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FEB 21

FOREIGN

1921

End Feb

Next previous Paper

SITUATION IN ABYSSINIA

Trans 6027 despatch from Adis Ababa re

For Strachey

This is done your other name  
? Paddy

Accepted  
J. 2. 21

Ch. Strachey - 8th  
Sir H. Reed - 5th

I sent this a party to illustrate the  
proceedings of Sir J.H. Dodds (see  
marked passage) & party to show the extent of march  
resistance which is available from Aden - this is  
connected with the Governor's recent proposals.

C.S.  
J. 2

? Paddy

at once  
\* J.H.  
5/17/21

Next subsequent Paper

no further communication  
subject, please give

A 464/1841

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Under-Secretary of State  
Foreign Office,  
London, S.W.1.

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

Foreign Office,  
2nd February, 1921.

Reference to previous correspondence:  
*Foreign Office Letter A9445/1872/1*  
*of 5th January*

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
<p><i>From</i></p> <p><i>Major Podd</i></p> <p><i>(Addis Ababa)</i></p> <p><i>Despatch No 164</i></p> <p><i>of 20th December</i></p>	<p><i>Political situation</i></p> <p><i>in Abyssinia</i></p>

14-4794)

10000 11/20

Similar letter sent to *War Office*

ADIS ABABA.

December 20th, 1920.

My Lord:-

I have the honour to inform Your Lordship that there is no change in the political situation as reported in my despatch No. 150 of December 8th.

Signor Piacentini, my Italian Colleague, told me a few days ago that he had learned from his agent at Adoua that Li; Yasm had broken his parole to Ras Seyoum, and after having made his guards drunk, had escaped again to the Danakil country. Signor Piacentini expressed his opinion that now Ras Seyoum was embarrassed of any obligation to Li; Yasm he would in all probability respond to the summons of the Central Government and come into Adis Ababa.

Ras Taffari with whom I have discussed this new phase tells me that he knows no more than Signor Piacentini has told us both. He gave me the impression that he placed no reliance on the report and remarked that time would prove the truth.

Preparations for the proposed expedition to the north are hanging fire. On the other hand Ras Taffari proposes to send another mission consisting of thirty chiefs to discuss matters with Ras Seyoum. In this connection he asked me if the authorities at Addis Ababa could supply

Right Honourable,

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

So.

So.

So.

His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State

for Foreign Affairs.

supply a British man of war to take his mission with all speed from Jibuti to Massawa. He asked me to treat the request as confidential. I replied that as far as I was aware the only official ship under the control of the Aden authorities was a small Indian Marine gun boat which was stationed at Aden and was unlikely to be available going to her duties along the Arabian coast.

However in order not to appear obstructive I promised to ask the Resident at Aden if a ship was available. I have not done so as I do not think we should be well advised to supply a British man of war to convey a political Abyssinian mission from Jibuti to Massawa; and it is quite possible that were we to do so we should call forth a protest from France and Italy for contravening the terms of the Tripartite Treaty. I shall in due course inform the ~~Govt~~ with regret that, as I anticipated, the only official vessel is absent from Aden, and consequently not available.

I am addressing copies of this despatch to Cairo, Khartoum, Nairobi, Bechuanaland 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.