

UNITED NATIONS

TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



GENERAL

T/PET.6/318
23 July 1952

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PETITION FROM THE MAMPRUSI NATIVE AUTHORITY
CONCERNING TOGOLAND UNDER BRITISH ADMINISTRATION

Note by the Secretary-General: In accordance with rule 85 and supplementary rule F of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the members of the Trusteeship Council and to the Government of Italy as the Administering Authority of the Trust Territory of Somaliland, a communication dated 7 April 1952 from the Mamprusi Native Authority concerning the Trust Territory of Togoland under British administration.

52-8278

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T/PET.6/318

COPY

MAMPRUSI NATIVE AUTHORITY,
 NALERIGU-GAMBAGA
 7TH APRIL, 1952

Sir,

TOGOLAND AFFAIRS

We the undersigned chiefs, elders, headmen and ordinary farmers of the area now so called British Togoland, on behalf of our people and with the utmost desire to maintain the unity and tradition of the Mamprusi tribe, have the honour to direct your attention to the Mamprusi Local Authority's petition of the 13th November 1949^{1/} on the above subject and request the United Nations Organisation to give every consideration to that petition and to the following declaration:-

1. That long since the whiteman set foot on this part of the country we had the Nayiri, president of the Mamprusi State as our father and traditional head and lived together as an indomitable tribe, and that when even there was split in the Mamprusi District during the days of the scramble for Africa, we accepted the administrative arrangements enforced by both British and Germans but we did not fail to recognise the Nayiri as our traditional Lord and continued to render our traditional services and customary performances to him.
2. Sir, this administrative arrangement created artificial boundaries: such artificial boundaries as we now have were created by the whitemen without the slightest care for the feelings, wishes and traditions of the people of the territory concerned, and if the United Nations Organisation exist to bring peace and freedom to the people of the world then they need to abolish the existing artificial and imaginary boundaries against which we have repeatedly complained.
3. Our customs and culture are Mamprusi and our development must be based on these existing principles; any attempt to split this tribe one more will not only create trouble but will also retard our progress immensely.
4. We have long been acquainted with the British rule and government and share all privileges given to the rest of the Gold Coast and believe that our progress if required must be allowed to stand with the British rule.
5. That our Territory be henceforth regarded as part and parcel of the Mamprusi District of the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast, and further declare that

1/ Note by the Secretariat: See T/PET.6/66 and Resolution 295 (VII)

/henceforth

henceforth we shall not participate in Togoland Affairs since we recognize ourselves as members of the Mamprusi District of the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast but belong to no other territory.

6. Sir, the above facts are sufficient, simple and clear enough to indicate all that we require: We therefore regard this matter as closed and solemnly protest against the visit of the Mission of the Trusteeship Council to our part of the Northern Territories.

SIGNED AT NALERIGU ON THIS 7TH DAY OF APRIL, 1952^{1/}

THROUGH THE NAYIRI, PRESIDENT MAMPRUSI NATIVE AUTHORITY, TO:-

THE SECRETARY TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL C/O UNO., NEW YORK, AMERICA.

COPIES TO:-

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, GOLD COAST COLONY, ACCRA

THE PRIME MINISTER, GOLD COAST, ACCRA.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, ACCRA

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COLONIES, COLONIAL OFFICE, LONDON

MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ACCRA

HIS HONOUR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER, N.T.S.

THE DISTRICT COMMISSIONER MAMPRUSI, GAMBAGA

THE YANAA, YENDI

YABUMWURA DAMONGO

THE BIMBILA NAA, BIMBILA

THE PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER, ACCRA

THE MAMPRUSI REPRESENTATIVES, LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,
C/O MR. I/ AYARNA, MINISTRY AGRIC., ACCRA.

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS, ACCRA.

(2)

I, as President of the Mamprusi Native Authority and traditional head of the people of the area now so called British Togoland within the Mamprusi District support this petition and request that all concerned may give a sympathetic consideration on this vital subject.

ABDDULAI - NAYIRI

(Signed) BAWNIA MUMUNI

SECRETARY MAMPRUSI N.A.

Received at United Nations Headquarters: 4 June 1952

^{1/} There followed the names of 145 signatories with "X" to indicate their marks.