

E. AFRICA
B. GUIANA
FIJI

C.O.

40384

RECD

RE 18 AUG 20

20041

SECRET OFFICE

POSITION OF INDIANS

1920

1st August

in previous Paper.

Footnote:

For reasons stated suggest that the questions of
deportation to British Guiana & Fiji should be postponed
until the relevant matters in Eastern Africa have been
definitely settled and the effect of the decisions
announced when the same

S.
bj

and this in addition to a copy of
are well advised.

copy of S.A.P.- Day. Secret of 2 May
from H.M. Govt. embodying his
decision in regard to the

in substance of the 26th has already
been forwarded by the Govt. to the
Government of Fiji whom they
are awaiting

The full text will be forwarded
as soon as it is received and
will be kept secret.

Enclosed herewith

the following
Mr. Victoria

for consideration

in previous Paper

18/8

in previous Paper

18/8

in previous Paper

18/8

50,000 11/18 H. 9. 12/41

antic the Preston having by his
letter a stand up. It seems the
best the first thing to be done is
to arrange the future policy & to
see what each has in
his opinion - I gather from Mr. Adams
that he is in a state of indecision
as well as in any way -

as we are in the no. department,
if they consider also to give a stand
opinion has no more in it to do
but to be ready to take the
lead & if possible to inform him

of the same to the Pres. To the
colonies to let them know the
decided will be colonial party

the Pres. to let them know that he has
no objection to the independent

here he seems to me to be absurd.

This letter confirms the view
expressed by Mr Rankine in his letter
and with the P.S. 115, has in the
meanwhile of course been published in
the Weltzeitung. I think you will want
any day's newspaper in Germany
to give you the main heading & some
details of the whole story. It is
not likely to be obtained in a German
book of news & to be obtained in a German
newspaper it is difficult to get a copy
without being charged a sum or two.
I am sending a copy down in my case,
so as to have it at hand when
you have to refer to it.

~~Frankfurt~~ Frankfurt am Main, 20 August
1863.

MS

18 Aug. 20

In regard to the English paper

with Mr Butterfield's name on it
point of view it is unfortunate
that the despatch of the Commission
should be postponed at least until
we have settled the dispute which has
arisen about the nature of the even
grants of land which are to be offered
to immigrants.

But in Brazil all the land
is open to foreign buyers, we don't
~~encourage~~ Indians in township & they
have the same rights & any other
race. We have given all possible
guarantees for the continuance of the
State of affairs, & I should hope
that the wholly different policy which
is being pursued in East Africa
will make it easier & not more
difficult to get immigrants for
Brazil.

On Aug.

We hope still to get out an interim
despatch to Mr S. Stanley before the end of this
month & the final despatch promising a
further & as soon as the effect on
public opinion in England can be gauged
that may enable us to do the
rest of our work.

List of Friends

CAT 181

I have not seen the report referred
to at the beginning of Mr Butterfield's
memo - but I think that it will
be sufficient to add a copy of
the 3rd letter to Mr Marshall's

be unable to postpone arrangements for
ending the "old" to Fiji & S. Pacific
until the effects in India of the
announcement of the E. Afr. sett^t can
be accurately measured - that we shall
no doubt be in a position to do so as soon as
the effect on the maritime frontier
is being explained to the
Govt. of Fiji & S. Pacific.

- & write to Fiji & S. Pacific & the
Govt. of India by Mr. Denby?

6 J. 2.

9.8.26

Left London

21.8.26. 2.29.26

Arrived 21.8.26.

Not possible yet see in return ^{now seen}
~~not to~~ 10.8.26

Belgium

Arrived 21.8.26.

Arrived 21.8.26.

Arrived 21.8.26.

Arrived 21.8.26.

Arrived 21.8.26.

Mr. Parkinson
Mr. Green

223

? Ask I.O. if they are in
a position to judge the effect of
the announcement of the Kenya policy
in India on the prospects of Indian
colonialisation in S. Afr. & Fiji,
adding that the S.P.S. views will
not concern the delay which is
being occasioned in the effect of the
of investigation & post to Foreign
Commissioner.

