

point, and that is, no matter what you may hear or what people who are interested may tell you, I want to say as a member of the Government of New Zealand that all the members of the Government are your firm friends, and the Government of New Zealand and the Administrator here will always be willing to respond to any reasonable request from the people of Samoa. You have here in Samoa one of the most beautiful countries on the face of the earth; you have rich soil, a good climate, everything grows here in profusion, you are fine strong healthy people, and I feel sure that if only you will back up the Administrator he will back you up, and there is a wonderful future for this country.

I want further to say that when I go back to New Zealand, no matter what I hear against Samoa or the people of Samoa, in me at least you will have a firm friend—one who will always stand up for Samoa and tell the people what wonderful prospects there are for these islands. I have to thank you for listening to me.

*His Excellency the Administrator*: Now the time has come for us to part. I have prolonged this meeting because of the pleasure of seeing your faces here this afternoon, but now we must disperse. My best wishes go with you wherever you go, and I trust you may be led to happy conclusions in any deliberations you make which will lead to the welfare of the country. I will just say that I hope it will not be long before we meet again.

*Tuimalealiifano*: Would you please wait? We have a speech to make.

*Faumuina*: With regard to to-morrow we now hear that you are going to commence again to-morrow; that means you are going to start to chase us away from here. We thought you could let us have time to discuss your points and consider the matters you have put before us. You left it to me to arrange with the Commodore with regard to the wanted men. I do not know who they are. You may have a list of them and you can call them, or the Commodore himself. Will you please hear us again? The Minister said that he is going back to New Zealand with great satisfaction, but what about us?

*Hon. Mr. Cobbe*: I think a brighter and a better day is going to dawn for Samoa. I think the future is going to be very good. I am going back to a colder climate; I have not got the pleasures you have here.

*Tuimalealiifano*: I am very old—eighty-four years of age. My heart is full of love for my people, as I have experience of what has happened since New Zealand has been working for the Samoans. You said New Zealand is very kind, but I tell you to stand in your position with righteousness. You said that the Government of New Zealand is very kind; I have seen myself and I have experience of it. It is not. Many Samoans, many thousands of Samoans have been buried in the earth. Therefore, listen to me clearly. You should have righteousness and truthfulness. Act as Christ taught us. Be truthful. Why are you telling lies? The gospel of truth has been with us for many years—a hundred years—you taught us and we got it from you. What was the cause of this? Because of you. Every past Administrator has cut off our heads (metaphorically). Do you understand that? You mentioned that there are people who committed offences, and how about you? There are also people who have committed offences amongst you. We now see that you are only trying to get something good for you out of us. What about us? We were only starving, dispersed in the bush, the sea, the land, everywhere. We have already said that our objects—what the Mau wanted—are in those various petitions, but you say so and so, and so and so, and it is confusing. You said to end the Mau and to abandon the Mau, but how about its cargo? The Mau is like a ship with the cargo in it. When the ship reaches the land, then the cargo will be discharged. Now, you said to end the Mau, but how about the objects of the Mau? You have beaten the Mau and disturbed the Mau and treated the Mau improperly, and now you ask to end it. How about the Mau belongings? I thought you were going to deal with this matter easily and slow, and deal with us carefully, and how about killing the Mau like animals? That is very bad. We know the custom in enlightened countries—when a man's hands are lifted up there is no firing. You, the Government, why do you publish in the newspapers saying the Mau would not bring the wanted men down? We came down that day with our procession without knowing that you had made those exceptional arrangements. Why did not you say to Tuimalealiifano or Tamasese or Faumuina, "Bring and give up the wanted men?" Why did not you demand of us to give up the prisoners?

[Tui interrupted by various comments from adjacent Samoans.]

What I want now is let the Mau live until it gets what it wants. When they get that they will drop the Mau away. Give us time to disperse and return home and think over the matters that you have put to us. And with regard to the Mau uniforms—they do not hurt the Government, there are no bullets in them. Let us wear our uniform until we get what we are aiming for. Now, what have you given to the Mau? You only urged the Mau to give up, and you have nothing to give to satisfy us. The Mau will not say, Yes until you have put a crown on the Mau.

*His Excellency the Administrator*: There is the point as to the time when you are ready to go home. I suggested 8 o'clock to-morrow morning, but you may require some time longer.

*Tuimalealiifano*: Please let us discuss it.

*His Excellency the Administrator*: I shall have to fix a time for you, unless you suggest a time yourselves. If you suggest a time I am quite ready to discuss it.

[No response.]

*His Excellency the Administrator*: In order to give you ample time I shall fix the time definitely for twelve noon to-morrow.

*Tuimalealiifano*: We suggest Friday for us to return home, and continuing the Mau we shall stay there and go on with the Mau, and pray for the Government until such time as the Mau gets what it wants.

*His Excellency the Administrator*: I think it is more important to pray for the Mau. I am quite agreeable to Friday. Let us say 8 o'clock on Friday morning, but meanwhile we shall leave it for the Commodore or Commander Jeffreys to arrange with you about the wanted men.

Meeting concluded.