

1911

## EAST AFR. PROT.

3419

3419

2 Feb.

Date.

1911

2 Feb.

Last previous Paper.

2803  
10-11

M.J.

## Military Situation in E. Africa.

Memo by Inspector Kad, with minutes recording discussion with military officers. Proposals recommended.  
 1. 9<sup>th</sup> Bn. Kad to be recruited up to 8 companies, of which  
    to the present to be on the frontier & 2 at Nairobi. (2) All  
    the Nyasaland troops to be returned to Nyasaland & Kad Prot.  
    to furnish garrison of 2 Co. at Zanzibar for so long as necessary.

Mr Fiddes.

The Secretary of State has now approved in principle of the suggestion that the East Africa Protectorate should have only one battalion (of 8 companies for the present) of the King's African Rifles stationed in it (of eight Companies for the present) and should be relieved of the duty of garrisoning Zanzibar. It now becomes necessary to send instructions to the Governor. This will, I presume, take the form of an intimation that the Secretary of State approves of this arrangement, and that two more Companies should therefore be recruited so as to bring the third battalion up to a strength of eight Companies by May, when the second battalion is due to return to Nyasaland.

It is absolutely necessary at the same time to consider the arrangements to be made by Nyasaland. Unless

this

(35,419). WH. 28,052-60.  
40,000. 11/10 A.G.B.W.

1623/kuk

Next subsequent Paper

this is done, Nyasaland will find herself saddled with the presence and expense of two battalions (eight Companies) instead of one battalion (four Companies) as at present, and will only be able to get rid of two Companies of the extra <sup>four</sup> Companies in garrisoning Zanzibar. That is, she will be burdened with six Companies permanently instead of four. It was admitted by the Committee which sat to consider the military question in July last (see paragraphs 22 and 23 of their report, 24641/10), that the needs of Nyasaland herself would be met by two Companies, the Indian contingent of 75, and the Reserve which has been formed in Nyasaland and did so well in Somaliland. It will thus be seen that two of the Companies already in Nyasaland are surplus to <sup>her</sup> requirements and are only maintained as a reserve force for the East Africa Protectorates generally. The effect of returning the <sup>two</sup> battalions from the East Africa Protectorate would thus be, not only to perpetuate, but seriously to increase the burden already imposed upon Nyasaland of keeping up a reserve for the other Protectorates.

The logical way out of the difficulty appears to be to disband one of the two Nyasaland battalions outright. (Some of the officers and men might conceivably be taken over by the East Africa Protectorate to form the two new Companies of the third battalion). Nyasaland would then be left with one battalion of four Companies, two Companies of which, with the Indian contingent, would garrison Nyasaland, while the other two Companies would garrison Zanzibar and would be paid for from Zanzibar funds. This would mean a relief of something like £10,000 a year to Nyasaland, a relief which is badly wanted.

If

If this course is agreed to, the arrangements should be put to the Governor of the East Africa Protectorate and the Governor of Nyasaland as the outline of the procedure to be followed, and they should be instructed to set about arranging all details with one another direct. It will be necessary to inform the Foreign Office of the proposal to garrison Zanzibar from Nyasaland instead of from the East Africa Protectorate in future. Colonel Thesiger should be at once informed of the whole arrangement, and should advise us to the absorption of the officers of the Nyasaland battalion which is to be disbanded and on any other points which may occur to him as demanding special consideration.

F.G.A.B. 4 Feb.

See the attached memo by Col. Thesiger, written before the interview with Col. Seely, & it deals with the question of officers, on which Col. Seely asked Col. Thesiger to let him have his views. See also the attached note from Col. Thesiger, dated the 5<sup>th</sup> inst.

F.G.A.B.  
Feb 6

W. Butcher

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Cat. Sanger, W. Butcher &c  
have been discussing the steps to be  
taken in consequence of the decision  
recently arrived at with regard to  
the new military arrangements for the

E.A.P. The ~~2nd~~ 2<sup>nd</sup> Batt. E.A.R. is  
~~now~~ due to return to Nyasaland in  
April or May, + the relief batt.  
(1<sup>st</sup> Batt. E.A.R.) is due to leave  
Nyasaland at the same time. The  
necessary shipping arrangements are  
now being made by the C.A., so  
that immediate action is required.

The first thing to be done is to  
cancel the arrangements for sending  
the 1<sup>st</sup> Batt. to the E.A.P. - the  
arrangement for sending back the  
2<sup>nd</sup> Batt. must, of course, stand.  
We should communicate with the C.A.  
at once as to the shipping arrangements  
+ I submit 2 Q.F. tbs which have  
been prepared by W. Butcher with a view

view to clearing up certain points.  
Col. Springer comes in the tel. <sup>8/28/84</sup>  
to Nyoland, but, with regard to  
the Dft. tel. to the S.A.P., denies to  
submit the accompanying memo; and  
alternatively Dft. this, as he was  
unable to develop his views fully  
at the recent meeting w/ Col.  
Seely's room.

The difficulty <sup>now</sup> seems to be to  
make satisfactory arrangements for the  
garrisoning of Gibraltar, but it should  
be remembered that we are under  
no pledge to garrison Gibraltar &  
could easily meet in that fort  
making it our arrangement, & further  
that if the worst comes to the  
worst, we could garrison it <sup>now</sup>  
with S.A.P. Police & instead of K.A.R.  
as of course <sup>now</sup> much <sup>more</sup> asked us to  
send the two companies of K.A.R. to  
replace them unreliable police. It might  
be argued that it is better for  
~~us~~ <sup>preferably</sup> us to have

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two companies of H.A.R. - that  
Jangibas work as they could be utilized in  
case of trouble - the S.A.P., but on the  
other hand his P. provision has assumed  
so that the S.A.P. Police are as good  
material as the H.A.R.

