



UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
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MAJICA

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GENERAL

T/PET.11/225
10 January 1952

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PETITION FROM IMAN OMAR, SULTAN OF THE ABGAL TRIBES
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 14 December 1951 from Iman Omar, Sultan of the Abgal Tribes concerning the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration.

This communication was transmitted to the Secretary-General by the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration.

(Translated from Italian)

Date: 14 December 1951, at 1040 hrs.

From: Itala

TO THE UNITED NATIONS,
MOGADISCIO

I GOT TO KNOW THAT YESTERDAY MORNING THERE HAS BEEN A BIG FIGHT BETWEEN WAESLE
ALI GAF AND BORDER GROUPS AT EL BUR. 500 CAMELS WERE SEIZED AND ONE PERSON DIED.
THIS IS THE FIRST INFORMATION AND I WILL COME TOMORROW TO MOGADISCIO.^{1/}

IMAN OMAR

^{1/} Note by the Secretariat: possibly referring to the same problems raised in
T/PET.11/226.

/Mogadishu,

Mogadishu, 15th. December, 1951.

To: THE PRESIDENT,
THE U.N. ADVISORY COUNCIL,
MOGADISHU (Somaliland).

Sir,

I, the undersigned IMAN OMAR IMAM ALI, IMAM (Sultan) of the Abgal tribes, having understood, while in my residence at Adaleh, that there arose a serious and grave situation in EL DERE, in the district of El Bur, between the Abgal Waesle rer Ali Gaff, whose 500 camels have been forcibly taken away by policemen, during their absence while at the Celebration of the Prophet's Birthday, and the policemen who operated the collection of the camels, wish to draw your kind attention that I have addressed a telegram to the U.N. Advisory Council as well as one to the A.F.I.S., in which telegrams your attention was drawn to this critical situation and stressed that I have left for Mogadishu.

Immediately after my arrival in Mogadishu, I went to Dr. Chiti who informed me receipt of my telegram and the instruction imparted by the Administrator, H.E. Fornari, to Dr. Bernardelli to receive me in his office. Soon I and various chiefs of the Abgal tribes went to Dr. Bernardelli, who, in reply to a question of mine, said that the A.F.I.S. received the telegram and informed me that a cablegram was despatched to the Commissario in which full power to do what he deem necessary in the matter was conferred upon to him. Naturally, I have pointed out to Dr. Bernardelli that object of my arrival in Mogadishu was that of seeing stopped the present grave situation and not that of being given full power to the Commissario. In bona fide, I have added that I, as the Imam of the whole Abgal tribes, was prepared to be responsible for the payment of any fine which will be imposed on the tribe at present in question, provided the A.F.I.S. does not use force. Dr. Bernardelli said, instead of giving a proper reply, that NO ORDER COULD BE GIVEN OR IMPARTED to the Commissario as he is conferred upon for full powers to initiate stopping the situation arisen or not do so if he does so wish. I told him that, although orders are not imparted to Commissarios, I wish only that forces be stopped, while on my part, I shall stop the tribesmen whose property were deprived from them so as not to split or shed blood.

The Internal Affairs Office's Director, Dr. Bernardelli, remained firmly in his position, by saying that the Administration does not impart orders to

/Commissario.

Commissario. I was then compelled to ask him whether the Administration, while the Chiefs of the tribe tend to settle the matter peacefully with the Administration, desire to kill my people, people who are ignorant who have the only fixation to getting back their camels, by firearms. Dr. Bernardelli said that he would do nothing, and asked me to stop talking stating that the our conversation took a long time. At that very moment, I have shown him a petition addressed to the Administrator, in which petition I was informing him about what is happening at El Dere as well as the telegrams sent to him and to the U.N. Advisory Council. Dr. Bernardelli, when he came to know that a telegram was sent by me to the U.N. Advisory Council, he fell down from the 7th sky and in a manner of angry said that should he knew that a telegram was sent to the U.N. Advisory Council, he would have not spoken with me and would not have sent a cablegram to the Commissario. After few seconds, he cooled himself, and scornfully said that I can rest assured that the U.N. Advisory Council could do nothing except that of sending a report to the United Nations in which case a reply would be received by me after 9 or more months. He then told me to go away, and when I made 2-3 steps, he called me saying: "Why did you not salute?" and evidently he wished me to kneel for him. However I told him that as I was so sorry for what my people has happened and might happened I could not think of saluting someone. While he was blaspheming me, (the words he used cannot be reproduced here for the sake of morality) I went away.

In conclusion of what reported above, I have the honour to ask the kind intervention of the U.N. Advisory Council in this issue in consideration of the failure met by me and the other chiefs from the A.F.I.S. The lives of many thousands of ignorant people are being threatened by the A.F.I.S. by sending several armed police forces to El Der. The tribe of Abgal Waesle rer Ali Gaff are prepared to pay any fine, and I shall be responsible should they fail to pay any fine imposed to them by the Administration in respect to the Fitina arisen 10 months ago between them and the Murosada, provided the A.F.I.S. stop immediately the use of force.

I am anxiously awaiting to receive your earliest and favourable reply, with many thanks in anticipation.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant.

(Signed: .

M.F. SIAD - UFFICIO SCRIVANO
Corrispondenza Pubblica - Mogadiscio. -----

IMAM OMAR IMAM ALI, Imam of Abgal