

be hoped that he will see this
thing as right.

Copy to the W.O. with
ref. to our 17. of the work
of Jan 1955?

S.R.

6/11/5

See now 7.0. Secret, which puts a
better complexion on the military position.

S.R.

8/11/5

U.S. 11. 2. 15

J

J. 2. 15.

(See by her transcript with

70. 6119 S. Uganda)

Howell 3

C. O.
5855

REC'D
15 FEB 15 93

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

NAIROBI.

BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE

No. 20

January 13th 1915.

Sir,

Gov 1353
Gov 19716

1. I have the honour to confirm my telegram No. 7 of the 8th instant, which was as follows:-

"Your despatch No. 552 of June 9th. Operations against Turkhana which had been unavoidably postponed owing to war are now being undertaken the General Officer Commanding having been able to detail a column for the purpose. Despatch follows".

from G. C., K. A. R.
with enclosure
4. 8. 14

from Mr. Athill
22. 7. 14

from Capt. Barrett
Oct. 30th '14.

from P. C., Naivasha
28. 11. 14

from P. C., Naivasha
10. 12. 14

from Mr. Athill
12. 12. 14

2. In accordance with the authorization contained in your despatch No. 542 of June 9th arrangements were made in July last for combined operations on the part of this Protectorate and Uganda against the Turkhana and the troops detailed for the purpose had actually started when they had to be recalled owing to the outbreak of hostilities with Germany.

3. It was recognized at the time that the abandonment of the expedition was an unfortunate circumstance which could not fail to have a bad effect

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

LEWIS HARCOURT, P. C., M. P.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET,

LONDON, S. W.

effect on the tribes concerned but the exigencies of the situation left no other course open to us.

4. Subsequent events have confirmed this view.

On August 4th the Officer Commanding, 3rd King's African Rifles forwarded a report from Lieutenant Hall at Kulal describing raids by the Turkhana during the month of June and Captain Barrett, Officer-in-Charge, Northern Frontier District, in a letter dated October 30th referred to a further raid in which the Samburu and Rendile manyattas near Mount Kulal were attacked, twenty men killed and a number of stock looted. These were subsequently recovered by Lieutenant Hall.

5. On November 28th the Provincial Commissioner, Naivasha, reported that the Turkhana were describing themselves as Germans and raiding the Suk. It is evident therefore that they are becoming aggressive on both sides of their country, and I have for some time been most anxious to renew the operations which had to be postponed in July. Copies of the various reports referred to are attached.

6. I accordingly consulted the General Officer Commanding and he agreed that action was necessary and arranged for the necessary disposal for the purpose a police column 800 strong under the command of Major Edwards, D.S.O., Inspector General.

7. I have communicated with Uganda and, although that Administration is not at present able to afford us much assistance the garrison at Marich has been instructed to cooperate with our forces.

The garrison at Marich will also join an expedition which will start immediately.

8. In the meanwhile, as I have recently learnt, Capt. Hall and Lieutenant [redacted] will have found it necessary to take certain punitive measures on their own initiative as described in the latter's letter of December 12th, a copy of which I enclose. The military authorities do not consider it probable that the main operations will be adversely affected by the action so taken.

9. I am very hopeful that the expedition will result in bringing the Turkhana to their senses. It is at any rate certain that without vigorous measures on our part the situation in that region can never be satisfactory.

I have the honour to be,

Sir

Your humble, obedient servant,



GOVERNOR'S Deputy

8. In the meanwhile, as I have recently learnt, Capt. Hall and Lieutenant Adams have found it necessary to take certain punitive measures on their own initiative as described in the letter's letter of December 12th, a copy of which I enclose. The military authorities do not consider it probable that the main operations will be adversely affected by the action so taken.

9. I am very hopeful that the expedition will result in bringing the Turkhana to their senses. It is at any rate certain that without vigorous measures on our part the situation in that region can never be satisfactory.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,



GOVERNOR's Deputy

Copy.

C.O.
5855

3RD BATTALION KING'S AFRICAN RIFLES.

In reply please quote
Memorandum No. 806/45/14
and date.

Nairobi.

4th August, 1914.

From
The Officer Commanding
3rd Battalion King's African Rifles.

