

EAST AFR PROT
33467

C.O
33467
REC 2 JUL 17

War

1917

request

Last previous Paper.

40
32/12

SITUATION IN JUBALAND

Concure Serenli should now be reoccupied, on the understanding that work on the road to the coast be pushed forward as rapidly as local resources admit. Submits suggestions as to military forces. Considers it most undesirable that Col. Barrett's small force should proceed unaided to the occupation.

70 4/5
Copy above to W.B. Barrett
Copy above to D. G. ...
36/11/17

Read
W.B. Barrett to ...

2. Paragraph substance to O.C. Col in cypher with ref. to previous tel. enquire whether we can give assurances as to

(1) cooperation of sufficient force from direction of his majesty as detailed in this letter.

(2) every endeavour being made to push on with road communication from coast to Serenli.

Copy in receipt of his reply definite decision will be sent.

I mean while still say nothing more

Next subsequent Paper.

347/44

Have spoken to ...
W. P. ...

Sgt. ...

acc
2/11/17
WCS
2/11/17

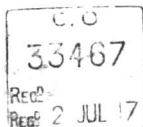
Any further communication on this subject should be addressed to—

The Secretary,
War Office,
London S.W.

and the following number quoted.

0165/7898. (M.O.2.)

S E C R E T.



War Office,

London, S.W

30th June, 1917.

Sir,

I am commanded by the Army Council to acknowledge the receipt of Colonial Office letter No. 31949 of June 27th, and in reply to state that in view of the situation in Jubaland as described by the Officer Administering the Government of the British East Africa Protectorate, the Council concur in the proposal that Serenli should now be re-occupied.

The Council, however, attach the greatest importance to the improvement of the road-communication between Serenli and the coast, and their concurrence as above is based on the understanding that work on the road shall be pushed forward as rapidly as local resources admit.

The Council suggest that a sufficient force may co-operate with Colonel Barrett, from the direction of Kismayu, with the object of providing an adequate garrison for the post itself, and for any intermediate posts that may be necessary, and also a small mobile force for action at a distance from Serenli. The Council consider that it would be most undesirable for Colonel Barrett's small body of troops to proceed unaided to the occupation of Serenli, or to constitute itself the garrison of that place, since this would lead to its immobilisation

at

Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office,
S.W.1.

262

35407

REC

REC 2 JUL 17

at a considerable distance from the nearest support.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. D. Ament

PHRASE TELEGRAM from the Secretary of State for the Colonies
to the Officer Administering the Government of the East
Africa Protectorate.

(Sent 8.5 p.m. 3rd July 1917.)

3rd July.

Reoccupation of Serenli see my cypher telegram of
27th June. Greatest importance attached by Army Council
to improvement in road communication between coast and
Serenli, and they concur in proposal that Serenli be now
reoccupied on understanding that this work is pushed
forward as rapidly as local resources admit. Army
Council suggest that sufficient force cooperate with
Barrett from direction of Kismayu with object of pro-
viding adequate garrison for Serenli and for any inter-
mediate posts necessary and also small mobile force
for action at distance from Serenli. It is considered
by Army Council most undesirable that Barrett's small
force should proceed unaided to the occupation of Serenli
or constitute itself the garrison of that place, as this
would lead to its immobilisation at a considerable
distance from nearest support.

I am prepared to approve of Serenli now being re-
occupied provided that action is taken strictly in accord
with Army Council's views detailed above. Before move
is definitely begun, I must know to what extent it is
desired to pass through Italian territory, so that we
can obtain the prior consent of the Italian Government.

LONG.

Command 34 July

copy to the Secretary of State?