

EAST AFR. PROT.
UGANDA
25795

C. O.
25795
RECEIVED 16 AUG 12

Date
1912
25th August
Last previous Paper
15514

MILITARY SITUATION
COL THE SIGER'S REPORT

States copy received incomplete. Asks for complete copy.

Captain Wilson.

Will you kindly annex the papers, which were recently sent to you?

ALCS
1912

Hence with.

Capt. Wilson is away

20 AUG. 1912

COMMITTEE
OF IMPERIAL DEFENCE.

Afrant SWR

W. Read

"The first 3 papers" were intentionally withheld in accordance with the minutes on Coy 15514.

Out by
SPIN

at subsequent Paper

Amia

Since our report was written a
copy of our letter to the Secretary
CO 715574 summarizing the
changes has been sent to W.O.,
but even so I doubt whether
we can refer the D.M.O. the
full report in 11769 for which
he asks.

all
21/8

See also reminder of 23 aug.
from D.M.O. answered

all

24/8

Mr. G. Fiddes

Reply that the S. J. S. must
use his own discretion as to what
papers are or are not to be ^{sent} forwarded
to other Dept^s + that he has not
considered it desirable to communicate
the further papers for which the D.M.O.
now asks?

H. J. R.

26/8

See attached letter from Col. Seely
& makes.

H. J. R.

Mr Hancock.

You will see from the minutes on page 4 that why Col. Ringen's memo was not sent to the D. W. O.

We cannot expect that an occasional visitor like the S. G. can diagnose the political situation like the Governor and his officers who are permanently on the spot, and to have sent the memo with a statement that neither Col. Ringen's facts nor his conclusions were correct would not have been helpful to the D. W. O.

Now can we encourage our officers to appeal to the D. W. O. against the S. of S. after he has given them the fullest possible hearing.

As the matter was explained to the C. O. at the time by Mr. Head, it is somewhat surprising to find it raised now.

Mr. G. Diddis's minute of 26th May ~~was~~ was the answer to Col. Kelly. U. 17. 11. 13

th
13 November 1913.

PRIVATE.

My Dear Loulou,

As I told you this morning, there is some feeling at the War Office because it is believed that occasionally reports on the military situation in the Colonies are expurgated before being sent over here.

The particular case upon which this feeling has recently been aroused is in connection with the report by Colonel Thesiger on the military situation in the East African Protectorate and Uganda.

In view of the special responsibility
of the War Office it would probably be better if

I have now explained this orally to Col. Seely

17.11.13

in future reports were sent over in full, and I think that when we spoke about it this morning you agreed with this view.

Yours sincerely,

John Bernard Seely

The Rt. Hon. Lewis-Marcourt, M.P.

Colonial Office, S.W.

an

Mr. G. Fiddler

I cannot help feeling that the military authorities ^(at the W.O.) are trying again to force our hand over the question of the military forces for the E. A. Protes. You will remember that they have already succeeded once in bringing the matter before the Imperial Defence Committee.

The Appendices to Col. Thesiger's ^{memo:} ~~report~~ contain a great deal of military information of the kind which the D.M.O. is supposed to desire & which is of use in the compilation of the Intelligence Handbooks.

Col. T.'s memo: however, gives I think

an erroneous impression of the political situation in the E.A.P. & therefore of the military situation, in so far as it is dependent upon it - & before it could be sent to the W.O. we should want to have it qualified by the civil authorities. But rather than send a document so qualified, it is better not to send it at all.

at the bottom of the 1st page of the memo: it is stated that during the past year the Joint B. E.A. was critical. I doubt whether any Civil Official would admit this.

Top of page 2. "a certain section of the population have strongly protested against the reduction of troops in that place" - I heard nothing

of this & I believe that the objection pointed, if it were made, would have been made solely on social grounds. I heard that they wanted India to use Nairobi as a hill station for a regiment of Cavalry, so that as to increase the popularity of the place.

37

para 9. Ref. is made to the unbounded unrest among the Wickambas, the movement of the Masai, & according to some, a restless feeling among the Kavironda.

There ^{Wickambas} had a passing fit of what was loosely called "hysteria", but it was easily settled by the Provincial Commr. & so far as we know, the tribe is perfectly quiet.

The move of the Masai again is proceeding peacefully & Sir P. S. had never heard of the restless feeling among the Kavironda, who are getting so prosperous that they won't leave their country to work.

With regard to Uganda, nothing said in the