To
The Honourable
The Ag. Chief Secretary.

Subject : Turkana organised attempt to raid
the Samburu.

I beg to forward herewith a report by

Lieut. A.K.D. Hall, Commanding Detachment the K.A.
Rifles at Kulal.

Sd/- H. S. Filsell Captain

for Officer Commanding 3rd Bn. K.A. Rifles.

From C. G. Detachment
Srd E.A. Riffes, Lake Rudolf.

100

To The Adjutant
Srd E.A. Riffes, Nairobi.

Sir,

I have the honour to report the following organized attempt on the part of the Turkana to raid the Samburr dwelling on Mt. Kulal and in the vicinity of the Loyangalani Government Boma.

On the morning of the 17th inst. an Elmole (The Elmole are a small fishing tribe dwelling on the Eastern shores of Lake Rudolf) brought me information to say that while he and 15 other Elmole were asleep on the Lake shore on the night of the 15th-16th June, about 40 Turkana Moran had swept down on them and carried them. Among the Turkana Moran was one who could speak Samburr so could converse with the Elmole as their tongue is identically the same as the Samburr. The Turkana put the following questions to the Elmole:-

1. Where are the Samburr goat and cattle manyettas, as we have come to get some stock.
2. Where is the Govt. Boma.
3. Where are the Sandille Manyettas, as we want some camels.

The Elmole replied that they did not know where the manyettas were, as they were purely a fishing tribe and lived on the Lake shore and said that the Govt. used to have a Boma near here a long time ago, but now they did not know where the Boma was. Some of the Turkana were in favour of murdering the Elmole but they finally decided that they would not on condition that the Elmole supplied them with fish until they had raided the Samburr and got more other food. The Elmole agreed to this and supplied the Turkana with fish but sent off 2 of their men - one to inform me and the other one to warn the Samburr of the approach of the Turkana.

I decided to move off from here as soon as possible so as to prevent the intended raid from the Turkana if possible.

I sent a Corporal and 9 men by a track leading under the foot of Mt. Kulal and running parallel to the Lake shore but

about 6 miles from it, while I proceeded along the lake shore as I gathered the Turkana were making the lake the base of their raiding operations. I gave the corporal orders to capture any Turkana he saw if possible and if unable to capture them to shoot them. I told him to work along the beach until it branched off to the lake shore and then to come and join me on the lake shore, at a camp we both knew of.

I left the Boma about noon on the 17th inst. and had not got more than 7 of an hour's march away from the Boma when my native Ilmolo scouts brought back information to say that there were hundreds of Turkana close to the water's edge some 1/4 of a mile in front. I went up to some high ground so as to observe through my glasses and saw that they had no stock of any description with them and I estimated the numbers as being somewhere between 500-700, though some of my men put it as being 2000. After telling 3 askaris off to look after the transport it left me with 8 men to attack the Turkana and I came to the conclusion that it was not sufficient to carry out any decisive action against such numbers. Consequently I sent back a runner with orders to bring 8 more askaris from the Boma, as I worked out that I should be able to get this additional re-inforcement up in time to try and round up the Turkana before nightfall and I had every reason to suppose the Turkana would stay where they were until I was ready, as they had not seen us and they had not as yet fulfilled their object in coming into the district. By 4 p.m. I got the additional 8 from the Boma and advanced along the dry river bed so as to keep out of the wood but rather close to the water's edge. We had not been marching by the water's edge but to our astonishment we discovered, as the Turkana must have evacuated it as we were advancing up the river bed. We followed their tracks until it became too dark to see them and then camped, thinking that we should have upon them a day in the morning.

I started off about 4 a.m. on the 18th and after going along

The Lake shore for about 3 hours found the Turkana's camp which had been vacated some 5 hours judging by the camp fire. We followed their tracks and found they all led along the Lake shore back to their own country and as there were no ~~Sacchar~~ mannyettas on the way that they could possibly raid and they had not been successful in carrying anything off with them, I considered further pursuit unjustifiable.

