

2571/Com/47 Q Laimekiki
26.7.47. P.O. Mursongdih
N.E.F. Assam
18th July 1947.

To Mr. RAM Adhyan
Joint Secretary, Constituent Assembly,
New Delhi of India.

Dear Sir,

We will appreciate you very much if you kindly enough send us a copy of Congress laws containing reports of your visiting Excluded Areas of Hill Tribes.

We the Dobang or Gollong people will join with the Govt. of India through Assam Govt. But people wants to have time enough to decide the all matters in the 10th to 16 August 1947 or before.

They will decide themselves and will write to the Assam Governor through the Premier of Assam. Please give us time at least upto September 1947.

Ref no 1168

You know, very well, that the Country has no communication except foot paths. So it will take time to talk with all head men of all villages. Moreover, they have been instructed, that Britishers would not allow them to join with the Congress and if any one talks about free India, such ^{one} would be kept in jail at once. Even many of the gallongs were not allowed to meet you during your visiting days at Pasighat & S.A. Dibya. They have been kept like toys, but now, they understand all things that foreigners are quitting India. So they, are very happy and glad to hear from you all that the Indians will be freed as a free nation. Our Country is not yet oppressed by Britishers though

they ruled for 38 years upon
some of the villages. Britishers discussed
SADIA side & Balipara Tract
only for their conveniences.

No doubt, we are savage &
backward tribes, but, we will
harm no nation & did no
loss to other nation from
World begin. We will let you
know all matters and opinions
during this two or three months.

Therefore we ask you to spare
us time enough to decide &
settle all matters for you & us for
future. We are sure, you will
spare us time enough for all matters
to decide. We have written to

Mr Bordoloi about these matters
to inform to Assam Governor.
We are sure, Mr Bordoloi will

(4)

Inform you, that we want to
have a copy of Congress law
paper or a book containing Hill-
Tribes (Excluded area reported
by you recently.

All ways, pray to God
for your sickness for your
Indians brothers & sisters.

A copy of the Sub Cts
report be sent to him
when it is ready.
R.K.R ^(read by)
~~26/7/47~~ forabor Council.

Address:-

TAMIK. DABING GALLONG (abor)
Laimekuri
P.O. MUKONGSELEH N.E.F.
ASSAM.

letter No. 254.

(2) 2584/Con/4)

Dated Tacaw, Shillong,
Assam (6)
the 22nd July 1947.

To The under-Secretary,

constituent Assembly of India,
New Delhi.

W.S. W
Dear Sir,

Re-Draft Scheme.

With reference to your D.O. No. C.A./44/ Con/47 dated New Delhi the 11th June '47, I beg to state that my draft scheme was published in the local paper, the "Shillong Times" on the 6th June '47 and in a Calcutta paper, the "Hindustan Standard" of the 11th June '47, a cutting of which is herewith enclosed for kind reference. The scheme has, it may be said, met with public acceptance, especially among the enlightened Khasi community. It will be seen that the scheme set forth the claim of the Khasi people for a United Khasi State, under the name of "Khasi ^{Jaintia} Federated State". The District of Khasi and Jaintia Hills is essentially one and indivisible from the linguistic, cultural and geographical standpoints. The recognition of the district as a Khasi united state by the representatives of the Indian peoples will go a great way in the preservation and development of a brave race who will play an important role in the future defence of India as it had played its part well in the last world war. So the claim is reasonable and just and therefore irresistible.

It is well said somewhere — "that necessary safeguards for minorities should be embodied in the constitution is a reasonable and just claim, and one which, if granted, will materially assist in building up that spirit of goodwill, without which political progress is impossible."

It is happy to note that the Khasi States in a body have, jointly with the other states, sent a representative to the Indian constituent assembly.

It is happier still to read somewhere the public declaration made by our accredited leader, Pandit J. Nehru, in which he said, "we shall seek to build anew our relations with England on a friendly and cooperative basis forgetting the past which had leaned so heavily on us." "In spite of all faults, I love thee, England," one exclaimed.

The statesmanlike appeal of Sardar Patel to the Indian States to join the constituent assembly is indeed worthy of the great leaders who had "scorned wealth and lives of ease for the sake of the country."

