EXAMINATION OF PETITIONS
SOMALILAND UNDER ITALIAN ADMINISTRATION

Observations of the Administering Authority

Note by the Secretariat: The following observations were communicated to the Secretary-General on 9 May 1952 by the Italian observer to the United Nations. They relate to the following petitions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Petition</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Petition from Mr. Nur Allakal and others (T/PET.11/65/Add.3)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Petition from Mr. Ismail Mahamud and others (T/PET.11/102)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Petition from the representatives of the Abgal-Yusuf Tribe (T/PET.11/150)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Petition from the Somali Youth League, Branch of Belet Uen (T/PET.11/157)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Petition from the Somali Youth League, Branch of Jamama (T/PET.11/169)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Petition from Mr. Hassan Yusuf and four others (T/PET.11/183)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Petition from the Sultans, Leaders and Sheikhs of the Auliyan Tribe (T/PET.11/210)</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Petition from Sheikh Mukhtar Mohamed and five others (T/PET.11/212)</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Petition from the Somali Youth League, Branch of Oddur (T/PET.11/213)</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section</td>
<td>Page</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Petition from 39 persons in Dusamrob (T/PET.11/251)</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Petition from Mrs. Anot Warsama (T/PET.11/252)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Petition from Mr. Kalif Igou Osman and other representatives of the Shiddle Peasants (T/PET.11/254)</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Petition from Mr. Nur Allakal and others (T/PEF.11/65/Add.3)

The signatories of the petition complain that they were robbed of their money in the course of a search made by police agents during the incidents that occurred in the Villabruzzi district over a land dispute between the Ualamoi tribe and the Società Agricola Italo-Somala (SAIS). They also complain that no new chief has been appointed for their tribe, and that the Administration promised to assist a group of Ualamoi chiefs who expressed a desire to constitute an agricultural co-operative in Villabruzzi.

We refer, in this connexion, to observations made by the Administration on petition T/PEF.11/65,1/ and state, in addition, the following:

1. The signatories of the petition have no capacity to acts as Ualamoi representatives. The Ualamoi representatives, elected in the customary "shirs" and recognized by the Administration, are:

   HAJI ABDULLE ISGOVE  Chief of the Tribe
   AHMED IBRAHIM IUSUF  Chief of the "rer" Kussou
   ABDI ALI MOHAMUD  Chief of the "ror" Omar Haji
   MOHAMED AHMED ABDI  Chief of the "rer" Gassar
   SHECK AHMED MOHAMED  Chief of the "rer" Wacle.

2. No "shir" has been held to remove the Tribal Chief Haji Abdulle Isgove. To convene a new "shir" the request of ten persons only is not sufficient, since, according to custom, the declared will of the majority of deputy-chiefs and elders of the tribe is required. No request of this sort has been made, up to date, to the Villabruzzi Residency.

3. It is true that some groups of the Ualamoi and Sagalo tribes requested this Administration's support to constitute some agricultural co-operatives on land belonging to these tribes on the border of SAIS lands. The Administration expresses the desire that internal disputes among members of the two tribes should be settled so that Somali agricultural co-operatives may be established in Villabruzzi with the technical assistance and material aid of SAIS. Similar co-operatives have been established at Balad and Genale with technical assistance and material aid from the Administration.

1/ Note by the Secretariat: See T/987, Section 3.
2. Petition from Mr. Ismail Mahamud and others (T/PET.11/102)

The assertions of the petition's signatories are quite groundless.

As may be easily ascertained from Statistical Annexes to the second yearly report of this Administration, on 31 December 1951 there were in force in Mogadiscio 2844 municipal licences to carry out commercial activities; of these 2196 were made out in the name of Somalis and only 648 were made out in the name of Europeans or Asians. At the same date there were in force in Mogadiscio 1035 municipal licences to carry out industrial or handicraft activities; of these 751 were made out in the name of Somalis and only 284 were made out in the name of Europeans and Asians.