Consequently I awaited the arrival of my Corporal and 9 men who I had sent along a track between the Lake and Mt. Kulal; he arrived in my camp about 6 p.m. on the 18th instant and reported that he had come across a party of about 20 Turkana who were descending from the Mt. Kulal- the Turkana had no stock with them and as soon as they identified askaris they fled so my men pursued them and opened fire at 400 yds and they (my askaris) say they wounded 2 Turkana as they saw them drop and when they went up to examine the place where the Turkana were seen to fall, they found pools of blood but the wounded men managed to get away and hide somewhere among the rocks as the askaris were unable to find them anywhere. My Corporal tells me that after he fired on these 20 Turkana, he saw some 600-700 more departing over the hills these 600-700 had been sitting round a water hole to which my men were making for at the time and were evidently scared when they heard the sound of a rifle and took the track back to their own country.

I returned to the Loyangalani Boma on the 19th inst. as I felt assured that I had repulsed the p. for the time being.

Personally I am of opinion that the Turkana will return here, as I fancy this was more or less a voyage of discovery as they brought no food with them except a little melted fat which they carry in their wooden jars which can only be sufficient for a few days and I am perfectly certain that their main party which I came across on the Lake shore returned to their country through force of circumstances and not because they knew they were being pursued; I am led to this conclusion by the fact that we found no their camp on the night of

the 17th inst. with a quantity of discarded wooden jars all empty and that they had had no food such as goats or fish at all.

It is impossible for a regular patrol to be kept in Turkana for some time to come yet, I wonder whether another could be given me to patrol the country on the North-West shore of Lake Rudolf and the Eastern side of Lake Stgeta so as to recover some of the stock which the Samburr have had taken from them, as I am given to understand that all the Turkana raids on this side originate from that corner of their country.

I think, on my return from the patrol I have arranged with Lt. Athill towards the Abyssinian border, I could safely leave these Bomas in charge of 20 men and this would allow my taking 30 men into Turkana and if that number could be supplemented by a few from Ngabotok, I think it would go along way in deterring Turkana from raiding again on this side and keeping them in their own country until such time as they are properly chastised.

From what I have seen of the Turkana Moran, I do not think they mind losing a few of their number when raiding and unless I can round them up properly as I hoped to do the other day on Lake Rudolf shore, I don't think the knowledge that there are soldiers in the district will deter them from returning and I am afraid the natives-the Samburr especially- think that the Govt. is afraid to tackle the Turkana.

As may be imagined, at present the plight of the Samburr dwelling round here is almost pitiable, as they are threatened on 2 sides by Abyssinians and on the other 2 by Turkana but up to the present they have always been told that the Turkana would not venture to come up the East of Lake Rudolf as far as here- unfortunately this assurance can be given them no longer and consequently it is hard to tell them where to grass their stock in safety except in the immediate proximity of the Govt. Bomas.

I have etc.,
Sd. A.K.D. Hall Lieut 2nd R.A.R.

Copy

104

NAIROBI POST.

22nd July, 1914.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of a report which I despatched to you on the 6th June; I have since discovered that the bearer died en route and that the report was lost.

I have the honour to be,
etc., etc.,

Sd/- L.F.I Athill.

A. D. COMMISSIONER.

The Hon'ble
The Chief Secretary,
Nairobi.

forwarded to Officer in Charge,
Northern Frontier District, for
his information.

Lai angolani,
6th June 1914.

Sir,

I have the honour to report that a small section of Samburu has been raided by the Turkana. The details are briefly as follows:-

1. The flocks of a small Samburu manyatta, (Section, El Mussola; headman, Lesoe) were grazing in the neighbourhood of Naisesho on the Southern slopes of Mount Nyiro. A band of Turkana, estimated at 200 in strength, of what section I have been unable to discover, descended upon them from the direction of Embarta, and drove off their stock. The bulk of the raided Samburu fled to Mount Nyiro. A few followed the raiders, and six carried the news to Lieut. Wall, who was encamped at Lesobaki, reaching his camp at 10 p.m. This occurrence took place on the 5th May. Lieut. Wall moved at dawn on the 10th, was able to recover a large part of the stock; the Samburu lost one boy killed during the raid, and Mr. Wall killed and wounded several Turkana whose weapons he captured, though he was unable to find any bodies.

