

1925

KENYA

94

C. O.  
14169  
23 MAR 25

DATE

29<sup>th</sup> March, 1925.

CIRCULATION: -

Mr.  
Mr.  
Mr.

Delimitation of the Jubaland Boundary

U.S. of S.

Mr. Stanley

The copy comes between K.M. Tucker, Rome and Italian Govt latter approve but suggest alternative formula of description.

U.S. of S.

U.S. of S.

Secretary of State

Previous Paper

MINUTES

copy 4 to Diao v. 3/24  
to send Tucker to Rome 4/1 copy x 50 / April 25  
copy x copy enclos to Gen 223 = 2 APR 1925  
Award 1/1 copy x / 2 April 25  
to C. G.  
copy x to Gen 3/24  
II APR 1925  
copy x to Gen 3/24

10/25/25  
I visited the C.S.C.S. War Office, in London  
to ascertain if there wd. be any  
objection for the C.S.C.S. Joint Views,  
concerning their ~~for~~ alternative formula  
H.C. King, whom I saw in the  
absence of Mr. Winterbottom, was inclined  
to think that the suggestion of the extension  
about 6 Kilometres (17 P. 2 of Italian  
Map) would be a dangerous source of  
difficulty and to know former difficulties  
would be the point where the latter  
under the Roman Swamps. This point  
will be exceedingly difficult to ascertain  
(The extension was also used in the old cancelled den. of King  
of the Congo, and, with the suggested shd be used (see p. 11/25)  
seemed clear that we shd  
have to send them their Italian proposal

Subsequent Paper

C.O. 14169

for careful consideration.

I mentioned this to you on my return, you thought that it there is likely to be difficulties as to ~~what is going to~~ what was the old Jubaland-Tanaland provincial boundary. There may be no advantage in Mr King's going out in advance of the Italian members of the Boundary Commission, as these might challenge his premises of the provincial boundary. In spite of delay, therefore, we had better get the effect of this alternative proposal clear before any steps are taken to arrange for the departure of the Senior British Commissioner.

I submit drafts for consideration which you will find attached.

- (1) Tel. to you in reply to 14146/25
- (2) Letter to F.O. on this, 14167 + ~~14166~~ 13508
- (3) Sp. to D.T.O. on this
- (4) 29.5.25 letter to Col. Winterbottom.
- (5) Sp. to C.O.A.C. regarding cover of zone.

As we had better wait for the sending of cover to W.O.

14146 + 12683/25 [9.7.5. 28.3.25]

The drafts are self-explanatory.

I do not think that it is best to

revised the instructions of "Tanaland-Jubaland boundary" before the Treaty was completed, it would have involved a formal check which would have avoided a joint survey. The most important question now is whether Col. King should go out alone without any prospect of early joint work, & so this leaves to some extent the question of his being available at all, for there is another job in prospect for him.

Wed. 30.3.25

C. S. 30/7  
at 10.0

C. O.  
14169  
23 MAR 25

In any further communication on this subject, please quote

No. *6 4251/1803/22*

and address—  
not to any person by name,

but to—  
"The Under-Secretary of State,"  
Foreign Office,  
London, S.W. 1.

*TC*

*JK*

THE Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to *the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies* and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copy of the under-mentioned paper for such observations as *Mr Amery* may desire to offer.

Foreign Office,  
*Mar 27th, 1925.*

Reference to previous correspondence: *1358/15*  
*Foreign Office letter nos 37/1803/22*  
*of Mar 23rd*

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
<i>Hon Ambassador, Rome. no 237 Mar 21</i>	<i>Delimitation of Jubaland boundary</i>

Similar letter sent to

British Embassy,

Rome.

21st March, 1925.

Sir,

In further reference to my despatch No. 211 of the 13th instant regarding the demarcation of the Tassaland boundary, I have now the honour to forward a translation of the reply of the Italian Government in regard to the proposed exchange of notes for the definition of the Tassaland-Jabaland frontier.

It will be seen that the Italian Government accept the proposal in principle but suggest an alternative formula of description as being more in accordance with Article 1 of the Convention of July 1924.

I have the honour to be, Sir, with the highest respect,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

Most Honourable,  
 Mr. J. H. ...  
 etc., etc., etc.

341  
 PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

E/V 210865/55.

TRANSLATION.NOTE VERBALE.

With reference to the formal part of their Note Verbale No. 203384/54 E.V. of the 11th instant, the Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs has the honour to inform His Britannic Majesty's Embassy that they approve in principle the proposal of the British Government, to define by means of an exchange of Notes the expression "boundary between the provinces of Jubaland and Tanaland" contained in article 1 of the Convention of July 15th, 1924 and repeated in other articles of the same Convention.

The Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs observe however that the formula proposed by His Britannic Majesty's Government does not appear sufficiently precise and would also seem not to conform to Article 1 above quoted, especially in reference to the point of departure from the sea of the Anglo-Italian boundary.

The Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs have therefore the honour to propose the following formula:

"Having regard to the fact that Ras Kiambone (Dick's Head) and the four small islands which are in its immediate vicinity form part of the territory to be transferred to Italy, by the section of frontier corresponding to the boundary between the provinces of Jubaland and Tanaland, a line is understood which having its point of departure on the coast at the junction with this of the parallel which leaves to the north the southernmost of the four small islands above-mentioned, proceeds immediately north for a distance..

2.

distance of about 6 kilometres and then follows the direction of the straight line joining this second point with the point where Lak Dera joins the Lorian Swamp. The boundary follows this line up to its junction with such meridian east of Greenwich as shall leave in Isalia's territory the well of "El Dera".

Done,

20th March, 1921.

Mr. Seel 28/3/25  
 Mr. Bottomley 30.3  
 Mr. Strickley 30  
 Sir J. Shuckburgh.  
 Sir Davis.  
 Sir G. Grindle.  
 Sir J. Masterion Smith.  
 Mr. Ormsby-Gore.  
 Mr. Amery.

FO 14169  
~~28/3/25~~ 25. Kenya.

*Handwritten initials and marks*

D. for Mr Bottomley  
 DRAFT. to sign.

10 April 1925

St. J. L. Winterbotham  
 D.S.O., R.E.

Dear Winterbotham.

in copy  
 v. minute  
 5/11/25  
 tel. 23 Mar. 1208/25  
 tel. 26 Mar 1411/25  
 C.A.G. tel. Phoenix  
 2002/25  
 2003/25

I am enclosing copies of  
 the tel. which was sent to the <sup>As Gov</sup> ~~As Gov~~  
 of Kenya <sup>on the subject of Jubaland</sup> on the 23. of March, after  
 our talk on the 20<sup>th</sup> in my room,  
 and of the As. Gov's reply of the 26<sup>th</sup>  
 of March and a further tel. which  
 has been sent to him. These will, I  
 hope, indicate the progress which  
 has been made with the Italian proposal  
 that ~~Jubaland~~ the territory should  
 be ceded without waiting for the  
 Boundary Commission to do its work,  
 and with the suggestion that the  
 Senior British Commissioner ~~will~~  
 should proceed at once to settle

contain points without waiting for  
the assembly of the Joint Boundary  
Commission.

You will see, however, from a  
separate note which we are sending  
to the A.M.O and D., that the  
Italians have raised a doubt  
suggested an alternative formula  
for the description of that part of  
the boundary which was referred  
to in the Treaty as "the Italian  
Tanaland-Italian boundary". a  
reference to it was not appropriate.  
I understand from Seal. his recent  
visit to the A.M.O on Sunday, that  
apart from the general obscurity  
of the formula, C.B. King  
does not think it safe to admit  
either point, or either formula or  
either point, as the point where the  
Lake begins enters the domain Swamps  
is too indeterminate.

This seems to me to raise an  
important point. If there is doubt  
about the point of entry of the Lake

- Mr.
- Mr.
- Mr.
- Mr. Strachey.
- Sir J. Lubbock.
- Sir G. Davis.
- Sir G. Girdle.
- Sir J. Macartney.
- Mr. Ormsby-Gore.
- Mr. Amery.

DRAFT.

Here, then, however little practical  
importance may turn on the point, it  
crosses the boundary & Kenya question &  
it would seem wise for the  
Joint Commission.

As regards the other Italian  
part of the line, the Italians have  
of course, raised the point, as the

question of the Islands does not  
enter into the definition of a line of  
reference used in the Treaty; but  
I am not anxious that we should  
argue a non-essential point,  
and unless you have reasons to  
believe that the position is  
that which we are so concerned as  
to make a reference of, say, one  
mile to the position of the Italian  
"second point" I should be  
willing to let them have their  
way. But in this case too I  
think we shall be driven to a  
"joint fixation".

Because of these points we  
have not yet addressed officially



for the series of things on  
copy of the same.

Yours sincerely  
Edw. W. Belmont

I enclose a copy of the telegrams about  
borderline, we have not yet cleared up  
the important ambiguity at the end.