With regard in particular to the work done and being done by the Administration for the protection and development of local handicrafts, we refer to observations made on petition T/PET.11/104.1/

1/ Note by the Secretariat: See T/973, Section 10.
3. Petition from the representatives of the Abgal-Yusuf Tribe (T/PET.11/150)

The signatories of the petition complain that there "rer" has been fined 700 somalos. On this subject, the following observations are presented.

On 5 July 1950 a number of bloody incidents started between members of the Rers Matan, Eli Omar, Mohamed Mussa and Uarsanghelli, all belonging to the Abgal tribe. These incidents were caused by the fact that requests for use of the grazing grounds apparently were not made in the traditional form, and not because of movements of live-stock and consequent violations of grazing rights (since there are reciprocity agreements between the said rers).

By sentence No. 1, dated 28 December 1950, the Benadir District Court recognized that the rers in question were collectively responsible, and, in terms of article 23 of the Judicial Regulation in force, fined the rers collectively as follows: Rer Matan: 2,500 somalos; Rer Ali Omar: 1,500 somalos; Rer Mohamed Mussa: 2,500 somalos; Rer Uarsanghelli 1,500 somalos.

The Abgal Iusuf, to whom the signatories of the petition belong, being part of the Rer Matan, were called by the latter, in accordance with custom, to contribute 700 somalos to pay the fine inflicted upon the rer, but they denied having any relation with the Rer Matan in order to escape payment. For this reason the competent Balad Residency Council was expressly convened and charged with the settlement of the question. The Residency Council, of one accord, confirmed the existence of a relation between Abgal Iusuf and Rer Matan. The former are therefore bound, according to their "testur" to pay their share to the Rer Matan.

Needless to say, the Commissioners and Residents concerned (respectively, Belet Uen and Benadir; Balad, Villabruzzi and Itala) did everything in their power to restore order and peace in the border territory where the incidents had occurred, endeavouring also to persuade the rers involved to pay blood-money, "diah", to those to which the persons killed belonged, in accordance with ethnical traditions and in conformity with the local "testur".

/4. Petition
4. Petition from the Somali Youth League, Branch of Belet Uen (T/FEET.11/157)

The questions of a general character raised in the above-mentioned petition, and synthetized in the seven conclusive points of the petition have been repeatedly dealt with in previous petitions originating from the same source.

In the present case, therefore, the Administration will confine itself to supplying explanations and details on data and facts that the signatories of the petition bring forward as evidence of the existence of an alleged unsatisfactory situation in Belet Uen.

1. Somali soldiers are recruited on a voluntary base in Belet Uen, as in the whole territory, for two years of service. Enlistment, however, depends on the recruits being in possession of the prescribed requisites, in the sense that it does not become definitive until the newly enlisted men have passed successfully a trial period of two months. Naturally, at the end of such period all those who have not shown a sufficient military disposition are dismissed.

2. In Belet Uen there is a school with six day classes and five evening classes, and a school population of 368 pupils. Teaching hours are distributed according to the plan set out in the observations on petition T/FEET.11/40.1/ New work was begun on the school building after the inspection made by the United Nations Visiting Mission, entailing an expenditure of 24,000 somalos. As the hospital electric line was not sufficiently powerful, the school rooms for evening courses are lighted by means of a small generating plant. In any case, pupils have never been called upon to supply kerosene for the lamps.

3. Perfectly groundless are all complaints about the physician's behaviour and about the treatment used in hospital, which functions perfectly well, also because medicine may be supplied periodically without any delay, since Belet Uen is linked with Mogadiscio by a tarred road. Moreover, after the inspection made by the Visiting Mission, the hospital was further improved at a cost of 20,000 somalos.

4. The Administration is gradually attending to the agricultural assistance to populations living along the river Webi Scabbi. In addition to the four co-operatives mentioned in the observations on petition T/FEET.11/73,2/ others

Notes by the Secretariat:
1/ See T/952, Section 3.
2/ See T/752, Section 6.
are about to be constituted, with the Administration's aid, in the Villabruzzi district. Belet Uen people are already encouraged in every possible manner to grow cotton, either in co-participation or independently. One of the signatories of the petition is an independent grower who was aided by the Administration with its own technical means to grow cotton independently.

