

22523  
REC'D  
REC'D 12 MAY 16

EAST AFRICAN PROT  
GERMANY IN AFRICA  
22523

W

Foreign Office

1916

11 May

Last previous Paper.

German East Africa

Sends copy of letter from Swiss Office  
as to administration of territory occupied  
by Belgian forces.

Mr. Bickmanley

As on W.O. 22122

Wait for Pan. Sec's reply.

to Mr. 12.5.16 By Mr. G. J. G. J. G.  
at once

See W.O. 2277

10.5.16 21.07 (2277)

Next subsequent Paper.

No 22524

In any further communication on this subject, please quote

No. W 97521/1916

and address

The Under-Secretary of State  
Foreign Office,  
London.

Secret

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

Foreign Office,

May 11, 1916.

Reference to previous correspondence:

Letter ~~to~~ from Foreign Office:

Description of Inclusive.

Name and Date.	Subject.
War Office May 8.	Administration of German East Africa.

(See letter sent to

Copy  
0165/7482. (M.O.2.0.)

WAR OFFICE,  
LONDON, S.W.

(87521)

8th May, 1916.

Secret.

Sir:-

I am commanded by the Army Council to acknowledge the receipt of Foreign Office letter No. 85501/16/W, of May 6th, on the subject of arrangements for the administration of portions of German East Africa which may be occupied by the allied forces, and in reply to state for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs that the Council recognise the force of the contentions advanced by Monsieur Renkin in his note transmitted by Baron Beyens under date May 3rd.

The Council are, therefore, disposed to accept the principle that uniformity of administration should be secured by the attachment to the Belgian Forces of a sufficient number of experienced British Political Officers acting in an advisory capacity.

Before definitely committing themselves, however, to suggestions on these lines, the Council propose to await the reply of the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, East Africa to the telegram of which a copy is appended.

I am, etc.,

(Signed) B. B. Cubitt.

The Under Secretary of State,  
Foreign Office.

Paraphrase.

Your F.5028 of 26th April. The necessity of retaining executive control of administration within areas traversed by the communications of their forces is insisted upon by the Belgian Government which adduces as reasons military requirements and undesirable moral effects in both Congo and Ruanda were the Belgian administration subordinated definitely to British. We feel that that attitude is reasonable in itself and therefore do not feel justified in persisting in the demand for an administration exclusively British. We propose to accept the suggestion that a senior British Political Officer should be attached to Belgian Headquarters and if this be arranged we intend to press for the attachment to important Belgian detachments etcetera of subordinate Political Officers all of whom would serve in advisory capacity, leaving the Executive Belgian. Do you consider this arrangement would be suitable?