

547



EAST AFR. PROT.
20706

C.O
20706
18 JUN 13

Governor
Conf 56
Field
1913
7th May
Last previous Paper.
20357

ABYSSINIAN RAID NEAR MARSABIT

The report by Mr Kittermaster. Although the raiders suffered a severe reverse in this case the report following on the one previously submitted discloses the existence of a widely spread movement of aggression on the part of Abyssinian natives and emphasises the necessity for vigorous action.

Dr. G. Fuller

It wd appear from the one that a very small force is capable of dealing with a ~~number~~ of ~~small~~ ~~raids~~; ~~perhaps~~ the difficulty is to be on the spot at the right time. It looks as if more frequent patrolling of the frontier by a more mobile force wd be the remedy, but we have hitherto been hampered by the scarcity of water. If, as the result of the claim which is being made on the Abyssinian front, a connexion with left. African border, we obtain a well-ensured frontier, we ought to be able to keep it under better control. Copy to the F.O. say that the inf. contained in the report appears to Mr. Harcourt to strengthen the claim which is being made.

use
20357
Next subsequent Paper
20942

made reports the substance of
has consisted further, in accordance with the
number of gifts by law - + suggest that
the substance of it sh. be communicated
to Mr. Thayer as soon as possible? + copy
of our ltr to the fr. - conf: 19. 6. 13
H. D. R.

19/6/13

Pr. 19. 6. 13

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GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
NAIROBI.

BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

~~WEST AFRICA PRODUCTIONS~~

CONFIDENTIAL No. 55



27th May 1913.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit herewith for your information a copy of a letter from Mr Kittermaster the officer in charge of Marsabit, relating to a raid recently perpetrated in the vicinity of that station.

1.5.13

2. Although the raiders in this case suffered a severe reverse, the report in question following on that already forwarded to you under cover of my Confidential despatch No. 54 of the 21st instant ^{*} discloses the existence of a widely spread movement of aggression on the part of Abyssinian natives on our side of the frontier and emphasizes the necessity for vigorous action.

45
20706

I have the honour to be,

etc/
Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,

Almonstrey

GOVERNOR.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
LESLIE HARDY, B.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET, LONDON, S.W.

* No 20357

AP

Encl. No.

INCLOSURE

C.O.
1320706
REC
REG 18 JUN 13

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in Despatch No. 55 of 27-5

No. 52/41/13.

District Commissioner's Office,

Marsabit,

1st May 1913.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that about 5 a.m. on April 25th a report was brought into the Boma that a Samburu Khaal some 12 miles from the Boma had been attacked by Abyssinians and all the cattle carried off, including Government stock.

I was out of the station on safari at the time.

The Clerk-in-charge (Mr S.F. de Souza) immediately sent off all the Saharies available under the Sergeant Major. He went himself later to the Khaal and received news that all the cattle had been recovered.

Details of the incident are:-

On April 24th a raiding party of some 30 Bechiat and 8 Abyssinians (the latter with rifles) caught two Rendili Boma who were herding camels and from them got information as to the manyattas near.

During the night they split into two parties, the one stopping near the Rendili manyatta the other going on to the Samburu cattle manyatta which was about 3 miles nearer to the Boma. The Samburu manyatta was attacked at dawn and all the cattle lifted including the Government stock. The raiders at the Rendili manyatta waited till they saw the other party returning before moving

Yours faithfully,
The Chief Secretary
to the Government,
Nairobi.

showing themselves, when they made an attempt to lift
the Rendili goats. It happened that the Government 550
Camel Boma was alongside the Rendili manyatta and in it
were 1 Somali Askari and 3 armed Hyees. On the alarm
being raised my men opened fire and the Rendili Moran
assembling in some force the raiders desisted, and drew
off. Meanwhile the Samburu Moran were following their
cattle and a running fight ensued for about 10 miles.
Half way through the raiders finding that they were
hampered by the large mob of cattle abandoned half of it
and tried to get away with the rest. At the end of
about 10 miles my Askaries from the Boma were seen
approaching and the raiders then abandoned all the
cattle and took to flight. The Askaries then returned
with the cattle. Some Moran followed the raiders as
far as Burburu which is about 40 to 50 miles from the Boma
on the road to Kulal and there gave over the pursuit.

About 25 of the raiders were killed and 14 of
our natives killed or wounded.

4 rifles (French) and 80 rounds of ammunition
were captured.

The raiders were on foot without any transport.
This leads me to suppose that they probably came from a
base camp somewhere in our Territory possibly Horr though
this is not a conclusive deduction as owing to the present
rains they are independent of water.

I have endeavoured to warn the Troops at Kulal
but the natives are very nervous now of that side of the
District.

I have etc.,

M. S. B. BISHOP

Assistant District Commissioner.

10/10/1919

551

C.D.
P. 28 JUN
1919



21 June 1919

Sir,
I am directed by Mr See Harcourt
to transmit to
you for the ^{consn} of Sec. Sec. Gen.
The accomp^y copy of a drop
with enclosure, received from
the Gov^t of the P. of S. respect-
ing a raid perpetrated by
Abyssinian natives in the
vicinity of Dnaxater.

I. J. Harcourt considers that the
info contained in the drop
strengthens the claim which
is being made against the Abyss
Gov^t for a new compensation
portion, in connection with
the murder of Capt. Ophlay,
and he would suggest that the
substance of the drop and its
enclosure should be com-
municated to I. J. Harcourt
for his consideration.

DRAFT

The U.S. of S.

20

MINUTE.

- Mr. A. J. ... 20.6.19
- Mr. ...
- Sir G. ...
- Sir H. ...
- Sir J. ...
- Lord ...
- Mr. Harcourt.

Handwritten notes:
No 20706
20/10/19

I am etc.
The Secretary of State