H.A.R.

11/2.

Col Seely

Mr Harries

1) The El. Leewitt, drafted S.A.(d)

Message will hardly do. it reopens a  
question w. which I understand, is decided.

2) Nine-tenths of the difficulties suggested  
as a consequence of the decision arise from  
our providing a garrison for Jangibas.  
I think it would be far better to make a clean  
sweep of the whole business of cutting  
ourselves adrift from the Settlement  
up to now the arrangement has been of mutual  
advantage: in the altered conditions I don't  
see where we come in.

We are pledged to keep up the Garrison,  
as I understand, till the end of June. I  
will write to D.O. explaining the altered circumstances  
so that we cannot force a garrison  
after June. (Immediately, the new force)

to grant it of the future adm' of Zanzibar),  
I wd. beg you to let R. know & ask him  
if he can arrange for the retention <sup>in Zanzibar</sup> until  
the end of June of the two boys who are  
(apparently) due for their release by  
April. We may or will have this on the  
fire, & it is one of the results of his policy, &  
he is the person we can do it with easiest.  
It wouldn't require much matter if a portion  
of the one is sold & a tiny sum discharged,  
& if necessary a small bonus might even  
be given.

If this is done it seems the better  
have a fairly straight run home.

If this is agreed, let the legation  
submit it to the dept. & be advised  
according.

P.M. 1372

Mr. Harcourt

I agree with Mr. Fiddes, with whom I  
have discussed the matter, and think we  
may act as he proposes.

85.  
13.2.

I agree also

Feb. 14. 2. 11

Mr. Butler

It is true that I agreed that 6 companies would suffice to garrison the frontier providing one of those was a mounted (muli) company in addition to the present Cavalry Company, but it must be clearly understood that in the event of trouble very few of these troops could be used in their proper role i.e. a mobile striking force, and that if we are required to put in the field a striking force of 400 men we could not do so without calling upon aid from elsewhere. In this I understand Sir P. Giraud agreed. If the part <sup>is</sup> satisfied with this arrangement then we can do with the eight companies.

We must now consider the question in detail. It is proposed to raise 12<sup>o</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Batt<sup>t</sup> to a strength of 8 companies and as the

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Ugandan Company will almost certainly be disbanded or at any rate the larger proportion of them, this will mean the raising of three companies in addition to the ordinary, consisting of recruiting in the present year 200 Sudanese who are fit for discharge. During the last five or six years the greatest difficulty has been experienced in even keeping up the 3rd Battalion to its present establishment, and as regards the Sudanese recruits who are the only really fit and fighting material, they can practically be eliminated. As a special favour the Sudan is allowing us to 100 if we can obtain 100 for Uganda and East Africa; it is however very doubtful if our troops are sufficiently good to attract the men; the Egyptian Staff say

they are not. We have at the present time 3 Companies Sudanese, 1 Mixed Company, 1 Company Natives, 1 Company Abyssinians. So have more than half of Abyssinians. The latter composed of boys whose fighting qualifications are entirely unproved appear to me to be among a very grave risk. We have tried a Massai Company and they have failed, and had to be disbanded. Presupposing however that the eight companies can be raised, and on this point Sir P. Giraud has no fear; it must necessarily take time to get these unless we are prepared to accept a very much lower standard than we have hitherto done, and after we have obtained them it will take nine months to a year to train them, even if we had an adequate staff of instructors.

In my other letter we shall have

5

give companies to do the work of  
eight -

We now come to the question of  
the garrison of Tengizla. To garrison  
it from Myasa appears to me not  
only unsafe in Myasa but also  
a very costly way of doing it.  
From Nairobi the troops can be  
sent over in about 36 hours; from  
Lambat it took me 14 days and  
troops would probably take longer.  
Troops at Tengizla should be relieved  
every six months or so otherwise  
they will suffer severely in  
health.

In three years the two companies  
should be relieved about 5  
times and this would cost  
considerably more than the  
three yearly relief of the 4  
companies from Myasa to E.A.P.

since writing  
this I learnt  
Sgt Major  
for the comp  
cost of rel  
from E.A.P.  
Myasa -

As regards the immediate disbandment  
of the 2<sup>d</sup> B<sup>r</sup>, it is obvious that  
sudden and unlooked for disbandments  
cannot be effected without inflicting  
certain unavoidable hardships on  
officers and men. As an example  
I will take two specific instances -  
Major Ward in the 2<sup>d</sup> B<sup>r</sup> came as  
Company Commander from the disbanded  
6<sup>th</sup> B<sup>r</sup> with a view to command  
in fact his recommendation has  
already been forwarded by me to  
the Govt. By having among the  
enlisted 248 per annum, the  
difference in pay between 2<sup>d</sup> B<sup>r</sup>  
Command and 6<sup>th</sup> B<sup>r</sup> and Company  
Commander 2<sup>d</sup> B<sup>r</sup> -

The present Sgt Major was appointed  
last year, had he stayed in his  
Batt<sup>r</sup> I have reason to believe that  
he would have stood a very good  
chance of being a Warrant Officer  
by now. I am afraid that the sudden

detachment of two Battalions within  
a year will have a most  
disturbing effect upon recruiting  
as well as in those now serving.