It is our fond hope that recognition to our District as "Khasi-Jaintia Federated State" as advocated in the draft scheme will be accorded by the constituent assembly. Another cutting from the "Hindustan Standard" is attached for kind perusal.

We earnestly pray that our Indian leaders may be so led by the hand of Providence as to render the best services in the cause of Motherland and humanity at large.

Yours faithfully,
D.W.S. Wahlang.

Editor "Lurshai",
Author and etc.



(b)



Mr. D. N. S. Wahlang,

Editor U Lurshai,
Author of "Model English Translation"
& "Ki Khasi Poems ne Sur Khasi."

B. B. B.

2654/com/47

8 - 8/47

for 12

384

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

PRESIDENT CONSTITUENT
ASSEMBLY OF INDIA.

Forwarded
Sister day
Rec'd
From _____
By _____

Rec'd
M. Posts M. Telegraphs M. States

To _____
By _____

Date 12 AUG 1947
No. 2149147 P.C.T.

X NIL PASIGHAT 4 91 PRESIDENT CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY NEW DELHI

DISTRICT AUTONOMY AIDED BY CENTRAL GOT IF DEFICIT FOR ABOR HILLS A SUB AGENCY OF
NIDYA FRONTIER TRACT WERE IN BRIEF OUR DEMAND BEFORT RIBAL SUB COMMITTEE

WE CONCERNED OVER CONFLICTING NEWS ABOUT ADMINISTRATION FOR ABOR HILLS

AGAIN PRESS OUR CLAIM THAT OUR STAND IS UNCHANGED REQUEST DECISION OF TRIB

COMMITTEE BY WIRE BEFORE FINAL ADOPTION MY ASSEMBLY GIVING US OPPORTUNITY OF LET

ASSEMBLY OUR DESIRE AND DEMAND BEFORE TRANSFER OF POWER = APAK JAIO AND OTHERS ABOR

2636/Constituent

5-8-47

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INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT, CONSTITUENT

Read by
Governered
Date
By

M. Sent at
Te.
By

ASSEMBLY OF INDIA
Read on 1 AUG 1947
No. 1958147 P.M.

O MK AJAL 26 88 PRESIDENT CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY DELHI

D.W.T

m Par 58

PLEASE REFER EASTERN SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT RECOMMENDING AUTONOMY FOR HILLS

PEOPLE OF ASSAM STOP POSITION OF LUSHAI HILLS BECOME VERY AWKWARD SINCE SYLHET

BECOME PAKISTAN ALL COMMUNICATIONS CONTROL BY PAKISTAN STOP OUR DEMANDS FOR

INTERIM GOVERNMENT FOR PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS FREE TO DETERMINE OWN DESTINY

SUBMITTED PER OUR MEMORANDUM NO 52-62 OF FIRST JULY STILL MORE

IMPERATIVE TO TAKE EFFECT FROM FIFTEENTH AUGUST STOP ANY DECISION FROM

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

Nov 12
1930

Recd. at	H.	M.	Sent at	H.	M.	Office Stamp.
From						
To						
By						

OUTSIDE WILL NOT BE BLINDLY ACCEPTED BY MI ZOS STOP REFERNDUM

STRONGLY REQUESTED == SECRETARY MIZO UNION COUNCIL

2656/Com/47 Recd & CA (Mr. Ramashyam)
8-8-47. The Assam Tribal League Standing Committee
~~16/Assam~~ 618 w
(Tengsungi) P. O.

PRESIDENT: SREE DAMBARUDHAR SAIKIA.
VICE PRESIDENT: SREE SATISH CH. BASUMATARI.
SECRETARY: SREE JOGENDRANATH HAZARIKA, B. A.

DATE 5th, August '47.

Demands of the Assam Tribals.

Dear Panditji,

First of all accept our heartiest congratulations on the formation of a new National Government, representing the people in India.

Presumably you are aware that on the eastern border of India, Nagas and Khasi Hill State intend to declare their independence on the 15th August '47 or thereafter, thus secede from India. If it so happens then Assam border would ever remain a hot spot of trouble and if the questions of these tribes are not tackled in proper time India's eastern defence in future will be greatly jeopardized so an early and reconciliatory settlement with the Assam tribes is indispensable. To solve this tangle and induce to the Tribals and Khasi Hill State Chief to voluntarily join the Indian Union, their due share in the Indian Administration is essential, for which the following proposals are sent for your consideration.