No objection
to delaying Govt. of India's

decision to India until
today or now clearly enough the
Govt. view will be taken -

Govt. Germany will be given
before it's seen the decision
says not they entirely unsatisfactory
about it & regarding that the
Indians will & now not until
Kenya is made a Colonies under
Govt. of India!

This is until compare with cables
from Indian War Office sent on 15 Dec. Dept. today ref'
Fiji & S.A.

From 2d. point of view, to do
so greater difficulty may occur
if 7.0. does not get early Govt. of

reply (more or less privately worded)

met T.O. told us so, & that
it annoys them that soft. has

now come with great concern
as result of his policy,
wh. in spite of U.S. pressure
has been adopted

etc.

11/9/30

I am passing this to you. To a delegation from India on
the question of emigration to Fiji from
Madras early [I have never been able
to understand why India should not
allow no passage to Fiji and Fiji I

1. My

This turns a Indian politics, but
it is by a means clear that "the only
adoption in Kenya of a policy totally
unacceptable to Indian opinion will
destroy the prospects of colonisation in
B.R., a policy which has done
enough to hurt Indian opinion
and not to go on purpose."

11/10/30

Mr. Lambeth

I see no use in writing Otto T.O. just
now. The answer is certain to be
negative, & a message not leave
Edinland ~~so far as~~ so far as

I should
see /
you
then

(23)

they discuss further the 20th
unofficially before we go back

I do not suppose you caring the
question of Fiji. They have made the
statement in effect that they will

A Grindle

As you can from 4/24/30 Fiji, New Zealand
for we are going back to 10 about
the 20th

Then would

bring up your old question

etc.

11/10/30

etc.

reply (more or less politically worded)

that T.O. told us so, & that
it arrives them that soft. ear
now view with great concern
as result of his policy,
wh. in spite of U.S. pressure
has been adopted

Act^t

11/9/50

I am passing to you, to a delegation from India on
the question of transfer to Fiji, from
Madras, partly [I have never been able
to understand why India did not
fulfill her promise to B.G. and F.I.]

My dear Sirs

This time in Indian politics, but
it is by no means clear that the
adoption of a policy which
was acceptable to Indian opinion will
destroy the prospects of colonization in
B.R., a Colony which has done
everything to meet Indian opinion.
I do not see a purpose

I shall
see f
you
soon
Thank

Sir H. Lambert

Please excuse my long delay
in replying. The answer is clear. To the
question of immediate return
of Indians to India, so far as

233

any of them disagree with the so-called
constitutional before we go over
I do not oppose since existing the
Question of Fiji. They have made the
country a free gift.

H. Grindle

As you can from 4540A Fiji, and when
you are going back to 10 about

11/2 20/50

Then wait

Being up very early

10/2

10/2

10/2

10/2

10/2

10/2

10/2

10/2

10/2

10/2

10/2

10/2

10/2

10/2

10/2

Any further communication on this subject
will be addressed to—
The Under Secretary of State for India.
Public Department,
India Office,
London, S.W.
and the following reference quoted—
J. & P. 4000/20.

INDIA OFFICE

WHITEHALL,

LONDON, S.W. 1.

Immediate

C O

40984

18th August, 1920.

RECD

REGD 18 AUG 20

Sir,

With reference to recent correspondence in regard to the questions of an Indian Franchise and of the policy of race segregation in East Africa I am directed by His Secretary Montagu to invite Lord Milner's attention to the bearing which any decision announced on these questions will necessarily have on the schemes of Indian Colonisation put forward by the governments of British Guiana and Fiji.

The Government of India have pointed out that the decisions foreshadowed in regard to East African legislation demands for retaliation when they consider it difficult to resist, and also that these decisions may react seriously on emigration to other colonies which require Indian labour.