By disbanding the 2<sup>d</sup> B: a whole  
cadre is destroyed which has  
taken several years hard work to  
build up and you than ever  
trained gunners signallers and  
N.C.O.s who take a very long  
time to train.

According to Mr. Bullock's minute  
he appears to contemplate the  
reduction of two companies in  
Nyasaland. I expect I cannot  
concur in this proposal, not  
on Nyasaland's account but  
looking at the East African  
protectionates as a whole.

In 1906 the Colonial Defence  
Committee laid down that  
"the strength of the Colonial  
force should be fixed at  
the minimum force required  
to insure the maintenance  
of internal order and to deal  
with seditious of the native  
population" looking at the  
general situation throughout  
East Africa and to the possibility  
of a sedition of the Indian  
people and I consider we are  
now down in less order, and  
this view was taken by the  
Committee which set to consider

The military situation as lately

as July 1910 —

How then are we to meet the  
situation which has arisen  
and reduce expenditure in  
B.A.P. with the smallest amount  
of friction, ~~and~~ and loss of  
efficiency?

I would suggest for consideration  
the following proposal.

1. That the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>d</sup> Battalions  
should be merged into one  
Battalion of 8 Companies
2. That four of these companies  
should be sent to  
East Africa in the same  
way as an Indian contingent  
is now sent to Uganda  
and Nyasaland.
3. That after the present C.O.S.  
time is up (Colonel Stevens)  
the four companies would  
be commanded by a Major  
2<sup>d</sup> in command.
4. By this merging the  
question of the two C.O.S.  
would eventually be  
got over i.e. one would

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disappear.

The Adjutant and Pay master would  
disappear and consequently a certain  
amount of clerks.

5. The 3<sup>d</sup> B<sup>d</sup> would be cut off if  
they could raise the necessary  
men and if successful no paymaster  
could be gradually disbanded.  
When the Indian contingent is  
due to leave Uganda, I feel sure  
you will be told me  
that they would only be  
too glad to take over some  
Native troops.

By this means you would  
effect the following almost  
immediate reductions

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| 2 <sup>d</sup> in Command &<br>place of Pay master | \$          |
| 4844 - 698   | = 148       |
| Adjutant   | 496         |
| Pay master   | 320         |
| Band 3 <sup>d</sup> not<br>needed                  | 647         |
|  | <u>1811</u> |

I have included no reduction for clerks  
as it is not possible at present to guess  
(

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what can be done.

This Memorandum was written before  
my second interview with General  
Secty, and is not intended in  
any way to try and mark behind  
the policy already laid down,  
but is an expression of my  
views which I would wish to  
have put forward either at or  
after the first conference had  
that been time.

4117 Feb 7<sup>th</sup>

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after the first conference had  
been held.

4117 Feb 7<sup>th</sup>

[  
Drafted by Col. Thesiger (or an alternative  
in view of his absence) 9th Feb:  
attached to the paper. N.Y.C. ] 91

DRAFT. Telegram (cypher)

Jackson  
Nairobi

MINUTE.

Col. Thesiger Feb 11.

Mr.

Mr. Fiddes. See minute

Mr. Just.

Mr. Cox.

Sir C. Lucas.

Col. Seely.

Mr. Harcourt.

I agree with Mr. Fiddes  
that this draft will not do.

Communicate this to  
Girard ~~immediately~~  
as soon as possible  
you satisfied that you  
can recruit locally up to  
eight full companies  
of good fighting material  
stop have you sufficient  
staff to train these men  
stop during time which  
will elapse before these  
men are fully trained  
is safety of country

adequately met by  
present fire  
companies excluding  
Alyxianians stop

~~for arming garrisoning first  
and second Battalions  
and attacking force  
companies of the amalgamated  
battalion under a major  
to the 3rd Battalion and  
abolishing band a  
sacrifice of approximately  
£1600 a year could be  
effected stop would~~

Unit

25

You consider this

~~alternative~~ And

Colonel Grey told me to get out a comparative statement of the cost of sending troops from East Africa to Zanzibar, and from my account to Zanzibar I have been able to the former Agents and compare with them.

Without going to East Africa there appears no means of finding out the actual cost of sending troops from Nairobi to Zanzibar; they of course use the Government Railway; and are taken from Mombasa by the Sultan's ship. The actual cost of transport from Chinde to Zanzibar based on the estimate lately given by the Heron Castle Company for the relief of the 2<sup>d</sup> B<sup>d</sup> by the 1<sup>st</sup> is as under:

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Officers                                       | 45 - 15 - 0 |
| Soldiers &c                                    | 4 - 0 - 0   |
| Followers                                      | 4 - 0 - 0   |
| Women  | 3 - 10 - 0  |
| Children &c                                    |             |
| the rate for women<br>up to 15 years of<br>age |             |

The approximate cost therefore of returning  
two companies from Phinde to Zanzibar  
would be

| £                                | £                           |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 45 Officers at 15 - 15           | = 63                        |
| 200 Soldiers                     | = 800                       |
| say 8 Followers                  | = 32                        |
| say 150 Africans                 | = 525                       |
| say 150 Children<br>at 20/- each | = <u>150</u><br><u>1570</u> |
| 1570 x 2 =                       | £ 3140                      |

To this must be added the cost of  
a return journey from Blantyre to  
Port Herald, and vice journey from  
Port Herald to Phinde. This we should have to  
allow from Nyasa.  
The Sultan's ship the Cupid is only 330 tons  
and can carry 600 deck passengers for  
short voyages of a day or two.