1. Khasi State and Nagas should be asked to send their special representatives to the Indian Constituent Assembly and with this end in view a Mission should immediately be sent to those areas, to enlighten and explain them the expediency for co-operation with the Indian Union.

2. At least one ~~of the~~ Member should be taken ~~from~~,
in the Dominion Cabinet for the time being and a Provincial Governorship should be offered to the Tribals or Aborigines

The Assam Tribal League Standing Committee

PRESIDENT: SREE DAMBARUDHAR SAIKIA.
VICE PRESIDENT: SREE SATISH CH. BASUMATARI.
SECRETARY: SREE JOGENDRANATH HAZARIKA, B. A.

P. O.

2.

DATE _____

Aborigines of India as a whole.

3. One Ambassador should be appointed from among them for any Eastern country and also a member should be taken in the Bihar Ministry forthwith out of the seven Members in the Legislature there.

Some of the demands have already been submitted to your Government and other National leaders by various Tribal organizations and one of which was recently ~~made~~ addressed by the Members of Tribal Areas of ~~Assam~~ in the Indian Union C. A. sent to you and Mahatmaji.

It is seen that all communities have been given due representations in the Dominion Cabinet and other in other Deptts. of the Govt. Machinery. Therefore we see there is no reason why the 25 million Tribals or Aborigines of India should not be taken into consideration.

Further for the solution of the Tribals problem, the Advisory Committee to the Indian C. A. has already decided the principle of joint electorate based upon adult franchise with the reservation of seats in the Legislatures and also in the public services but this does not actually satisfy their demands in as much as through this system of franchise, the poor, illiterate, scattered and backward people of Tribal plains hardly can send their accredited representatives, who would command their respect and honour, and voice their feelings. The right of exercising of separate voting in any way will not affect the integrity and solidarity of India but will help the Tribals to their real representation.

(27)

The Assam Tribal League Standing Committee

PRESIDENT : SREE DAMBARUDHAR SAIKIA.
VICE PRESIDENT : SREE SATISH CH. BASUMATARI.
SECRETARY : SREE JOGENDRANATH HAZARIKA, B. A.

P. O.

DATE

3.

Thanking you.

Yours faithfully.

Jogendranath Hazarika
Secretary. 5/8145

2622/Cony/47
4 - 7 - 47.

From : Lal Biak Thanga, Esqr., M.A.

Chairman, United Mizo Freedom Organisation,

P.O. AJAL, Lushai Hills, Assam.

- To :
1. His Excellency The Viceroy of India, New Delhi.
 2. President, Constituent Assembly, India Union, New Delhi.
 3. President, All-India Muslim League, New Delhi.
 4. His Excellency the Governor of Assam, Shillong.
 5. Chairman, Advisory Sub-Committee, Assam Tribal and Excluded Areas',

Constituent Assembly, New Delhi.

Dated, Ajal, The 24th. July, 1947.

Copy of Telegram :

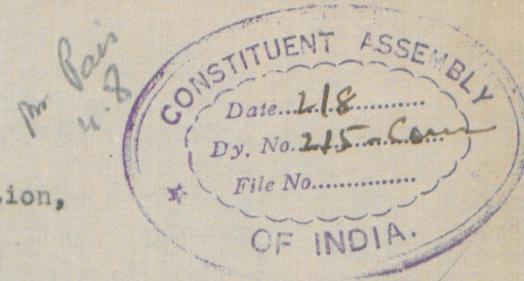
"DUE TO RECENT CHANGES RESULTING IN THE PARTITION OF INDIA AFTER THE VISIT OF ASSAM TRIBAL AREAS' ADVISORY SUB-COMMITTEE IN LUSHAI HILLS NO DECISION OF THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY INDIA UNION CAN BE ACCEPTED AS FINAL AND BINDING BY THE LUSHAI'S stop THE EXCEPTIONAL POSITION OF LUSHAI HILLS IN DIVIDED INDIA RESULTS IN CHANGES OF OPINION AND MAKES IT IMPERATIVE AND UNAVOIDABLE TO CALL A REFERENDUM TO DECIDE WHETHER TO JOIN INDIA UNION PAKISTAN OR BURMA.

