

EAST AFR. PROT

19716

C.O.
19716
REC'D
REG'D 30 MAY 14

Belfield #28

1914

5 May

Last previous Paper.

1914

Juchana Tribe

Furds report by Provincial Commr, Nairobi summarising history of dealings with Juchana. Points out that under administrative control they are no further advanced. Is of opinion that tribe can only be brought to terms by strong measures & an release of Uganda boats from Juba River, proposed to proceed agst Juchana as originally arranged.

Colonel Northcote

to G. Dunder

I think that we sh^d be apprised of the gov^{ts} proposal to proceed with the combined expedition, as soon as circumstances permit - & send copy for consp^{ce} to the gov^{ts} of Uganda for info D.T.?

Lord Emmott sh^d see section 22 (1) of Mr. MacCallum's report, as Lord Huddip in the recent debate in the H. of L. said that some of our returns were being subverted by the Abujimians.

H. J. R.

2/2/14

P.T.O.

Ms. 352
Copy to be sent to 245 9/11/14
copy comes W.C. inf 10 July 14 9/11/14 for 23534

Last subsequent Paper.

23534

The Turkhana must be punished
before an administration of them
is likely to be effective. But an
effective administration with
force which it is the only means
of keeping them in hand.

We have not the force yet, but should
have as soon as Col. Q. Can spare
the Gendarme companies.

It is a great pity the operations
originally contemplated had to
be postponed on account of the
paucity of troops in the B.E.A.F.

The Turkhana raid was a big
thing - the biggest for many years.
But it is the natural outcome.
The Sambarra chiefs I interviewed
were very anxious to get some
Turkhana women for themselves,
but want a little Govt assistance.

A. J. H. 2 vi. 14

As proposed by W. Reed? W. 2.6.14

London
to Harcourt.

I am interested to see 22 (1), but I
think Lord Hurdlip was really
dealing with ancient history & had
not in a transaction as is suggested.

in that paragraph in mind.
 22 (4) is a pretty stiff request.
 I quite agree when we do undertake
 a patrol we must show we
 mean to ~~use our way~~ ^{enforce our demands}; but I
 can't help wondering if that
 particular demand is reasonable
 or not according to local ideas

6.3.6.14.

As proposed

H. 5. 6. 14

the name added
 the list to
 the
 10
 the number
 the
 H. 5. 6. 14

19716

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REC'D
GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
NAIROBI,

BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

No. 428.

May 5th, 1914.

Sir,

4/1526

With reference to your despatch No. 257 of March 19th, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a report by the Provincial Commissioner, Kisumu, which summarises the history of our dealings with the Turkhana tribe and indicates that in the matter of administrative control we are no further advanced now than when first brought into touch with them, and even possibly rather less so because our present enforced inactivity and the acquisition of rifles from the Abyssinians will embolden them to plan further raids under the impression that Government is not in a position to check them.

2. The persistent refusal of the tribe to enter into communication with our officers leaves

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
LEWIS HARGREAVES, M.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET, LONDON, S.W.

leaves me in no doubt that they can only be brought to terms by strong measures.

3. Further it must be remembered that we are pledged to the Somal, whose Chief I have personally interviewed, to exact reparation in respect of the recent raid and that effect cannot be given to this promise unless a strong force is at hand to enforce our demands.

4. I hope that Colonel Graham will shortly be in a position to release the Uganda Companies from the Juba River and on their return I propose to proceed with the combined expedition against the Turkhana tribe as originally arranged.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,

H. G. B. B. B.

GOVERNOR.

ly please quote
No. 86 & date

19716
ENCLOSURE
In Despatch No. 428 of 1914
REC'D
19
MAY 14

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Provincial Commissioner's Office,
Naivasha,
28th April 1914

The Hon'ble the Chief Secretary
Nairobi.

