

EAST AFR. PROT

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29258 Aganda in 1915
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H. S. R.
24/10/15

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24/10/15
C. 29258

to which
to report upon
to circumstances
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-

I take this
opportunity of expressing
to you my thanks
for the trouble which
the Govt of Ceylon
has taken over the

matter.
I have
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March 20

815

See 29709

DRAFT

Confidential

See Sir R. ...
Chairman

See 3/19/5

See ...

See ...

P.P. conf. to 11 22 1/2
29731

Dear Sir,

I have the honor to ...

... of your ...

... (6) of ...

July 20 ...

Subject of ...

... - ...

of ...

... from ...

... and ...

... to you ...

... information ...

... of a ...

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COPY.

INCLOSURE
is enclosed in file

613

We, Reginald Berkeley Cole, Captain, Denis George Finch Hatton, and Cecil Walter Inglefield Lightowler Haywood, Lieutenants, make oath and say:-

THAT the Somalis whose names are set out in the Schedule hereto annexed are employed as commissioned officers and privates in the Somali Scouts, a Volunteer Corps raised during the present war.

THAT the said Somalis have been employed on active service on or near the border of German East Africa in the neighbourhood of Kilimanjaro.

THAT the said Somalis have persistently shown a disregard to orders given them.

THAT to the best of my belief such Somalis have intrigued against His Majesty's power and authority in East Africa.

THAT the said Somalis have endeavoured to disaffect the remainder of the said Corps of Somali Scouts.

THAT the said Somalis are to the best of my belief a menace to peace and good order in the Protectorate and

THAT if such Somalis are not removed from the Protectorate they will become a source of danger and disaffection.

Sgd. R. B. Cole, Capt.

D. G. Finch Hatton, Lt.

C. W. Haywood, Lt.

SWORN AT NAIROBI

9th day of March 1915

Before me

(sgd) A. E. Sockett

Deputy Registrar, Nairobi.

transference from Kiu to Mombasa Jail. Of the 33 persons mentioned in the Schedule only 31 were placed in Mombasa Jail and during the period of detention in the Jail one, Ali Farrah, died. These facts were not reported to me till the 24th May, 10 days after the remaining 30 prisoners sailed from Mombasa in the S.S. "Cocoonia" bound for Ceylon via Bombay.

11. On 29th May I telegraphed to the Governor of Ceylon informing him of the departure of the deportees and asking him to let me know what arrangements would be made for their detention in Ceylon. Two days later I received his reply asking if there was any objection to the Somalis being confined in Jail, as that would be cheaper than internment in camp.

12. On 2nd inst I telegraphed to you as follows:

"Your telegram of April 24th respecting Somali Scouts - Governor Ceylon asks whether they can be confined in Jail as being cheaper than internment in camp. I am advised that I have no legal authority to give any direction regarding their detention or destination. Will you please instruct".

On 9th inst, I received your telegram of 8th in answer to the above, as follows:-

"You have been correctly advised that you have no legal authority to give instructions as to detention of Somali Scouts in Ceylon. Am in communication with Governor of Ceylon".

13. On the same day the terms of your message were communicated to the Governor of Ceylon.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble obedient servant,

H. G. B. B. B.

GOVERNOR.

3.

7. After consultation with the General Officer Commanding I replied on 9th April that St. Helena or Seychelles might be suitable, but in any case asking that the question of deportation might be treated as a matter of urgency in order that the guard of the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment might be relieved for their proper duties.

8. Your telegram of 6th April suggested Port Sudan as an alternative to the places previously mentioned and recommended my communicating direct with the Governor General on the subject. This I did by telegraph on 9th April, and in a subsequent telegram informed Sir Reginald Wingate who had asked for the information that the trouble had arisen on account of objections on the part of the Somalis to take part in operations against allies of Turkey.

To this the Governor General replied that, though he was anxious to assist us, he regretted his inability to accept the men in the Sudan also "Turko sympathisers were straining every effort to spread their religious propaganda of lies" and it was with difficulty they could be held in check.

9. On 15th April I reported the Governor General's decision to you, by telegraph, and on 24th I then received your reply to the effect that the Somali Scouts would be received by Ceylon, and I should make arrangements direct with the Governor. The cost, you stated, was to be a charge against this Protectorate.

10. Arrangements were then proceeded with for the deportation of the men and their immediate
transference/

He asked for my approval to disband the squadron and send the Somalis "back to Berbera at once".

I received your telegram of the 27th February asking if the views of the Commissioner of Somaliland had been obtained before the Somali mounted Scouts who had been disbanded were returned, I telegraphed to you, under date 2nd March as follows:

"The Somali scouts to whom you refer in your previous telegram of 27th February were recruited locally, and they have not yet been disbanded but are under supervision. The General Officer Commanding is considering the matter of their disposal. You will receive a report by post in due course".

4. I enclose herewith a copy of the deposition sworn to by Captain Berkeley Cole, Lieutenant Finch Hatton and Lieutenant Hayward, on 9th March together with a list of 33 names of Scouts belonging to the Corps who are reported to have endeavoured to disaffect their fellow members.

5. On finding that 27 out of the 33 belonged to Aden I telegraphed to you on 12th March as follows:

"Three officers of the Somali Scouts have sworn an affidavit against 33 men of their Corps in which they allege serious disaffection and attempts to undermine authority. I am of opinion that these men should be reported.
I ask for authority to remove them to Aden whence 27 come. The remaining 6 belong to Berbera.
I shall be glad to receive instructions by telegraph".

On 13th March I followed up this telegram with another asking that I might have a reply, none having been received by that date.

6. On 2nd April I received your reply to the effect that Aden and Berbera were both out of the question, and asking if I could suggest any alternative arrangement.

Sir,

In accordance with the request contained in your letter telegram of 27th February, I have the honour to furnish herewith a detailed report on the circumstances connected with the desertion to Leyden of certain disaffected members of

1. On 15th March, the General Officer commanding reported that some members of Captain Berkeley-Cole's squadron had refused to go with him on duty, alleging a rather fanciful reason, had been tried by Court Martial and sentenced to terms of imprisonment, that it had since been found that the members of the squadron were in an unsatisfactory state. It was supposed that some wandering Galla had managed to forward treachery among these men by appealing to them to refrain from fighting against allies of the Sultan. The General Officer commanding expressed the opinion that these men, if allowed to remain in the Country, would be a constant source of danger and might disaffect the members of the King's African Rifles, who, so far, had shown evidence of perfect loyalty.

Yours faithfully,

WALTER HENNING, F.S.S., F.C.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

RECEIVED 1915

LONDON, S.W.

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