

E. AFRICA

40048

40048 SENT

1917

WAR

1917

9th AUGUST

ISLAMISM

States D.M.I. is of opinion missionary societies should be asked to assist in developing the "insulating belt".

Last previous Paper.

M.D. / 39191

Letter from Capt. Philipps + send: attached.

[Handwritten signature]

Mr. Butler.

I think the first thing to be done is to send out a copy of the memo. to the heads of Govts (Uganda S.A.P. S.E.A. Nyasaland) with for others in secret despatches, and a copy of Col. French's covering note semi-officially at the same time. Govts should be asked for info as to the tribal composition of the various units of the S.A.P.

The formation of regular schools presents difficulties - it costs money, and it will be resisted by the Missionaries, who have penetrated further into the region

14 Sept 1917

Among SEA }
Copy memo }
O.K. Uganda } can send
O.K. E.A.P. }
S.A.P. Nyasaland }
C. Col. French's letter to the heads of Govts

Next subsequent Paper.

W.P. 1917 + 0

strict than I think is
realized. E.g. in Uganda the
Kerova mission are established
in Gulu, and other missions have
started work in the Nigazi district
in the extreme S.W. of the Protectorate
only to be overthrown (or so thought)
before the war.

We can't ask the Missions to
co-operate in the establishment of
secular schools, and I think we
must get definite suggestions from
the Govt. before we approach the
Missions at all (except unless we
have an opportunity of informal
discussion with his Excellency).

W. C. C. 17.8.17

W. C. C. for A. Steel - Mutanda

We had better get the Administrations of
the A. A. G.'s as suggested by Mr. Bottomley.
I can't conceive that we can get help from
the missionaries along his particular line.
It is a question of preventing the spread
of Islamism & Ethiopianism. The only
reply that a missionary can make is
to make it easier for us to give them
Christianity.

Hub

17.8.17

~~SECRET.~~

353

War Office,

Whitehall,

S.W.

C.F. 109.

40048

9th August, 1917.

AUG 17

My dear Butler,

I enclose a note which I wrote to the D.M. He told me to send it on to you and added that in his opinion the step most likely to develop the "insulating belt" would be to take the heads of the big missionary societies into your confidence and find out if they would assist either on the lines suggested in my note or possibly on lines which they themselves might put forward. Normally of course missionaries fight with one another, but in the face of what may prove to be very real dangers both from north and south they might be induced to co-operate with the administrators of these protectorates.

Yours truly
Creach.

F. G. A. Butler, Esq., G.B., G.M.G.,

COLONIAL OFFICE.

SECRET

C.F. 109.

354

D.M.I.

With reference to the attached Eastern Report No. 26 (Appendix) there is, in my opinion, no doubt both that Mohammedanism is accepted readily by many of the pagan African tribes and is gradually spreading southwards and also that Ethiopianism, which is equally acceptable to the native temperament and particularly so to the partially educated is spreading northwards and eastwards. Of the two Ethiopianism (which I do not think finds its source in Abyssinia) is I believe by far the more dangerous to the white race, playing as it does upon the characteristic conceit and excitability of the African.

It is likely that, in the future, the British Empire, as holding and controlling the greatest areas in Africa, may provide a focussing point for a great rebellion of black against white and the Britisher will probably be regarded as the chief enemy of the black man, or at least of the Bantu race, in which most of the converts to Ethiopianism will be found.

With regard to the spread of these two religions it is probably correct to suppose that one or the other of them will eventually absorb practically all the natives of Africa unless steps are taken to limit and counteract their growth, and it would probably be agreed among students of native affairs that, in consequence of the effect of the war, such steps cannot be taken too soon.

Assuming that Captains Willie and Philippe are correct in urging that the policy of H.M. Government should be one of developing national feeling within its natural divisions and developing also the "insulating area" which spreads from Abyssinia, with its debased but ancient

than heterogeneous, tribal rather than mixed. This, with very few exceptions, was actually the case in the King's African Rifles before the war, although the desirability of the arrangement was arguable from a military point of view; but I am not sure whether it has been found possible to adhere to this practice during the very great expansion of the force which has recently taken place.

(Signed) C. FRENCH
LIEUT.-COLONEL

Lieutenant-Colonel,
General Staff.

M.I.1.

7.8.17.

To

Personal &
Private.

