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PETITION FROM THE SOMALI YOUTH LEAGUE, BRANCH OF GALCAIO  
CONCERNING SOMALILAND UNDER ITALIAN ADMINISTRATION

Note by the Secretary-General: In accordance with rule 85 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 2 February 1952 from the Somali Youth League, Branch of Galcaio, concerning the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian Administration. This communication forms a second supplement to the petition set forth in document T/PET.11/112.

TO: THE U.N. ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR THE  
TRUST TERRITORY OF SOMALILAND  
UNDER ITALIAN ADMINISTRATION,  
GALCAYU

From: Somali Youth League  
Branch of Galcayu

Galcayu, 2nd. Feb. 1952

As true representatives of at least 95% of the inhabitants, we would like to portray briefly some of the appallingly and hash conditions of the unheeded peoples in this Province, Mudugh:

1. (a) The Italian Administration for its own advantage had sought to rise tribal hostilities among the inhabitants and, to enable it to succeed this goal, she organised several of her puppets (Pro-Italians) scattering them to everywhere in the Province in order to create and cause disturbances among the inhabitants in consequence of which tribal feuds had effectively broke out in everywhere of the Province until Somalia was generally realized as a small "Corea". As a result, more than 823 Somalis had precisely been killed since the Italian Administration took over the Territory. Not only but lootings, imprisonments and many other inhuman tortures and degradings are constantly uncalculable.

Understanding the reason why, the Italian Administration was and is still indifferent and apathetic to a large extend due to the lack of right kind of peace and security.

Feuds are gravely continuous and in consequence 4 Somalis were killed on 14th. January, 1952, at a place called "SANGADUD", four miles away from Galcayu in Obbia direction. Ascertaining perfectly all necessary implications, no action was absolutely taken and none of the murders was appositely arrested by the Local Authority. This is a symptom of the principles of already existing "divide and rule" policy in consequence of which "kill your brother" is in full progress at every part of the Territory, Mudugh particularly. No persecutions or other perpetrating detriments, on the part of the Administration, against which we opposed was ever avoided or converted into its proper way, but, on the contrary, the Italian Administration having noticed of such oppositions, should obstinately continue to persecute and ill-treat far and much worst than ever before.

/(b) In short

(b) In short and shape, none of the 65 Articles applied to this Territory under Italian Administration is to date fulfilled properly, after 22 months and 11 days of Italian Administration.

Many and many mischievements and misdealings which violating to the principles and obligations of the whole 65 Articles have deliberately been committed and still committing by the Administration.

2. (a) POLITICAL DISCRIMINATION

All the chiefs who were formerly elected by their respective tribes were mostly deposed by the Administration without reasonable motives substituting for other yes-men whose tasks are to support and vote favourably for the Administration. The tribes whose chiefs were unfairly deposed, without their approval have strongly protested against such deposition manifesting repeatedly that the unjustly deposed chiefs are to them recognized as true chiefs for the respective tribes. Following are part of the deposed chiefs:

1. Hussein Nur Dirir
2. Scek Ahmed Dighe
3. Mohamud Ahmed Nur
4. Aden Abdi Ali Bos
5. Giama Gibin Hassan and
6. Herzi Abdulle Farah

Any one of the old chiefs who is fortunate enough as to not yet be the deposed, is being subjected to inhuman tortures and degradings. Such tortures and degradings are not only confined to the above mentioned chiefs but are also applicable to all employees not belonging to the pro-Italians. The sources from which killings, lootings and many other daily flagrant acts amongst tribes are caused are only that based on the positions of the former chiefs and the accessions of the new chiefs to the positions. Not being formally recognized, the new so-called chiefs can not absolutely deal with any matter or matters existing in their respective tribes, on one hand. The former chiefs for whom to settle any existing matters in their tribes was very easy are not recognized as chiefs by the authority, on the other. So the situation is always disastrous.