It must be remembered that the  
estimate of the former Agents with  
the Native partie is for a larger  
number of men than we should be  
sending, i.e. 2 Battalions <sup>each way</sup> as against  
two companies <sup>each way</sup> so the cost might easily be greater.  
I shall telegraph for the cost to  
O.A.G. Nyasa + E.A.P.

4/117 Feb 13/11

Frieder.

W. F. Reade

It looks very much as if  
the cost of garrisoning Zanzibar from

Nyasaland, soon at intervals of  
six or seven months, would be  
prohibitive. I do not think it is worth <sup>93</sup>  
while making further enquiry until  
we get the replies to the telegrams  
to Nyasaland & the G.A.P. on the  
existing situation which we drafted  
& sent on on Saturday.

2ab

Feb 13

I agree with Mr Butler.

H J H

13/II

M. W. Harcourt

C. O  
3413

94

I have today had a discussion about military matters in East Africa with Mr. Kirkpatrick, Col. Thesiger, and Col. P. Girod. Mr. Fiddes and other members of the Department were present. It seemed quite clear as a result of our conversation that it was desirable to have only one battalion of the King's African Rifles in the East Africa Protectorate. Apart from a saving in cost of from £4000 to £5000 a year there would be an increase in efficiency, other things being equal, by having only one Commanding Officer instead of two.

At present there are 800 men in all, 600 of the (East African) 3<sup>rd</sup> Batt<sup>n</sup> and 200 of the Nyasaland Batt<sup>n</sup>. Of these 8 companies, 3 companies are on the frontier (from <sup>mouth of the</sup> Lake Rudolf to <sup>the</sup> Juba River) 4 are at Nairobi, and two half companies are on guard duty.

As regards the composition of the battalions, Col. Thesiger suggested that the Nyasaland men were far superior to those recruited in East Africa, but neither the Governor nor Col. Kirkpatrick agreed with him in this view. But even supposing it to be

second, the fact that only 200 out of the 800 troops are from Nyasaland makes it a matter of no sufficient importance to outweigh the considerations of economy and efficiency.

Both Col. Thesiger and Col. Kirkpatrick agreed that there should be 6 companies on the frontier and that this would be sufficient, but of the present East African Battalion remained at 6 companies this could have nothing over for Nairobi. Sir P. Girouard thought that 200 police could do as well as 2 companies of E.A.P. troops at Nairobi, but in deference to military advice was prepared to take the military advice was prepared to take the 2 companies and raise the Battalion to 8 companies.

I therefore recommend that the following arrangements should be carried out:-

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion to be recruited up to 8 companies (with the corresponding complement of which for the present 6 would be on the frontier and 2 at Nairobi. All the Nyasaland troops to be returned to Nyasaland, and that Protectorate to furnish the garrison of two companies at Zangibar so long as this is considered necessary. I should add that in

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my judgment these proposals are  
more than adequate; but in view of  
Menzel's illness it is perhaps as well  
not to make any reduction in the total  
number of troops in the East Africa  
Protectorate.

W.  
31.11

H. 1 - 11

2 2811

## Military Situation in East Africa

Ioland

1. During the last year or eighteen months  
local opinion both civil and military  
has undoubtedly changed, especially  
the likelihood of a serious rising  
in Ioland. We have come more  
in contact with the Chiefs and  
a widespread combination of the  
principal tribes against us appears  
most unlikely.

Our latest information regarding the  
most important tribes and leaders  
is as follows:

A. The Mahomed Dulcey 5000 are  
as far as can be foreseen favourable  
inclined to the Government

Ahmed Margan the headstrong Sultan  
of the Ogaden has been reinstated  
in Government employ and has  
been doing well. He is however  
spoken of as a weak man.

Abdi Salan a man who has sprung  
from nothing, was put in his  
position by Government. He has  
now influence and would support  
the Government -

Ali Jibril a paid government Agent  
Probably a fool.

Ali Aldi Liban and Omar Aldi Liban

Sons of Aldi Liban deceased, rich and  
possess influence. It would not  
pay them to make trouble. They are  
reported as shaping well.

"B" The Aulibans (3000) Are no friends of  
the government and if they saw  
a chance would probably go against  
us. They are unfriendly to the  
Mahomed Zuleir and have had  
disputes and some fighting with  
the Marchan.

Haji Abdurrahman Mursal is a clever  
and strong man and is now a  
Government Agent at Serendip. Would  
side with us as far as his people  
would allow him.

Dualla Ali Chief of the Aulibans of  
the Wana. Is not to be relied  
upon -

"C" Ald Wah (1000) Unfriendly to the  
Government and would probably  
go against us if they saw a  
good chance -

Hassan Andel Has been giving trouble  
and has been interfering against  
the base of chf Samboul who  
has given up and seems a good  
lad.