2. Lieut. Wall in his pursuit of the raiders found a series of newly constructed bomas constituting a regular "raiding route" into the Samburu country.

3. Lieut. Wall has sent a detailed report to his headquarters and to the Officer in Charge, N. F. D.

4. I am now proceeding to Mount Nyiro to adjust the claims for the recaptured stock and investigate the losses of the Samburu.

5. Another important raid has not been reported to me, as having taken place in the beginning of April.

Fifteen

THE HON'BLE THE CHIEF SECRETARY,
NAIROBI.

Fifteen Turkana Elmoran raided a small manyatta. A similar body of Samburu Elmoran gave chase and recovered the stock with a loss of 1 Turkana and 2 Samburu killed.

I have the honour to report that the resentment of the Samburu and Rendile caused by these raids is growing daily, and is noticeable not only on the border, but throughout this district.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

L.M.H.K.

A. D. COMMISSIONER,
NORTHERN SAMBURU.

107
UASO NYIRO POST,
30th October, 1914.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the Samburu report that they have again been raided by the Turkana.

2. It is evident that unless strong action is taken to stop raids, large parties of Turkana will cross into Samburu these rains and further massacres of men, women and children take place.

3. Mr. Parkinson, who has an expert Surveyor, Mr. Evans, with him, informs me that he can dispense with Mr. Athill's services for the time being. Under the circumstances, I have instructed Mr. Athill to proceed at once to Mbata which borders on Turkana country and in conjunction with Capt. Hall, the O. C. Troops, to act vigorously against any raiding bands they may come across. I have told Mr. Athill to take any measures he considers necessary.

4. On his relief by Mr. Castle-Smith, Mr. Athill will proceed to join Mr. Parkinson's safari as Mr. Parkinson will require his services later on when Mr. Evans is employed in well sinking.

5. I trust that you will consider that I have taken the right action in this matter.

I have etc.,

Sd/- W. E. H. Barrett

Officer in Charge

Northern Frontier District.

HON'BLE THE CHIEF SECRETARY,

NAIROBI.

In reply please quote

K. P. No. 66 Vol. II & date

Provincial Commissioner Office,

Malvasha,

28th November 1914

Sir,

I have the honour to forward a letter from the District Commissioner Eldama Ravine referring to the possibility of attack in force by the Turkana as far down as Njogaps.

2. If this was the only report concerning the Turkana it would be reasonable to treat it with suspicion.

3. From other letters received however both from Maerich and Ravine it appears the Turkana are perpetually raiding and killing Suk. One report states calling themselves Germans they lately attacked the Suk they styled as English in which fortunately seven of the former were killed.

4. The Suk partly to evade hut tax and partly from fear of the Turkana are moving in considerable numbers into Uganda.

5. It is the mere unfortunate that Mr Maturin left Maerich as Mr Crampton has been ill and unable to report about his district for about a fortnight.

6. The Uganda Police left at Maerich are becoming very discontented. Mr Maturin when I saw him in ~~September~~ ^{October} made a strong point in keeping these police together

The Hon'ble the Chief Secretary

Nairobi.

together that they knew the Uganda Officers would be discontented if left with any others.

7. Mr Pepplewell is still too unwell to travel and in the meantime Mr Bamber is at Marakwet.

8. If it were possible when tribal difficulties are settled at the coast to spare half a Company or a Company of the King's African Rifles for Turkana pending the expedition there which has been deferred it would at least have the effect of stopping raids by Turkana which may if unchecked lead to unlawful acts by other tribes.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. F. M. Callan
Provincial Commissioner.

District Commissioner's Office,

Fidama Navina,

23rd November 1914.

Sir,

I have the honour to attach copy of a statement made by Lowalen, a Suk headman to the Assistant District Commissioner Kabarnet, regarding an anticipated attack on the Suk and Njemra by the Turkara.

2. Although from personal experience I am aware that Lowalen's statements are rarely reliable, a raid on the Suk and Njemra by the Turkara at the present time when it is possible that the latter tribe are aware that we are occupied with our own war, and would therefore spare any troops to deal with them, is not improbable.

