shows the point of drinking water opened by the National Gendarmerie by the post of Gendarmerie of Sodikombo. On the picture required from the Magazine of *Echos du pandore*, we can see the population of Sodikombo in the Douala V sub-division, the Wouri Division and in the Littoral region beneficiating from the water putted in their disposition by the Gendarmes in the period of scarcity in the drinking water. Same action can be observed in the camp Yeyap Mopussa in Yaounde adjacent to the Nursery school group 1, 2 and 3 where a pump for drinking water is existing for the Civil populations of the entire quarter of Camp Yeyap. This civil-military Action registers herself in the same sense of explanation as done by Josephine Zibi on the lack of water in some African countries and in Cameroon in particular<sup>73</sup>. The Gendarmerie in the period of crises and in the zone of crises and in those zones and periods which are of non-crises make sure to provide the civil population of their areas with drinking water. In this same perspective, the National Gendarmerie also provided to the population of the zones of crises with material of agricultural activities a typical example was in the southwest region where by, the colonel commander of the legion of the Gendarmerie provided to the population some important material which can be observes on the image that follows

#### **Image 4: Provision of Agricultural materials for the civilian populations by the Gendarmerie**

<sup>73</sup>J. Zibi, *Le village Africain à l'école de l'eau : Clefs pour une ingénierie sociale et culturelle du développement*, Paris, L'Harmattan, 2013, p. 9.



**Source:** A.N.G, Photo of distribution of goods of first necessity to the Civilian population of the south west, may2023.

## 2- The recruitment of civil personnel in the National Gendarmerie

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon is also an instrument of the Government of the country. So, with this status, the government capitalizes it in order to solve some of her problems which among is the problem of peace and providing employment to those who are called to cooperate with the institutions put in place by the government. It is in this perspective that the president of Cameroon when putting in place a committee after swearing to take the power in Cameroon again in 2018, president Paul Biya permitted to the secessionists to regain their place in the society. This was known as the Committee of Cameroon National Disarmament, Demobilization and Reinsertion (CNDDR)<sup>74</sup>. It was in 2018 that this committee was created in Cameroon through the presidential decree of the president of the republic of Cameroon. This was precisely three weeks after the reelection of the president in 2018 with a brilliant result. This committee had as mission to organize, to arrange and to manage the disarmament, the demobilization and the reinsertion of the fighters of Boko Haram and armed groups of the regions of the North west and the south west desiring to respond favorably to the offers of peace and security of the head of State.<sup>75</sup>

Placed under the authority of the prime minister, Head of the government, it's managed by a National coordinator. His first responsible was appointed by the decree of the president of the republic on the 04<sup>th</sup> of December 2018. For the operational sight, the CNDDR committee

<sup>74</sup> G. Bikong, "Civil-Military Actions: Inspiring Army-Population Bond", *Cameroon tribune*, 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021, p.2.

<sup>75</sup> *Ibid.*

disposes of three regional Centers. One in Bamenda, Buea and Mora respectively in the region of the North West, South west and the Far north. Three days later only after the appointment of the coordinator, the Heads of Regional Centers were designed through an order of the Prime Minister Head of Government.

An offer of peace recalled by the president of the republic of Cameroon in his important message to the nation on the 10 of September 2019 “*les centres régionaux de désarmement accueillent progressivement des nombreux ex combattants qui acceptent volontairement de déposer les armes. Nous allons continuer a dép...*”<sup>76</sup> this affirmations made by the president of the republic of Cameroon who is also the Head of the Arm forces of Cameroon did not allow neutral the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. This body of defense and arm forces merged herself in the program of the Head of Army as she did not at this period limited her Civil-Military Actions on the primary activities that are presented above but passed on the phase of participating in the solving of the problem unemployment and the reinsertion of the population of the zones of crises. This pushed the Gendarmerie of Cameroon to recruit massively in her seen the civil populations who were to work as civil workers in the institutions of the Gendarmerie. These recruitments as was the philosophy of the President of the state favored the populations coming from the zones of crises of Cameroon.

### **3- The filling of the state’s treasury and the regulation of prices in the market.**

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon realizes the civil-military actions which one could classifies in the compartments of the Economic domain. The National Gendarmerie in her missions of the police of defense on the high ways and the economic police also found themselves realizing some civil-military actions which others could take on a negligible way but which is significant and important for the scientific community.

The body of defense and security plays a vital role on the high ways led it be on the education of the population but also on the extraction of taxation from this people which goes to the public treasury to save as money that con show it importance when they use it to finances some activities that are for the maximum benefit of the civil population. This argument can be supported by the affirmation of Adjudant Njock Saleye who think that, the National Gendarmerie, when on the way plays the role of the economic police when she collects money for example when the users of the road are on high gears and the Gendarmes flashes them, they

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<sup>76</sup> Bikong, “Civil-Military Actions...”, p.2.



usually found them selfs paying at times 25000fcfa<sup>77</sup>. This money does not directly go in the account of the National Gendarmerie, but it instead goes to the public treasury under the control of the ministry of finance. The Tickets uses by the Gendarmes on the way were always signed by the general procurator. This money finishes by helping the population led they be in the zones of crises or in the zones consideres as those of non-crisis. when it concerns the zones of crises, the money may help in the finance of some projects, led it be of reconstruction or of the social facilities to the population.

The National Gendarmerie also plays a vital role in the regulation of prices in the market. This is to think on the after crises and also make in such a way that the population that are living the period of negativities lives at a concussive way without an anarchic advancement of prices which is often imposes by the population without any reglementation.

To arrive at the end of this chapter, we have debuted by segmenting by three grand parts. Firstly, we have explored the Cultural and sportive Actions of the National Gendarmerie, secondly, we have study the The educative and the Health actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon and at the last part, the chapter has focalized on the socio-economic actions of the National Gendarmerie. this chapter which has highly base on the elaboration of the Civil-Military Actions performed by the Gendarmerie of Cameroon. These actions which registers some problems that it has come across as is shown on the nest chapter bellow.

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<sup>77</sup> Nnang Nkoto, 49years, Head of Squadron at the Gendarmerie, Head of the Service Employment and structure (SES), Yaounde, march and april 2023.

### CHAPITRE III: DIFFICULTIES AND PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED BY THE NATIONAL GENDARMERIE IN THE CIVIL-MILITARY ACTIONS

The actual national Gendarmerie known as that of Cameroon, is the fruit of the French *mare-chosée* which was among the first forms of the Gendarmerie<sup>1</sup>. This was constructed and put in place around a philosophy which was based specifically on security, the protection of the state's integrity, the protection of the main leaders and their attributes. This machine of security and defense was dispatched on the entire European countries where the French exercises their influence<sup>2</sup>. The French capitalizes this instrument of security and defense which was the National Gendarmerie in an inhuman activity that has rendered the Africans not capable of living a better life today, which has taken the Africans to the non-comprehension of their culture and which has also led to the high exploitation of the Africans in general and the Cameroon in particular. The French Gendarmerie was utilized by the French to help in all the measures of security against the Africans who were considered as enemies of their advancements<sup>3</sup>. These were specifically any African or a Cameroonian who was trying to think of decolonization and the liberation of the territory by the French. The road was very far till the 1961 when the British Cameroon succeeded to acquire their independence and reunification with French Cameroon that the influence and multiple of combats exercised by the sons of the native soils of Cameroon for the total liberation and complete independence of the country and their institutions in general that the National Gendarmerie in particular acquired the "Cameroonization" of the defense and the security force. This then gave to it the name the Cameroon's National Gendarmerie.

After a 1963, the total liberation of these institutions was done giving ways of occupation of some grand posts of responsibilities to Cameroonians. Policies implemented by the National state taking place. Schools of training and perfection perpetuated till today even, we registers schools like that of the Commandment of Schools and Instruction Center of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, *the Groupement polyvalent d'intervention de la Gendarmerie (GPIGN)*, *le Groupement de Circulation Routiere avec 25 pelotons routiers motorisés*, *Groupe D'escadron de la Gendarmerie Mobile*, *le Group d'Escadrons d'Interventions du Secretariat de la Gendarmerie Specialement Charger de la Gendarmerie (*

<sup>1</sup> Nkeh, "the police and" ..., p. 247.

<sup>2</sup> Niagalé, *Security System in...*, p. 43.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 44.

*GEI/SED*)<sup>4</sup>, the Gendarmerie Music, an Operational Center of the National Gendarmerie...<sup>5</sup>. Away from these, the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon equally registered some many things that could still pushes us to day to continue thinking of her continuation as a force in Cameroon put in place by the French in their Country and transported in Cameroon with their philosophy of torturing the Blacks even as those who are male treating the blacks today are still blacks, Africans, Cameroonians, and even at times same brothers from the same Villages, same quarters and same families. They sometimes ignored reasons for the fact that they are defending the integrity of the country and also defending people and their goods at times found themselves committing negative acts. Not only, these condemnable acts usually lead to the deterioration of the relation between the civil population and the Republicans Gendarmes. It pushes the population in the zones of Crises to run away from the Gendarmes even when they are in the objective of their protection against the lost ones who are usually around them.

The populations also at times bad images of the Gendarmes and it is usually at times the reason why some often consider the Gendarmes and even other militaries likes the enemies of advancement and the supporters of dictatorship and so have nothing positive to bring for them. These ways of considerations and comprehensions of the actions of the National Gendarmerie on the Field of crises will guides us to think on this chapter about the difficulties and problem encountered by the National Gendarmerie in the Civil-Military Actions.

This chapter is segmented in to three great parts, with the first part titled, the conceptions of the actual Gendarmerie and the limited level of training on the question of Civil-military Actions. Here, the exploration is focus on the two sided vision that both the civilians and some Gendarmes have not understood the biotope of the Cameroon Gendarmerie of today and their programs has tight mentally this body of defense and security and their everyday activities and how it has created a sense of limitation and problems to the exercises of the activities of the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. The second main part of this work comes to enlighten on the administrative problems that encounters the Gendarmerie of Cameroon in the administrative domain. Here we are called to explore on the hierarchical respect and haw install the limitations in the carry out the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie on the Zones of physical operations or even on zones were the initiatives need to

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<sup>4</sup>Horshek. C, la coordination civilo-militaires dans les opérations de paix, cours de l'institut de formation aux opérations de paix, 2017, in *civil\_military\_coordination\_french.pdf*, [http://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.irenees.net/bdf\\_fiche-analyse-1fr.html&sa=U&ved=2ahUKEwiK6v7P9P2DAXX2e6QEHYc\\_BPE\\_QF\\_noECAMQAg&usg=AOvVawIvDxEaKeOHcUliFo](http://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.irenees.net/bdf_fiche-analyse-1fr.html&sa=U&ved=2ahUKEwiK6v7P9P2DAXX2e6QEHYc_BPE_QF_noECAMQAg&usg=AOvVawIvDxEaKeOHcUliFo), consulted on the 26th of september 2023 at 9 :21PM.

<sup>5</sup>A. Ongolo, *Gendarmerie Camerounaises : Plaque commémorative des Cinquantenaires de L'Independence et de la réunification*, p. 2.

be taken in order to carry on the civil-military actions by the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon.

The last part of this chapter studies the limitations of the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie bases on the Financial domain. Here, we understand how, even as the Pandora of Cameroon is well organized and elaborates good and interesting programs on papers arrives to be qualified as illusion because existing on papers but not applied on the field in order to help the civil population and also helps the arrival on the objective of the body of defense and security which is the protection of people and their goods without forgetting the integrity of the country. As it was said by one of the valiant Gendarme, “the National Gendarmerie same as the other Armies has as the objectives the protection of people, their goods and their services and the protection of the Cameroon’s territorial integrity”<sup>6</sup>. Then at the end we have globally with the argument advanced explores the limitations of the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie carry by the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon since the 1990s till today in Cameroon. Let it be in the zones of crises or in the zones of prevention of the expansion of the crises or even in zones of solving the main impacts of the passed crises or Wars.

## **I- THE TRADITIONAL CONCEPTIONS OF THE ACTUAL GENDARMERIE AND THE LIMITED LEVEL OF TRAINING ON THE QUESTION OF CIVIL-MILITARY ACTIONS**

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon objectively recalled at any moment as that body of defense and security installed in Cameroon as the consequence of the large moment of domination of Cameroon by the French<sup>7</sup>. But, the Gendarmerie of Cameroon today after more than 60 years of independence has passes through some exercises which needs to prove its capacity of being the most present in the entire of the territory of the nation. This could be seen since 1990s till today that this scientific work is exploring. The Gendarmerie of Cameroon called to also ensure peace and security vainly through her machine of defense which is highly formidable at times than all insufficient, illusion and puppet in existing nature of all the aggressive though which needs to be militarily influence by the Gendarmes in order to abandon their activities. This insert itself in the national defense of all the armies of Cameroon and can be deduced that, if she is essentially manifesting by the existence of an arm force, she will also take in to consideration the advancement of the day to day innovations and social realities which

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<sup>6</sup> Abba Seidou, 49 years, commander second of the North west legion of Gendarmerie, Bamenda, 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023

<sup>7</sup> Moko, “L’armée Camerounaise de...”, p. 20.

could be cultural, political, economics<sup>8</sup>. It is in this sense that the Civil-military actions which according to some militaries are those activities that are only applied on the zones of crises are concern.

The exploration of this great part is segmented in to three levels declares as sub-parts. Then which can be known as, This chapter is segmented in to three grand part with the first part titled, the conception of the actual National Gendarmerie and their activities: the consequences of the activities of colonial Gendarmerie, the second step explores the Lack of the materials of the National Gendarmerie for the exercise of the missions of the Civil-Military Actions such as those of constructions and sufficient transport logistics and lastly, Lack of specific Gendarmes trained for the fulfilment of the mission of the Civil-Military Actions of the National Gendarmerie.

### **1- The conception of the actual National Gendarmerie and their activities: the consequences of the activities of colonial Gendarmerie in Cameroon.**

The Gendarmes which are constituting a branch of the Cameroons militaries are practicing these activities that have as objective also to consolidates the relations that exists between the armies and the civil populations more especially in zone of operations in order to render successful the desire of the Gendarmes to localizes and extracts the defaulters among those who respects the laws and the constitutions of the country. These reasons of taking seriously the civil-military actions by the National Gendarmerie and even the activities have presents it massive limitations today in the country Cameroon in General and even in the Zones of crises which are considered as zones of operations in particular since the 1990s till today. This is first and famous be explored on the perceptions that colonization has allows of the National Gendarmerie and all the activities carried by the Gendarmes in the country. Here, the work proceeded in demonstrating the first item on the attitudes that the civil population has toward the Gendarmes that they think as the armies of eventual invasion<sup>9</sup>. This could be detected on the different periods of Crises in Cameroon since 1990 till today in Cameroon.

The Gendarmerie was treated as the armies of colonial masters, the period of 2008 with the crises were considers as that instrument of the perpetuation of dictatorship in the country and the period from 2014<sup>10</sup>. The Gendarmerie in the zone of the northern part of the Country which they have assimilated their actions to those of all other arm forces was considers as that

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<sup>8</sup> Kotoko, *La défense populaire...*, p. 62.

<sup>9</sup> J. P. Meloupou, *Armée et développement*, Yaoundé, Editions CLE, 1998, p. 191.

<sup>10</sup> Tagne, *Accorder avec fraude...*, p. 64.

of oppression and of molestation of the citizen. If we take the zones of the north west and the south west of the country today, we are going to record another qualification posted on the image of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon even in the bushes and unsupportable villages where they are exercising their active ties of protections of people and their goods. Here, they are qualified as the armies of invasions coming from French Cameroon to take over their liberty in the NoSo<sup>11</sup>. This could be theoretically caricatured by scientists like Nfi Joseph recalled that, “before the outbreak of the NOSO conflict and even during its early part, many Anglophones considered the Militaries as the repressive, cruel, Brutal and “foreign” institution”<sup>12</sup>. He persisted by the demonstration of the Cameroon armies in general and the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon in particular as the army of persecutions, for the Head of state’s advantages<sup>13</sup>.

All these takes the analysis of the effectivities of the civil-military actions of the national Gendarmerie. So, the civil populations reject the donations, the sensitizations, the constructions and the refection of the infrastructures that the Gendarmes put in their dispositions.

This example can be discovered with the explanations of the situation of the cohabitation between the civil population and the militaries in the zones of crises today as is explained by some of the populations of the Northwest and the south west of Cameroon today. According to some traders of the south west region, the Gendarmes with the complicity of other armies were participating in the destruction of their goods and services, they burned up their houses, send them away from their homes rendering them homeless and so they were not ready of taking what so ever the government of so called “*la république*” has provide to people since they don’t want to solve their problems.

Another argument of this way of mal considering the elements of the Gendarmerie of Cameroon led it be on the zones of operations or of non-operation is on the exaggerations of some Gendarmes on the theatre of operation. On the zones of operation, some reactions of exaggeration and abuse to the civil population causes some acts of rejection of the help and the propositions provided for the populations by the armies in general and the National Gendarmerie in particular. Some of the Gendarmes on the zones of operations since the 1990s

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<sup>11</sup> The NoSo was defined by some scientific authors for example Nfi Joseph LON in his article. According to him, the NoSo was the consequence of a conflict which opened since a long moment in the country. The concept became fashionable in the political discourse and it represents war, repressions, violence and the bloody phase of the Anglophones problems in Cameroon.

<sup>12</sup> J. L. Nfi, “Changing public perception of the Cameroon Army the context of NOSO crises”, in V. Wanyaka Bonguen Oyongmen, (dir), *L’armée au Cameroun. État des lieux et enjeux épistémologiques pour une contribution à l’histoire militaire africaine*, Dschang, Éditions Premières Lignes, 2023, pp. 219- 223.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, p.221.

has perpetuate in their thinking that “the fear of a Gendarme is the beginning of been a wise man” this kind of limited ancient colonial way of thinking has make some of the Gendarmes to play some roles which could at the limit be qualifies as that of arm rubbers on the feels. Others even fails to understand the reasons why they are at that places and what they are there to do and so, rendering themselves on the policies of confusions of functions. According to colonel Ndutumu, one of the actions of the militaries on the zones of operations are situated on the doctrinal plan. Here, he insists on the intensification of the actions put in place by the militaries on the behalf of the civil population in the way of the influence of the militaries.

He continues by affirming that, one of the axes of the priorities of the defense and the security forces was supposed to be the desire to reinforces their capacity to influences on the civil population and also on the other actors of the theatre of the operation in other to win the battle of perceptions<sup>14</sup>. The actions of exaggerations of the Gendarmes on the field has not concord with this strategic mode of thinking. The same way elaborating the actions of the Gendarmes was objectively confirming by lieutenant colonel Abba saidou when he re reviled that, “it is true that some Gendarmes on the field of operations exaggerate and it causes a separation of friendship between the civil populations and the Gendarmes. This could also causes the population to refuses, and even not recognizes some of the actions of the National Gendarmerie done for their maximum benefits”<sup>15</sup>. This example could be illustrated in other to show some of the practical exaggerations of the Gendarmes on the land of operation.

It can be observed with the large period the presence of the GPIGN in the west region of Cameroon notably in Kouoptamo sub-division in a village known as Kouham Njitapon. A milieu of limitation between the North West and the west region of Cameroon. This land is a place not in the North West region but which the same activities that is going on in the north west is going on there. The same perceptions the population of the north west have of the militaries in General and the Gendarmes in particular that is if the brutal and violent Gendarmerie present in all the zones with the main objective of the torturing of the Civil population, the imprisonment and even of the killing of the Civil population<sup>16</sup>. What has moderate them can be the passage of the Governor which even in other way radicalizes the others and reduces the negative points of angles of visions were some where seeing the Gendarmes and also the multiple sensitizations that the head of the village apported to the

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<sup>14</sup>S.S. Ndutumu, “Region du Nord-ouest et du Sud-Ouest : Consolidation de la situation Sécuritaire”, *Honneur et fidélité*, n° spécial, mai 2023, p. 8.

<sup>15</sup> Abba Seidou, 49 years, commander second of the North West legion of Gendarmerie, Bamenda, 11<sup>th</sup> july 2023.

<sup>16</sup> Nfi, “Changing public perception” ..., p. 221.

population on the missions and the importance of the presence of the Gendarmes in a milieu more especially during the periods of crises.

In 2019, the head of the village of Njitapon called, Nji Njitapon Issah, receive a called which informed him on the fact that, he will receive the Gendarmes on his land and he was to take them as his children and provide them the necessary information in order maintains and bring peace in the village and in country Cameroon. Nji Njitapon Issah, saw the arrival of these Gendarmes who came in the village as a positive act by the Government and the policy of reinforcement of the measures of security in the entire of the country and a military way of solving the crises that was going on in some regions of Cameroon today and he presented all his accord to provide all what he could in other to make the young Gendarmes feel themselves in the zone of operation very free and also do well their missions<sup>17</sup>. The only expectations from the young Gendarmes who were strangers in the village was a good collaboration with the Head of the Village and not with some people who at times were people that were living on suspects of the head of the village and even of the suspect of the population. They were to practice vertical collaboration and not horizontal collaborations<sup>18</sup>. Which made them to failed on the question of who was a credible person in terms of morality for them to be exchanging with him? They instead found themselves refusing even the propositions of collaborations and advices provided for them at times by the Father of the village and other elders of the village. They entered in the line of the civil-military actions as they organized matches of football with the population of the Village. These matches of football were even at times those that were creating disorders and fighting with the population. This makes that, the people could not provide information to them but instead provided against them to the groups of the separatists that were succeeding to crosses the river that is existing between Njitapon and Bissah in the north west region of Cameroon<sup>19</sup>.

These at times qualified as lost Gendarmes in the fundamental missions of the Gendarmerie of Cameroon and of the programs of the high commandment on the Gendarmerie of proximity failed in the requirement of the information in other to instore their respect and succeed in their missions of the protections of people which at times they even became more

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<sup>17</sup> Njitapon Issa, 61 years, the head of the village of Kouham Nji Tapon, kouham njitapon, 22 july 2023.

