

DESPATCH

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| EAST AFR. PROT. |
| No. 37846 |

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| 37846 |
| 17 OCT 08 |

No. 477
1908
Sept 23

(Subject.)

Masai Reserve.

Last previous Paper.

For copy report by Mr. Bagge on northern portion of
 Question of grazing area is receiving attention. Cannot at
 present express any opinion on question of extra tax.

(Minutes.)

Mr. Read

Ack receipt of your letter that we shall
 no doubt in due course receive
 his detailed views on the questions
 raised in Mr. Bagge's memo
 with

1. The addition of question land to the reserve.
2. The subtraction from the reserve of the land for the use of natives.
3. The necessity for a more formal agreement with the tribes as to the limits of the Reserve than that embodied in the Act.

F.O 37344/04

and cross 44 NOV

80-25/13

4. The need for a survey of the resources
 5. The question of addition of taxation
- and ask that a meeting may be
next call to report

M. 23/8

Mr. Antistone

So passed 2 - sent
leaf to org. to the G. M. O. for
perusal & return 3rd pers. Note in Dec
of good deal of info. ^{see in paper report} about the formation
of the country which the State & Dept. will
probably like to have.

J. R.

23/8

M. 23/8
at once

J. R.

T. J.

War Office,

Whitewall, S. W.

4th November 1908.

The Director of Military Operations presents his compliments to the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, and begs to return herewith, with thanks, a Report by Mr. S.S. Bagge on a tour of inspection in the northern part of the Masai Reserve, forwarded under cover of Colonial Office note of 31st ultimo.

Governor's Office,

Nairobi,

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

September 23rd 1908.

No. 477

(Inc 2.1)

37846

REC
17 OCT 08

My Lord,

I have the honour to submit a copy of a report by Mr. S. S. Bagge, C.M.G., Provincial Commissioner of the Nalvasha Province, on a tour of inspection lately undertaken by him to the northern part of the Masai Reserve. A copy is being communicated to the Intelligence Department, King's African Rifles.

Mr. Bagge
Sept. 16th

The question of the grazing area of the Masai is engaging attention. That of levying an extra tax, which would presumably be in the form of tax on stock, on the Masai, who have but little cash and pay but little hut tax, will require very careful consideration. I am not at present prepared to express any opinion on the proposal.

I have the honour to be,
With the highest respect,

My Lord,
Your Lordship's most obedient,
humble servant,

H.M. PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF STATE

FOR THE COLONIES,

DOUBLEDAY BUILDINGS,

LONDON, E.C.

INCLOSURE

An Despatch No. 477 of Sept 23 1908

C. O.
37846
Recd
17 OCT 08

No. 28.

Provincial Commissioner's Office

Naiyasha.

16th September, 1908.

Reference H.F. No. 788/1908.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward a report on a tour of inspection I have lately made to the Northern part of the Masai Reserve, Kajiado District.

The tour was undertaken with the view of ascertaining the grazing capacity of that region during times of drought, and to judge therefrom the necessity of adding otherwise of adding to the existing reserve a patch of land lying to the west of the Uaso Nyiro River, more accurately described by the Hon'ble the Commissioner of

Landis

SECRETARY,

East Africa Protectorate,
Nairobi.

Lands in his minute dated 21-8-08.

Accompanied by Mr. Farrington the District Commissioner Masai Northern Reserve, I left Rumuruti on August 9th. The route up to our most northerly camp lay as far as we could judge almost due North, perhaps bearing slightly to the west.

The first water met with was the Aian river 5 miles from the station, this river in partial flood was running fairly swiftly some 12 feet wide and two feet deep, this was however due to the rains and in dry weather there remains but indifferent and limited water in the rock holes of its bed. Proceeding another 2 miles the Ngarri Majorrii was reached. This, reported to run only in the rains which may continue for a period varying from 1 to 4 months, after running for an estimated distance of 5 miles, empties itself into the Aian.

10th. Camped on Marigud river, 13 miles, after first crossing the Simani plains. This river rises near Sipili Hill and after flowing some 25 miles eventually loses itself in a swamp. In the driest weather water is reported always to be found either in holes or by digging.

11th. Camped at Arus swamp, 13 miles, having traversed the Naibor and Logumakuni districts. In dry weather there is insufficient water in the swamp for stock even by digging. The Laikipiak Masai were originally located about this part but after being harshly used by other Masai clans, ceased to exist, and merged into the latter.

12th. Camped at Ojoro, 14 miles, marched for one hour alongside Moriji range, arriving in two hours at Bokoto Oimarra Warra swamp. While the swamp is salt and dries up there is a small perennial spring of sweet water at the edge. Continuing we crossed the Oimarra range, which

which could be seen Loroghi plateau and the adjoining Kirishia (or the Kisima) hills. Oljoro is in dry weather a small trickling rill and runs into the Vaso Narok. S. V. below.

15th. Camped at Ngarri Ntoto, 11 miles. After marching 5 miles reached the Ngarri Narok, the Narok rises in Loroghi said to lose itself in dry periods in the forest, leaving water in holes in the river bed, but with rain assistance runs into the Vaso river. This latter is believed to disappear into the "Mallen" swamp in Sambur. The Ntoto entirely due to rains averages not far distant from a canon in Loroghi.

16th. Camped at Oljoro Leleidian (Oldorobe) 6 miles. Having ^{passed} marched over rolling grass lands and through cedar forests and gradually rising to an altitude of 8,000 feet. The water is furnished by rain drainage.

15th. Camped at Lamarrai Hill, 12 miles.

The stream at the foot rises from a spring in the canon and forms the Ngarri Ntoto when fed by rain. The Rift Valley can be seen for the first time from Lamarrai.