LALBIAKTHANGA.
CHAIRMAN, UNITED MIZO FREEDOM ORGANISATION,
LUSHAI HILLS, AJAL."

Your Excellency,

Reference to my telegram above D/23.7.47 in continuation to my letter and telegram No. nil, dated 15th.July, 1947 I have the honour to write on behalf of the Mizo (Lushai) people -

That as stated in my previous letter the political situation in Lushai Hills had so long been nothing but one of confusion and indecision. The people are yet simple and primitive, at the same time very definite and exact in their aims and aspirations, namely the safeguarding of their hearths and homes from the exploitation of their neighbouring much-more advanced and well-to-do plainsmen. It was only a year since the common people began to open their eyes and take interests, as touching their own future well-being, in current political problems. Incorporation with a unified India with full provisions for the safeguarding of the solidarity and integrity of the Mizo people and exploitation of the lands by outsiders under a broad district autonomy appears to have been the ideal of some of the people in Lushai Hills, as is evidenced by the reports given in the Advisory Sub-Committee of the Assam Tribal and Excluded Areas' Constituent Assembly India Union. Since then far-reaching changes of great importance have taken place necessitating the reconsideration of the fate of our country in the light of the current



current events consequent upon the division of India into two (possibly more) sovereign states.

The exceptional position of Mizoram (Lushai Hills) geographically and its strategic importance as a result of the establishment of the Pakistan state all round our country cutting us off all our important outlets to the neighbouring plains makes it most imperative and unavoidable to revise and amend whatever recommendations and suggestions advanced by the different sectional interests of the Mizo people in the Advisory Sub-Committee of the Assam Tribal and Excluded Areas', Constituent Assembly, India Union , which have become out of date.

Furthermore, it appears to be the case that the said Committee based its recommendations principally from the suggestions and plans of the Mizo Union which was so long taken to be the most representative body of the Mizo Tribe. It must be noted, however that this Mizo Union can no longer claim (in fact, it could not have claimed even in the past but for the false figures supplied as the strength of its organisation, which, as has been shown in my previous letter, is not based on facts and figures but on presumption) to voice the majority opinion of the people as the members of the organisation itself are not unanimous in their wishes, and as about a thousand of its members belong to areas outside the Lushai Hills district. To make it more explicit I beg to show that I am writing on behalf of a party within the Mizo Union itself who are strongly of the opinion of reconsidering the shape of our destiny as to whether we should be incorporated in India Union, Pakistan or Burma. My party, commanding the majority opinion of the Mizo people in and outside the fold of the Mizo Union is definitely of the opinion that it is too much premature to accept as final and binding the recommendations of the Advisory Sub-Committee of the Constituent Assembly, India, for the Assam Tribal and Excluded Areas'. The situation, in short, is nothing but indecisiveness and uncertainty.

It is therefore our request that sufficient time be given us that the MIZO people will be in a position to express their wishes as unanimously and definitely as possible. For this it is our demand that a referendum to decide whether Mizoram be incorporated in the India-Union, Pakistan or Burma. Only a referendum of the type recently held in Sylhet and other parts of India can give a true verdict of the real wishes of the people. Preparations and necessary actions are being taken for such a referendum awaiting approval from the authority.

None can and should withhold the liberty of a small race of the Mizo people the freedom of exercising their just and undeniable rights of expressing their wishes in a free and democratic country that is India.

Your Excellency,

Lal Bisk Thanga
(Lal Bisk Thanga)

Copy to :

The Superintendent, Lushai Hills,
Aijal.

Chairman, United Mizo Freedom Organisation,

Aijal, Lushai Hills, Assam.

B.T.B.



23/

553

2677/contd/47

No.

11-8-47

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

Recd. at	H.	M.	Sent at	H.	PRESIDENT SECRETARY OF INDIA
From				To	R. 1 AUG 1947
By				By	No. 2268/47 P.C.A.

TO MA KOHIMA 765 DR RAJENDRA PRASAD PRESIDENT INDIAN CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

NEW DELHI

MANIPURI PRINCE OR ANOTHER MANIPURI CANNOT NEGOTIATE WITH INDIA ON BEHALF OF

ANY SECTION OF HILL PEOPLES OF MANIPUR IS AN INTERGRAL PART OF NAGA AND LUSHAI

PEOPLES NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN MANIPUR AND INDIA ON THIS LINE WILL BE FRUITLESS AND

DISASTROUS MAO, NAGA AND OTHER HILL SECTIONS DECIDED TO SECEDE FROM STATE =

Ph. Art Press, Lahore - S/179 - 40, 50/- Rs.