<sup>18</sup> Talking of the vertical collaboration, the Gendarmes of the GPIGN send in Njitapon for the securization of people and their goods needed informations and so were to collaborate with the head of the village who was the Father of all the population and was exercising a grand influence on the population of his village. Him who had the grand capacity of saying with veracity who is a good person or who is not. Then the vertical collaboration was the contrary of the horizontal collaboration in which the Gendarmes were to be having a high friend ship with the population without passing through their father in other to understand which person was good for them and good?

<sup>19</sup> Njiemoun Abdou, 27 years, a native of the village of Njitapon, Kouham Njitapon, 24<sup>th</sup> July 2023.



dangerous than the common enemy who are those who were planting and spraining insecurity in the two regions which was the north west and the western region which was a zone where each and other people living have familial links<sup>20</sup>. The Gendarmes more especially those who arrived under the leadership of the first Lieutenant in the village passes their time practicing the policies of illegal marriages, transforming themselves into renforcers to those who were willing to be doing illegal and condemnable acts as they were capable of creating friendships with people who are in meetings in the village and were not regular even in the investment of their money, they were intervening with the pretext that they will beat people and making in such a way that these irregular people should take people money and drink alcohol with them. Most often even they were passing in the sense of imposing on the leaders of the meetings to give money to their friends more than the amount of the money they have invested in the meeting with the fear that the GPIGN will beat on them<sup>21</sup>.

These Gendarmes who failed to respect the human rights of the population of Kouham Njitapon found themselves flogging the people and making them to run away from their houses to sleep in bushes and others forced to move away from the village and stay away from the village for long periods of time. Each and any moment these acts of negativities were caused they were called for sensitization by Njitapon the Father of the Village who knew that the village was infiltrated by the separatists from the northwest region. These men who were at first friends of some young ones of Njitapon. They were good then the Gendarmes on the comprehension of the terrain than the Gendarmes.

All these non-acceptable reactions of the Gendarmes in the zone of operation could also be observed in the south west region of Cameroon notably in Ekona where the militaries were accused of abuses by burning the houses of the population and even abuses of other traders and also some prostitutes who were at times used without receiving their money. These make that at times the populations were not recognizing them as those who are there for their securities and their goods. In fact, which was not a new thing because the populations and even some grand authors confirm that it is a way or a strategy of the brutal Gendarmes of the republic to create an atmosphere of intimidations toward the population of their proper country<sup>22</sup>.

Also, the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie record some limitations due to the politics to solve some problems of the society at the beginning without allowing it to

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<sup>20</sup> Njitapon Issa, 61 years, the head of the village of Kouham Nji Tapon, Kouham Njitapon, 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2023.

<sup>21</sup> Ayiwouogajou Abilou, 49 years, Native of Kouham Njitapon, Kouham Njitapon, the 20<sup>th</sup> of July 2023.

<sup>22</sup> Nfi, "Changing public perception" ..., p. 224.

become aggravated like the case for example of the NoSo in Cameroon<sup>23</sup>. The High command that the Gendarmes are receiving orders from them most often retard in the solving of the demands of the population and always allows it to become aggravated before thinking on the solutions to the demands of the population. These cases have been repetitive in the country Cameroon since 1990s till today. This kind ways of solving the problems of the citizens after haven apply the military methods on them in such a way that the militaries themselves should be rejected by the population and without forgetting all what the militaries will want to provide for the maximum benefits of the Civil population and then will not also be ready to provide to the militaries and the Gendarmes some information qualifies to be good information susceptible of permitting them to fight against insecurity and also accomplish their missions of the protections of people and their goods.

The limitations of the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie has also arrives as a result of the failure of the Gendarmerie to solve the problem when there is an occasion of benefiting for a civil-military activity operational by the National Gendarmerie. The population will have the guarantees of security after their assistance to these activities realized by the Gendarmerie for their maximum benefits which is for the objective of collecting information in other to go out of crises. Plethoric examples could be taken here in other to understand this scientific work. Those who at times thinks that enough is enough and people should think of the future by depositing their arms are usually consider as traitors and needed to be killed. If we go to the North west and the south west regions of Cameroon today, we might understand that, some people instead escapes from the actions propose to them by the Gendarmes in particular and the militaries in General such as sciences of sensitizations, schools and gifts medical facilities<sup>24</sup>. The reason of these actions are very important for the Gendarmes. Colonel Ndutumu Samuel when exploring of the reinforcement of the relations between the militaries and the civilians, make to understand that, an important action should be done on the doctrinal plan. He declared it as taking in conscience of the actions directed toward the civil populations in the domain of the military influence. One of the methods very priority of the forces of defense and security was to be to reinforces their capacity to influence on the population and also on the other actors of the theatre of the operation<sup>25</sup>.

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<sup>23</sup> These crises which it is true that is was the consequence of the crime of separation committed by the colonial powers of France and the grand Britain who introduced between the Cameroonians conforming with their proper benefits and those of their nations. Today, it has materialized the traces of the so called Anglophones and the Francophone on the land of the Cameroonians which has create two Cameroonians with two ways of perceptions and conceptions of the national facts.

<sup>24</sup> Abba Seidou, 49 years, commander second of the North West legion of Gendarmerie, Bamenda, 11<sup>th</sup> june 2023.

<sup>25</sup> Ndutumu, "Region du Nord...", p. 87.

The failure of the Gendarmes to exercise this influence on the civil populations and on those promoting secession is done in such a way that the civil populations finally found themselves in the middle and without understanding who to choose, what to do and who to understand. When the Gendarmes were organizing activities which was for the maximum benefit of the population, the population found themselves not assisting since in case of remark by those who think that the Gendarmes do not have their place in their regions. So, the civil population escapes from the Gendarmes because if one is considered as one who is assisting the Gendarmes, he was not only be considered as a traitor but was to be kidnaped or killed for haven serves the Armies of *la République*, for the case of the north west and southwest of Cameroon. For the case of the period of 1990s one who collaborates with the Gendarmes was to be considered as one who is in the CPDM political party even if he was not having a voting card. Another proper example was seen in Bamenda at Mile one where the National Gendarmerie helped in the refection of a school which was face to the Legion of the National Gendarmerie and the population who were at the level of the down town with the negativities of the crises found themselves running up to the school to benefit for education since school was already as an interdiction in the down town. The results they had was the fact that the separatists were visiting some people in the night, killing some children who were going to this school<sup>26</sup>.

So, the population could have the desire to be helped by the Gendarmes and are even ready to provide information to the Gendarmes for the possible going out of the crises and just the fact that they are afraid and also want to stay away from the kidnappings and to be killed by the arm groups in the regions who could consider them as traitor of the group of the Anglophones<sup>27</sup>.

These arguments advances take us on the conception of the actual National Gendarmerie and their activities: the consequences of the activities of colonial Gendarmerie in Cameroon. This points which makes us to understand that the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie register some limitations because of their conceptions that people have in the society. They have plays a vital role during the French period in Cameroon and the population has fundamentally keeps that image of the force and defense more especially as it more in a negative way. The populations in the zones of crises lacks confidence in her and only thinks

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<sup>26</sup> Anonymous, Bamenda, 12<sup>th</sup> june 2023.

<sup>27</sup> MBuh Pen Roland, 24 years, student in the university of Bamenda, Koutaba, 25<sup>th</sup> july 2023.

that she is there for the “presidentialization”<sup>28</sup>. These has permits us to also proceed by exploring on the second part of this grand part of our scientific work. The Lack of the materials of the National Gendarmerie for the exercise of the missions of the Civil-Military Actions.

## **2- The Lack of adequate personnel and material of the National Gendarmerie for the exercise of the missions of the Civil-Military Actions.**

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon such as the rest of the forces of security and defense has thinks of methods to avoid crises in Cameroon, manage the periods of crises and also go out of crises in the country. Since the 1990s with the change of forms of crises and the changes in the forms of protections from not only the frontiers of the country and the integrity of the country, the Gendarmerie also engages herself in fighting against the new form of insecurities that was coming in the country. This kind of insecurity which was not easy due to it complications and complexity made it right for the National Gendarmerie to found herself not succeeding up to her point of satility in the identification of the bad sprits that were existing in the society. She then found it well to adopt the method of the civil-military actions which could permits her to extract information in the theatres of crises and the theatres of non-crises. This civil-military actions registered some limitations debuting on those already demonstrated above and those that will be seeing on the following paragraphs bellow highly bases on the lack of the materials by the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon which could help them to fulfil the missions of the Civil-military actions.

Firstly, the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon faces limitations of the Lack of equipment of construction. The civil-military of the National Gendarmerie are all actions that the Gendarmes does in their biotope for the maximum benefit of the civil population and the environment. These actions can be verifiable in zones of operations or in zones were the civil populations feel high incapacity to succeed in their daily life<sup>29</sup>. So the Gendarmes with their position very adjacent to the civil population comes adjacent to them in other to permits them to go out of their difficulties and continues to live without any difficulty. These actions can be on the distribution of the agricultural products, food items, the sensitization of the population on the various themes that can be animating the country at that particular moment. The National Gendarmerie can also exercise on the sense in the construction

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<sup>28</sup> This Presidentialization is to shows that, the populations of the zones of crises lack confidence to the National Gendarmerie which is specifically for her security and for the security of their goods and services.

<sup>29</sup>Abba Seidou, 49 years, Lieutenant colonel at the Gendarmerie, commander in second of the legion of the Gendarmerie of the Northwest region, Bamenda, 11 july 2023.

of schools, Health centers which can be put on the disposition of the civil population without any condition of the fact that they are civilians benefiting on the military goods.

The construction of these goods which was to be specifically schools of the civil population constructed by the National Gendarmerie or other important infrastructures are slightly absent due to the fact that the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon do not disposes on her disposition the materials of the fulfilment of these missions. True that the National Gendarmerie in her central administration disposes a service which is known as the service of the domanial and infrastructures which helps in the construction of the infrastructures initiated by the National Gendarmerie. the National Gendarmerie also associate her personnel on those of other forces through the Ministry of defense which is the ministry of all the forces of defense and security accept the police that depend on the delegation of National security, to work on some infrastructures which are for the help of the population and the environment such as the military engineers (GMIE). This group is constituted of all the armies in which the National Gendarmerie also found their personnel plays a vital role in the zone of crises also called zones of operations. They help in the refection and construction of infrastructures such as schools, hospitals, roads and bridged in some zones are constructed by the military engineers. The military engineers have also shows their proves in zone like in the eastern region of Cameroon where they constructed a market, they also constructed a church in Olezoa Yaounde, they have also help in the construction of the infrastructure use as the Direction of Academics affaire in the University of Yaounde 1.

These actions only have some limitation that they register because of the need of sufficient and well modern materials that can permits the national Gendarmerie of Cameroon to cover the zones of crises, those of the prevention of crises and those zones of reconstruction due to the negativities caused by the crises in a particular geographical area. These examples can be observed in regions like in those identified in this work as zones of crises which are the zones of the Northwest and the southwest and the maximum of the northern region of Cameroon. The national Gendarmerie cannot cover at the same moment that the crises were going on. This shows how the National gendarmerie cannot provide a satisfaction in terms of civil-military actions for the civil population and making it not free the requirement of the information from the population and also very difficult the protection of people and their goods.

Secondly, the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon lack sufficient personnel well trains for the civil-military actions. The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon from the base and the tests of it creation have it missions which covers it assignments on the land of Cameroon<sup>30</sup>

*Dans ses premiers pas, la Gendarmerie camerounaise, partie intégrante des forces armées camerounaises, est très tôt structurée en fonction des nécessités de ses missions et surtout de L'organisation administrative du Territoire Nationale de notre jeune État indépendant. C'est ainsi que le caractère militaire de ses statuts et la nature mixte de ses services, à la fois civile et militaires vas lui confère le pouvoir de la recherche du Renseignement, L'action directe de la police judiciaire, de la police administrative et militaire, en participant en même temps au maintien de l'ordre publique<sup>31</sup> ...*

These explanations give points which limits the comprehension of the Fact that the personnel of the National Gendarmerie were trained not to equally bring up some Humanitarians acts on the Zones of crises in order to serves the civil populations suffering the negativities of the Crises. The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon may have only some few personnel who have been trained out the military training before the integration of the military corp. so, the National Gendarmerie have personnel of the medical services who can help to cure some people sufficiency from some sicknesses and not capable of going to other Governments Hospitals due to the harshness of the crises, the National Gendarmerie can also only disposes of those personnel who can be trained on the domains like teaching who in zones of crises. They take the places of teachers in order to persist on the advancement of Education and sensitization of the population in other to avoids massive migration of people in search of Education away of their villages, Sub-divisions, Divisions and regions.

The inadequate personnel who could serve in these activities and so many others in other to permits the National Gendarmerie advances in her influence on the population and requirements of information in order to successfully performs her mission of the protection of people, their goods and services demonstrate the limitations of the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. It is this reason that shows the High collaboration between the population and the other actors who are there to do these same activities of the Humanitarians help on the theatres of crises and wars for the maximum benefit of the population but for other objectives that are very different from those of the National Gendarmerie. Office of the Gendarmerie affirme that,

*Une Action Civilo-Militaires désigne l'ensemble des actions à caractère sociale réalisé par Les forces de défense au profile de la population. Il convient de là distinguer d'une action humanitaire qui bien ayant la même finalité que l'action civilo-militaire à savoir l'altruisme, est conduite par d'autres catégories d'acteurs indépendants et ne s'effectue que dans des situations de crises et de conflits<sup>32</sup>*

<sup>30</sup> Ndjock Sielye, 38 years, Adjudant at the Gendarmerie and journalist in service at the Division of General Affaires of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 11 may 2023.

<sup>31</sup>A. Ongolo, Gendarmerie Camerounaises : Plaque, p. 3.

<sup>32</sup> Ndam Abdou Ramani, 31 years, Lieutenant at the Gendarmerie and chef of office of structure at the central administration of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 09 april 2023.

These can be the non-Governmental organization, the international organizations, the governmental organizations which are all on the fields of operations and intervening on the side of the civil population and not exercising no sign of arm potations and insisting their work but on the humanitarian and on the provision consumable goods for the civil populations who on the theatre suffers the incapacity of providing what they can consume and even incapable of providing their medical facilities and even educative facilities which are the necessities of the young children in the zones of operations and even those who have migrate and establishes themselves in the zones of peace and securities. The high performance of these organizations are often called to be under the security of the National Gendarmerie and also in collaboration with them. But, the simple massive presence of these organizations and associations on the theatre of operations makes in such a way that, the actions of the National Gendarmerie be drowned among their own and making that, the population not be capable of understanding that the National Gendarmerie is doing something for them and so, they not well collaborating with the Gendarmes and consequently manifesting a high refusal to provide them information for the successes of their missions of the protections of people and their goods.

They often uniquely see but the defense actions of the National Gendarmerie when they molest those who plays the terrorist roles on the land of the country. This make in such a way that the civil population at times even run away from the Gendarmes and their actions making that the Gendarmes lost their credibility of also humans like the civil population and also lost the disponibilities of the of the civil populations who see then only as those who are there to be killing people and maltreating the population. They only see the actions of the Humanitarians who are at all the moment fulfilling their assignment vis-à-vis to the population that are found in the zones of crises. All these actions show how the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie found some limitations and makes that the Gendarmerie found it as a barrier to the accomplishment of their missions of the protection of people and their goods in the zones of crises and even of non-operation.

### **3- The lack of adequate transport logistic of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie.**

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon disposes a means of transport. This transport logistics are verities which are composes of cars and moto circles. These permits to the personnel of the Gendarmerie to effectuates their missions which demands the movements from one place to another. But these transports logistics are specifically for the missions which are for the missions which are in military orders, there are specific vehicles for uniquely the military

situations such as, vehicles of intervention, vehicles of Anti-terrorism, vehicles of troops transportations, vehicles of anti-emeuts and the Vehicles of Liaisons<sup>33</sup>. These vehicles which at times for the population traumatizes and bring fear in the mind of the Civil populations as according to them the Gendarmes arrives for two objectives: the objective of arresting and molesting the population. Contrary to the International Organizations that are on the field such as the United Nation Office for the coordination Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) and the United Nation International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) which their vehicles call for the mobilization of the civil populations. The first deposition of the vision on their vehicles makes the mind to thinks that some helps are arriving from those who think of the incapables and those who are in the incapacity of producing for their own. This makes in such a way that the Gendarmes losses their positions on the terrain to the international Organizations and non-Governmental organizations.

For this point, a declaration was made insisting on the fact that, the population Run a way down to small children when they see the cars of the Gendarmes. Others who are surprises of their presence just thing of their arrestation, dead and molestations. For instance, in the month of May in Ekona, some Guides who were not Amba boys were arrosed with Guns in the House on the simple pretext that they were consuming Drugs and other bad stupefies<sup>34</sup>. The appearance of the military vehicles used by the National Gendarmerie do not allows equilibrium the psychology of the Civil populations. They are at time in a negligeeable manner tword the population but in other to only fulfils their missions of collecting informations from the population which is not a times not very easy since the there is no practically a sort of harmony between the population and them mentally objectively<sup>35</sup>. The Nature of the Vehicles used by the Gendarmes on the terrain of operations render the population not absolutely friendly to them. These Vehicles which have signs and symbols of dead in all the angles renders the populations afraid and mentally not positive to Gendarmes and to all forms of physical, moral and material helps that the Gendarmes can bring for them. Consequently, they are not ready to give themselves to the Gendarmes and so can keep for their personal motives they could give to the Gendarmes which could help them for the accomplishment of their missions of the protection of people and their goods. <sup>36</sup>

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<sup>33</sup> J. Nna Nkoto, "Bilan des Actions Menées par la Gendarmerie Nationale dans le cadre de la decencies d'actions pour la sécurité Routière", *Echos du Pandore*, n° spéciale du 20 mai 2021, p. 20.

<sup>34</sup> Mary Land, 34 years, Trader, Buea, 08 july 2023.

<sup>35</sup> Muamaah Jr. Ade, 36 years, Civil administrator, Head of Cabinet of the Governor of the southwest region, Buea, the 08 july 2023.

<sup>36</sup> M.M. Nguele, "L'union Sacrée pour vaincre L'insécurité", *Magazine trimestriel D'information de la DGSN*, n° 029 de mai 2023, p. 54.



The national Gendarmerie like other forces of defense and security have a high number of vehicles which are segmented according to their different services that they give to the body of defense and security. The vehicles are of different categories. These are for instance the vehicles of interventions which are generally in the form of a Hilux, those of anti-terrorism which are in the form of *Chart de guerre*. These groups of transport logistics disposed by the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon are not in any way having a specific one which is clear for the civil-military actions. This might be due to the fact that they are not in an obligatory position for the exercise of the civil-military action. This non obligation do not motivates the investment in terms of the transport logistics which is an indispensable item for the Civil-military action. The transport logistics permits the arrival at any point of the Zone of crises or war and see the need that the population have and also comprehend the method we can implement for the requirement of the information from those people living a times in inaccessible zones which are also dangerous during operational periods because the terrorists or those causing insecurity are running and refuging themselves. Here, the forces of defense and security arrives to acquire the information on those who were not at first living the milieu, those who are causing intolerable acts on the zones which goes a gains the security of the population and their goods.

But, the transport logistics used are at times not appropriate because it instead causes traumatization of the population who can causes the danger of not passing the good information to the personnel of the National Gendarmerie who are on the field and permitting the Gendarmes to well performs their missions of the protection of people and their goods. These limitations registered from the first part of our work which has respectively clarifies on the transport logistics, Materials used by the Gendarmerie and the traditional conceptions done on the Gendarmerie since the colonial period. Tis has permits us to thinks of the second grand part of the chapter tree of this scientific work

## **II- THE ORGANIZATION AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS OF THE GENDARMERIE OF CAMEROON.**

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon persisted in the comprehension of her difficulties base on the structural problem of the National Gendarmerie which the desire to applies the power of the hierarchy makes the difficulties in the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie, secondly, the exploration will be done on the dependence of the Gendarmerie on the ministry of Defense then lastly, we will study the lack of a specific group in the Gendarmerie trained and specializes in the Civil-military actions.

## **1- The structural difficulty of the National Gendarmerie and her accomplishment of the mission of the civil-military actions**

Like all activities of all the defense and security forces in General and of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon in particular, the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie like all other entities is open to some limitations which can be in a panoplies order and singularly in the administrative and structural orders. This force of defense and security which saw it arrival on the land of Cameroon since the year 1922<sup>37</sup>, Handled a credibility of a good structure and administration<sup>38</sup>. This well structure of the national Gendarmerie of Cameroon shows a characteristic of marvelous position as a most prestigious and present force of defense and security in the society of Cameroon<sup>39</sup>. This can be seeing on her presence in the entire of the territory. It is the unique force of defense and security in Cameroon which is found in the inexplicable and unthinkable milieus in Cameroon for a permanent situation. The rest and others goes in those places just for missions and return after while the Gendarmes takes affectations for unlimited periods.

The structure of the National Gendarmerie makes in such a way that, the decisions taken be organized from the top and only applied by the bottom. Here, we are going to see that the National Gendarmerie is segmented in to the Strategic level, here which is constituted from the head of Army who is the president of the republic down to the level of the Colonels, the operational level which takes from the level of lieutenant colonels to the level of the lieutenants and the execution which in at level of all the sub-officers to the bottom. There is also a central administration in Yaounde under the charges of the SED/CNG. There are legions of the National Gendarmerie in all the regions of Cameroon, there the groups of squadrons of the Gendarmerie, the companies of the Gendarmerie, the Brigades of the Gendarmerie and the posts of the Gendarmerie generally headed by a sub-officer and Adjutant of the national Gendarmerie<sup>40</sup>. This manner of the structuring the National Gendarmerie is in all the senses very good but it called for a difficulty in the implementation of the mission of the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie. the long road that these initiatives have to takes at times discourages the leaders who want to do it on the feels even if they are in the zones where they see the actions very necessary. In the programs of the National Gendarmerie, initiatives are not taken without the acceptations of the hierarchy. This make in such a way that, if the Hierarchy

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<sup>37</sup> C.G. Mounkam, "La Gendarmerie au Cameroun sous administration Française 1916-1960", Mémoire du Diplôme d'Études Approfondies (DEA) en Histoire, Université de Yaoundé 1, 2007, P. 34.

