



majority of your line - We shall not have  
to be content for the same. <sup>The</sup> ~~These~~ <sup>suits are</sup>  
elsewhere, the so-called Aboriginean forts has little  
of the control over the outlying districts, & would  
hardly be likely to stop the same & it is  
likely that the present ~~mischievous~~ forts  
will succeed.

I think that we should point out the  
objections to the transfer of the timber to  
the Aboriginean, & then say that we have  
always suffered from their Aboriginean rule  
in the past & that, in view of the absence  
of control by the Aboriginean forts over  
their outlying districts, we shall continue to  
suffer from them in the future unless we  
can take effective steps to patrol the  
frontier & that, in these cases, Mr. Harcourt  
would suggest that we should take over  
the frontier to patrol line as the frontier  
is the seat of patrol for the Aboriginean  
So I point out to them that the frontier  
is that to be secured & the frontier  
is to be secured from the Aboriginean rule  
They are unable to control & say that we  
have had no official confirmation of the  
defeat of the Aboriginean & copy of reports

41671/10)



FOREIGN OFFICE,

November 27 1910.

55717

Sir:-

With reference to your letter of the 26th ultimo relative to Abyssinian raids into British territory, I am directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey, to transmit to you for the information of Mr. Secretary Harcourt copy of a further despatch on this subject which he has received from His Majesty's Minister at Addis Ababa.

Mr. Tsehaiwergnaw expresses the opinion that if the Abyssinians continue to violate British territory in spite of the warnings which have been given them, His Majesty's Government will be obliged as a last resort to occupy Major Gwynn's line and the wells assigned to the British East Africa Protectorate by that delimitation without awaiting the consent of the Ethiopian Government. In the meantime he proposes to continue his endeavours to induce the Abyssinian Government to accept Major Gwynn's delimitation

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21619

Thompson  
K. W. R.

7/20

Under Secretary of State  
Colonial Office

(41521/16)



delimitation of the frontier and to settle the question in a friendly way. He points out, however, that the Abyssinians have a grievance in the matter of those portions of the Borana and Gabra tribes which were placed in British Territory by Captain Laud's line as well as in respect to the other tribes which have emigrated subsequently across that frontier into the East Africa Protectorate. He proceeds to show that the more effective our occupation of the frontier districts becomes the greater the inducement to other tribes in Abyssinian Territory to cross over to our side of the boundary and settle there. Mr. Thesiger thinks that the time has now come when His Majesty's Government must either definitely settle or repudiate the Abyssinian Government's claim to these tribes. As a solution of the difficulty he suggests that in return for the recognition of Major Gwynn's line by the Ethiopian Government as the true frontier, His Majesty's Government might recognise these tribes as Abyssinian subjects and arrange for their return with their

(41571/10)



sheep and cattle, into Abyssinian territory.

I am to request the views of His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies on the above proposals. I am to forward at the same time copy of a subsequent despatch from Mr. Tiesiger reporting a raid by Dejaz herd into Uganda territory and his severe defeat at the hands of our tribes of Loings. I am to enquire whether any confirmation of this news has reached the Colonial Office.

I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

Humble Servant,

*W. Langley*

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Recd  
22 Nov 10

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41571

BRITISH LEGATION

Number 40.

ADDIS ABABA.

17 OCTOBER 1910.

With reference to the frontier I have the honour to  
 refer to a message stand as follows: At the last meeting I  
 pointed out that the British mission had constantly raided our  
 frontier for over four years, thus making it absolutely im-  
 possible for us to have a line which we could patrol. At the  
 moment of discussion there were actually many hundreds of  
 attacks and raids at various places, all of which were well south of the  
 frontier. It was stated that a large raid had taken place on  
 the 10th of October 1910. It was stated that the  
 raid could not be allowed to continue, even if it were  
 that protesting against the raid, and had received some  
 replies which that should be stopped, all of which had  
 remained without effect. It was stated that if the  
 Government of the British mission would take their own  
 responsibility for the raid, and if the British mission would help  
 us to stop the raid, we would be glad to do so for an interior  
 line of demarcation. It was stated that the measures which  
 we had taken to improve our friendly relations  
 with the British mission had been of no avail between the two nations.  
 I have the honour therefore to suggest that, in the  
 event of the British mission government refusing to do so, I should  
 discontinue the mission and reasonable steps should be taken

The first news of these raids being continued, nearly major Gwynns line and the well, which it gives us for patrolling purposes exactly as if the Treaty giving it to us had been signed.

The effective occupation of the frontier has been put off for so long that the Abyssinians scarcely realize that we are now in earnest and believe that by temporizing they can wear out our patience and so ensure continuance of the old days of raiding and hunting in our territory which have been so profitable to them in the past.