"D" Moghal-l (500) Are far as general their  
chief Sheik Egalleh Hassan is  
a shrewd sensible old man -

"E" The Abdallah (1000) are not favourable  
to us. They have been having trouble  
lately with the Mohammed Zubair

"F" Little is known of The Marchan and  
the Somalis at Geyda, the former  
are reported to be 4000 strong and  
to have 1000 rifles, but the information  
is very vague. It is however certain  
that rifles have gone in being imported  
for some considerable time. All authorities  
are agreed that the Marchan must be  
discussed. It seems to be the opinion  
in good places that they will give  
up their rifles without fighting.  
Judging from our past experience of  
+ our isolated opinions of The Marchan  
Somalis should think this most  
unlikely, unless they can sufficient  
force at hand to make resistance  
useless. Somalis who give up to us

much as two cans for a rifle are scarcely likely to be sufficient, into giving them up. If they might and probably would cross over into Italian territory.

The Rer Affab are an Amhara tribe who have crossed over and are still crossing the river above Lash. They have had fighting with the Marchan. They have horses and some 400 rifles.

2. Although therefore widespread trouble is inevitable, (though given the leaders and a wave of fanaticism by no means impossible) it would be difficult to ignore the fact that once we start administering the country, disarming tribes, and adjusting tribal disputes we may have to undertake punitive expeditions employing say 500 men or even more.

In 1896 we employed over 700 men against the Ogaden Somalis afterwards reinforced by over 400 men.

In 1900 we employed some 1500 men, cavalry and artillery, against Afarada, and accomplished very little -

Unless we are prepared to deal quickly and effectively the risks of trouble spreading are greatly increased. It must be remembered

with which the Somalis will welcome our administration comes from somewhat tainted sources, inasmuch as it is given by men and others who if not directly in our pay are largely interested in us. However, Mr. Stone  
 Somalia has shown that those who are prepared to belong to our control and interfere so long as it pays them, but if it runs counter to what they consider their interests they quickly turn round, and even if not actively hostile become purely so.  
 I would therefore wait string by string  
 that before doing my thing else, we establish our posts, put them in a state of defence and get our supply and transport arrangements into working order; then if anything happens we shall be in a position to deal with it. It is also quite possible that by being prepared we may avoid trouble altogether.

### 3. The posts I would recommend as a start are:

Yonki - Golwen - Afmada - Serenti - Dolo  
 The question next arises in what strength should these posts be held. This will depend on the following factors.

- (a) On the strength of the whole force it is decided to keep up. Our present force in E.A.P. consists of 8 companies (including the Canal Company). Out of

This force we have at present what may be called actively employed two and a half companies, i.e. half a company at M'Kulat, Turkwell and Moyale, and the Camel Company at Serale and Moyale. This gives us 5½ companies to play with, of which one (the Abyssinians) cannot be employed for obvious reasons, in the first instance.

It can scarcely be contemplated to effectively control 400 miles of frontier and an additional 100,000 sq. miles of territory without some addition to our present force. Although we have now been <sup>for</sup> over a year by way of taking over this new territory, I have never seen this question fairly faced or any estimate put forward as to what expense will be entailed.

(b) The posts which finally decided on must be held in sufficient strength to allow of their holding them own until reinforced, and at certain places such as Afmado, Yanti-Dalo and possibly Scronti there must be a force capable of taking the field.

(c) Subject to the above limitations it is undesirable to keep a larger force than

7

is absolutely necessary away at such 102  
station owing to the extreme difficulties  
of supply and transport, health and  
training -

What then are the forces required

Afmodu Although the importance of this  
place may not be as great here as  
has been considered hitherto, since from  
our latest reports it appears that the  
Gowdis have not been there for the  
last two years and the wells are  
filled up, it is still a place of  
considerable strategical importance. By  
occupying it we shall be in rear of  
the Somalis at the Doshet Nama and  
with a mobile force we could control a  
large area. I would suggest half a  
company of Infantry as the permanent  
garrison, and the Camel Corps as the  
Mobile Force. Afmodu is 70 miles  
from Yanti, 30-35 miles waterless -  
When occupied it should be put in a  
state of defence, at least three months  
supplies collected there and the road to  
Yanti improved. A field battery would be  
a useful addition -

Yanti as at present would be the Headquarters  
though I should prefer to have a  
larger force. I am afraid one and a  
half companies are the most we  
can spare. This would normally give  
a company to take the field.

Golwan would be nearly the Depot for 103  
 Camel and Mule Company, a few  
 infantry would be required there as  
 at present they could be furnished  
 from Srinagar.

Serant Half a company of infantry. This  
 place is approximately 200 miles  
 from Yantti. Ordinarily speaking  
 the river is not navigable from  
 December to April. In the event of  
 operations against the Mughals  
 it would probably from the advanced  
 base for the troops operating from  
 the river.

Dala One company of infantry. The N.E  
 corner from Dala - Serant is now  
 the most likely place for trouble  
 to occur, there are many turbulent  
 spirits constantly crossing over  
 from the Italian side trying to  
 stir up our tribes. West of this  
 line are the Mughals. Eventually  
 it may be found that there is  
 some place further south than  
 Dala which would be more  
 suitable -

The distance from Serant to Dala  
 is roughly 130 miles.  
 The river is not navigable.  
 We have no information about the  
 place itself -

1

4. Turning now to the Northern Frontier <sup>District</sup> or to be more accurate that portion of the Abyssinian border line which runs from Dalo - Mayale.

