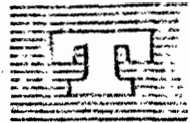


UNITED NATIONS



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GENERAL
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14 December 1951
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

PETITION FROM THE SULTANS, LEADERS AND SHEIKHS OF THE OLAN TRIBE
CONCERNING SOMALILAND UNDER ITALIAN ADMINISTRATION

Note by the Secretary-General: In accordance with rule 84 and supplementary rules F and L of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the members of the Trusteeship Council, to the Government of Italy as the Administering Authority of the Trust Territory of Somaliland, and to the Governments of Colombia, Egypt, and the Philippines as members of the Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland, a communication dated 27 September 1951 from the Sultans, Leaders and Sheikhs of the Olhan tribe concerning the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration.

This communication was transmitted to the Secretary-General by the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa.

27 October 1951

1) We submit all our complaints to you members of the United Nations Visiting Mission. We are the Sultans, Elders, Leaders, representatives and Sheikhs of the Tribe of Olhan, who are enduring the oppression of the Italian administration. The Administering Authority refuses to consult us, who know the needs of the nation and what is for its advantage. Instead it consults a group of men appointed by itself, whose actions are advantageous to the Authority alone.

2) The Administering Authority is creating disunity among the people of Somaliland, and threatens us, the leaders of the tribes. We ask the United Nations please to come to our assistance.

3) Since the Italian authority assumed the rule of the country we have not advanced in education, but rather are forgetting what we learned under the British regime. Italian policy is that of a colonizer, and we shall never achieve the education, advancement and betterment of our country under Italy's custodianship. Please, do consider our complaints with respect for humanity.

4) We are in great need of hospitals and medical service in proportion to the growth of the population.

5) The Italian authority is not impartial in its rule over the Somali. It favours people of its own choice and looks with disdain upon those who are the real representatives of the tribes. Such action creates hatred between us and the Italian administration.

6) We would like to have the water resources tapped and wells dug in order to irrigate our fields and we would like to have some farming equipment.

7) We beg you to pay attention to all of our requests and sincerely to arbitrate our difficulties with the Italian authority.

Signed: Sultan Aghas Kurni Yousef
and thirteen others.