

East Afr. Protr.  
6/1/5 ~~1915~~

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War Office  
1915  
Feb. 10.  
Last previous Paper.  
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German East Africa  
Telegraphic corresp. as to  
operations

Mr Belkater Mr Lambert  
Mr Reed Mr H. J. Just  
Mr J. Anderson

NOTE: See Wapshare's somewhat  
extensive plans as to railway  
construction

(3) The possibility of a strike  
a language in German with  
Belgian co-operation.

Ans. SA Dept base as to  
the Ethiopian contingent

Perd  
Eun 1/2/15

W.A.  
1/1/15  
H. J. J.

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Perd



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The Director of Military Operations presents his compliments to

*the Under Secretary of State  
Colonial Office*

and begs to forward for his information a copy of *Telegrams*

which have been received dealing with

operations in *East Africa* and *reply: Paul Han*  
*has sent*

*26<sup>th</sup> 11/1915*

*Ch.  
for DMO*

*From Major-General Wapshare to War Office.*

(No. 197/78.)

February, 1915.

Your telegram-No. 1393, 28th January. In what capacity individuals named wishing to be employed and whether suitable for commissions in the 3rd Battery, Royal Field Artillery, or any other unit? Prepared to accept them if they will come out as any ordinary volunteers.

*From Base Commandant, Kilindini, to War Office.*

(No. 17/D/21.)

February, 1915.

Reference the Secretary of State India, No. 1377, of 17th November. Following sick and wounded British officers sailed for Bombay in hospital ship "Madras," on 4th:—

Loyal North Lancashire Regiment.—Captain Salton and Captain Bell.  
101st Grenadiers.—Captain Wren and Captain Gompertz  
Jhind Infantry.— Captain McBrayne  
Kashmir Rifles.—Major Ames.  
King's African Rifles.—Captain Joyce and Lieutenant Jones

*From Major-General Wapshare to War Office.*

(No. 215/20)

4th February, 1915, 3.40 p.m.

Arrangements have been made for the export of 40 carrier pigeons for intelligence work from G. Yates and Brainhall, Cheshire, via London Dock Union Castle boat. Kindly afford the necessary facilities

*From Secretary of State for the Colonies to Governor of East Africa Protectorate.*

5th February, 1915, 12.30 p.m.

Your cipher telegram, 1st February. Please refer to telegram No. S. 2297 of 2nd February, from Commander-in-Chief, India, to General Wapshare. War Office have decided that in circumstances set forth troops should be disembarked and employed as intended

*From War Office to the High Commissioner for [the Union of] South Africa.*

(No. 2987, cipher. M.O. 1(A).)

5th February, 1915, 8.55 p.m.

With reference to your telegram of 20th January to Colonial Office. We are sending arms and equipment for the 2nd Rhodesian Contingent to Mombasa, but as these cannot arrive in time to meet the Contingent, we hope that you can arrange for the Contingent to bring their own rifles, bayonets and ammunition. These shall be returned to you as soon as the exchange of armament is carried out. Please let us know if you concur.

*From Major-General Wapshare to War Office.*

(No. 109/23)

5th February, 1915, 4.5 p.m.

With reference to my No. 440/O.D. The 16 450 Maxims mentioned are most essential for the defence of the posts. My intention was only to imply that they were unsuitable for an offensive, and if possible should not be taken into account in the number of Maxims I have stated to make up the complement which you have laid down.

*From Major-General Wapshare to War Office.*

(No. 215 S.)

6th February, 1915, 5.45 p.m.

Passing from your telegram No. 2842 of 24th January, especially last sentence, that the invasion of German East Africa is seriously contemplated for the future when sufficient reinforcements are available to ensure success. If reinforcements are not likely to be available before July, I strongly recommend the construction of lines on the Voi-Maktau-Taveta line (see my telegram No. 204/O.D.). In my opinion a successful attack on this line will be decisive. Germans are strongly entrenched at Taveta and beyond. The greatest force I could employ on this line without a railway would be three battalions, with a medium of artillery and without reserve, even after all improvements had been made to road water &c. With the railway to Maktau, however, I could employ a strong brigade and reserves with sufficient artillery, and this, together with the attack on Faiga and the demonstration at Lengido, gives a reasonable hope of success. The railway would take five months to construct, and during that time only the operations of your No. 2842 could be undertaken. Scheme follows: Planters on "Rheinfels" to be kept for Tanga. Five miles of permanent way available, also rolling stock and engines sufficient for new line and Tanga, also bridge material, signals &c. We shall require from India 35 miles of permanent way with iron sleepers, slightly increased staff at a cost of 200L sterling the month. Alternative proposal is India should send 40 miles railway material from Delhi Durlar stock complete with rolling stock, 100 trucks and six engines, which I understand are available. Cost could be ascertained from India. The approximate cost of second hand material and of construction will be 40,000L. If the line were removed after the campaign we should recover half the cost of the permanent way, 25,000L, therefore, would cover the total cost, and the existence of the railway would effect a great saving in motors and porters and greatly increase our chance of success. If we were to extend metre gauge railway eventually to Moshi, all this traffic would probably pass over it to Mombasa (after annexation) 200 miles to a first class port, rather than to Tanga, a very inferior port and 220 miles away.

*From War Office to General Wapshare, Nairobi.*

(N. 3024 cipher, M.O. 100)

7th February, 1915, 5.40 p.m.

With reference to your telegram No. 109/23 of 5th February. The sixteen 450 Maxims in question may be retained by you, and we hope shortly to be able to send you an additional eighteen 303 Mark VI machine guns. It has been decided to send to East Africa a Rhodesian contingent about 400 strong. Their arms and equipment are being sent from England, and the contingent will probably arrive early in March.

*From High Commissioner for the Union of South Africa to War Office.*

9th February, 1915, 12.55 p.m.

With reference to your telegram No. 2987, cipher, of 5th February. On the understanding mentioned in your telegram the Contingent will take rifles, bayonets and 100 rounds of ammunition per man.

*From Major-General Wapshare to War Office.*

(No. 222/L)

9th February, 1915.

Your No. 2969. Available: Major Richey, Royal Garrison Artillery, pilot aviator certificate 142; has flown in biplane and monoplane, and did refresher course in 1913. Lieutenant Boddam Whetham, King's African Rifles, Captain 4th Bn. Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, aviator's certificate 548, British Empire, dated 8th July, 1913; also M.R.S. 50. Murie, no certificate, but has flown, has made and piloted balloons, has built an aeroplane, a fully qualified mechanical engineer and skilled in aeroplane engines, motor racer; refer to those, Merideth, manager of Bennet and Wood, Coventry, for capabilities; is anxious to serve.

*From Major-General Wapshare, Nairobi to War Office*

(No. S. 216.)

9th February, 1915, 4.10 p.m.

I have successfully withdrawn the Umba force, and I am carrying out a redistribution of my forces on the principle laid down in your telegram No. 2842. Malleson has arrived at the Congo, and when I hear from him, which I expect shortly, I will formulate and report plans of co-operation; the plans will probably take the form of an attack on ~~Nyas~~ about the middle of March.

I should be glad to have some details of the Rhodesian Contingent as to their organization, whether they have maxims, what arms you are sending for them, and whether they are bringing with them any mule transport. If it can possibly be provided mule transport is very desirable.

Our Masai are working well, and the German Masai are in sympathy with us. A patrol from Lengido killed two Germans and succeeded in getting valuable information.