<sup>38</sup> Nkeh, "The police and" ..., p. 238.

<sup>39</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>40</sup> A. Ongolo, Gendarmerie Camerounaises : Plaquette, p. 3.

take time to study the project and accept lately, it will not more have an effect on the field of the operation like was the case at the right moment.

Also, the National Gendarmerie doesn't dispose of an organism specific in the Civil-military actions of the force of defense and security more especially of on the zones of crises and war qualifies as zones of operations. At any level, the force has to disposes of the resources put in her disposition, the power and the autonomy of taking some initiatives then rendering the report after. This is a non-negligible limitation which at times makes in such a way that the elements found on the terrain of operation found it not easy to succeed in their missions of the protection of the population and their goods.

## 2- The dependence of the National Gendarmerie on the Ministry of Defense.

Cameroon which will becomes independent in the year 1960, his evolution as a young state, will highly influence the organization of the interesting institution with the creation of a corps of the auxiliaries of the Gendarmerie recruited locally. The Cameroon's Gendarmerie will then be created on the 01-04-1960 through the merging of the French Gendarmerie and Cameroon's local guards<sup>41</sup>. Since the putting in place of all the armies in Cameroon after the independence, the minister in charge of the Armed forces was responsible: the execution of the military policies in particular, of the organization, of the administration, of the putting in the conditions of employment and the mobilization of all the regular forces, auxiliary, and also of the infrastructure which is necessary to them.<sup>42</sup> The defense and the security forces in general and the National Gendarmerie in particular was already organized since the historical moment of after the independence and the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon was to be attached to that ministry under a delegate in charge of the National Gendarmerie which will finally change in 1884 as the Secretary of state to the defense in Charge of National Gendarmerie.

**Table 3: the heads of the gendarmerie from independence to 2023.**

Functions	Names	Period
CSG	LTC Giguet	1 <sup>st</sup> /03/1960-12/02/1966
DGGN	Issa Bakary	12/02/1966 – 26/12/1982
	Ibrahima Wadjiri	26/12/1982- 22/08/1983
	Amadou Ali	22/08/1983- 24/08/1985

<sup>41</sup>Wanyaka Bonguen Oyongmen, "Site Militaire et...", p. 08.

<sup>42</sup> A.G.N, Lois, 12juin1967, lois n°67/ LF/9 portant organisation générale de la défense, p. 03.

SED / CGN	Amadou Ali	24/08/1985 – 07/12/1997
	Edou Emmanuel	07/12/1997 – 18/03/2000
	Ze Meka Remy	18/03/2000 – 08/12/2004
	Aleokol Jean Marie	08/12/2004 – 22/09/2006
	Bokam Jean Baptiste	22/09/2006 – 08/03/2018
	Etoga Gallax Yves Landry	Since the 08/03/2018

**Source** : Gendarmerie camerounaise. Plaque Commémorative des cinquantenaires de l'indépendance et de la réunification

The above table shows the administrators of the National Gendarmerie. these administrators of the government in charge of the National Gendarmerie were all under the dependence of the ministry of the defense who also, was at the first minister in charge of the Armed forces and today, minister delegate in charge of the defense of Cameroon which also, is under the president of the republic who is the chief of Armies and full Minister of the defense of the country<sup>43</sup>.

The civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie, which was an activity that most at times exist with the prime time<sup>44</sup>. Then the National Gendarmerie which is a defense force like the others, <sup>with</sup> her desire and the need to put in place the civil-military actions will only do an activity which covers a lot of limitations. These limitations of the civil-military action of the National gendarmerie of Cameroon are due to the dependence of the National Gendarmerie to the ministry of defense<sup>45</sup>. These can be because of;

The existence of some forces of defense and security under the responsibility of the ministry could make in such a way that, the initiative of the civil-military actions desired by the National Gendarmerie already be adopted and putted in practice by the other force. The National Gendarmerie ruled and manage by humans who can be coincidently thinking the same project with the National Gendarmerie let it be about the zones of war or crises or those Zones qualifies of peaceful zones. Since the forces are operating at the same time on the same milieus. But only on the difference that, the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon is established permanently even in the unimaginable places and they takes time to go closer to the population

<sup>43</sup> Wanyaka Bonguen Oyongmen, "Site Militaire et...", p. 08.

<sup>44</sup> Prime time is a journalistic word which we have taken to show here that the Civil Military actions of the National gendarmerie which is our main point of study at times have it need in a particular moment and also have to be applied at that moment then after if, the activity have the tendencies of losing it values let it be for the Gendarmes even to the civil populations

<sup>45</sup> Redaction, "Gendarmerie nationale : l'atout jeune", Cameroun tribune, 05mars 2018, <http://www.cameroun-tribune.cm/article.htm1/16995/en.htm1/gendarmerie-nationale-l'atout-jeunes>, consulted on the 09th march 2023 at 06 :41pm

in order to bring their own contribution to the advancement of the life of the Civil populations<sup>46</sup>. This activities of the civil-military actions which can often be done in order to permits a positive relation with civil population and open the occasion of the requirement of information which can be important for her and susceptible for the accomplishment of her mission of the protection of people and their goods.

These activities that can in any non-negligible way, dominates the civil-military Actions of the National Gendarmerie in zones of crises or wars and in Zones qualifies as non-crisis or zone with the absence of war. The other forces of defense and security may have initiative in some places like the construction of Hospitals, the construction and refecton of schools, their participation in the sensitization of the civil population and the participation in the social and the economic development of the locality were they are present. This example can be illustrated with the actions of the military engineers who are not only composed of the elements of the national Gendarmerie. The Gendarmes here are attached to these branches of composition of the armies of ministry of the defense with the objective elaborated by the ministry of defense away from the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. They takes time in the civil-military actions such as the construction of the infrastructures for instance the actual direction of the academic affairs of the University of Yaounde<sup>47</sup>, the construction of a market in the eastern region of Cameroon , construction and the refecton of a high number of infrastructures in Cameroon. Another good example of the other forces of the ministry of defense that performs some remarkable activities on the other places can be in the military camp of Koutaba<sup>48</sup>.

There was a construction here of a school in the interior and at the exterior of the military camp which are for the maximum benefit of the civil population. These schools even as they were from the base constructed for the children of the militaries who are found in the Locality for the education of their children when they were to be affected in Koutaba<sup>49</sup>. Theses social infrastructures helps the population as the children goes there without understanding any signes of discrimination and also paying the same prices with the children of the military men.

The hospital takes care of them in all the moments with no conditions of the reason that they are civilians in the hospital of the armies. They equally interest themselves on the sensitization of the civil population more especially the youths on the effectible acts that are

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<sup>46</sup> Etoga, "Les Actions Civilo...", p. 26.

<sup>47</sup> Calipco, the plaque at word of the Direction of the academic Affair indicating that is the military engineers that constructed the infrastructure.

<sup>48</sup> Mouko, "L'Armée Camerounaise de"... , p. 32.

<sup>49</sup>A. Ngoungi, "Monographie historique de Koutaba : de 1916 à 2005", Mémoire de Maîtrise en Histoire, Université de Yaoundé 1, 2007, p. 18.

going on in the country, preaching patriotism to the civil population more especially the youths who are the high percentage of the population of Koutaba<sup>50</sup>. This intervention of a soldier who desired to show to us some civil-military actions of the militaries of Koutaba who are not essentially from the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon also demonstrates at which point the civil-military actions of the Gendarmerie could suffer the consideration by the civil population of Koutaba because they are already concentrated and knows about that of the military men of the Camp. So the objectives of the civil-military actions desires by the National Gendarmerie could feel some limitations in the milieu just because the population express their recognition but to the militaries contrary to the Gendarmes who are new on the field of Koutaba. Then, the aims of the Gendarmes of the protection of the population of Koutaba, their goods and the protection of their environment even will come across some difficulties which will be demonstrating it limitations on the activity which is purely of some operational situations.

Another example to demonstrates the situation of dominations in terms of Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie by the other Armies can be the actions of the *Bataillon d'Intervention Rapide (BIR)* on the fields of operations. The BIR plays a vital role as far as the civil-military actions are concern. They are present in all the Zones of hostilities in the country, making sure that the population should be on their sight and provide them useful information to permits them succeed in the accomplishment of their missions. The BIR have segment the civil-military actions in to three categories: The actions to the profit of the forces. Here, they insist on those social actions that the forces are the ones to beneficiate. These helps in the facilitations of the deployment of the forces, the establishment of the civil relations with the civil authorities. This helps the arm forces to require information from the civil authorities. The relations established here is usually known as vertical relationship. The relations help in the indications of who to have a good friendship in the village and those who are dangerous for the actions that the force of the defense and security are doing on the fields of operation<sup>51</sup>.

These actions to the maximum benefit of the BIR contributes to the judiciary help of the forces. Again, the BIR proceed on the intervention on the psychological environment of the population. Here, the BIR which is a repressive force and conscient of their atrocities that they commit on the fields of operations, comes to fight against their categorical refusal and rejection by the civil population because they are conscientious and also knows the consequences of their

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<sup>50</sup> Njock SielyeAchile Junior, 38 years, Adjudant at the National Gendarmerie and journalist, Yaounde, 14 mai 2023.

<sup>51</sup>C.J. Dimbo Oubinhou, “ inédit, les Actions civilo-militaire dans la conquête des cœurs et des esprits des populations sur les théâtres d’opérations : cas des régions de l’Extrême-Nord, du Nord-Ouest et du Sud-Ouest”, 2021, p. 8.

rejection by the civil population living on the fields of operations on the forces of defense and security. For this reason, the *BIR* on their proper side plays on the psychology of the armies on one hand and the population on the other hand. The population in other to require information from them, and the forces in other to makes them comprehend that a military on the terrain of operation is protecting the country and also protecting himself at the same time<sup>52</sup>. The forces need to be mentally and morally prepared more especially on the milieus of operations. It helps in the advancement of the military operations and facilitates the helps of the logistics items of the defense forces<sup>53</sup>. The social actions on the behalf of the forces helps to the coordination of the relative measures to the wars prisoners. These are the facts of the first category of the civil-military actions of the *BIR* which plays like a barrier to the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon.

The second category of the civil-military action of the *BIR* is to the maximum profit of the civil environment. The *BIR* here makes the expertise of the civil environment. They act for the conduisive and neutral environment with no acts of immoralities and barbaric citizens. Here, they carry on sensitization to the population, they advices the population on the role of the Armies on a field of operation, they educates the Civil populations on the uses and the consumption of dangerous products and also creates relations of friendship with the civil populations so as to ease their mobilization and permits the requirement of information when they needs them in other to proceed in the success of their missions of the protection of people, their goods and the activities<sup>54</sup>.

They also need to succeed in the mission of the protection of the integrity of the country which is an important objective on the fields of operations like is the case today in the extreme north of Cameroon between the *BIR* and Boko Haram. They also fight for the re installation of the state of laws and public services. More so, the *BIR* participate in the reestablishment of the economics life of the people and of the milieus of operation, the *BIR* participates here in the construction of roads, and bridges such as, the actions of the *BIR* in Kumba during the land slight, the construction of the divisional officer's office in Bafut, the rehabilitation of the Bridge of mile 17, the refecton of the Bridge on river Nchum, the construction of the Bridge on river in Mabonji, the *BIR* also engages in the transportation of the Divisional officer of

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<sup>52</sup> Ndjock Sielye, 38 years, Adjudant at the National Gendarmerie and journalist, Yaounde, 14 mai 2023.

<sup>53</sup> Dimbo Oubinhou, inedit, Les Actions civilo-militaires..., p.18.

<sup>54</sup> *Ibid.*

Baloue and played a vital role in the restoration of state authority in the regions where the crises arrived a droughty point<sup>55</sup>.

The last point at which the *BIR* accentuated their civil-military actions was on the last category which were the actions in humanitarian nature. The *BIR* of Cameroon also put in place some actions that was in the maximum benefit of the civil populations. This was to be performed in the milieu of crises and for the population in the zones of Crises in order to provide them goods and services that could help them leave the periods of crises or war. These assistances brought by the *BIR* to the civil populations is in order to create a vital space of friendly relations with the population in order to make them require a maximum information for the advancements of their missions. The assistances to the population is to:

Firstly, help the population in difficulties. The personnel of the *BIR* of Cameroon thinks that it is important for them to achieve this political objective often put in place by the supreme chief of armies, head of state which is the large collaboration, fraternity and assistance to the civil populations going through the negativities of the crises like is today the case in the northern part of the country, the north west and the south west regions of Cameroon. So, the *BIR* of Cameroon has worked highly in the construction of schools, hospitals, the distribution of food to the vulnerable and those populations who are exposed to the negativities of the crises, they also participate in the distribution of didactic materials to the students in order to encourage them to take the ways of the school and also participate in the medical activities in the zones of combats<sup>56</sup>.

An example was the case of the actions brought by the *BIR* in the humanitarian domain in the free medication of the population of Bachuotai, the campaign of sensitization and the distribution of food items in Bongue in 2019<sup>57</sup>. The campaign of surgery organized on the 19<sup>th</sup> of July 2022 in the eastern region of Cameroon which was for the profit of about 200 persons in the Eastern region of Cameroon between which so many refugees from the Central African Republic. This gave force to those persons suffering from cataracts and other dangerous sicknesses in the region. The medical team of the *BIR* was present in the Protestant Hospital of Garoua Boulai for about 7 days under the coordination of Colonel Alain Mvogo which they proceeded with the operation of about 200 people and also treated about 1000 people suffering from the other eye disease.

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<sup>55</sup> Dimbo Oubinhou, inedit, *Les Actions civilo-militaires...*, p. 18.

<sup>56</sup> Dossier, "Les actions Civilo-Militaires", *Armées d'aujourd'hui*, Ada N° mars 2021, [www.defense.gov.fr](http://www.defense.gov.fr), consulted on the 21 January 2024 at 12 : 19 AM.

<sup>57</sup> Oubinhou, "Les Actions civilo-militaires ...", p. 17.



This campaign of health was an unexpected occasion for those who benefited from the treatments since they did not have the financial means to provide for themselves. It is good to precise that, many refugees of the camp of Gado-Badzere were among the sick people who were present in the grand *Rendez-vous* of health campaign. There was the registration of authorities such as, the divisional officer of Garoua Boulai Mr Patric Abene, the General of Brigade Joseph Nouma, and the General coordinator of the BIR, Colonel François Pelene who were there to encourage the organizers of the Civil-military actions going on and which they gave the name “*le circuit du malade*”. And it was good to precise that the actions organized by the BIR of Cameroon was free but the only thing weighting from the population as precise by the General coordinator of the BIR was that, “*Tout est gratuit, la seule contre-partie attendue est la franche collaboration des populations pour renforcer le lien armée-nation dans cette localité frontalière*”<sup>58</sup>. These actions elaborated by the personnel of the BIR of Cameroon on the fields of operations make in such way that, the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon be at times even neglected by the population on the field of operations and by the population since the BIR is not totally depending on the ministry of defense and so have some latitude to advance in their programs without going through many protocols like the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon<sup>59</sup>.

These actions of the BIR then make that, the National Gendarmerie be under a left position as the same actions can already be done by the BIR or was already on the full exercises. This can be like the construction of schools, the health centers, and other infrastructures for the maximum benefit of the civil population of a locality<sup>60</sup>. The civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon register the limitations because of the functions and their positions in the zones of crises. The forces of defense and security in Cameroon and the National Gendarmerie in particular are organized and have their respective positions in the defense and security program in the country. There exist the forces of the first Category, the forces of the Second category and the forces third category.

The National Gendarmerie covering the First and the second category, this limitation of the National Gendarmerie makes that the force should only be on the field of operation at a precise moment and when it becomes an aggravated situation, the forces of the third category which are the forces of the land, water and air intervenes<sup>61</sup>. At the moment the forces of the

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<sup>58</sup> Nchapda, “ Cameroun- Actions civilo-militaires... ”, p. 5.

<sup>59</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>60</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>61</sup> Dimo, “ Les Actions Civilo... ”, p. 11.

third category take the power of the field, the national Gendarmerie have nothing to do which can still bring a high consequence. Then the limitation is that of the National Gendarmerie since the occasion on the field is not large making that she cannot at times realizes an appreciable civil-military action in all the domains.

### **3- The lack of a specific group in the Gendarmerie trained and specializes in the civil-military actions.**

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon on the field of operations combat and practicing the civil-military actions. These civil-military actions which enters in the strategies of success of the National Gendarmerie have some limitations which was due to the fact that, the Gendarmerie did not have a specific group of the Gendarmes specifically trained and formed in the strategies of the civil-military actions. The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon has still stay on their old way of doing that is, affronting situations the way they arrive. While it was important to develop strategies in other to quickly go out of some crises. These can only be developing under the putting in place of a group of Gendarmes who could be thinking of those situations and passing the reports of their activities on the fields.

The National Gendarmerie has limits on the services such as the SEDAC. This service which was put in place according to the arrete n° 102-CAB-PR of the 23march 2004<sup>62</sup>. The service only concentrates on the participation of the National Gendarmerie on the operational defense of the territories, participates on the elaboration of the plan of defense and protection, follows through the National Gendarmerie the missions of defense, treats all the problems relative to the to the protection of sensible point in the Gendarmerie, the head of the service cares of the documents of the participation and the preparation to the mobilization. The service constitutes of the office of defense, the office of mobilization and Civic actions<sup>63</sup>. This office which highly deploy it personnel to organize some activities with the population such as the sensitization in the southern region at the middle of May 2023<sup>64</sup>, the sensitization organized in Yaounde due the occasion of the Africans children day in the Technical secondary school of Kolbisson<sup>65</sup>. There is also the service SDI is specialized on the construction of the infrastructures initiated by the National Gendarmerie, the SES under the direction of

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<sup>62</sup> *Arrêté n° 102-CAB-PR du 23 mars 2004 portant sur le service défense et de L'action Civique de la Gendarmerie Nationale.*

<sup>63</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>64</sup> Amougou Ba'ana, 35 years, Captain at the Gendarmerie, Head of Service of Defense and Civic Actions, Yaoundé, 13 june 2023

<sup>65</sup> Note Ntako, 45 years, Captain at the National Gendarmerie, Head of office Defense Action of the Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 05 june 2023.

Employment and Structures. The SES takes care of the deployment and also see the activities of the Gendarmes on all the fields. But the preoccupation on the limitations that the National Gendarmerie registers on the issue of the Civil-military actions due to the lack of a specific group in charge of it is that, the actions of these services are very important but, at this stage, we are inscribing our reflection on the same angle of Melanie Thonier who when thinking of the complexification of conflicts, their privatization, the multiplication of the civil actors and the difficult challenges of going out of the crises, has imposes to observes the military's engagement in an environment with multiple senses. The teams from the *Groupement Inter Armées des Actions Civilo-Militaires (GIAC)* were then projected near the French unites to contributes in the cooperation with the civil environment of the forces<sup>66</sup> the absence of a precise force in the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon makes one to see a large gape of the reaction of the Gendarmerie in the activity. It then shows a limit of the National Gendarmerie even in term of organization to perform the civil-military actions.

It is good to say that the civil-military actions of the National gendarmerie of Cameroon have the limitations on the field as is shows above but which is are not ending at those points. The civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie have some limitations which could be registered in the financial domains<sup>67</sup>.

### **III- THE FINANCIAL LIMITATIONS AND LACK OF INFORMATION TO THE CIVIL POPULATION WHO ARE THE DESTINATIONS OF THE CIVIL-MILITARY ACTIONS.**

The Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie is an important activity and it register a non-negligible limitation which is maximally based on the finance of the initiatives. The activity on the field of operation is mostly carried by the heads of the Gendarmerie institutions who are on the fields of operations, it is usually the good desire of for instance the heads of the legions to mark their positive senses to the civil population in other to advance in their work on the fields of crises or of wars. The fact that, the civil-military actions of the National gendarmerie of Cameroon is not registers in the programs finance by the Government makes in such a way that, the Government do not see any obligation of financing the activities.

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<sup>66</sup> M. Thonier, "Les Actions Civilo-Militaires : Une finalité Opérationnelle", *Cairn.info, revue inflexion*, n°05, 2007 p. 77.

<sup>67</sup> Nguele Joseph, 48 years, lieutenant colonel at the Gendarmerie and commander in second of the Legion of Gendarmerie of the Southwest region of Cameroon, Buea, 09 July 2023.

But this does not mean that they do not know the importance of the activity. The commander in second of the legion of Gendarmerie of the south west region indicates that,

*Le principal obstacle des actions civilo-militaires de la Gendarmerie Nationale du Cameroun est le manque de financement, car, toute la haute hiérarchie est consciente de l'importance des actions civilo-militaires menées par la Gendarmerie Nationale du Cameroun sur le terrain des opérations*<sup>68</sup>.

The same argument of the financial difficulty been the measure barrier to the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie was advanced by many officers of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. These principally turned round three sub points which are the non-existence of a fond oriented specifically for the civil-military actions of the national Gendarmerie of Cameroon, the reticence of the financial partners of Cameroon to finance some projects that could enters in the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie and the reduction of the budget of the National Gendarmerie due to the perpetual periods of crises.

### **1- The absence of a fond oriented specifically for the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon.**

In a state of low and in a well organize country like Cameroon, in the institutions like the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, all activities that has shown their grand importance in the society has to be valorized by the guardians of the republican institutions. The civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie, an important activity which the National Gendarmerie has directly or indirectly. Directly in the sense that they are the one who have organized and indirectly If they have joint with the others like the *BIR*, and it can also be with the civil authorities like the *S.D.O*. The example was done in Ekona in the south west region of Cameroon when the Gendarmes accompanies the *S.D.O* in a humanitarian activity initiated by the Government to help the population of Ekona who were under the negativities of the crises<sup>69</sup>. It is the lack some haw of this valorisation by the high command that the civil-military actions register some limitations.

There is also the fact of the non-formalization of the activities of civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon arrives the land of the river of prawns in 1922<sup>70</sup>, covered some pages of historiography of Cameroon till the 1990s with the wind of democratization that blows on the entire word in General and Cameroon in particular. The force of the Gendarmerie has put in place acceptable programs and initiatives which all had been for the better security of the civil populations and their goods. It

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<sup>68</sup> Nguele Joseph, 48 years, lieutenant colonel at the Gendarmerie and commander in second of the Legion of Gendarmerie of the Southwest region of Cameroon, Buea, 09 july 2023.