A DAIHO MAO

B.T.B.

9620/Congress

8. 8-47

K. U. S.
L. J. D.

24
C. No
73
(38)

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

No.

Recd. at _____
From _____
By _____

M. Sent at _____ H.
To _____
By _____

PRESIDENT, CONSTITUENT	
M. ASSEMBLY	OFFICE STAMPS
Recd. on 9 AUG 1947	NO. 2245747
RCA	

FROM AJAL 8 23 PRESIDENT CONSEMBLY NEW DELHI

GS /32 MIZO UNION HAS NO RIGHT WING STOP THIS REFERS TO TELEGRAM SIXTH AUGUST

FROM LALBIAKTHANGA = VANTHUMA SECRETARY MIZOUNION

284 Contd/47.

14-Dated Aijal, the 30th August 1947.

21



His Excellency the Governor of Assam,
Shillong.

May it please your Excellency,

It is learnt that in his Memo No. 1/LH dated 26.8.47 the Secretary of the so called All Party Leaders' Meeting held on the 25th August 1947 at Aijal, requested for sanction of the establishment of the Lushai Hills District Representative body in accordance with the scheme put forward by Mr. Macdonald, former Superintendent of this District. This proposed Representative Body, your Excellency may remember, is no other than the one which, because of it being undemocratic in character and its composition contrary to the popular wishes, was boycotted by the Mizo Union and subsequently ordered by Your Excellency for its postponement; and if pressure be made for its renewal now the Mizo Union intends to resist it to the last. As Your Excellency had already been informed when the Mizo Union Delegates last came to Your Excellency, the Mizo Union is undoubtedly the biggest political party in this district, having more than 20,000 full members within its fold, and is therefore the only party entitled to speak for this District; and for future governance of this District it has already submitted to the Advisory Sub-Committee of the Indian Consamby its Memorandum and Draft Constitution, which still stand today.

As regards the other parties, all of which were formed long after the Advisory Sub-Committee of the Indian Consamby visited the District, the following facts are given for Your Excellency's information :-

(1). The Mizo Government Servants Association:- The Association was organised only a month ago only to deal with matters relating to the Government Servants interests. As politics is outside the jurisdiction of the Government Servants, according to the Government Servants Conduct Rules, it is believed to be quite improper for this Association to meddle with the politics and still more improper for the Head Clerk of the Superintendent's Office to act as the Secretary of the so-called All Party Leaders' Meeting, as he did.

(2). The Lushai Ex-Services Association:- The Association being non-political, is not in a position to say anything besides the interest of the Association and as such those ex-service men who might have attended this Meeting did not at all express the political view of the Lushai ex-service men as a whole, but only of the individuals who participated in it.

(3). The Mizo Union Council (presented to Your Excellency as the Mizo Union Council Right Wing):- This Council consists of some of the office-bearers and Councillors who failed to return in the general Election of the Mizo Union General Assembly held in January 1947. These retiring persons, therefore, created the Mizo Union Council with their declared policy of "Complete Independence" for this District. This Council has no followers worth mentioning besides a few dissenters from the Mizo Union. And the Mizo Union, being one and indivisible, had never had any Right or Left Wing.

(4). The United Mizo Freedom Organisation:- This organisation was created in June 1947 by a handful people with the intention of persuading the Mizos (Lushais) to join the Independence Burma. As far as is known, this party has not been properly organised till today.

As the various parties given above are the ones trying for this District to be outside the Indian Union, the Mizo Union opines that they are not entitled to take part in any discussion in respect of the future constitution of the District, if this District is to be included in the Indian Union. It is requested, further, to inform Your Excellency that in celebration of the 15th August 1947 the Mizo Union held a public meeting at Kulikawn Bazar, Aijal in which more than 1,000 people attended, all Mizo Unionists, while some 50 strong of other parties put up an effort to pull down the Indian National Flag had it been hoisted.

