

Fourth Session

Item 4 of the agenda

CLASSIFICATION AND SUMMARY OF PETITIONS

Memorandum Prepared by the Secretariat

This memorandum, which has been prepared by the Secretariat, consists of a classification and summary of petitions which were not placed on the Provisional Agenda for the Fourth Session of the Council, but are listed in Sections III and IV of the Agenda for the fourth session.

(T/222/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Corr.1).

III. PETITIONS RECEIVED THROUGH THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY

NAURU

1. The Nauruan Council of Chiefs (document T/PET.9/1)

The petitioners point out that, as the population of Nauru is so small and possesses a high degree of literacy, the twenty-five years under Mandate have been long enough to enable them to participate in the administration of their own affairs. They claim, however, that they still have no voice in the formulation of the general administrative policy of the Island. They state that previous appeals by them to the Administrator that they should be allowed some share in the control of the finances of the Administration have always been refused and request that a representative of the United Nations visit Nauru to enquire fully into the whole matter.

IV. OTHER PETITIONS NOT LISTED IN THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA (T/222)

A. GENERAL

1. St. Joan's International Social and Political Alliance (document T/PET/GENERAL 20)

The petitioners request that a study of the problem of child marriage and compulsory marriage be specifically included in the terms of reference of all visiting missions to the Trust Territories.

B. CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

2. Jean Mouen (document T/PET.5/1)

The petitioner complains that, after his demobilization, he returned to his country at the end of the last war to find that the affections of his

/wife

wife had been alienated from him by a French colonist of the district. He claims that, even before taking the matter to court, he was offered money by this colonist, that the Public Prosecutor shelved his case because of his poverty, and that he was fired on three times by an employee of the Yaoundé factory. He explains that, as he has a large number of dependents, his salary is not sufficient to allow him the services of a lawyer, and he appeals to the United Nations for justice.

2 bis. Ernst C. F. Köhne (document T/PET.5/2)

The petitioner states that, with the exception of the years of the First World War, he was a resident of the Cameroons from 1901 until the outbreak of the last war. He states that, although free from Nazi sympathy, on two occasions, because of his German nationality, he has lost all the property he had acquired in the course of forty years. He requests permission to return to the Cameroons to resume his former activities. He states, further, that the "Financial Department of the British Government" has informed him that his abandoned property in the Cameroons is still his own and that a decision as to its final disposal will be taken by the "Mandates Commission".

C. TANGANYIKA

3. Paul Wamba Kudililwa (document T/PET.2/62)

The petitioner, an ex-native chief of Tanganyika, requests that, in the event of his original petition (document T/PET.2/43) for re-instatement being dealt with in a manner unfavourable to himself, he be given half of his salary as pension in conformity with similar arrangements which, he states, apply to the other Chiefs.

4. Kate Salzmänn (Mrs.) (document T/PET.2/63)

The petitioner, a widow with children to support, whose case was first considered by the Council amongst a number listed under the "Petition from Germans Residing in Tanganyika" (document T/PET.2/24), rebuts the allegation that she, her father and her mother were Nazis. Giving details in support of this claim, she also encloses a copy of an appeal sent by her to the Governor of Tanganyika giving much additional information on her case history, and requesting the Tanganyika Government to reconsider its verdict, to allow her and her family to return to the Territory, and to re-vest her with the Nibbe-Salzmänn property. In her communication to the United Nations, Mrs. Salzmänn makes complaints about the treatment of herself and others by the Tanganyika authorities. She appeals to the United Nations to obtain assistance for her and her family, special medical facilities for her invalid mother, stateless persons' passports for the entire Salzmänn and Nibbe families, the return to her of the balance of her deceased husband's account, and

/re-entry

re-entry for herself and her family into Tanganyika and the restitution of their property. As an alternative to the last request, she asks for compensation to enable the two families to go to Portuguese East Africa or America.

5. Emil Ruppel (document T/PET.2/64)

The petitioner, who says he first went to the territory in 1903 and was allowed to return in 1927 after the First World War, complains that he has received an expulsion order from the Tanganyika Government without being given any reasons. He claims that his appeal was rejected and that his whole property and assets were appropriated by the Custodian of Enemy Property. He states that he and his wife, who are "over seventy" and sixty-seven years of age respectively, are anxious to join their only surviving son in the Argentine, but, although they have obtained a Libre Desembarco from the Argentine Republic, which was sanctioned by the Tanganyika Government, they are unable to avail themselves of it as they have no funds for the journey. Since, he states, the only alternative for him and his wife is repatriation to Germany, where he fears that unemployment, hunger and eventual starvation await them, he appeals to the United Nations to help them join their son.

D. TOGOLAND UNDER BRITISH ADMINISTRATION

6. W. K. Amegbe (Document T/PET.6/13)

The petitioner, one of the native rulers of Gbi Hohoe, lays claim to an area of land which covers about one-third of his native town of Hohoe. He outlines the system of land ownership practised in the "Gbi Hohoe" native administration unit in which he lives and gives details of the history of the area in question from 1896 until the present day, naming the various occupiers of the land, the negotiations which took place, the sums obtained by means of toll, rent, etc. He claims that the land was, in the first place, given over for missionary work, that its present use is no longer in conformity with this arrangement, and that its original acquisition was informal. He appeals to the United Nations to help him obtain the return of his land.

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