<sup>69</sup> *Idem*.

<sup>70</sup> Fanso, *Cameroon History for...*, p. 36.

was between these programs that the Civil-military actions were coming from. This was more specifically during war and crises periods. But with the particularities of the Gendarmerie of Cameroon, the civil-military actions also manifested in the zones of non-crisis. This was physically through some activities put in place by the National Gendarmerie. Example was through the sensitizations like the one organized under the coordination of Captain Amougou Ba'ana Isabelle in the southern region of Cameroon on the 16<sup>th</sup> of May 2023 and the distribution of food items and didactic materials in some schools in the southwest region of Cameroon by the National Gendarmerie, the assistances provided by the Gendarmes in the camps of refugees in the northern regions of Cameroon and in the eastern region of the country.

The activity knows some limitations exactly because, the high command has not rendered it as an obligation through some aspects of jurisdictions (law, decree). This could force the authorities of the National Gendarmerie which through the grand enlargement of the institution in the country have the responsibilities of performing all the activities assigned by the high command and the political authorities in their areas of command some obligations in the activities for the maximum benefit of the civil populations<sup>71</sup>. The obligations could make in such a way that, the Gendarmes should insert in their programs some activities and highly perform them with some seriousness and respect of some numbers of instructions given by the high command in the strict respect of the laws. The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon could then take on her, through the responsible of the different detachments of the Institution to implement a law, a decree, or any jurisdictional decision taken by the head of state, chief of army and president of the republic of Cameroon. But since it does not exist as far as the National Gendarmerie is concerned today, the militaries who on the first plan are also humans, takes on them to program some activities which enters in the canons of the Civil-military actions. It can also be in the personal initiatives of the president of the republic, head of state, and chief of armies to be accompany to assist the populations during catastrophes, wars, crises and other negative situations that can arrive to them. Like was reported by colonel Aba saidou, “the Civil-military actions that the legion of the Gendarmerie of Bamenda which is a zone of crises since 2016, are more often initiated by the hierarchy through their advices and instructions from the SED/CNG. Him who is the patron of the National Gendarmerie in Cameroon”<sup>72</sup>.

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<sup>71</sup>Mimbolo Brice, 45 years, Lieutenant Colonel of the Gendarmerie, Head of service of inquiry of the Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

<sup>72</sup> Abba Seidou, 49 years, Lieutenant colonel of the Gendarmerie, Commander in second of the Legion of Gendarmerie of Bamenda, Bamenda, 11<sup>th</sup> of July 2023.

These actions then fulfil some difficulties because, the Gendarmes who are not in an obligation due to no decision of the hierarchy at times do not arrives a convincing point of these actions led it be to the population who benefits or even to the Gendarmes who have to gains the consequences of the activity done on the field making in such a way that, the final reason of the civil-military actions which is the protection of people and their properties be observes in a critical sense since their actions has not has not really bring the way of large requirement of information from the civil population on the field.

Another limit of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie as far as the fond oriented for the activity is concern can be bases on the fact that, the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon have their fundamental missions that the government in taking on her to provide fond for it and the international community also provides some finance that are taken to accomplish them. These missions which makes the Gendarmerie to be seeing the force that carries out three major categories of police investigations missions, administrative, criminal and military<sup>73</sup>. The administrative and investigation police which guarantee safety, tranquillity and public orders the Gendarmerie is in charge of executing, over 30% of the missions of the Gendarmerie. The criminal investigations police account for about 50% of the missions instructed to the Gendarmerie of Cameroon. It purpose is to record infringements of the criminal law, to gather evidence to search for perpetrators in other to bring them to justice, to executes court warrants and decisions<sup>74</sup>. Finally, the military investigation police. It is the intermediary between the military authority and the citizens. The Gendarmerie exercises both general preventive military investigations and repressive military criminal investigations<sup>75</sup>.

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon is also an executing body for several other missions instructed to various government departments such as economic police (control of licenses and prices) search for custom offenses, control of road traffics, supervision of air navigations, aerodromes and Maritimes navigations<sup>76</sup>. It varies weather we are in time of peace or in time of war. During the periods of peace, the Gendarmerie collaborates with different forces in intelligence matters and is involves in the implementation of mobilization measures. In times of war, it participates in the preservation of the internal integrity of the country. These missions presented are the respective fundamental missions of the National Gendarmerie. They are those who are program in the financial budget of the country, contrary to the activities of

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<sup>73</sup> Calipco, tract informing the brief overview of the Cameroon's National Gendarmerie

<sup>74</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>75</sup> Wanyaka Bonguen Oyongmen, "Site Militaires et"... , p. 7.

<sup>76</sup> Wanyaka Bonguen Oyongmen, "Site Militaires et"... , p. 7.

civil-military actions of the body of defense and security that is characterizes to be momentarily and not well known by the hierarchy. This make in such a way that only the heads of the territorial institutions be those who fight for the well organization of the activities at their levels because they are at times those who are objective of the importance of the activities that favors the assistance of the civil populations in the Zones of Crises and those who are not in the Zones of crises. This can be deducing with the intervention of the commander in second of the legion of the Gendarmerie of the southwest region who thinks that, “the activities of civil-military actions need a large intervention of the Government more especially in the financial domain”<sup>77</sup>. This could help the institution to multiply and to deploy themselves on the on the field with the projects of the assistance to the population and then also extract profits as far as information are concern from the civil populations accepting to cooperates with them. This same intervention was done by the commander in second of the legion of the Gendarmerie of Bamenda who thinks that,

“the Government it is doing more on the encouragement of the operative activities of the National Gendarmerie, the only efforts needs to be done in other to reduce the charges on the heads of the Legions for example the Head of the legion of Bamenda who was doing a grand and salutary work for the morale and security assistance of the civil population in the zone of operation<sup>78</sup>”.

These interventions show at which point the Government needs to puts an effort on the finance of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie in other to eradicates some limitations that the activities present in terms of insufficiencies and disputes among the civil populations of the Zones were the activities are operated.

## **2- The orientations given of the Gendarmerie budget due to the perpetual crises that Cameroon is travelling since 1990.**

A budget is an estimated finance of the present year inspired from the finances of the pass year. The budget of the present year takes in to consideration the finances and the expenditure of the last years in other to think of the addition, the subtraction or the orientation of the present year budget. The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon is among those institutions which knows a grand influence on the increase in the expenditure of the personnel of the Gendarmerie since 2014 and do not takes in to consideration the activities which can be qualifies as additional on the programs of the Gendarmerie. The activities like the civil-military actions.

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<sup>77</sup> Nguele Joseph, 46 years, Lieutenant colonel of the Gendarmerie and commander in second of the legion of the Gendarmerie of the South west region, Buea, 7<sup>th</sup> july 2023.

<sup>78</sup> Abba Seidou, 49 years, Lieutenant colonel of the Gendarmerie and Commander in second of the Legion of Gendarmerie of Bamenda, Bamenda, 11<sup>th</sup> of july 2023.

The Gendarmerie of Cameroon also an institution of security and defense of the country, have plays a vital role concerning the securization of the territory, the protection of people and their goods. Since 1990, passing to 2008, 2014, 2016, 2018, till today in the country, a numerous of activities of insecurity have disturbs the security and order in the country non respectively as the period of political crises, the period of strikes of famine, the period of insecurity in the Northern part of Cameroon occasioned by the group of terrorist Boko haram, the period of 2016 with the secessionists in the north west and the southwest region of Cameroon and the post electoral crises of 2018 in Cameroon. These respective periods which needs the high intervention of the Gendarmerie makes in such a way that the budget should have an influence in it, that is, the future expenditure of the National Gendarmerie segmented taking in to consideration the numerous activities that the body of defense and security was to practice with the period of perpetual crises which was a source of insecurity. but the civil-military actions which permits that the National Gendarmerie be in the head of the population and the population provides provide information for them was not often classified among the activities to receive finance.

### **3- The lack of information for the civil populations who are the destination of the actions done by the National Gendarmerie:**

The Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie also registers the difficulties due to the perpetual ignorance of the civil population on the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. The population of Cameroon led they be in the zones of crises or in the zones of non-crisis have around them some realizations of the National Gendarmerie which can be social, economic, educative, and so many other. But they lack the adequate information on their existences. The populations do not knows that the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon have construct schools which they have to extract the same benefits with the children of the militaries an example the nursery and primary school of the Gendarmerie in Yaounde in the Camp Yeyap Moussa which acquire the children of the civils and the military<sup>79</sup>. Another example can be the Military Hospital found in the Central administration of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon in Yaounde, the medical center found in the Camp Yeyap Moussa, the Hospital found in Awae<sup>80</sup>.

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<sup>79</sup> Mevono Ngomba Dieudoné, 47 years, Colonel at the Gendarmerie and Chief Division of General Affairs of the Central Administration of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, the 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

<sup>80</sup> Ngabalet Annie, 52 years, colonel medicine, Head of service of Health of the Medical Military Center of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 07-06-2023



There is also the gift that the population provides for the civil population. The Civil population at times do not note that they are passing in a particular area and this makes in such a way that the civil population at times thinks that they are instead doing but the policy of friendship that is, they are only giving to their friends. They even at times refuse to recognize some people who are at times during the reception of the gifts provided by the National Gendarmerie for the Civil populations of the Locality<sup>81</sup> they also pretend to deduce that the people are not from the zones of reception and have come with the Gendarmes. This was like the case of the gift of food elements and agricultural products that the commander of the legion of the Gendarmerie of the Southwest region provided for the population of Ekona, in the South west region. According to many populations consulted during the research of the scientific work, many intervened by saying that firstly, the goods were insufficient for the population, it was not the need of the population and that the food items was given to members of the Government and not to the Civil population that were suffering from the negativities of the Socio-political Crises. Others even qualified it as Dupe of Paul Biya President of the republic of Cameroon.<sup>82</sup> This intervention of the population indicates that there is a grand lack of information on the existence of the civil-military actions and even the importance of the activities to the population and even to the Gendarmerie of Cameroon. This renders the difficult the accomplishment of the mission of the Gendarmerie which is that of the protection of people and their goods

All human work in General are not registering a total perfection and so, having some limitations. Then particularly, the militaries and Gendarmes in the effectuation of their principal and secondary missions, come across some limitations of these exercise which canalizes insufficiencies in the accomplishment of their missions of the protection of people and their goods. It is in this way that the third chapter of this scientific work accentuated on the difficulties and the limitations of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. In order to explore this chapter of the scientific work, a segmentation in to three parts necessitated so as to maintain the order of well organization of the work. So, the first part of the work studies the traditional conceptions of the actual Gendarmerie and the limited level of training on the question of Civil-military Actions. Here, a grand accentuation is on the fact that, the civil population has since the colonial period lives the negativities caused by the Gendarmerie which is a colonial force because coming from France and arriving the land of the Country in 1922, plays a vital role on the molestation of the population from the 1922 to the

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<sup>81</sup> Meriland, 34 years, Trader, Buea, 8<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

<sup>82</sup> Anonym, Buea, 9<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

1940s, continued their left way with the arrival of the political parties in from 1948, 1955, to after the independence in 1971. Even as there were some changes in the National Gendarmerie, the same conceptions in terms of their method of operation still stays in the memory of the civil population of Cameroon, this makes it not easy for the population of Cameroon to open themselves to the Gendarmes and causing a great difficulty for the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie. Here, the work also sees the limitation of the training of the Gendarmerie's personnel on the questions of the civil-military actions.

The second part of the chapter explores on the organization and the administrative problems of the Gendarmerie of Cameroon. Here, the work puts an importance on the fact that, the stratification of the National Gendarmerie in to three grand groups and the Hierarchy in the defense and security force cause a difficulty and limitation in the Civil-military action of the Gendarmerie. Lastly, the third part studies the financial limitations of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon and lack of information to the civil population who are the destinators of the civil-military actions. All these elements constitute factors which present the limitations of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon in other to well apply the Civil-military actions and arrive to the capitalizes the profit of the civil-military actions to well fulfil their missions of protection of people and their goods.

**CHAPTER IV: FINALITIES, APPRECIATIONS AND PERSPECTIVES FOR THE  
ADVANCEMENT IN THE MISSIONS OF THE CIVIL-MILITARY ACTIONS OF  
THE NATIONAL GENDARMERIE OF CAMEROON**

The National Gendarmerie which is an instrument of the state for the prevention of crises, maintenance of peace and security in the internal of the country was to go on with an exercise which is the restauration of peace. Peace because synonym of development, is an ideal in which powerfully and legitimately inspires all the states. Here, we are fully in the voluntary of the politic that is, the desire of the Government to utilize the National Gendarmerie for the fulfilment of her missions. From here, the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon fulfils to accomplish some of her military missions which can be very different from those she may be executing during the commissions of the Government. These commissions are those assigned by the high command such as at times the restorations of peace in some areas of the country, the requirement of information on some situations in certain areas of the country. This permit the National Gendarmerie at the same time to accomplish the missions of the high command but also fulfils their military missions which are of the administrative police, the judiciary police and the military police<sup>1</sup>.

The civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, our point of study have their finalities that are going to be explores on this part of the scientific work. Here, we are going to see the finality to assure the security of the Gendarmes and of the Civilian population through the requirement of confidential information, to participate in the socio-economic development of the country and to assure the link of Nations-Armies between the Gendarmes and the civil population. Secondly, we are going to evaluate the appreciations of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. For this point, we will accentuate on the appreciations of the activities of the Civil-military actions by the National Gendarmerie, also, the appreciation of the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie by the administrative authorities and lastly the critics of the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie by the Civilian population of Cameroon.

Lastly, we are going to dissect the perspectives for advanced civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. So, it is good for us to render comprehensive on the first point the installation of a service of the civil-military actions in the administration of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon represented in all the decentralized services of the Gendarmerie in all the regions, the divisions and sub-divisions in Cameroon. And multiply the

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<sup>1</sup>CALIPCO, tract informing on the brief overview of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon.

domains of civil-military actions through the diversification of their activities of cohesion which can contribute advantageously to link the National Gendarmerie to the civilian populations in Zones of crises and zones of non-crises. secondly, the Government of Cameroon have to put to the disposition of the National Gendarmerie a found that can permit the good amelioration of the Civil-military actions and attract the attentions of the international partners for the provision of finance of the activities of the civil-military actions of the Gendarmerie. Finally, a plan of training of all categories of the Gendarmes

**I- THE FINALITY TO ASSURE THE SECURITY OF THE GENDARMES AND THAT OF THE CIVIL POPULATION THROUGH THE COLLECTION OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION WHEN NECESSARY.**

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon which with the pressure of the wind of democracy that flows on land of Africa in general and of Cameroon in particular found and obligation to change her modes of operations and favours the comprehension of the consequences of the wars and crises on the civil populations. At this moment we were to change the method which could be qualifies as that one which was purely base on the presidentialization of the National Gendarmerie<sup>2</sup>. This was that system were by the Gendarmes were operating but against the population and with the only objective which was the protection of an individual who was the president of Cameroon. This minimal deviation of the National Gendarmerie toward the civil population during crises has permit that, there should be programs which takes particularly the civil-military actions and which is with an objective of the requirement of information susceptible to accomplish the military missions on the field of operation.

Taking in to considerations the fact that, the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie in effectuating some positivity on the fields of operations and even on the milieus which are consider as those were the crises are not physical, the activities of Civil-military actions have a finality to assure the security of the Gendarmes and that of the civil population through the requirement of confidential information<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>2</sup> This system was physical during the period directly after the colonization where by the National Gendarmerie was not thinking of the civil population but only for the security and well been of the president of Cameroon. This kind of limitation of the defense and security institution when for a long moment as far as the reign of the first president of the country was concern. This was due to the barbaric reactions of the Gendarmes in the Bamileke zones and the Littoral region of Cameroon face to the Nationalists that the barbaric whites considered as the *Maquizers*.

<sup>3</sup> Abba Seidou, 49 years, Lieutenant colonel of the Gendarmerie and Commander in second of the Legion of Gendarmerie of Bamenda, Bamenda, 11<sup>th</sup> of July 2023.

The Civil-military actions of National Gendarmerie are implemented with a main finality which is in other to provide the vital security of the Gendarme on the theatre of operation or on a zone of crises. It is good to recalled here that, when a military is in the theatre of operation, he defends his self in other to defend the Nation as they also think that, the fact that the Gendarme come back a life from a war is a victory. A Gendarme who is a human, face to the armed group who are not in uniform and who render invisible a sense of identification so, making in such a way that the Gendarmes on the theatre of operation have to concretize a relation with the civilian population on the field of operation in order to extract information from them. So, the Gendarme open a sense of friend ship through the civil-military action which is by applying an activity for instance like the opening school, the creation of points of water, the creation of hospitals and so many other things<sup>4</sup>. This makes in such a way that the populations on the field of operation and even on the field of non-crises through the extraction of the services provided by these institutions permits a good link between the civilian population and the Gendarmes and make in such a way that, the populations have a courage of approaching the Gendarmes in order to give them information susceptible to protect them on the hands of the terrorists who are not identifiable. They a times tell the Gendarmes those who are people who have been committing some negativities in the communities and so, who are not people who are good to receive the confidence of the Gendarmes. This permits them to provides an area of security for them self on the theatre of operations<sup>5</sup>.

The civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie, is a method for the requirement of information. The efficiency of all the actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon is based on the requirement of provisional information and so, the mastering of the circumscriptions of command by the unit implanted on the field of operation. Then, the good relation entertained during the service of Civil-military actions who are the civilian population, the local traditional authorities, helps in the advancement of the actions of the National Gendarmerie by providing her information and alerting her when she is in need<sup>6</sup>. It is this ways of insisting in the extraction of information that the Gendarme who is on the field of operation arrives to provides a system of security for himself since the Gendarme who is on the field of operation is the main security of the nation and the only way for him to provide that security for the Nation for a very long moment is to make sure to be in a vital security. Then his only

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<sup>4</sup> Elokobi Njock Danial, 68 years, Brigardier General at the Gendarmerie and Director of Central Coordination of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 27<sup>th</sup> june 2023.

<sup>5</sup> Eloundou Mesmain, 51 years, Colonel of the National Gendarmerie and Director of Employment and structure of the Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 20<sup>th</sup> june 2023.

<sup>6</sup> Etoga, "Les Actions Civilo"... , p. 26.

way of been in security is in the implantation of a sense of a vital security with the civilian populations who could provide him the information more especially when is concerns asymmetric wars like the one that is going on in the North west and the south west of Cameroon today were by the Gendarmes in identifiable uniforms are fighting against the terrorist separatists who are not having uniforms and making their identification very difficult to the Gendarmes but which they are violating the laws of the Nation which the National Gendarmerie are called to fight for the preservation. They are also a grand source of insecurity in the south west and the North West regions which the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon is there for the provision of the security of people and their Goods<sup>7</sup>.

This same system of war is going on in the Northern region of Cameroon where by, the Forces of defense and security are opening fire with the Bokoharams who are not having uniforms, but which are having some links of collaborations with the civil populations. This can be due to the linguistic and the religion of islamization link that exist between the population of the civil population and the terrorist fighters. This collaboration makes in such a way that, only the civil-military actions can bring the military Gendarmes to the civil populations. This could make in such a way that, the activities exercised during these processes of civil-military actions pushes the populations to passes behind and provides information to the Gendarmes, more especially when there is a preparation of an attack against the Gendarmes. This provisional information permits to the Gendarmes to take measures in other to avoid the attack. More especially as, all informations are always taken in to consideration by the Gendarmes. They might not give value but to the result of the information but which the information itself was taken in to consideration on the departure<sup>8</sup>. This shows the pure importance of an information to the Gendarmes for the accomplishment of their mission. The information proved by the civil populations helps in taking measures to know how to situate themselves on the field and how to manage their proper security in the hands of the terrorists.

This same quest for details could be seen during some situations since the 1990s. the Gendarmes who are in the society as the light of the security of the civil population in all the territory even in the milieus were one could note imaging faced difficulties during some situations like the cases of grand arm rubbing in the society, this was more especially found on the High ways and even in other urban milieus of the country like was the case of the

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<sup>7</sup> Abba Seidou, 49 years, Lieutenant Colonel at the Gendarmerie, Commander in second of the Legion of the Gendarmerie of the North west region, Bamenda, 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2023.

<sup>8</sup> Djounang Kamdoum Patrick, 40 years, Head of Squadron at the Gendarmerie, Head of the Administrative and Financial Affaire of the Central Service of the Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 16<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

“microbes” that debuted in the town of Douala, there was also the situations of political crises like was the case in 1991, the case of 2018 where by political ideologies usually corrupt the masses of the population against the military Gendarmes who are called to bring in the security and orders so as to avoid the destructions of goods and services. In these situations, the only way was the sensitization in other to make some sort of education to the civil population on the negative instruments that the politics usually use in other to divides the population of the country, the hate speeches that others usually passes against the Gendarmes. Others even considers them as the Gendarmes of the President of the republic and so working against the civil population “*malice clanique*” and their activities in the society<sup>9</sup>. They take as finality to guarantee their security in front of the civil population which they educate to accept their friendship and provide to them information in other to extract from them those who are going against the law and even create insurrections in the country.

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon in their Civil-military actions put in front the finality of the construction of the Nations arms link in the Country. In other to present the Nations arms link, the General of Brigade Elokobi Daniel Njock indicated that, since a long period today, the forces of security and defense dose not limit themselves again only on the accomplishment of their first missions that is, the defense of the territorial integrity and the republican institution and also the security of people and their good. Evaluating between the civil population, creating a kind of familiarity, they are highly attentive to the problems encounter by the civil populations of Cameroon regularly and actively contributes to their resolutions. It is in this perspective that has evaluate the grand relation between the armies and the civil population of the country which give to the concept Nations Army of Cameroon all it senses. As far as the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon is concern, as a force of public security, force of fight against the delinquency, against the grand criminalities, she is really that military institution that is more frequent to the civil population. And it is in the era of the persistence of new forms of crises which an example can be terrorism<sup>10</sup>.

