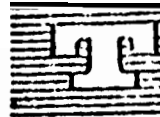


UNITED NATIONS

DOCUMENTS
TRUSTEESHIP UNIT
COUNCIL 14 MAR 1952

MAST



GENERAL

T/PET.11/213
14 December 1951
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

PETITION FROM THE SOMALI YOUTH LEAGUE, BRANCH OF ODDUR
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 9 September 1951 from the Somali Youth League, Branch of Oddur 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.

9 September 1951

From: The Somali Youth League of Hadrahazma, Oddur.
To: The United Nations Visiting Mission.

Gentlemen: -

We were awaiting your visit to our town so as to submit our complaints to you directly. When we lost all hope of your coming, we decided to write you these lines to inform you of our complaints.

We are perplexed and full of deep regret and sorrow over the incidents on the Ethiopian frontier.

(A) Being along the Ethiopian frontier, we are subjected to frequent armed raids by an undisciplined Ethiopian tribe. They steal our belongings and kill our people, who are unable to defend themselves for lack of arms. We have many times asked the Administering Authority to post guards on the frontier to prevent further raids. Nothing of the sort was done.

(B) We have not received any benefit from the educational programme in the Arabic language nor in any of the trades. We, the Somalis, have voted to adopt Arabic as the official and national language. The Administering Authority strongly opposes Arabic and the teaching of it and insists on using Italian, against the wishes of the Somalis, because it does not wish or desire the advancement of Somaliland nor its liberation from colonization.

(C) The Administering Authority is not striving for the security and peace of the nation, but is creating all kinds of animosity and conflict between the people and between political parties, appointing its sympathizers to different positions and this is delaying the advancement of the country. This is also contrary to the mandate Italy received from the United Nations. A diligent solution for peace and security, education and water supply for cultivation and grazing areas, is in the interest of the country; nothing has been done in that respect.

/(D) Our town

(D) Our town has only a very small infirmary, without medicine or beds, and most of the sick die after receiving treatment, and that in spite of the agreement and the fact that sixteen tribes compose this region. We have made oral and written demands on this hospital matter, but our requests have not been taken into consideration.

(E) We are unhappy that you did not get to our town, nor did any member of the Advisory Council residing in Mogadiscio. Please don't let our town be isolated.

We beg you to look into our situation justly, so that the powerless may have a right to live.

Signed by the Somali Youth League of
Hadrhazma

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