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Office of Individuals

Foreign

1909

1 Apr.

of Previous Paper.

70/11314

S. Abyssinian Frontier Inspector

Sends despatch Adis Ababa re: movements of
Mr. Zaphero.

Mr. Antrobus then will be a nice state of
affairs on the frontier now
copy to the file of Quettley?
the S.A.P. L.T.?

H. J. R.

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W.H. M. 2
at once

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of subsequent Paper

70/12118

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APR 2 1909

In any further communication on the subject please quote
No. 10662
and address—
The Under-Secretary of State,
Foreign Office,
London.

The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copy of the under-mentioned paper.

Foreign Office,
April 1, 1909.

Reference to previous letter:
70/777 C. O. March 11

Description of Inclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Lord H. Hervey No 14 February 27	Southern Frontier Inspector Abyssinia

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BRITISH LEGATION

ADIS ABABA

27th February 1909.

10662
MAR 20 1909

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that my last
advice from Mr Zaphiro, the Southern Frontier Inspector,
dated at Moyale, the 30th January last. For want of
sufficient transport, he was obliged to remain behind for
a few days, leaving Major Gwynn to prosecute his journey,
until he could procure the necessary animals, and he hoped
by rapid marches to catch him up later.

No information having reached him at the date of
writing as to the Treasury's decision to retain his
services, he had decided to return to Adis Ababa with
Major Gwynn, leaving a few men in charge of "Fort
Harrington" at Moyale; he explained that no other course
was open to him, as his supplies were almost exhausted and
he could not go to the expense of replenishing his stores,
only to find possibly that his services were no longer

required

Grey, Bart., & Co.,

Agents, Etc.,

Foreign Office.

required.

Treasury sanction was received by telegraph on the 1st February only, a messenger being despatched the same day who should reach him at Murie about the 3rd March next. It is possible that if Major Gwynn is able to provide him with some stores (which is doubtful), he may then return to the frontier. Unfortunately, I have now no certain means of communicating with him, being ignorant of his movements after leaving Murie.

Mr Zaphiro reported that there were large numbers of hunters close to the line, only waiting the departure of Major Gwynn's expedition to recommence shooting elephants and looting. I recently made *unavailing* and forcible representations on the subject to Pitawari Hapta Giorgis, and he declared that by the Emperor's orders he had despatched detachments of troops in every direction on the Southern Frontier to put a stop to this state of things. It is evident from the reports to hand, that little good has resulted from these measures, and that no decided improvement can be looked for until the proposed scheme for patrolling the line is put into execution.

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

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,