Administrative officers with a few soldiers have now been there for over a year. The policy I think deserves is one of observation only and the troops are to be suspended as personal escort to the civil officials. The difficulties of maintaining such a policy are obvious and both Captain Bennett and Mr Hope, the civil officials, have pointed out the difficulty of acting on the lines of Mr Zephania and his irregulars, viz a policy of bluff without committing the Government. Mr Hope in asking for more troops to be sent (Jan 1911) has stated that the tribes are getting more and more dissatisfied with our powerlessness to enforce our demands, or stop raids by their neighbours. The maintenance of such an attitude cannot but fail to damage our prestige not alone with the tribes themselves, but also with the Abyssinians and the Somalis. The longer such a situation continues the greater is the danger of trouble arising.

5. The distance from Moyale - Dala is 20 days by mack or baulan camel  
12 days by riding camel or 260 miles approximately.

With half a company at Moyale and  
half a company at Juba, which is  
about midway between Moyale and  
Dala, we should find small but  
under the circumstances sufficiently  
large posts from which to patrol  
the country both east and west  
and also to the south.

This patrolling should be done by  
a mule company which should be  
fitted for the purpose. Such a  
company would be far more efficient  
and in the long run more economical  
than giving out a certain number of  
mules to whatever troops are there.

A mule company requires training and  
looking after and the officers must be  
selected so that they can teach the  
men. We could I understand purchase  
mules up there & they would soon  
be in every way most suitable. We  
should require 5 sections of 25 men;  
4 in the field and one for the Depot.  
The question of enlisting some of the  
best men of the late 6<sup>th</sup> Batt should  
be considered —

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 6 | We have now disposed of the following troops |
|   | Moyale and Isua One company                  |
|   | Data One company                             |
|   | Data - Moyale One company (Mukulu)           |
|   | Sembabu Half company                         |
|   | Yonki One & half companies                   |
|   | Nairobi One & half companies (Family)        |

This makes a total of  $6\frac{1}{2}$  companies and with M'Kulal and Turkwell  $7\frac{1}{2}$  companies

7. The question of relief is a most difficult one. It is further complicated by the fact that we do not at present know what resources these posts have, and how far it will be possible to send the women there. In any case you cannot keep troops indefinitely at such places as M'Kulal and Moyale. They must also be trained and the mounted troops cannot be kept indefinitely patrolling the two companies garrisoning Zanzibar must be relieved every six months or so on account of the climate. I should be strongly opposed to the Ng'akal and Balli permanently finding the garrisons each Balli should take its turn as has been the custom hitherto.
- We have at present available for relief according to the above scheme  $1\frac{1}{2}$  companies at Yonki and over  $1\frac{1}{2}$  companies at Nairobi.

- 12
8. At Nairobi we must keep the "chief  
for the Kibab Detachment" and we  
ought in my opinion to have a company  
available for such affairs as the recent  
Turkwell patrols.
9. For the present and until matters are  
somewhat clearer I would suggest  
sending the Headquarters of the  
1<sup>st</sup> Batt<sup>t</sup> to garrison Jelalabad  
and the Northern Frontiers; but  
I would keep at Nairobi the  
recruits, sick and the half company  
of this Batt<sup>t</sup> which we have  
available, and they would only  
take such stores etc as we actually  
required. They would in fact go  
on an active service scale.
- I would suggest forming a Depot  
company with a small establishment  
say 50 which could be commanded  
by a subaltern as I would leave  
the 2<sup>d</sup> in command at Nairobi—  
We should then have the following  
distribution when the 1<sup>st</sup> Batt<sup>t</sup> comes  
in May—
- |                          | 6 <sup>th</sup> Regt 3 <sup>d</sup> B <sup>t</sup>                     |
|--------------------------|--|
| Jelalabad + N. Frontiers | 1 <sup>½</sup> Cos 2 <sup>d</sup> B <sup>t</sup> includes<br>Depot Cos |
| Nairobi                  | 2 Cos 1 <sup>st</sup> B <sup>t</sup>                                   |
| Zanzibar                 | 1 Cos 1 <sup>st</sup> B <sup>t</sup>                                   |
| Turkwell + Mikubal       | 1 Cos 1 <sup>st</sup> B <sup>t</sup>                                   |
|                          | 1 Cos 1 <sup>st</sup> B <sup>t</sup> including                         |

The expense of the Depot Company would be nearly if not entirely met by the savings in the Band #647. A Band would of course not be required in Sibaland -

10. It is absolutely essential that a proper organized transport should be formed immediately. Even if it is not proposed to send another man to the frontier, such a scheme is necessary. When I was inspecting in Sibaland there was absolutely no transport in the country. To such a pitch had they been reduced that in Sibaland, and I believe also on the Moyale route they had actually been using riding camels to transport stores. I would recommend that a transport officer and N.C.O. be sent out to organize the transport both in Sibaland and Moyale. The annual expenditure would be approximately 3500 a year. In a scheme drawn out by Lt. Col. Macpherson he reckoned it at 900 per annum for the present garrison. This was hiring camels which we cannot apparently do. In a scheme

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worked out by Major Broadbent he calculated that if Mayale was supplied from Nairobi, & kept by arranged transport in S-labour would cost £3000 per caravan at a minimum.

The transport question is a most complicated one we do not know for certain the limit of the joly toll, and how far canals can be used in the rainy season. In going from Afmado to Serenli, the camel corps traversed 150 miles of waterless country through dense bush.

