

EAST AFR. PROT.

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No. 37847

37847

Recd  
Per 17 OCT 08

Government No.  
Cable 478

(Subject.)

1908

Sept 23

Report on the Samburu

Last previous Paper.  
4/2  
20.50 each  
2/6 each  
3/6 each  
at 1/6 each

no copy taken from the Baggis party by the British...

(Minutes)

No. 12/10/08

These people live in the "no man  
land" between the Southern boundary  
of Abyssinia & the unincorporated  
administered portions of the E.A.P. It  
has been decided not to attempt any  
survey of this country at any time in  
the present, & a proposal to patrol  
the Abyssinian frontier for the purpose of  
patrolling it & keeping the peace as  
far as possible was negatived by Lord  
Seligson. If the Anglo-Abyssinian Boundary  
Commission are able to proceed with their  
work they will be able to...  
These... ..

The only copy of the... ..

Printed by the... ..  
at the... ..

Get from our own "Comm" a reliable  
account of the actual state of affairs  
in those districts as to which we are  
most in the dark at present

Ask Mr. [unclear] that had been here  
read with interest - & send the  
depts. [unclear] [unclear] to the D. [unclear]  
for removal & return 3rd [unclear] Note?

A. J. R.

23/X

I attach a map of [unclear] [unclear] for  
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]  
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]

Wm. [unclear]

Governor's Office,

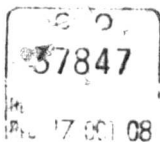
Nairobi,

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

September 23rd 1908.

No. 478

(Incl. 1)



My Lord,

I have the honour to enclose a letter from the Provincial Commissioner of Naivasha Province giving cover to an interesting report by Mr. H. B. Partington, District Commissioner of Rumuruti, on the Samburu and their country.

Mr. Bagge  
Sept. 16th

2. I have already addressed Your Lordship on the subject of establishing a Station at Marsabit. The Abyssinians are reported to have raided the Turkwell lately, and to have threatened the Samburu. A telegram has been sent to our Minister at Addis Ababa to bring the matter to Menelik's notice.

3. The information contained in these reports is being communicated to the Intelligence Department, King's African Rifles.

I have the honour to be,  
With the highest respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,  
humble servant,

H.M. PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF STATE

FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET,

LONDON, E. C. 4.

INCLOSURE

368

In Despatch No. 78 of 5/11/08

C O  
37847  
17 OCT 08

Provincial Commissioner

Naivasha,

September 18th, 1908.

Sir,

I have the pleasure to forward copy of a despatch  
NO. 40 of 11-9-08 addressed to this Office from  
Hartington the District Commissioner's local authority  
concerning.

The subject matter of the despatch is of a very  
important character and I commend it for careful  
perusal in its entirety.

I specially request Mr. Hartington to obtain  
information regarding this case and their country in  
consequence of having received a favourable hearing  
from His Excellency when some three months since I  
broached in conversation the advisability of  
entertaining

Secretary,

To the Administration,

Naivasha.

(8)

entertaining in the near future an extension of our influence in this direction and in a manner which could be better realized by the natives. In the estimates for 1909-10 an Assistant District Commissioner has been asked for that he might be attached to the District Commissioner with a view to some extent assisting to carry out this project.

While at Musuruti on the 28th August last I held an interview with some Sambur elders and gathered the following information:-

The Sambur would welcome a Government official, and I think this welcome would extend so far as to their being willing to pay some tax towards the maintenance of a Station or Post. They informed us that the confines of their country extended to but not beyond Mount Nyiro and Marnabit on the North and to the Ol'Colo's Golan Hills lying between the Guso Nyiro and Marni Lanyod on the South.

While

(8).

While accuracy is not guaranteed the following is a list of the clans with their Chiefs and the districts so far as it could be obtained at the moment:-

<u>Clan.</u>	<u>Chief.</u>	<u>District.</u>
Lebuaagishu	Olellit	Ol'Beinyo Lebuli.
Lorogishu	Oleakono	Ngarri Warra
Leguai	Oiomandili	
Limezi	Larandili	Neuman's camp
Lebasola	Legereana	Zeya River.
Lompelek	Leguruguru	Mt. Margues.
Guorora	Olasool	Mt. Ngivo
Lamusi	Olenouasi	Ngarri Ondagri

I would particularly draw your attention to that part of the despatch dealing with the administration of this country, and more so to that wherein Marsabit is mentioned. It seems to be universally known that Marsabit is one of the few places in this vast desert where pasture and water are always certain to be obtained even in the driest periods.

(4)

It is interesting to note how readily this tribe  
seem to have appreciated half bred stock.

I hope to have the opportunity of discussing this  
subject more fully when next visiting Nairobi.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

Respectfully,  
Humble servant,

(sd) S. S. Bage.

District Commissioner's Office,  
Manila,

11th September 1908.

Sir,

In accordance with your request for any information available with regard to Sulu, I have the honor to advise the following notes which have been compiled from the reports of the District Commissioner and partly from accounts given by Mr. Thomas and Mr. [unclear], who have recently visited the island.

The Sulus are divided into several divisions or districts, each of which is very large. Owing to the very small size of the islands on which they live they are liable to be separated.

At the present time the Sulus are not allowed to leave their own districts through which is great inconvenience. They are not allowed to go to other districts and on which is one without a license or passport. In consequence of a general famine, the Sulus are very anxious to see the Government and to visit their land which they have not been able to use for the last four years.

(1) On account of their nomadic habits they do not build even the most elementary dwelling places. They live in the open air for the greater part of the year and only build a hut for the night.

(2) Their language is a dialect of Malay and it is probable that they and the Malays are descended from the same original stock. On the breaking up of the

Likiepian Malays



(3).