The success both of the specific schemes presented by the recent Missions from British Guiana and Fiji and of any other proposals having the same object, must largely depend on the first instance on the cooperation of the Indian public. Without such cooperation there is small chance of colonists coming forward in the requisite numbers and if educated Indian opinion were hostile to the schemes such emigration could certainly not be encouraged, perhaps even countenanced, by the Government of India. The Government has already shown its appreciation of these existing conditions when it took the novel step of referring the two Missions to a Committee appointed by the Indian Legislative Council and when it adopted the recommendations of that Committee as to the guarantees which were required before the schemes could be proceeded with.

It is very significant of the condition of public opinion in India that the Committee accepted guarantees of equality

political and commercial status as between Indians and other British subjects & ~~such~~ to ~~ensure~~ the maintenance of such an equality by the Govt. In Government concerned in each case and the Colonial Office, the Government of India have proposed to appoint Committees to examine the schemes further in the light of the local conditions in British Guiana and Fiji respectively.

Mr. Montagu fears that there is every reason to anticipate that if Lord Milner's decisions on the situation in East Africa are announced without modification they will cause such grave dissatisfaction in India that it is doubtful whether any proposals for Indian colonisation elsewhere are likely to prove acceptable to the Indian public. Even the educated public in India has sometimes imperfectly understood that H.M.'s Government cannot be made responsible for the disabilities suffered by Indians in the self-governing Dominions. It will clearly not be possible for H.M.'s Government to escape responsibility in the eyes of the Indian public for any marked discrimination between Indians and Europeans in a Crown Colony. The existence of such discrimination will also afford a handle to those who are prepared to question the sincerity of professions of powerlessness to protect Indians in the Dominions. In East Africa the discrimination is such as to engender what appears to be a genuine apprehension on the part of the Indian Community that their status may ultimately deteriorate to the level of the Indian Community in South Africa. This indeed is the avowed object of ~~the European colonists~~, the European colonists, and since a large share of the legislative power has now been entrusted by H.M.'s Government to the non-official European Community, fears for the future of the larger and older Indian Community are, in these circumstances, perfectly natural, even if they are ill-founded. When the full significance of the situation is grasped in India, it is inevitable that H.M.'s Government will be criticised for having done less than was in their power to protect legitimate Indian interests, and the

Government of India will be criticised for having failed to represent the views of the Indian public. The criticism will gain strength from the growing national consciousness in India, which implies a keener interest in the welfare of Indians overseas and it will gain point from the apprehension that this welfare is jeopardised in the latest of all the Crown Colonies and precisely in that country where a considerable community of free Indian colonists has been longest established, and a country which on account of its proximity has close connexion with India.

Mr. Montagu has no doubt that, if his reasoned anticipations are not at fault, much as he will regret such an outcome the Indian public will be in no mood to listen to proposals for Indian colonisation in other Crown Colonies.

The Government of India will naturally be willing to carry out their promise to send Committees of investigation to British Guiana and Fiji on the conditions previously arranged under which it will be remembered the cost of the deputations falls on the revenues of the two Colonies; but Mr. Montagu thinks that Lord Milner will be glad to be fully acquainted and will desire to acquaint the Colonial Governments concerned with circumstances incidental to policy in East Africa which threaten to render the Colonisation schemes abortive. It seems desirable that after the trouble and expense already devoted to these schemes further hopes, which may be doomed to frustration in the event of an unfavourable decision in East Africa, should not be encouraged, and that further expenditure, which may be fruitless, should not be undertaken, except with a full knowledge of conditions so seriously affecting the chance of success.

The question whether it is worth while undertaking the next step in the consideration of these schemes is clearly a matter for the Colonial Governments and the Colonial Office to decide. It may be thought desirable in any case to defer a decision until the relevant questions in East Africa have been finally settled, and the settlement announced and until the effects

effects of it in India can be accurately measured. Should Lord Milner come to this conclusion, a telegram will be sent to the Government of India instructing them to postpone arrangements for the contemplated deputations pending the receipt of further information.

