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COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TANGANYIKA AFRICAN NATIONAL
UNION CONCERNING TANGANYIKA

(Circulated in accordance with rule 24, and paragraph 3 of
rule 85, of the rules of procedure)

The District Organizing Secretary of the Tanganyika African National Union, Iringa Branch, has sent in to the Secretary-General of the United Nations copies of two communications which he addressed to the Chief Secretary, Secretariat, Private Bag, Dar-es-Salaam, denouncing the "Cattle Dipping Scheme" which was established early in 1954 in the Iringa District.

In the first of these communications, dated 1 August 1957, the petitioner:

- (a) requests the Administering Authority to reduce the dipping fees, adding that expenses incurred for the establishment of the scheme have now been met;
- (b) states that complaints against the "unjust and inhuman" application of the scheme brought before the District Council were not given proper attention because of the "unrepresentative" composition of the Council; (c) encloses a copy of an appeal to the District Commissioner at Iringa against a judgement (copy of which is also enclosed) rendered by a Lower Court at Kalenga, ordering eight persons to pay a fine for having refused to obey a dipping order, and complains about the heavy taxes, "tortures and public threats" which were allegedly brought to bear against such appellants; (the petitioner also encloses a copy of a letter sent by the eight appellants to the Provincial Commissioner in Mbeya complaining about the refusal of their appeal and their treatment while serving a three-month sentence in prison for having failed to pay the fine as provided in the judgement); (d) complains that the Administering Authority is more interested in deriving income from the scheme and in providing posts for its unemployed officials than in developing educational and medical facilities for the inhabitants of the Territory; (e) complains further that the scheme, which was originally meant to increase the quantity of cattle through the elimination of ticks which carry Texas and Red Water Fever, seems to be applied inconsistently since, in other sections of the Territory,

culling of cattle instead of dipping is being practised; (f) complains also that the dipping scheme causes soil erosion since cattle tends to follow the same routes to dips; (g) complains that natives, far from having derived from the scheme the benefits which had been promised to them, have seen their cattle reduced in number and become unproductive; (h) considers that the scheme might have some usefulness if it were applied justly and democratically and, to that end, suggests that its administration might be seconded to the N.A. so that the local inhabitants of the Iringa District, which is the only one of the Territory's fifty-six Districts where the scheme is being conducted compulsorily as an experiment, might be in a position to take advantage of the scheme voluntarily and free of charge, if they so wish. The petitioner concludes, however, that it would be preferable to abolish the scheme altogether and instead to build more schools, dispensaries, welfare and rural sanitation centres.

In the second communication, dated 22 August 1957, the petitioner states that the third session of the TANU District Conference which took place from 22 to 24 August 1957 in Iringa approved the text of the first communication referred to above, agreed to take up the question with the United Nations Visiting Mission on 29 August, and decided to take positive action in denouncing the scheme publicly if they did not receive satisfaction from the Administering Authority.