Several hundred large numbers of livestock went to market and have now become absorbed.

(4).

It has been their misfortune in the past to have been surrounded by two powerful neighbors who used only in turn to get off them, according to their own account. Their lot has been a far from happy one.

(5).

Their sole wealth is their live stock.

(6). Cattle.

They have not a great many cattle but they have acquired by trade within the last few years. It seems to him it appears that whenever they had much to do in north India, their cattle were killed. They have at least two (probably pure) half-bred English cattle but they have exchanged by the way, and these are apparently alive.

(7). Horses.

They have a great number of horses and probably their country is very suitable for raising them. Curiously enough when taken out of Saurashtra the foals nearly always die from Pleuro Pneumonia, yet the Saurashtra state that although the disease is almost fatal, those which are attacked recover from it, probably it is the change of climate that makes the disease fatal which accounts for the heavy losses traders have suffered.

(8). Sheep.

They have also a number of sheep though probably less than half as many as they have horses. These are of two sorts, a common one with a white and black coat. They have been almost as unfortunate in their dealings in sheep as in cattle.

though

(8).

though in the case of sheep it has nearly been a longer period before they have contracted it. The explanation of these losses is I believe, that the Easton Bay was their sheep at all while the grass is fresh and only dies in ten days when the grass is dry and it is owing to cholera allowing these sheep to drink daily and they have lost so many.

(9). Dorking.

They have a fair number of these and in fact when they require for their transport and there is likely to be a small trade in them for Dublin.

(10). Ducks.

The Lebusagiani and Limisi possess very few. The latter however do have more and ducks are apparently a comparatively recent acquisition and obtained from the Rendile and Boras.

(11).

The majority part of the year at all events is almost entirely healthy.

All the natives who went with Mr. Clarke and Mr. Thorne, went down with fever. One Russell, one Widy and one Masai have died since while Mr. Thorne is still ill although he left Soudan at the end of June. The epidemic appears of a particularly malignant type.

With regard to the administration of this large but thinly populated country, there appears to be nowhere in the district where a permanent station could be held as there is no suitable

After leaving the district the natives  
of any kind

of the area is a Massabi that beyond the northern limit. Massabi itself is a place of strategic importance in so far as that all caravans from Abyssinia to East Africa must call there at all events in the dry season.

From it one is in touch with the Masai, Kaffuru and Woren and other smaller and less known tribes, and it may be said to be by nature the capital of the whole district.

If the accounts I have received are correct there is little doubt that a station at Massabi would control a large part of the country and reduce and eventually stop the petty raids that are constantly taking place.

Should it ever be decided to do this a half way post of the most direct line to the East Nile would greatly reduce the difficulties of transport and the present line a post there would be very beneficial. It would be situated near Dileto's district and would be welcomed by him. Besides administering from there the southern Kaffuru, it would greatly aid in enforcing the present Veterinary restrictions with a view to warding off Rinderpest.

I would advocate the opening of a post there similar to that formerly in Kotik. The cost of clearing and building up the post necessary should not exceed Rs. 10,000, the transport of materials could be transported and the details would have to be prepared with quick transport the District Commissioner could visit the post at least once a

month and from time to time make short trips through  
 part of their country. No extra staff would be re-  
 quired there as a few police stationed there  
 would be sufficient. It would be necessary, as the police  
 and a few officials and their families to prevent  
 the spread of a smallpox would be necessary. The  
 smallpox matter would be spread from here.

As to the revenue, the Sarburi have more than  
 one hundred acres of land and are very willing to  
 pay for protection.

With the presence of a post on the coast near  
 the Southern Sarburi could be an expedient though  
 not for the Northern.

I have already remarked that Sarburi do not  
 live in huts and for this reason it appears to me  
 that tax is out of the question, I would therefore  
 submit that a special tax on their live stock  
 might be a better way. I have already submitted  
 to you for the tax, should be imposed.

The only alternative I would suggest that  
 whereas in the case of the huts I have advocated  
 for a special reason that the tax would be  
 levied on the land and the capital tax is sufficient  
 to do. In the case of the Sarburi the capital tax  
 would suffice, this would be levied on the  
 animals in the huts and other property now in  
 their hands. It is a very reasonable thing.

For the first year however and until such  
 a time as the tax can be levied, I think that the  
 Sarburi should be levied in agreement with the British  
 Government and the Government of the Sarburi  
 should be levied on the animals and that the collection

(3)

of this sum should be left to the Chiefs. In this  
way sum of Rs. 2,000, to Rs. 4,000 might be  
collected which a high small should at any rate  
more than cover the proposed expenses.

By this means not only could the Southern  
Santuru be administered but more knowledge of the  
natives further north would be gained and a start  
made towards the large project already indicated.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, public servant,

*B. B. Buntington*

District Commissioner.

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37847/08  
E.A.P.

Iron

DRAFT

E.A.P. No. 640

gn

Sadler

16 Dec '08

MINUTE. 11/12

Mr. Noall 14/12

Mr. Ellis 14/12

Mr. Juck

Mr. Astrobue

Mr. Cox

Sir F. Lucas

Sir F. Hopwood

Ch. Saety

The Earl of Cranoe

Sir,

I have the honour to  
ack. the receipt of your  
debt No 478 of the 23rd of  
Sept, & to inform you that  
I have read with interest  
the reports on the Samburu  
& their country.

two 1/5

P. 107

14 Dec 08.

Mr. Noall 14/12

Mr. Ellis. 10/14/12

The U.S. of S for the Colonies presents his compliments to the D. ms. & begs to transmit, for perusal & return, the accompanying despatch from the Gov of the East enclosing reports on the Samburu & their country.

for S. P. 425. 27 Sept

all - 009