3. TERRITORIAL, TOWN AND MUNICIPAL COUNCILS

(a) TERRITORIAL COUNCIL

As already shown on our previous communications to the U.N. Visiting Mission, there were two of Italian hand-picked stooges nominated in the last year, 1951 as to be ipsofacto part of the Territorial Council both of whom were absolutely analphabetic. They were nominated by the Administration and were:

1. HAGI ALI Balle and
2. DUALE Kahie

As for this year, 1952, other three pro-Italians who are more emulated in being ignorants, among whom is the namely "Lega Progresista" Secretary, Daher Set have also been nominated as Territorial Council from this Province.

(b) TOWN COUNCIL;

Some times in 1950, an organ consist of 60 in-dividuals have been constituted as "CONSIGLIO RESIDENZA" - Town Council all of whom were Italian hand-picked stooges, with exception of 5 incorruptable individuals. It is these who elect the candidates of the Territorial Council or any other organs as Municipal Council etc. Not only but it is also from these the candidates of any council as the Territorial or Municipal Councils etc. are to be elected. This is the way in which the function of the town council in here is under taken.

(c) MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Further two of Italian puppets had also been designated by the local authority as the Municipal Council at the presence and consence of the so-called Town Council, with exception of the already mentioned 5 individuals whose oppositions on the substance were deemed invalid due to the majority of votes. Realizing of the importance and essentiality of this latter function, the inhabitants have strongly protested against such mis-dealings and mis-managements, but, alas ! ! no attention was drawn reviving the already existing "Fascist" proverb: "chi comanda fa legge" - he who commands makes law. This is violating to the principles of the Art.3 (para.3) of the Trusteeship Agreement which contains: "promote the social advancement of

the inhabitants, and to this end shall protect the rights and fundamental free-doms of all elements of the population without discrimination; ..."

### 3. RELIGION AND SOCIAL

#### (1) RELIGION

It is not unjust to state that the holy Sceks are not freely allowed to give any religious breaches in the Mosques according to the obligations and principles of the holy "Koran". Evidently, 2 Sceks: Scek Mohamed Nur-Din and Scek Kalif Mohamed, who were for long time residing in Galkayu, exercising incessantly of their religious activities have been terrorized and threatened by the local Authority. After sevrал menaces, on the part of the Authority, the Sceks were compelled to abandon their homes, families and holy activities. Not only but since these big-wig Sceks have been terrorised and compelled to abandon their families, there was no one could address any religious breaches in the Galkayu mosque.

#### (2) SOCIAL

Knowing of the importance of the social advancement, the Administaring Authority was, in accordance with Art.3 (para.3) of the Trusteeship Agreement, abligned to promote the social advancement of the inhabitants. Contrarily, the Administaring Authority is actively discouraging the inhabitants to unite altoghter in social advancement persuading them inwardly that the retention of "Cabilism" is far and much better than any thing ealse until most of the people thought it to be the best way to attain to the indepedence, inconsequence of which the inhabitants are socially ostracized. Any individual attends to the offices of the Administration for some purpose must, after his or her name and father's name, spell his or her tribe. Resisting or declining to do so, he or she must be chased away or oftenly arrested. Evidently, Ahmed Mohamed Farah, tailer has been summoned by the Galkayu Police Commanding Officer (Lieut.). On arrival he was after given his name obliged to spell his tribe. The member carrying on his distinctive ( S.Y.L. bagge) had declined to do so and, after agumentative minutes of time he was straight-forwardly arrested in the Police custody in which he was severly beaten.

This is violating to Art.3 (para.3) of the Trusteeship Agreements which reads: "promte the social advancements of the inhabitants and to this end shall protect the rights and fundamental free-dom of all elements of the population with-out discrimination..."

#### /4. EDUCATION

4. EDUCATION

(a) From the date of taking over of the Italian Administration, no administrative schools were since opened. In occasion of the U.N. Visiting Mission's arrival in Somalia two teachers one of whom was an Italian (present one) have been brought from Mogadiscio for the mere purpose of being them on show as whenever any U.N.'s visitors are to be expected.

