

EAST AFR. PROT

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War

1914

14 Dec

Instructions Paper

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German East Africa

forward correspondence on to operations against German East Africa

Mr. ~~Adams~~ Mr. G. Fisher

- (1) Proposal to bring 5000 S. Kas to East Africa from T. to ...
- (2) Suggestion as to advance in Voi-Taveta district.
- (3) Lt. Col. was to visit on force staff.
- (4) Discovery of elaborate system of German espionage in the East & proclamation of martial law by the Governor
- (5) Action now developing towards Umba valley (i.e. by Taveta & close to the sea)

Subsequent Paper

50070 S

East Africa ... Put by P. ... 14/12/14

The elaborate system of espionage may account
for our debacle at Jurga.

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13 Dec. 1914

The Director of Military Operations presents
 reports to *Under Secretary of State for the Colonies*

and begs to forward the information a copy of *telegrams*

which have been received relating to
 operations in *East Africa & up to date*

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From War Office to General Wapshare, Nairobi.

(No. M.O. 132.)

12th December, 1914.

Proposals in your Nos. S. 81 and 82 noted and approved. Your No. 2366 of 9th December. Proposals for Staffs of force and areas seem quite suitable. It is desired to leave you a free hand in this respect and also regarding intelligence officers and other minor appointments. You are best judge of officers whose services you can spare, but numbers you propose to send away seem large, especially of medical services. If on reconsideration of possible course of future operations you decide to dispense with any or all of these you may do so. We understand Supply Coolie Corps is distinct from Railway Coolie Corps, that you do not require former but are retaining latter and also field post offices, all engineering material, signaling units and personnel. Certainly retain General Malleon.

From Admiralty to H.M.S. "Chatham," Mombasa.

(No. 13.)

12th December, 1914. 2.10 a.m.

Your telegram, 14th December. Approved for "Kinfauns Castle" to remain.

From War Office to General Officer Commanding, South China.

(2414 cipher. M.O. 1 (D).)

11th December, 1914. 7.9 p.m.

Your No. 53, cipher. A further reduction of the infantry garrison of Hong Kong seems to be rendered possible by the present naval and military situation in the Far East. As to this you should consult the Governor. It is proposed, assuming the reduction to be feasible, to send from Hong Kong to Tientsin half either 40th Pathans or 74th Punjabis to replace half 36th Sikhs now at Tientsin. Would it be possible for transport conveying half battalion 36th Sikhs from Tientsin to call at Tsingtau to pick up there half battalion and details?

The 36th Sikhs will then proceed on active service to East Africa. Telegraph which battalion you select from which half battalion is to be sent to Tientsin and whether you concur in the reduction by half a battalion of the Hong Kong Infantry Garrison. Until receipt of further instructions no moves are to be carried out. Addressed to General Officer Commanding, South China; repeated to General Officer Commanding, North China, who should report by cable whether he concurs in the proposed arrangements.

From H.M.S. "Chatham," Mombasa, to Admiralty.

(D/3763.)

11th December, 1914. 4.35 p.m.

"Kinfauns Castle" reports aeroplane cannot be repaired. Submit that "Kinfauns Castle" may remain to assist in watching Delta, or if required, to take aeroplanes to Durban. That it may return here afterwards, as "Chatham" may break down again at any time owing to leak in main fuel tank reported in my telegram No. 23 to Admiralty 7th December, and my telegram of 11th December to Commander-in-Chief, East Indies repeated to you. Addressed to Commander-in-Chief, Cape of Good Hope, telegram has been repeated to Admiralty, Commander-in-Chief, East Indies.

Martial Law Regulations are being signed by the Governor to-morrow. This will give me the power I need. In this, and in the censorship in which he has special experience, General Malleon has been of the greatest assistance to me. May I retain him? He would be of the utmost use to me.

If orders could be sent me both on this telegram and on the others noted above as soon as possible I should be grateful.

Repeated Chief of General Staff.

Acting Governor of East Africa Protectorate to Secretary of State for Colonies.

Received Colonial Office 9.14 p.m., 8th December, 1914.

(No. 894.)

Regret to report that in a small skirmish near Utendi, roughly 50 miles to the south-west of Kisumu, on 1st December between detachment composed of King's African Rifles and East African Police and party of Germans, strength unknown. Following casualties reported—Killed in action, C. E. S. Bowen, Assistant Superintendent of Police; widow's address is Mrs. A. M. Bowen, Watch House, Burnham Overy Staithe, nham Market, Norfolk. Two rank and file, East African Police.

Wounded two rank and file—King's African Rifles, one private, one rank and file—East African Police. Enemy's casualties as far as is known two Askaris killed, three wounded. Captain Brian Brooke, during the evening of 3rd December, sustained gunshot wound left hand in conflict with German patrol of two men whom he and Miligan accidentally met on Longido—Namanga road. Top joints first and second fingers have been amputated and patient doing well.

From Brigadier-General Wapshare to War Office.

(No. S. 82.)

8th December, 1914, 12.25 p.m.

With reference to your No. 2342 of 4th December, concerning railways. I propose to retain the "Rheinfels" together with the following—All railway material, the two Sappers and Miners Railway Company, a nucleus of civil workmen and surveyors, Messrs. Sutherland, Varyill and Whally, and the railway coolie corps. I propose, further, that the civil railway personnel should return to India. This will result in a saving of about 2,000l. per month out of present expenditure of nearly 3,000l. after allowing for retention of the coolie corps. The steamer "Muttra" will be unloaded and returned to India.

Johns is convinced that the coolie corps could not be recruited again when once it has been disbanded. He states that the rearrangement of the cargo of the "Rheinfels" is most important. As arranged at present, we should have to unload the greater part of the cargo before useful work could be begun on shore in an enemy's country. I am entirely in agreement. The civil personnel and coolie corps will be employed for a month or more on this work, and at the end of that time we shall have found other useful work for them, such as making roads or posts to assist in the action which is now developing towards the Umba valley. Addressed to War Office reported to Chief of the General Staff.

From Senior Naval Officer, Mombasa, to Admiralty.

(No. 88.)

8th December 1914 8.6 a.m.

H.M.S. "Fox" has sailed.

Addressed to Commander-in-Chief, East Indies. Has been reported to Admiralty and Commander-in-Chief, Cape.

From Zanzibar to Admiralty.

8th December, 1914, 6.35 a.m.

H.M.S. "Goliath" arrived.

From H.M.S. "Chatham," Zanzibar, to Admiralty.

(No. 26.)

8th December, 1914, 6.3 a.m.

H.M.S. "Chatham" sailed.