

EAST AFR. PROT.

C.O  
40533

REC<sup>d</sup>  
REF: 23 DEC 12

40533

322

Governor  
825

Field  
Date  
1912

th November  
Previous Paper.

NESETO SECTION OF TURKANA TRIBE

States necessity for sending small patrol of K.A.R. to make certain demands in accordance with facts set out.

Sir G. Zoller

The country in question is very imperfectly mapped, but it is to the South + S.W. of Lake Rudolf in the N.W. corner of the Protectorate (see maps herewith).

approve of the proposed action?

H. J. R.

23/11

U. 27.12.12 P. 2

E 27.12

H 28.12.12

Room 3

Subsequent Paper  
6050

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE

November 28th 1912.

No. 825



323

Sir,

I have the honour to report that in view of the unsatisfactory state of the Neseto section of the Turkana tribe I have considered it advisable to take advantage of the relief of the garrison at Maragwet to send a small patrol of King's African Rifles to their country in order to make certain demands in accordance with the facts set out below.

2. In May last the Acting District Commissioner, Ngabotok, reported that a raid had been made by the Turkana on the Suk close to lower Turkwell River. Certain friendly Turkana chiefs stated that 10 men of their tribe had crossed the river, attacked a Suk Village near Lochedet and killed nine women. Although repeated representations were made for the surrender of the murderers no assistance was forthcoming and the latest reports show that the Headman of the Section to which the murderers belonged refused

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

LEWIS HARCOURT, P.C., M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET, LONDON, S.W.

(2)

refused to take any further action in the matter and intimated that Government would have to search for the men if they were required. It is believed that the Neseto section is harbouring the murderers and the necessary inquiries into this matter will be made during the course of the patrol.

In July last news was received that a raid had been made by Turkana on Masai and that 700 head of cattle had been captured and a Masai Elder killed. This was apparently instigated by a witch doctor by name Kole-tiang, who lives within a day's march of Chief Ebe, head of the Neseto section. Kole-tiang was arrested but denied having participated in the affair which he admitted was the work of his son Echakau and another Turkana Logotan. The Masai recovered the greater portion of the cattle and the remainder were concealed in Koletiang's village and subsequently handed over. Echakau is now being sheltered by the Neseto section and Chief Ebe has refused to give him up. Logotan has disappeared but it is believed that he is also in hiding amongst that section.

It is clear that neither of these men will be brought in by <sup>the</sup> Turkana and it is possible that any attempt to arrest them might be resisted.

Koletiang's influence amongst the Turkana is very great and it is generally believed that he in conjunction with Chief Ebe is responsible for the present unsettled state of the District. He is at present undergoing

four months imprisonment for attempting to escape from lawful custody. As soon as he is released, it is my intention to bring him into Nairobi in the hope that his visit may have a beneficial effect upon his future conduct.

4. The District Commissioner has reported fully on his tours in that portion of territory occupied by the Neseto section and the state of affairs disclosed is not at all reassuring. Chief Ebe has at all times assumed a most defiant attitude and has consistently refused to bring in hut tax or to assist Government in the administration of that area. Raids, murders and petty thefts are of frequent occurrence and there is little doubt that he and the witch-doctor Koletiang are mainly responsible.

The influence of this particular section on the rest of the Turkana tribe is harmful in the extreme and the difficulty experienced in collecting hut tax in other parts of the district can be attributed to the example of open defiance of Government orders set by them.

5. The object of the Patrol therefore is to demand the surrender of all murderers known to be members of or harboured by the Neseto section and to impose a communal fine suitable to the offences committed.

I do not think that the actual operations will take very long as a show of force will probably suffice to bring the offenders to  
their

(4)

their senses, but it is very important that the tribes in that part of the Protectorate should realise that they cannot be allowed to assume with impunity the attitude, which I have described. 326

6. When due provision has been made for the garrisons at Ngabotok and Maragwet the strength of the Patrol will probably be four officers and 100 rank and file and it is expected that a move will be made from Ngabotok about the 2nd proximo.

7. I trust that I shall be able to report later that the demands of Government have been satisfied without the occurrence of any untoward incident and that the effect of the Patrol is likely to be beneficial to this particular District.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,



In the absence of the  
GOVERNOR.

Gov. 40533/1912

E.A.P.

*J. K. C.*

327

*Jan 2 1913*

DRAFT.

*E.A.P.*

*No 4*

*Gov. Belfield.*

MINUTE.

Mr. *Harper* 30 Dec.

Mr. *Bottomley* 30 p.

Sir G. Fiddes.

Sir H. Just.

Sir J. Anderson.

Lord Emmott.

Mr. Harcourt.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of ~~your~~ Mr. *Lawrence*'s despatch No. 825 of the 28<sup>th</sup> of Nov., and to inform you that I approve of the action taken in sending a patrol of the King's African Rifles into the country of the *Neseto* section of the *Turkana* tribe to demand the surrender of certain murderers

harboured by the  
section and to  
impose a suitable  
communal fine.

27

(Signed) L. HARGREY

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section and to  
impose a suitable  
communal fine.

L<sub>g</sub>

(Signed) L. HARCOURT