(b) Owing to the fact that the Somalis of to-day are anxiously willing to be educated, they made themselves ready to attend it. Opening the school, only "Halima e Faduma sono le nome delle donne somala" - Halima and Faduma are the names of Somali women and other similar lessons all of which the students know them much better than the teacher himself were taught. Most of the students had therefore stopped attending, after having ascertained that the teacher is not improving his teachings and doing that purposely. There are some who are still attending it and learning nothing but: "Mogadiscio é città capitale della Somalia" - Mogadishu is a capital city of Somalia and other similar lessons for passing time.

(c) New reading books recently published, and symbolized by "Sigg. Brusasca and Fornari" as symbolized by "Mussolini, Principe, Graziani" etc. in the "Fascist" elementary reading books have been brought here for selling So.5/- each, without teaching the students of the contents. A student, Abdi Hussein Hassan had once asked the teacher to explain them of the contents, if he consider it necessary. The teacher, without giving any answer to the question, had automatically ordered him to be expelled from the school.

(d) The Local Authority is almost to prohibit the existence of any other private schools in Galcayu and, therefore, lessons discrediting and attacking on this Party's attitude are nightly given by the Italian teacher to his students intending to avoid them from entering this Party's private school. Many and many promises are falsely giving by the Italian teacher to the students concerned.

(e) Being religiously mussulmans, the inhabitants had unanimously chosen the arabic as the official language. On the contrary, the Administration or better to say Italy, for her own interest, wants to empower its undesired language in the schools and to this end the pupils are now forcibly being taught Italian language in most school hours. The Somali teacher, who was brought here to teach arabic is doing nothing save for propaganda.

/This is

This is violating to the principles of Art. 4 of the Trusteeship Agreement which contains: "The Administering Authority, recognizing the fact that education in its broadest sense is the only sure foundation on which any moral, social, political and economic advancement of the inhabitants of the Territory can be based, and believing that national independence with due respect for freedom and democracy can only be established on this basis, undertakes to establish a sound and effective system of education, with due regard for Islamic culture and religion." And as for (para.e) of the above, Art.26 (para.3) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which reads: "Parents have prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children."

(f) We, Somalis and many other peoples who have had some experiences in the Italian histories are fully aware that Italy had never fulfilled any covenant or pact by her promise. We have, therefore, no hope of improvement and development of educational and any other progressive basis are to be expected from the Italian Administration, but, yes rpt yes from United Nations Organization as Libia has fortunately attained to its independence, after untold adventures and sacrifices and Fascist regimes etc.

##### 5. HEALTH

(a) During the years of 1950 and 1951 there had been occurred a scourge of epidemic diseases: colera as regards 1950 and malaria in 1951. As for the first 10% of the inhabitants were subjected to death while 20% of the inhabitants were caused death of malaria. During these two catastrophic events, the Administering Authority was purposely indifferent and apathetic due to a large extent due to the lack of right kind of care and treatments not only but the people are still mostly suffering from various kind of sickness, malaria particularly. All though, hundreds of thousands of the inhabitants were already subjected to death, many are still suffering from it both in the bushes and towns. The Administration is still continuing its indifference and apathy. There are small rooms in the Galkayu Hospital and for consequence the sick persons are always failing from being recovered due to the lack of vacancy of rooms in the Hospital. Accordingly, numerous claims have been made by the people on this basis, but no attentions were

/drawn.

drawn. There is only one syringe in the Hospital both for the public and patients in the Hospital with different kinds of diseases. Castor oil and syphilis are available. For simple sickness the patients are frequently being evacuated to Mogadishu Hospital due to unobtainability of medicines. The patients travelling from here to Mogadishu, 760 Km. should of course be more worst. Bieng discharged from the Mogadishu the poor bush men who know no body in Mogadishu can not afford to arrange for their returns to own homes and should also suffer from lacking of food, during their sojourn in Mogadishu.