It is then the reason why the armies are working in permanency for the consolidation of the link which very expensive and which permits us to be in permanent interaction with the civil population which their help and their cooperation is indispensable for the good execution of our missions<sup>11</sup>

We can also site other actions of the promotions such as the Gendarmerie of proximity. This can be seeing dew to the large expansion of the National Gendarmerie in all the nation

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<sup>9</sup> Tachoua Brice, 39 years, Lieutenant at the Gendarmerie, Head of the office of communication in the service of the Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 14 may 2023.

<sup>10</sup> Etoga, “les Actions Civilo”, p. 27.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*

territory of the Country. The National Gendarmerie has with time reinforce her presence adjacent to the civil population in other to guarantee her disponibility and promptitude in her missions of the protection of people and their goods. The vulgarization of a green number (1501) in other to permits the users in other to directly gives and at all the times all forms of abuse from the personnel of the National Gendarmerie could be seen in this angle. Other elements of the reinforcements of the nation arm link promoted by the national Gendarmerie at the dew to the civil-military actions can be seeing on the maintenance of order in the society.

### **1- To participates in the socio-economic development of the country**

The civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, apart from arriving with the finality of the protection of the Gendarmes in the milieus of necessities and the protection of the civil populations face to all forms of in capacities has also opened with the participation of the Gendarmerie of Cameroon to the Social and economic development of the Country<sup>12</sup>. This could be perceived in the zones of crises and away of the zone characterized so. This because the Pandora of Cameroon has accentuated some of their actions also away of the regions which one could count among the regions of crises in the country.

The construction of Bridges here, the construction of classes and the refection of the other classes there, the gift of school materials in the schools, and other activities are the actions of civil-military action done by the National Gendarmerie of the country with the flag, green red and Yellow. These activities have the finalities which is to participates in the socio-economic development of the country. For this, we have seen the National Gendarmerie which have contributes to the opening of social infrastructures like the Hospitals. These hospitals which are both in the zones of crises and of non-crises. These hospitals which take care of the civil population without any exception and preferences. The main example will be the Military hospital of the National Gendarmerie in the central administration of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, the Gendarmerie infirmary in the Camp Yeyap Moussa of Yaounde, the military hospital in Awae and the military hospital of the Gendarmerie of Mbopi in Douala<sup>13</sup>.

Far a way of the of the assurance of the health of the Gendarmes who are in the military services in all the fronts, it also takes care of the militaries families who are civilians with an understanding condition financially and medically. These who are not militaries arrives to have some facilities decided by the ministry of defense and the administration of the National

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<sup>12</sup> Elokobi Njock Dadial, 68 years, Brigardier General at the Gendarmerie and Director of Central Coordination of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 27<sup>th</sup> june 2023.

<sup>13</sup> Ndam Abdou Ramani, Lieutenant at the Gendarmerie, Head of the office of Structure at the Gendarmerie, Yaounde, March and April 2023.



Gendarmerie such as the considerable reduction of health charges.<sup>14</sup> The Gendarmes also takes care in their hospitals those people who are not even from the families of the militaries at the considerable prizes. These are with a particular finality which is the participation in the social advancement of the civil population.

## **2- To participate to the educational advancement in the zone of crisis**

Away from the social support of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon to the civil population, the defense and security institution also make a remarkable effort on the domain of education and with a finality which is to contribute on the social development and more particularly in the domain of education in the country in general and in the zones characterized as zones of crises. The civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie present an importance on the domain of education where she capitalizes in order to show her participation in the social development of the country. For this sake, the National Gendarmerie provide gifts in terms of didactic materials in schools in zones of crises which are zones estimated to be zones of incapacity and inability of the civil authorities to penetrate and provide all the facilities to the children of the schools.

The Gendarmerie bring books, test books, pens, and other didactic materials. They also provided a good climate of security for the students in the zones qualified as those of insecurity for them. These ways of making their services easily available for the population in the zones of crises are more often to make in such a way that they should arrive to a finality which is to participate on the development but also require information from the population in order to fulfil their missions of the protection of the people, their goods and services in all the fronts. As was indicated by the Head of the service of health of the central administration of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, “a hospital is one of the indicators of developments in a particular Geographical area”<sup>15</sup> we could then see that even if the Hospitals of the National Gendarmerie were not put in place for the reason principally of the participation on the socio-economic development, the body of defense and security has highly put her effort in the advancement of the country. This same case was applied for education where the Gendarmes also extended their efforts to the high ways. On the roads, the Gendarmes did not only limit their actions on the control and arresting those who are going against the law, they also pass on the education of the users of the roads and also those who are transported there in order to

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<sup>14</sup> Ngabalet Annie, 52 years, colonel medicine, Head of service of Health of the Medical Military Center of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

<sup>15</sup> F.E. Etoga, *Sur les chemins du développement : essai d'histoire des faits économiques du Cameroun*, Paris, Centre d'étude et de production de manuels et manuels et d'auxiliaires de l'enseignement, 2010, p. 19.

permits the reduction of the high road insecurity and other negativities that found on the high ways<sup>16</sup>.

In the same perspectives of giving importance to education and also participating softly on the social advancement of the country in multiple fronts where they are found. The Gendarmes also takes their time to put an importance on the writing of journals and magazines which the population also read and acquires knowledge and open their scientific spirits without forgetting the enlargement of the provision of the comprehension of the institution of the National Gendarmerie, their missions, their activities and even the high authorities of the security and defense institution. The national Gendarmerie of Cameroon also in the same way of educating the population of Cameroon through social medias. We can take for example on the creation of a page of the face book and the WhatsApp<sup>17</sup> groups of the National Gendarmerie through which the institution personnel provide information and instructions for the civil populations of Cameroon. The institution also put in place mechanisms of limiting the negativities that usually passes through the social medias.it is in the perspective that the secretary of state in the defense in charge of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon in an interview makes us to understand that,

Sailing the tide of the hyper information, our society has witnessed important changes which imposes to the defense and security forces the constant need to adapt in order to efficiently execute their daily assignments. The challenge the National Gendarmerie on Cameroon has is to operationalize the security of goods and people which is in need a complex and multifaceted one, considering the prevailing situation characterized by an increase transfer of information resulting from the fast growing of Information and Communication Technology<sup>18</sup>.

These indications extracted from the writings of the secretary of state of the defense in charge of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, opens our vision on the actions of the National Gendarmerie in the era of the arrival and the persistence advancement of the Information and Communication Technology. The control of the exaggerations of the civil populations who are the users of these means of communications by the personnel of the National Gendarmerie<sup>19</sup>. we could in other ways explores the finalities of the actions in the sense that, the actions at times goes in a moderate way and more especially through the massive education of the civil population which passes at times through schools, large spaces and even on the administrative milieus. These examples could be seen with the actions of the National

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<sup>16</sup> Tachoua Brice, 39 years, Lieutenant at the Gendarmerie, Head of the office of communication in the service of the Gendarmerie, Ngabalet Anie, 52 years, colonel medicine, Head of service of Health of the Medical Military Center of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 07<sup>th</sup> june2023.

<sup>17</sup> WatSapp is a social media which permits the communication and the distribution images. This can only be used through Android phones.

<sup>18</sup> G. Etoga, “La Gendarmerie Nationale dans la société de l’information”, *Echos du Pandore*, n° 21 de mai 2023, p. 9.

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.*

Gendarmerie in the schools in the southern region of Cameroon and in the Center region. The actions of the National Gendarmerie with the sensitization of the civil population on the utilization of the social media and the negative impacts of the mal utilization on the society of the country. This was organized in the south west region on Cameroon in qualification of the sub-divisional officer Buea.

### **3- To ensure the link of Nations-Armies between the Gendarmes and the civil population in order to extract information from the civilians in the zones of crises.**

Martin motto in one of his books talks of the theories of the new wars, in which he indicates the wars of the years 2000s which one of the most influential could be the war among the population inspired from the demonstrations of the General of Brigade Rupert smith popularized in 2005<sup>20</sup>. It is this war among the population that in this scientific work, demonstrations are forward in order to see that it is present in Cameroon since the years 1990s and that the National Gendarmerie which is that force that apart from its three main missions have a mission of the protection of people, their goods and services was on the position of the obligation in the development of strategies in order to maintain peace and security in the country. The system needed to be put in place by the national Gendarmerie in order to fulfil all her missions takes into considerations the civil-military action. The civil-military actions which the implementations were for requirement of some finalities. It is so that we could deduce that the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon could arrive on the finality to ensure the link of Nations-Armies between the Gendarmes and the civil population in order to extract information from the civil population in the zones of crises.

For the Brigadier General Mahahat Ahmed Kotoko, in one of his important books, he attracts the attentions on what is the Nations-armies as a concept. For him, this concept shows the relations that exist between the populations and the armies<sup>21</sup>. The activity of Nations-Army could also be seen as indicated in one of the magazines of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. The magazine learns us that, *Le concept Armée-Nations peut s'entendre comme la parfaite synergie d'action entre les forces de défense et de sécurité et la population*<sup>22</sup>. For this fact, the Government of Cameroon since the independence has taken it very important and is working without any discontinuity in order to maintain the solidifications of the roots of this concept which is expensive and extremely important for the head of Army, Head of state and

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<sup>20</sup> George, H. Soutou et all, *La mesure de la force : Traité de stratégie de l'école de guerre*, Paris, édition Tallandier, 2018, p. 208.

<sup>21</sup> Kotoko, *La Défense populaire...* p. 79.

<sup>22</sup> Etoga, "Les Actions Civilo-Militaires...", p. 67.

President of the republic of Cameroon. The Nations-Army link has never encounter situation of questioning the concept in Cameroon<sup>23</sup>. True that the link goes through some reforms in the military institutions and the evolutions of the society.

Existing in the grand group of the forces of the defense and security in Cameroon, the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon integrated these activities in her assignments of every day. It is really not to demonstrate the diffusion of the units of the National Gendarmerie in Cameroon even in the not estimated zones of the country<sup>24</sup>. The national Gendarmerie through the concept of the Gendarmerie of proximity participate considerably to the provision of the maximum importance to the concept of Nation-Army in other to help in the consolidation of peace and development in the country. This important perfection of the relation between the Gendarmerie of Cameroon and the Civil population of the Country helps the National Gendarmerie in the high exercise of the missions of the civil-military actions which has the grand importance the extraction of the important information which can helps in the provision of the security of people, their goods and their services.

Precisions are important to do on the fact that, all activities taken by the Forces of defense and security and the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon in particular arrive at the point of a finality depending on the kind of activity and the period the initiative is taken for the adoption of the activity as one that can be taken in to consideration. The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon will then adopt the civil-military actions. The civil-military actions which are those actions taken by a force of defense and security during a period of crises or war when the civil population are in the position of in capability of living a normal life which usually go on when there are absence of the phenomenon of crises and wars. Is also important to say that, the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon have a particularity with her civil-military actions in the sense that, she have not only limits her civil-military actions on the zones cartography as the zones of crises, but, dose a diffusion of her civil-military actions in terms of some activities in some zones which are not characterize as zones of crises. For this sake, we can state zones like Kye-Ossi in the southern region of the country where by the National Gendarmerie through the service of civic actions (SEDAC) and under the coordination of Captain Amougou Ba'ana Isabelle organized activities of sensitizations in the secondary schools. We could also see the case of entertainments done by the personnel of the National Gendarmerie in the town of Yaounde for example the entertainment in the zone of Ngoa-Ekelle in 2021 on the characteristics of a good Citizen, the symbols of the state and on subjects like the roles of the

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<sup>23</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>24</sup> Soutou et al, *La mesure de...*, p. 76.

Gendarmes in the society of today. These were activities of Civil-military actions effectuated on the fields of non-crises but which developed the finalities which was the solidification of the nation-army link in the zones. It is the well-organized Nation-Army link between the Gendarmerie and the Civil population that could permits her to arrives her mission of the protection of people, their goods and their services in the zones and in the country in General<sup>25</sup>.

The civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie in Cameroon have registered some grand finalities. These as mentions up in this scientific work like the assurance of the security of the Gendarmes and the civil populations in the theatres of crises and wars, the participation of the National Gendarmerie to the socio-Economic development of the country and the assurance of the Nations Army link between the Gendarmes and the civil population<sup>26</sup>. There can also be some finalities such as the requirement of information from the civil population. These finalities of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie will permits the National Gendarmerie to come terminator of her work which is the protection of people, their goods and services<sup>27</sup>. The understanding of the finalities of the civil-military actions pushes us to study the appreciations of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie.

## **II- APPRECIATIONS OF THE CIVIL-MILITARY ACTIONS OF THE NATIONAL GENDARMERIE OF CAMEROON**

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon through her civil-military actions has done so many things in the society of Cameroon. They have been the authors of some activities of the civil-military actions and assist in some ones. They have accompanied authorities in some activities of the civil-military actions. For example, the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon through the Legion of the Gendarmerie of the south west region of Cameroon, accompanied the Sub-divisional officer in the Fako division in the southwest region of Cameroon for the fulfilment of some of their activities for the population<sup>28</sup>. The National Gendarmerie also takes on her to be adjacent to the Governor of the southwest region of Cameroon in other to assist in the provision of sensitizations to the civil population, provision of food items and the medical facilities for the civil populations in the areas of their competences<sup>29</sup>. The National Gendarmerie

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<sup>25</sup>Tachoua Brice, 39 years, Lieutenant at the Gendarmerie, Head of the office of communication in the service of the Gendarmerie, Yaounde, mai 2023.

<sup>26</sup> Etoga, "Les Actions Civilo-Militaires...", p. 26.

<sup>27</sup> Hameni Bieleu, *Politique de défense...*, p. 386.

<sup>28</sup> Muamaah Jr. Ade, 36 years, Civil administrator, Head of Cabinet of the Governor of the southwest region, Buea, the 08<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

<sup>29</sup> Tabi Chu Martin, 29 years, Head of cabinet of the North West region, Bamenda, the 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

has also played the role of accompanied the governor of the Northwest region in the distributions of food items, school materials to students in other to permits the children whom their parents are in the total incapacity to join the way of school without the any frustration<sup>30</sup>. Uncountable actions were effectuated by the National Gendarmerie herself without thinking of the assistance of the administrative authorities. This could be seeing for instance with the actions effectuated at the south west region in Ekona by the personnel of the legion of National Gendarmerie of the south west region of Cameroon. The organization of sport activities between the personnel of the Gendarmerie and the young population of the village of Kouham Njitapon in the west region of Cameroon. The organization of sencitizations in the southern region and in the center region under the grand coordination of captain Amougou Baana Isabelle.

Even with all the activities of Civil-military actions that some are under examples enumerated above, they were to go through some appreciation by three grand Categories such as, the Gendarmes who are the grand actors of the activity, the administrative authorities who are at times the coordinators of some activities of the National Gendarmerie in their areas of competences and lastly by the civil populations who in the plan are those who the Civil-military actions for their maximum profit.

### **1- The appreciation of the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon by the Gendarmes.**

All human activities have a characteristic that, it is always directly or indirectly submitted to the evaluations of the others and even those who are performing those activities. It is usually from these evaluations that the appreciations according to each and any one usually developed. This can at times be because any citizen wan to have an intervention on the activities that are going on in the state. It is like this that, Max weber was attributing a definition to the state. For him, it was an institution with a monopoly on the legitimate use of force<sup>31</sup>. The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon was making part of these forces of the state of Cameroon, the National Gendarmerie perform the civil-military actions and also think on the appreciations of those actions put in place in the theatres of operations and also on the theatre considered as

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<sup>30</sup>Muamaah Jr Ade, 36 years, Civil administrator, Head of Cabinet of the Governor of the South West region, Buea, the 08<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

<sup>31</sup> Ndam Abdou Ramani, 33 years, Lieutenant at the Gendarmerie, Head of the office of Structure at the Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 19<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

L'équipe de perspective monde, discours du président Français François Mitterrand sur la démocratisation en Afrique, <https://perspective.usherbrooke.ca/bilan/servlet/BMEve/1279>, consulted on the 28th March 2022 at 8 : 00 pm.

the milieus of non-crises which others think that the civil-military actions cannot be observed there. They at times consider as the “*action civilo-militaires par usurpations*”<sup>32</sup> while the particularity of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon is that, “her missions and her Geographical area of operations makes in such a way that, she should be mailed in all the zones in the country even in the non-expected zones”<sup>33</sup>. She should be that branch of the forces of defense and security which is capable due to the training offered to her personnel to operate in the town and in the Villages<sup>34</sup>.

The high appreciations of the personnel of the Gendarmerie of Civil-military actions is generally centered on the positive and negative senses of the activities. It is also on the limitations of Gendarmes to perform the activities and also the result of the civil-military actions. The appreciations of the personnel of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon depend on the position of the Gendarme. Here, we make mention of the position of the Gendarme, the grade and the post that the element may be occupying in the administration of the Gendarmerie. It can also be due to the place where the Gendarme is effectuating his service in the country.

As far as the grade is concerned for the appreciation of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie, it is important to recall the responsibilities of the Gendarmes concerning their grades as the Arm forces in Cameroon are segmented into three grand levels. Firstly, we have the strategic level. In the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, the strategic level of the Arm forces debuts at the top from the Head of armies who is the Head of state, president of the republic down to the lieutenant colonel in the Gendarmerie of Cameroon. Here, when there is any affair, it is at the strategic level that it is thought and adopted to be applied in the National Gendarmerie<sup>35</sup> we also have the operative level<sup>36</sup>. The operative level of the National Gendarmerie takes from the Heads of squadrons to the level of the Lieutenants. At this level, the information conceived, thought and prepared by the strategic level which have some characteristics of complications are simplified and rendered easier for the comprehension of all the levels and even people who are not Gendarmes. And lastly the executing level. At the executing level of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, we have generally the category of the Gendarmes who are at the level of the sub-officers and the Gendarmes.

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<sup>32</sup>Mevono Ngomba Dieudonné, 47 years, Colonel at the Gendarmerie and Chief Division of General Affairs of the Central Administration of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, the 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

<sup>33</sup> Ndam Abdou Ramani, 33 years, Lieutenant at the Gendarmerie, Head of the office of Structure at the Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 12<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

<sup>34</sup> *Idem*.

<sup>35</sup>Njock Sielye Achile Junior, 38 years, Adjutant of the Gendarmerie, Yaounde, Mai 2023.

<sup>36</sup>*Idem*.

The categories of the Gendarmes of Cameroon taking in to consideration the fact that they are under the strategic and the operative level, stays for the information to be thought and simplifies for them to only be called and ask to execute on the field in the sense of the command given by the chiefs. From this segmentation of the Gendarmerie in some way of groups makes us to think that, the civil-military actions will be appreciated in some ways taking in to consideration the perception that Gendarme will have of the actions taking in to considerations his level of belonging.

In a general manner, all of the categories see highly the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie in a positive sense but a particularity existing is that, at times, the last category which is the level of those consider to enter in the National Gendarmerie with the lower level of education, they have not gone though some theoretical and the practical trainings that for instance the officers and the high officers has gone through, they at times even though practicing and participating to the civil-military actions but since still considers soft as far as the comprehension of some things are concern, they ignores concretely what is a civil-military action of the National Gendarmerie, it history, it objectives, it finalities, it impact and it practicalities even. This makes in such a way that, we are going to see that, so many of them lacks the senses of the word “Gendarme” full of it content in terms of responsibilities and respect of the civil populations in the zones of crises and word and even in the zones of non-crises. more especially when they are not having adjacent to them an officer who influences them to do thing similarly to him or who controls their actions. Their appreciation of the civil-military actions usually bases on the singular activities that they have participates and see the result on the theatre. But in a General manner, they lack ideas to advance of the total Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie.

Contrary to the executing level of the category of the Gendarmes, the operative level has a grand comprehension of the concept of the civil-military actions of the armies in general and of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon in Particular. This might be due to their theoretical and practical experiences on the theatres of crises and of no crises, also due to their rapprochement to the strategic level of the Gendarmerie since the documents or the information coming from the strategic level stop at their level for simplification in other to permits the executing level in other to just applies them on the field. They advance appreciations for the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie o Cameroon which makes us to accept their pertinence and their understanding of the concept and all what turns round. At the operative level of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, so many of the Gendarmes have coordinates the operations and missions of the National Gendarmerie and so, they understand the operation



and the activities that they are practicing on the theatres. This can be the case of Captain Amougou Isabelle, Head of the service of the civic actions of the central administration of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. She have coordinates the civil-military action in the southern region and the center region in 2022 and 2023<sup>37</sup> the captain have mostly coordinate many civil-military actions with the activities that concerns education and sensitization of the youths and the civil population of Cameroon<sup>38</sup>. According to her, the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon plays a vital role on the image of the National Gendarmerie and the Gendarmes in the society.

When the Gendarmes deploys themselves on the field led it be in the zone of crises of in the zone of non-crises, the population arrives to have some temporary image of them depending on the activity they have done there. They can collect from them the image of repression or of friendship.

The actions of the Gendarmes in a particular place can also permits to fulfil the program the Nations-Army of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon which is a concept at the center of the of the action s of the National Gendarmerie of the country. This helps the National Gendarmerie to require information from the civil population in other to extract the defaulters and the recalcitrant of the laws and the regulations of the state. The example which can keep us on the way of good comprehension can rightly be that of the situation when the Gendarmes effectuates a civil-military actions on a particular place, the population of the locality see them as those who are note only concentrating on the repressive activities but also on the pacific and in other ways humanitarian activities. They also take the opportunity to receive the military Gendarmes when they approach them. So, we then play with the civil-military actions as an activity that can permits the Gendarmes to require information from the civil population. For the head of the office of the employment in the central administration of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, since a long period of time, the forces of defense and security of Cameroon are not more only limiting themselves on the accomplishment of their mission regular missions which are those of the defense of the territorial integrity, the National unity and the defense of the republican institutions. Evaluating not only on her own sight and sense, but among the civil population of Cameroon. Creating a sense of unity with the population, they are highly attentive to the problems encounter by the Cameroonians all the days and contribute attentively to their resolutions. Through the civil-military actions, the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon has with time reinforces her presence closer to the civil population in other to

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<sup>37</sup> Amougou, "Fete de la...", p. 19.

