

KENYA  
4753

CO  
4753  
REC  
JAN 31 1921

FOREIGN  
1921  
26th JANUARY

ABYSSINIA

REOCCUPATION OF GADDUDAMA & AFFAIRS IN BORAN

Last previous Paper

Trs copy desp. from Addis Ababa re.

4753

To Gen. Feb. 9 Feb. 21  
To Gen. Feb. 15 Feb. 21

*L. H. ...*

*2/16*

Also 4754. I think there's still nothing  
very dreadful has happened after we came  
to Gadduduma affair

Please see my comment on 2831

I think that in ending city of the  
and in 4752 to the Gen. we should  
make some amende for our  
previous attitude - a telegram to say  
that we sh<sup>d</sup> await further details

4740  
Gen  
4/2

6-11-21

Send off this - then 5pc desp. to ...

*at ...  
to ...  
7/1/21*

Next subsequent Paper  
4740

any further communication  
subject, please quote  
N 465/14/11  
address  
to any person by name.  
Under Secretary of State,  
Foreign Office,  
London, S.W.2.

C O  
4753  
REC  
REL 31 JAN 21

THE Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Under Secretary of State Colonial Office and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copies of the under-mentioned paper.

Foreign Office,  
28 January 1921

Reference to previous correspondence:  
Foreign Office Letter No 907/15/1  
of 31st December

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
<p><u>From</u> Major Podd (Addis Ababa) Despatch No 165 of 20th December</p>	<p>Re-occupation of Gaddaduma and the lack of order and proper administration in the Boran</p>

Similar letter sent to \_\_\_\_\_

U. 165.

OPY.

BRITISH LEGATION,

ADDIS ABABA.

December 20th. 1920.

My Lord:-

In amplification of my telegram No. 161 of to-day's date addressed to Nairobi and repeated to Foreign Office I have the honour to observe that in my opinion we should be ill advised to re-occupy Gashaduma forcibly at the present juncture.

In the first place the Abyssinian Government are of the opinion that they have gone a long way to meet the wishes of the British Government in the manner of their settlement of the Magi question, and while they would look on forcible measures on the southern frontier as at least a shameful act on our part, they might quite possibly show their resentment by putting every sort of difficulty in Major Hawkins' way.

I have been endeavouring to persuade the Central Government to send Fitauraxi Hapta Giorgis to the Borena as the only solution left for the establishment of order and proper administration in that province, and I fear that the re-occupation of Gashaduma might hasten his departure in a very different frame of mind to that which I trust will bring about an amelioration of frontier conditions.

Moreover,

Right Honourable,

The Earl Curzon of Kedleston, K.G., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.

do. do. do.

His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Foreign Office.

Moreover, during my negotiations over the long question I was able to obtain the acceptance of the Central Government in principle to a re-delimitation of the frontier.

It is for these reasons that I am anxious not to estrange the goodwill of the Central Government, particularly that of Fitaurari Hapta Giorgis, by the re-occupation of Gaddaduxa at the moment.

71

The Fitaurari, as I have remarked in previous despatches, recognises that our protests against the conduct of affairs on the southern frontier are fully justified, and he is genuinely anxious to go himself and put matters in order.

I have given as an alternative in my telegram of to-day that we should make a further strong protest and warn the Central Government that unless active and adequate steps are taken in, say, a month and a half, we shall be forced to act ourselves and occupy Gaddaduxa.

This course would appeal to the Fitaurari, as it would probably decide the Central Government to send him to the Berama at once. On the other hand if the Central Government remain inactive neither the Fitaurari nor any other member of the Government would have the slightest grounds for complaint if we carried out our present intention.

On the receipt of telegram No. 539 from His Highness the Governor of Kenge Colony, in which he informed that Mr. Waddington had been instructed to occupy Gadd if possible, I sought an interview with His Highness.

The object of my visit was to discover if there was any possibility of obtaining Abyssinian assent to our occupation, in view of my desire to retain the goodwill of the Abyssinian Government at the moment.

Under the peculiar circumstances I was unable to  
proudh the question in a direct manner. 72

I reminded His Highness that in spite of repeated  
omises, conditions on the southern frontier were in  
way better and that His Majesty's Government continued  
reserve the right to re-occupy Gaddaduma at any time;  
that the negligence of the Abyssinian Government was  
precipitating this course. I emphasised the fact  
that we had no desire to burden ourselves with the work  
of the Abyssinian Government but that if forced to do so  
we should avail ourselves of the arrangement by which we  
had the right to use the wells. To this Ras Taffari  
replied that this right extended to the native tribes  
living near the Exterior and not to British troops. He  
asked me to write him a letter on the subject and to set  
forth once again our reasons for complaint.  
Mr. Washington may have established himself already  
at Gaddaduma, I am not in a position to negotiate for a  
general occupation of that place nor am I able to state  
that re-occupation was found necessary and has been  
accomplished. I was therefore forced to desist from further  
discussion. I promised to detail once again, in  
writing, the situation on the southern frontier.

