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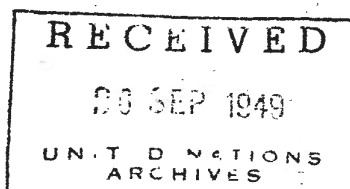
9 September 1949

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: SWAHILI*

PETITION FROM MR. CHRISTOPHER MWAKU
CONCERNING TANGANYIKA AND RUANDA-URUNDI

Note by the Secretary-General: In accordance with rule 85 of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit herewith to the members of the Trusteeship Council a communication dated 19 July 1949 from Mr. Christopher MwakU concerning the Trust Territories of Tanganyika and Ruanda-Urundi. This communication was transmitted to the Secretary-General by the Permanent United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations by a note dated 30 August 1949.



* Note by the Secretariat: The original text, or copies thereof, can be made available to members of the Trusteeship Council upon request.

/TRANSLATION FROM

TRANSLATION FROM SWAHILI

COPY

From Christopher Mwaku,
Ngara Bugufi,
Via Mwanza,
Tanganyika Territory,
East Africa.
19th July, 1949.

The Permanent Representative of British,
United Nations,
Lake Success,
New York.

Sir,

I ask you to send this my petition to the United Nations. The burden of my petition is to reject the petition of Mwami Mwambutsa claiming that he should be given the Bugufi country on the grounds that it was his. Neither he nor his father nor his grandfather have ever ruled our country of Bugufi.

I want to tell you about the bribery that was committed. I am one of the people who they tried to bribe but because of the love I bear our kingdom I would have none of it.

In the month of January 1949 Mwami Mwambutsa told his sub-chief, Ntidendeleza, to make a cunning scheme for bribing the people of Bugufi. Then sub-chief Ntidendeleza made his plan which was to hold a holiday feast near our borders. He had beer served and he slaughtered cattle and goats. Then he told his man, Clement, to invite us young men of Bugufi. We were well acquainted because we live near the borders of Bugufi and Urundi. I am particularly well known to them because some of my friends are living in Urundi. In his invitation he asked us to bring our guitars to play a European dance for him. We didn't know the reasons for all these preparations. The purpose of this feast was to get us drunk and explain to us how we could help Mwami Mwambutsa in his claim on our country by writing letters in support of his petition.

I myself was sent for in private and told that I could write a letter helping Mwami Mwambutsa by saying that he ruled Bugufi. I was promised that I would be given as many cattle and francs as I wanted.

But I couldn't agree, I utterly refused because I knew that never from days of old had we been ruled by the Mwami of Urundi. Twice they tried to tempt me saying the third time that if I agree to write a letter to you I should be given what present I wanted. But because I was unwilling to tell lies about our kingdom I went on refusing completely. Right up until now

/I am still being

I am still being asked to increase the number of those who have agreed to take bribes but I am going on saying "no".

I have written to you because I want you to know that the others who have written to the United Nations about this country in support of the Nwami of Urundi have taken bribes to tell lies about our Kingdom saying that we used to belong to Urundi. When these people were bribed I myself was there. I know for certain - for certain - that they were bribed. That was done so that the United Nations should receive their letters.

Now I am writing to you to make completely plain to you that all you have received on this subject is lies and bribery not the truth. For if a man claims what is his right he cannot pay a bribe or tell a lie.

I am,

(Signed) CHRISTOPHER MWAKU

Received at United Nations: 31 August 1949.
