

1924

KENYA
UGANDA

16

C. O.
10703
6 MAR 24

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FROM
*Foreign
Office.*

DATE
3rd March, 24

FOR CIRCULATION
By *Pottbury*
By
By
App. U.S. & S.
Perm. U.S. & S.
Part U.S. & S.
Secretary of State

Sudan Kenya Uganda - frontiers

*Enclosed copy covers between the local
Govts concerned and received from the
British*

Previous Paper
296

MINUTES

Part 13/14

It was proposed that the conference of
representatives for Sudan, Uganda and
Kenya and Mr. Glendon, British Consul in
Athens, shall take place in the middle
of April at Kitgum in the north of Uganda
Uganda has proposed that adjustment of the
Uganda Sudan frontier should be
additional subject for discussion & taken
care of. I do not think we need
consider the detailed alterations suggested
by Uganda until we have the result of
the discussion at the conference.

Subsequent Paper
296
1408
see 1416
1924

Pottbury J.K.
8/3/24

In any further communication on this subject, please quote

No. 61917/21/16

and address—

not to any person by name,

but to—

The Under-Secretary of State
Foreign Office,

London S.W. 1



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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 copies of the under-mentioned paper.

Foreign Office,

5th March 1924.

Reference to previous correspondence

Foreign Office letter 621/21/16 of 3rd January 1924

Description of Enclosure

Name and Date

Subject

Enclosures in printed
despatch from

His Representative

bars

No. 121

of

23rd February 1924

Sudan, Uganda, Kenya

Frontier Conference

Similar letter sent to

28th December, 1923.

No.4037

26

Sir,

I have the honour to address Your Excellency on the question of the Sudan-Uganda boundary and to submit proposals for Your Excellency's consideration by which it is hoped that the present situation on the northern border of the Chua District of this Protectorate and the southern borders of the Opari and Torit districts of the Sudan may be satisfactorily adjusted.

2. It was recognised by the joint commission appointed in March, 1913, to investigate and delimit the Sudan-Uganda boundary that, as closer administration on both sides of the boundary prevailed, it would probably become necessary to make minor alterations to that boundary. Both the Provincial Commissioner of the Northern Province and the District Commissioner, Chua, are agreed that the time has now come for such an adjustment.

3. The recent rigid enforcement of the Sudan Sleeping Sickness regulations has, to a great extent, increased the necessity either for altering the boundary or for moving certain groups of natives, who being divided at present by an arbitrary boundary from their fellow tribesmen, are difficult to control specially this is the case in connection with the Sudan Regulation which orders that native cases between Sudan and Uganda subjects must be settled by correspondence or by the periodical meeting of officials on the boundary.

4. The groups of natives affected by these proposals fall naturally under three heads as follows:-

- A. The Acholi living North of the Atapi River now administered from Opari in the Sudan.
- B. The Acholi living in the Agoro mountains in the Sudan.
- C. The Lango living at Feretenya and Adial in the Chua District administered from Kitgum

5. The situation of the natives under group A is as follows :-

During 1912 and part of 1913 these Acholi were administered from Kitgum, but, on the new boundary being approved, they become part of the Sudan. They

are...

His Excellency The Governor-General,
Sudan,

KHARTOUM.

are of the same tribe as the Acholi of Lukung and Palabek in the Kitgum district and, as both these groups are in close communication, it is difficult to prevent intercourse by an arbitrary boundary. Now that the Sleeping Sickness Regulations are strictly enforced, all Acholi proceeding over the border into the Sudan are liable to summary arrest and imprisonment. In the circumstances this is an impossible situation; and to effect a solution two courses appear to be open, namely, (a) to alter the boundary so as to include these natives in Uganda; (b) to move the people South of the existing boundary and on to Nemur (Nyimur) River. Although I am opposed in principle to moving natives from areas in which they have been domiciled for many years, yet, in view of the fact that in this case the movement of the Acholi South of the Atepi River would leave an uninhabited strip between them and the Sudan tribes to the North, thus facilitating enforcement of the Sudan Sleeping Sickness Regulations, I should be prepared to concur in this course provided the natives themselves are not unwilling to move.

6. Regarding the group of Acholi under heading B, I would suggest that they might be willing to return to their own country in view of the more settled conditions now obtaining on the frontier. They are living at Amarite and Isure on the Agoro (Imatong) Hills on the Sudan side of the boundary whither they fled in 1917 when there was trouble at Agoro.

7. The Lango, under heading C, living at Teretenya and Madiala have no connection with the Acholi but are closely allied to the people living in the Torit District of the Sudan. I would submit that it is undesirable to move the Teretenyans from their present site as they form a valuable and necessary link for road communication between Kitgum and Ikotos. The Madial people would probably be averse from moving, although, I think, it would simplify subsequent administration if they were to do so. I propose, therefore, that these groups should remain where they are and that the boundary should be re-adjusted so that they are included in the Sudan and cease to be administered by Uganda.

8. The accompanying map makes the position clear and shows the proposed adjustment of the boundary.

9. The forthcoming visit of Your Excellency's representatives to the northern territories of Uganda and Kizza as proposed in your telegram of December 6th appears to present a suitable opportunity for discussing this question of the boundary. The most convenient place for the local officials to meet your representatives for this purpose would be Kitgum, the headquarters of the Chua District. I suggest, therefore, that this meeting should take place before your representatives proceed to Kakomari to meet Mr. Rodson and the Kenya officials and if Your Excellency concurs I will make arrangements accordingly.

10. Before the receipt of this despatch Your Excellency will have received a reply to your telegram of December 6th the contents of which have been communicated telegraphically to the Governor of Kenya. I should be glad if you would inform me by telegram whether you concur in my suggestion that a meeting should take place at Kitgum and whether the dates proposed in my reply to your telegram of December 6th are convenient.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd). E. B. Jarvis,

Deputy to the Governor.

From Hakiman,
Khartoum.

To : Governor,
Antebbe.

Code. 3.2.24.

133. Your despatch No. 4037 of December 28th.

Political considerations render it extremely difficult for this Government to affect any alteration of present boundary involving definite cession acquisition or exchange of territory. I agree however that forthcoming conference at AIRGUM would be suitable for discussion by local representatives of proposals raised in your despatch. I am therefore instructing our representative to discuss proposals in question and report result. Should alteration of present boundary appear necessary I will communicate with you further as to possibility of otherwise of giving effect to any line which may seem generally suitable to both administrations.

As regards penultimate paragraph of your despatch please see my telegram No. 116 of January 28th.

Subject: Sudan-Uganda-Kenya Conference.

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Copy of Telegram.

From: Governor,
Nairobi,

To: Governor General,
Khartoum.

Des. 1.10 p.m. 3.2.24.
Decode,

Recd. 5 p.m.

11962 - 12th. Your telegram No. 117 of 28th January Frontier Conference. Officer commanding troops, Kenya, will attend. KITGUM suitable as the rendezvous. He proposes to proceed via Turkana Lorianatum mountains and Moroyakippo if you have no objection should arrive Kitgum middle of April.

Copies to Civil Secretary.
C.S.O. & Adjutant General.
Director of Intelligence.
Sudan Agent (2).