3. There is no doubt that the unfortunate incident in the case of the outbreak of the present hostilities which necessitated the postponement of the expedition against the Turkara in August last, when a company of King's African Rifles which had received training to take part in the said operations, were two days later withdrawn from the theatre, owing to the removal of the same to Kabarnet, created considerable uneasiness among the Suk and Njemra, who have since been in a continual state of fear of a raid by the Turkara.

The presence of a police post at Kabarnet and at Paringo was not sufficient to allay these fears.

C.O.S. 33 151
 PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE
 NATVANA

fears, or to inspire confidence.

I am well aware of the fact that every available man is required at the present time for the operations against German East Africa, but at the same time I do not think that the Turkana situation should be lost sight of, as if action is not taken against the latter tribe in the near future, the state of unrest which is at present confined to the Suk and Njema, may spread to the Fausia, when a situation will arise with which it will be difficult to deal.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,



District Commissioner.

Asst:Dist:Commissioner's Office,

Kabaret,

November 18th, 1914.

The District Commissioner,

Bayira.

Report of Suk Chief Lowalan
as to
The expected raid by Turkana.

The Turkana Chief Aigiwa has told me that he has learnt from some Turkana who are still loyal to him that a large force of Turkana are shortly coming to raid the district round Faringo.

2. The raiding force is to consist of men from the Ballal Section under Foe and also of the men who have broken away from Aigiwa's control.

3. They are coming when the moon is full (i.e. circ. November 31st - Dec. 3rd) by two routes. One party is to come along the Maarich road via Nginyar and Nagretti and the other by Kalabata.

4. If unopposed they intend to raid as far as Niemos.

5. I can raise some 400 men to oppose them. Aigiwa will help me.

6. The Turkana are now at Silali 7 days from Faringo.

N.B. Lowalan's information being most unreliable and it being unlikely that the Turkana would disclose their scheme I am not inclined to put much faith in this report.

I send it for what it is worth. I have told Lowalan to report on an urgent basis.

(sd) H. R. Hosking
Asst:Dist:Commissioner.

reply please quote
No. 86 Vol. II & date

Provincial Commissioner's Office,

Naivasha,

10th December 1914


Sir,

I have the honour to enclose copy of letter received from the District Commissioner Ravine regarding the activities of the Turkana and trust that as seen as Troops can be spared from Giriana some may be sent to reduce the Turkana to order. I do not think that a large force would be necessary to accomplish this.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



For Provincial Commissioner

The Hon'ble the Chief Secretary

Nairobi

Dist: Commissioner's Office,

Widana Havira,

7th December 1914.

Sir,

In continuation of M.P. No. 566 of 26th ultimo, I have the honour to inform you that reports have reached me through the medium of Suk headman Lowalan, that the Turkana raided the Suk on two occasions during last month.

On the first occasion they attacked the kraal of a Suk Elder named Pabalorimo in the vicinity of the Kerio, killing one woman.

The Turkana were driven off, and followed by the Suk to their country, who seized all the sheep goats and calves from three Turkana kraals, which they took back to Suk.

It is stated that the Suk are retaining the aforementioned stock, pending orders from government as to their disposal.

The Turkana on a subsequent date are stated to have attacked the kraal of a Suk named Agurinsimoi, brother of Lowalan, situated in the vicinity of Mainyari it is stated that they succeeded in killing 5 women.

The Suk do not appear to have retaliated, or the latter day for.

The Turkana was stated to have successfully raided the kraal of the Suk headman of 1st district, on 26th December 1914.

THE PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER,

NAIVARUA.

PROVINCIAL RECORD OFFICE, LONDON.

The ... are in a considerable state of unrest,
and I fear that if prompt action is not taken by
government against the Turans, the result will be
most serious.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

E. C. Craw-Read
District Commissioner.

No. 201/12/4

L O D W A.

12th December, 1914.

Sir,

I have the honour to confirm as under my telegram to you of the 11th instant.

Begins:-

D.C. Turkana.- (code) Owing to raids by Turkana and Sagots and lower Kerio area threatening supply route to Kulal, offensive action by Kulal troops in that area may shortly become imperative stop. Will inform further as soon as possible stop (Code ends)

A. D. C., Kulal.

Ends.

