

1925

KENYA

C. O.
13508
24 MAR 25

FROM
FOREIGN OFFICE.

DATE
23rd March 1925.

TO
Mr.
Mr.
Mr.
Post U.S. of S.
Perm' U.S. of S.
Part U.S. of S.
Secretary of State.

SESSION OF JUBALAND. BOUNDARY DELIMITATION.

The copy of desp from Rome forwarding
reply of Italian Govt. The latter concurs in
Kenya suggestions but ask for cession of terri-
tory forthwith on ratification of Treaty without
waiting for boundary delimitation.

Previous Paper
47 12673

MINUTES
See on 14169/25.

copy copy made to Gen 323 24/4/25
on 20/4/25

(Advance copy of this was available
on 12/6/25 for preparation of let. on that paper)

now put by
88 16 4 25

see 17.4.25

Subsequent Paper
O.A.G. 12646

In any further communication
on this subject, please quote

No. *B 3766/1803/22*

and address
sent to any person by name,

sent to—
"The Under-Secretary of State"
Foreign Office
London, S.W. 1

C. O.
13508
24 MAR 25

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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 for such
observations as *Mr. Avery* may desire to offer.

Foreign Office,
Mar 23rd, 1925.

Reference to previous correspondence
Colonial Office letter no. 53117/25
J Feb 6th.

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
<i>Am. Ambassador, Rome no 211 Mar 13</i>	<i>Cession of G. baland to Italy</i>

Similar letter sent to

British Embassy,

Rome.

13th March, 1925.

No. 211.

Sir,

With reference to your despatch No. 199 (C 1803/1803/22) of the 16th February regarding the delimitation of the Jubaland boundary, I have the honour to transmit herewith the reply of the Italian Government to my communication on the subject.

It will be seen that whilst concurring in the suggestions made by the Governor of Kenya in regard to the organisation of the work of the Commission, the Italian Government put forward a very earnest plea for the consignment of the territory to Italy forthwith on the ratification of the Treaty without waiting for the completion of the boundary delimitation. In this connection I would refer you to Mr. Kennard's despatch No. 711 of August 12th and to my private letter to you of November 14th in which I reported that the Italian Government were encountering considerable difficulty with the Ministry of Finance over their hasty decision to appoint Signor Zeli high Commissioner and to despatch him with a large staff and some 2,000 troops to Mogadiscio where he has been waiting ever since at considerable expense and without adequate accommodation. I have little doubt that the desire of the Italian to regularise his position has a good deal to do with their request for the earlier consignment of the country.

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

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

The Right Honourable
 Austen Chamberlain, M.P.
 etc., etc., etc.

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

209384/54.

TRANSLATION.

The Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Note Verbale No. 69 of February 1954 last in which His Britannic Majesty's Embassy refers to the cessation of hostilities in Italy and draws the attention of the Royal Government to the importance of the definition of the frontiers.

The Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs have the pleasure with all care to re-examine the memorandum attached to the above-mentioned Note Verbale, which has been drawn up by the Government of Kenya and which contains the proposal of a meeting of the members of the Mixed Commission.

The Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs have no objection to make and will continue to do so far as possible the cooperation of the Italian Government in the Commission. Similarly the Royal Ministry have no objection to offer its regard to the organization of the political-administrative front as indicated by the Government of Kenya.

The memorandum it would appear, however, that the Government in question would propose that the evacuation of the territory on the part of the British troops and administration should take place after the first part of the work of the Mixed Commission should have been completed, namely, towards the end of October.

The Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs are not aware whether this also represents the view of the British Government, but it cannot fail to observe that the above

proceedings....

2.

procedure would delay excessively and without any real necessity the effective consignment of the territory to the Italian authorities and might also have unpleasant repercussions on Italian public opinion. It would be very much more preferable instead that as soon as the exchange of ratifications has taken place the Italian troops and administration should at once establish themselves in Jubaland in the place of the British troops and administration, according to formalities to be arranged locally between the British authorities and the Italian High Commissioner. These authorities in agreement could then draw up a provisional boundary along the lines already indicated in the map annexed to the convention of July 15th, 1924, and the Mixed Commission would then begin and complete its work according to the programme indicated by the Governor of Kenya.

