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Foreign

1910

12 Feb

at present paper

10

Vertical handwritten notes on the left margin, including "10" and "12 Feb".

Atglo. Abyssinian Boundary

Leads for concurrence draft instructions to the minister at Addis Ababa re: discussion of question with Abyssinian Govt.

Main body of handwritten text, including "Draft to the Minister" and "The accompanying paper shows the...".

in command should be authorized to deal
directly with the ^{Captain} ~~local~~ at Addis Ababa

on all frontier matters concerning Abyssinia, 103
as the delay occasioned by sending reports
to Nairobi for transmission to Addis Ababa
must be always inconvenient and might at
times be harmful. I concur in the ^{the} ~~view~~

of the course proposed, and I should be
pleased to be informed of any arrangements you

can suggest for permitting the officer in

charge of the present district to communi-

cate direct with His Majesty's Minister at

Addis Ababa in a case in which the course

would be advantageous, subject always to

the principle that that officer is responsi-

ble to the Governor of the East Africa Pro-

tectionate. It would, of course, be neces-

sary that the officer in charge should send

to the Governor a copy of all communications ^{of that nature}

addressed to, or received from, the Minister

at Addis Ababa, whether the latter

is in favour of, or

4245 E.A.P.

S.D.
11 FEB 1910

DRAFT

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE

Downing Street,

CONFIDENTIAL

27 February, 1910.

Governor

Colonel Sir Percy Girouard, K.C.M.G.,
R.S.O., R.E.

MINUTE.

- Mr. Butler. Feb. 26
- Mr. Read. 18
- Mr. Fiddes.
- Mr. Just.
- Mr. Glyn.
- Mr. C. Lucas.
- Sir F. Hornwood.
- Col. Seely.
- Lord Crom.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to you, with reference to my confidential despatch of the 14th February, the accompanying copy of a letter from the Foreign Office with its enclosure, relating to the arrangements for the administration of the district in the neighbourhood of the Abyssinian boundary.

2. I recognise the difficulties described in Mr. President's despatch of the 10th of January which are likely to arise

from

Copy to Mr. ...
by Treas 7 May 1910

Mr. Zashiro, who might be placed in command of the Frontier.

Mr Zashiro fully realized that in any re-employment of the Frontier control he could not hope to have the chief command but he would I think be satisfied with a subordinate position if it were permanent and included a rise on his present scale of pay with a fixed increment.

All these things were certainly definitely promised him by Sir John Harrington but his pledges were never redeemed.

I would therefore ask that Mr Zashiro's claim for re-employment should not be overlooked as I am most confident that his services would be of great utility and would largely facilitate all future dealings with the Aborigines on the frontier.

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

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

Whenever an agreement is finally come to for the control of the border it will be necessary that the officer in command should be authorized to deal directly with the frontier as all frontier matters concerning Abyssinia, as they may be occasioned in such cases by sending arrows to Harar for transmission to Adis Ababa must always be inconvenient and might at times be harmful.

With regard to your telegram of the 7th instant, not to allow Mr. Fakhre to receive his former chief or his

relatives, your leave without further delay, official I venture to think that this does not imply that his services are to be discontinued.

It would be desirable to have sufficient to be done to ensure the maintenance of the frontier against one of the worst enemies of the Empire, and with his acquaintance with the political, military, and religious conditions of the people is certainly unique.

It is, however, established to his credit that he has been a most efficient administrator, a diligent official, and his friendships with the various Arabian chiefs of the Empire and his mastery of their language and of Abyssinian law would enable him to give invaluable aid to

arranged for tea soon, I am strongly of the opinion that until Major Cayne's line is definitely accepted it is most essential that we should do nothing to arouse Abyssinian suspicion or to create incidents on the border.

If Captain Barrett's force is merely to guard Moyale and to patrol south of the red line no difficulties need be anticipated, but on the other hand if Mr Fakhro's system of using wells on the Abyssinian side of this line in his patrols and of crossing into Abyssinian territory in the course of these patrols to discuss matters with local chiefs is attempted by Captain Barrett with regular troops it will need very great care on his part to avoid raising suspicion as to British motives or to prevent disputes with the rather irresponsible band of Abyssinian soldiery which will be told off to watch him and see that he does not cross into districts which must, until the new settlement, be looked on here as Abyssinian ground.

It was for these reasons that I had lately suggested to Sir Percy Birkwood the necessity of his having Abyssinian irregulars under him, an expression of the hope that he would view the matter in the same light.

regular troops of the border, and a final check on exact
 delineation of the frontier. It is suggested that it

it might be better to keep to the previous arrangement
 with some modification of the positions to reinforce them.

It is noted that it would not come to authorize this
 without consultation with Captain Barret, whose position

without regular troops might be difficult if he cannot

As I was informed that the Abyssinian Government had held
 off soldiers to watch our troops in the past, it is

suggested that at least a regular patrol should be

led by the Abyssinian irregulars for patrol work over

the border, and that the Abyssinian Government should

object to allow regular troops to cross the border

in friendly relations, and that the Government should

pending the final decision of the Government, it is

it would be it for the reply to be made of the same.

In this telegram the direct answer has been received

only a further telegram will be received from the Government

at various times to be received, and his position

five and judicial powers.

Although the permanent occupation of the frontier, a

regular frontier force is not necessary, and cannot be

arranged

60 60

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Acc'd
FEB 12 1910

4132

FEB 5 1910

British Legation

Adis Ababa, January 10 1910.

Sir

With reference to the Southern Frontier question I

have the honour to report that on leaving Fort Harrington

Mr. [Name] was informed by Captain Barrett who followed

him that his instructions were to send back his escort of

white men of the King's African Rifles as soon as

possible could enlist and send down from Adis Ababa twenty-

five Abyssinian recruits to take their place. These

men were engaged but before they could be sent off a letter

was received from the British Administration at Harar

in which it was stated that the British Administration

was unwilling to allow the British Administration

to send the British Administration to Harar until the

arrival of the British Administration at Harar

as the British Administration was alarmed at the possibility of

Foreign Office

4248

12 FEB 10

FOREIGN OFFICE

FEBRUARY 11, 1910.

In any further communication on this subject, please quote

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

Sir:-

With reference to your letter 41187 of January 4th last respecting the control of the Southern Frontier of Abyssinia, I am directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to transmit to you herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, a copy of a despatch from His Majesty's Minister at Addis Ababa of the subject.

Charges
Jan 10

I am to request you to draw the attention of the Earl of Crewe to Mr. Theisiger's remarks in regard to the employment of the frontier of Abyssinian irregulars.

SIR,

Your most obedient,

Humble Servant,

W. Langley

The Under-Secretary of State,
Colonial Office.

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This course would be advantageous
subject always to the principle that
officer is responsible to the Govt of the
C. P. and we are happy to see that
to the Govt. Part

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