16th. Camped at Harasero, 7 miles. After

one hour's march we reached the edge of Loroghi. From this camp a fair view was obtained of Mount Ngire lying slightly East of North and the Matthew's range again to the East of Ngire. Our guides informed us that in a clear atmosphere a very great lake presumably Ruohi could be seen from this point.

17th. Halted, inspecting adjacent country.

Spring streams here and there, good grazing, large forests of very fine cedar and podocarpus.

Returning on

18th. Camped at Luorr, 12 miles, having

marched in a south westerly direction through hilly country crossing small rain streams reported

to be feeders to the Ngarrri Ntobe.

19th. Camped at water holes, 14 miles, in open plain at lower edge of Loreghi, marched over and along ridges covered with forests of cedar, then over fine stock country occasionally obtaining glimpses of the plains below with Kenia in the far distance.

20th. Camped at water holes, known by name of Ordini, 11 miles holes few and water limited. Kisima Lake reached after marching 7 miles. The Lake is saltish occupying now an area of perhaps 10 acres, rises up at times but water can be obtained by digging. Leaving Kisima we entered country with stony surface and the not unusual accompaniment of poor and scattered thorn timber.

Cletolelli an Olsaruo informed us that his and a few other kraals were able to remain permanently here, being able to obtain water

from Kisumu Lake or the Ngari Narok referred to above.

21st. Camped at a spring swamp, 11 miles. Shortly after starting we crossed the Ngari Narok then for two hours marched across open plains to Lake Kilele, and two hours more to camp, passing a small spring half way, surface stony, timber thorn trees and stunted bush. Kilele is a small lake of some 4 acres, saltish and said to dry up.

22nd. Camped on a stream, 13 miles, in small opening amongst dense euphorbia and thorn bush. Our march first led us over open country, later we entered a district thickly interspersed with euphorbia of various natures and the surface became much more stony, a considerably lower altitude had now been reached.

23rd. Camped on the Ngari Narok, not to be

confused

confused with that aforementioned, 15 miles, the junction of the Uaso Nyiro and Narok being reached after an hour's march. Following this river for 36 miles we once more arrived at Rumuruti Station.

Between the time of our departure from and return to the Station over 400 miles of country was traversed none being recurrent a large extent of country therefore came under our notice.

Information obtained from various sources goes to prove that when rains which have been heavy and continuous have ceased, there will remain a sufficiency of water for stock purposes generally, for a period of 2½ months; but that where the rain has been light and lasting only a short period its advantages cease almost immediately.

From the above it will be seen that the Maasi in the Northern Reserve must be hard pushed for water for their stock in times of drought.

With knowledge obtained from personal observation and taking into consideration suggestions and recommendations offered by officials who are and have been previously connected with the Northern Reserve and knowledgeable of its necessities I have no hesitation whatever in recommending that the area referred to by the Honourable Commissioner of Lands be added to the reservation.

At the same time I recommend that the land referred to by Mr. A. M. Jones in his letter dated 22-2-08 attached to Secretariat Minute Paper No. 648/08 be reserved by the Administration as desired by the settlers in the Rify Valley for their use in times of drought.

The area which is recommended for addition to the Reserve will be of infinite more value to the land than that proposed for Government Reserve on account of its better suitability for sheep

grazing

grazing.

For while in the wet seasons cattle will do well in the Northern part of the district, much would be too wet for sheep, whereas the new area has properties which are well suited for them.

In conclusion I beg permission to reiterate my request that the Northern Reserve be surveyed; that the boundary be marked in a manner so plain and distinct that no mistake can be made by either white or black; and that a deed of possession be executed in favour of the tribe for the said Reserve.

I am prepared to recommend that an extra tax be levied on the tribe after these measures have been carried out which would vary such as to cover any

expenses entailed thereby.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble
servant,

L. S. Balfour

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Jan
37/50 6/08
E.A.P.

DRAFT

E.A.P. No. 554 H

Yr
Saddler

Not
14

MINUTE 24/10 1888

- Mr. Noall 2/10
- Mr. Ellis
- Mr. Just
- Mr. Anrobus
- Mr. Cox
- Sir G. Lucas
- Sir F. Hopwood
- Col. Seely
- The Earl of Crowe

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 477 of the 23rd of Sept. enclosing a report by Mr. Bagge on his tour of inspection in the northern part of the Masai Reserve.

I shall no doubt receive in due course, from Mr. Bagge a detailed statement of your views on the questions raised

2 dft

in Mr Bagge's memorandum
viz -

- 1 The addition of certain land to the Reserve
- 2 The subtraction from the Reserve of certain other land for the use of settlers.
- 3 The necessity for a more formal agreement with the tribes as to limits of the Reserve than that embodied in the ^{late} ~~Memorandum~~ ^{Donald Pleasants} ~~Memorandum~~ despatched ^{5th of 10/10} ~~to the~~ ^{to the} ~~Secretary~~ ^{Secretary} ~~of the~~ ^{of the} ~~Colonies~~ ^{Colonies} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~1904~~ ¹⁹⁰⁴.
- 4 The need for a survey of the Reserve
- 5 The question of additional taxation.

I have to request that a map of the Reserve may be sent with your report

Mr Noall 29/10

Mr Ellis 29/10

Return's after

(in original)

Ind.

31 Oct '08

The U.S.P.S for the Colonies presents his compliments to the Director of Military Operations and begs to transmit for his ~~own~~ personal return, the accompanying despatch from the Gen of the E.A.P. enclosing a report by Mr S.S. Bagge on a tour of inspection in the northern part of the Massey Reserve.

Dawson Street
Wellington