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Foreign Office

Affairs in Abyssinia

1913

7 Nov.

Sent to Capt. P. Adis Ababa reporting on  
Scheraton

Last previous Paper.

30/  
35814

Pr. G. Fiddler

See also Comm  
38655

Patby?

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10/27/13

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11.11.13

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Last subsequent Paper.

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In any further communication on this subject, please quote

No. 49630/13

and address The Under-Secretary of State, Foreign Office, London.

C.O.  
38594

3 Nov 13

The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copy of the under-mentioned paper.

Foreign Office.

November 7 1913.

Reference to previous letter.

40  
35814

Foreign Office — October 14.

Description of Inclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Mr. Thénier (Adis Ababa) October 10.	The return of Mr. Yacu to Adis Ababa.

38504

BRITISH LEGATION,

ADIS ABABA,

10th October, 1913.

Sir:-

I have the honour to report that Nawadras Hail Giorgis has returned to Adis Ababa after a four days absence, having been stopped by messengers from Lij Yasu to say that there was no need for him to come to Dessie as he himself would return shortly.

This leaves the situation in the same state of uncertainty, as Lij Yasu's promises are not to be relied on and it is quite probable that this message was sent merely with the idea of preventing the Nawadras from going to him.

Count Colli informs me that he has heard that the opposition to the rectification of the frontier is going to be very strong, not on the part of the Council who are more disposed to grant our demands, but on the part of the various chiefs outside the Government. These chiefs share none of the responsibility which will fall on the Ministers, whatever decision they may come to,

but

Right Honourable

Sir E. Grey, Bart., K.C.

&c., &c., &c.

but it is fairly certain, if they are united in their opinion, that they could ruin any Ministers who had the courage to come to an opposite decision, and owing to their being scattered over the provinces it is impossible for me to bring any influence to bear on them or to induce them by arguments to change their opinion.

My only hope is that the Council and Lij Yasu may be more amenable to reason but I fear neither have sufficient confidence in the security of their positions to dare to go against the voice of the chiefs should the latter resolutely oppose any cession to our demands.

I have &c.,

(Signed) Wilfred G. Thesiger.