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EAST AFR. PROT

C.O.  
23064

Rec'd  
Regd 19 MAY 15

23064 F

War Office

1915

May 18<sup>th</sup>

Last previous Paper.

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German East Africa

Telegraphic correspondence as  
to operations.

Mr. Balfour Sir G. F. Fisher  
Mr. Read

Lord Kitchener's telegram of  
May 4th would appear to refer  
to operations in the Lamanga  
district which it was proposed  
to carry out in time or day.

Put 6? Eng 19/5/15

This was to have a sufficient plan for the  
attack on Babota, which is 100 miles across  
L. Victoria from Arusha & only 25 miles  
South of the Uganda boundary.

U.S.A. 19.5.15

N.J.R.

19/5/15

M. 19.5.15 Pro. 19.5.15

of 20.5.15

20.5.15

Next subsequent Paper.

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SECRET.*From Endankation, Bombay, to War Office.*

12th May, 1915.

(No. 2660 E.)

Hired transport "Pentakota" sailed 11th May with reinforcements for force "B" as follows:

Calcutta Port Defence Volunteer Artillery Company, British rank and file	20
North Western Railway Volunteer Rifles, British rank and file	7
Cawnpore Volunteer Rifles, British rank and file, warrant officer	1
Loyal North Lancashire Regiment, rank and file	1
101st Grenadiers, officer	1
native soldiers	13
followers	2
17th Cavalry, Indian Army, native soldiers	13
horses	21
63rd Palamcottah Light Infantry, native soldiers	18
followers	4
29th Punjabis, native soldier	1
R.A. Indian artificers	47
Supply followers	63
Indian armigers	3
Assistant Surgeon for duty on board	1
193 Packages, Ordnance Stores	120 cwt
12 Explosives	5
3,196 Telegraph Stores	1,420
1,071 Bakery and Butchery Stores	959 pounds

*From Commander-in-Chief, India, to War Office.*

12th May, 1915, 7.15 p.m.

(No. S. 9893.)

General Officer Commanding Force "B" is pressing for a decision regarding the supply of 6-inch howitzer equipment. When may I expect a reply to my No. S. 8339 of 23rd April?

*From Commander-in-Chief, India, to War Office.*

13th May, 1915, 6.50 p.m.

(No. S. 9977.)

Reference your No. 8484 of 9th May. We are arranging to despatch to General Tighe one Indian Medical Service officer and four assistant surgeons.

*From Base, Kildonan, to War Office.*

14th May, 1915, 3.55 p.m.

(No. 17/161.)

"Coochandi" left midday, 13th, for Bombay.

2

*From War Office to Major-General Tighe.*

(No. 4651, cipher. M.O. 233.)

14th May, 1915.

Your No. 227/0/7, 3rd May. Your action re improvised signal section is confirmed. Your No. 270, 6th April. 18 visual signallers will leave England, 4th June, by direct Union-Castle steamer. Your No. 18/18/M., 8th May. India is arranging to send you medical personnel as requested.

*From War Office to Commander-in-Chief, India.*

(No. 4651, cipher. M.O. 1 (A).)

14th May, 1915, 8.45 p.m.

With reference to your No. S. 9893. We are communicating with East Africa. The howitzer equipment need not be supplied.

*From War Office to Major-General Tighe, Nairobi.*

(No. 4652, cipher. M.O. 1 (A).)

14th May, 1915, 8 p.m.

Your No. S. 285 of 21st April has been communicated to me by the Commander-in-Chief, India. In view of difficulties of supply of ammunition and the impossibility of offensive operations against Taveta in the near future, I have said that I consider the howitzers need not be supplied.

*From Earl Kitchener to Major-General Tighe.*

(No. 4653, cipher. M.O. 237.)

14th May, 1915, 9.20 p.m.

In your No. S. 278 of 20th April you mention an attack upon Bukoba while Belgians threaten Raunds from Kivu, and you say it is probable you could hold Bukoba with part of the troops in Uganda. Your No. S. 290 of 26th April also speaks of a movement on Bukoba in conjunction with Belgians, promising further report by post. Again in your telegram No. S. 293 of 9th May you speak of an expedition to take Bukoba at the end of this month of which further details will be submitted. We have not received these further reports. My view, however, is that you have not at your disposal a sufficient force to undertake offensive operations beyond your borders, and that your action should be confined to the defensive offensive. With the existing forces under your command it is unwise to embark on projects involving the occupation of German territory, and you should limit your endeavours to the protection of our own possessions. You should only give such assistance to Belgian troops as is compatible with the foregoing instructions.

*From War Office to Major-General Tighe.*

(No. 4664, cipher. M.O. 234.)

14th May, 1915, 10.5 p.m.

Belgian Government sends the following information regarding the strength and distribution of the Belgian Congo forces —

Tanganjika — Scattered along eastern shore from Uvira to Moliro. Major Stringham, headquarters, Albertville, 2,000 men, 16 field guns, 6 mountain guns, 12 machine guns. 3 heavy guns of position, at Albertville. Katanga area, Major Olsen, headquarters, Pweto, 2,000 men, 10 guns, 12 machine guns.

Kivu area. Commandant Henri, headquarters, Kibati, 6,000 men, 8 machine guns, 9 Nordmefeldts, 21 machine guns.

Lake Albert — Germans have ships, "Hedwig von Wissman," believed severely damaged, also 2 tugs and many dhows. Construction of new German steamer, "Von Gotzen," believed delayed owing to non-arrival of machinery. Belgian steamer, "Alexander Delecomine," repaired and armed; also 2 small tugs and 2 launches armed with machine guns.

In artillery the Belgians have approximately 232 rounds per gun. Belgian infantry has 1,000 rounds per rifle. Arrangements are being made to maintain this ammunition supply.

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*From War Office to Major-General Tighe.*

(No. 4669, cipher. M.O. 1 (A).)

15th May, 1915, 10.30 a.m.

Please cancel the last paragraph of my telegram of 14th May, No. 4651, cipher, and substitute the following —

"With reference to your telegram, No. 270 of 6th April. The visual signallers will leave England by the first steamer available."