



GENERAL
T/PET.3/42/Add.1

25 September 1951

ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

PETITION FROM EX-CHIEF NTUNGUKA
CONCERNING RUANDA-URUNDI

Note by the Secretary-General: In accordance with rule 84 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 two undated communications and one communication dated 10 August 1951 from ex-chief Ntunguka concerning the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi.

These communications form a supplement to the petition set forth in document T/PET.3/42.

These communications were transmitted to the Secretary-General by the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa.

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To the Representatives of the United Nations.

Sirs,

I respectfully beg to inform you of the following.

When I ceased administering the district, I took refuge in a savage and uninhabited forest full of wild animals: elephants, buffalo, lions, hyenas, etc.

I took refuge there with the few cows I had, knowing that in such a forest I would be free from all difficulties and that my cows could freely graze there. Strangely enough, when they heard that I was there, the authorities found it necessary to send farmers to the forest which I had cleared single-handed, presumably because they wanted my cows to die, since previously no one had dared to set foot in that forest! Where am I to go then? My cows were my only source of wealth and means of support. And now they are driven out of everywhere, even from the forest.

I should also like to submit a second matter for your wise judgment: Our cows are our only source of wealth, our Bank, our prized possession. Yet strangely enough our Administrators stubbornly persist in having them regularly and compulsorily slaughtered! What will be the fate of the great majority of my compatriots who owned cows in the past and who now, deprived of them, will be compelled to engage in farming although they and their ancestors never tilled the soil?

I am submitting these two matters to you before you leave and earnestly beg you to consider them.

I have the honour to be,

(signed) NTUNGUKA

c/o Buringa Forest

P.S. I should like to emphasize once again that the administration will never leave me in peace.

(signed) NTUNGUKA

Received by the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa
on 3 August 1951.

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To the Representatives of the United Nations.

Sirs,

I respectfully beg to inform you again of my difficulties. I hope that you will excuse me for disturbing you so often... but important reasons compel me to do so. I should like among other things to give you the most recent confirmation of my statements to you. This very day, 4 August 1951, the Administrator of the Territory for native affairs summoned me and informed me that he wanted some of my cows for distribution to the people. Mr. Frezin, the Administrator, knows^{all} about my cows; he keeps the files of all the contracts with my subjects. Before settling matters which are pending with my subjects who killed all or almost all of my cows, this Administrator today goes so far as to ask me for additional cows, with evil intentions.

Thus, you can see that trouble is starting even while you are here! What will happen when you are gone? I therefore appeal to you to have my cows counted before your departure and also I should like to ask you again to take me with you because I am almost certain that our Administrators will use every possible means to make away with me.

I have the honour to be,

(signed) NTUNGUKA

Received by the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa
on 6 August 1951.

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Usumbura, 10 August 1951.

Ntunguka

c/o

Usumbura.

To the Representatives of the United Nations.

Sirs,

I beg to lodge a complaint with you.

There is a chief of the Ngozi Territory named Nduwumwe and a clerk named Nyarusage Atanase from the Territory of Bubanza.

Do not believe anything they tell you because they are in league with all the Belgians who govern here in Urundi. Those two as well as the Belgians do not wish us to have civil rights, wealth or property in Urundi.

You are well aware that the Resident of Urundi is in the same category as the two I have named.

I have the honour to be,

NTUNGUKA

Bulinga Hill

Province of Usumbura

(signed) illegible.