(b) There is only an ambulance which is rarely on road and therefore the ill persons are often compelled to be transported from and to the bushes on camels. The patients in the Hospital are given rations which are unsuitable and insufficient for human use both of quality and quantity.

(c) The function of the municipality is still on the hands of the Administration and one could see no hygienical advancement in Galkayu what soever. The streets are covered with filthy, rubbish and weeks wash is visible every where in the town. Remains of death rats, hens, cats and human excrements are lying in every corner of the town. No sweepers, aedes control etc. are engaged for the public healthy. Further-more, the animals are also suffering from different kinds of diseases and no veterinary arrangements are provided by the Administration.

The losing of the live stocks is the worst damage causing to the inhabitants because all their wealthy consist of live stocks.

This is violating to the principles of (Art.3 para.3) of the Trusteeship Agreement which reads: "protect and improve the healthy of the inhabitants by the development of adequate healthy and Hospital services for all sections of the populations ..."

## 6. ECONOMIC

(a) Leave its name and close down its door !! because the Administration being responsible for the economic advancement of the territory did not upto date created any economic achievement in this part of the territory and did not even encourage the people to achieve it. The inhabitants are greatly subjected to unemployment untill the poverty surrounded them and compelled them to be come loathy.

/(b) There



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(b) There are little rain-falles in these regions and it has no rivers like Benadir and, to this end the Administaring Authority did not hitherto give any particular attention to this probelem as to provide to dig water-wells in the areas where wells are not obtainable. In consequence, the nomadics are often suffering from thirst. In the drought weather the nomadics are often losing most of their livestocks, which all their wealthy consist, because of scarcity of wells in the grazing areas.

(c) In here, there are no rivors, harbours, farms, etc. from which the inhabitants can commercially gain. The local productions are only of ghee and hides goat from the live stocks; the local traders buy these and export them to the adjacent markets, Berbera and Aden, for example from which they import, in exchange, what in their markets are needed. These was accustomed for nearly a century with out any alternative. As soon as the Italian Administration took over the territory such custom had been forcibly seased to exist issuing an other method which absolutely prohibits the traders to exercising their tradings freely.

(d) In case, the traders are fortunately allowed to export few goods they are obliged to importo, in exchange, goods which in their markets are not iuseful and which to them is unprofitable.

(e) There are four roads which enter Galkayu, most of which - are indeed in rough conditions and almost impassable. The roughness of the roads had often caused many trucks to remain in off road conditions, because of explosion of tyres and other troubles in the engines. This difficulty had resulted the scarcity of transportation to and from here; if found any, the fares are twice doubled in consequence of the market prices are exaggeratingly arising.

(f) We would like to make it clear that here, Galkayu is a centre of great number of populations. There is no public work in it, whatsoever. The vagabonds failing to be employed are compelled to commit delinquences by stealing, killing, robbing and riding each other. Most of the administrative services are solely given to Italians brought from Italy despite there are many qualified Somalis, who could easily capable for the positions.

These are violating to the principles of Art.3 (para.1 & 2) of the Trusteeship Agreement which reads saying: "and to this end shall give to the

/inhabitants

inhabitants of the territory a progressively increasing participation in the various organs of Government; promote the economic advancements and self-sufficiency of the inhabitants, and to this end shall regulate the use of natural resources; encourage the development of fisheries, agriculture, trade and industries; and improve the means of transportation and communication ..."

## 7. JUDICIAL SYSTEM

### (a) POLICE

Whenever a person is arrested by the policemen for a petty offence the "MARESCIALLO" (Italian Inspector) or "or Brigadiere" (Italian Sergeant), who ever commands the station, convicts the accused either for fine of money or "LASCIA-PUSS" (beat-up) which is a police secret word; or keeps him in the police custody for a considerable period of time. Any person arrested by the police should oftenly be beaten in consequence of which many individuals have been effected by dangerous maladies like T.B.C., etc. some of had already been died for it. This is a violation of Art.5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which is integral part of the Trusteeship Agreement as provided for an Art.10 of the annex to the Agreement which contains: "No one shall be subjected tortures or to creul inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment."

