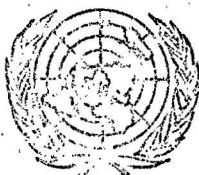


UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

T/PET.11/498
6 December 1954

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PETITION FROM HAGI MOHAMED DHERE AND OTHERS
CONCERNING SOMALILAND UNDER ITALIAN ADMINISTRATION

(Circulated in accordance with rule 85 and supplementary rules F and L of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council)

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

Mogadiscio, 1 December 1954.

To
The Secretary-General,
The United Nations Headquarters,
NEW YORK.

Dear Sirs,

CLAIMS OF THE EX SERVICE MEN OF THE ITALIAN ARMY

We the undersigned petitioners are the Ex soldiers of this Territory under the Italian Administration. Our history ranges from time of the Italian Colonization during their occupation in this territory as a colony. We had old services ranging about 25 years or so, and previously we had served with the Italian Army. During all that services, we were well known soldiers in the list of the ex Government's Army, and our pre-history is fully aware by the Italians as ex Servicemen. During the Italian occupation in Ethiopia, we had been servicing there and have losted every possible means of war and casualties.

When the II World War broked we had been engaged in the frontiers of this territory and have occupied several important posts in the Army, till we have been captured by the B.M.A. as a war prisoners and have been transferred to prison camps near the Kenya border. In the concentration camps we had some years

hard labour, and after two years service were released from prison for repatriation to Somalia, where we have spent the last 15 years after the occupation. Our services have long ranged details, and if referred might take a long time description, but merely we would describe the necessary points. However despite the all of the a/m details relating to our pre-history, we confirm that during the absence of the Italians from Somalia, our wages and most of our previous salaries relating to services rendered by us were not in hand. In the whole matter we can consider that we had lost every means of possible amounts, which we had not yet been granted since the retreat.

With reference to the 4 Powers Mission Visit to Somalia in 1948 - we have demonstrated the return of the Italians to this territory, not merely a point of preference, but subject to our believe that our previous wages and pensions will be granted in full. This was the reason of our demonstration in the front of 4 POWERS Visit. Many a long time, we had also assisted politically and morally in the front of public places, coffee shops and even outdoors subject to our believe that they might grant our ex service claims, or repay our claims taken by them during the reinforcement of the B.M.A. Army in Somalia. Not even the Italian Government informed about the situation of our old salaries rendered for their services in the sight of their retreat but merely have escaped to Italy.

In the first 10 years of the British Military Administration, the Italians have proclaimed that they shall and never fail to assist and grant the claims of the ex servicemen, if they get a chance to return to Somalia, and they promised to fullfil their words. They have even advertised in their papers relating to this promise. Consequently due to that, we have particularly made efforts to secure the majority of the population to influence the return of Italy, and some times organized parties and various political bodies.

When the Italian Government were authorised by the United Nations to Administrate Somalia as a Trust Territory - we understand that the Italian Govt will not forget their promises. However in their first 2 years of Administration, we expected to get our claims in full conditions - but were

surprised that even tenth of our pays were not offered. They granted 7 years service salary which was estimated by them to be 10 cents per day and not beyond 3 Shillings per month. However we have taken their offer due to our urgent need, but not satisfied completely as it is not the exact amount estimated, for the ten years services of the Italian Government from Somalia.

In conclusion, our aim and purpose in this petition is to expose this matter to your good selves, and get your assistance in every possible way, regarding about our claims mentioned above for the ten years services payment which the Italian Government in Somalia have not yet paid. In the other purpose of this petition is to show you another main point which relates to the recent events which occurred during the Visit of the UNO Mission in the last quarter of the year 1954. While we were demonstrating to show the Mission our claims, we gathered in the outskirts of the town and astonished that we were attacked by the Police, who shot dead two men and injured severly 13 persons. The Police caught a number of 300 suspected persons in the demonstration zone, out of which 30 of them are still detained in the prison, and their families and children are neglected, starved helplessly. We therefore request to please approach this Authority to release this prisons numbering 30 caught in the recent demonstration before the U.N.O. Mission Visit. Consequently if you cannot comply this matter - please aware that on 15th of January 1955, we shall take their families to the U.N.O. Advisory Council to illustrate them the truth and the fact of the matter in which they are living.

Reference to our letters dated 10th, 19th, 21st and 9th of this year 1954 regarding about this claims of the ex servicemen, please acknowledge their receipt and confirm their reply.

Signed by: Ghelle Duale, Kulane Abdi, Ahmed Heileh, Omar Farah,
Mohamed Wardere, Hasson Mahad, Mohamed Mohamud, Hashi
Ghed, Hussein Barcadle, Raghe Gabow, Ali Elmi, Mohamed
Assir, Osman Giumale.

PLEASE ADDRESS COMMUNICATION TO:

Hagi Mohamed Dhere

P.O. Box 53, Mogadiscio

SOMALIA

cc: The Nited Nations Advisory Council - Mogadiscio.