

23

26

KENYA

68

C O

49506

DATE

4th Sept., 1927

Ref.

10 OCT 27

SUBJEC

SUBJECT

a big exchange of men

Ans. U.S. of S.

S. H. R. /
11/6/23

Ans. U.S. of S.

Ans. U.S. of S. and

Secretary of State.

Previous Paper

76 876
- 38963

MIN/1

Having ready, incident of
steamer Savuti, two auto
were stolen, & we may take it that
it was Tuesday m^o. "Aman said".

The last part of m^o 5 &
Tuesday incident with us they
have the suppressed of we have
means to communicate before.

Pointing out anyone would take
a frontier official's view of the
fact favorable to their trespasses.

If L^o Henry Compton Hartick
refuses his signature we shall be
dependent on the further definite
promises for the restoration of
a definite rule. In the

Subsequent Paper

God 329/26

MINUTES

MINUTES NOT TO BE WRITTEN
ON THIS SIDE

Memorandum to: had better
having copy of land sale
transcript.

Conf.

10-10-22

61574

61574

On the 2nd 10-10-22
at 10:42 AM

beantree, 70. had better
hurry, etc., of and etc.
and so on.

Cost 10.72

as proposed 25 and 10
60.00

KENYA
No. 1381



69

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
NAIROBI,
KENYA

10 OCT 23

4th September, 1923.

My Lord Duke,

With reference to Your Grace's despatch No. 561 of 23rd April last, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a communication received from His Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Addis Ababa on the subject of an incursion of Abyssinians into Kenya territory which took place in March last, together with relative reports on the incident as received from the Officer Commanding, 5th Battalion, King's African Rifles.

2. The terms of Your Grace's despatch have been communicated to the latter officer and replies to the inquiries therein contained will be forwarded on receipt of his reply. The delay is inevitable as the Officer Commanding, 5th King's African Rifles, has found it necessary to circularize the despatch amongst the posts concerned in order to obtain the requisite information.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord Duke,

Your Grace's most devoted and
most obedient servant,

R. T. Gough-Moore

GOVERNOR.

B.

THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE, K.G., P.C., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET,

LONDON, S. W.

Kenya
Despatch No. 1581 of 4th July 1923

70

NO. 410

ADDIS ABABA.

17th July, 1923.

SIR,

I brought to the knowledge of the Fitaurari Hapta Giorgis the facts set forth in the Kenya Colony Intelligence Report for April respecting the abysmal raid of March last, and the consequent operations under Captain Hallows.

The Oriental Secretary of Mission, who saw the Fitaurari, tells me that he was already informed of what had occurred. He stated that Dejazmach Balcha of Sidamo had early this year given authority to Lij Ababa to go on a hunting expedition with one hundred and fifty men. It appears that the latter is a well-known hunter, and the Dejazmatch must have said to the Fitaurari, that if he went to hunt elephants, he must cross the British frontier to find them. Fitaurari Ayale, who had news of Lij Ababa's intentions, caused the roads to be watched and tried to intercept him, but unsuccessfully, though a few of his men were captured.

Fitaurari Hapta Giorgis produced a man who had recently arrived from the Boran with news, and questioned him in Mr. Zephire's presence. This man said that of the eighty men who accompanied Lij Ababa, twenty only had returned. Besides those killed, twenty odd were wounded, and the rest had died of thirst. The twenty survivors had returned in a state of starvation with nothing but their rifles. Lij Ababa was one of these.

The Fitzwilliams said that Dejammatch Balcha had reported him as dead, buried and chained to Ababa on his arrival at Mombasa, and the Governor was disinclined to release him. The Fitzwilliams announced his intention to see the Central Government to order Dejammatch Balcha to escort Ababa to the capital for punishment. The Governor was evidently not dissatisfied, says Mr. Zephire, and sent a wire to the Ministry of Home Affairs in Dejammatch asking for advice.

"I think we may consider that the claims to compensation are energetic, or at least well founded, the question receives a sufficient attention, and the amount will be small in comparison with the amount of time or care."

1. May, 1942. W.H.

22-12000-10000

RECORDED AND INDEXED
LIBRARY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF KENYA

The Filakwari said that Dejammatch Balcha had reported him to have arrested and chained Li J Ababa on November 11, 1945, but the Filakwari was disinclined to believe this. The Filakwari announced his intention to get the Central Government to order Dejammatch Balcha to court Li J Ababa to the Radical "experts". The Filakwari was evidently not dispirited, says Mr. Zephiron, who adds that the majority of the men in Dejammatch were very much dispirited.