- Mr. Seel 30.3.25
- Mr. Bottomley 20.3
- Mr.
- Mr. Strachey 31/3
- Mr. J. Sandhu
- Sir G. Davis
- Sir G. Grindle
- Sir J. MacLinton Smith
- Mr. Ormsby-Gore
- Mr. Amery

FO 14169  
~~14169~~ 25 Kenya

copy to Sir Kya Sub 11/4/25  
copy to Sir Kya Sub 11/4/25  
copy to Sir Kya Sub 11/4/25

DRAFT. S.P. n

17 April 1925

inclosure  
5 minutes  
(5 off)

The U.S. of S. for the Cds. presents  
his compliments to the Director  
Military Operations and Intelligence,  
and, ~~begs to~~ with reference to previous  
semi-official correspondence regarding  
the arrangements for <sup>the point</sup> ~~the~~ Anglo-Italian  
Boundary Commission to be set up  
under the Anglo-Italian Treaty  
of July 15<sup>th</sup>, 1924, to determine  
the boundaries of the territory  
in Jubaland to be ceded to Italy,  
begs to transmit to him, for any  
obvious, which he may have to  
offer, the acc<sup>y</sup> copy of a letter <sup>with enclosures,</sup> which  
has been received from the Foreign Office  
The subject of the enclosed

FO (with enclos.) 27 Mar  
(14169/25)

correspondence in the exchange of  
Notes which is proposed, & view of  
the fact that the references in the  
Treaty to the J. Tanaland-Jubaland  
boundary are not longer appropriate  
owing to a redistribution of local  
provincial boundaries in Kenya.

In a letter to the Foreign Office  
dated the 6<sup>th</sup> February, 1925,  
the S. & S. suggested that it should  
be agreed in the Note that for the  
purpose of the Treaty, the Tanaland-  
Jubaland boundary should be  
taken to be that adopted in the  
description of the boundaries of  
the Tangaland Province as locally  
settled in January, 1911, that is

beginning at the eastern <sup>most</sup>  
point of the promontory Dick's Head,  
otherwise known as Ras Kiantoni, thence  
bounded by a straight line in a

(Part of letter  
to S. & S. have not  
been filed, whether  
the suggestion was in  
b.F.O.)

- Mr.
- Mr.
- Mr.
- Mr. Strachan
- Sir J. Macdonald
- Sir J. Macdonald
- Mr. Ormsby-Gore
- Mr. ...

DRAFT

northwesterly direction to the  
junction of the Laddera River with  
the Londera River.

It is understood some officials  
that whether either the above  
description or the alternative  
formula was suggested to the  
Tangaland Govt. can be ascertained  
as indicating the portion of the  
proposed international boundary,  
in view of the absence of exact information  
as to the position of the points which  
were formerly regarded as marking  
the boundary between the provinces  
of Tangaland and Jubaland. In  
their connection <sup>the Hon. Secretary of State</sup> Sir James Crasterton-Smith  
would observe that if no agreed  
formula can be reached for this  
portion of the boundary, and it may  
~~be necessary~~ not be practicable  
to take up the description which has  
been made, then the fixation

definite points along the old provincial boundary should be carried out in accordance of the necessity of the joint Boundary Commission, and this will have an important bearing upon the expediency of sending immediately the Officer of the Royal Warrant should be the senior Officer & member of the Boundary Commission.

Mr. Peel 30.3.25.  
Mr. B. Strachey 30.3.  
Mr. Strachey 30.3.25  
Sir J. Shuckburgh.  
Sir C. Davis.  
Sir G. Grindle.  
Sir J. MacLennan Smith.  
Mr. Ormsby-Gore.  
Mr. Amery.

FO. 14169.  
125 Kenya

Copies of Letter  
5.30 pm  
30th March '25  
CPD

DRAFT. Code Telegram.

SIR, 30th March.

Governor  
Nairobi.

Your letter of 26 March. No 130

extension.  
indicated orally.

(5/12)

Copy to Col Woodhouse  
1 April '25 S.O.  
20. & April '25

Intention was that settlement of points under Articles VI and X should follow transfer see condition (c) my letter of 23rd March. Do not consider that this would involve any appreciable loss of negotiating power on these points.

I fully agree as to Articles VI and X.

Robert Scott

Mr. Tolson 10.3.25  
 Mr. Clegg  
 Mr. Glavin  
 Sir J. Harbo  
 Sir D. Davis  
 Sir G. Arnold  
 H. L. ...  
 Sir J. ...  
 Mr. Ormby-Gore  
 Mr. Amery

FD  
 14169/22 Kenya

*Scopes*

DRAFT.

2 April 1925

1925

The U.S. S.  
 F.O.

13509  
 25  
 14167  
 25

Instructions  
 5 Mr)

23 Mar. 1268/25  
 14167/25  
 14167/25  
 14167/25

I am etc to act the result of  
 your letters No C. 5766/1803/22, of the  
 23<sup>rd</sup> of March, and No C. 4051/1022/22, of  
 the 26<sup>th</sup> of March, on the subject of the  
 views of the Italian Gov<sup>t</sup> on the  
 procedure to be followed in carrying  
 for the transfer to Italy of the territories  
 which in  
 is <sup>which in</sup> ~~is~~ <sup>to be</sup> decided in accordance  
 with the provisions of the Anglo-Italian  
 Treaty of the 15<sup>th</sup> of July, 1924.