2. In June a large body raided up to within 4 miles of Laianglani post. They retired with the reported loss of 2 men, having accomplished nothing. On October 30th a force estimated at 3000 raided between the posts of Laianglani and Kulal. They killed 43 Samburu and Rendile and were driven off by the O.C. Detachment K.A.R. from Laianglani, losing 15 men by rifle fire and 12 reported killed by Rendile and Samburu. They captured no stock. Both these raids have been reported to the Secretariat, and copies of the reports have probably been sent to you.

3. An escaped Rendile prisoner reports that the Turkana expressed their intention of returning to raid as long as Rendile and Samburu stock remained, of attacking Laianglani post by night, and of cutting up safaris, especially ones containing European, coming to Laianglani.

4. The last two threats do not carry much weight. They however show that the loss of threatening the supply route of Laianglani has occurred to the Turkana. The fact of their

THE DISTRICT COMMISSIONER,

TURKANA.

their having twice crossed the safari route in such numbers as to be easily able to swamp the usual weekly manned supply safari proves the possibility of their carrying out such a threat. That they have twice carried out raids which they must have realised would probably bring them into conflict with troops shows a self confidence which makes an attack less improbable than it was formerly considered. The sum of these three considerations has led the O.C. Laiangolani Detachment and myself to look upon the threat against our line of communications as one which can no longer be disregarded.

5. With a view to possible action against Abyssinian raiders, it is essential that the troops at Laiangolani should have an assured line of communications, and should not be crippled by the absence of detachments escorting safaris and guarding the route. The N.F.D. Constabulary cannot provide enough men to carry out such duties effectively.

6. Traces of the last raiding party, followed up by my scouts show that it came from manyattas on the lower Kerio. 11 manyattas have been located between Sugota and the Kerio, and in the angle of the lower Kerio and Lake Rudolph.

7. Having received orders from the Officer in Charge, N.F.D., to take vigorous action to stop raiding, and taking into consideration the progressively bad effect of very day's inaction, I have decided after consultation with the O.C. Laiangolani Detachment that the only likely way of securing our line of communications is to carry out a patrol in the angle of the lower Kerio and Lake Rudolf, and round Lake Sugota; also that the situation does not allow of such action being postponed.

8. There are three objections to such a course.

(a) I shall be acting in your district without your sanction.

118
(b) It is most probable that you will not receive my telegram till after I have taken the action of which it informs you.

(c) The Turkana against whom the patrol is directed may still be professing loyalty to you.

As regards the first, it is impossible to await such sanction, and I know that you will approve of my action which though most irregular is, I am convinced, necessary.

As regards the second, one is so much a plaything of change in these districts that even now my wire and letter to you may merely raise an unnecessary alarm, and circumstances of which I have no premonition may render the proposed action unnecessary or impossible. To have written earlier would have been futile, as ~~my~~ any plans then formulated would inevitably have been changed, and confusion would have resulted.

As regards the third, as a patrol has been sanctioned, one column of which was to operate in the area we hope to visit, I conclude that the inhabitants of that area are already marked down for disciplining.

9. I am most regretably ignorant of political conditions in Turkana, and therefore am in considerable anxiety as to how my action may affect you. Should any mishap befall us, it would react unfavourably at Marich. I am however assuming that the natives against whom we hope to act are already slightly out of hand, and I trust that the effect of the patrol will be to show at any rate that the Government is not afraid of the Turkana, a statement of which, owing to the double postponement of the promised patrol, is openly made on the Border. Such a lesson will, I hope not only improve our situation, but also possibly yours.

I have, etc., etc.,

Sd/- L. F. I. Athill.

A.D.C., Northern Samburu.

Gov. 5853/1915

Ed.

11 February 1915

DRAFT.

Sir

The Secretary
War Office

MINUTE.

(For 1353)

Mr. Harper 9/2/15

Mr. Borthwick 9.2.15

Mr.

Mr.

Sir G. Fiddes.

Sir H. Just.

Sir J. Anderson.

Lord Islington.

Mr. Harcourt

With reference to the letter from this Office of the 18th of January I am &c. to ~~inform you that transmit~~ to you, for the information of the Army Council, the accompanying copy of a despatch & its enclosures from the Governor of the East. on the subject of the operations against the Turkhana.

20
13