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FROM
FOREIGN OFFICE,

DATE
4th April 1924.

FOR CIRCULATION :-

Mr

Mr

Mr

Asst. U.S. of S.

*See file
710/24*

Perm. U.S. of S.

X U.S. of S. 474 100

X Secretary of State. 710/224

JUBALAND AND THE DODECANESE.

Fwd copy of letter to Monsieur Mussolini recapitulating position and expressing desire to settle matter on its merits. Expresses readiness to execute immediately promises made regarding Jubaland, and enquires as to M. Mussolini's intentions regarding the Dodecanese.

Previous Paper

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Subsequent Paper

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In any further communication
on this subject, please quote

No. *66208/160/19*
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 copy of the under-mentioned paper.

Foreign Office,

4th April, 1924.

Reference to previous correspondence

Description of Enclosure

Name and Date.

Subject

To Monsieur Mussolini Anglo-Italian relations
from Mr Mac Donald.

1st April 1924

Similar letter sent to

April 1st, 1924.

My dear Premier:-

One of my first tasks now that I have been given some respite from the incessant business which has occupied me since assuming office, has been to examine the present condition of Anglo-Italian relations and to consider by what means these relations can be improved and consolidated. The discussions on certain outstanding questions which have on more than one occasion been entered into between our two governments have not led to any satisfactory conclusion; and I note with regret that their course has tended rather to move our countries more apart than to bring them together. I should be glad if that could now end, and that between us we could bring our countries in that cordial relation which ties of traditional association and mutual interests render natural to them. I believe that Your Excellency will share this desire and that I can count upon your wholehearted co-operation in such a task.

2. As an earnest therefore of my sincere desire to remove, insofar as lies within my power, all causes of misunderstanding between us, I recapitulate in this note the position as I find it. In course of time and negotiation two matters which occupied the attention of our government simultaneously, have become united - Cuba and the Locusts. The view of the British Government has been that for the sake of a general settlement that would put both our countries in friendly relationships we should fulfil our obligations under

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Yours Excellency

Monsieur Mussolini.

the treaty of London and that the Italian Government should as part of the settlement agree to a Dodecanese arrangement that would satisfy conditions that it has repeatedly accepted. The view of the Italian Government seems to be that the two should be separated. I suggest that we should meet each other's view and that without making the settlement of the one depend on the other, we should come to an understanding on both concurrently. On my part I assure you that I am anxious immediately to execute the promises which we have made to you in regard to Jubaland. The method by which the agreement reached between Lord Milner and Monsieur Scialoja can most speedily be rendered effective, and the detailed provisions to be inserted in the convention for controlling the migrations of the nomadic tribes, are matters which must be discussed between our experts. I see no reason why these discussions need be unduly prolonged and I am willing to begin them at once. If you on your part would inform me of your intention regarding the Dodecanese, I should be willing to study them with a sincere desire to settle the whole matter apart from this offer of mine and on its own merits.

B. I trust that Your Excellency will accept this proposal as a way of satisfying the public opinion of both our countries and of ending an unfortunate impasse.