Lastly, as advised by Your Excellency, when the Delegates of the Mizo Union last appeared before Your Excellency, the Mizo Union and the Chiefs are now negotiating for forming the District Representative Body for the present transitional period, the Body which is to be purely advisory in character. But when the real District Council with its entitled administrative powers is to be established, the Mizo Union will not accept any Council other than as laid down in the Draft Constitution prepared by the Mizo Union in respect of the Council's composition.

Your Excellency's most obedient
servant,

Gauthamane
(Vanthuama)
General Secretary,
The Mizo Union,
Aijal

Copy to -

- (1) The Hon'ble Prime Minister, India Union.
- (2) President, Consamby of the India Union.
- (3) Hon'ble Prime Minister of Assam, Shillong.
- (4) R.K. Ramadhyani, Esqr., I.C.S. Joint Secry, Consamby.
- (5) Hon'ble J.J.M. Nichols Roy.
- (6) Chairman, Advisory Committee of the India Consamby. ✓
- (7) Superintendent, Lushai Hills.
- (8) Adviser to His Excellency the Governer of Assam, Shillong.

Dated Aijal, the 30th August 1947.

To.

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Shillong.

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your Excellency's most obedient
servant,

Vanthuama
(Vanthuama)
General Secretary,
The Mizo Union,
Aijal

Copy to -

- (1) The Hon'ble Prime Minister, India Union.
- (2) President, Congress of the India Union.
- (3) Hon'ble Prime Minister of Assam, Shillong.
- (4) R.K. Ramadhyani, Esqr., I.C.S. Joint Secy, Congress.
- (5) Hon'ble J.J.M. Nichols Roy.
- (6) Chairman, Advisory Committee of the India Congress.
- (7) Superintendent, Lushai Hills.
- (8) Adviser to His Excellency the Governor of Assam, Shillong.

2864/com 147 38
19/9/47 GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

The Prime Minister's Secretariat.

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Forwarded to Com. Assembly dealt.

plains
14/9
The communication has been acknowledged.
not been



March
| (V.H. Coelho) 6/9/47
Private Secretary to the Prime Minister.

Prime Minister's Sectt. u/o No. 692-PS(M)/4 dated 16.9.47

B.T.B.

C



No.

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

Recd. at _____ From _____ By _____	H. _____ COPIED.	M. _____ To _____ By _____	Sent at _____ H. _____ M. _____
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Date 16-9-47
No 692-PS(47)147
Private Secretary Branch

X QD16/20 KOHIMA 14

PANDIT NEHRU ND

NAGA HILLS CANNOT BE CONSIDERED PART OF INDIA UNION UNTIL HEADS OF PROPOSED AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNOR OF ASSAM AND THE NAGA NATIONAL COUNCIL IS ACCEPTED TO THE LETTER FOR EXECUTION WITH NO 9 MODIFIED AS AT THE END OF THIS PERIOD THE NAGAS WILL BE FREE TO ~~MAKE~~ DECIDE THEIR OWN FUTURE.

- PRESIDENT NAGA NATIONAL COUNCIL KOHIMA -

To,

Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru,
Prime Minister, Indian Union.

Punditji,

At Kohima on the 19th February 1947, the Naga National Council prepared a Memorandum expressing the desire of the Naga people, which runs, ".... The Memorandum seeks to present the case of the Naga people for self-determination, for the realisation of which an appeal is made to H.M.G. and the Government of India to set up for the Naga people an interim government for a period of ten years, at the end of which the Naga people will be left to choose any form of government under which they will live..... These freedom loving Nagas look up to His Majesty's Government and the Government of India to do just the proper thing and grant them their just demand for setting up an Interim Government of the Naga people."

This Memorandum was duly submitted to the Authorities concerned. It was a time when events in India were moving faster than could be imagined. However, the Nagas kept silence. We waited for three months.

Since no reply had been received, the Naga National Council on the 19th May 1947 sent reminders to the various authorities with a fuller explanation of the "Interim Demand", i.e., the 10 years Interim Government for the Naga people. It was explained:

1. The Interim Government of the Naga people will be a government by the Naga people over all the people of Naga-land, having full powers in respect Legislation, Executive and Judiciary.

2. Nagaland belongs to the Naga people, and will be inalienable.

3. The Interim Government of the Naga people will have full power in the matter of raising and expenditure of revenue, and an annual subvention to cover the deficit to be given by the Guardian power.