Ref. your No. 7379.II of April 20th

Re: Unrest in Turkana

As early as 1904 the Turkana were visited by the District Commissioner Baringo who reported them as friendly. At that time they were in fear of the Abyssinians who shortly before had successfully raided them carrying off thousands of cattle with many women and children. At the same time Messrs. Mack, Brittlebank and Brown of the East Africa Syndicate were prospecting and came on this raiding party which took them up into Abyssinia.

2. These raids induced many Turkana to come further south on to the Kerio River with the approval of the officer at Baringo with a view to being more closely in touch with the Government. Matters went well for a time or only, however, as Turkana interests soon clashed with those of the Suk whose grazing grounds were also on the Kerio River resulting in several minor raids and counter-raids during 1905 and 1906 culminating in 1908 in a serious

serious massacre of Suk by the Turkana who killed fifty women and children and five men out of a population of 60, at Akulo near Keria. The attack was well thought out and treacherous in the extreme. Turkana who had been on amicable terms for a long period with the inhabitants of the village induced 5 of its ten defenders to proceed to a distant area to buy tobacco, there being only 5 men remaining - the Turkana swept down.

3. In 1909 the District Commissioner Baringo recommended a post on the Keria as previous Officers had guaranteed protection to the Suk who were continually reproaching Government with the non-fulfillment of its promises and asking permission to retaliate - the post was sanctioned.

4. In June 1909 Mr Barge the then Provincial Commissioner Naivasha visited the country to endeavour to effect a peaceable settlement and though well received by two or three chiefs was unable to meet the more powerful chief Lobwin who refused to come in.

5. No terms being arrived at the Suk had to abandon their best grazing grounds. Mr Barge in reporting his impressions strongly urged an expedition, or a post with a sufficient force to protect the Suk. The District Commissioner was informed in September, 1909 that troops could not be spared at the time as they were required in Somaliland, and he was instructed to use his best endeavours to get in touch with the chiefs.

6. The Chief Lobwin persisted in his unfriendly attitude

attitude and threatened to attack the Kerio post. At this time it was considered a force of 50 King's African Rifles at the Kerio Post was sufficient as a garrison - that 100 King's African Rifles would be a sufficient force to enter Turkana and punish Lobwin but if a general patrol of all the Turkana area was necessary two columns of 80 to 100 men in each would be required.

7. In February 1910 a patrol with 100 King's African Rifles was sanctioned but owing to premature action by ^{the} District Commissioner and half Company at the Kerio Post the main force never reached the country. The surprise of villages containing stock was entirely successful though the small force was unable to follow up its advantage, but as a result in April 1910 chiefs Lobwin and Aijigwa headmen of Hissir and Ngatunia section respectively, came in to Baringo, were taken to Nairobi and there received by His Excellency, to whom they gave promises of loyalty in the future.

8. During 1910 a District Commissioner was appointed for Turkana and a site chosen for a station some five days North of the Kerio Post at a place named Ngabotok. Its disadvantages were many but its main advantage was its position in the centre of the Turkana, and being a small hill ^{ed} commanding the plain.

9. Early in 1911 reports came in from the Officer-in-charge of the Samburu a tribe living due North of Kenia, between the Northern Guaso Nyiro River and Marsabit, showing the Turkana had raided stock and killed two Samburu at Mbartu, near the border between the two tribes, though 17 days marching from Ngabotok along the known routes.

10. For some time after the visit of Chiefs Lobwin and Ajiwa to Nairobi, excepting the raid at Embarta, the administration of the District went fairly smoothly till May 1912 when a Buk village near Lomichet was attacked and nine women were killed by men of the Keneto Section. Ten men were said to be implicated, the Headmen promising they should be brought in to Ngabek within a month.

11. Two months later the murderers were not yet arrested, and the same Headmen who promised to bring them in sending messages that if Government wanted the murderers it must send Police to catch them as they the Chiefs would have nothing to do with them. In reply to these messages the District Commissioner did ever thing possible to resume friendly relations with the Chiefs with a view to gaining their assistance in bringing the ten murderers to justice, without result.

