

1921

KENYA

63

44763

FROM  
O. A. G.  
NOTLEY

CONF  
178

DATE

22ND JULY 1921

6 EP 21

FOR CIRCULATION :-

SUBJECT

JUBALAND

CESSION TO ITALY

Reports as to policy governing movements of nomadic tribes and asks it be made clear to Italian Govt that not only will no Marehan at all be allowed in British territory but all means will be employed to prevent any increase from Italian territory of Ogaden living in the Wajir and Lorian areas.

- Mr.
- Mr.
- Mr.
- Mr. Grindle
- Sir H. Lambert
- Sir H. Read
- Sir G. Piddes
- Mr. Wood
- Mr. Churchill

Previous Paper

MINUTES

*604*  
*11/16/11*

*We can take this into consideration when the Draft to the Italian Ambassador is finally issued which is waiting for the return of Mr. Sherling*

*In his absence send copy to J. G. of this in edge*

*T 24683.*

*Copy 20 to Mr. G. P. 21/7/21*

*Copy 10 to Mr. G. P. 21/7/21*

*Copy 10 to Mr. G. P. 21/7/21*

*Copy 10 to Mr. G. P. 21/7/21*

Subsequent Paper

*61442*

MINUTES.

MINUTES NOT TO BE WRITTEN  
ON THIS SIDE.

Colony & Protectorate of Kenya.

AFRICA PROTECTORATE  
No. 178.

44783  
GOVERNMENT HOUSE,  
NAIROBI.

22nd July 1921.

CONFIDENTIAL.

63<sup>A</sup>  
Sir,

With reference to your Confidential despatch of May 23rd enclosing a copy of a memorandum from the Italian Ambassador on the subject of the Marehan, I have the honour to inform you that he is mistaken both as regards the existing condition and as regards the general principles governing the movements of these nomadic tribes.

2. Administration would become impossible were the Italian Ambassador's contention accepted that the areas of these nomadic tribes cannot be defined. The tendency of the stronger tribes is constantly to move about looking for better water and pasturage, but it is a tendency that must be as constantly checked, as it is almost invariably at the expense of their weaker neighbours.

3. Our policy has always been to set very clearly defined lines beyond which each tribe shall not pass, and because the Italian Government is unwilling to adopt the same policy, they cannot claim

RIGHT HONOURABLE

WINSTON CHURCHILL, P.C., M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET,

LONDON, S.W.

claim to dictate to us our policy.

4. It is hard to understand the attitude of the Italian Government set out in the last paragraph but one of the Ambassador's memorandum with reference to the "tribes east of the zone at present occupied by the Marehan" when it is remembered that the home of the Marehan tribe is east of the Juba river, and that a very large number of the Marehan now in Jubaland have come in from Italian territory in the last ten years. What the request of the Italian Government actually means is that our tribes are to be penalised for the benefit of their tribes.

5. The memorandum of the Italian Ambassador contains one serious misstatement in saying that "in reality the majority of these tribes is at present still within the territory of the Gadaa and Northern Frontier District." Not only is this not the case at the moment, but it never has been the case.

6. I consider that the policy of checking the propensity of these nomadic tribes to wander is of supreme importance, difficult though it is to put it into effect. I would therefore ask that it may be made quite clear to the Italian Government that it is the intention of this Government not only to allow no wandering at all

within

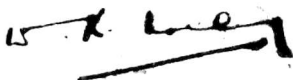
3.

within the territory which is remaining British, but also to prevent by every means in their power any increase from Italian territory of the Ogaden tribes living in the Wajir and Lorian areas.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,



ACTING GOVERNOR.