

1922

KENYA

CO
43863
REG
REG: 2 SEP 22

FROM
FOREIGN

DATE
31ST AUGUST 1922

FOR CIRCULATION :-
Mr.
Mr.
Mr.
Mr. Grindle //
Sir H. Lambert
Sir H. Brad
Sir J. Masterton Smith
Mr. Wood
Mr. Chittenden

SUBJECT
JUBALAND.
CESSION TO ITALY

Encloses copy of memo. received from Rome as to conversation with Signor Baccari from which it will be seen he now adopts theory area to be ceded has been purposely filled with difficult natives. Requests suitable memo. in order to be in a position to reply. Requests return of map.

Previous Paper
900
43738

MINUTES
Sir G. Grindle.
See also 44457, 43638, and 43522.
I had a long talk about this with

*See to Gen 15th Sept 1922
Copies of memo on map to Government (as of Oct 1922)*

Colonel Salkeld yesterday afternoon. It is no use denying that the position is most unsatisfactory. The move to send back the "undesirables" has failed, and in view of the attitude taken up by the Italian Government it seems to me quite clear that we shall have to allow the Somalis who have been allowed to encroach at Wagair and the Lorian, to remain where they are. The Cattlemen have, I understand, been moved back, but the Camelmen must be allowed to stop. I don't wish to use hard words, but I do not think that the Kenya Government have been sufficiently frank with us, and it seems to me that the Italian Government have some grounds for their complaints that we are attempting to thrust "undesirables" on them. The Government will no doubt say that they would have attempted to

Subsequent Paper

move

extracting ourselves from our 633
present position is so delicate,
that I would prefer that the question
should wait for Mr. Bottomley's
return if possible. I think that
it will be sufficient to send an
interim reply to Mr. Seymour telling
him that despatches from the Governor
have now been received and that we
will shortly furnish the Foreign
Office with a memorandum on the
subject.

If I see Mr. Seymour I
might give him some hint privately
of what the position would really
seem to be.

W.S.
Mr. Wood 6. 11. 22
be most unfortunate
business. You may like
to speak to Mr. Battersby
a time about it.

Luckily the negotiations
with the Italians are
unrescinded. When they
are resumed we shall be
able to give way gracefully
about the location of the
Haber.

But you ought to stop the

...the ... of
undesirables into the area
which is to be handed over
to the ... I suggest
... the ...
... steps should be
taken to move the
... from the
... or the ...
... people
from ... para.
3 of 4358/2] without
reference to the ...

11. 11. 54
12. 11. 54

Mr ...
...
...
...

... 22
...
...

C. O.
43863
RE: FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.
REG: 2 SEP 22

31st August, 1922.

Dear Batterbee,

We have received privately from our
Chargé d'Affaires at Rome the enclosed memorandum
recording a conversation which he has had with Baccari.

You will notice that Baccari has now
adopted the theory that we have purposely filled with
difficult natives the area which we propose to cede to
the Italians. It seems desirable that the Embassy
should be in a position to deny this, and we should be
grateful if you could let us have a suitable memorandum
on which they could base themselves if this accusation
comes up in any future conversations.

Could you let me have back the enclosed
map when you have done with it?

Yours sincerely,

H. Seymour

F. Batterbee Esqre., C.M.G., C.V.O.,
Colonial Office.

Copy:

VA 135/148/60).

MEMORANDUM

The Director General of the Ministry of the Colonies in the course of conversation this morning mentioned to me his deep disappointment at the failure of the recent Anglo-Italian conversations in London, and went over the whole ground of the Jubaland negotiations. He expressed the opinion that Italy had been unfairly treated in the following matter. When it was decided, as the result of the Milner-Schaloja negotiations in March 1920 that Italy was to secure the areas marked A and B in the enclosed map, the local British Authorities moved certain peaceful and harmless tribes from the area marked A into that marked C and transferred other turbulent and war-like tribes from C to A. The latter had protested to the Italian authorities, stating that it was due to them that this transfer had been effected, and that they would fight to the last man in order to go back to C. It was now proposed that Italy should be responsible for these people not doing so, and Commendatore Baccari considered it most unfair that they should be responsible for a situation which had not been created by them, but at their expense.

I stated at once that, while I knew nothing about the matter, I could not believe that the British colonial authorities had deliberately moved tribes with a view to embarrassing the Italians. Commendatore Baccari stated that his Ministry had letters from native chiefs in the districts concerned, which corroborated his statements. He went on to say that at one time the Italians had asked for the area marked B on the enclosed map, but this had been categorically refused them. It was now therefore suggested

that

that they should be given the area marked C which would place all the tribes concerned in Italian possession and thus give them the complete responsibility for the tribes on both sides of the line between C and A. I replied that, while I had only just returned from leave of absence and was not sufficiently acquainted with the question, I understood that there were grave objections to the area marked C being ceded to Italy and that I felt that there was little hope of His Majesty's Government modifying their views in this respect. At any rate it was a question to be taken up when the negotiations were resumed in London.