We must therefore be prepared in certain eventualities to take a strong line and I am convinced that to do so after due warning will enhance our prestige here and will not lead to any serious complications.

I do not however advocate taking strong measures except as a last resort and in the event of the Abyssinians continuing to violate our territory, I shall in the meantime continue to endeavor to make the Government see the necessity, in the interests of both countries, of giving us a scientific frontier and of settling this question in a friendly way.

It must however be recognized that the establishment of a well-guarded frontier on our side will act disadvantageously to Abyssinia as the more we establish law and order south of the line, the greater will be the temptation to the northern tribes to emigrate and settle in our territory to escape the arbitrary system of taxation to which they are exposed in their own country, and our future attitude with regard to the issue will need definition.

In the mean time, we cannot tax these people...



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otherwise nothing would convince the Abyssinians that we were not deceiving them over for our own benefit. If we do not tax them we increase the certainty of their coming over in large numbers and we shall then not only have on hand a constant source of friction with the Abyssinian Government, but will also probably create the jealousy of our own tribes, who would resent seeing in their midst settlements, which, while enjoying our protection, paid no taxes and also assisted in using up the already limited supply of water.

It might be possible to recognize these tribes, although in our territory, as Abyssinian subjects and allow the Abyssinian Government to collect their taxes through a Borana chief sent down for the purpose at stated periods. This however is open to the objection that sooner or later they would refuse to pay and, as we could not allow the Abyssinians to use force on our side of the line, we should either have to see to the collection of the taxes ourselves or permit them to live untaxed in the midst of our tribes which as I have stated would be objectionable in two ways.

Another alternative would be not to allow these tribes to settle permanently on our side of the line although allowing them the grazing rights which they now hold.

To do this however would be contrary to our usual principle of allowing oppressed persons to take refuge in our territory so long as they obeyed the laws and lived peacefully.

There remains therefore in my opinion only one solution. There is still an outstanding dispute as to which tribes are British and which Abyssinian and this question has been complicated by the immigration of other refugee members of these tribes into our territory, until the five points can



an appeal to decide against it. Then Captain Guadi had the word that it was agreed that the reserve should belong to the Aboriginians, and the reserve at Tojeruayu, and Paddaduma and also man, Sabra, and the subject from the Sultan, each of the reserve. The reserve for the Aboriginians had been previously agreed for the reserve provisionally. It should however, be subject to the review of the Secretary and a decision should be made until the frontier is finally settled.

During the past few years their numbers have been increased by immigration. The Government have still continued to no settlement with the reserve. In this regard, and in Sir Percy Fitzpatrick's letter of the 14th August 1910, the Secretary of State for the Colonies issued the instructions given to the Government in the above mentioned letter. The instructions were given to the Government to arrange facilities for immigration from the reserve into the territory to be reserved.

As a result of the difficulties of dealing with the reserve, the Government have arranged for the settlement of the reserve on the frontier. The Government have arranged for the settlement of the reserve on the frontier, and the Government have arranged for the settlement of the reserve on the frontier.

As I have just mentioned the Aboriginians will claim on us from the date of the original frontier agreement which has been well honored and the immigration which past four years had intensified the claim, which now be going to be settled on the frontier.

As the matter was left open for future decision in  
 Captain Maude's report I do not see how we can do the latter as  
 it was then undoubtedly intended that all persons should be  
 British subjects and it is certain that by postponing our  
 decision and allowing the Borana to remain we have attracted  
 to our hands Abyssinians subjects who might otherwise have  
 remained in their own country.

We have therefore two questions to consider namely  
 that of the original Borana and Gabra who were cut off from  
 Abyssinia by the Red Line and the question of those who have  
 since immigrated. As I have said above, it is difficult to decide  
 these two questions separately must in my opinion lead to  
 complications and I would therefore strongly advise that I  
 might be allowed to discuss this joint question with the Ethi-  
 opian Government and recognise that these subjects are Abyssin-  
 ian subjects. The East African Protectorate could then arrange  
 to return them to Abyssinian territory, from which they were  
 expelled some only a limited number of years ago, with all  
 their belongings and cattle, and return demanding the Red Line as  
 the recognised frontier. We should then give the Ethiopian  
 Government clearly to understand that having started with a  
 clean slate in the future we would not recognise any obliga-  
 tion to return such facilities as might take refuge on our side  
 of the line to escape the oppression to which the maladminis-  
 tration of their Government might subject them.

We should in this way establish our reputation for  
 impartial dealing, facilitate a friendly arrangement for the trans-  
 migration of the subjects and be justified in protecting all refer-  
 ring to a free and peaceful settlement.

