

UNITED NATIONS

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL



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COMMUNICATION FROM MR. ZUBERI M.M. MTEMVU, PRESIDENT OF THE  
AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS CONCERNING TANGANYIKA

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AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS  
(Tanganyika Trust Territory)

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Dar es Salaam

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14 February 1959

Editor,  
Tanganyika Standard,  
P.O. Box 33,  
DAR ES SALAAM

Sir,

U.N. TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL'S PROCEEDINGS:

Speeches by the Soviet Union delegate and other anti-colonial groups in the U.N. Trusteeship Council have not appeared in your paper. So far only United States and Indian delegates' have been published. This is one of many instances which lead us to believe that you are suppressing news. We are convinced there must be something you did not like in the speeches that were made by the delegates of the Soviet Union and other anti-colonial groups in the U.N. Trusteeship Council but majority of your readers would at least like to hear. However, I shall have to confine my comment on the Soviet Union delegate speech from your today's editorial.

The delegate of the Soviet Union is said to have shown "an abyssimal of ignorant" of conditions in Tanganyika because he was prepared to call a spade a spade. The actual number of African Representative Members in the Legislative

Council does not exceed eleven and if any other then they are obviously prisoners of the government and do represent foreign interest or government. The charge that is made for government medical service to Africans, that of hospital fees in particular is a studied accuracy. Africans are charged in the government hospitals. I have personally got a number of red receipts issued for charges that either my relatives or members of our party have had to pay when attending government hospitals.

We are not responsible for stealing from Mr. Julius Nyerere and TANU the support he used to enjoy from the anti-colonial groups in the U.N. Trusteeship Council. Who denies that our manifesto does express the views of the majority of African opinion in the country? I challenge any true African to express contrary opinion on this through the medium of your paper and therefore will have endorsed what Mr. J. Fletcher-Cooke has said about the Soviet delegate.

We have never, since the inception of the organization, advocated that the Africans are a superior race. We have never said that we do not want the European and the Asian to share in the government of this country simply because of the colour of their skin. We have never advocated racial hatred either. All we have said is that only the Natives of this country, who are Africans, qualified to rule this country at least in its early stage as a self-governing country. In doing this we are only repeating what Ghana was doing when she talked of the Africanisation of the civil service and what Dr. Hastings Banda meant when he said that as far as he is concerned Indians are there are mere traders with no right to participate in the government of the country. We say that if non-Africans what to be full citizens of this country they should show confidence in us and wait until we have had self-government. After that we shall provide citizenship document for those who deserve and see how many will avail themselves of this privilege. We would not like to entrust our national affairs to a person only to find out later that we have do so to a man who, in fact, has more sympathies with India or Britain than Tanganyika. We do not want people of this type to control our civil services either.

We are sure that this is the stand every true African is taking. We are sure many people have not joined our camp because of the vicious press in the territory. A few have not joined our camp because of the fear to differ with the neighbour.

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We have no sympathy for the latter. These people are plunging our country into danger disloyally and are the traitors of this country. If multi-racialism comes in this country it won't be African National Congress that will be to blame. It will not be Mr. Julius Nyerere to blame because he has made it abundantly clear that that is his concept of future Tanganyika. It will be these people. They should be ashamed of their behaviour. It is really unmanly and unworthy of any type of leader.

It is no secret that TANU preaches multi-racialism or non-racialism. While in London last October, I came across an article on TANU's present policy written by Mr. Derek Bryceson, an ardent member of the Capricorn African Society and great believer of its philosophy. The letter among other things reads:

"I travelled with Mr. Nyerere, the President of TANU, and the official TANU (African) candidate extensively throughout the constituency. Through their organisation I had the pleasure not only of addressing tens of thousands of Africans myself but of hearing Mr. Nyerere expound to them the advantages of harmonious multi-racial state with all the different races working together for the common good. ----- I place great significance on this change of policy, this liberalizing, and am personally much encouraged by it."