5. The Somali Salad Mohamed Abdurahman was convicted on 22 September 1951, following a regular trial, and sentenced to nine months in prison for continued theft of petrol from the Administration; the Arab, Nasir Ahmed Ali, who gave information against him to the police, was given a suspended sentence of 30 days imprisonment for aiding and abetting. Against such sentence appeal was made to the judge of the Mogadiscio Court, who reduced the penalty for Salad Mohamed to six months.

6. The case of the Somali Hassan Deghei was dealt with in detail in the observations on petition T/PET.11/66 (Part II) to which we refer.

7. The Residency Council of Belet Uen, like all others, is composed of tribal chiefs elected in the traditional "shirs", representatives of political parties designated by the Party sections themselves, and persons indicated by public opinion as being particularly fit, due to their culture and common sense in dealing with the district's problems. Since its establishment the Residency Council of Belet Uen has held six sessions, each of three meetings.

1/ Note by the Secretariat: See T/982, Section 5.
5. Petition from the Somali Youth League, Branch of Jomura (T/PET.11/139)

The questions of a general character raised in the petition under consideration are dealt with in observations on similar petitions submitted by the Somali Youth League (SYL).

As far as particular questions pertaining to the Margherita district, to which the petition refers, are concerned, the following observations are made:

1. The 52 persons mentioned were arrested in April 1950 for reasons of public order, on the occasion of manifestations of political intolerance that took place at Margherita and which are mentioned in the first Annual Report of this Administration to the General Assembly of the United Nations (p. 30). All persons arrested, even those who had been found guilty, were released after a short period of imprisonment, thanks to an amnesty. Not all were members of the SYL. Among the arrested persons were many Arabs and even the President of the UN, Mr. Bescir Abdi Noor. None of them was removed from Margherita. Since the episode mentioned above, there have never been more than half a score of prisoners in the Margherita prison.

2. What is being alleged in respect of schools is definitely false; in fact, the Delegate of the Technical Mission expressed his satisfaction with regard to the said schools. Recently 120 more school books, "Alba Radiosa", were distributed in the schools in question.

3. The district infirmaries, during the period October-December, were faced with a certain delay in the normal supply of medicines owing to the impossibility of travelling, but the delay never exceeded one month, and the medicines most required, such as quinine, have never been out of stock and have always been distributed.

4. There are along the Juba river, in addition to agricultural concessions run by Italians, many native "shambas" that may make use of the agricultural centres of Ionte and Alessandra for any technical assistance and material aid.

The irrigation work done in the "deshecks" of Gelib and Margherita place at the disposal of indigenous farmers over one hundred hectares of irrigated land. Furthermore, very often machines and equipment from the above-mentioned centres are
centres are available, free of charge, to indigenous farmers for ridging and plowing.

In the "desheck" of Galalio alone a very costly pumping installation has been set up, with irrigation canals for over one hundred "shambas".

Watering points at Manamoffi, Bangheni, Zunguni and Ionte, between Italian concessions, were maintained. No request has ever been made by natives to obtain more watering points, which proves that the existing ones are amply sufficient.
6. **Petition from Mr. Hassan Yusuf and four others (T/IEE.11/183)**

The signatories of the petition complain that they were discharged from military service for political reasons.

The question concerns five "ilalce" of the Bender Cassim Residency, who were discharged for the following reasons:

1. Hassan Yusuf, discharged in October 1950 because he was involved in the injury and attempted murder of Nur Osman, Notable of Bender Cassim, committed in Bender Cassim on 10 September 1950.

2. Abdikarim Abdalla, charged with aiding and abetting the persons accused of the offence committed on 13 November 1950; acquitted with "the benefit of the doubt" by the Commissioner's sentence dated 6 December 1950, and discharged on the same date.

3. Osman Ahmed, discharged on the recommendation of the Bender Cassim Resident for lack of discipline and insubordination.