STEWART Hall,

Station

STIRLING

Date

11/viii/17

Dear Butler,

356

In reference to Col. French's suggestion in the matter of secular schools: I send you a few notes which may conceivably be of assistance to you in forming your judgment on the question. A working draft is sometimes useful. Please excuse my bothering you with a personal letter to introduce it.

With reference to the appointment to the Department Intelligence Bureau at NAIROBI (copy of Enclosure) I should have thought that possibly the C.O. wd. have preferred one of their own officers who has in an active capacity been working in with U.S., BEA, & GEA for the last three years, as less knowing the ropes & individuals & thus minimizing any chance of friction.

bal Secular schools : German model 357

Uganda (Lake Victoria) District was in the intermediate "Residentur" stage between Military & civil Administration.

German Govt. exercised no direct control over natives but worked through the Sultans whose powers, save for the death penalty, were ~~all~~ almost despotic.

The Germans had found a native population of 170,000 of an unusually high grade of civilisation separated in sympathy only by domestic feuds & slight varieties of dialect.

That is today, a formidable potential enemy whose intelligence might be expected to prescribe alliance as the best means of resisting European control in its earlier stages.

have however been much struck recently
in this District by the intense tribal
bonds existing in small communities
under separate Sultans, and an
loofness amounting to antipathy to
neighbouring tribes, with whom they are
naturally allied by some similarity of
speech & customs.

358 -

This is the result of a careful &
unsuccessful German policy of weakening
isolation, in which secular ~~subtribal~~ tribal
education is the chief factor.

ETHNO: Of the Hut tax of Rs. 4/50.

Rs. 3/2 accrued to Govt and
1/50 to the Sultans.

From this income Sultans were expected
to maintain (1) Sultans' armed police.
(2) Tribal Schools.

within their Sultanates.

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in this district by the intense tribal
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speech & customs.

This is the result of a careful &
successful German policy of weakening
isolation, in which secular ~~educational~~
education is the chief factor.

METHOD

Of the Hut tax of Rs. 4/50
Rs. 3/6 accrued to Govt and
1/50 to the Sultans.

From this income Sultans were expected
to maintain (1) Sultans' armed police
(2) Tribal Schools.

within their Sultanates.

1) were unrecorded in Military returns,
trained in musketry by white N.C.O's, and
the basis of German auxiliary forces.

2) (At Bukoba) two white schoolmasters
educated natives for positions as:-

(a) Tribal teachers

(b) Govt. tax collectors.

(c) Sultans' clerks.

(d) clerks to German planters &
business houses.

359

Subjects taught were :-

(a) Kiswahili : the official & commercial tongue

(b) The Three R's & book-keeping.

(c) German Imperial history

Shortly before taking up their duties
in their Sultans' school, tribal
teachers were given individual

attention by one of the white teachers
on tribal history & the agricultural
development of their districts.

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It was everywhere clearly laid down that native development was to be on parallel not joint lines with European civilisation.

The 'Normal' schools were built & maintained at provincial headquarters by Govt. 360

Liberal schools were maintained by Sultans.

In this district there are many soundly educated pagans. German was only taught in exceptional cases. Results, from the German political and ^{the} social standpoints, have been excellent.

It has not produced the result of either bad-manners nor any tendency to make the native ape the European which has sometimes been the effect of Xthian ^{mission} education.

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J. E. Phillips

From: CAPTAIN J. S. R. HILLING, M.C.
Uganda Administration.
To: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
Downing St., S.W.

4674

15/6/17

361

Sir:-

I have the honour to apply for transfer from the UGANDA Administration to that of conquered territory of Northern East Africa.

2. Throughout the war I have been engaged on INTELLIGENCE and POLITICAL work, under the WAR OFFICE, in that territory for a longer period than that of my total residence in UGANDA.

I have acquired, in addition to ARABIC and SWAHILI, two African-native languages which are unknown to any other British Officer.

3. My services therefore, are now of more value in conquered territory than in UGANDA.

4. In the event of my return to UGANDA it would be in the "difficult" position of an Asst. District Commissioner in an area of which I have been Chief Political Officer, possibly directly under District Officers who have served under me as Asst. Political Officers.

CHIEF POLITICAL OFFICER UGANDA was a military appointment, approved by the War Office and comprising both the Protectorate and the adjoining conquered territory.