4. For defence and for aiding the Civil power in cases of emergency, a force considered adequate by the Naga National Council will be maintained in Nagaland, which will be responsible to the Naga National Council, who will in turn be responsible to the Guardian power.

This Memorandum, with full explanation, was also submitted to the Advisory Sub-Committee of the Constituent Assembly which met the Naga National Council at Kohima on the 20th May, 1947. The Subcommittee was not prepared to discuss with the Naga people in the spirit of the Memorandum. Instead, they drafted seven points and submitted them to the National Council saying that they could cooperate with the Nagas in determining their political future only concerning these points. The Naga National Council spared no pains in examining the Sub-Committee's offer. After prolonged discussion and full deliberation, the Naga National Council rejected it. The Status Quo remained.

Five weeks elapsed after the visit of the Sub-Committee. His Excellency, the Governor of Assam, as the Agent of H.M.G. and Government of India, arrived at Kohima on the 26th June with the intention of discussing with the Naga National Council the "Ten Year Interim Demand" to break the deadlock.

After three days of hard labour, where both parties concerned showed tolerance and patience, a compromise was reached, and consequently the "Heads of the Proposed Agreement" were made. (Details of that Agreement are attached herewith.)

From the very beginning, the members of the Naga National Council were not unanimously in favour of the Agreement. Many of them, though in the minority, held to our original demand, and they attached great importance to the last Clause, viz., "At the end of the ten years the Nagas will be free to choose their own future." Since then, even the life of the Naga National Council has been threatened. Some members resigned. Because of the spirit situation caused by the Agreement, an emergency meeting was held, and the Naga National Council decided to modify the last paragraph of Clause 9 of the "Agreement" in favour of the original demand.

The Unity and Solidarity of the Nagas was once more resumed. The Naga National Council sent a strong delegation to Delhi with the modified Clause and pressed it before the Right Honourable Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru. The treatment received from Pundit Nehru was far below what we had expected. The delegation returned quite disappointed, but more determined than ever.

From this statement every right thinking person will agree that the Nagas have tried their best to settle the case amicably. They left not a stone unturned in order to bring the inspiration and wishes of the Naga people to the minds of the authorities. However the more anxious the Naga people are, the greater is the negligence and unsympathetic attitude of the authorities. For this reason the Naga National Council painfully, and after thorough study of the situation prevailing in our motherland, decided to render the last chance of cooperation with the Government of India by giving 30 days time in the form of an ultimatum. If this fails, then the Naga people will not cooperate with the existing Government and Nagaland shall cease to be a part of the Indian Union from 6th December 1947.

Kohima, the 6th November, 1947. 18/11.

Dy. No. 46a-C
File No.

On behalf of the Naga National Council.

Sd T. Aliba Imti,

President

Sd. Kambhe Angami,

Secretary

(B)

HEADS OF PROPOSED AGREEMENT WITH NO 9 MODIFIED.

That the right of the Nagas to develop themselves according to their freely expressed wishes is recognised.

1. Judicial:- All cases whether civil or criminal arising between Nagas in the Naga Hills will be disposed of by duly constituted Naga courts according to Naga customary law, or such law as may be introduced with the consent of duly recognised Naga representative organizations; save that where a sentence of transportation of death has been passed there will be right of appeal to the Governor.

In cases arising between Nagas and non-Nagas in (a) Kohima and Mokokchung town areas, and (b) in the neighbouring plain districts, the judge, if not a Naga, will be assisted by a Naga assessors.

2. Executive:- The general principle is accepted that what the Naga National Council is prepared to pay for, the Naga National Council should control. This principle will apply equally to the work done as well as the staff employed.

While the District Officer will be appointed at the discretion of the Governor, Sub-Divisions of the Naga Hills should be administered by a Sub-Divisional Council with a full time Executive President, paid by the Naga National Council, who would be responsible to the District Officer for all matters falling within the latter's responsibility, and to the Naga National Council for all matters falling within their responsibility.

In regard to:-- (a) Agriculture-- The Naga National Council will exercise all the powers now vested in the District Officer.

(b) C.W.D. - The Naga National Council will take over full control.

(c) Education and Forest Department- The Naga National Council is prepared to pay for all the services and staff.