II. The question of offices is a most important one. It is not possible in my opinion to carry out the work with the present establishment. Take the posts which I propose at first the A. & B. should garrison

|  |          |                       |
|--|----------|-----------------------|
| At Mayale                              | 1 Office |                       |
| " Jana                                 | 1 "      |                       |
| " Dala                                 | 2        |                       |
| With Mule Corps<br>on Dala Mayale line | 2        |                       |
| At Serenli                             | 1        | This should be too    |
| " Afmado                               | 3        | ie 2 with Camel Corps |
| " Yanti                                | 3        |                       |
| " Golwan                               | 1        |                       |
| " Nairobi                              | 2        |                       |
| Total                                  | 16       |                       |

These numbers only refer to company officers  
and are a bare minimum.

Our present establishment is 16, out of  
which 4 at present are sick, 2 at  
home, 2 at Knobole.

During the present year there are also  
on leave 5 Captains & 2 Subalterns -  
It must be remembered that officers  
going on leave from frontier stations  
add on quite two months to their  
ordinary leave, during which they are  
unavailable for duty, i.e. the time  
taken up the road.

The minimum establishment that we  
can do with is I consider 3 Officers  
a company and one for the Depot  
Company. The Officer with the Depot  
Company I would call Assistant  
Adjutant & give him \$500 a year +  
\$48 duty pay.

This would give us an establishment  
of 22 Company Officers, this gives -  
practically no margin for sickness.

In my case something must be done  
I am not ~~sickly~~ sickly. When I left East Africa  
there was only 9 company officers  
available for duty -

12. I have endeavoured in the above scheme to outline what I consider are our minimum requirements for ordinary garrison work. That the situation even then will be entirely free from anxiety I do not think any military advice would maintain. Our force for active operations would take a considerable time to concentrate and we should almost certainly have to call on Uganda for help. No arrangements have been made for reliefs of mounted troops or for the necessary training. These are matters which must be worked out later. In writing this report I have consulted both Civil and Military authorities who should know the requirements best and although they may differ in details they are all agreed on the main principles i.e. that a larger force is required, that transport must be provided, that men officers are necessary.

f. Major General  
1st King African Rifles

January 15<sup>th</sup> 1911

16

12. I have endeavoured in the above scheme to outline what I consider are our minimum requirements for ordinary garrison work. That the situation even then will be entirely free from anxiety I do not think any military adviser would maintain. Our force for active operations would take a considerable time to concentrate and we should almost certainly have to call on Uganda for help. No arrangements have been made for reliefs of mounted troops or for the necessary training. These are matters which must be worked out later. In writing this report I have consulted both Civil and Military authorities who should know the requirements best and although they may differ in details they are all agreed on the main principles; i.e. that a large force is required, that transport must be provided, that men officers are unnecessary.

F. Thring Colonel  
1st King African Rifles

January 15<sup>th</sup> 1911

C.O.

E.A.P.

112

3419

Parahand off  
145 am  
11/11/10

16/2  
ET

DRAFT.

Telegram  
(Laffer)

Communicate this to

Jackson

Garrison immediately

Nairobi.

on arrival. Begins

MINUTE.

Mr. Butler. Feb. 15.

I approve of E.A.P.

Mr. Read. 15

being garrisoned in  
future by 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion  
of eight companies.

X Mr. Fiddes. 15

Presume you are  
satisfied that your  
military forces will be  
fully adequate between

Mr. Just.

Mr. Oox.

Sir C. Lucas.

Col. Seely.

Mr. Harcourt.

4 dft.

Departures of 2<sup>nd</sup>

Battalion and

completion of 3<sup>rd</sup>

Battalion etc eight

companies by local  
recruiting. On what  
date are 2<sup>nd</sup> Batt.  
due to leave?

I have given notice to  
Foreign Office that  
K.A.R. cannot supply  
Zanzibar garrison after  
June next. Can you  
arrange to retain  
in Zanzibar till end  
of June two companies  
now there? If

necessary small <sup>113</sup>

bonus might be offered  
to induce them to  
accept extension.

Congress boats  
have been requested  
to suspend registration  
for transports for 1<sup>st</sup>  
and 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalions  
for April May next  
pending their  
instructions.

C.O.

E.A.P.

114

3419

Paraffinase ciphered  
12.8 hr

Recd 2  
16/2

26

8 January

DRAFT Telegram with reference to my  
(cipher)

Manning. confidential despatch

Zomba (on 24th) of 13<sup>th</sup> September see  
MINUTE.

Mr. Butler Feb. 15.

Mr. Read 15

Mr. Fiddes. 15

Mr. Just.

Mr. Cox.

Sir C. Lucas.

Col. Seely.

Mr. Harcourt.

I have approved of  
proposal that E.A.P.

should be garrisoned  
only in future by 3<sup>n</sup>

Battalion of eight  
companies, and have  
given notice to Foreign  
office that K.A.R. cannot  
supply Janjira

4 diff.

garrison after June  
next. This makes at  
least one Nyasaland  
Battalion redundant.

Please inform me  
as fully as you can  
by telegraph <sup>on following</sup> by what  
points. (1) By what  
means and at what  
rate ~~you~~ could effect  
of one Battalion  
reduction (so as to  
involve as little  
hardship as possible  
to native rank and  
file and at the same  
time avoid undue  
expense. (2) What is  
in your opinion,  
strength and annual

115

cost of military force  
required by Nyasaland  
for solely for her own  
needs in the altered  
circumstances.

Crown Agents have  
been requested to  
suspend negotiations  
for & transport for  
1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalions  
in April May next  
pending further  
instructions.

