

EAST AFR. PROT  
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11 NOV 15

Copy  
Belfield 11/15  
1915  
8 Oct.  
Last previous Paper.

Document discovered in  
Harris Hastings's Office.

Sept.

Mr. Balfour  
Mr. Read  
Mr. Thompson  
Mr. G. Fuller

I suppose the document is not particularly authoritative, but parts of it are quite interesting. It evidently does not contemplate a war on the lines of the present one, and the way in which it is contemplated that the Germans will be able to carry on their business in the East is amusing. I don't know what has happened, but what is said of the possibility of a war is very interesting. I don't know what is said of the possibility of a war and I don't know what is said of the possibility of a war. I don't know what is said of the possibility of a war.

SEA  
Copy to 70. 1/15 & Dec. 15/15

Last subsequent Paper.

11/15  
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This interesting to see  
that they contemplated  
the winding up of current  
affairs of the former  
forms under the direction  
of neutral subjects

Oct. 29. 11. 15

Nov. 30. 11. 15

Dec. 1. 12. 15

As. 12. 1. 12.

Apr. 2. 12

(R)

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C. I.  
52127  
GOVERNMENT HOUSE,  
NAIROBI,  
REC'D 11 NOV 15  
BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

CONFIDENTIAL No. 102.

October 24th 1915.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to you, herewith, a translation of a document which was discovered in Messrs. Hansing and Company's office at Mombasa by the Controller of Enemy Pipes.

Document

with list  
for file

Though it is dated as far back as 1907, it may prove of interest to the Foreign Office.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,

*C. Rowley*

GOVERNOR'S Deputy.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE  
SIR ROBERT BURTON, M.P.,  
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,  
70, WHITEHALL STREET,  
LONDON, E. W.

INCLOSURE  
 No. 346, October 7, 1915

P.

CONFIDENTIAL.

matters to be considered in  
the event of a War.

In order not to be wholly unprepared for disturbances which a war might occasion us, we put before you the following considerations:-



1. Calling out of our employees (for military duty). We request you for the future to see that each of our employees obtains exemption from mobilisation. According to law this will be granted in every case in which it is officially proved (Consular attestation) that a person liable for military service, holds a permanent appointment abroad. By this it is not intended to deter those who desire to take part in the war from doing so, we wish to ensure however that we are not suddenly unrepresented out there.

2. General. The subjects of a power at war are to be considered without legal rights in the enemy country. Naturally our Consular representation would be bound to protect the interests of our subjects in a neutral power. A neutral power would be bound to guard the interests of our subjects entrusted to it in exactly the same manner as those of its own subjects.

subjects. As a general rule the presence of enemy subjects is tolerated so long and in so far as they are not directly harmful or inconvenient. It must however be considered that what was done in the year of 1870/71 with German subjects, so all enemy subjects may be expelled. But even in such cases, with the aid of a neutral power, we may reckon on being allowed sufficient time to make arrangements for material affairs even if such has to be done under police supervision. In the worst case the winding up of current affairs must be entrusted to a reliable firm of a neutral state. In a war with ENGLAND (which we have of course principally in view in the whole of this and the following) Zanzibar, Mombasa etc. would without doubt be regarded as English territory. It is possible that Zanzibar would be occupied temporarily by German troops from the German coast. Serious disturbances need not be anticipated from this. It is more probable that G.E.A. would be occupied by the British. In such case continuous disturbance (i.e. of business) is to be anticipated as exceptional. It is clear that in the event of an English invasion the German government with its troops would move into the interior from where they would continually disturb the coast. The possibility that England and Germany may

may mutually neutralise their African possessions must also be considered. In favour of this there is the fact that Germany can in any case scarcely contemplate the conquest of English colonies, and that England would have to fear the spread of a conflagration which must certainly ensue if the natives see that Europeans at war with each other. Finally there is in favour of such a neutralisation the fact that at the conclusion of Peace, the course of a war in the colonies would be entirely immaterial and that the ownership of possessions after the war will depend entirely on the results of the principal scene of the war.

4. Finances. It may be assumed with much certainty that such a war will greatly upset our Hamburg cash deposits. The following will operate together:-

- a. A great part of the East African deposits will be withdrawn and it will be difficult to cover these by our Assets in E.A. (Note. The firm does banking business in E.A.)
- b. Payments from out there will be difficult to make. The remittances to Hamburg will thereby be  up in conjunction with that mentioned in 
- c. The rate of exchange for Germany will fall immediately and one will not be inclined

to sell

d. In Hamburg, after the declaration of war, we shall have to accept and pay marks 250,000 worth of export goods per month during the first three months and marks 100,000 per month during the next three months.

e. The general result of the war will be that in Germany itself, credit will be obtained with difficulty and at high interest.


On the whole therefore it will appear from this that our East African Branches must make strenuous efforts to remit money to Hamburg and avoid making demands upon Hamburg. In particular it should be endeavoured to refund (bank) deposits out of sums due from our debtors out there. In many cases it will be possible to satisfy creditors by passing on their claims to our debtors.

4. Shipments. In view of the preponderance of English Sea Power it is absolutely essential that vessels sailing under the German flag should be avoided. Shipments in English vessels will be less precarious. We must however also consider that Germany will probably make great efforts to intercept the English sea-trade by Cruisers and security will therefore only be possible, in neutral vessels. This is much reason to suppose that in the event of war many English as well as German vessels will sail under

under neutral flags. In any case it may be assumed that there will be no lack of opportunity to make shipments in neutral vessels.

5. Telegraph. Postal communication between U.S.A. and Germany will in all probability be cut off. Everything must therefore go under covering addressed over neutral territory. From U.S.A. it should not be difficult to convey letters to us through business friends in France, Italy, Holland etc. The reverse will be more difficult but even this ought to be possible with the aid of the power which will represent us.

6. Shipments from U.S.A. As the Elbe will in all probability be permanently blockaded, all shipments must be made to neutral countries. For this purpose the principal places must be Antwerp (for rubber and wax) and Rotterdam (for cloves etc.)

7. Shipments to U.S.A. For reasons already stated in the last paragraph, shipments from Germany will be impossible and we should therefore probably be able to make shipments through Belgium and Holland (perhaps also from Genoa and Trieste).  Only the situation would induce us to establish temporarily a branch in Rotterdam or Antwerp but it would be better to

associate



associate ourselves with some large firm in these places.

8. Trade Restrictions. In the event of our representatives being expelled from the enemy country or if they are forbidden to carry on the business, our affairs will of course, as previously stated, be entrusted to the most suitable neutral subject. Further we must keep in view that we must obtain the consent of our clients to export current orders directly from the manufacturers or through third persons from a neutral port ~~to~~ and to draw upon the client direct for payment. The Indians will without doubt concede to such requests as war will undoubtedly result in a scarcity of imports (i.e. into Africa).

9. Expenses. In consequence of the interruption of business, the first aim of course will be to limit expenses very greatly. Endeavours should be made to make arrangements with the European staff for postponed payment of their salaries. Possibly they might be guaranteed their maintenance and the payment of salaries might wholly or in part be dependent on whether ~~business~~ continues. ~~Business~~ will at least cover the expenses. This would

also

also serve the employees better than would  
immediate dismissal which must otherwise be  
anticipated.

Hamburg.

15th May, 1907.

addressed to Messrs. Hansing & Coy.

Mombasa.

Translated by Hon. C. Dundas

from papers found in Hansing's

Mombasa Office.

September 29th.