12. A fine was then sanctioned under the Collectiv. Regulation Ordinance and eventually collected by the District Commissioner and a military escort, but owing to the Uganda Territory being close at hand the Chiefs of the Keneto Section responsible bolted over the boundary and have since refused to enter into negotiation with Government.

13. In October 1913, a year after the exaction of above fine the District Commissioner attempted to collect the taxes due especially from the Keneto Section. The people refused to hold communication with the officer nor would they come near his camp though he remained in their country for two days. As the effect of such passive resistance was effecting other Sections of the tribe the Acting District Commissioner asked permission to collect the taxes with the aid of his escort and if necessary by force.

14. The refusal to pay taxes spread later on to the Ngaitak Section. Such ^{refusals} reports are the more serious as they always embrace the breaking off all communications with the Officers and the moving off of the people and stock immediately on their approach.

15. At this time November 13th reports commenced to come in of parties of Abyssinians coming down and selling rifles and ammunition to the Turkana who purchase them at the rate of 60 sheep or goats, 1 bullock, and 1 donkey, or ivory for one rifle and 20 rounds ammunition.

16. The hostile attitude of the Turkana has also been felt in Uganda where they are frequently raiding, with the result that joint action was agreed on at the end of 1913.

17. On June 5th of this year the following telegram was received from Nyeri "reliable report received that very large force of Turkana from this and Uganda Protectorate has wiped out eleven Samburu Kraals at Embartacasual. An unknown estimate eight to ^{ten} ~~two~~ thousand head of cattle carried off"

18. This report was found to be approximately correct the stock now estimated at 7000, in addition a large number of women and children were carried off as prisoners and all the male inhabitants killed.

19. It will be remembered that one of the conditions on which the Samburu agreed to assist in supplying the Northern Frontier with Transport animals when Marsabit was first opened as a Station was they were to be protected against such raids.

20. The cattle captured in this raid is reported to have been taken a long way north on the west side of Lake Rudolf close to the Abyssinian border where the traffic in rifles is largely taking place.

21. Recent reports state the Turkana on the Abyssinian border are paying taxes to the Abyssinians and that fresh raiding parties are being organized.

22. Under these conditions I strongly urge that the only action now to be taken is to march into the country with a strong force. On arrival to send messages to the Turkana Chiefs involved that the following are the only terms on which peace will be considered.

1. The return of all women and children taken from the Samburu (as if not returned it is quite possible they may be sold as slaves to the Abyssinians)

2. The return of all stock stolen.

3. An indemnity according to native custom for all Samburu killed in the raid.

4. In addition to the return of the stolen stock a fine of at least as many again to be paid within fourteen days of the notice, of five thousand head and the handing over of all rifles in their possession.

23. These terms being complied with the troops could march to the Abyssinian boundary as a patrol and through the more thickly populated areas of the country.

24. If on the other hand the Turkana refuse to take any steps to meet the demands of Government the Military under direction of the political Officer should proceed to punish those guilty declaring peace only on the above terms.

3. Whether peace or war on terms being concluded the main body of troops would withdraw and we should proceed to effectively occupy and Administer the country.

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4. The site Ngabotok mentioned previously was reported on by the Officers resident there as having become untenable owing to bad water, and the confined space available for accommodation of Europeans and natives, ^{and consequent} the fouling of the ground after several years occupation which led to a large percentage of sickness. The position was therefore changed to Mac-rich about 80 miles to the South West. Neither is it an ideal spot. Officers who have travelled through Burkana state that no site healthy for Europeans and of use as an Administrative Centre is likely to be found.

5. To therefore effectively control the country I would suggest the best place possible be selected as a base to contain a small garrison and all stores. That a Civil and Military officer with a strong patrol be always on the move throughout the District.

6. I consider both the cost and utility of punitive measures is absolutely thrown away if we simply go into the country and take out large quantities of stock, in nearly all such cases it leads to further raids to recover an equivalent to the loss and further punitive measures.

7. The amalgamation of the Uga da and East Africa portion of the tribe under one authority would be largely conducive to better Administration.

Ed. J. W. T. MacLellan
Provincial Commissioner.