5. The WAR OFFICE have recently signified for my services to establish an IMPERIAL INTELLIGENCE BUREAU for Eastern Africa to include:-

- a. N. PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.
- b. "GERMAN" EAST AFRICA.
- c. BRITISH EAST AFRICA.
- d. UGANDA.
- e. E. CONGO.
- f. ABYSSINIA.
- g. THE SMALL-STATES.

The UGANDA Government has refused.

6. My duties of the last three years, particularly as head of the Intelligence and Political Dept. of the UGANDA area (which carried responsibility for the int'gee organisation of the Belgian line in the CONGO and G.K.A.) has afforded me almost unique opportunities for study of wider African problems, such as Cape to Cairo communications and PAN-ISLAM.

If the War Office are not permitted to utilize my experience thus gained, I trust that the Colonial Office may do so in a similar capacity, or sanction my transfer as indicated.

7. I append a precis of appointments held during the last three years.

J. E. Roberts

 Captain

Memoranda on these subjects forwarded by request, to War Office & Colonial Office respectively on 15th July.

Stewart Hall,

Stirling, 6th August 1917.

Appointments held: 1914 - 15 - 16 - 17.

Note:- Commission in Reserve of Officers - 27th February 1913.

- (1) From 5th August 1914:-
An asst. Intelligence Officer, E.A.E.F. also commanding 2000 armed levies. (Mentioned in despatches.)
- (2) From 14th September 1914.
Administering the KIFUMBIRO District of German East Africa. 60 miles by 18, 16,000 natives.
- (3) From 18th June. 1915:-
Political Officer to General Stewart's expedition to BUKOBA (mentioned in despatches)
- (4) From 18th January 1916.
Chief Political Officer UGANDA. with right of appointment of asst. Political Officers.
- (5) July 1916.
(a) Nominated by Governor of Uganda to administer the BUKOBA District of E.A. as D.P.O., but required as:-
(b) as S.O. (Intelligence) on staff of General Sir Chas. Crook (to Tabora)
- (6) Jan. 1917:-
(a) applied for by the Chief Political Officer E.A.E.F. to administer BUKOBA, but required to:-
(b) take charge of POLITICAL MISSION in Belgian area of German East Africa.

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(Mentioned in despatches.)

(2) From 14th September 1914.

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District of German East Africa, 60 miles by 18,
10,000 natives.

(3) From 18th June, 1915:-

Political Officer to General
Stewart's expedition to BUKOBA (mentioned in despatches)

(4) From 18th January 1916.

Chief Political Officer UGANDA,
with right of appointment of Asst. Political Officers.

(5) July 1916.

(a) Nominated by Governor of Uganda to
administer the BUKOBA District of E.A.A. & D.F.O.,
but required as:-

(b) C.S.O. (Intelligence) on staff of
General Sir Chas. Gress (to Tabora)

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(a) Applied for by the Chief Political
Officer E.A.E.F. to administer BUKOBA,
but required to:-

(b) take charge of POLITICAL MISSION in
Belgian Area of German East Africa.

Downing Street,

4 September

~~29 August, 1917.~~

Sir,

In continuation of my secret despatches of the 15th and 16th of August, I have the honour to transmit to you the accompanying copy of a Memorandum prepared in the Intelligence Division, War Office, regarding the measures to be taken for counteracting undesirable results of the spread of Mohammedanism and Ethiopianism in Africa.

2. I shall be glad to receive your observations on Lieutenant Colonel French's Memorandum. With regard to the last paragraph of the Memorandum, you should state how far it has been possible, in the expansion of the King's African Rifles, to preserve the principle of the tribal composition of companies.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

Lambert Servant,

(Signed) Walter H. Long

ADMINISTRATOR

H. A. WYATT, ESQ., C.M.G.,

etc., etc., etc.

Downing Street,

4 September
~~1917~~

1917.

Sir,

With reference to my confidential despatch of the 6th of August, I have the honour to transmit to you the accompanying copy of a Memorandum prepared in the Intelligence Division, War Office, regarding the measures to be taken for counteracting undesirable results of the spread of Mohammedanism and Ethiopeism in Africa.

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2. A copy of the Memorandum referred to by Colonel French is also enclosed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

(Signed) Walter H. Long

GOVERNOR

SIR GEORGE SMITH, K.C.M.G.,

SIR GEORGE SMITH, K.C.M.G.,

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

Downing Street.

4 September

1917.

Sir,

In continuation of my recent despatches of the 15th and 16th of August, I have the honour to transmit to you the accompanying copy of a Memorandum prepared in the Intelligence Division, War Office, regarding the measures to be taken for counteracting undesirable results of the spread of Mohammedanism and Ethiopianism in Africa.

