

EAST AFR. PROT

CO
19575

19575 ~~Secret~~

28 APR 15

Major Leggett

1915

April 27th

Last previous Paper.

~~NEIGHBOR~~
1915

Belgian Operations

Reports as to Belgian personnel for
Congo, as to mules as to
motor boats on Lake Kivu and as to
Belgian Batteries for Uganda frontier.

Mr. ~~W. K. ...~~
Mr. ~~Reed~~ Sir J. ~~Fielder~~

No action seems required on
this, except to send a copy
of the letter to W.O. for inf.
I wish the Belgians would
communicate on these points with
us, so that arrangements might
be made through the usual
channels. Most of the matters
concern the War Office rather
than ourselves & unless semi-
official communications from Major
Leggett, which are far from
current, should be the exception
and not the rule (see 4/10/15/s)

I write
you
R.S.L.

Copies to Mr. Leggett 3 ✓
Copies consp. to War Office 3 ✓

Next subsequent Paper

70
2019

? copy to W.O. (L.F.) 28/4/15

The only way we can stop this is to ask
70. to tell the Belgians not to use his
leg as a diplomatic channel.

It is interesting to know that the homogenized
business' accommodation expands on
pressure. It might have been desirable
after all to get some of the new U.S.R.
offices sent by the same boat, but Major
Loyd told us that it was "more than full".

W.L.L. 28/4/15

I think that we had better write
officially to the 70. with a view
to getting the matter placed on a
proper basis.

H. D. R.

28/4/15

I agree

W.L.L. 29.4.15

at once

W.L.L. 29.4.15

19575

British East Africa Corporation, Limited.

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Secretary:

F. T. PRESSLAND.

TELEPHONE: LONDON WALL 8176.

TELEGRAMS: TAAL AVE, LONDON.

CABLES: INCREASE, LONDON.

CODE

WESTERN UNION AND BROOMHALL'S COMBINATION

AND AT

MOBASA, NAIROBI, KIVU &

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE,

AND

KAMPALA, JINJA, MABINDI &c.

UGANDA PROTECTORATE

96, GRESHAM HOUSE.

LONDON, 27th April, 1918.

cc

In your reply please refer

to No.

Dear Head,

Thank you for your personal and confidential letter of yesterday, re Belgian Officers and men going to Mombasa. Mr. Bottomley was good enough to give me the earliest advice, over the telephone, of the reply that you now write. I am glad to say that by arrangement with the French Government, who brought some pressure to bear on the Messageries Line, it was found possible, at the last moment, to berth the 3 Officers and the 21 non commissioned Officers in the s.s. "NATAL" due to leave Marseille on 29th inst., and due at Mombasa about May 16th. I understand from the Belgian C.O., that there are communications passing between them and their War Office at Le Havre in regard to the further journeys to the interior of these Officers &c., and various equipment which they will need on the spot and regarding which the Belgian Authorities are relying upon us to supply them at Mombasa. When they have arrived at decisions on all these points, I will trespass on your kindness to communicate with our Mombasa Office by your cable, as you will probably not wish this to go over the open wires.

Motor Boats for Lake Kivu. I attach copy of Le Havre Minute of 22nd inst., received by me yesterday on this matter, re which you may care to be informed. I am taking it in hand at once with our War Office.

Pack Animals for Belgian Battery. Anticipating that Sir R. Belfield's reply to the cable you were good enough to send last week re the 60 mules which the Belgian War Office instructed me to try to

procure for them delivered in Uganda, as per Le Havre Minute No. 545, rather expect that the reply cable when it reaches you will say that mules are not procurable. I have suggested to the Belgian authorities to examine the question as to whether pack donkeys would suit them for the purpose, and it is possible they may wish instructions to that effect cabled out, on which I will write you again. On this point also, I am keeping our War Office informed.

Belgian Battery for Uganda. You will care to have it on record that by Le Havre Minute No. 547, I have been instructed to disembark at Mombasa, the four Mountain Guns shipped in "BERWICK CASTLE" consigned to Beira, and to send them with their shells &c., to Uganda. There is going to be some danger of confusion in this disembarkation, because the Belgian Authorities have lumped together various similar munitions which are still to go forward ^{on same boat} to Beira, along with those now to be landed at Mombasa, so that it will probably be necessary to land the whole lot at Mombasa and sort out at that Port. When I have got the details cleared, I will let you know, as I fear they will call for a rather long cable. The "BERWICK CASTLE" is not due at Mombasa for another week.

Yours sincerely,



H. J. Read Esq., C.B., C.M.G.,
Colonial Office,
Whitehall, S.W.

One enclo.

COPY.

MINISTRE DES COLONIES

DE BELGIQUE.

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Le Havre, le 22 Avril, 1915.

L'Office de Londres voudrait-il examiner si le Major Leggett ne pourrait nous procurer rapidement un ou deux de ces MOTOR BOATS capables d'être transportés au Lac Kivu. Ces embarcations devraient être assez rapides et pouvoir porter une mitrailleuse et 4 ou 5 hommes.

Cette question demande une solution urgente.

Le Ministre,

(S) Renkin.

3 May 1915

S,
 I enclose to you,
 for the use of the
 laid before Sir E. Grey,
 a copy of a letter
 which has been rec^d
 from Major ^{Com} Leggett D.S.O.
 of the D. P. Africa Corpⁿ
 with regard to Belgian
 operations ^(military preparations) in the Congo.
 I am to draw
 your attention to the
 letter from this Dept
 of 4 Feb on the
 subject of these semi-
 official communications
 from Major Leggett. In
 H. regards this method
 of communication between

Immediate

Secret

DRAFT.

The C. S. of S.

To

MINUTE.

Mr. Egan 1/5/15

Mr. Bokenham 1/5/15

Mr.

Mr.

Sir G. Fiddes

Sir H. Just.

Sir J. Anderson.

Lord Islington.

Mr. Harcourt.

Mr Leggett 27 2 pie
 1915 [5252]

2 dth

the Belgian Colonies
 authorities and the
 C. O. as a very
 convenient one and,
 in order that it may
 be discontinued, we
 would be glad if Sir
 C. Grey could see his way
 to suggest to the
 Belgian authorities
 that they should
 communicate in this
 subject with us to
 the ~~the~~ Commission
 the ~~the~~ the ~~the~~ the
 transmission to the
 Dept concerned - we
 would advise in C. O.,
 as the case may be.

L.H.R.

19575

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Secret

[1918]

DRAFT

The Sec
 W.O.

MINUTE

- Mr. Egger 1/5/75
- Mr. ~~Butterfield~~ 1/5/75
- Mr.
- Mr.
- Sir G. Fildes.
- Sir H. Just.
- Sir J. Anderson.
- Lord Islington.
- Mr. Harcourt.

via Legation 27 April
 19575

to 70 1 May
 of minute

2 dfts

3 May 1918
 Sir
 With ref. to your
 letter No 5765/6814 H.O. 1
 of 24 April and
 previous corresp. on the
 subject of Belgian
 operations military
 preparations in E. Africa
 I am etc to transmit
 to you, for the
 info of the a.c.,
 copies of the
 corresp. on this subject.

H. J. R.