While we may consider the situation to be somewhat exasperating at the present session, the situation received a brief explanation, and it will be small consolation for us to know that we have time to act.

1.383. 526.

22-11-104-BR

**REPORT ON ACTIONS FOUGHT BETWEEN CAPTAIN
J. W. HALLOWES M.C., AND TWO SECTIONS
MOUNTED INFANTRY OVER K. A. RIFLES AND
AMHARICAN RAIDERS, NUMBERING APPROXIMATELY
FIFTY MEN, ON THE 23RD MARCH, 1923
AND 24TH MARCH, 1923.**

(All references Marsabit Sheet North A.37)

In accordance with instructions, Captain J.W. Hallowes M.C., and two Sections Mounted Infantry left Marsabit on a Reconnaissance Patrol towards Northern OORR (approx. 100 miles N.W. of MARSABIT). The latter place was reached on 19.3.23. Fresh spear of an Abyssinian safari proceeding South towards Kulal was found.

20/3/23. Captain J. W. Hallowes M.C. and escort left Northern OORR in pursuit.

^{23rd March} Night 23rd Arrived within striking distance of well on ~~the~~ Eastern side of Kulal Mountain, where the Raiders were encamped.

At 04.00 hours on the morning of 23rd March, Captain J.W. Hallowes M.C. with twenty rank and file and one Lewis Gun, left his camp and proceeded to a point within rushing distance of the Raiders camp. A complete surprise was effected and, as a result of this charge, four Abyssinians were killed, two wounded and captured, and one unwounded made prisoner. In addition, a large quantity of posho was captured also thirteen miles and various articles of equipment.

On questioning prisoners, it was discovered that the bulk of the Abyssinian force had left the day before for Southern OORR (about 60 miles North of BARSKLOI).

24.3.23 Captain J.W. Hallowes M.C. and escort followed southwards.

"Knowing my only chance of successfully engaging the enemy was surprise attack, as they would disperse to the hills if they saw the Askari, I did long night marches arriving at the Northern end of the OORR valley at 03.00 hours on 26th/27th March" (extract from Captain J.W. Hallowes M.C. report).

27.3.23 Camped in Nullah and sent scouts out to reconnoitre who returned with nil report.

^{17th March} Night 27th March Marched down OORR Valley.

28.3.23. Continued down OORR Valley and reached Southern end at sundown where traces of the Raiders were found, in the shape of dead elephants, and tracks showing that they had proceeded South towards BARSKLOI.

5/23 Having ascertained from prisoners that the Raiders would return by this, the only route, Captain J.W. Hallowes M.C., decided to ambush them on their return and accordingly advanced to a suitable locality to prepare ambush.

Shortly after sentry was posted, he reported approach of raiders from the South; at the same moment an escort arrived from Captain J.W. Hallowes M.C. safari, which had remained two miles back, with a report that they had been attacked by a small party of raiders who had been successfully driven off.

At 11.00 hours on this date the Abyssinian party halted about 1500 yards away from the ambush position and proceeded to cook food. They were left unguarded and moved forward again at 16.00 hours covered by smoke. Captain J.W. Hallowes M.C. ordered fire to be opened which resulted in the raiders losing three killed, one wounded and captured also twelve rifles, various equipment, elephant tusks, and rhino horns.

The enemy returned the fire for five minutes but then disappeared in the bush to the hills leaving traces of blood soon behind.

Going to nightfall, Captain J.W. Hallowes M.C. was unable to follow until the next day.

At dawn our scouts reported the presence of the raiders 500 yards from camp. On hearing this, Captain J.W. Hallowes M.C. immediately attacked.

One section armed with Lewis gun, 1200 rounds, faced the raiders and was held up for a short time. The other section then came up with the Lewis gun. On starting the latter, the raiders fled leaving one man behind and one wounded man also ten elephant tusks and various articles of equipment. This fight took place in thick bush.

The Abyssinians were at once followed by us P.M. in the hills without suffering any further casualties.

Captain J.W. Hallowes M.C. and his escort had now been on continuous safari for three weeks, since leaving Sarabit, the last fourteen days being on the move night and day. All ranks were exhausted but No. 2166 Sergeant Said Maddar with a patrol volunteered to continue the pursuit in order to prevent the raiders from getting back on to the normal Northern route where there was water and thus drive them into the more Easterly waterless area. Captain J.W. Hallowes M.C., being exhausted and knowing that a fast moving patrol was essential, agreed to this. Sergeant Said Maddar left at noon 30th March and on his return on 1st April, 1963, reported as follows:-

He rode out 26 miles on 30.3.63 and got between the raiders and their camp at Halal.