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I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

Dumbie Servant

(signed) Walter H. Long

THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

SECRET.

Downing Street,

4 September
1917.

Dear Byatt,

A Memorandum by Lieutenant Colonel French, of the Intelligence Division, is going to you by this mail in an official Secret despatch on the question of combating the spread of Mohammedanism and Ethiopianism in Africa. I enclose for your information a copy of the covering letter in which we sent the Memorandum to

We feel very great difficulty in approaching Missionary bodies on this point. We cannot expect them to espouse the idea of secular schools and they would be certain to say that the best course would be to encourage Christian Missions.

We do not propose to decide about consulting the Missions until we hear from you and the other Heads

A. BYATT, ESQ., C.M.G.

Downing Street,

14 September
August, 1917.

Dear Mr. Wallis,

A Memorandum by Lieutenant Colonel French, of the Intelligence Division, is going to you by this mail in an official Secret despatch on the question of checking the spread of Mohammedanism and Ethiopianism in Africa. I enclose for your own information a copy of the covering letter in which he sent the Memorandum to me.

We feel very great difficulty in approaching Missionary bodies on this point. We cannot expect them to welcome the idea of secular schools and they would be certain to say that the best course would be to encourage Christian Missions.

We do not propose to decide about consulting the Missions until we hear from you and the other Heads
of

H. R. WALLIS, ESQ., C.M.G.

Downing Street,

4 September
1917.

Dear Mr. Wallis,

A Memorandum by Lieutenant Colonel French, of the Intelligence Division, is going to you by this mail in an official Secret despatch on the question of curbing the spread of Mohammedanism and Ethiopianism in Africa. I enclose for your own information a copy of the covering letter in which he sent the Memorandum to me.

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H. R. WALLIS, ESQ., C.M.G.,

Downing Street,

4 September
1917.

Dear Bowring,

A Memorandum by Lieutenant Colonel French, of the Intelligence Division, is going to you by this mail in an official Secret despatch on the question of combating the spread of Mohammedanism and Ethiopianism in Africa. I enclose for your own information a copy of the covering letter in which he sent the Memorandum to me.

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of

C. C. BOWRING, ESQ., C.M.G.

of Governments in Eastern Africa with whom we
are in communication on this subject.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) F. G. A. Butler

wo - Enigma
40048 J.

Dr Rad

22

4 ~~September~~ 12/27

Sir,

In continuation of my

DRAFT. Secret

1-2, 1-3
39191
40731

Secret despatches of the 15th

and 16th of August, I have
with ref. to my conf. despatch of the 6th Sept

been the hon. to transmit to you

62A. 2d Div. Myst.
44000 OAG
S.A.P. OAG
Myersland
Sp. Smith
MINUTE.

5746 4 →
16

- Mr. Bostwick, 20/8/17
- Mr. Butler 20/8/17
- Mr.
- Mr. Criddle
- Mr. Lambert
- Mr. Read
- Mr. G. Pades
- Mr. Sted-Mastland
- Mr. Long

Ans. (S) 20/8/17

for your ~~copy~~ the
accompanying copy of a

news prepared in the

Intelligence Division, War

Office, regarding the

measures to be taken for
counteracting undesirable results
of the spread of
contending the Communism

and Internationalism in Africa.

I shall be glad to

receive your views on

Lieut. Col. French's news.

With regard to the last para

Col. French 7 August
(in 40048)

News by Col. French 64
39191 only

Thought it was essential
to send 39191 & my notes.

St. Lathan

On grounds for W. Butler's sig

~~Secret~~
Secret

4 Sept 1917
~~1917~~

A. A. By ~~sig~~ C.M.G.

H.R. Wallis ~~sig~~ C.M.G.

C. Browning ~~sig~~ C.M.G.

Sir George Smith K.C.M.G.

Dear Myact

Dear Mr Wallis

Dear Browning

Dear Sir George

H.C.C.

A memo by French, of the

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going to be by this month

is an official ^{Secret} document

is a copy of

is a copy of

is a copy of

I enclose for you an

information as to the

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We find it

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We do not propose to
decide about
although consulting the
business world are
learn from you and the
other heads of ^{the Eastern Office} Govt. & the world
Whom we are to consult
on this subject.

Yours sincerely
(signed)
F. A. Butler