<sup>38</sup> *Ibid.*

guarantee to her disponibility and promptitude in her missions of the protection of people and their goods<sup>39</sup>.

Concretely from the above analyses, one can arrive to understand the satisfactory comprehension of the notion of civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie by the Gendarmes who are found on the second category of the Gendarmes in the Nation. The operative level of the National Gendarmerie at times are the ones that coordinates some of the activities and knows concretely the substances that turns around the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie. they even generally in showing the appreciations of the civil-military actions shows the positive rapports of the actions in the country as they make us to understand that, the Nations Armies link that comes from those civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon is an un failing relation which till here has shown the proves of her existences in the occasion of the fighting against the terrorists Boko haram in the region of the far north of our country Cameroon. And which advantageously is consolidating in some domains. And the preservation of the following report is at the center of the preoccupation of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon<sup>40</sup>.

The last group of the Gendarmes who can see the Civil-military actions in their own sense also are those strategic level. These are particularly the colonel directors and the Generals. These are making generally the group of those they usually qualify of the high commandment of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. They are also directly attach to the polities who also think an orientation of the National Gendarmerie. they have an appreciation of the actions which is highly that of those who think and ameliorates the activities of the National Gendarmerie. as they are qualifying to be the strategic level, and those who copy good activities from the other Armies led it be in the country or from the other countries. The civil-military action which is that activity which was invented in England, used by the French and since the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, having the reputation of been copied from the French system of Gendarmerie also took the activity from the BIR of Cameroon due to their good collaboration with the BIR<sup>41</sup>. General Central Director of the Coordination of the National Gendarmerie talks of the actions which stability and bring back peace in the zones of crises like is the case of the south west and the North West of Cameroon.<sup>42</sup>

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<sup>39</sup> Ndam Abdou Ramani, 33 years, Lieutenant at the Gendarmerie, Head of the office of Structure at the Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 12<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

<sup>40</sup> *Idem*.

<sup>41</sup> Abba Seidou, 49 years, Lieutenant Colonel at the Gendarmerie, Commander in second of the Legion of the Gendarmerie of the North west region, Bamenda, 11<sup>th</sup> july, 2023.

<sup>42</sup> Elokobi Njock Danial, 68 years, Brigardier General at the Gendarmerie and Director of Central Coordination of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

A way from the categorization of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, we also have the appreciation of the civil-military actions base on the post that the Gendarme is occupying. The post of responsibilities that some Gendarmes were occupying pushed them to coordinate or to participate to some activities of civil-military actions specifically on what the service was concerning. The head of the health service of the National Gendarmerie could only advances some appreciations of the civil-military actions only basing herself but on the health service that the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon was providing to the Cameroonians. For the colonel, head of the Health service of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, the military medical Center of the National Gendarmerie which was even as implanted principally for the for the personnel of the National Gendarmerie, it plays a vital role in amelioration of the health of the civil population.<sup>43</sup>

The principal civil-military action which can consequently well bring the population closer to the National Gendarmerie to the civil population without causing any panic to the population and also permits the National Gendarmerie to well accomplish her mission of the protection of people, their goods and services. The same perspectives of the appreciations of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon forward with the commander in second of the legion of the Gendarmerie of the southwest region of Cameroon. For him, the civil-military actions have an operational function entirely as the other military functions as it permits to the military Gendarmes to be well accepted by the civil population and integrate herself in her operational environment. At this title, the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie are also at the responsibility of the military command who can delegate the prerogatives in some different domains which can be the economy. Been realist and in a measured ambition, the civil-military action of the National Gendarmerie cannot solve all the problems but can only do with the means put to the dispositions by the high command.<sup>44</sup>

In the same sense of the appreciations concerning the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie, the Head of the Head of the service of the civic actions of the central administration of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon declare that, the civil-military actions of the National permits the rapprochement of the militaries to the civil population and also facilitate the accomplishment of the main mission of the force which is the protection of people,

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<sup>43</sup> Ngabalet Annie, 52 years, colonel medicine, Head of service of Health of the Medical Military Center of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 07<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

<sup>44</sup> Nguete Joseph, 48 years, Lieutenant Colonel at the Gendarmerie, Commander in Second of the legion of Gendarmerie of the Southwest region of Cameroon, Buea, 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

their goods and their services.<sup>45</sup> This comes after the practicing of activities which are cultural and scientific like the descending on the field in the southern region and the center region of Cameroon. With many activities that she has done on the maximum benefit of the Civil population, She also insisted on its value as a method of requirement of information<sup>46</sup>. For the Gendarmes who are on the field where they need some information, the activities toward the population and the environment can create an atmosphere of friendship with some few people of the locality and through the occasion, the militaries collect information from the civil population that will permit the stability of peace and security which is her mission in order to concretize their objective of the protection of people and their goods.

Apart from the points of appreciations of the civil-military actions demonstrated above by some specific responsible of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, there were also some general appreciations that were going out practically by all the Gendarmes. For example the modernity and the pacific ways that the civil-military actions bring in the extraction of information permitting the advancement of the activities of the National Gendarmerie. The other appreciations are adopted and developed by the authorities who the national Gendarmerie are putting in place generally in their areas of competences.

## **2- The appreciation of the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon by the administrative authorities.**

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, one of the segments of the security and defense forces of Cameroon. This one has grand relation with the administrative authorities whom their institutions are found in their areas of competences. According to the article 1 and 32 of the decree 60/280 caring on the services of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, the ministry of defense is the unique administrative authority which have for employment on her disposition the National Gendarmerie<sup>47</sup>. the regular actions of the ministry of defense and the National Gendarmerie jointly with other ministries are, the closure or raid operations, the operations of “*coups poings*” which are targeted or not highly important and through information, the specialized, mixed dams, staking and the special operations...<sup>48</sup> also, some administrative authorities being invested for the territorial responsibilities and for the

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<sup>45</sup> Amougou Ba'ana Isabelle, 35 years, Captain at the Gendarmerie, Head of Service of Defense and Civic Actions, Yaounde, 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

<sup>46</sup> *Idem*.

<sup>47</sup> B. Houmsou, “les 25 décrets du 25 juillet 2001 : évaluation des objectives dans la Gendarmerie Nationale ” mémoire de fin du 42<sup>ème</sup> stage d’application des officiers de la Gendarmerie Nationale, Commandement des écoles et Centres d’instruction de Yaoundé, 2021, p. 22.

<sup>48</sup> Houmsou, “Les 25 décrets du...”, p. 23.

responsibility of the maintenance of order together with The National Gendarmerie which is in the territories of these administrative authorities who are the subordinates of the head of state. These are for example the Governors, the Divisional officers, the sub-divisional officers.

The National Gendarmerie have the obligation of providing them information in the conducive conditions independently of their responsibilities, we also have the local authorities who are particularly qualified as the guiders of the culture and tradition, of the political and social situation due to their mastery of the territory. So, they give good orientations to the actions of the National Gendarmerie or even the modalities of their intervention in the sense of the requirement of positive results in the society. For their appreciations of the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, the observation done was that, they do not have the same point of view with the Gendarmes, they also criticize in other ways taking in to consideration the administrative authorities that they are and taking in to consideration their ways of utilizing the defense and security instrument that was often installed in their territories by a jurisdictional manifestation of the head of state.

These administrative authorities could be in the zones of crises in Cameroon and in the Zones where there was the manifestation of peace and the absence of crises and was like the other zones. For the sub-divisional officer of Douala 1st, the civil-military actions are all measures taken by the forces of defense and security with the objective of supporting the civil populations in diverse domains which can be in the security domains, the social domains and the educative domains this helps the National Gendarmerie to accomplish some of her missions of the protection of people and their goods in the zones of crises<sup>49</sup>. For the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon in particular, they have played a vital role in Douala. These could be in the domains of security and social ways. The promotion of education has even entered.

The Gendarmes have schools in the town of Douala, they have their Military Hospitals which takes charges all the populations of all the categories without discrimination. These activities of the Gendarmerie in the sub-division bring a grand mode of social development and makes that there should be a grand marriage between the population of Douala and the Gendarmes. For example, we could see a chain of advancement of the Head of the Legion of the Gendarmerie of Douala. This was with the grand collaboration of the population and it was the consequences of so<sup>50</sup> me of the actions of the Civil-military actions that the Gendarmes did vis-a-vis to the population that conditioned the provision of the confidential information to the Gendarmes for the successes of their activities of the protection of people and their goods.

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<sup>49</sup> Omarou Michel, 36 years, Divisional officer of Douala 1st, Douala, 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

<sup>50</sup> *Idem*.

Apart from the sub-divisional officer of Douala, there was also the appreciation of the head of cabinet of the Governor of the southwest region of Cameroon. For the Head of cabinet, the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon have rendered the life of the population in the zones of crises moderate. They assist the population in the zone of the south west region which is qualify as a milieu of crises and the populations are not capable of producing in a good condition<sup>51</sup>. He proceeded by indicating that, the activities of the civil-military actions more especially as is done by the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon is well and an appreciated initiative put in place by the high command of the body of defense and security. The civil population exposed to all kind and forms of risks due to the occasion of crises arrive to benefit from the advantages of the activities of the Gendarmes such as the construction of classes, the Hospitals, the provision of electricity in some village, the creation of points of water in some zones, the organization of grand sensitization are points of efforts done by the Gendarmerie for the behalf of the civil population in the region. These activities are remarkable and at times the Gendarmes accompany the authorities to also bring their contribution for the advancement of the populations living in the zones of crises through their activities.

This contribution could be through the putting at the disposition of the of the people some materials that could help them advance in their activities. These materials could be the agricultural activity; they were also bringing the population the medical facilities permitting them to solve their health problems. So, through his intervention we could say that, the civil-military actions that the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon put in place also attracted the attention of the administrative authorities who most often were happy of the securities and defense forces and particularly the national Gendarmerie of Cameroon.

The Head of Cabinet of the Governor of the North West region of Cameroon through an intervention in Bamenda advance his appreciations of the National Gendarmerie in two grand ways which remarkably were in the positive and the genitive ways. For him, the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon which is one of the branch of security and defense forces plays a grand role in the zones of crises notably in the zone of the North West region. He classified their roles on the security domain, the social domain with the assistances they were bringing for the population, the educational domain with the role of teachers they were at times taking and the sensitization the Gendarmes were caring on in the region to make the young population note go to persist in the joining of the separatist groups that were doing terrorist acts in the

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<sup>51</sup> Muamaah Jr. Ade, 36 years, Civil administrator, Head of Cabinet of the Governor of the southwest region, Buea, the 08<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

region.<sup>52</sup> The National Gendarmerie for him was also an instrument used by the state in other to solve some societal problems in the zones where the civil population could not arrive. These could be like teaching in some places where the terrorists were taking control and dictating some rules and regulations that was to go in to divergent ways with that of the integrity of the state<sup>53</sup>.

The Gendarmes who are military men were to be present in these milieus in order to bring peace so as to accomplish their mission of the protection of people and their good. So, the Gendarmes were founding themselves teaching in the zones, becoming the medical doctors and also putting in the disposition of the population all the service they have and could bring for the population. It makes that appreciations be objectively directed on the positive sense as these actions of the Gendarmerie has come to help the actions of the humanitarians which is also well appreciated in the region by the population and also by the Government<sup>54</sup>.

Away from these ones appointed on their posts of responsibilities by the president of the republic in Cameroon, there was also the heads of the villages who are the traditional and cultural guiders of the villages of Cameroon. It is important to recall that the Gendarmes who were affected in the villages where there were crises were persisting and the contact of the Gendarmes with the civil population and the traditional authorities made that, the Gendarmes should develop the civil-military actions depending on what was the need of the population and what could make them have a climate of friendship with the civil population and arrives to require information from them which could permit the accomplishment of their missions on the field which was that of the protection of people and their good.

For Nji Njitapon, the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon in the Zone of Njitapon was basically a good project. It was practice in some ways. Even as the Gendarmes lacked some senses of moralities and respect in them proper ways vis-à-vis to the civil population. This was at times on the pretext that they were in the village for a military mission and had no explanation was to give to someone irrespective of their rank, age, sex and what so ever<sup>55</sup>.

This decision of the Gendarme made in such a way that their civil-military actions could not have an impact on the population of Kouoptamo in general and Njitapon in particular. They organized matches of football with the population in order to make the youths of the village comprehend that they are also their brothers and that they are there to work for their security

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<sup>52</sup> *Idem.*

<sup>53</sup> *Idem.*

<sup>54</sup> Tabi Chu, 29 years, Head of cabinet of the North West region, Bamenda, the 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

<sup>55</sup> Njitapon Issa, 61 years, Head of the Village of Njitapon, 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

and to protect them with their goods.<sup>56</sup> But the molestations they also did to the civil population they were there to protect made that, the civil-military actions became not considerable by the civil population and there were no good information for the behalf of the Gendarmes and it made in such a way that the Gendarmes were attacked in the village of Njitapon while the civil population new that the Gendarmes were to be attacked by the secessionist Ambazonians. So, the actions of the Gendarms in the village of Njitapon contributed on the qualification of the civil-military action they did in the village as not helpful dew to their military brutality.<sup>57</sup> The appreciation of the Head of the village couples with the analyses of Virginie Wanyaka in one of the scientific articles. For her, the phenomenon of the military brutalities is verifiable and is already recurrent in the country and which gives an impression that the militaries are on the top of the low and virtually forms a state in a state of Cameroon<sup>58</sup>.

Wans a military system is put in place with a group of uniform men, due to the fact of their position of force because their dressing in uniform, commits some exactions that the authorities keep themselves sight to sanction them<sup>59</sup>. These exaggerations go in many order and allows some impacts on the population. Accepting this idea, the chief was basins on the proposals of the Governor of the Western region Awa Fonka Augustine who did not condemned some of the exaggerations of the Gendarmes in the village of Njitap on who harvested the violent attacks of the secessionists in the Village<sup>60</sup>. So, when the reactions of the Gendarmes in the zones of crises contrary goes against the populations we can only come to the result that the civil population will be sceptic in the provision of the informations to the military Gendarmes and the civil-military actions which could be done after is not profitable dew to the fact that, the objective will not arrive it objective and consequently the finality which is the protection of people and their good becomes not realizable.

The Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon absorbed some appreciations that when from the Gendarmes and the administrative authorities. The activities of the civil-military actions attracted the attentions of the peoples who had the responsibilities of managing the city. These activities done by the Armies and the Gendarmes in particular gave some words to say which could be in the positive sight and in the contrary. The activities on her, was very captivating but the comportment of some Gendarmes on the populations was at

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<sup>56</sup> *Idem*.

<sup>57</sup> *Idem*.

<sup>58</sup> V. Wanyaka, "Armée et sécurité en Afrique Centrale : 1990- 2005", *Istory, analele universitatii bucuresti*, 62, 2013, p. 11.

<sup>59</sup> Wanyaka, "Armée et sécurité...", p.11.

<sup>60</sup> Njitapon Issa, 61 years, Head of the village of Njitapon, Njitapon, 08<sup>th</sup> of July 2023.



times not encouraging and made in such a way that the finality of the civil-military actions be very difficult to be attend. This could simply be dew to the fact that in places where they cause un appreciated acts to the population, the civil population on their sight like was the case in the village of Njitapon found themselves not in a good disponibility to provide information to the Gendarmes permitting them to protect them selve in the zones of crises and also securing the civil population who they have to protect and also protect their goods and services. The actions registered the appreciations of the civil population.

### **3- The appreciation of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon by the civil population.**

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, one and the unique force of defense and security in Cameroon present in the entire of the territory of Cameroon. The Gendarmerie is having Brigades and posts of Gendarmerie in all the milieus and more than the other forces of defense and security of Cameroon. This shift toward the civil population gave her the opportunity to be the force of defense and security which can easily understand the problems of the civil population and understand all the difficulties the civil population of their areas of competences may be going through in a particular period. Led they be in the zones of crises or in the places where there are no manifestations of crises or wars. It is due to this existence closer to the population and the desire to provide thing that may solve temporal need of the population that they accept the Gendarmes and provide to them back information in other to succeed in their actions. Some civil populations manifest their appreciations to the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon.

Father Emmanuel the Bishop of Ngaoundere mentions that, I note the effective presence of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon in all the localities of the Adamawa region of Cameroon were he passes during his pastoral round movement of the diocese. The authorities of the Gendarmerie have in all the moments put forward the desire to preserve the security of the civil population. He forward that, at each and any time that the occasion was given to him to be with the elements of the National Gendarmerie, the authorities of this force of defense and security has always make sure to put an escort to his disposition because he had the attitude of travelling alone.<sup>61</sup> He have also observes that, at any moment of insecurity, the Gendarmes are always the first to arrive on the site. He shows his admirations for all what the Gendarmes does for the maximum benefit of the civil population in the social domain, the risks that they also

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<sup>61</sup> Njitapon Issa, 61 years, Head of the village of Njitapon, Njitapon, 08<sup>th</sup> of July 2023

take to enter in the dangerous operations like the running behind the grand armed robbers and terrorists<sup>62</sup>. He refuses the attitudes of some peoples who show their refuser to collaborate and provide information to the Gendarmes may be because they are afraid of the reprisals. It does not help the National Gendarmerie in her work and the accomplishment of their mission of the protection of persons and their properties.

The Bishop shows his satisfactions to the work of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon. Mr Zra Teri Fache, an economic and social promoter in Garoua revile that, sincerely, his good friends are Gendarmes. He shows an example the Commander of the Legion of the Gendarmerie of Garoua, and he indicates that the commander is a man who does his work<sup>63</sup>. He says that, the commander of the legion of the Gendarmerie of Garoua is well informed and when he is informed of a situation that the population are confronting he react immediately. He also indicated that, he was working with the Gendarmerie in the Zone of hunting that he mages since a longue period of time and the population accepts the friendship that exist between them and the National Gendarmerie. It is usually also due to what actions that they were doing for the maximum benefit of the population. They also play a vital role in the day to day life of the population and it existed a grand dynamism in the generation that was in the legion of the Gendarmerie of the northern region of Cameroon.

From the interventions of these people we could understand the position of the population as far as the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon was concern. These actions were only accepted in the society by the civil population and if we forward the reflections, we are to understand that, the appreciations of the civil-military actions of the National also differs in terms of the arguments that the population were giving considering the regions and the forms of the crises that was going on there. For the population of the south west and the south west of Cameroon, the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie was to be helpful and for the population if there were the total friendship with the Gendarmes. It was true that the finalities of the Civil-military actions were to create a grand friendship with the civil population in other to extract information from them in other to help in the advancement of the missions of the protection of people and their goods. But the evaluations that others could do was that, the civil-military actions of the Gendarmerie for example in the south west was not really objective as the goods such as food items and agricultural materials were at times not given but to the populations who were in the need of those goods but at times to the members of the Governments who were already having those

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<sup>62</sup> *Idem.*

<sup>63</sup> Etoga, "les Actions Civilo-Militaires...", p. 29.

items.<sup>64</sup> From here we can understand that, what was often qualify by civil-military actions by the National Gendarmerie was a mediatisation<sup>65</sup> of fact that was not the true in other to present the positive face of the National Gendarmerie which was the real reality of the field more especially on the zones of crises like is the case today in the southwest region of Cameroon. We understand the National Gendarmerie which is for the service of the populations but there exist some negative reports which usually come out on the name of the Gendarmes. This makes mentions of the fact that, they illegally shout on the civil population, they commit exaggerating actions on the civil populations. This makes that, the civil-military actions be appreciated negatively by the civil populations.

The appreciations of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie was also done by the populations of the village of Njitapon in the western region were the population played some matches with the Gendarmes who were there for the security against the secessionists that were traveling from the northwest to the western region. It was usually during these matches that the population were usually having some friendship with the Gendarmes and were opened to give to them some necessary information for their missions of the protection of people and their goods. For example, Soulemanou and Daouda who gave the same appreciations on the actions of the Gendarmes in Njitapon demonstrated that, the presence of the Gendarmes made in such way that, the curve of arm robbers be decent drastically in the village<sup>66</sup>. The two villagers also said that, the Gendarmes permitted them to play some matches of football with the youths of the village when they were in the good moods and after those matches they were going to the bars together and drinking then also they were having access to the post of the Gendarmerie that was put in place there<sup>67</sup>. This was also opening a space of discussion with the Gendarmes more especially when the last Lieutenant arrived on the land.

Lieutenant Prismo was also at times organizing discussions which were to make the villagers understand that, they are in the village to protect them and not fight against them. This kind of discussions which scientifically could enter in the basket of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie made in such a way that, the populations of the village debuted in a small motion to be adjacent to the Gendarmes, started passing information to the Gendarmes even as others were abusing because did not understood the missions of those Gendarmes that

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<sup>64</sup> Moloa Ani, 36 years, Trader, Buea, 08<sup>th</sup> of July 2023.

<sup>65</sup> The concept of mediatisation shows that the National Gendarmerie was not objective in the Civil military actions since the responsables of the force of defense and security were just organizing a symbolic activity but calling medias and also write in the journals and magazines to show that they were doing extraordinary actions on the field for the population while it was the contrary of what they were showing.

<sup>66</sup> Mpouamoun Philémon, 48 years, Native of Njitapon, Njitapon, 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

<sup>67</sup> Ayiwouogajou Abilou, 48 years, Native of Njitapon, Njitapon, 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

they were founding themselves instead going closer to the Gendarmes but with societal and marital problems and was making at times that the young Gendarmes found themselves going away of their propel missions in the Village and solving problems which they not there to solve them.

### **III- THE PERSPECTIVES FOR AN ADVANCED CIVIL-MILITARY ACTIONS OF THE NATIONAL GENDARMERIE OF CAMEROON.**

History is a social science that base on plurality of sources permit us to lean the pass, understand the present and project the future<sup>68</sup>. Writing military History in General and the History of the National Gendarmerie in particular in rendering accessible ancient facts of the Gendarmerie to the actual generation, softening the present facts of the body of defense and security for everybody to be at the same level of comprehension and proposing from the base of the experiences what should be done in other to have a better future of the body of defense and security which is the National Gendarmerie. the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, a French model of the Gendarmerie which has been in Cameroon since the colonial period has till today influence people to write grands pages of History due to her good organization and her performance in the zones of crises and zones where there is the absence of crises in Cameroon. This can be seen for instance with the adoption of the application of the civil-military actions which she copied from the *BIR* of Cameroon and apply them in the zones where the Gendarmes were existing in other to enlarges her acceptance by the civil population in the zones of crises especially.