Early on 31.3.63 he located a party of raiders making for this camp. He attacked at once, killed one man, captured two rifles and dispersed the enemy.

The total known Abyssinian casualties were nine killed four wounded and captured and one captured un wounded, also fourteen rifles. Further captures included twelve elephant tusks, some rhino horns, thirteen males, rations and equipment.

Having ascertained from prisoners that the Raiders had been driven by them the day before, Captain J. V. Mallinson, M.C., went to inspect them on their return and subsequently sent them back to a suitable locality at Keren.

On 12 May 1941 after safety was posted, an advanced approach party of 12 men under command of Capt. J. V. Mallinson M.C. was sent to inspect the camp of the enemy which had been captured. This party made a report that the camp had been captured and that a large number of soldiers were held prisoner.

At 1.30 hours on this date by a similar party, Capt. J. V. Mallinson M.C. drove away from his former position and crossed the river. They were 1000 unescorted and moved forward again at 10.00 hours followed by 2nd Lt. Mallinson M.C. ordered fire to be opened which resulted in the Raiders losing three killed, one wounded and captured also twelve rifles, various equipment, elephant traps and hunting rifles.

The enemy returned the fire for a few moments but were driven off by the attack to the hills, leaving traces of their former position.

Refugee to Keren, Captain J. V. Mallinson M.C. was taken to Keren 19/5/41 the next day.

At 10.00 hrs 13/5/41 reported the presence of the Raiders in their former camp. Captain J. V. Mallinson M.C. immediately dispersed.

At 10.00 hrs 13/5/41 soon came 1000 fire from the hills and was held by Capt. J. V. Mallinson M.C. The other section drove off with the 1st Lt. M.C. On leaving the latter, the section stopped and Capt. J. V. Mallinson M.C. and one wounded man were captured. Various articles of equipment, two rifles and 1000 m. were lost.

The Abyssinians were at once followed but escaped into the hills without capturing any further casualties.

Captain J. V. Mallinson M.C. and his escort had not been on the road since 10.00 hrs 13/5/41, since leaving Keren, the two sections had been on the move night and day. All horses were exhausted and the first Sergeant Said Haddar with a mule was sent to get 1000 m. for the party in order to continue the pursuit. Capt. J. V. Mallinson M.C. drove them and 1000 m. were sent to him by Capt. J. V. Mallinson M.C. and the section continued moving with a rest moving, general and frequent stops being made. Sergeant Said Haddar left at about 10.00 hrs 14/5/41 to the return to 1st April, 1941, reported as follows:

In 1940 was 25.000 m. in 20.5.25 and got between the raiders and their camp at Bilal.

Early on 21.5.25 he located a party of raiders making for this camp. He attacked at once, killed one man, captured two rifles and dispersed the enemy.

The total known Abyssinian casualties were nine killed four wounded and captured and one captured un wounded, also fourteen rifles. Further captures included twelve elephant traps, some tame horses, thirteen mules, rations and equipment.

Having ascertained from prisoners that the raiders had been by this time the direction, Captain J. S. Hallinan, M.C., ordered them to move across and subsequently were then advanced to a suitable locality for pursuit.

At 11.45 a.m. early the next day he received approach information that the enemy had an armoured column of about 100 men and 200 horses, which had been captured. He also a report that they had been approximately 10 miles.

At 1.15 p.m. on this date the Abyssinian party had moved off from their position and had crossed the river. They were fully mounted and numbered about 100 men, all armed by natives. Captain J. S. Hallinan M.C. ordered fire to be opened which resulted in the natives losing three killed, one wounded and captured also twelve rifles, various equipment, viellepans and driving horses.

The enemy returned the fire for a few moments but were driven up the bank to the hills, leaving traces of their former position.

Refugee to Mekelle, Captain J. S. Hallinan M.C. was taken to follow W.M.D. the same day.

At 8.30 a.m. 25th reported the presence of the 1st and 2nd Abyssinian Army. Captain J. S. Hallinan M.C. immediately escaped.

At 10.30 a.m. soon came drive fire from the hills and was held by the 1st and 2nd Regt. The other section continued to fire at the hills after the driving the latter, the natives were captured and one dead and one wounded. Captain J. S. Hallinan M.C. saw no further articles of importance than those left behind in their banks.

The Abyssinians were at once followed but escaped into the hills without causing any further casualties.