3. Legislative:- That no laws passed by the Provincial or Centre Legislature which would materially affect the terms of this agreement or the religious practices of the Naga shall have legal force in the Naga Hills without the consent of the Naga National Council.

In cases of dispute as to whether any law did so affect this agreement, the matter would be referred by the Naga National Council to the Governor who would then direct that the law in question should not have legal force in the Naga Hills pending the decision of the Central Government.

4. Land:- That Land with all its resources in the Naga Hills should not be alienated to a non-Naga without the consent of the Naga National Council.

5. Taxation:- That the Naga National Council will be responsible for the imposition, collection, and expenditure of land revenue and house tax and of such other taxes as may be imposed by the Naga National Council.

6. Boundaries:- That the present administrative divisions should be modified so as (1) to bring back into the Naga Hills District all the forests transferred to the Sibsagar and Nowgong Districts in the past and (2) to bring under unified administrative unit as far as possible, all Nagas. All the areas so included would be within the scope of the present proposed agreement.

No areas should be transferred out of the Naga Hills without the consent of the Naga National Council.

7. Arms Act:- The District Officer will act on the advice of the Naga National Council in accordance with the provisions of the Arms Act.

8. Regulations:- The Chin Hills Regulations, and the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulations will remain in force.

9. Period of Agreement:- The Governor of Assam as the Agent of the Government of the Indian Union will have a special responsibility for a period of ten years to ensure the due observance of this agreement, at the end of this period the Nagas will be free to decide their own future.

Copy To - R.Ramadhyani I.C.S.
Joint Secy. Capt. Bawali.
for necessary action.



48 Dy. No. 3656/84/47 D/18/11
Nongstoin State.

(134)

From

U Sib Singh,

Chief of Nongstoin State.

Subject Statement made by H. E. the Governor of Assam on the 16th August 1947 in the Office of the Federation of Khasi States.

No. 69-72.

Dated Nongstoin the 4th November 1947.

To

His Excellency the Governor of Assam
and Agent to the Union of India.



Your Excellency,

A whisper came that you are leaving Assam soon and should that proves true we shall certainly miss you and Lady Hyderi very badly.

Your speech delivered on the 16th August 1947 in the Office of the Federation of Khasi States has created a great doubt in my mind and I was thinking of having it clarified when things are somewhat smooth down and settled but fearing now that I may not avail of that opportunity I am taking the liberty of addressing this letter with a hope that the matter will kindly be enlightened by yourself and not leave to a successor who may rightly refuse taking the trouble of clarifying statements made by others.

Peru
The first part of your speech which encouraged and advocated unity of all Khasi States was quite in consonant with the advice given by Lord Willingdon, then Viceroy of India on which the foundation of the Federation of Khasi States has been mainly and originally based. In the preamble of the Standstill Agreement it has also been clearly and definitely mentioned that the Federation "includes all the Khasi States". But the latter part of your speech, which was emphatically made for the purpose of removing misunderstanding, did not only opened a wide door for division but presented a blank cheque for separate negotiation. These contradictory statements cannot be reconciled except by the author himself and unless that is done confusion will undoubtedly take place with a result that can better be imagined than described.

To cite an instance - in the Shillong Times issue of 7th October 1947, under the caption "States of Khasi States" it has already been suggested that "Khasi States are at liberty to negotiate for the best terms with the successor Government or Governments". This is as repugnant as it is apparent according to which my State, for example, can negotiate with either of the two new Dominions in India. It may further be interpreted that making of negotiation with foreign powers such as Russia etc. is not impossible.



The case being anomalous I trust Your

P.T.O.

Excellency will appreciate the imperative necessity of a clear interpretation before it is too late.

With best regards to yourself and Lady Hyderi.

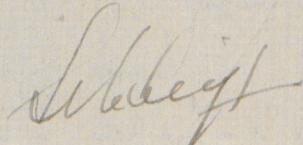
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Copy to

- (1) the Secretary Constituent Assembly of India
Council House New Delhi. ✓
- (2) Federation of the Khasi States - Shillong.
Rai Bahader
- (3) and to Mr. Guha, Representative to Constituent Assembly of India for Tripura, Manipur and the Khasi States; for comment.

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Yours Respectfully,



Siem of Nongstoin
State.

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