4. Kahie (and not Tajat) Mohamed, discharged for the same reasons as No. 3.

5. Iassin Mohamed, discharged on the recommendation of the Bender Cassim Resident for spreading false and tendentious news.

The discharge was ordered by the Mijertein Provincial Commissioner as it was within his competence.

All discharged persons were paid their salaries and all other allowances up to the date of their discharge.
7. **Petition from the Sultens, Leaders and Sheikhs of the Aulihan Tribe**

(T/PET.11/210)

The questions raised in the petition under consideration are dealt with in the observations on petitions T/PET.11/33, \(^1\) T/PET.11/163, \(^2\) T/PET.11/176, \(^3\) T/PET.11/230, \(^4\) T/PET.11/231, \(^5\) - to which we refer.

---

**Notes by the Secretariat:**

1/ See T/940, Section 1.

2/ See T/982, Section 51.

3/ See T/982, Section 58.

4/ See T/978, Section 39.

5/ See T/978, Section 40.
8. Petition from Sheikh Mukhtar Mohamed and five others (T/PET.11/212)

The signatory of the petition complains that people of Hadr Hazim (Oddur) are continually open to robberies by persons coming from across the border and that they do not enjoy any medical, educational and agricultural assistance from the Administration.

The following observations are made on the subject:

1. Feuds, which have generally a racial background, existing between populations located astride the provisional administrative border line, are the object of particular attention on the part of local political authorities, who continually do their best to soothe the minds and persuade people to establish neighbourly intercourse. The situation will be regularized when the political border between the Territory and Ethiopia is defined in accordance with the procedure indicated by the General Assembly of the United Nations in its resolution 392 (V), dated 15 December 1950.

2. There is in Oddur a school with five elementary day classes and four evening classes, and a school population of 213 pupils. Teaching hours are distributed according to the plan set out in the observations on petition T/PET.11/40.1/

3. In the Oddur Residency a sufficiently efficient medical service is functioning: one infirmary, with ten beds, directed by a physician at Oddur; a dispensary at Wegit and another one at Tieglo. These medical units, in addition to being supplied with all necessary medicines, enjoy the advantage of being near the Baidoa hospital (90 kilometres from Wegit) where there are 70 beds and first-class equipment, as indicated in the observations on petition T/PET.11/119.2/

4. Work for the drilling of thirteen new wells is in progress in the Upper Juba, entailing a total expenditure of 70,000 somalos. Four of these thirteen wells are being drilled in the Oddur Residency, entailing an expenditure of 15,275 somalos.

Notes by the Secretariat:

1/ See T/952, Section 3.
2/ See T/978, Section 14.
9. Petition from the Somali Youth League, Branch of Odiur (T/PET.11/213)

The questions raised in this petition are similar to those raised in another petition (T/PET.11/212). We therefore refer to the observations already made on that petition. 1/

1/ Note by the Secretariat: See this document, Section 8.
10. Petition from 39 persons in Dusumareb (T/PET.11/251)

The complaints contained in this petition are vague and groundless. We refer to the observations on petitions T/PET.11/53\(^1\) and T/PET.11/64.\(^2\)

---

Notes by the Secretariat:

1/ See T/978, Section 2.
2/ See T/967, Section 1.
11. **Petition from Mrs. Anot Waseema (T/FFI.11/252)**

The signatory of the petition requests payment for some head of cattle that she alleges dies of poisoning with gamexane.

The claimant's assertion is wholly unfounded, since it is well known that "gamexane" used for the anti-locust campaign is quite harmless to warm-blooded animals. If the claimant lost some cattle, which is doubtful, since the witnesses named in the petition could not be found, it was probably due to the drought that occurred in Mištein at the end of 1950 and the beginning of 1951. This has been dealt with in the observations on petition T/FFI.11/101.  

/1/ Note by the Secretariat: See T/382, Section 25.
12. Petition from Mr. Kalif Igou Osman and other representatives of the Shiddle Peasants (T/PET.11/25h)

The question raised in this petition has already been settled. In this connexion we refer to the observations made on petition T/PET.11/159. 1/

1/ Note by the Secretariat: See T/982, Section 49.