Captain J. S. Hallinan M.C. and his escape had now been on the road for over three weeks, since leaving Marashit, the last station being on the same night and day. All during this period Captain J. S. Hallinan M.C. had ridden with a native who had a saddle bag containing in order to prevent his capture, driving him in the normal manner. Captain J. S. Hallinan M.C. drove him more than 100 miles and when he reached the town of Dejeb, Captain J. S. Hallinan M.C. had a native who was driving him a horse, driving, patrol and guard, and followed him to Dejeb. Captain J. S. Hallinan M.C. reached Dejeb on the 25th April, 1943, reported as follows:

In route met 25 natives on 20-25.00 and got between the raiders and their way to Mekelle.

Early on 21-2.00 he located a party of raiders making for this camp. He attacked at once, killed one man, captured two rifles and dispersed the enemy.

The total known Abyssinian casualties were nine killed four wounded and captured and one captured unbound; also 2000 rifles. Further captures included twelve elephant skins, some robes, horses, thirteen mules, rations and equipment.

(8)

Information from prisoners proved that a number of Abyssinians were killed but escaped.

Captain J.W. Hallinan M.C., concludes his report as follows:

I regret I was unable to inflict heavier punishment on the enemy but I would point out the difficulty of effectively engaging an enemy who has not the slightest intention of fighting unless cornered or in vastly superior numbers, and who on each occasion after the first burst of firing, dispersed into the thick bush or hills.

I am also convinced that a large number of wounded men escaped who will never reach Abyssinia, in fact, whether wounded or un wounded, if many will reach their homes as they have about 140 miles to do with neither food nor water.

The remainder of Captain J.W. Hallinan M.C., report deals with the names of the Abyssinians concerned in this raid, and various recommendations, which are the subject of another letter.

Thorn head

MAJOR,
OFFICER COMMANDING 8TH BATTALION,
THE KING'S AFRICAN REGIMENT.

1344

No. 100. /27/23.

74

HEADQUARTERS, 5th. KING'S AFRICAN RIFLES,

M B E U. End. M A Y, 1 9 2 3.

To - The Hon. Colonial Secretary.

Y A I R O B I.

ABYSSINIAN RAID INTO ETHIOPIA DURING APRIL 1923.

(With reference to my report No. 100. /26/23)

Subject to April 1923 as the above.

I beg to bring to your notice the following, which is information obtained by Captain J. R. Balloues, M.C., 5th. K.A.R., from a native who was with the above leaders:-

(1) On the 1st. March, 1923, a party of 120 men started for ABARA SALAMBAR with 100 mules. The plan was to march from Addis Ababa and return five days later via Mayale. The last part of the safari was given a pass by Dejazmatch BALUBA who died in Abyssinia.

(2) On arrival at a place called GAVAO (Abyssinia) half the safari were refused permission to proceed. The remainder consisting of some fifty gambar proceeded into English Territory crossing the frontier by night.

(3). The safari separated and met again at KULAL.

(4). The whole expedition was organised by SALAMBAR ABURA with LEGGE (LIJ:?) HABRATTI and LEGGE (LIJ:?) MONGASHA as his assistants.

The following were also mentioned as accompanying and being leaders:-

Left: NAGASH.

Age: 92.

Sex: Male.

Religion: Muslim.

Education: None.

The remonstrances were not of no consequence but a good many had served in the Abyssinian Army.

R.R. Names spelt as sent in by Captain Hallowes.

(5) The prisoners state that these expeditions were kept secret, and if the Abyssinian Authorities heard of them anyone would be taken to appear before them and then punished.

I am rather doubtful if the order would be taken to keep the Abyssinian prisoners in para(5). However, in view of the want of any George's expressed purpose of carrying out operations of those outlays or shifts, and the fact that he did capture during his recent raid on the Daga, lived but a few moments afterwards, I do not suppose that anyone I have mentioned might be sent forward to the Abyssinians.

(6) It would request also instructions as regards the prisoners. If they receive sufficient from their wounds, we might persuade them to entice. On the other hand, one is reported to be "a dangerous criminal who would undoubtedly commit murder if he could thereby escape".

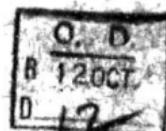
Hurkhead

MAJOR,

OFFICER COMMANDING 8th K.A. RIFLES

for 49506/23 Kenya

78



DRAFT.

M.S. of S.

F.O.

MINUTE.

Mr. Beck Oct 11

Mr. Bottomley 12/10
Mr.

Mr. Davis.

Sir G. Grindale.

Sir H. Read.

Sir J. Masterton Smith.

Mr. Ormsby-Gore.

Date of Despatch.

I am going to transmit to you, for the info^r. of the Hague
Court of Arbitration,⁴ copy
of a despatch in cipher,
from the Govt. of Kenya,
regarding an invasion
of Abyssinia into

Kenya territory in

4 Sept

1381
49506