

EAST AFR. PROT.

50228

Recd. 16 DEC 14

German East Africa

Forward telegraphic correspondence

with regard to operations.

The Bahr el Jebel

the River

in S. Sudan

The report that the "Karlson" may have got to Oaxaca Salama is surprising, and surely the grand plan.

As the British East African mounted Infantry might be sent to S. S. A.

The plan of campaign proposed by General Wapshare in para 3 of his telegram of 14 Decem is practically the same as was decided upon before.

War Office

1914

16 Dec.

GOVERNMENT PAPER

50070 5

GOVERNMENT PAPER

50880 5

Pubby

Apr 16/12/14

of an interview (should be  
conjecture) was concerned the  
has had time to reach the same  
last head of

MS 16.12.14

H. J. R.

187 11 714

I don't think the Canadians will like the  
prospect of East Africa. They should be  
told as soon as possible.

17.12.14

I believe they will prefer even  
to Salisbury Place

17.12.14

Let the ... communicate with  
the Canadians.

This is out of our hands and  
we must not get mixed up  
in it.

17.12.14

PHONE 7704 GERRARD  
LEGATOMIC ADDRESS  
MARGUERITE 100-000

24/10/14  
Capt Cadell's report of  
500/14

14, BERKELEY SQUARE

Here comes  
lying of the

Dr J. Henderson

115

In view of the apparent  
location of the W. O. in  
German mounted infantry in  
r.a. + German E.A. should we  
of same W. O. that though the  
area in which they are to  
operate may not have a fly country  
horses will have to pass  
thru' the fly belt or so  
probably become infected  
of course, if my view is confounded  
one who knows the local conditions

27.12.14

~~Mr. Bottomley.~~~~Mr. Road.~~Mr. G. Fisher.

Please see the minute by the Secretary of State on loose sheet attached. The tse-tse belt extends for 100 to 150 miles from the Coast and mounted operations in the Vei-Taveta direction would appear to be out of the question. Longido is evidently outside the tse-tse region, as the East African Mounted Rifles have been operating there for some time.

As regards the question of transporting horses by train across the fly-belt, I spoke with Mr. Sinclair about this yesterday and, though he was not exactly familiar with the locality, he said that horses could be entirely covered up and so taken across the belt unharmed. They probably have "screened" horse-boxes and it ought to be possible in these circumstances to get the horses across the belt by rail without difficulty. A certain amount of horses now in the interior have come from South Africa and India and must have been brought into the Protectorate from the sea.

I see that we have warned the War Office about the fly-belt of S. Australia. We could, I suppose get definite information from the local authorities by telegraph, if it is thought necessary.

See also W.C.  
50280 Sent as to  
Australians for service in G.E.A.  
Some

Some info regarding lines in  
the S.A.P. - find at p.p: 87-91  
of the Handbook of Prov. S. Africa  
herein.

H. J. R.  
21/21/14

There must be someone in leave  
who could take us to the railway house  
house traffic from the coast & what  
facilities they have for handling goods.

It will be time enough to make  
enquiries if we have had the matter  
in being taken up by you. P. 21. 14

~~22/12/14~~

~~22/12/14~~

~~22/12/14~~



The Director of Military Operations presents his compliments to the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies

and begs to forward for his information a copy of certain *Secret Telegrams* which have been received dealing with operations in East Africa

*Dec 11 1914*

*for  
DND*

[When copyright received.]

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

(No. 39)

13th December, 1914, 10.40 a.m.

With reference to my telegram No. 38 German wireless messages passing between their shore stations are constantly being intercepted and decoded by our wireless telegraph station at Eutebe. They generally refer to movements of German troops and stores.

The reference in message telegraphed to warships coming probably refers to the appearance of ships off Dar-es-Salaam.

Repeated to Commander-in-Chief, East Indies. Commander-in-Chief, Cape.

*From Brigadier-General Wapshere to War Office.*

(No. 5624)

13th December, 1914, 10.35 a.m.

Reference to No. 5614 and your No. 4792 26th November. Please cable instructions regarding disposal service Mr. Nugent has.

*From Senior Naval Officer, "Fox," Zanzibar, to Admiralty.*

(No. 97)

10th December, 1914, 6.30 a.m.

"Duplex" arrived this evening reports whilst on shore patrol vicinity of Dar-es-Salaam in first watch yesterday, 12th December, her coxswain strongly affirms has seen to eastward a four funnelled ship, lighted up for a few seconds by the strange burning on her own far side and steering for Mafia Island. Coxswain and two or three watchmen took her to be "Chatham." Lieutenant Gordon, R.N.M., in command did not see anything himself.

In any case I consider it advisable for "Chatham" to be recalled as far as possible to Zanzibar, thence Dar-es-Salaam. As far as I can judge Karlsruhe is the only enemy ship at large answering this description. They have been waiting for daylight to enter Dar-es-Salaam. There was great deal of signalling going on off 12th December both sides of entrance of Rufiji Maha island, and apparently Kwana Island green and white lights and occasionally red lights but "Chatham" was seen by "Fox" or by other of the tug.

I am telling Zanzibar to be advised.

Repeated to Commander-in-Chief, East Indies, Commander-in-Chief, Cape and "Chatham."

*From Commandant of "Hull," Zanzibar, to Admiralty.*

(No. 25)

15th December, 1914, 4.5 p.m.

Suggest that "Chatham" should be removed for repair by another fast light cruiser and flight hydroplane with teams sent out for destruction of "Koenigsberg," or better still suitable light draught armed vessel.