### (b) DISTRICT OR PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER

When a person is arrested, the police prepares his judgement for prosecution without considering in the defence side, and after keeping him in the police custody for weeks, the police passes the judgement to the District or Provincial Commissioner remanding the accused in the big jail. The District or Provincial Commissioner is further remanding the accused in order to study the judgement passed by the police. In accordance with the judgement and recommendation made by the police, the District or Provincial Commissioner convicts the accused without appearing him before the Court. The court therefore forwards a warrant called "DECRETO PENALE" (penal decree) to the accused in the jail, which contains of his conviction, either imprisonment, fine of money or acquittance, which seldom happens. This is a further violation of Art. 11 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which is integral part of the Trusteeship Agreement as provided for in

Art.10 of the Annex to the Agreement, which reads: Everyone charged with a penal offence has the right to be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law in a public trial at which he has all the guarantees necessary for his defence."

(c) BAIL

The word "bail" is not in use in the Territory. Whenever a person is charged with an offence, however small, no bail is acceptable save for the leaders of the pro-Italian's party and the pro-Italian chiefs, who, in order to attract the people and convert them into their pathway, "pro-Italianism" are allowed to be guarantors, without hesitation.

8. JAIL AND PRISONERS

(a) JAIL

The jail of Galkaya is categorically dirty, uninterested and full of: bugs, webs, flies and many other infectious insects. In it, there are no any sleeping materials provided for the prisoners, on the part of the Administration. There is no bath-room in it, and therefore, the prisoners are always found in dirty and unhealthy conditions. The latrine is always full and smelling from distance. No medical visits had ever been made by the local Doctors.

(b) PRISONERS

The prisoners are sleeping on the cement and no sleeping materials are allowed to be brought from out side. They are rationed badly, which dietly insufficient. No rations are absolutely allowed to be brought from out side. They are hardly and inhumanly working without limitation. Many prisoners were therefore subjected to illness and some of them had recently spitted blood. They are forced to shave their hair as soon as from the date of arresting. They are given a small dirty and unwashable garment, which is about 2 1/2 yards. Their own dressings are withdrawn and stored therein. No difference between the convicted and the remanded prisoners in these ill-treatments.

This is violating to Art. 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as provided for in Art. 10 of the Annex to the Agreement which reads: "No

/one shall

one shall subjected to torture or to cruel in human or degrading treatment or punishment.

In conclusion, Excellency, we have stressed hereto very briefly of the matters happened and happening in the territory due to its enormity and continuity, on one hand, and, to our inability of portraying on the facts in details due to the lack of the right kind of experience, on the other hand.

Further more we, on behalf of the already mentioned 95% of the indigenous inhabitants wish to express our hearty and fervent wishes having all confidences and satisfactions the U.N.O. principles and foundations which set forth in its Charter as well as the Trusteeship Agreement and other common prestiges through your August Councils functions.

Your help in these vital matters are greatly appreciated with many thanks in anticipation.

We have the honour to be,

Sirs,

Your Most Obedients,

Seal: SOMALI YOUTH LEAGUE

GALKAYU

Sgd. by: The Somali Youth League local Committee of Galkayu branch.

1. Nur Hashi Alas, Acting Secretary
2. Mire Ali Mohamed, Members (signed)
3. Ahmed Mohamed Mohamud, " (signed)
4. Abdullahi Sceek Mohamud " (signed) ...
5. Ali Hagi Aden Guled, " (signed) Ali Hagi Aden Ghuled
6. Ahmed Mohamed Burdibi Ismail (signed)
7. Abdurahman Abdulle, Members (signed)
8. Calif Hagi Giana Issa, " (signed)
9. Hagi Ali Mire, " (signed)

Galkayu, 2 Feb. 952.

Received by the United Nations Advisory Council in Mogadiscio on  
11 February 1952