

UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL

DOCUMENTS
INDEX UNIT



GENERAL

T/PET.11/163
19 November 1951

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PETITION FROM THE CHIEFS OF THE DIGHIL AND MIRIFLE 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 29 September 1951 from the chiefs of the Dighil and Mirifle 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.

Bardera, 29/9/51.

To the Advisory Council of the U.N.O.

Gentlemen,

We thank you for your kind visit to Bardera. We are the tribe-chiefs of this province and we speak on behalf of Dighil and Mirifle and these are the inhabitants of High and Low Juba, Afgoi, Dolo, etc. We like to explain that the inhabitants who live on the banks of the two rivers in Somalia are Dighil and Mirifle. These provinces and areas are the important areas and the most rich of all Somalia.

We like to show a small part of what the Trusteeship Administration has done since its existence here: It was, firstly, very interested in Education, in the orphans and in the salaries of all the workers, tribe-chiefs, etc. A soldier used to take 30 shillings. Now he takes So.120 and a ration. Vagabondage has stopped. It was alwy very interested in the hospitals and prisons. The prisoners get good meals and clean place to sleep.

The salaries of the tribe-chiefs was from 15 to 30 shillings. Now it has been increased from 90 to 1000. Theft has stopped and security has taken place everywhere. The Administration has founded the Territorial Council which looks and works for the general advantages of the country. It is also now founding a Municipal Council in every town and village which works and looks the cleanliness, hygienical affairs, and many other arrangements. The tax is now taken and remains here to be spent for the general advantages of the town. The Administration also has repaired most of the roads which were damaged. The beasts as cattle etc. are cured and injected. It also looks to all the Somalis similarly. It helps the mosques and the poors. It takes every year a number of persons to the pilgrimage. The Administration also has simplified the imigration and leave to the different ports of all the world.

We thank the Trusteeship Administration for all that as we thank you. But we like that the Administration manges to bring us the modern machines etc. for the land and also the help us to dig canals that takes the water from the two rivers to the lands far from there. So that we may manage to bring out the riches of our country out of the ground.

/We hope both

We hope both you and the Administration be interested in our demands for we think they are very important.

In conclusion please accept our best greetings and wishes.

Signature: (Haj Mohamed Mahmud Sheik)
(Sherif Abdulla Sherif Abdurahman)
Haji Dahir Hilole
(Sheik ... Sheik Yusuf)
(Sheik Mussa Adan)
(Sheik Hussein Mustapha)

Received by the United Nations Advisory Council at Mogadiscio on 5 October 1951.