According to some Gendarmes such as General Elokobi, Colonel Mevono, Colonel Abba Seidou and scientists such as Melanie Thonier, the Civil-military actions showed her importance in Cameroon after the 1990s with the arrival of new forms of crises that installed herself in the African societies in general and in Cameroon in particular. These new forms of crises which were characterizes as passing particularly in sight the nations and not again at the frontiers of the country. We were to quit from the simple protection of the territorial integrity from the oversight attacks to the fighting against the internal forms of crises like youth delinquencies, strikes, internal wars etc. all these problems were to be taken in to grand consideration by the forces of defense and security due to their position of those who have as a final finality of their activities which is the protection of people and their goods.

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<sup>68</sup> Onomo Etaba, *Precis de methodologie...*, p. 19.

The civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie here, took in to considerations the activities that the Gendarmes were doing for the maximum benefits of the civil population with the finality to creates a space of friendship between them, Gendarmes and the civil populations in other to succeed in the extractions of information susceptible for the advancement of their missions of the protections of people and their goods and services. These activities which makes a grand debate at the level of this research on the insufficiencies that has pushes us to think of the perspectives to think of the beater civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon.

### **1- The installation of a service and a special force in charge of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie.**

Since the Cameroonization of the National Gendarmerie<sup>69</sup>, Cameroon Government from that of the first president Ahmadou Ahidjo to the second who is Paul Biya has taken initiatives in other to render the institution powerful and capable the accomplishment of her missions. But since the 1990s, the country Cameroon is respiring the air of the wind of democracy that passes in the war and made in such a way that, crises be vagabonding in all the senses in the country till today. We can register for instance the political crises in the 1990s, the crises of famine in 2008, the war with Bokoharam in the northern regions of the country in 2014, the Anglophones crises of 2016, the political crises of 2018 which some of them which all debuted from 2014 upward has non truly arrives to an end. These crises are those focal points that has make in such a way that, the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon adopts the civil-military actions. The Head of the service of the employment and structure of the central administration of the National Gendarmerie declares that,

*Une Action Civilo-Militaires désigne selon l'ensemble d'actions à caractère sociale réalisées soit par les forces des défenses au profit des populations. Il convient de la distinguer d'une action humanitaire qui bien qu'ayant la même finalité que l'action civilo-militaires à savoir l'altruisme, est conduite par l'autre catégorie d'acteurs indépendants et ne s'effectue que dans des situations des crises ou des conflits<sup>70</sup>.*

From this definition of the civil-military actions proposed by commander head of service of employment and structure, we can understand were the actions are taking place. But, the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon have some programs which makes in such a way that,

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<sup>69</sup>The Cameroonization of the National Gendarmerie makes mention of the period after the independence of Cameroon when the defense and security forces in General and the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon was totally caped in the hands of Cameroonians. At this main period, the grand personalities of this force of defense and security were particularly black Cameroonians and differ from the old case were by they were maximally French white men.

<sup>70</sup> Nnang Nkoto Junior, 49 years, Head of Squadron at the Gendarmerie, Head of the Service Employment and structure (SES), Yaounde, March and april 2023.

these actions be carried away from the zones of crises to the zones which are characterizes as those where there is no existence of the crises. An example can be with the actions of the National Gendarmerie in Kyossi where they organize educative discussions with the civil populations of the emblems of the nation, the missions of the National Gendarmerie and the qualities of the good citizens on the 15of may 2022<sup>71</sup>, the same activities with students in the schools in the same town on the 16<sup>th</sup> of May 2023<sup>72</sup>, the campaigned of sensitization on the health organized in Yaoundé by the National Gendarmerie on the 27 of September 2019 in Yaounde<sup>73</sup>.

So, these actions are under the initiatives that the Gendarmerie usually takes in other to come for help to the population which they think to be the owners of information which can help them and who are also in a total incapacity to advance due to the negativities of the crises that is usually in the theatre between the Gendarmes and the insurgents. Then, they go closer them to help them in other to creates the atmosphere of friendship with them and extract information susceptible for the fulfilment of their missions of the protections of people and their goods. The Gendarmerie of Cameroon is full in these actions but some observations of the student in History makes in such a way that propositions be done for a better civil-military action in Cameroon notably on firstly the in The installation of a service of Civil-Military Actions in the administration of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon.

The National Gendarmerie of Cameroon should put in the central administration a grand service specifically for the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie. This service which is demanded here will be having different missions from that of the existing services of the National Gendarmerie. True that there is a service in the National Gendarmerie which from the sound, one can think that it is the demanded service here. That is, the service of civic actions. This service is all note totally helpful in the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie. according to the article 88 of the arrete of 2004<sup>74</sup>,

*Le service défense et action civique est chargé : de tous les problèmes relatifs à la participation de la Gendarmerie Nationale a la défense nationale en liaison avec les services intéressés du ministère de la défense et des autres administrations.*

From this definition of the service of civic actions, we can see that it is not basically for the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie. It is instead more concentrated on the behalf of the defense services of the militaries and the camps of the militaries. This

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<sup>71</sup> Amougou Ba'ana isabelle, Captain at the Gendarmerie, Head of Service of Defense and Civic Actions, Yaounde, 13june 2023.

<sup>72</sup> Njock Sielye Achile Junor , 38 years, Adjudant of the Gendarlmerie, Journalist, Yaounde, Mai 2023

<sup>73</sup> ANG,274, fiche d'identification, 2019.

<sup>74</sup> ANG, arrêté n°102-CAB-PR du 23mars 2004, du service défense et de l'action civique, p. 11.

administrative document still continues with the explanations of the work of the head of the service of Civic actions. it presents that,

*À ce titre, le chef de service de défense et action civique : prépare la participation de la Gendarmerie Nationale a la défense opérationnelle du territoire, il participe à l'élaboration des plans de défense et de protection, suit l'exécution par la Gendarmerie nationale des missions de défense, traite tous les problèmes relatifs à la surveillance et à la protection des points sensibles, veille à la tenue et à la mise ajours des dossiers territoriaux, et en fin, prépare la participation de la Gendarmerie à la mobilisation*<sup>75</sup>.

From the work that the head of this service have to performs, we are not going through any point which is making him to be principally on the field of the Civic actions of the National Gendarmerie. The service content tow offices which are the office of the defense and the office of mobilization and civic actions. It is the office of mobilization and civic actions that have the last responsibility which is the National Gendarmerie to the sensitization of the population of the problems of defense and the psychological actions<sup>76</sup>. This office is practically in charge of the studies relative to the problems of mobilization and civic actions.

From the above analyses, we can understand that, this service is not practically and uniquely for the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie. The service also lacks some points of interventions in the theatres of operations adjacent to the incapable populations who are in need of the actions in other to advance in their life. It has since about three years today focalises it activities in the southern regions and in the center region of Cameroon while the most needed regions could be regions like the northern regions, the eastern regions, the north west region, the south west region and the western region which is living the crises that is going on in other regions due to the fact of it limitation with the regions of the north west region.

Apart from the service of the defense and civic actions, there is also the service of domain and infrastructures.<sup>77</sup> This service has two offices which are the office of the domain and the office of infrastructures. This service is also practically dealing with the construction of the infrastructures of the National Gendarmerie. They are note for the construction of the houses for the conservation of the populations coming from the zones of crises. Making it difficult to see their activities as principally in the civil-military actions. There are also other services in the central administration of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon but these two are those that pracmaticaly present the activities that may push us to check the civil-military actions apart from the service of Employment and structures.

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<sup>75</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>76</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 13.

<sup>77</sup> ANG, décret, 25jullet 2001, décret n°2001/181 portant organisation de la Gendarmerie Nationale, p. 9.

the proposition of the service of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie as the service according to this scientific work can be having main service in the central administration of the National Gendarmerie but having its representations in the regions and legions of the National Gendarmerie in all the regions of the country. The service which can be under a head of service, officer of the National Gendarmerie can be having the offices depending on the activities that the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie characterises.

These activities can be in the educative domain, the head domain, the social domain such as the distribution of food items to the population in the zones of crises and zones of calamities, the digging of drinking water, the health domain, the organization of conferences away from the military milieus which can help to the coming together of the civil population with the Gendarmes. In fact, this service will be the one in charge of understanding the problem the populations of a particular geographical area are facing and taking dispositions to eradicate it making in such a way that, the National Gendarmerie which is already going closer to the population should be accepted and take the place that occupies the terrorists at some times in some places.

The service in the central administration of the National Gendarmerie can be also have the responsibility of the communication of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie. This is because, so many civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie are not known by the civil population. We can take for example the existence of a military hospital in the central administration of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon which makes some civil-military actions to the populations found in the center region of Cameroon such as taking care of this population at a reduced price, organizing the campaigns of vaccinations, and other activities that the civil populations that are in the region and even well adjacent to the Gendarmerie military Hospital are not informed.<sup>78</sup> There are also educative activities and even sport activities that this service in charge of the civil-military actions could take the responsibility of informing the population even by means like the medias, the tracts and even via the magazine to the service of communication.

The service will help in the organization of the civil-military actions and permits the understanding of the actions to the population and avoids the system of non-organized civil-

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<sup>78</sup> Ngambalet Annie, 52 years, Medicine colonel at the National Gendarmerie, Head of Health service of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 07<sup>th</sup> June 2023.



military actions that is existing in the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon<sup>79</sup>. This disorder of the activities of the civil-military actions can only be organized sweetably if there is a service that is in charge of it. Also, the service of civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie will be in the Central administration of the National Gendarmerie and there can be the other offices in the military regions and the legions of the gendarmerie of Cameroon (the territorial services)<sup>80</sup>. This will permit the pertinent successes of the activities as the Gendarmerie is represented in the entire territory led it be in the rural or in the urban area of the country and qualify as the force of defense and security which is more closser to the populations<sup>81</sup> and well placed to understand the difficulties that the population of a particular locality in the country may be going through in a particular period.

More so, the proposing service in the central administration of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon will be in charge of the putting in place of the mechanisms of continuities of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie. This is due to the actual reality of the field which is based on the fact that, the actions of the International Organizations on the theatre of crises makes that, the civil population minimizes the symbolic actions of the National Gendarmerie. In other to complete this actions with an importance even in the face of the population, we have to pass through the policies establish by the service that is in charge of the civil-military actions. So, the necessity of the service of the civil-military actions in the central administration of the National Gendarmerie in Yaounde physical. And it will bring the politic of the practicing of the actions that the international Organizations are doing on the theatre of wars and crises and also attract the attention of the civil population then it will help in the creation of friendship with the civil population and then permits the Gendarme to extract information from them sustainable for the accomplishment of their mission of the protection of people and their goods.

The second sight of this point is the putting in place of a special force in the National Gendarmerie specifically in charge of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie. This force which can be called *GACM/GN (Groupement des Actions Civilo-Militaires de La Gendarmerie Nationale)*. This will be from the successful model presented by Melanie

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<sup>79</sup> When indicating the non-organization of the civil military actions of the National Gendarmerie, we are making mentions of the fact that, the differents services are doing civil military actions on the field if operations and also on the milieus of no crises in a dispersing manner. That is, any one not taking in to considerations the actions of the other service in the same institution.

<sup>80</sup> Ndam Abdou Ramani, 33 years, Lieutenant at the Gendarmerie, Head of the office of Structure at the central administration of the Gendarmerie Younde, 12<sup>th</sup> march 2023.

<sup>81</sup> Kotoko, *La défense populaire...*, p.31.

Thonier. She demonstrates a kind of force put in place in the theatre of operations notably by the French army for the zones of crises. So she indicated that,

*La complexification des conflits, leurs privatisations, la multiplication des acteurs civils et l'enjeu difficile des sorties des crises ont imposé de concevoir l'engagement militaires dans un environnement multiple. Des équipes appartiennent au Groupement Inter Armée des Actions Civilo-Militaires (GIACM) ont désormais projeté aux coté des unités françaises pour contribuer à la coopération avec l'environnement civil de la force<sup>82</sup>.*

This force was implanted and experimented by the France in the Ivory Coast during the period of crises. The ancient head of the team of *Groupement inter-armée des actions civilo-militaires (GIACM) in Ivory Coast* shows their captivating actions on the theatre when she indicated that,

*Actuellement en côte d'ivoire, le GIACM déploie une chaine composée d'un chef, d'un officier synthèse et de cinq équipes de trois personnes réparties dans les groupes tactiques inter armées. Le GIACM consiste à réaliser des projets à destination des secteurs civils. Pour faciliter une perception favorable des marsouins (appellation désignant les soldats des troupes de l'infanterie des marines) par la population civile. Nous avons ainsi réparé les pompes à eau, rénové une maternité, fourni du mobilier scolaire, participer à la construction des ponts et réalisé des dons divers<sup>83</sup>*

This propels explanations makes us to see possible the putting in place of a special group of force in the Gendarmerie which respond to the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon.

## **2- The training of the actors and the pluralization of Civil-military Actions of the Gendarmerie.**

The Gendarmerie has to multiply the domains of Civil-Military Actions through the diversification of their Activities of cohesions which can contributes advantageously to the rapprochement of the National Gendarmerie to the Civil-Population and also accentuate the perfection of the Gendarmes for these activities.

An element of this sense was advanced by the Brigadier General Elokobi Daniel. He who announced that,

Taking in to considerations the actions that we have already done on all our fronts and even in all theatres of operations, we are envisaging inflate the actions with the civil populations more precisely through the diversification of other activities cohesions which can help advantageously to bring the Gendarmes closer to the population and consequently permitting the easiness of requirement of information<sup>84</sup>.

This intervention comes to show the initiative that the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon have to make show in other to concretize due to its importance. This multiplication of the activities of civil-military actions was supported also in one of the important articles of

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<sup>82</sup>M. Thonier, “ les actions Civilo-Militaires : Une finalité opérationnelle “, *cairn. Info, Edition Armée de terre*, n°05, 2007, p. 77

<sup>83</sup>*Ibid.*, p. 28.

<sup>84</sup> Elokobi Njock Danial, 67 years, Brigadier General at the National Gendarmerie, Director of the Central coordination to the Central administration of the National Gendarmerie, Yaounde, 27 june 2023.

the ministry of defense by one of the grand officers of the arm forces of the country when he indicated that,

Same as the actions rooting from the military and security response, it is also important to re enforce the civil-military solutions. In an asymmetric war, the objective of the forces of the defense and security is to wind the war during the exercise. So, it is then reasonably for the force of defense and security to create good conditions for the deployment of the other responses which can be political, economic, social and cultural. Which have the objectives to attack the non-satisfactions satisfactions of the civil populations which the insurgents are capitalizing<sup>85</sup>.

These interventions of the responsible of the National Gendarmerie such as General Elokobi Njock Daniel and commander Nna NKoto Junior motivate us to show other points such as, the National Gendarmerie should organize conferences in the milieus of students. These conferences will be the means to pass the programs and projects of the National Gendarmerie to the civil population and making in such a way that the civil population will cultivate a grand love for the body of defense and security.

The National Gendarmerie on the other way have to train the Gendarmes for the civil-military actions. This training can go through the full training period in theoretical phase and also in the periodical trainings that the body of defense and security usually organizes. This will permit a good comprehension of the change of the form of the war by other militaries and make them acquire good notions in other to solve the kind of problems that arrived in Njitapon in the western region of Cameroon. Also, the accentuation of the mental training of the Gendarmes will help to render permanent the civil-military actions since one does and repeat but what he knows, so the accentuation on the training will make that the Gendarmes be qualifies. This will help in the good practice of the actions and also on the permanent motion as indicated Captain Note Ntako that, the civil-military actions be permanent<sup>86</sup>.

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<sup>85</sup> S.S. Ndutumu “ région du Nord-ouest et du Sud-ouest : consolidation de la situation sécuritaire”, *Honneur et fidélité*, mai 2023, p. 87.

<sup>86</sup> Note Ntako Desiré, 45 years, Captain at the National Gendarmerie, Head of office Defense Action of the Gendarmerie, Younde, 09june 2023.

### **3- The Provision of the possible finance for the fulfillment of the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie by the Government**

The civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon can be evaluated here taking in to considerations the conjuncture of the crises that the National Gendarmerie is highly experiencing due to her presence closer to the civil population in all the milieus of the territory. This specific period which usually segment the Geo-strategical realities of the National Gendarmerie in to zones of crises and zones of non-crises making that there should be measures to stop crises and in other hand, some measures to avoid the expansion of the crises from the zones of crises to the other zones which are not usually dangerous, pushes this body of defense and security in to the un estimated financial spending.

Since all the initiatives taken on the theatres of wars and crises needs a lot of finance, the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie which is highly extracting fond is one of those initiatives but very important for the Gendarmerie in all the senses. This makes us to accept the propositions of those who thinks that, in other to ameliorate this activity, the Government have to review up words the budget of the National Gendarmerie. The increase of the budget of the National Gendarmerie will help to have the sufficient finance to keep a sight a specific finance for the activities of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon.

The fond for the civil-military activities of the National Gendarmerie will at the first position helps in the intensification of the activities. This will be to go in a high percentage of the provision of those things that comports the civil-military actions. These are like for example what was done for the population on the field like,

*Dans le cadre des actions civilo-militaires, le 21mars 2021 vers 11 heures, les Gendarmes ont livré un match de football contre l'équipe vétéran de Manfé (Friends of friends) constituée majoritairement des transporteurs, ce match a suscité un climat d'amicalité et le préfet de Manyu a salué l'initiative et encouragé les populations présentes à soutenir la Gendarmerie nationale car, ils sont là pour leurs protections. Et le 23 janvier 2023, le Colonel commandant de la Légion de Gendarmerie du Sud- Ouest a procédé à la remise des tables bancs offert par le SED/CGN dans les écoles et collèges dans la ville de manfé dans le cadre des ACM<sup>87</sup>.*

It is true that these were note the only ones but there were some actions like sensitizations of the civil population like was done by the Gendarmerie in collaboration with the personnel of the BIR in Kumba on the 23th of june 2023<sup>88</sup>. There are also some actions which Captain Amougou Ba'ana Isabelle, Head of the service SEDAC of the central

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<sup>87</sup>Nguele Joseph, 48 years, Lieutenant Colonel at the Gendarmerie, Commander in Second of the legion of Gendarmerie of the Southwest region of Cameroon, Buea, 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023

<sup>88</sup> *Idem*.

administration of National Gendarmerie of Cameroon has coordinate some activities of the civil-military actions in the country. But there is a grand insufficiency of these activities on the field precisely due to the lack of finance to invest on the activities that goes for the maximum benefit of the civil population.

In the same motion of the demand to the Government to render advance the budget of the National Gendarmerie encouraging her to increase in the activities of civil-military action, this work see positive the need of a juridical test obliging the Gendarmes to do the civil-military actions. The civil-military actions don in Cameroon is not really an automatic situation. This is because those who carry the responsibility of the management of the body of defense and security have no document which can be a decree, a law or an order signed by the head of state which force them to carry a civil-military action on the theatre of crises. It also makes that, they do not force the demand for the finance of those activities and we are going to observe on the field that, the civil-military actions on the field of operations will be the humanitarian voluntary of the commanders of some territorial representations of the National Gendarmerie. This can be justified by the intervention of the commander in second of Bamenda who made us to understand that, "it is with the humanitarian sense of the colonel commander of the legion of Gendarmerie of Bamenda that some activities of civil-military actions are taken in the region of the North west by the National Gendarmerie". The second option is that of the civil-military action as it applies on the field is the voluntary of the politic. We are going to see that the high actions carry on the field is finance by the politic and the Gendarmerie uniquely receive the goods that have to be distributed to the civil population in nature. For example, the benches distributed in Manfe to the primary and secondary schools were given by the SED/CGN who is the patron of the body of defense and security which is not mentioned there is a test that forces him to do so in a permanent manner even as the initiative admirable.

## GENERAL CONCLUSION

This work on the Civil-military Actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon seeks to explore the contribution of these actions in the achievement of the main mission of the National Gendarmerie to her main mission; that of protection of people, their goods and services. It also studies the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon in the zones of crises and zones of non-crises, how it helps in the collection of information from the civilian population. From this base, there is the necessity of founding scientific reflections focus on methodology which is that of all Historians. That is, the Hypothetico-deductive method. The capitalisation of useful contributions of other disciplines in this scientific work such as Sociology, Anthropology, Philosophy, Geography, political Science helped us in the localization of the different zones qualify as those of crises in Cameroon since the 1990s till today. From this, we demonstrated the foundation of the Civil-military action, its origins in Cameroon, different civil-military actions that existed in the country, its manifestations and utility to the Gendarmes of Cameroon and the Civilian population.

To arrive at the points stated above, interests was accorded to documentations such archival material, scientific articles, the reports of international organizations, text books, dissertations and thesis defended in the Universities in Cameroon and other countries. To bounds this piece of historical evidence together, we made use of the theories of functionalism and interactionism

Civil-military actions include all actions carried out by the militaries in theatre of operations for the benefit of the civilian populations. Taking into consideration the initiatives carried out in the field of operation in non-conflict zones, we assert that manifestations of civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie are not limited to the conflict zones or to periods of conflicts alone. We largely agree with those who say there are the manifestations civil-military actions in zone conflict zones. In this regard, this thesis highlights the activities done in the southern region since 2019 notably in Kye-Ossi in terms of sensitisation, the efforts of the Gendarmerie in the centre region of Cameroon with the sensitization, the Effort in the Military Hospital of the National Gendarmerie. It is important to recall that, the civil-military actions transferred in Africa by Europeans was not to help the Africans but to proceed in the perspective of neo-colonialism. The version that is implemented by the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon has been adapted to sweet our local realities. This explains why the civil-military

actions of the National Gendarmerie have some particularities due to the proper realities of the body of defense and security (the Pandoras), and the realities of the Cameroon.