C.O.  
3419 East Africa Pte.

Downing Street,

16 February, 1911.

DRAFT

THE CROWN AGENTS  
FOR THE COLONIES.

Gentlemen,

MINUTE.

Mr. Butler, Feb. 15th

Mr. Read 15

X Mr. Fiddes. 15

Mr. Just.

Mr. Cox.

Sir C. Lucas.

Sir F. Hopwood.

Col. Seely.  
Mr. Harcourt.  
Lord Crewe.

I am directed by Mr. Secretary

Harcourt to inform you that he understands

that, acting under instructions from the

Governments of the East Africa Protectorate

and Nyasaland, you are making arrangements

with the Union Castle Company for the return

of the 2nd Battalion of the King's African

Rifles from the East Africa Protectorate and

Zanzibar to Nyasaland in April and May next

and for their replacement in the East Africa

Protectorate and Zanzibar by the 1st Battalion

from

8

(2 drafts)

17/1 tel: Dispatched 1  
Recd 16/2

from Nyasaland.

*Approved of*

2. Mr. Harcourt has ~~under his con-~~  
sideration a rearrangement of the military  
forces of the East Africa Protectorate and  
Nyasaland which may result in an alteration  
of the dates at which the 2nd Battalion should  
*check*  
return to Nyasaland, and will in any case ren-  
der it unnecessary for the 1st Battalion to  
proceed to the East Africa Protectorate and  
Zanzibar. I am, therefore, to request that  
you will at once suspend all negotiations  
for the transport of the troops, and take  
no further action in the matter until you  
receive further instructions from this Office.

3. I am to enquire what is the latest date at which  
the arrangements with the Steamship Company  
should be completed if it were eventually de-  
termined that the 2nd Battalion should re-  
turn to Nyasaland on the dates originally  
fixed.

I am, &c.,

G. V. FIDDE

CC. 3419 East Africa Protectorate

*Pearson*  
Bennings Street,

16 February, 1911

DRAFT.

The Under Secretary of State,  
FOREIGN OFFICE.

Sir,

MINUTE.

Mr. Butler, Feb. 15th.

Mr. Read 15

Mr. Fiddes 15/2/11

Mr. Just 15/2/11

Mr. Cox 15/2/11

Sir C. Lucas.

Sir F. Hopwood.

Col. Seely.

Mr. Harcourt.

Lord Cromer.

With reference to your letter

(No. 170/2/10) of the 4th of June last

and the reply from this Office of the  
23rd of June, I am directed by Mr.

Secretary Harcourt to request you to

inform Secretary Sir E. Grey that he

has approved of a rearrangement of the  
military forces of the East Africa  
Protectorate and Nyasaland which makes

it necessary to reconsider the ~~suggested~~  
~~arrangements for the garrisoning of~~  
~~Zanzibar.~~

D. The

(4 drafts)

1911 Feb 16th 9.45 a.m.  
Recd 16/2

2. The effect of the rearrangement which has been approved is that henceforth the military force of the East Africa Protectorate shall consist of one Battalion (the 3rd) of the King's African Rifles comprising eight Companies, and that that Protectorate shall no longer be required to maintain a foreign service Battalion from Nyasaland. It will necessarily result <sup>from</sup> in this arrangement that one of the Nyasaland Battalions (the 1st or 2nd) will be redundant and will have to be abolished or reduced.

The eight Companies of the 3rd Battalion will be fully occupied with garrisoning the East Africa Protectorate itself, <sup>lengthwise</sup> and there will be no surplus available for garrisoning Zanzibar. The cost of <sup>apart from other considerations,</sup> garrisoning Zanzibar from Nyasaland would, it appears, be prohibitive owing to

the

the length of the land journey and the sea voyage involved and the frequency with which reliefs would have to be carried out. In these circumstances

Mr. Harcourt regrets that he sees no alternative but to terminate the arrangement by which the garrisoning of Zanzibar is at present furnished by a detachment of the King's African Rifles.

Rifles 3. It will be remembered that the present arrangement was obtained by mutual agreement for a period of

<sup>†</sup> It is clear from the marked enclosure in 7.0. 16957 that the 31<sup>st</sup> of March is the date, <sup>and</sup> the end of June; but we cannot very well suggest anything earlier than the end of June.

HAB

June last, His Majesty's Agent and Consul General at Zanzibar stipulated that it should be understood that, in the event of the agreement not being prolonged beyond the 31st of March next,

there  
angle

*should be allowed*

*there should be ample time to make*

other arrangements. Mr. Harcourt would

be glad to be informed at the earliest

possible date how long a period will

*required* : *allowing*  
be necessary for framing and carrying

out such arrangements as may be deemed

necessary for garrisoning Zanzibar

on the withdrawal of the detachment of

the King's African Rifles.

3.4. That detachment is at present

furnished by the 2nd Battalion, King's

African Rifles, which is due to return

to Nyasaland in April and May next.

Mr. Harcourt is enquiring of the

Governor of the East Africa Protectorate

*whether it is possible to induce the*

detachment to remain in Zanzibar until

*does not consider that*  
the end of June, but he doubts whether

*it will be possible to prolong their*

sojourn there beyond that date. He would,

*learn*  
therefore be glad to know that the Zanzibar

Government will be in a position to

dispense with the detachment by the

end of June *at the latest*

I am, &c.

DRAFT.