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KENYA
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Proc
Dis

REF ID

1921

M. F. DI SUBJECT

RE-OCCUPATION OF GADDADUMA

1 MARCH

Source Report

The copy of desp. from Adis Ababa reporting on Major Dodd's announcements to Ras Tafari and the Fitaurari Hapta Giorgis.

11/1184

to be kept by
See also 1184 & 1187

*Major Dodd's news is here passed
to me by Dist. Comdr. ...
...
...*

By *118*
1103

Subsequent to

115346

For further communication
please quote

7983/21

Person by name

Secretary of State,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.

17634
Recd
FEB 21 1921

THE Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his
compliments to *Her Majesty the King* of State
Colonial Office and, in direction of the Secretary of State,
transmits herewith copies of the under-mentioned paper.

Foreign Office
9th March 1921

Reference to previous correspondence
Colonial Office letter 7983/21
of 21st February

7983/21

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
<p><i>From</i> <i>Walter Giddis</i> <i>(Admiral)</i> <i>11th March 1921</i></p>	<p><i>Occupation of</i> <i>Gaddaduma.</i></p>

p. 16.

DELIVERED LEGATION,

ADIS ABABA.

JANUARY 20th. 1921.

My Lord:-

I have the honour to inform Your Lordship that on receipt of Sir Edward Northey's telegram No. 170 of December 29th. telling me that it was too late to cancel the instructions given for the re-occupation of Gaddaduma, I hastened to see Ras Tafari and the Fitaurari Hapta Giorgis in order to explain the situation.

I told the Hail apparent that the condition of the frontier districts rendered co-operative action on our part imperative and that to permit of such co-operation it was necessary for the administration of Kenya Colony to occupy Gaddaduma.

After reviewing once again the events on the southern frontier leading to the present state of affairs I emphasized the complete inability of the Central Government to cope with the situation and how the onus of responsibility to establish order had been thrown on our shoulders by them. I reiterated that we had no desire or intention of remaining in Gaddaduma a moment longer than was necessary and instanced our sincerity by our evacuation of that place last year. I adjured Ras Tafari to view the matter in the right light and to favour my proposal that the Fitaurari should be sent down to co-operate with

Most Honourable,

Herl Curson of Kedleston, K.C., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.

His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State

for Foreign Affairs

with us in a final and complete arrangement of the
 various frontier questions. At the outset he was
 analysed and explained that it was hardly a friendly
 to occupy Abyssinian territory by force. I told him
 that the force was being put at the disposal of the Abyssinian
 Government. After a little further argument the
 their apparent became more conciliatory and asked me if I
 preferred to write him a letter setting forth all I had
 said or to explain the situation to the Emperor, Ras
 Kassa and the Fitawrari. I selected the latter
 course and now await an interview which has unfortunately
 been delayed owing to the Emperor having a cold and
 chest.

I then sought the Fitawrari whom I was fortunate
 to find in a genial mood.

He was very reliable and declared that such as he had
 disliked me at the outset by my high-handed action in
 the occupation of Gaddisuma and my claim of his
 potent administration of the Beran, he had been forced to
 believe that I was sincere and a friend of the Abyssinian
 Government and that after all I had not exaggerated the
 situation which he admitted was legitimate and could only
 be remedied by his own presence in the Beran.
 This gave me my opportunity. I told him that I was
 very glad that his presence in the Beran was the only
 solution to what I was seeking to this end.

I then repeated much of what I had said to Ras Tafari
 and added that I felt sure that the temporary occupation
 of Gaddisuma by me would decide the Central Government
 to send him to the Beran without loss of time. He
 and Ras Kassa what they had decided to send him to the
 Beran and agreed with me that our occupation of