

1925

KENYA

236

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46280

REP  
REL 14 OCT 25

FROM  
FOREIGN OFFICE.

DATE  
13th October 1925.

CIRCULATION —  
Mr.  
Mr.  
Mr.  
1st F.S. of S  
*Mr. Shackleton*  
2nd F.S. of S  
3rd F.S. of S  
4th F.S. of S

RAIDS ACROSS ABYSSINIAN - KENYA FRONTIER.  
  
Fwd's copy of a tel from Addis Ababa reporting that Italian Minister suggests sending troops across Erythrean frontier to arrest a murderer - the Abyssinian Govt having taken no action. Enquires whether any such action ever taken by Kenya on Kenya frontier.

Previous Paper  
NO 30 46118 h

MINUTES

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*No special case in regard  
and Mr. Shackleton, I am confident  
that - unless for any reason  
I understand - it may not  
be required.  
  
The only case in which the  
troops have crossed the border  
was when, at a time of armed  
raid, they made use of a  
water-hole at Judd's aduma -  
just across the border. That is  
not important.  
It is I suppose well for us*

Subsequent Paper  
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to remind that Abyssinia  
is a member of ~~the~~ the League  
of Nations.

I add & say that no station  
case of the kind [i.e. of our people  
being murdered in Abyssinia] is  
known and that British works  
have not been sent across the  
frontier to give address for cables.

Ed. 16. 10. 18

P.A. 6  
atona  
19/10.

to remind H.A.G. that Abyssinia  
is a member of ~~the~~ the League  
of Nations.

I believe & say that no national  
case of the kind [i.e. of our people  
being murdered in Abyssinia] is  
known and that British workers  
have not been set across the  
frontier to make a dress for canvas.

W.H.  
16. 10. 15

J.A.G.  
at once  
19/10.

In any further communication  
on this subject, please quote

No. J 2966/897/1

address—

not to any person by name.

at to—

The Under-Secretary of State,  
Foreign Office,  
London, S.W.1.

C O  
46280  
REC  
Foreign Office  
OCT 25

237

S.W.1.

13th October, 1925.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Chamberlain to transmit to you herewith, to be laid before the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the accompanying copy of a telegram from His Majesty's Minister at Addis Ababa reporting that his Italian colleague has advised his government to address an ultimatum to the Abyssinian Government.

2. Mr. Chamberlain will be glad to learn whether circumstances similar to those described by Count Colli have ever arisen on the Abyssinia-Kenya frontier and if so whether the Kenya Government have ever sent troops across the frontier or occupied an Abyssinian post with a view to securing redress for crimes committed by Abyssinians.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

*John Murray*

Under-Secretary of State,

Colonial Office.

ABYSSINIA.

Decypher. Mr. Bentinck (Addis Ababa).  
October 7th 1925.

D. 4.0 p.m. October 7th 1925.

R. 2.45 p.m. October 8th 1925.

No. 77.

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Italian Minister tells me that he is telegraphing to suggest that Italian government send ultimatum to Abyssinian government.

Eight months ago Abyssinians raided cattle across frontier of Erythrea. When two Italian subjects crossed into Abyssinia to identify their cattle both were murdered. Italian Minister demanded arrest of murderer but in spite of repeated promises from Ras Tafari arrest has never been effected. Whilst admitting probable inability of Ras Tafari to keep promise Italian Minister considers that Abyssinian government requires a sharp lesson. He suggests that Italian troops cross frontier to arrest murderer if Abyssinian government cannot do so.