

DOMESTIC

EAST AFR. PROT.

CO
12752

Recd
APR 15 1909

12952

that any excess of
authorized expenditure

the year

I propose to allow the
question of policy

frontier with additional
to stand near

I have had an
opportunity of discussing

the matter personally
with Major Juyon in
return to other

country

of Individual

1909

14 April

Previous Paper

2118

Abyssinian Boundary

Send despatch from Adis Ababa enclosing one from
Major Juyon resp. modification of boundary line
+ movements of the Zophoro

Put by
at once
H. J. R.
21/IV

C O
12752
R.C.O.
Recd 15 APR 09

In any further communication on this subject, please quote

No. 12621
and address 09
The Under-Secretary of State,
Foreign Office,
London.

The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents
his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for the
Colonies and, by direction of the Secretary of State,
transmits herewith copy of the under-mentioned paper.

Foreign Office,
April 14, 1909

70
4496
11314

Reference to previous letter:
70 No 8184 March 3
+ 70 No 10661 April 1

Description of Inclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
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Lord H. Hervey
17/0 16
March 12

Delimitation of
S. Frontier - Abyssinia

(copy has been sent to the Director of Military Operations)

173
C. O.
12752

BRITISH LEGATION,
ADIS ABABA.

RECEIVED APR 06

12th March, 1909.

Sir:-

I have the honour to transmit a copy of Major Gwynn's despatch of February 9th from Gobso. From this report, and additional information I have received, it appears that the frontier line as marked on the Treaty Map West of Gebel Burroli is an impossible one; there is no water in the dry season for 110 miles, and communications could not be kept up along it. Major Gwynn was unable to annex any further pieces of Abyssinian territory, as there was nothing to offer in exchange.

I telegraphed on the 1st March that Major Gwynn considered it advisable that Mr. Zaphiro should meet him here to discuss matters about the end of April, but as there is no reliable person on the frontier who could be left in charge, it seems an unfortunate moment to withdraw all show of protection; and as I am shortly expecting a full report embodying the Inspector's

views

Edward Grey, Bart., M.P.

&c., &c., &c.

views, I have instructed him to remain unless I receive your instructions to the contrary.

Mr. Schubert, the Commissioner appointed by the Abyssinians, is still here, and I am unable to say when he will start. In view of the fact that Major Gwynn will be returning to Adis Ababa before long, I have suggested the advisability of his awaiting his arrival, and have also represented to the Abyssinian Government how much more satisfactory it would be if he were able to confer with Major Gwynn before proceeding to the frontier.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

Herbert Hervey.

C. O.
12752REC'D
REGD 15 APR 09

GOBSO (N.E. OF GORAI).

February 9th, 1909.

180

Sir:-

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your private communication of the 11th January 1909, informing me of the possible appointment of a German gentleman as Abyssinian Commissioner. I have had several reports to the effect that the Abyssinian Commissioners are on their way to the Frontier and have arrived in Sidamo but I have received no communication from an Abyssinian Officer. In any case they cannot possibly arrive in time to do any work.

You will have received reports from Mr. Zaphiro as to the movement of Abyssinian troops to the Frontier with the ostensible object of breaking up the bands of Abyssinian elephant hunters. In consequence of these movements I did not feel justified in taking Mr. Zaphiro from the Boran section of the Frontier and I have consequently instructed him to return to Moyale. I have carried out the beaconing of the Frontier as far

Britannic Majesty's Minister,
Adis Ababa.

C. O.
12752
RECORDED
REGD 15 APR 09

GOBSO (N.E. OF GORAI)

February 8th, 1909.

180

Sir:-

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your private communication of the 11th January 1909, informing me of the possible appointment of a German gentleman as Abyssinian Commissioner. I have had several reports to the effect that the Abyssinian Commissioners are on their way to the Frontier and have arrived in Sidamo but I have received no communication from an Abyssinian Officer. In any case they cannot possibly arrive in time to do any work.

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Britannic Majesty's Minister,
Adis Ababa.

far as G. Burroli but from that point westwards I did not feel justified in making any more artificial marks which might commit us to an impossible Frontier line and which would be of no practical utility. I have contented myself therefore with selecting natural features easy to recognise and correctly charted which would form the boundary mark.

I propose to recommend that an endeavour should be made to obtain from the Emperor a more favourable line in this region which would entail a modification of the treaty line quite beyond the scope of my authority.

I have also selected and charted points on the alternative line. I endeavoured to arrange a meeting with Fitaurari Woldi of Gardula who with his army was about a day's march from here. He, however, evidently is desirous to avoid meeting me and sent an excuse for not coming. I shall not make any further effort to get into direct communication with these Frontier Officers as this is the third failure I have had and each involved expenditure of time.

I hope to reach Lake Ruder by the end of the month and be able to carry out the survey of this sec-

section of the Frontier between the Lake and the Akobo
River returning to Adis Ababa through Kaffa.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) C. W. Gwynn, Major.

Anglo-Abyssinian Boundary Commission.