To better accomplish her missions, the National Gendarmerie put an emphasis on civil-military Action in order to be police of proximity and accomplish her mission of the protection of the citizens of the country and their goods. This hypothesis which could find its place in the extremely wealthy thought of the theories of functionalism and interactionism. Taking into consideration the functions of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie in the zones of crises and even in those of non-crises, the interactionism equally shows the inter contributions of the Gendarmes and the Civilian population in order to advance before, during and after the crises. We can still understand that, it was the desire of the National Gendarmerie to go closer to the population and the acceptance of the population to work together with the Gendarmes more especially in the zones of crises that they succeed in the final mission of the protection of people and their goods.

Another benefit of this work is the fact that, the Civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie is characterized by some irrefutable limitations which are of politico-administrative and social origins. We notice that, civil-military actions fail at times because of administrative procedures, the limitations of officials of territorial administrations of the national Gendarmerie of Cameroon to take decisions. Social limitations are due to the fact that; the population are blocked in their old perceptions of the military Gendarmes. This is through the traces that colonial Gendarmes left in the mind of the civilian population<sup>1</sup>. The civilian population on the other hand with the difficult confrontations that they are passing through the hands of the Gendarmes which also shows the confusion of the National Gendarmerie to adapt herself on the actual society which is no more under colonization and which can no longer accept the reprisals that took place during in the period of the colonial Gendarmerie. The Gendarmes have to forget their extreme torturing method and create an atmosphere of dialogue with the civilian population in order to permit them to collect confidential information from the civilian population in the pursuit of their missions of protection of persons and their properties.

The first lesson from this work is that in order to improve on the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, we have to revisit the origin of the concept. This concept that the pandoras applies in their military doctrine was an English concept which was adopted by the French since the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon is originated from the French Gendarmerie. Then, it borrowed that concept and applied in the country.

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<sup>1</sup> Nkeh, "Police and Gendarmerie...", p.173.

Civil-Military Actions of the National Gendarmerie are always observed in the zones of Crises and the periods of Crises such as from the Year 1990, 2008, 2014 with the Boko Haram in the North Cameroon, 2016 till today in the North West and South West of Cameroon. This conception of the Civil-Military Actions came from Europe was intended to manipulate the military who were under the neo colonial Government to work for the perpetuation of some countries of the world under European control. This conflicting situation is endless in countries like Afghanistan, which is an Arabic country<sup>2</sup>, Central Africa Republic and Ivory Coast which are African countries. But they only limited themselves through the declaration and the generalisation of these countries as “zones” of crises forgetting the fact that, other zones could be neutral in those countries.

In Cameroon, conflict zones include Littoral, the Eastern, the Northern, south west and the North West regions of Cameroon. Then, the National Gendarmerie as the branch of Armed forces enjoying greater proximity with the population to identify the difficulties of the population and bring help to them with the principal reasons of obtaining information from civilian population<sup>3</sup>. Then the influence of these crises on the other zones and the possibility of the birth of other forms of crises make that the National Gendarmerie to apply the civil-military actions in the other regions of the country which are considered non conflict zones.

Secondly, we observe that, the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon has stayed very classical and basic. The civil-military actions done by the National Gendarmerie to the civil population of Cameroon let it be in the zones of crises or in the zones of no crises has still respect the point of the Gendarmes teaching in the schools in the zones where there is absence of teachers due to wars like is the case in some parts of the northern region, the south west and North west regions of Cameroon today<sup>4</sup>, the provision of drinking water to the civil population, the sensitization of the civilian populations more especially the youths<sup>5</sup>.

There were also some ways like the provision of medical facilities to the civilian populations, the organization of football matches between the personnel of the National Gendarmerie and the civil populations in the zones of crises and of no crises<sup>6</sup>. These actions are those that shows the interactions that exist between the Civilian population and the National

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<sup>2</sup> M. Motte, G.H. Soutou et all, *La mesure de la Force...*, p. 51.

<sup>3</sup> J.P. Meloupou, *Armée et développement...*, p. 47.

<sup>4</sup> Ndam Abdou Ramani, 33 years, Lieutenant at the Gendarmerie and Head of Office of Structure at Central administration of the National Gendarmerie, Yaoundé, March to April 2023.

<sup>5</sup> Amougou Ba'ana, 35 years, Captain at the Gendarmerie, Head of service of the Civic Actions at the central Administration of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon, Yaoundé, 13-06-2023.

<sup>6</sup> Nguele Jonas, 48 years, Lieutenant-Colonel at the Gendarmerie and Commander in second of the Legion of the Gendarmerie of the south West Region of Cameroon, Buea, the 07<sup>th</sup> of July 2023.



Gendarmerie of Cameroon and which add to the National Gendarmerie the function of the force of defense and security which have the responsibility of social activities in the country.

Then, the actions of the National Gendarmerie were also supposed to bypass this classical stage and integrate some innovative approaches which could continuous to the same incontestable objective of the rapprochement of the Civilian population in order to collect information when the need present itself.

Studying the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie is not a desire to put the base of any kind of subjectivity. But instead, we want to show how the civil-military actions help the body of defense and security in the use of her proximity of the civilian population to collect information susceptible to help on the fulfilment of their final aims. It is in this sense, that we thought it better to propose some objective ideas for the advancement and the amelioration of civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie in Cameroon. The following points will be elucidated below.

Firstly, we propose the putting in place of a group of Gendarmerie which we have called the Group of Civil-military Actions of the National Gendarmerie (GIACM/ GN). This group will be in charge of the realisation of projects intended for the civilian population. This will lead to cross all front be in the zones of crises or non-crisis, the favourable perception of the Gendarmes by the civilian population. This group of the National Gendarmerie should be represented in the legions, and the companies of the gendarmerie. It will permit a good proximity with the civilian population.

Secondly, we demand the integration of the Civil-Military Actions in the module of studies and training schools of the Gendarmes, the organisations of seminars and conferences without forgetting sensitisation meetings which can help refreshment of the consciences of the uniform men on the importance of the civil-military actions of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon.

Multiplication of partnership more especially with countries like Russia, United States of America, China so as to have a way of solving the problems of financial and logistic problems in the realisation of these importance activities of the Pandoras of Cameroon.

Density of methods of information to the civil populations as far as the services provided by the Gendarmerie is concern. This will help the civilian population are ignorant of the activities that the Pandoras organises for their benefits. This can be done with actions like the organisation of conferences in the universities of Cameroon which qualifies as milieus of youths, the permanent organisation of gates of the gendarmerie to the civilians for them to know at which extent they have profitability when adjacent to the Gendarmerie.

**APPENDIX**

## **1 : Questionnaire**

Ce questionnaire est un guide élaboré dans le cadre d'une recherche académique portant sur le thème (La Gendarmerie Nationale et les Actions Civilo-Militaires de 1990 à nos jours).

NB : les informations requises lors de l'entretien sont confidentielles et ne seront utilisées que dans le cadre de cette recherche


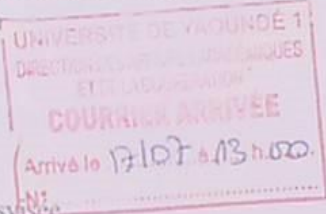
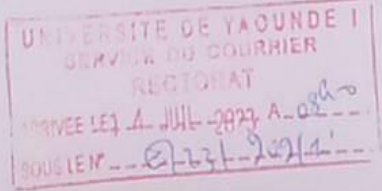

### **I. Présentation du répondent**

1. Nom et Prénom :
2. Grade :
3. Âge :
4. Lieu de service :
5. Ancienneté au poste :

### **II. Connaissance sur les ACM de la Gendarmerie Nationale**

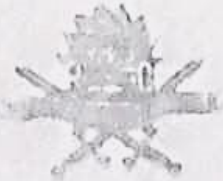
1. Qu'entendez-vous par action Civilo-militaire ?
2. La Gendarmerie Nationale a-t-elle nécessairement besoin de mener les Actions Civilo-Militaires pour accomplir ses missions ?
3. Les Actions Civilo-Militaires menées par la Gendarmerie ces dernières décennies couvrent essentiellement les domaines éducatifs (don des tables bancs et du matériel didactique) et social (distribution des denrées alimentaires, prise en charge des populations vulnérables notamment des réfugiés internes). Ces domaines sont-ils les seuls ? si non, quels sont d'autres types d'actions Civilo-Militaires menées par la Gendarmeries ?
4. Peut-on dire que les Actions Civilo-Militaires de la Gendarmerie concourent à l'efficacité de ses missions de protection des personnes et de leurs biens ? si oui, peut\*-on l'illustrer par des exemples ?
5. Quels sont d'après vous les limites des Actions Civilo-Militaires de la Gendarmerie ?
6. Quelle proposition pouvez-vous faire pour l'amélioration des Actions Civilo-Militaires den la Gendarmerie Nationales ?

## 2 : Autorisation d'entretien avec certains Commandants de Formation

<p>REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN PAIX-TRAVAIL-PATRIE</p> <p>MINISTERE DE LA DEFENSE</p> <p>GENDARMERIE NATIONALE</p> <p>Yaoundé le <u>04 JUL 2023</u></p>		<p>REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON PEACE-WORK-FATHERLAND</p> <p>MINISTRY OF DEFENCE</p> <p>NATIONAL GENDARMERIE</p> <p>N° <u>232220</u> /LE/GN/243</p>
<p><i>14/07/2023</i> <i>DAAC</i> <i>Acteur</i> <i>H</i></p>	<p>Le Secrétaire d'Etat auprès du Ministre de la Défense, chargé de la Gendarmerie Nationale</p> <p><i>DRD/SR</i> <i>18/07/2023</i> <i>DAAC</i>      A</p> <p>Monsieur le Recteur de l'Université de Yaoundé I -YAOUNDE-</p>	
<p><b>Objet :</b> Autorisation d'entretien avec certains Commandants de Formation.</p>		
<p><b>Référence :</b> Lettre du 28 juin 2023 de M NJIKAM Mohamed.</p>		
		
<p>Monsieur le Recteur,</p> <p>En accusant réception de la correspondance susvisée,</p> <p>J'ai l'honneur d'autoriser Monsieur NJIKAM Mohamed (Tél : 659 492 362), étudiant en Histoire, option histoire économique et sociale à l'Université de Yaoundé I, matricule 181538, à avoir des entretiens avec les Commandants des Légions de Gendarmerie du Littoral, du Sud-Ouest et du Nord-ouest, dans le cadre de ses travaux de recherche sur le thème : « La Gendarmerie Nationale et les Actions Civilo-Militaires ».</p> <p>Au regard de la sensibilité des documents et informations dont il pourrait avoir connaissance, il sera astreint à l'obligation de réserve.</p> <p>Vous voudrez bien par conséquent, l'inviter à prendre l'attache des Responsables suscités, pour les modalités pratiques.</p> <p>Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Recteur, l'expression de ma considération distinguée. /-</p>		
<p><b>Copies :</b> -COLEGION LITTORAL ; -COLEGION SUD-OUEST ; -COLEGION NORD-OUEST.</p>		
		<p><b>GALAX ETOGA</b></p>

3 : Autorisation de stage au sein de la Gendarmerie Nationale

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN  
 MINISTERE DE LA DEFENSE  
 GENDARMERIE NATIONALE  
 17 FEB 2023



MINISTRE DE LA DEFENSE  
 GENDARMERIE NATIONALE  
 N° 230629

Le Secrétaire d'Etat auprès du Ministre de la  
 Défense chargé de la Gendarmerie Nationale.

A  
 Monsieur le Recteur de l'Université de Yaoundé I  
 A - Yaoundé -

Objet : Autorisation de stage académique au sein de la Gendarmerie Nationale.

Référence : Lettre S/N en date du 09 février 2023

Monsieur le Recteur,

Faisant suite à la correspondance de référence relative à l'objet susvisé,

J'ai l'honneur d'autoriser Monsieur NIKAM Mohamed, matricule 181538, étudiant en 3<sup>ème</sup> année option histoire économique et sociale à l'Université de Yaoundé I, à effectuer un stage à titre d'élève de trois mois au sein de la Gendarmerie Nationale.

Son stage au sein du Corps, qui concerne uniquement la collecte des données en vue de la rédaction de son mémoire académique sur le thème « La Gendarmerie Nationale et les Actions Civilo-militaires », sera subdivisé comme suit :

- du 15 mars au 15 avril 2023 à la Direction de l'Emploi et des Structures ;
- du 16 avril au 31 mai 2023 à la Division des Affaires Générales.

L'intéressé devra bien prendre l'attache des responsables de ces structures, pour les orientations nécessaires. Par ailleurs, il sera astreint au devoir de réserve relativement à toutes les informations portées à sa connaissance durant cette période.


Meilleure réception, Monsieur le Recteur, l'assurance de ma considération distinguée.

Copies (DE) (SUIVI) :

1 - Direction

1 - Division

(P1)



CALAX ETOGA

## 6 : Fiche d'identification pour la campagne de sensibilisation sanitaire

PRESIDENCE DE LA REPUBLIQUE  
 MINISTERE DE LA DEFENSE  
 GENDARMERIE NATIONALE  
 SERVICE DE SANTE GENDARMERIE  
 CENTRE MEDICAL DU GE1

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN  
 PAIX - TRAVAIL - PATRIE

274

FICHE D'IDENTIFICATION

- NOM ET PRENOM : ~~.....~~ / M
- DATE DE NAISSANCE : 06 / 01 / 1984
- LIEU DE NAISSANCE : NDOUNGUE (NKONGSAMBA)
- SEXE : M
- PROFESSION : ENSEIGNANT
- QUARTIER : NGIDA - EKELE
- TELEPHONE : ~~.....~~ 15 ~~.....~~ 33

PRESSION ARTERIELLE.

➤ BRAS GAUCHE : 123 / 86 ..... mm/hg 84 Puls

➤ BRAS DROIT : 122 / 83 ..... mm/hg

puls 104 Kgs.

PI = 77 puls/min

PRESIDENCE DE LA REPUBLIQUE  
 MINISTERE DE LA DEFENSE  
 GENDARMERIE NATIONALE  
 SERVICE DE SANTE GENDARMERIE  
 CENTRE MEDICAL DU GE1

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN  
 PAIX-TRAVAIL-PATRIE

EXAMEN D'URINE

274

NOMS ET PRENOMS :

AGE : 35 ans SEXE : M Poids : Tél :

Examens demandés le par

N°	DESIGNATION	RESULTATS
01	• Leucocytes	/
02	• Nitrite	/
03	• Urobilinogène	/
04	• Protéines	/
05	• PH	5
06	• Sang	/
07	• Densité	1,030
08	• Cétones	/
09	• Bilirubine	/
10	• Glucose	/
11	• Acide Ascorbique	/

Fait à Yaoundé, le

7 SEP 2019,

LE TECHNICIEN

*[Signature]*  
 [Stamp]

PRESIDENCE DE LA REPUBLIQUE  
 MINISTERE DE LA DEFENSE  
 GENDARMERIE NATIONALE  
 SERVICE DE SANTE GENDARMERIE  
 CENTRE MEDICAL DU GE1



## BULLETIN D'EXAMENS

NOMS ET PRENOMS :

AGE : 35 ans SEXE : M Poids : Tél :

Examens demandés le , par :

EXAMENS DEMANDES	RESULTATS
➤ AgHBs.	NEGATIF
➤ AcHVC.	NEGATIF
➤ VIH.	NEGATIF
➤ GLYCEMIE.	( à faire à je )

27 SEP 2019

A Yaoundé, le

*Emmanuel Belland*  
 Medecin Chef CMM GE N°1

LE TECHNICIEN

*[Signature]*



## SOURCES AND BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

### I. SOURCES

#### 1. Oral Sources

N°	Name	Age	Quality	Place	Date
1.	Abba seidou	49 years	Lieutenant colonel at the gendarmerie, commander in second of the legion of the gendarmerie of north west region	Bamend a	11 <sup>th</sup> july 2023
2.	Amougou Ba'ana Isabelle	35 years	Captain at the gendarmerie, head of service of defense and civic actions	Yaounde	13 <sup>th</sup> to 17 <sup>th</sup> June- 2023
3.	Anonymous	/	Beneficiary of the service	Yaoundé	28 march 2023
4.	Anonymous	/	/	Bamend a	12 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
5.	Asse Bisse Marie France	33 years	Captain at the gendarmerie, head of the activities of communication at the gendarmerie	Yaounde	26 <sup>th</sup> mai- 2023
6.	Ayiwouogajou Abilou	48 years	Native of Njitapon village	Njitapon	19 <sup>th</sup> july 2023
7.	Bialo Dieudonne		Lieutenant colonel at the national gendarmerie, head of the central service of judiciary research of the national gendarmerie	Yaounde	29 <sup>th</sup> june 2023
8.	Cheudjou Hos Yanick Samuel	29 years	Gendarme, head of secretary of the Medical Military center of the Gendamerie	Yaoundé	31 <sup>th</sup> mai- 2023
9.	Dijo Baikol Rosine	30 years	Head of Marchals at the Gendarmerie, Head the service of medical Radiology in the medical center of the Gendarmerie	Yaounde	30 <sup>th</sup> mai- 2023
10.	Djounang Kamdoun Patrick	40 years	Head of squadron at the Gendarmerie, head of the administrative and financial affairs of the central service of the gendarmerie	Yaounde	16 <sup>th</sup> june 2023
11.	Eduh Edward	41 years	Taxi man	Bamend a	10 <sup>th</sup> july 2023
12.	Egamba Eba'a	36 years	Head of squadron at the gendarmerie, head of service of instruction of the central administration of the national gendarmerie	Yaounde	22 <sup>nd</sup> june 2023
13.	Ekobo Bamou Nana	27 years	Lieutenant et he gendarmerie, head of the office of civic actions of the national gendarmerie	Yaounde	06 <sup>th</sup> June 2023

14.	Elobdom Abel	46 years	Adjudand choef et th gendarmerie, worker at the defense and civic actions service	Yaounde	06 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
15.	Elokobi Daniel Njock	67 years	Brigadier general, director of the central coordination of the national gendarmerie.	Yaounde	27 <sup>th</sup> june 2023
16.	Emmanuel Koutchou	48 years	Trader	Douala	6 <sup>th</sup> july 2023
17.	Fifen Ousseni	49 years	Moto taximan	Yaounde	23 <sup>rd</sup> march 2023
18.	Foudikouh Aicha Lilianne	38 years	Food saller	Bamend a	11 <sup>th</sup> july 2023
19.	Foupayoum Ladifatou	24 years	Director of an immobile service in Douala	Douala	5 <sup>th</sup> july 2023
20.	Jitapon Issah	61 years	Head of the village of njitapon	Njitapon	19 <sup>th</sup> july 2023
21.	Mary Land	34 years	Trader	Buea	8 <sup>th</sup> july 2023
22.	Mesmin Eloundou	51 years	colonel at the gendarmerie, director of employment and structure of the national Gendarmerie	Yaounde	20 <sup>th</sup> june 2023
23.	Mevono Ngomba Dieudonne Jules	47 years	Colonel at the national gendarmerie, head of the division of general affaires of the gendarmerie	Yaounde	09 <sup>th</sup> june2023
24.	Mimbolo Brice	45 years	Lieutenant colonel at the national gendarmerie, head of the service of renseignement	Yaounde	27 <sup>th</sup> june 2023
25.	Moloir Ani	36 years	Trader	Buea	8 <sup>th</sup> july 2023
26.	Mpouamoun Souleman	48 years	Native of njitapou village	Njitapon	19 <sup>th</sup> july 2023
27.	Muamaah Jr. Ade	36 years	Civil administrator, head of cabinet of the governor of the southwest region	Buea	8 <sup>th</sup> july 2023
28.	Ndam Abdou Ramani	33 years	Lieutenant et the gendarmerie, head of the service of state and infrastructure	Yaounde	2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2023
29.	Ndjock Sielye Achille Junior	38 years	Adjudant of the Gendarmerie, journalist.	Yaounde	14 <sup>th</sup> mai- 2023
30.	Ngabalet Anie	52years	Medicine colonel et the national gendarmerie, head of health service of the national gendarmlerie	Yaounde	07 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
31.	Ngougoure Clarisse	33 years	Chief of marshal	Yaounde	4 <sup>th</sup> April 2023
32.	Nguele Joseph	48 years	Lieutenant colonel at the gendarmerie, commander in second	Buea,	07 <sup>th</sup> July 2023

			of the legion of the gendarmerie of South west region		
33.	Nna nkoto junior	49years	Head of squadron at the Gendarmerie, head of the service employment and structure.	Yaounde ,	3 <sup>th</sup> April 2023
34.	Note ntako desiree	45 years	Captain et the national gendarmerie, head of office defense action of the gendarmerie	Yaounde	09 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
35.	Ntep Ngue Jean Jaque	38 years	Lieutenant at the Gendarmerie, head of the unite of medical center of the Gendarmerie	Yaounde	30 <sup>th</sup> mai-2023
36.	Nwatchock a. Fingon Joel Stanislas	45 years	Captain at the gendarmerie, head of the service of estate and infrastructure	Yaounde	31 <sup>th</sup> mai-2023
37.	Oomarou Michel	36 years	Sub-divisional officer of Douala 1 <sup>st</sup>	Douala	6 <sup>th</sup> july 2023
38.	Sangon A Mpamg Donald Chamberlain	36 years	Lieutenant of the Gendarmerie, head of service of technics and logistics of the Military Medical center of the Gendarmerie	Yaounde	31 <sup>th</sup> mai-2023
39.	Tabi Chie Martin	28 years	Head pof cabinet of the north west region	Bamend a	12 <sup>th</sup> july 2023
40.	Tachoua Brice	39 years	Lieutenant at the Gendarmerie, head of the office of communication in the service of the Gendarmerie	Yaounde ,	14 <sup>th</sup> mai-2023
41.	Tanda	38 years	UNOCHA personnel	Bamend a	10 <sup>th</sup> july 2023
42.	Tawat Momomii Mohamed	28 years	Head of Marchals head of the service of physiotherapy of the medical center of the Gendarmerie	Yaounde	30 <sup>th</sup> mai-2023

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## **5. Thesis and memory dissertations**

### **1.1- Thesis**

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