

EAST AFR. PROT
35755 *JA*

CO
35755
REC'D
REV. 4 AUG 15

War Office

German East Africa

1915

4 August

Telegram from G.O.C. as to

Last previous Paper

operations

Mr Secretary Sir J. Anderson
Mr Post

See also 35623 The situation is
generally unsatisfactory and if
the news of the introduction of
ammunition is true it is most serious.
I cannot see that the G.O. take
any interest in the operations against
G.T.A.

~~Amusing~~

Eqn 4/8/15

SLD 4.8.15

If Genl. Tipler is not given an adequate
force now there seems to be a risk
of the Germans obtaining the offensive
& compelling us to send a force -
perhaps bigger than will be required now
in order to prevent the Port. Meanwhile the

To War Office 7th August
Yes. H. J. R.
To War Office 7th August
To War Office 7th August
To War Office 7th August
(1915)

Next subsequent Paper

37457 S

deteriorating. I gathered from what
Lord Selmer said to me yesterday that the
white settlers are
losing interest.

H. J. R.

4/8/15

4. 8. 15

The whole position seems most
unsatisfactory

AS 12 5 8

I have shown to Mr. Johnson
in this subject

April 6th.

Further minutes and
correspondence attached.

deteriorating. I gathered from [unclear]
Lord Selkirk said to me yesterday that the
white settlers are losing interest.

H. J. R.

4/8/15

4. 8. 15

The whole position seems most
unsatisfactory

AS-12 58

I have shown to the [unclear]
in two subjects

April 68.

Further minutes and
correspondence attached.

about
 the Bone Law

This looks as if
 any moment it
 might lead to
 the end and that
 the trouble may be
 due to not taking
 the matter in hand
 in time

but I have a
 hard nut to crack
 about it

AS 12. 5/8

Black
 1. N. Bone Law

This looks as if
 any moment it
 might lead to

trouble and that
 the trouble may be
 due to not talking
 the matter in hand
 in time

... I have a
 and with ...
 ...

7-12 5/10

From Major General J. G. A. ...

(1) I posted a summary of the ...
 (2) The situation ...
 No. 283, 20th April

(3) Although the ...
 (4) The Navy ...

(5) The ...
 (6) Among the white troops ...

(7) I regret that at ...
 (8) I have had to return two good ...

(9) As regards possible plans for the future, ...

(10) With one extra brigade the ...
 (11) With two extra brigades I ...
 (12) With three extra brigades, if ...

40 EAP
367555

270

Secret

7th August 1915

DRAFT

The Secretary
Gen Office

MINUTE.

- Mr. B. H. J. 6/8/15
- Mr. Read 6
- Mr.
- Mr.
- Mr. G. P. 6/8/15
- Mr. H. J. 6/8/15
- Mr. J. Anderson. 6/8/15
- Mr. Steel-Maitland.
- Mr. Bonar Law

See list instructions
(see list, 2nd Anderson)

Sir

I am directed by the Secretary of War to request you to inform the Army Council that in view of the fact that the War Office is at the present time unable to regard the present military position in East Africa with great anxiety, it will be glad to be informed whether the Army Council are satisfied that no further steps can be taken to improve the situation.

Mr. J. Anderson
279 Steel Hill Road
Lord Selkirk, the leading settler in the
S.A.P., having represented unofficially to
the Dept. that the military position in the
Prov. was unsatisfactory, a meeting with
him took place yesterday at which Mr.
Steel-Hill Road, General Callwell of the
G.O. & I were present. Briefly Lord
S's points were as follows: -

(1) Relations between Govt. & G.O.C.

Want of co-operation between Govt. & G.O.C.
The former unpleas both with officials &
unofficials & inclined to be obstructive
- the latter not man enough for the
job, which is a very big one. What
is required - either a strong Govt. or
strong G.O.C. who can impose himself
upon both Civil & military. General Callwell
said that G.O.C. was considered by Lord Selkirk
to be a poor man.

(2) Settlers They turned out well at
beginning & were supposed to have done
good work. Later on Govt. gave them
to understand that they were to be of more
use on their farms than in the fighting
line. On the other hand letters, which
were known to be written by the G.O.C.,
were appearing in the local Press
reflecting on the character of the settlers.

