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RECEIVED
25 JAN 1930
COL. C. P. 104

CAMBRIDGE STREET
LONDON.
S. W. 1.

2a
77

The Rt. Hon. Secretary of State
for the Colonies.
Downing Street.
London S.W.1.

22nd January 1930.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that I have received from the Kikuyu Central Association a cablegram in which it is stated that there is some trouble in the Nyambu District, near Nairobi, Kenya Colony, many men and girls having been imprisoned and fined to the extent of £5. in connection with the Kikuyu Tribal dances and the circumcision ceremony of our girls.

My association wishes me to ask whether of trying to coerce us into abandoning our age old customs by means of the imposition of fines and imprisonment is authorised by His Majesty's Government, as it would appear to be in direct contradiction of the policy outlined by Doctor Drummond Shiels in his reply to Her Grace the Duchess of Atholl in the House of Commons on the 11th ultimo, as quoted in the Official Report for that date in column No.443.

I would respectfully draw your attention to the fact that any attempt to coerce my people by "force majeure" will have the very opposite of the desired effect as it causes my people to attach a re-entusted importance to the maintenance of this custom.

I am,
Sir,

Yours faithfully,
John M. Kenyatta

General Secretary,
KIRUYU CENTRAL ASSOCIATION.

copy to Col. 123 - 6 FEB 1930

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RECEIVED
POST OFFICE

78-2

ORIGINAL

Private of a telegram from the *Gov. of Kenya*

Dated *20 Jan.* 1950 Received in the *Colonial* Office at *8 20 p* on *20 Jan*

Decoded by *m. [signature]*
Deciphered

(No. 1)

20 Jan. Private and Personal: My official telegram Kikuyu Central Assocn. Medical evidence shows that Miss Stumpf was circumcised in brutal manner and died under the operation. It is clear that circumcision songs and dances is being used to work those participating into state of dangerous fanaticism. Loyal Kikuyua such as servants attached to white families are showing anxiety lest further acts of violence should result. Nothing would assist more to prevent this than clear demonstration that in no quarter of Parliament is there any sympathy with this reactionary propaganda or with general challenge of Kikuyu Central Assocn. to authority of the Chiefs and Govt.

Trigg

Handwritten notes

19
Extract from the "Daily Express"

dated 8th. January, 1930.

WHITE WOMAN MURDERED IN THE JUNGLE.

MIDNIGHT STRUGGLE WITH A NATIVE.

"Daily Express" Correspondent.

NAIROBI, Sunday, Jan. 5.

A MIDNIGHT assault and murder of a white woman missionary by a native in a lonely mission station at Kijale, Kenya, has horrified the whole colony.

The murdered woman was Miss Hilda Stumpf, an American, aged sixty-three, and a member of the African Inland Mission, who lived in a small house more than 200 yards from any other occupied building and was stone deaf.

A native child who took to her morning tea found her dead in bed and bearing every sign of a fierce struggle with her assailant, whose entrance to the house she had apparently failed to hear.

A thorough search is being made for the murderer, who is evidently a native, but no arrests have yet been made.

A similar case of assault on an elderly white woman occurred a few years ago in the same neighbourhood, and led to the imposition of the death penalty in cases of attacks on white women by natives.

Extract from the "Morning Post"
dated 6th. January, 1930.

MISSIONARY MURDERED
(From Our Own Correspondent)

NAIROBI, Jan. 5.

An American missionary, Miss Hulda Stumpf, employed by the African Inland Mission, has been found murdered and outraged in a small house occupied by her in an isolated position in the mission compound. She was aged 60 and was very deaf, and had been many years with the mission.

A similar case at Kijabe a few years ago was the cause of public agitation, the result of which was the application of the death penalty to a native in Kenya in case of rape. A native was concerned in the present case, but there has been no arrest.

Extract from "The Times"
of 6th, January, 1930.

WOMAN MISSIONARY.
MURDERED

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT)

NAIROBI, Jan. 5.

An American missionary, Miss Hulda Stumpf, aged 63, has been found murdered in a house at the African Inland Mission station at Kijabe, 50 miles from Nairobi. Miss Stumpf had been for over 20 years with the Kijabe mission, where she acted as secretary to the head of the station. She was very deaf and lived in a small house 300 yards from the other dwelling. Her assailant was, it is believed, a native, but no arrest has so far been made.

A
12

27

ORIGINAL decode of a telegram from the Gov. Kenya

Repetition Colonial 7.45

Dated 20 Jan. 1930 / Received in the Office at 8:22 p.m. on 22 Jan.
Dominions

Decoded

by M.A.W.

Decyphered

20 Jan. Your tel. 16 Jan. Prosecutions of Kiambu District.

About 70 persons have been recently convicted in Kiambu area under Native Authority Ordce. for indecent dancing and for publicly singing an obscene and seditious song. Majority of the natives concerned

were convicted by local Nativ. Tribunal. Also 12 convicted I.P.C. for disturbing church services and meetings.

Sentences imposed vary from 50/- fine to 5 months imprisonment.

Obscene parts of song deal with female circumcision; remainder consists mainly of vilification of loyal Chiefs and Missions and of seditious refces. to the Govt. Following are some verses

"elders Koinange and Warnhiu when John Kenyetta comes you will be given women's ~~IKIMA~~ loin cloths and have to cook him his food. All uncircumcised girls shall be circumcised and then Dr Arthur and Leakey, with what will you have connection

Koinange was a big man but when John comes he will have to wear prisoner's clothes." (remainder of this telegram follows first thing in the morning)

Gov.

Ans. Tel. 1/2/30

Levian Parrott

