

NITED NATIONS
RUSTEESHIP
OUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

T/OBS.1/1
14 July 1953

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PETITIONS CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY OF WESTERN SAMOA

Observations of the New Zealand Government
as Administering Authority

Note by the Secretariat: These observations refer to the following petitions:

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2. Petition from the Progressive Committee of the Local Government of Naututu (T/PET.1/5)	1

1. Petition from Mr. A. Schaafhausen (T/PET.1/4)

The Petitioner claims that the present retainer of £300 per annum is inadequate to meet the substantial rise in the cost of living. The High Commissioner informed the Visiting Mission that no request had been received by the Samoan Government asking for an increase in the present payment of £300 per annum. Now that the request has been received it will receive consideration at an early date.

2. Petition from the Progressive Committee of the Local Government of MATAUTU (T/PET.1/5)

The Progressive Committee of the Local Government of Maututu has submitted a petition in which the separate items all have a bearing upon district affairs. These are all receiving attention through the appropriate Government Departments or the District Affairs section of the Secretariat. Detailed comments are as follows:

Item 1. Hospital buildings will be completed and nurses' quarters improved as soon as other work claiming a higher priority has received attention.

Item 2. There are other districts in the Island of Savai'i which are at present without piped water supplies. Steady progress is being made with the Government scheme for extending piped water supplies as rapidly as possible, and in the meantime applications for the improvement of existing supplies will be required to take lower priority.

Item 3. The High Commissioner informed the Visiting Mission that the Samoan Legislative Assembly has not always been prepared to increase European staff in the past. There is also the point that the posting of a European teacher to the Matautu District School would require similar treatment to be accorded to the three other District Schools and to a further four or six when these are established as proposed. Questions of accommodation would also call for consideration.

It is anticipated that the development and staffing of District Schools will be one of the points studied by the New Zealand Director of Education when he visits the Territory later this year.

Item 4. Roads in this area are in fact at present being constructed as requested by the District.

Item 5. This request will receive attention when the Legislative Assembly has considered the report of the Select Committee on Village and District Government, and dealt with draft legislation on this subject which will be submitted to the Assembly in August of this year.
