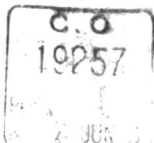




EAST AFR. PROT.

19257



Consular Office

1913

- June

Last previous Paper

3049

1913 7

*Situation in Abyssinia*

*Copy tel. from Mr. Ed. regarding death of Capt. Aylmer - killed by raiding Tigre from Abyssinia - minutes ref. measures for dealing with situation*

Mr. Bottomley,

(see also note annexed)

Mr. Head.

? (1) inform War Office with reference to letter 31st May that the news is confirmed giving the substance of this telegram down to X.

(2) write to Colonel Aylmer - sending him the substance of this telegram to X and promise further information when received and that enquiry will be made of Governor as to the officer who is taking the body of Lieutenant Aylmer to Moyale.

(3) ask Governor by telegram accordingly (This is one of the rare cases when I would telegraph on behalf of people at Government expense on an unessential point) And enquire what rigorous action he proposes to take or has taken.

(4) copy of the two telegrams to Foreign Office, and say that His Majesty's Minister at Adis Ababa should be requested to make strong representations to Abyssinian Government

FRANCE 11 20 907-28  
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Next subsequent Paper.

37

however, a risk that, in the present chaotic state of Abyssinia, these raids may become more serious. Some two years ago Mr. Thesiger, our Minister at Adis Ababa, told Mr. Tilley and myself that, if the East Africa Protectorate could deal with small sporadic raids, he would undertake to stop anything in the nature of a large and organized expedition, but I doubt whether he would say this now, as in a recent letter to Mr. Tilley he seemed to regard the break up of Abyssinia as inevitable. Mr. Tilley has asked Major Doughty Wyllie, Mr. Thesiger's 2nd in command, to come to the Foreign Office some day this week so that we can discuss the present incident with him, but, in the absence of the Governor's despatch, we have very little to go upon.

H.J.R.

2/6/13.

Until we have particulars we must be completely in the dark as to what occurred.

As proposed.

G.V. 2/6/13.

J.A. 2/6/13.

E. 3/6/13.

L.H. 4/6/13.

Dr. G. Fisher

1874

With regard to the latter question  
of what is to be done in the event of the  
break-up of Abeyinon, I understand from  
Tilley that Lord Kitchener has been  
writng to enquire to R. Wengate personally  
before sending his views. Sir R. Wengate  
has been at Cairo on the 24<sup>th</sup> of May &  
I assume that he is on his way home.  
If this is so, he should be here in a few  
days, & I think that the best plan  
would be for Lord Sumner, yourself, Mr. Tilley  
& myself, to discuss matters with him &  
report to the S. J. C. You will remember  
that the original proposal was that Mr.  
Tilley & I should discuss matters with  
myself & myself & myself.

G. J. R.

2/12/13

6/13

U. C. 13

6.3.6.13

6/4.6.13

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1024-275

No.

Telegram. The Governor of the East Africa Protectorate to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

(Received Colonial Office 9.20 a.m. 2nd June, 1913.)

June 1st later reports substantiate rumour Aylmer killed by raiding Tigre from Abyssinia at Sudderk May 1st. Stated body being brought Moyale. Will telegraph further news immediately on receipt sending to you copies of all documents. Have informed Adis Ababa. Abyssinian border tribes under no control. Situation calls for adoption rigorous measures.

BELFIELD.

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19257

275

Copy

3049 E.A.

Telegram. The Secretary of State for the Colonies to the  
 Governor of the West African Protectorate.  
 (Sent 5.5 p.m. 5th June, 1913.)

*Answered to [unclear] 3.7*

Your telegram of 1st June, ascertain and report by telegraph name of officer bringing body of Aylmer to Moyale; also give names of any European officers on the spot. What measures do you propose to take, or what measures have been taken to deal with situation?

ARCOURT.

*\* Answered*

8 a p

3049 T. A.

Downing Street,

6th June, 1913.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr Secretary Harcourt to transmit to you, for the information of Secretary Sir Edward Grey, the accompanying copies of two telegrams from the Governor of the East Africa Protectorate reporting that Lieutenant L. Aylmer, Inspector on the Abyssinian frontier of the East Africa Protectorate, was killed at Gudderk on the 1st of May, by raiding parties from Abyssinia.

1. It will be seen that the Governor states that the border tribes in Abyssinia are under no control and that the situation calls for the adoption of rigorous measures. Enquiry is being made of the Governor by telegram as to what measures he is taking or has already taken to deal with this situation.

2. Mr Harcourt would suggest for Sir Edward Grey's consideration that His Majesty's Minister at Adis Ababa should be requested to make strong representations to the Abyssinian Government as to the absence of control on the Northern Frontier of Abyssinia.

I am, Sir,

(Sd.) H. J. READ,

for the Under Secretary of State.