2. Prior to the receipt of your  
 letter of the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March, the nature of  
 the contents had been communicated  
 your Special Agent's Department, and



out the Senior British Commissioner  
in advance at once to determine  
certain points in connection with  
the old provincial boundary, ~~and~~<sup>in</sup>  
view of the fact that the Italian  
do not propose not to accept the  
already suggested description of the  
other boundary, or being further considered,  
it will be necessary to send a  
written communication on this point also.

(Signed) W. O. BOTTOMLEY.

F.O. 14164/25 Kenya

C.  
11 APR  
1925

*for*

2 April 1925

**DRAFT**

Colon Agents.

Gentlemen

I am etc. to inform you that he approves of your engaging a first class passage from London to Bombay, by the steamer which is advertised to sail on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April, <sup>next</sup> for Mr. Col. L.N.F. King, O.B.E., R.E. of the Geographical Section, General Staff, War Office, who is proceeding to East Africa to take up

MINUTE.

- Mr. Seel 12/4/25
- Mr. Bottomley 14/4/25
- Mr. T.S. ...
- Sir O. Davis
- Sir G. Grindle
- Sir H. ...
- A. ...
- Sir ...
- Mr. Ormsby-Gore
- Duke of Devonshire

London.  
instructions  
to ...  
to arrange with  
manager  
...

duty as the Senior British  
 Member of the Anglo-Italian  
 Italian Boundary Commission.  
 A second class passage on the same  
 steamer should also be reserved  
 for a non-commissioned Officer of the  
 Royal Engineers who is to accompany  
 Lt. Colonel Meigs

2. The cost of these passages may  
 be met in the first instance from  
 Army funds but it will be ~~charged~~  
 borne ultimately by Imperial funds,  
 and arrangements will be made for  
 the same in question to be transferred  
 to them in order that it may be  
 credited to Army funds.

3 (next sheet)

DRAFT.

MINUTE.

- Mr.
- Mr.
- Mr.
- Sir C. Davis
- Sir G. Grenelle
- Sir H. Bosc
- Sir J. Macdonald Smith
- Mr. Ormsby-Gore
- Duke of Devonshire

3. I am directed to  
 to communicate with Lt. Col.  
 Meigs at the War Office,  
 notifying him that we  
 have obtained the passages  
 for himself and for the  
 non-commissioned Officer of  
 the Royal Engineers

(Signed) W. O. BOTTSLEY



FO 14169/23 Kenya

*Ind*

*2 April 1925*

**DRAFT.**

*S*

Kenya  
No 323  
OAG.

With reference to your telegram No 130, of the 26<sup>th</sup> of March, ~~sent~~ have directed to you for your information, the acc<sup>y</sup> copies of covers, as noted in the margin on the subject of the transfer of Jubaland to the Italian Gov<sup>t</sup>.

**MINUTE.**

- Mr. Deel 30. 3. 25
- Mr. C. Stanley 30. 3. 25
- Mr. F. Sturges 30. 3. 25
- Sir G. Davis
- Sir G. Grindle
- Sir H. Reid
- Sir J. MacLinton Smith
- Mr. Osborne Gore
- Duke of Devonshire

2. I wish to draw your attention especially to para 3 of the letter from the Treasury of the 2nd. of February, from which you will observe that the L.C. of the Treasury are not prepared to give an assurance to recognize any claims on the part of the Gov<sup>t</sup> of Kenya as to the reimbursement in respect of any increased

*copy*  
*5/4/25*  
*(C.D.)*  
*OAG's drafts*  
*CR's attention*  
*replied*  
*over for*  
*enclosure*

Sept 14. 5. 25

14169/25 Reims

ful

- Strasberg.
- J. Stuckenberg.
- O. Dorn.
- G. Gröndel.
- J. Masterson Smith.
- H. Ormsby-Gore.
- H. Amery.

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DRAFT. (Mentioned in Colophon 1925)

15 April 1925

(From Agent)

Reims

With reference to the letter from this Office  
 of the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April, 14169/25, regarding the  
 passage required for Lt. Col. L. H. F. J. Reig, OBE, MC,  
 and for a hon. Commissioned Officer of the Royal  
 Engineers who were accompanying this Office to  
 East Africa by the steamer which is due to leave  
 London for Mombasa on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April,  
 I am directed to request that you will forward  
 me with a statement of the sum paid by  
 you for the above passage in question in receipt  
 of which payment can be made by this Office  
 in London.