

EAST AFR. PROT
45951 ~~1222~~

C O
45951
Rec'd
Rec'd 23.11.14

India
Office
1914
21 Nov
see previous paper
45950 S

German East Africa 253

Telegram from General Aitken with regard to the "Königsberg" operations

via ~~Bombay~~
via ~~Road~~
via P. Rhodes

This only concerns us indirectly.

Put by?

Eqn 23/11/14

606 23/11/14

K. J. R.
23/11/14

U. 23.11.14

7
23.11.14

46075 S
23.11.14

next subsequent paper
46075 S

259

With Sir E. Barrow,

Compliments

Nov 1914

COPY OF TELEGRAM.

FROM

DATED

RECEIVED AT LONDON OFFICE

261

not only the most dangerous, but might be a disaster. Ends

His reply to Lord Kitchener's telegram of 19th following:—

Mombasa, 20th November.

Four Companies N. Lances Regiment occupy outpost Longido covering advanced water supply and line to Arusha. Remainder of battalion form only reliable reserve at Nairobi. In my opinion N. Lances cannot be spared at present. Officer in charge of the district consists of dense jungle and swamp very difficult. No other means about seeing but his dispositions indicate strong resistance. Ends

From this it will be seen that General's report confirms my opinion.

The half battalion at Nairobi and 181 strong 520 strong at Mombasa are the only reliable reserves I have, in case of Germans, as far as I am able to reinforce Longido to Tsavos. I would like to have Bara, but as Gaji is very weak, I have partly indicated in Lord Kitchener's telegram in fact that I have heard of a report

COPY OF TELEGRAM.

FROM

DATED

262

RECEIVED AT LONDON OFFICE

support). General type and I will consider that operation will be by no means as easy or quick as anticipated by Naval authorities.

Therefore if any of my men as above is taken I cannot say when I should get them back in case of need. The purpose of the transport

desired by Naval authorities for blocking purposes and I understand that two of the objects are to be taken and can be effected.

I shall have a detailed report of the few reliable troops I had available. Please see my 48 S.

Addressed - Secretary of Staff for Naval purposes to C. G. S. Admiralty