I still maintain that our occupation of Gaddaduma  
last year was a well conceived policy and I am sure it has  
had the most salutary effect on the minds of the  
Abyssinian Government. At that time, however, we were  
far from a solution of the Magi question and the Abyssinian  
Government viewed all frontier matters with apathy.

The conditions are now changed. The Abyssinian  
Government are more alive to their responsibility in frontier  
matters

matters. We may, I believe, confidently hope for good results from Major Hawkins' appointment; there is a prospect of Fitawari Hapta Giorgis being sent to the Borana to restore order; and there is reason to hope that the Abyssinian Government will accept a re-delimitation of the frontier. Under these circumstances I venture to suggest that we should, for a time longer, preserve our present attitude of verbal remonstrance -- calling as it must be to the officers on the frontier who most nearly suffer under the present conditions -- and do nothing for the moment that is likely to hurt the susceptibilities of the Abyssinians.

Otherwise, I would recommend that the administration of Kenya Colony should occupy any portion of the Abyssinian frontier districts they required, and that we should fence a convenient rectification on the Abyssinian Government.

I am addressing copies of this despatch to Cairo, Khartoum, Nairobi, Berbera, Uganda and Aden.

I have the honour to be,

With the highest respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient

humble servant,

Signed J.H. Dodds.

To. Kenya  
4753

sent 11.5 am  
74

Batterbee

fallaron

9 February

uberosus

DRAFT.

My despatch of 20 January

conforms

Capitalist Garrison

Amount 4982

MINUTE

Mr. [unclear] please await  
despatched  
my further despatches

- Sr. Grindle.
- Sir H. Lambors.
- Sir H. Reid.
- Sir G. Fiddes.
- Col. Amory.
- Lord Milner.

Richard  
Wright

to show the  
amount to  
you.

*Quia 26/2/21*

*Dr*

*14*

Downing Street,  
15 February, 1921.

Sir,

I have the honour to ack.  
the receipt of your Confidential  
despatch No. 236 of the 16th  
December with regard to the  
situation on the Southern Frontier  
of Abyssinia, and to transmit  
to you the enclosed copy of a  
telegram and despatch which have  
been addressed to H.M. Minister  
at Adis Ababa. I also enclose  
a copy of a telegram from Major  
Dodds <sup>reporting</sup> stating that he has  
informed the Abyssinian Government  
with regard to the occupation of  
Gaddaduma.

2. <sup>Having regard to</sup> in view of the corres-  
pondence to which you refer in  
paragraph 3 of your despatch, I  
~~desire to modify the terms of my~~  
Confidential despatch of the 20th  
January, in this extent, that I

think that there was no necessity  
for you to inform me on each  
individual occasion that patrols  
visited Gaddaduma, though I  
inferred to the 15th and wished  
consider that it would have been  
it is probably essential that such

DRAFT.

*Ind*

CONFIDENTIAL

(2831/20-21)

Dev: SIR E. Northey, K.C.M.G.,  
C.B.  
MINUTE.

Mr. Patterbee. 11.8.11.

Mr.

Mr. *Bathaly 10.2.21.*

Mr. Grinde.

Sir H. Lambert.

+ Sir H. Read.

*12*  
*8*

Sir G. Fiddes.

Col. Amery.

Lord Milner.

*For Comd*

to Adis Ababa 27th Jan. (5140)

patch to G. 28th Jan. (5140)

from G. 31st Jan. (4752)

(1023)

*Handwritten notes in a large bracketed area at the bottom left, including phrases like 'of the 4th patrol' and 'visited Gaddaduma'.*



of the Office of the Secretary, in  
the morning

well, in view of the previous  
history of this question, <sup>it would be well that I should</sup>  
you had informed me earlier <sup>at Ad's Ababa</sup>  
that patrols had ~~actually~~ <sup>been</sup>  
visited the place. There is,  
however, of course a great  
difference between visits by  
patrols and actual occupation,  
and I am unable to modify my  
opinion that you should not  
have given instructions for the  
definite re-occupation of  
Gaddaduma without prior  
consultation with me, and it  
would have been <sup>also</sup> desirable <sup>also</sup>  
that you should have informed  
H.M. Minister at Ad's Ababa of  
what was proposed.

Leary, etc.,

~~at Ad's Ababa~~ <sup>it would be well that I should</sup>  
~~have actually visited the place~~

3. It definite re-occupation  
of Gaddaduma is on a different  
footing from the occasional  
visits of patrols and it is  
essential that no steps of  
this kind should be taken  
without due notice, since  
if taken at an inopportune  
moment, it may seriously  
prejudice the negotiations  
of the Minister with the  
Abyssinian Govt and  
hinder the  
the settlement of the  
difficult question of  
the pacification of the  
frontier region.

}  
(all) W.L.S.E