

E. AFRICA
GENERAL
39148

39148
REC'D
REG'D 17 AUG 16

Was above
1916
6 Aug
Last previous Paper.

Military Mission to Portugal

States as to despatch of a
military mission to Portugal & encloses
memorandum as to its objects

Mr B. G.
Mr J.
Mr Mag.
Mr C.
Mr R.

Re subject is particularly interested
in paragraphs 6 and 7 of the
memorandum. The subject of paragraph
7 has ~~been~~ been dealt with
in departmental correspondence and
I am glad that we have not
overlooked the insertion of this
point in the memo.

no action required so far as this
Dept. is concerned. The memo. appears
to be on very sound lines.
I desire of (C) Gen. Pitt? The mission has started
T. C. K. 11. 11. 16

subsequent Paper.
will give
reference
1/15/16

3948

150

Any further communication on this subject should be addressed to—

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

and the following number quoted—

2166/286. (M.O.S.B.)

War Office,
London, S.W.

16 August, 1916.

Sir,

I am commanded by the Army Council to state for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, that a Military Mission is about to be despatched to Portugal, to co-operate with a French Mission of a similar character.

The composition of the British Mission is:-

Major-General N.W. Barnardiston, M.V.O.

An Officer as A.D.C.

2/Lieutenant J.A. Robinson, General List.

The party will leave Charing Cross for Paris at 11.45 a.m. on August 17th.

A copy of the Notes which it is proposed to issue to Major-General Barnardiston for his general guidance in the conduct of the Mission is attached.

I am to request that these Notes may be submitted for the consideration of Mr Secretary Bonar Law, and that any remarks thereon may be transmitted to the Council.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

H. H. Curzon

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

32148

Form No. 8

151

WAR OFFICE

LONDON, S.W.

August 16th 1946

Any further communication on this subject should be addressed to

The Secretary
War Office,
London, S.W.

and the following number quoted

0148/956 (No. 2 193)

The Secretary of the War Office presents his compliments
 to The Under Secretary of State, Colonial Office,
 and is commanded by the Army Council to transmit for the
 information of The Under Secretary of State for the Colonies
 a copy of the document noted in the subjoined schedule on the
 subject of The British Military Mission to
 Portugal, inadvertently omitted from
 War Office letter of the above number,
 sent by hand today to the Colonial Office.

1-47

To	From	Description
transmitted	Notes	"Objects of Proposed Military Mission to Portugal"

OBJECTS OF PROPOSED MISSION TO PORTUGAL.

152

- (1). To urge on the Portuguese military authorities the desirability of strengthening and developing their military resources, both in Portugal and in the Colonies, but especially in Portugal.
 To ascertain and consider the directions in which any portions of the Portuguese Army, becoming available, could most profitably be employed, whilst reconciling Portuguese inclinations with our (British and French) interests.
- (2). To make it clear from the outset to both Governmental and military authorities that Great Britain does not look to Portugal to provide troops for military operations (other than those in East Africa) until the Portuguese Army shall have been adequately trained, armed, and equipped, and then only to such extent as may be desired by the Portuguese Government.
- (3). To make it clear that Great Britain, though animated by sentiments of the warmest sympathy with Portugal, and mindful of the co-operation between the two nations in the past, is not at present in a position to supply Portugal with munitions or equipment, except on a small scale and as regards certain specified stores (mainly for trench-warfare), owing to the very great demands already made upon her by the other Allied States.
- (4). To report periodically to the Chief of the Imperial General Staff the conditions obtaining in the Portuguese Army, as regards its preparedness, armament, equipment, and moral.
- (5). To ascertain, and transmit, any demands made by the Portuguese military authorities for stores (bearing in mind the limitations mentioned in para. (3)); or for instructors (bearing in mind that few are obtainable at present in this country).
- (6). To encourage the Portuguese military authorities to make adequate provision for their Expeditionary Forces now in Mozambique and reported to lack the essentials for an offensive campaign, with the object of enabling their Commander to advance into German East Africa in co-operation with the forces under the British G.O.C-in-C. in East Africa, and in the directions indicated by the latter as most desirable.
- (7). In the event of the advances alluded to in para. (6) taking place, to support the British desire that all internal administration of territory in German East Africa should be controlled by British (and) Officials acting under the authority of the British G.O.C-in-C., and to secure permission for these officials to work among the Portuguese forces with this object.
 (The Belgian Government has already acceded to a similar proposal in regard to their zone of operations in East Africa)
- (8). To ascertain whether the Portuguese Government is prepared to undertake, and if so to what extent it is capable of undertaking, the manufacture of munitions and accessories, under British or Franco-British superintendence.

(In view of the known limitations of Portuguese manufacturing resources it is likely that only provision of smaller tools, "spade-cutters", "taps" (for cutting screw-threads) etc etc, can be attempted).

Should occasion arise, application should be made for the assistance of an expert to proceed to Portugal and investigate any manufacturing possibilities, under the direction of the Mission.

- (9) To impress upon the Portuguese Government that, although immediate active military co-operation in Europe may not be possible, the greatest service could be rendered by the provision of such auxiliary assistance as -

- (a) Labour Corps, for work in the handling of stores at the Base Ports, and in the Depots and Stores of the Lines of Communication.

(Such units to be militarised, and to wear uniform).

- (b) Labour for employment in connection with the Munitions Factories in Great Britain.

It should be urged that the provision of such auxiliary assistance would be in no way derogatory to the Portuguese Government or Nation, but on the contrary would be most deeply appreciated as a contribution of the utmost value to the resources of the Allied Powers, and to Great Britain in particular.