

EAST AFR. PROT

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Regd 13 JUL 15

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251

War Office

German East Africa

1915

Telegraphic correspondence

13th July

as to operations

Next previous Paper

31170 S

to ~~Brussels~~ Brussels Mr J. Anderson
to ~~Paris~~ Paris

As regards the proposed occupation of Ruanda
by the Belgians - this may be satisfactory
from a military point of view but care
are also political reasons. If the Belgians
occupy this fertile tract of territory
it will hardly be possible even to get
them to give it up again.

The proposed increase of staff for the
Uganda R. has been dealt with separately.
The Gov's proposals have been agreed to.

The news as to the "Kommandos" is
out of date again.

Note that the G.O.C. is getting harder

about the G.O.C. - P.P.A. from him

Party for 11/15

Next subsequent Paper

35626 C

A contributor to the East African "Leader" seemed
to regard it as inevitable & reasonable that
Belgium should get Rwanda. ⁺ If Belgian
occupation will shorten the operations I
doubt if we should let possible difficulties
about sharing the bear's skin stand in
the way.

C.G.S. 14.7.15

H. J. R.
14/7/15

U.A. 14.7.15

AS-17 14.7.

P.S. I presume the Rwanda is expected
that the two have commenced
6 p.m.

AMH 15.7.

It is one of
most valuable
possibilities of
H. J. R.

major discussion
it forms the
scope of the
go to
Adm. (and
C.I.D.
C.O.
130
Eggs

A contributor to the East Africa "leader" seemed
to regard it as inevitable & reasonable that
Belgium should get Rwanda. If Belgian
occupation will abate the operations &
death if we should let possible difficulties
about showing the Bear's skin stand in
the way.

WGS 14/7/15

H. J. R.

14/7/15

U.A. 14/7/15

AS-12 14-7

AS-11 passed in Rwanda is expected
that the two have been cancelled
to go to

AMZ 15-7

It is one of
most valuable
possibilities of the
H. J. R.

Major L. E. Brown
is former the
copies of the
go to

Army (no see)

C. I. D.

C. O.

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Eqm

32208

From Major-General Tighe to War Office

(No. 786/4.)

3rd July, 1915.

Your letter, 2nd July. Total strength of 2nd Bn, Loyal North Lancashire Regiment, 28 officers, 836 rank and file. Other duties, 1 officer, 148 rank and file. Sick list, 168 rank and file. Number of effectives, 27 officers, 582 rank and file. Required to complete 1,000—1 officer, 164 non-commissioned officers and men.

From War Office to Major-General Tighe

(No. 5056, cipher MB 7 (A).)

3rd July 1915, 6.40 pm.

Your No. 465. Is increase of staff of Uganda Railway only necessary in case of heavier contemplated operations on a large scale? If so, what is the nature of such operations? If the increase is only necessary to cope with ordinary daily military traffic in addition to the civil traffic, the matter should surely be easily adjusted, financially with the Government.

From Major-General Tighe to War Office

(No. N. 262.)

3rd July, 1915, 9.45 pm.

We have received information which we have reason to believe, that enemy mails from German East Africa pass via Portuguese East Africa, Portuguese steamers, and Lisbon. Also that paraffin, food and ammunition are being forwarded by German firms established at Portuguese ports. Can you be brought to bear on the Portuguese Government with regard to this traffic? Can you furnish us with any information with regard to the reported Portuguese Exports from Beira in Mozambique?

From War Office to Major-General Tighe

(No. 315.)

Nairobi, 4th July, 1915, 9.30 am.

Your No. 911, under Map 297 of 2nd July. Jack and Euripidas Karganotes, brothers, from Stavina, farming. George Scordibus, born Greece, came East Africa from Cairo, represented Frigemo & Co. of Moutzala.

Efigenus, Servides of Cyprus, agent for Papa Solakis Agropoulos of Greece, and Nike Pontolida of Tripolis in Greece, private merchant.

From Major-General Tighe to War Office

(No. 23/58.)

5th July, 1915.

"Pentakota" from Bombay, arrived 4th. Details and other stores.

From Major-General Tighe to War Office

(No. 215 O.)

Nairobi, 4th July, 1915, 10.15 a.m.

Your No. 5881 of 1st July. Maps sent by "Cluny Castle" on 8th July.

From Major-General Tighe to War Office.

(No. 8. 315.)

6th July, 1915, 12.15 p.m.

With reference to my telegram No. 290 of 26th April, and letter No. 318/0/54 of the same date, the 17,000 troops in the Belgian Congo at present exert very little influence on the situation in East Africa. May I be informed whether any steps on the lines I have indicated have yet been taken to assure the command of Lake Tanganyika to Belgians. In my opinion, this is essential, if Belgian co-operation on a large scale is contemplated.

