

EAST AFR. PROT.  
16970

16970  
Recd 8 11 16

*SA*

was office

German East Africa

1916

April 7<sup>th</sup>

Last previous paper.

Send telegram from General Sumb  
as to administration of conquered territory.

... telegram  
... yesterday. I is a  
... it is rather <sup>inadequate</sup> { I think }  
to deal with in correspondence between  
Dept -

8/4/16

do not address matter. I have  
return of minutes. Thereafter

Wed. 8/4/16

at once.

H. J. R.

8/12/16

See last minutes and action

on W.O. 16811

& also

70. 17630

8/13/16

To do. 14 April (17630)

ext subsequent paper

W.O. 17154

16970

308

Any further communication on this subject should be addressed to—

The Secretary,  
War Office,  
London, S.W.,

and the following number quoted.

War Office,  
London, S.W.

5/7490. (M.O.2.B.).

7 April, 1916.

Sir,

I am commanded by the Army Council to transmit for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies a copy of a telegram received from General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, East Africa, relative to the administrative complications that are likely to arise in regard to the occupation of enemy territory in the event of a simultaneous advance into German East Africa by British, Belgian, and Portuguese forces.

The Council will be glad to know at an early date what reply should, in the opinion of Mr. Secretary Bonar Law be given to General Smuts.

A similar letter has been addressed to the Foreign Office.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. H. Currie

The Under Secretary of State,  
Colonial Office,  
S.W.

From: General Officer-Commanding-in-Chief, East Africa.  
To: C.I.C.S.

4th April, 1916.

7.45 p.m.

G.O.F. 324.

I shall appreciate a ruling from the W.O. or Colonial Office for my guidance on the following point. Tombour with the Belgian forces is now en route to Lutobe in order to invade Ruanda province this month and to occupy the capital (sic) Kigali. He does so under agreement with whereby we make certain transport arrangements for the expedition. If the expedition is successful the Belgians will probably occupy territory and march further south-east to Tabora and Muansa simultaneously with our advance.

Their advance will be due to our assistance and to the withdrawal of German fighting force from that area owing to our military pressure further east and south.

A similar situation will arise as soon as Portuguese begin to move next June. In this way the Belgians and Portuguese will (one group undecipherable) occupy peacefully large portions of enemy territory while the military burden falls almost entirely on us. Must I assume that each Allied Power administers the enemy territory occupied by its Army and that three different systems of administration will thus arise? Or will the Allied Governments arrange for the temporary administration of all conquered territory by the British Government? In the latter case steps may have to be taken in advance to define agreement.

Repeated to Lord Buxton.