Could offer Union Defense Corps
of enlistment as there have been
granted to the force of 760 men
already enlisted for Greenland. They
would not be immediately associated
with the troops operating from East
Africa, and no difficulty would
arise therefore from having two
rates of pay

Oct. 19 15

Jan 13 15

Could offer more services terms
of enlistment as there have been
granted to the force of 760 who
already enlisted for Nyasaland. They
would not be immediately associated
with the troops operating from East
Africa, and no difficulty would
arise therefore from having two
rates of pay.

CA. 128.15

SM 13.8.15

to John Anderson

281

As part of this conversation

took place between you (and me)

myself I am attached

to all of it so that you

may have it all before you

are writing any minutes

I am

to one Andromeda

As part of the communication
 with these relations you (name)
 myself I have and had
 a note of it as that of
 and have it all before you
 to writing and name

A

In the course of a further conversation with General Callwell, after Mr. Read and Lord Selkirk left us, I asked him informally about the sending of troops to East Africa. He said that if the contingent from South Africa were willing to go there, he imagined the War Office would be willing. He thought however that the South Africans would naturally want to come and serve in Europe. I said that I thought I would then put in this question. What is the real difference of our fighting force in Europe between the South Africans going to East Africa, and the South Africans coming to Europe, an equivalent number from one of the new armies being despatched to East Africa. A certain amount of time would be lost in transit, but was there any other difference? General Callwell said there really was not, that on the whole speaking informally, he did not think it would be a bad arrangement, though it must not be brought up in evidence against them. He thought however Lord K. would have a fit if it were proposed, but that if he were to have a fit, perhaps it might be best effected if the Secretary of State were to make the suggestion to him.

Whitehall.

S.W.

11th August 1915.

Dear Mr. Steel-Maitland,

Since seeing you today I have received a letter from General Thompson from Cape Town, of which the enclosed is an extract. I wired to him to sound the authorities out there with regard to sending a contingent to East Africa without suggesting in any way that we here in the War Office were putting the matter forward.

Yours sincerely,



Steel-Maitland, Esq. M.P.

COLONIAL OFFICE, S.W.

Extract from letter from General Thompson, G.O.C.,
Cape Town, to General Callwell, dated
24th July 1915.

 With reference to your cable No. 636E.
 I have in private conversation referred casually
 to the German East idea both to Smuts and to Sir
 David Graff Finance Minister. I find that both
 had it firmly fixed in their minds that the Imperial
 Government only wanted the Africans in Europe and that
 German East was the preserve of the Indian Government.
 Smuts told me that there had been correspondence to
 this effect and when I hinted that whatever had
 occurred in the past that it was quite possible if a
 contingent was offered by the Union Government now for
 G. E. A. that it would be favourably received, his eyes
 sparkled and he said that Brits and Alberts and Louis
 Botha were ready to go at once with their commandos
 and had often said how they wanted to have a go.

When I left Smuts I came away with the fixed impression
 that the question would be raised straight away.
 David Graff was also of exactly the same opinion and
 I think he carries weight in the Cabinet.

PARAPHRASE

TELEGRAM. The Secretary of State for the Colonies to the
Governor of the East Africa Protectorate.

(Sent 11.45 a.m. 14th August, 1915.)

August 14th.

Rumours have reached me from a source which I cannot ignore, firstly that there is lack of complete co-operation between the civil and military in the Protectorate, and secondly that the General Officer Commanding is dissatisfied with the settlers but that the latter have been given to understand by Civil Government that they will be of more value on their farms than in fighting lines.

While I accept these reports with all possible reserve, I think it well to state with regard to the first that His Majesty's Government attach the utmost importance to the successful prosecution of operations and that I confidently rely on you to secure the whole-hearted support of the civil administration for the military.

With regard to the second, if the facts are as stated I suggest that in consultation with the General Officer Commanding you take steps to make it generally known that His Majesty's Government highly appreciate services which have already been rendered by the settlers, that on account of their military aptitude and local experience their co-operation will be of the utmost value in future and that the Government trusts that after providing for bare requirements of civil industry they will send every available man to local forces.

It

It is realized that course of operations hitherto may have had a depressing effect but the position is receiving the constant consideration of His Majesty's Government and they are seeking to improve position so far as more urgent demands on their resources will admit.

BONAR LAW.