As regards the proposal indicated in the Note of the Italian Legation of February, 1925, of the Britannic Majesty's Embassy for the modification of the description of the Jubaland-Kenya frontier, the Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs will examine their view on the subject in so far as possible after consultation with the authorities who are competent for the examination of the question from the cartographical point of view.

The Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs states that His Britannic Majesty's Government will represent to their Government the desirability of modifying the proposals of the Governor of Kenya in such a way as not to necessitate an excessive delay in the effective consignment of the territory to the Italian Authorities.

Rome,
11 March, 1925.

British Embassy,

Rome.

13th March, 1925.

No. 511.

Sir,

With reference to your despatch No. 199 (C 1803/1803/22) of the 16th February, regarding the delimitation of the Jubaland boundary, I have the honour to transmit herewith the reply of the Italian Government to my communication on the subject.

It will be seen that whilst concurring in the suggestions made by the Governor of Kenya in regard to the organisation of the work of the Commission, the Italian Government put forward a very earnest plea for the consignment of the territory to Italy forthwith on the ratification of the Treaty without waiting for the completion of the boundary delimitation. In this connection I would refer you to Mr. Kennard's despatch No. 711 of August 18th and to my private letter to you of November 14th in which I reported that the Italian Government were encountering considerable difficulty with the Ministry of Finance over their hasty decision to appoint Signor Zoli as Commissioner and to despatch him with a large staff and some 2,000 troops to Mogadiscio where he has been waiting ever since at considerable expense and without adequate accommodation. I have little doubt that the desire of the Italian ^{Government} to regularise his position was a good deal to do with their request for the earlier consignment of the country.

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

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

The Right Honourable,
Austen Chamberlain, M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

S. / V°

209224/54.

TRANSLATION.

The Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Note Verbale No. 58 of February 23rd last in which His Britannic Majesty's Embassy refer to the cession of Jubaland to Italy and draw the attention of the Royal Government to the question of the delimitation of the frontier.

The Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs have examined with all care the memorandum attached to the above-mentioned Note Verbale, which had been drawn up by the Governor of Kenya and contained the proposals of the latter for the work of the Mixed Commission.

As regards point a) of that memorandum, the Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs have no observations to make and will communicate as soon as possible the composition of the Italian delegation in the Commission. Similarly the Royal Ministry have no observation to offer in regard to the organisation of the political-topographical work as indicated by the Governor of Kenya.

From the memorandum it would appear, however, that the Governor in question would propose that the evacuation of the territory on the part of the British troops and administration should take place after the first part of the work of the Mixed Commission should have been completed, namely, towards the end of October.

The Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs are not aware whether this also represents the view of the British Government, but it cannot fail to observe that such a

procedure....

2.

procedure would delay excessively and without any real necessity the effective consignment of the territory to the Italian authorities and might also have unpleasant repercussions on Italian public opinion. It would be very much more preferable instead that as soon as the exchange of ratifications has taken place the Italian troops and administration should at once establish themselves in subaland in the place of the British troops and administration, according to formalities to be arranged locally between the British authorities and the Italian High Commissioner. These authorities in agreement could at once draw up a provisional boundary along the lines already indicated in the map annexed to the Convention of July 15th, 1924, and the Mixed Commission would then begin and complete its work according to the programme indicated by the Governor of Kenya.

As regards the proposal indicated in the Note Verbale No. 73 of February 22nd of His Britannic Majesty's Embassy for the modification of the description of the inland-subaland frontier, the Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs will communicate their view on the subject as soon as possible after consultation with the authorities who are competent for the examination of the question from the cartographical point of view.

The Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs trusts that His Britannic Majesty's Embassy will represent to their Government the desirability of modifying the proposals of the Governor of Kenya in such a way as not to necessitate an excessive delay in the effective consignment of the territory to the Italian authorities.