It is true a few months ago I stood as a candidate for the Legislative Council elections for Tanga constituency but people in that province decided not to have me. I do not know what would have happened if I had stood elsewhere, but the real question is: Did the African realize what they were doing? At the moment I leave that unanswered and all I can say is that as far as officers and members of our party are concerned, because of the nature of the elections itself and so many other factors, are not discouraged by the results of the elections.

Yours,

ZUBERI M.M. MTEMVU  
(ZUBERI M.M. MTEMVU)  
PRESIDENT

Copy to: Mr. H.A. Wieschhoff,  
General Director,  
Division of Trusteeship,  
United Nations,  
New York, U.S.A.

A cutting of the editorial is also enclosed and we request both be circulated to all the members of the U.N. Trusteeship Council now in session immediately and will be grateful for an acknowledgement.

ZUBERI M.M. MTEMVU  
(Zuberi M.M. Mtemvu)  
PRESIDENT

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Tanganyika Standard  
Saturday, February 14, 1959

## BOUQUETS AND BRICKBATS

Tanganyika came in for a mixture of bouquets and brickbats in the general debate on the Territory in the United Nations Trusteeship Council. Happily, there was a preponderance of bouquets, while many of the brickbats were dropped rather than thrown.

Most delegations expressed approval of the rapid developments being made here. So far as political development is concerned, Mr. C.S. Jha, the new Indian Resident Representative to the U.N., probably summed up the majority opinion when he said that "in so far as it concerns the development of relations between Africans, Europeans and Asians, it seems to be developing in a harmonious way."

Pride of place for dropped brickbats undoubtedly goes to the delegate of the Soviet Union, who showed what Mr. J. Fletcher-Cooke, Tanganyika's Special Representative, described as "an abysmal ignorance" of conditions in the Territory. His speech contained so many glaring inaccuracies that it boomeranged badly.

Mr. Fletcher-Cooke was forced to give the lie to such untruths as the allegation that there are only eleven Africans in Legislative Council and 57 representatives of immigrant communities, and that a charge is made for Government medical services to Africans.

Possibly more indicative of the deliberate attempts by the Soviet Union to paint a misleading picture of Tanganyika is the fact that their delegate quoted the manifesto of the Tanganyika African National Congress as expressing African opinion - yet did not make a single reference to the Tanganyika African National Union or its president, Mr. Julius Nyerere.

Those who value Anglo-American solidarity and consider that there should be the closest possible co-operation between these two great nations will have read some sections of the speech by Mr. Mason Sears with more sorrow than anger. Mr. Sears, apart from including a number of factual errors in his speech, returned to his old theme of target dates and universal suffrage, which earned him a great deal of publicity when he headed the U.N. Mission to Tanganyika in 1954. While there can be no objection to a step-by-step programme leading to eventual

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self-government, any target date must necessarily be an arbitrary one and it is difficult to see how this can be fixed with any degree of confidence.

There will also be some astonishment in Tanganyika that Mr. Sears did not mention the large Asian community in his speech. Speaking of the composition of Legislative Council, for instance, he merely says that "The Europeans hold as many seats as the Africans".

Similarly, he airily dismisses the financial difficulties facing Tanganyika. "These" says Mr. Sears "can be overcome in time." He does not explain how.

Those who know Mr. Sears will appreciate that his speeches are always liable to reflect his personal views, which are not always endorsed by the United States Government. Unfortunately, however, when he speaks in the Trusteeship Council, he does so as the Permanent Representative of the United States of America.

Nevertheless, there was much to commend in Mr. Sears' speech. In particular, we agree with his comments on the vital role that Tanu has to play. He said: "In looking toward the future the United States delegation hopes that this very influential organization will be encouraged to build up its internal strength and discipline. This is most important because much of Tanganyika's success or failure in the next few years will revolve around the activities of Tanu." We fully endorse that view.

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