

DISPATCH

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No. 3250

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Number
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(Subject.)

1906
Jan 8.

Movements of Abyssinians

previous Paper.

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Review

Two copies of two reports from Sub Comm. ...
ref.

(Minutes)

Copy of ...
with ...
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H. J. R.
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Commissioner's Office

Nairobi,

January 8th 1906.

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AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

No. 5

(Incl. 2.)

My Lord,

With reference to my predecessor's despatch

*by
33222
606*

No. 446 of August 1905, I have the honour to transmit

to Your Lordship herewith copies of two reports

which I have received from the ~~Gov~~ Commissioner, Kisumu

respecting the movements of the Abyssinians.

I have the honour to be,

With the highest respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

humble servant,

Handwritten signature

P.S.

A copy of these reports has been sent to H. G. Minister of the Interior.

Principal Secretary of State

Colonial Office

Downing Street,

LONDON.

I have the honour to inform you that I have received the following information:

That the Russians have proposed plans to carry material for the purpose of building stations at Wadair, Sir Van and Madawa opposite Lash.

That they have already marked these stations out and built stations at Tuga and Lay Wagoga and that they propose taking all caravans four tobes of Maduf (water cloth) and two tobes of Merikari per camel.

I have &c. &c.

W. J. Siskind Captain
Acting Sub-Commissioner
Jubaland.

H. J. Gentry Commissioner,
Khartoum

COPY.

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Kismayu.

November 15th 1906.

No. 72

Sir,

With reference to my despatches Nos. 56, 52, 58, I have the honour to report that Dualla Naliya the last of the men sent to inquire into the movements of the Abyssinians has returned and reports that the prevalent opinion is that the Abyssinians intend occupying posts on the edge of the Ogaden country, roughly on a line from the Lorian to Isah via Waheir and El Wak.

2. That they have intimated their determination to collect taxes in kind.
3. That they have ordered a section of the Gurreh to pay three thousand head of cattle. The man Dualla is a fairly trustworthy man for a Somali and may, I think, be believed.
4. There is no doubt that the above is the feeling among the Ogadens, for all their leading chiefs saw me on the subject and asked if the Abyssinians could be kept back by the Government. I said the matter probably lay largely in their hands and that, if they showed that they were really making an effort to be peaceful subjects of the Government and not as hitherto constantly fighting, the Government might consider the matter. I was careful to make no promises and indeed said that I thought the Ogadens and their country were of little value.

H. K. Deputy Commissioner.

MOLEAAA

H. K. Deputy Commissioner.

Mr. G. E. Falkland

Enclosure No. 1

In Col. H. K. Deane's despatch No. 5 of January 1906.

to Government as matters stood at present.

5. I pointed out that the first step the Government would take if it was proposed to occupy any given frontier between our territories and those of Abyssinians would be the occupation of Afmadu and asked if they were prepared to acquiesce in that. They said they were. I said I thought the men of property would be, but before I wrote on the subject they must be able to give a definite statement as to the feelings of the young men; this they professed themselves as ready to do and I told them to go round the country and ascertain the feelings of the young men and let me know.

6. At this moment two murders by some young men of the Abud Wak occurred which I took as an opportunity to give the chiefs a chance of showing they really meant to do something by sending them to collect blood money (Dila) and a fine of two thousand five hundred rupees.

7. If this fear of an Abyssinian advance continues it may pave the way for a peaceful solution of the Ogaden question by an unopposed occupation of Afmadu and this I think, should be borne in mind.

I have &c., &c.,

Sd/- R. E. Balkfield Captain
ACTING SUB-COMMISSIONER,
JUBA LAND.

H. M. Dewing, Chemist, Boston.

Enclosure No. 2

In Col. J. K. Salders' & description
No. 5 of January 8th 1906