

1924
~~1923~~

KENYA

C. O.
3309
25 JAN 24

DATE

24th Jan, 1924

F.O.

OR CIRCULATION :-

Mr.
Mr.
Mr.
Asst. U.S. of S.

*Subal and as the
Dodecanese*

Permit U.S. of S.

Part U.S. of S.

Secretary of State

*L.H. [Signature]
25/1/24*

*Sends copy despatch from
amb. at Rome*

Previous Paper

MINUTES

46
3809

Also 3809

Part [Signature]

*An interesting despatch. It
is useless to comment at this
stage, but perhaps it is well
while to bear in mind that it
is not ^{only} a question of what the
C.O. will give to ^{if passed} but of what
can be defended when the
certain comes (as it must) before
the House of Commons.*

Subsequent Page

[Signature]
7564/24

W. [Signature] I think that

MINUTES.

MINUTES NOT TO BE WRITTEN
ON THIS SIDE.

Stage. You need only
read the 3 top papers

The summary referred
to on 3809 will give a
short history of the
question & at the same time
if you require further info
I shall be happy to explain
the position more

D. T.

26/1/4

M. J. J.

1/2/4

MINUTES.

MINUTES NOT TO BE WRITTEN
ON THIS SIDE.

Step you need only
read the 3 top papers

The summary referred
to on 3809 will give a
short history of the
question & in the meantime,
if you require further info
I shall be happy to explain
the position as it is.

26/1/4

A.
1/2/4

C.S.
3909
25 JAN 24

13

In any further communication
on this subject, please quote

No. A: 339/75/60

and address—

not to any person by name,

but to—

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

Confidential

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.

Foreign Office,

2 January, 1920

Reference to previous correspondence

Foreign Office letter of 20 Jan. 14 75/75/60

27.0

2025

secret

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
<i>In Ambassador at Rome No. 16 of 12 Jan.</i>	<i>Subalana</i>

~~Enclosure letter sent to~~

12th January, 1924.

My Lord,

I have read with great interest the accounts which Your Lordship has been good enough to send me in your despatches Nos. 1596 (A 7415/444/60) of the 17th December and 25 (G 160/160/19) of the 3rd instant, ^{of} recording your conversations with the Italian Ambassador regarding Jubaland and the Dodecanese.

In the course of a recent private conversation at this Embassy with the Secretary General of the Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs I asked Senator Contarini why on earth the Italian Government had thought fit to put forward ^{at this stage} new and obviously unacceptable demands for the concession of further territories in Jubaland. It was hopeless to expect the British Colonial Office to agree to concessions vitally affecting the British possessions in that part of the world. The action of the Italian Government must inevitably bring about the failure of the negotiations with Your Lordship which it would have been so timely to conclude. I should say that Senator Contarini was not himself in agreement with the attitude adopted by the Italian Government in the matter. But he explained it by declaring that it was absolutely necessary from the point of view of internal politics for Signor Mussolini to show that he had obtained in these negotiations something more than had been considered insufficient by preceding Italian Governments. Senator Contarini then asked me whether I could not explain to him privately why His Majesty's Government were so interested

in

Most Honourable

The Marquess Curzon of Kedleston, K.G.,

Esq.,

Esq.,

Esq.,

in the Dodecanese and determined to cut down the Italians to as few islands as possible. Was it owing to Admiralty objections or were His Majesty's Government bound by some secret promise given at one time or another to Monsieur Venizelos in the matter? I replied that so far as I knew His Majesty's Government were simply actuated by principles of seeing justice done. The islands were Greek with a Greek population. At this point our conversation was interrupted by another guest.

During the interview which I had with Signor Mussolini yesterday evening His Excellency was obviously disinclined to make any reference to the conversations between Your Lordship and the Marquis della Torretta. But I inferred that they had caused him some ill-humour by an allusion, which he let fall, to the favourable prospect of Anglo-Italian relations in foreign affairs when and if a Labour government came to power in England.

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

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

humble Servant,

(Signed) J. S. ...