

16 SEP 1952

GENERAL



T/PET.11/302
4 September 1952
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ITALIAN

UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL

PETITION FROM MR. KALIF MAALIN HASSANO AND OTHERS
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 14 August 1952, from Mr. Kalif Maalin Hassano and others, 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.

Translated from Italian

To the Advisory Council of the United Nations, Mogadiscio

For information to H.E. Canino, Minister Plenipotentiary,
Secretary-General of A.F.I.S., Mogadiscio.

The undersigned, Notables of Goluen (Merca District) Kalif Maalin Hassano, aged 40; Idris Omar, aged 60; Hagi Abikar, aged 55; Nur Auo Hagi, aged 55; Abdi Islauo, aged 55; Mahamed Osman Maio, aged 50; Hagi Imam, aged 56; Abukar Abo, aged 50, all elders of the above-mentioned village, witnessed on 13th inst. some doings that made a strong impression upon the whole population.

Although the village of Goluen is one of the few really quiet villages of the Merca District, an indelible impression was left by police constables and Residency people who, with weapons ready, searched all members of the Somali Youth League party. If the search, lawful in their view, had been made inside S.Y.L. headquarters, it would have left no impression of indignation or fear, but it was made in the square facing the market, where all people wearing that party's badge were lined up and ordered to keep their hands resting on their heads, and were kept in that position, in the sun, for about one hour. Threats were made to shoot at anyone who dared to lower his hands for any reason, either fatigue or rebellion (although all threatened persons were unarmed). We confirm, in our capacity of elders of the village, that we do not know of any act of violence or of any subversive propaganda made by those who were being searched, nor are we aware that they intended to commit violent deeds that might trouble the peace of the village.

We state also that we do not know of any illegal action, such as propaganda, killing or wounding, plunder, or even common larceny that might occasion such a measure.

Therefore they hope that the village will continue to be quiet, and they can affirm that in the last twenty years nothing abnormal occurred. They trust they will be able to live as free men and hope that actions that wound the population's dignity will not be repeated.

They conclude by expressing their sincere thanks for the good reception of the foregoing.

Best regards,

Merca, 14 August 1952

(Sgd) Kalif Maalin Hassano
and others

P.S. Attached hereto are testimonials by mothers and sisters of persons searched and arrested.

/TESTIMONIALS

TESTIMONIALS

HAWU MAIO IERO, aged 48

She states that on 13th inst. at 12.15 p.m. while she was going to the market she saw with her own eyes her son, Maiß Mahad Abdulle, member of the S.Y.L. lined up together with a group of persons, also members of the same party, in the centre of Goluen market. These persons were being searched by the Resident assisted by police officers, armed with sub-machine guns and pistols, who kept them in such a position that they could not even look at nearby persons. She states that she got a strong impression and that for her the recollection will be indelible.

(Sgd) (Fingerprint)

GARAN OMAR ABDI, aged 35

She states that on 13th inst. while she was going to the market she saw, lined up in the centre of the market, a group of men, members of the S.Y.L., among whom was also her next-of-kin, Mussa Osman Mahamud, with his hands resting on top of his head while the Resident with some police officers searched them under threat of using their arms.

(Sgd) (Fingerprint)

FADUMA ALIO MAHAMED, aged 40

She states that at the time of the search she was present in the market and saw before the search the arrest of Mahamed Abdi Hagi, at present confined in the Merca prison. Immediately afterwards she saw the Resident, assisted by a group of police officers, search, in the square facing the market, all people wearing the S.Y.L. badge. The search was made between two rows of police officers and ilalos brandishing their arms. She was impressed.

(Sgd) (Fingerprint)

FADUMA MAHAMED ABDI, aged 38

She states that on the occasion of the search made in S.Y.L. offices, while coming from her home proceeding towards the market, she saw three of her cousins, namely SCEK ABDO MAHAMED, ALIO HASSAN, MAHAMED BAUASAN who were being searched in the square facing the market, between two rows of police officers and ilalos brandishing their arms. With them was the Resident and various police warrant officers. She states that the impressive sight is still in her eyes.

(Sgd) (Fingerprint)

/ROBLEI OSMAN

ROBLEI OSMAN OMAR, aged 50

She states that on the occasion of the search made at the S.Y.L. Section in Goluen, while she was going to draw some water she met her nephew Aves Mahamed Hagi, escorted by three soldiers who were taking him from the infirmary to the Police Station. Aves is still confined to prison at Merca and does not even know the charge laid against him. She affirms that she was very much impressed at the sight, as Aves was her only support.

(Sgd) (Fingerprint)

MACCAI BAUASAN ABIKAR, aged 28

On the occasion of the search made at the S.Y.L., while she was going from her home to buy some milk at the market, she saw in the market square, escorted by police officers and several ilalos, Aves Mahamed Hagi, Seckei Yusuf and Mahamed Abdi Hagi. She was under the impression that all had ended, but, on the contrary, immediately afterwards the Resident truculently, assisted by police officers, went to the S.Y.L. offices, where all members of the party were lined up in the square facing the market and searched, brandishing pistols and machine guns, and all the while they were kept in a position that prevented them from looking at people nearby. She states that she was so impressed at the sight that she forgot to buy the milk.

(Sgd) (Fingerprint)

Received by the United Nations Advisory Council in Mogadiscio on 18 August 1952.
