

East Africa Post.  
5-1-14

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W. Office

German East Africa.

1914  
Dec 23

Telegraphic correspondence as to  
program of operations

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Mr. B. H. ...  
Mr. ...

Re not important ... from  
the S. A. O. ... of ...  
to successful occupation of  
Vanga (on frontier close to  
the sea).

Partly:  
24/12/14  
H. G. ...  
24/12/14  
24.12.14

Partly by

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24.12.14

25.12.14



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 *telegrams and letters* which have been received dealing with operations in *East Africa.*

*Dec 23 1914*

*2710*

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From Viceroy, India, to India Office.

17th December.

Your telegram, 11th December. Maharaja Gwalior's Convalescent Hospital, East Africa Protectorate. Major G. E. Southon, I.M.S., in charge, and party sailed for Ellenga, from Bombay, 11th December, with everything necessary for staffing hospital. Location to be settled locally. There will be little delay in completing arrangements once Southon arrives as he has taken everything necessary with him.

From Viceroy, India, to India Office.

18th December, 1914.

An unnumbered telegram from the Secretary of the War Office of 9th December is sent with maintenance of troops in East Africa. We understand that this refers to the units sent from India and not to units organized locally or sent from elsewhere than India.

From India Office to War Office.

18th December, 1914.

With reference to your letter of the 21st November last, regarding the control of the British Forces operating in East Africa, I am directed to enquire whether Indian Expeditionary Forces "B" and "C" have now been amalgamated into one Force.

From War Office to India Office.

18th December, 1914.

I am commanded by the Army Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1477, dated 18th December, 1914.

In reply, I am to state that the British Forces operating in British East Africa (formerly known as Forces "B" and "C") are now amalgamated into one Force, under the command of Brigadier-General R. Wainwright, C.I.E.

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

18th December, 1914, 4.35 p.m.

(No. 42.) Receipt of telegram No. 17 is hereby acknowledged. Leak in main feed tank has further developed off Rufiji and excessive priming of boiler is being experienced at any speed with risk to main and auxiliary engine. Am remaining off Rufiji until arrival of "Kinfauns Castle," p.m., 19th December, but fear it will then be imperative to return to Mombasa, slow speed, to draw fires and attempt further repairs to stop leak in tank. It will now be necessary to place cement in slope of deck in reserve bunkers immediately over main feed tank, as these bunkers are also leaking badly and into main feed tank.

Repeated to Commander-in-Chief, East Indies, and Commander-in-Chief, Cape of Good Hope.

\* "Chatham" is to proceed to Simonstown for repairs on 20th December.

*From H.M.S. "Fox," Zanzibar, to Admiralty.*

(No. 103)

19th December, 1914, 12.55 a.m.

In support of British military advance against Umba, timed for 19th December and 20th December, "Fox," with "Kinfauns Castle," "Sumatra," and "Duplex," transports, demonstrated on afternoon of 18th December off Tanga, anchoring at one roadstead shortly before sunset.

Sweeping operations carried out late in afternoon and at sunset. "Fox" shelled low cliffs southward of Ras Kasono with a view to drawing fire of guns stated to have been mounted in vicinity, but without result.

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

*From Commander-in-Chief, East Indies, Port Said, to Admiralty.*

(No. 364)

19th December, 1914, 4.20 p.m.

I submit on "Weymouth" relieving "Chatham" very desirable to avoid dividing responsibility that Captain of the "Fox" should assume full duties Senior Naval Officer, East Africa, including charge of operations against "Konigsberg."

Repeated to Senior Naval Officer, East Africa. "Fox."

*To Secretary, War Office, London.*

25/15.

Rufiji, 21st December, 1914, 3.40 p.m.

S.s. "Ellenga" arrived with details on 20th.

*From General Wapshare to War Office.*

(No. 108 S.)

21st December, 1914, 4.35 p.m.

General Tighe has reoccupied Vanga and established himself on the Umba River encountering only slight opposition. The rest of the frontier is quiet. I am awaiting in Mombasa a reply to my telegram No. 95-S.

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

(No. 4.)

21st December, 1914, 7.25 a.m.

"Chatham" arrived. Density of boiler water continued to increase off Rufiji - maximum 1.2 - and on afternoon of 19th inst. priming was so excessive, steaming only at slow speed with all boilers alight, that feared stripped turbines. Asked "Fox" to relieve "Chatham" as soon as possible. "Fox" arrived 4.30 p.m. 20th inst., and "Chatham" left 5.0 p.m.

As soon as boiler water taken in will leave for Mombasa to carry out most urgent repair of main feed tank and reserve bunker over ditto.

"Fox" and "Kinfauns Castle" with armed tugs watching Rufiji.

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