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Brussels 1919

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Foreign Office

1919

12 Oct.

Subsequent Paper

5 Oct 1919

Mission to Magi

Tenkay says to Addis Ababa reporting on delay
of mission, & general situation on
frontier between Abyssinia & E.A.P.

207 22/2/19

1919 Mission to Magi

GR

Subsequent Paper

If any further communication
on this subject, please quote

22024 W/1

address—

The Under-Secretary of State,
Foreign Office,
London.

R



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

Foreign Office,

Feb 12, 1919.

Reference to previous correspondence:

Letter to Foreign Office: Feb 11 1919 No. 16732/5/1.

Description of Enclosure

Name and Date

Subject

for Minister at Addis Ababa
no 94 Feb 11

Similar letter sent to

copy.

25-105-82
COPY - LEGATION

Answered
before

I have ~~had~~ to neglect my work.

I had a friendly interview with Rep. Taffari during the time of the epidemic, and, although he was not inclined to discuss official matters, I managed to broach the question of the Magi Mission and I asked him how soon his representatives would be ready to start. As I expected, he replied that he could not give a definite answer as he did not know whether they had been ill or not. I requested him to make inquiries and he now informs me that they had been ill and have gone to their homes. As I pressed him to recall them without Honours,

Arthur James Balfour, D.M., M.P.

etc., etc., etc.,

His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State
for Foreign Affairs.
Foreign Office.

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Recd

capital and to fix a definite date for their departure. He has promised to do his best, but I am afraid further inevitable. It is more than likely that they will remain on their own part or on that of the soldiers members of a large caravan which will no doubt remain. A further excuse may well be that the plague is spreading in the provinces and that they dare not journey for the present.

In these circumstances I have hesitated to request the High Commissioner for Egypt to select a successor to Major John Vaughan, as it is impossible for him to leave here and find he is detained for a month or two after the departure of the mission.

Meanwhile I learn from Khartoum that Abyssinians are in the Kidepo valley and that another band are posted on one side and trying with the Dodingas on the other. Major Darley has made inquiries from former fan acquaintances and has recently come from Magi, who affirm that there is a camp of Abyssinians and outlaws at Magi. They trade in ivory, arms and ammunition with the Dodingas and, when their stock of the latter is exhausted, they raid the Toposa, steal their cattle and return with their booty to Magi where they exchange the same for a fresh supply of rifles and cartridges. Referring to His Taffari against these further raids I intimated that such dealings could only take place with the connivance of the Abyssinian authorities at Magi. Official Abyssinian point of view seems to be that we should be blamed for "making hay while the sun shines" and it is for us to police our own territory.

It states, in this connection, that the formation

post at Lolimi would immediately counteract the activities of the Mogila brigands and I have telegraphed to the Acting Governor General of the Sudan to ask whether this step is contemplated in the near future.

I am addressing a copy of this despatch to His Majesty's High Commissioner for Egypt.

I have the honour to be,
with the highest respect,

Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,

signed Gerald Campbell.

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