

DOMESTIC.

EAST AFR. PROT.

2630

C O  
2630

27 JAN 1909

Office of Individual

Foreign

1909

22 Jan.

Last Previous Paper

400/45028  
80/45348

Juba River

Proposed International River Board

It is willing to approach Italian Govt. as desired, but latter may raise aspect the question of wireless tel. Commn. Ital. Br. & Afr. + Benadir & be unwilling to agree to proposed Board unless Govt. meet their wishes in regard to wireless tel. Commn. Suggests that there be again <sup>in the matter</sup> ~~in the matter~~

Mr. Controvas

This is the F.O. counter to our letter on 4-5-348 in which we suggested that they should approach the Treasury in regard to the wireless tele. It does not appear that they have done so.

I am inclined to ask them again to do so suggesting that they should transmit the Treasury request (in 44380) that the Italian need is only a ton per day, assuming that that request is not in fact satisfied. Would add that Mr. Cress

Ans'd 17 Feb  
Copy sent for inf 91. 19 Feb

1739-A. & E. W. - 3000/27-  
35009-11-08.

Next subsequent Paper

P.O.  
3924  
80x

would be glad if, irrespective of  
the wireless question, Sir E. Grey  
would approach the Italian Govt  
on the question of the international  
regulation of the Guba, since  
the conclusion of such an arrange-  
ment would be one of equal  
advantage to both nations: so that  
an agreement on the subject cannot  
be regarded as a conspiracy to be  
brought by wires or wireless  
telegraphy by H. M.'s Govt.  
Add that if the Italian Govt  
shd. take up an obstructive  
attitude on this, which H. L.  
cannot but consider an unwar-  
-rable ground: the fact might  
be used as an additional argu-  
-ment with the Treasury.

W. 23/1

D/p. for cons.

W. Jan. 30  
at once

E. A. D. H.

96  
In any further communication on this subject, please quote

No. 45626/08.

and address—

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

2 Copy  
C. O.  
2630  
23rd Dec 1909  
21  
FOREIGN OFFICE

January 21, 1909.

Sir:—

I am directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter 45028 of the 30th ultimo respecting the establishment of an International River Board of Representatives of Great Britain and Italy to settle the question of the Juba River boundary and also questions of irrigation and navigation as they arise.

I am to state for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies that Sir E. Grey is willing to approach the Italian Government in the matter as desired by the Governor of British East Africa.

I am however to point out that the Italian Government may take the opportunity to raise afresh the question of wireless communication between British East Africa and the Benadir and may be unwilling to meet the wishes of His Majesty's Government in regard to the

establishment

The Under Secretary of State,  
Colonial Office.

(45626/08).

establishment of the proposed Board unless His Majesty's Government are able to agree to the measures necessary to connect the Benadir Coast and British East Africa by wireless telegraphy.

I am therefore to suggest for the consideration of the Earl of Crewe that in view of this contingency and of the statements contained in Colonel Montgomery's report §§ 6 and 13 as to the value of the district of Jubaland and the necessity for the establishment of wireless telegraphy to connect it with the Benadir and Mombasa, it might be expedient to approach the Treasury again in regard to the matter (see your letter <sup>to</sup> 45348 of the 31st. ultimo).

I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble Servant,

*W Langley*

G.S.D.  
R 10  
D 12

*Handwritten initials*

*Handwritten initials*

17 Feb '09

**DRAFT**

The U. S. of S.  
Foreign Office

MINUTE.

Mr. C. C. 3/2  
Mr. J. J. 3/3

Mr. Antrobus. 10

Mr. Cox.

Sir C. Lucas.

Sir F. Hopwood. 10. 2<sup>nd</sup>

Col. Seely.

The Earl of Crewe.

45348  
10. 2<sup>nd</sup>  
F.S.

for comon.

It would be desirable to  
submit this plan to  
the Committee before sending  
it to the Secretary of State  
45380  
10. 2<sup>nd</sup>  
1909

Sir,

I am &c. to ack. the recd. to your letter of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan., no. 15626/08, on the subject of the establishment of an *International River Board to settle certain questions connected with the Juba River.*  
1. You state that the Italian Govt. may take the opportunity to raise afresh the question of wireless communication between the L.A.P. and the Benadir, and you suggest that it might be expedient to approach the Treasury again in this matter.  
2. It will be seen on reference to the letter from this Dept. of the 21<sup>st</sup> Dec. that Lord Crewe does not think that the interests of the L.A.P. are sufficiently concerned to justify him in pressing the L.C. of the Treasury to sanction expenditure on this installation, and he would again suggest that <sup>Secretary</sup> Sir H. Grey should approach the Treasury in the matter, traversing the argument contained in the Treasury letter of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec. that the convenience of the installation to the Italian Govt. would only be a temporary one, assuming that the argument is not in fact valid.  
3. Lord Crewe would be glad if, irrespective of this question of wireless communication, Sir H. Grey would approach the Italian Govt. on the question of the

regulation of the Juba River, & since the conclusion of such an arrangement would be of equal advantage to both nations, ~~it is~~ <sup>and</sup> an agreement on the subject can ~~be regarded~~ <sup>be regarded</sup> as a concession to be granted in return for expenditure on wireless telegraphy by I. I. G.

I am to add that, should the Italian Govt. decline to proceed with the Juba R. negotiations on this ground, which Lord Crewe ~~can~~ <sup>would</sup> only regard as ~~an~~ <sup>unreasonable</sup> ~~unreasonable~~, ~~or~~ the fact might be used as an additional argument in approaching the Treasury on the question of wireless communication.

(Signed) R. L. ANTROBUS