Comendatore Baccari then referred to the Cyrenaican frontier modifications and reiterated the arguments adduced in the Italian Ambassador's Note of July 7th. Comendatore Baccari was not sure whether the Italian Government would negotiate with the Egyptian Government, as they feared that the latter might ask for serious concessions in return. I pointed out that, had the Italian Government accepted what was offered them two years ago more promptly, this situation would not have arisen. He was compelled to agree and said that he had only told me all this to keep me "au courant" as to what had passed and as to what the views of the Italian authorities on the subject were.

(Intd.) H.W.K.

British Embassy,
Rome. 25th August, 1922.

CODE

(A 5435/148/80)

641

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(Insd) H.W.L.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
ROME,
25th August, 1922.

Downing Street,

19 October 1922

Sir,

With reference to Sir E.

Northey's despatch No. 1063 of the 8th August, and his Secret despatch of the same date, I have, etc. to transmit to you, for your consideration, the

enclosed copy of a Memorandum received

from H.M. Charge d'Affaires at Rome,

recording a conversation with Signor

Basari on the subject of the proposed

Cession of Jubaland to Italy. I should

be glad to receive by an early mail

any observations that you may have to

offer on the contents of this Memo.

should I find it necessary to ask for

your views by cable I will telegraph to

you to that effect.

2. In this connection I would

refer to my confidential despatch of the

12th August, enclosing, among other

papers

DRAFT.

(43522)

(43528)

V. SIR E. CORYDON

MINUTE.

Mr. Battersea 13 X 22

Mr.

Mr. *Bathurst*

Mr. *Barrow*

Sir G. Orville

Sir *S. Ross*

Sir J. Masterton Smith

Mr. Wood.

Mr. Churchill.

Enclosed in 43863

no copy to be made
record.

(38265)

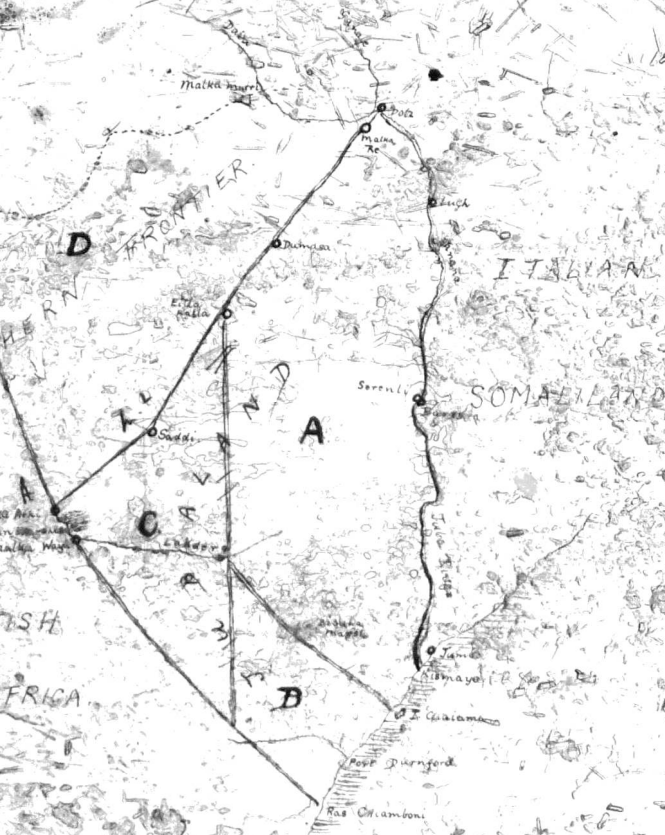
papers, a copy of a letter to the Foreign
Office of the 19th July. Language similar
in tenor to that letter was held to Signor
Baccari during the recent negotiations with
Italy in this country. When the conversations
with Signor Baccari took place it was not
realised, as now appears from Sir E. Northey's
despatches, that the encroachments of some of
the tribes were not of a purely temporary
character but on a considerable scale, and that
the matter of fact they had been encroaching in
for several years; and the question what should
be done to the Tribes on this head which
negotiations are resumed requires careful
consideration. I shall be glad to be favoured
with any observations that you may have
to offer on this point with regard to the
subject generally.

I have, etc.

(S) Winston S. Churchill

Cession of Jubaland

ABYSSINIA



- A Tettini Milner 1909
- A & B Scistaja Milner March 1910
- C Angerson and others 1910
- D Areas refused