I have the honour to be, Sir:

Your obedient Servant,

F.W. Duke

21
 Downing Street,
 (2) 20 August, 1920.

DRAFT.

ES. GUIANA

GOVS.

MINUTE.

Battersea, 19/8

Mr. Grindall.

H. Lambert.

H. Read.

G. Fiddes.

A. Avery.

and Milner.

18th Aug.

21st Aug.

G. R. P. Bent. 21 Aug.

2 draft.

Sir.

With reference to previous correspondence regarding the proposed scheme of Indian Colonisation in British Guiana, I have etc. to transmit to you, the enclosed copy of correspondence with the I.O. as to the possible bearing on that scheme of the announcement in India of certain recent decisions affecting the Indian community in British East Africa.

A copy of a secret despatch which has been addressed to the O.A.G. of the E.A.P. ~~concerning the~~ announcing ~~these~~ decisions is also enclosed.

2. 1

3

Dowling Street

20 August, 1920.

Sir,

DRAFT.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
INDIA OFFICE.
MINUTE.

Mr. Battell, Esq., 19/R

Mr.

Mr. Grindle

Sir H. Lamartine

X Sir H. Read. 20/8

Sir G. Fiddes

116 *A. M. G. M. VAN DER*

Lord Milner

I am etc. to acknowledge the receipt of your letter J. & P. 4000/20 of the 18th of August, and to request you to inform Mr. Secretary Montagu that His Lordship notes Mr. Montagu's anticipations as to the bearing which the announcement in India of the decisions affecting the Indian Community in British East Africa will have on the schemes of Indian Colonisation put forward by the Government of B. Guiana and Fiji.

2. In the circumstances Lord
Milner considers that it will be de-
sirable to postpone the arrangements
for sending the proposed deputations
to B. Guiana and Fiji until the effects
~~in India~~ of the announcement of the
~~Emancipation~~ can be ascertained.
It is however no doubt
informing further as to when it will
be communicated in due
course, and in the meantime the posi-
tion is being explained to the Govrs.
of B. Guiana and Fiji.

I am, etc.

(Signed) H. J. REAM

The Under Secretary of State for the Colonies presents his compliments to the Private Secretary to the Governor of British Guiana, and begs to say with reference to the Secretary of State's secret despatch of the 21st August, relative to the postponement of arrangements for the proposed deputation from India that the reference to a telegram from the Secretary of State in the last paragraph of the despatch was retained through inadvertence.

No such telegram was sent.

Downing Street,
31 August 1920

L.O. 40984

E.A.

B. Guiana.

0

50

2nd

DRAFT.

Secretary,
West India Committee.

MINUTE.

Mr. Darnley. 3/p f.

Sir,

Mr.

Mr.

Mr. Grindle. ~~has~~ ^{been} m.

Sir H. Lambert.

Sir H. Read.

Sir G. Fiddes.

Col. Amery.

Lord Milner.

DOWNING STREET,

1st August, 1920.

With reference to previous correspondence regarding the Colonisation Scheme for British Guiana, and the proposed Deputation from India, I am etc., to request that you will inform the West India Committee that the India Office represented that it is probable that the policy which has been adopted in regard to Indians in the Kenya Colony will have the effect of causing Indian public opinion to become adverse to proposals for Indian colonisation in other Colonies, including British Guiana, and has recommended that ~~that the proposal to send a deputation from India to the latter Colony should not be~~ ^{be made} ~~in~~ ^{with} the effect that India's

~~the enhancement of the policy adopted for the Kenya Colony can be accurately~~

6/1 Cte has also
official information

Cas

2. The Agent will be
allowed as soon as circumstances
permits, to be
measured.

2. In the circumstances, Lord Milner
had no alternative but to accept the view put
forward by the India Office and to postpone
the postponement for the present of the
arrangements for sending the delegation.

3. The Governor of British Guiana
has been informed accordingly.

I am, etc.,