Unless some action of this kind is taken and assistance of troops secured, no material progress appears likely.

- (b) Voi-Tavo and Voi—Fly bad. Not healthy. A bridge at most. Motor transport. Present piped water supply must be largely increased at Tanga and Makden. Good communication from Tanga to Moshi.
- (c) Coast line—Fly bad. Not healthy. Porter transport. Water indifferent. 1,500 men at most. Useful for co-operation in attack on Tangi.
- (d) Tanga—Senior Naval Officer away till 15th. Often conferred on the situation with him. We agreed that a landing party effected if supported by two warships. Tanga in itself has no particular value except for the railway, the possession of which is of great importance, and to cause the enemy to detach troops from Moshi. This is, however, essential in other cases until we advance from Tanga (a) and (b) will never get into Moshi.
- (e) Dar-es-Salaam can be taken with the aid of two warships, easy to reach. More healthy than Tanga. Greater effect on success but it is doubtful whether this attack would cause detachment of troops from Moshi.

3. Plan proposed to attack Tanga by sea and advance up the railway. To attack Moshi area from Longido and Voi—Tavo.

4. Fresh troops required. One Indian Cavalry regiment for Longido area. Two good Infantry brigades, of which two regiments go to Voi—Tavo line, the rest, with one company of Sappers and Miners and one Mountain battery with Medical Officer and signaling complete, to Tanga by sea direct, without touching at British East Africa.

5. The south-west monsoon and rain season commences in the middle of March and continues until August. During this time operations would be difficult by land or sea. It will take till the end of January to prepare for land advance. Reinforcements should arrive by this date. It is assumed that it may not be possible to attack directly, and whether these will be available or not, but I suggest that preparations be given for all preliminary steps to be taken as above.

The matters of most importance are—

- (a) British officers for Imperial Service troops—2 British, 3 Kenyan and 4 Indian and 5 Kashmir Rifles. If British officers are not available, those of whom will suffice as long as they understand the natives.
- (b) Telegraph material and personnel—British East Africa nearly at the end of its resources. Complete telegraph section for Voi line required. 500 miles of wire without power and 200 miles of cable. Instruments and material in proportion.
- (c) Motor transport. A considerable quantity of vehicles required, as we largely depend on them.

6. Railway station at Tanga. It is proposed to build a siding for use at Tanga. If only one siding is built, it will be difficult to get goods from India, railway will reach British East Africa in 6 months from the date of completion. It is proposed to build a siding at Tanga. I do not recommend the building of a siding at Tanga. It is proposed to build a siding at Tanga. I do not recommend the building of a siding at Tanga.

This telegram has been sent to the Chief of the General Staff, India.

From War Office to Brigadier General W. G. W. ...

December, 1914.

Your telegram No. 874, 14th December. We cannot now speak definitely as to possibility of reinforcements, but it is not probable that anything like the amount mentioned in your paragraph 4 will be forthcoming by March. Most we can count upon at present is 36th Bde from North China towards end of January and four regiments of Canadian Mounted Infantry, newly raised, about middle of February. Under these circumstances, would it not be well to give up ideas of serious advance from Voi—Tavo direction, confining operations there to demonstrative action? If proposed in paragraph 4 were modified accordingly, this change would meet the demands. Please report early. There was no necessity to refer your No. 874 to India.



From Brigadier-General, India, to General Officer Commanding, Force "B."

(No. 144 H.)

14th December, 1914.

On the 10th December the following reinforcements sailed from Bombay: Captain  
Lieutenant Burroughs, 4th Rajputs; Captain Orchard, 8th Rajputs;  
Captain Barrett, 16th Rajputs; Captain Thackwell, 81st Pioneers, and Lieutenant Fug,  
Indian Army Reserve of Officers, attached to 81st Pioneers; Lieutenants Shakespeare  
and Stone, 88th Infantry; Gordon, 101st Grenadiers; Captain Wren, Indian Army  
Reserve of Officers, attached 108th Infantry; Captain Adler, 113th Infantry; Major  
Andrew and Captain Cooper, 121st Pioneers. All have received posting orders. For  
Loyal North Lancashire Regiment, rank and file, 78; bridging train, 2; Indian Sappers  
and Miners, signal sections, 2; British and 3 Indian ranks; telegraphs, 2; military  
telegraphists, 2; Indian linesmen, 1; follower, 1. Indian infantry reinforcements (1) for  
18th Rajputs, Indian officers, 2; Indian ranks, 137; followers, 3. 61st Pioneers,  
Indian officers, 2; Indian ranks, 110; followers, 3. 63rd Infantry, Indian officer, 1;  
Indian ranks, 3; followers, 3. 98th Infantry, Indian ranks, 71; followers, 3. 101st  
Grenadiers, Indian officers, 2; Indian ranks, 217; followers, 6. Imperial Service  
Troops, Captain Kerr in charge of 10 per cent, for Peshawar Sappers and Miners,  
Rushier and Graham Rifles, total Indian officers, 1; medical, 1; Indian ranks, 236;  
followers, 2. For Hand Infantry, Indian officer, 1; other ranks, 48; followers, 2.  
same number for Bharatpur Infantry. For Kapurthala Infantry, Indian officer, 1;  
other ranks, 40; followers, 2.

From Brigadier-General Wapshare to War Office.

(No. 144 G.)

15th December, 1914, 2.20 p.m.

Your No. 137, 4th December. Major-General Aitken sails for England per  
Messagerie steamer "Sydney" on 18th December.