

C.O. 120

EAST AFR. PROT

14430

Copy

Date 912

Page previous Paper

1209

### Dissemination of false news in Jubaland

Leads memo by G. Pro. Comm. Considers that the establishment of a system of passport as suggested would be beneficial, & recommends that to be approached in the future.

Mr Butler

Refer regarding to his I.O. <sup>(Establishment of)</sup> his passport

of international passport as proposed by Mr Butler's proposal by Mr. Downing I think that it would be well to consult his I.O. in the matter

W. Read

But to deal with very important matter here. I don't see how to collect 0.50 in one's hand. N. J. R. 15/11

The memorandum in various ways the ~~work~~ workness of thought (or perhaps it is only of expression?) which I, for one, am beginning to associate permanently with

Subsequent Paper

Cap. Sackell's written communications  
support first paragraph relate to the  
collection of accurate information by the  
dissemination of false news  
of news. It was about the latter subject  
that the Italian Gvt. enquired, there  
is no need to tell them anything about  
our intelligence methods. This part of  
the memo the bracketed words of the  
despatch should, I think, be omitted in  
referring to F.O.  
41399

As to the suggested system of  
passports I do not understand what  
the sanction is to be. Perhaps it is  
implied that no native is to be allowed  
to enter the territories named without a  
passport of the kind suggested. It is  
owing to the impossibility of warning all  
native travellers of the requirement and  
of supervising their departure from the  
various territories named, there will be  
enormous trouble in turning back natives  
who arrive without the passports. It is of

The essence of the proposal that there  
should be reciprocity as between the  
French, Italian, or British authorities  
I shudder to think of the difficulties of  
getting agreement between them as to  
the principle and as to the actual  
machinery to be employed. I do  
not understand why German East Africa  
is ignored. It is evident from the passage  
marked B that Italian already get such security as it  
Unless Sir P. Girouard feels

without  
passport system

strongly about the proposal, I think that  
in communicating the (terminated) memo  
to the F.O. we should say that Mr  
Harcourt is not satisfied that the proposed  
passport system is practicable or necessary  
& ask them to communicate to the  
Italian Gvt only that part of the  
memo marked B. They might also  
be asked, with reference to the third  
part of F.O. to enquire of the Italian  
Gvt what reason they have for thinking

F.O.  
41399

that measures similar to those adopted  
in Jubaland should be taken in other  
British possessions, & what steps they  
themselves take to prevent the dissemination  
through adjoining Italian territory of  
false news which may affect the situation  
in British Somaliland or the northern  
districts of the E. A. P.

2/13

May 15

Consult Sir P. Simons in the first place  
at mee.

H. J. R.

15/5

W. R. S.

for loan discussion see note to Sir  
Richard, and to James head  
the suggested passport system is  
not desirable. Draft letter

H. J. R. 27/5

H. J. R.

28/5

C. O.

4420

GOVERNMENT HOUSE  
NAIROBI

BRITISH EAST AFRICA

April 20th 1912.

CONFIDENTIAL No. 37.

Sir,

In reply to your despatch No. 2 of January 3rd., I have the honour to transmit herewith a Memorandum on the measures taken to obtain intelligence and to prevent the dissemination of false news in the Province of Jubaland.

2. I think that the establishment of such a system of passports as is suggested would be beneficial and would recommend that the Foreign Office be approached in connection therewith.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,



ASSISTANT GOVERNOR.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE  
LESLIE HARRISON, P.C., M.P.,  
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,  
DOWNING STREET, LONDON, S.W.

MEMORANDUM on the Measures taken to obtain intelligence and to prevent the dissemination of false news in the Province of Jubaland.

Our system of intelligence is shortly that when a Somali known to the Government leaves the Province, he is asked to furnish a general intelligence Report on his return, for this he receives a small reward and if his information is borne out later he receives something extra.

This system, I find works very well. Of course only selected men are employed.

I have before now under favourable circumstances received reports within a short time of each other from men who had visited Lamu, Mombasa, Nairobi, Sansibar, Mogadiscio, Illig, Obbia, Berbera and Aden and even in some cases from the Abyssinian Frontier and from men who were fighting the Mullah.

This system is not expensive and I believe it is successfully carried out owing to the close touch our officers have with the leading Somalis.

I find however it is much easier as is only natural to obtain accurate information of events that happen a long way off, than those that happen close by.

As regards the prevention of dissemination of false news, we happen to be well placed. We have at our disposal means of finding out and identifying with fair accuracy who are the Somalis who are allowed to land in the Province.

All Somalis who land are vouched for by local chiefs, and

and should they belong to a suspicious family or tribe, they are usually watched. Should they act in a way calculated to stir up dissention the chief is called upon to explain matters. If he cannot do so satisfactorily the man in question is liable to be asked to return to whence he came.

With reference to the above, I think it would be an excellent plan if some form of international passports was to be introduced and if the authorities of Djibouti, Berbera, Aden, the Benadir and Jubaland should issue them.

These passports should contain a full description of the person, his family and tribe, name of his head chief, his personal chief, his destination, the object of his voyage, what property he has with him and thumb mark.

They should be endorsed at every port at which he lands. The passport might be an annual one, liable to be called for and endorsed by the Police wherever the holder was. All crimes might be noted on it and any other general remarks made. A fee should be charged and copies should be deposited in the central police bureaux of the places concerned and arrangements made for the information to be kept up to date.

It must be borne in mind that there may be expected an increased immigration from the North, consisting largely of persons ruined in the constant fighting in those parts. These people will mostly consist of Somalis from British Somaliland and the Northern parts of the Italian Benadir Colony.

It is not unlikely that the majority will be practically vagrants and if the movement is not under control, they may become a source of danger.

R.E. SALKELD,  
Ag. Provincial Commissioner.

Kiamayu.

April 4th 1912.



for East  
-THURSDAY

530

C. D.
R. 26/79
D. _____

30 May 1912

to Butler

7 Remond

Club

will

no need

DRAFT

has aug 8  
(41379)

W.D.S.

J.D.

MINUTE.

Mr. MS. 475

Mr. head 28

Mr. Fiddes.

Sir H. Just.

Sir J. Anderson.

Lord Emmott.

Mr. Hargrave.

even in further minute

16 April (meeting was  
in hand)  
15th (meeting first 5 pm  
in hand)

Lu

With reference to the  
letter from the Dept of  
the 3<sup>rd</sup> of Jan. I am able

to transmit to you, the  
last of the Secretary Sir S. P. O.

the accompanying copy of  
a despatch from the <sup>Govt. of the</sup> C.P.

forwarding a memorandum

in which reasons taken to  
prove his determination  
of Police was in the Province  
of Ireland.

2. The Secretary is  
not satisfied that the

proposed proposed system  
of international operations



to practice a necessary

and I am glad to meet

that in E. for us only

Commencement to the Italian

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of the Italian history

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E. for us to the

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through the Italian

territory of the land

which they affect to

to the Italian part

a the Italian part

of the land

2