One has a natural disinclination to oblige these tribes to return to their original country and to submit them again to the extortion which is the fate of most subject tribes under their rule, but I can see no other way in which we can honestly fulfil our obligations under the first Treaty agreement. It is not as though the Ethiopian Government had ever forgotten or overlooked their rights in this respect as they have continually persisted in claiming their people as their subjects to the agreement which was made with them. I would therefore request that I may be authorised to attempt a settlement of these lines and, if that is not possible, that I may be informed whether His Majesty's Government would be prepared to occupy Mafer Gwynne line in the event of the Ethiopian Government refusing to discuss any alterations and continuing to raise south of the old frontier.

Yours honour to be, Sir,

with the highest respect,

Your most humble, obedient servant,

*D. Alfred Thuniger*

H. P. de Minister.

Number 50

35717  
NOV 10 1910

1018

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR

ADJUTANT GENERAL

10 OCTOBER 1910

NOV 10 1910

I have the honour to report that I received a letter  
sent yesterday from Major Darley, who as Adjutant in Sudan  
territory to report that Major Darley, Governor of the frontier  
district west of Khartoum was planning raids on a large  
scale into Sudan territory. He reported that he had sent  
an officer with a large complement of ivory in time to see  
these caravans.

I have had a copy of the report of Major Darley and have  
been requested to forward this report to you.

Captain Darley arrived here himself to see me and  
talked his first news.

I was to have been a foreign visitor of the  
territory but as a distance was put in the way to the  
south of the Sudan.

Local reports have arrived indicating that the  
territory has suffered a severe trial at the hands of the  
at least 100 miles south of the Sudan territory and has  
telephoned to be set for the territory and men, the  
being expected later to the territory which he has  
from Juba having been a trial.

I have had a copy of the report of Major Darley and  
been requested to forward this report to you.

Major Darley has been in the Sudan territory for  
some time and has been at which the largest number of  
men, women and children have been seen, and the

and another to raid the Turkana, from 60 men only of the first party are said to have escaped.

I will take measures to prevent reinforcements being sent and if these rumors ~~correct~~ will demand the severe punishment of Dejak here.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

With the highest respect,

Your most humble obedient servant,

Wilfrid Thuniger

DRAFT

Under Secretary of State  
Foreign Office

Downing Street,  
*December*  
November, 1910.

*Good Hope*

MINUTE

Sir,

Mr. Parkinson 29/11

Mr. ~~Butler~~ *Reid* 30

X Mr. Fiddes 30

Mr. Just.

Mr. Cox.

Sir C. Lucas.

Sir F. Hopwood.

Col. Seely.

X Lord Cromer *M. Percival*

*30.11.10*

for conson.

Copy of correspondence *copy*

to O.A.C.E.A.P. & Uganda

for inf<sup>n</sup>. L.F.F. *I*

I am directed by Mr Secretary Harcourt to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st of November, transmitting further

patches received from His Majesty's Minister at Adis <sup>Ababa</sup> ~~Abada~~ relative to the southern frontier of ~~the~~ Abyssinian Empire.

2. With regard to the proposals put forward by Mr Theisger for the settlement of the boundary, I am to request you to inform Secretary Sir

See also F.O.

36435

*Handwritten*

*Communications 35 77*

*Pa. 8*



submitted again to  
 the retention which, as  
 Mr. Harcourt points out,  
 is the fate of most  
 subject tribes under  
 African rule. Such a  
 proceeding would, - Mr  
 Harcourt says - be  
 contrary to the principle  
 which has always guided  
 His Highness in matters  
 of the kind & would  
 be a precedent, next  
 to nothing but approval  
 of the country who  
 have become

protection of the Abyssinian Govern-  
 ment and of their being

4. In view of the absence of  
 control by the Abyssinian Govern-  
 ment over their outlying districts,  
 the East Africa Protectorate and  
 Uganda will no doubt continue to  
 suffer from Abyssinian raids in the  
 future, as they have ~~always~~ suffered  
 in the past. Unless effective  
 steps can be taken to patrol the  
 frontier: and in these circumstances  
 Mr Harcourt would suggest that Major  
 Gwynn's line should be taken as the  
 frontier, and that in the event of  
 any protest being made by the  
 Abyssinian Government they should be  
 informed that the patrolling of that  
 line by our troops is essential to  
 the protection of our tribes from  
 the Abyssinian raiders whom they are

unable

unable to control.

5. With reference to the last paragraph  
*of the 21st of Nov.*  
of your letter I am to add that no official  
confirmation of the defeat of RajazBera  
by the tribes at Dodinga has been re-  
ceived in this Department.

I am etc..

(Signed) C. V. ...