Paragraph 2 I understand, however, Monsieur Tombeur considers that the occupation of Ruanda by Frontier Commission Troops is most desirable as a preliminary to further larger operations. As the Germans west of Lake Victoria now number about 1,000 and their morale has been weakened by our success at Bukoba, a very favourable opportunity now appears for the above step. Our command of the lake compels the enemy to hold Muanza in strength and steady advance is being made on the Maktau railway, which detains large forces in the Mochi area. The Belgian troops in the neighbourhood of Kivu are ample to overrun Ruanda. As Malleson has already pointed out, the local inertia is considerable and any orders by the Belgian Government on the subject should be categorical.

From Major-General Tighe to War Office.

(No. 316 2.)

6th July, 1915, 3.10 p.m.

Coast area predatory raiding has recommenced and some patrol skirmishing is reported. Three patrol encounters in the vicinity of Maktau, in all of which we were successful. In these encounters the enemy always refuse close fighting, and, when attacked, scatter. The railway reached Maktau on 23rd June. In the neighbourhood of Mema, latterly there has been perfect quiet. Strict orders have apparently been issued by the enemy which prohibit firing on the Red Cross and the killing of wounded. It is reported that the Germans have salvaged rifles and ammunition from the collier sunk in Mansa Bay, this information has reached the Naval Commander-in-Chief.

Our casualties, coast area: 1 killed; 1 wounded and 1 missing; vicinity of Maktau, 9 wounded and 1 missing; all native.

Enemy losses, Mochi: 1 officer (unwounded), 1 native soldier wounded, at least 18 native soldiers killed, wounded, also some equipment and ammunition.

From Commander-in-Chief, Zanzibar, to Admiralty.

(No. 14. M.O. 14.)

7th July, 1915, 6.25 a.m.

Further report as to operations against "Königsberg" yesterday states that monitor (2) entered river at 4 a.m. and was heavily fired at, anchored, and at 6.30 a.m. she was opposed simultaneously, German warship firing by salvoes (five guns) with great rapidity and accuracy. One monitor hit and had to retire temporarily.

During the day five hits on "Königsberg" were obtained. Further aeroplane observations (spotting being very difficult) reported that one salvo had burst on her, and that she was heavily on fire between masts near foremast. Her firing then diminished, dropping from firing salvoes with five guns to one gun, and at lengthening intervals, and during the last hour and a half she did not fire at all. Uncertain if failure to reply to our fire was owing to her guns being put out of action or lack of ammunition. Attribute to former cause.

Thinks that if she is not destroyed she is at least totally incapacitated, but further observation needed to confirm. Further aeroplane examination will be made and reports furnished.

Further attack to complete destruction may be necessary.

Our casualties, eight killed and wounded.

From Major-General Tighe to War Office.

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7th July, 1915, 7.20 p.m.

(No. 465/6.)

With reference to your telegram of 3rd July, No. 5956, cipher. My No. 465/3 was misunderstood, but owing to the reduction of the railway staff at the outbreak of war the present personnel is insufficient not only to cope with the existing combined civil and military traffic, but also for any sudden military calls of any size and movements cannot be made with despatch and secrecy. The successful conduct of even minor operations is consequently hampered. The Governor has cabled to the Colonial Office operations are consequently hampered. The Governor has cabled to the Colonial Office to-day and has suggested means to meet the liability for additional charges, and has fully explained the reasons for bringing up the railway to the previous standard of efficiency. If the recommendations of the Governor are approved of by the Colonial Office the question is settled, and I can assist by obtaining the necessary personnel from India.

From Major-General Tighe to War Office.

Nairobi, 7th July, 1915, 9.10 a.m.

(No. 338/2/49.)

Your telegram No. 5839, cipher, M.O. 202, 29th June. Ten men of Rhodesians required, further to bring up to strength, that is two double companies. Ten per cent reinforcements required further.

From Base, Aden, to War Office.

(No. 25/60.)

8th July, 1915

"Begum," from Bombay, arrived 8th July, with details and stores.

From War Office to Major-General Tighe, Nairobi.

(No. 6060, cipher. M.O. 305.)

8th July, 1915, 11 p.m.

Your No. S. 315 of 6th July. Since it is impossible to promise you the reinforcements which you have stated to be essential for further offensive operations, you should consider the following situation with the troops at present under your command.

The Belgian Government has been notified that no systematic co-operative action can be contemplated at present.

A special naval expedition consisting of 30 officers and men with 2 motor boats which is under the orders of the Commandant-General of Rhodesia and which will be based at Lukuga, is on its way from Rhodesia to Lake Tanganyika and should be ready to commence operations with a view to securing command of the lake about the end of August. Captain Spicer Simcox is the officer in command and he has been instructed to arrange details in consultation with the local Belgian authorities.

With reference to your paragraph 2, there seems to be no military objection to the employment of Belgian troops for invading Ruanda provided such employment will not militate against their successful concentration at a later date on the western shore of Lake Tanganyika.

In making suggestions for any further proposed operations from the standpoint now indicated, please avoid as far as possible any reference to telegrams previous to 6th July, as in this way lengthy reference will be saved.