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Military & Police Proposed

910
24 July

Report of Committee held on 25th & 29th July to consider proposals for the reduction

Major-Chancellor
see 226

For your convenience please
the Appendices have not yet been printed
but are attached in the papers accompanying
this
11th Aug 1944

Col. Thayer

I have made some drafting amendments
in pencil, wherever I concur
in the Report
J.R.C.
13.10.

Mr. Read

I have seen Capt. Chancellor and have
made the alterations we had thought
necessary

When finally approved have printed
and send copies to HQ. EAF
Lusaka and Nyasa

Copy of my copy of report
to be prepared by
11/8
MPL

also a copy to D.M.O. Capt [unclear]
and one to be sent out to me
4th May 1874

W. Fiddes.

This Report should
be submitted to Lord Curzon

recd

119

Lord Curzon for approval

W.F.

Approved as proposed

E.G. ix

17/10/10
22/10



24641
9 AUG 10

REPORT of a Committee assembled at the Colonial Office on the 25th and 28th of July, 1910, to consider proposals, brought forward by Major General Percy Buxton, K.C., F.R.S., Governor of East Africa Protectorate, Sir Alfred Sharpe, K.C., C.B., Governor of Nyasaland, and Major B. Pearce, C.B., Acting Governor of Nyasaland, to reduce the Military and Police expenditure in the East Africa Protectorate, Uganda and Nyasaland.

The Committee consisted of the following:-

- Mr. H. Tennant, C.B., Chairman
- Major General Buxton, The Governor of East Africa Protectorate
- Major J. H. Chamberlain, C.B., F.R.S., Secretary, Colonial Office
- Mr. G. B. ...

The proposals referred to above are contained in Memoranda printed as Appendix A to this report.

The Committee report as follows:-

The question of the strength and cost of the King's African Rifles and the Police has been the subject of consideration and report at various times since

since 1906.

In October 1907 a Committee was assembled at the Colonial Office and recommended certain reductions in the King's African Rifles.

(a) The 1st Battalion to be reduced from 6 companies to 4.

(b) The 2nd Battalion from 6 companies to 4.

(c) The 3rd Battalion from 6 companies to 5.

(d) The 4th Battalion no change.

These reductions were shortly afterwards carried out.

The report of this Committee is printed as Appendix B to the Report.

2 In November 1907 the Governor East Africa Protectorate recommended the abolition of the foreign service Battalion, this course was also urged by Mr. Ineson Churchill who was at the time in East Africa.

In view of the reductions which had

had recently taken place, and after consideration of a Memorandum written by Brevet Colonel Gourn, V.C., at the time Inspector General, the Secretary of State decided that no further reductions could then take place.

NOTE. It has not been considered necessary to print the memorandum referred to, as its contents are embodied in the report printed under Appendix C to the 1907 Report.

3 In February 1907 the Governor, East Africa Protectorate, after consideration of a Memorandum written by Colonel Gourn, V.C., stated that he was not at present prepared to press for the reduction which he had previously recommended, i.e. in November 1902.

This Memorandum is printed as Appendix C to this report.

4 In considering the Nyasa Land Estimates for 1909-10 the question of reduction was again brought forward. It

was then laid down by the Secretary of State that the King's African Rifles must be looked upon as a whole and that it would be impossible to reorganise the Protectorate separately in the future.

5 In March 1906 a despatch from the Acting Governor of the East Africa Protectorate containing a report of General Edwards, Inspector General of the Police on the reorganization of the Police in the East Africa Protectorate.

The report together with the covering despatch by the Acting Governor are signed G. S. J. G. and are printed as Appendix B.

In reply to this despatch it was stated that the matter would await the arrival of the new Governor Sir P. Girouard.

6 In January 1910 the Governor East Africa Protectorate submitted a report dealing with the Military and

Police

Police Forces in the East Africa

Protectorate and Uganda, respectively.

A further report dealing with the same

matter was received in June 1910.

7

In July 1910 a despatch from

Sir Alfred Sharpe, Governor, Uganda

was received and in the same month a

despatch from Sir Alfred Sharpe, Acting Governor

Uganda was received concerning the

purchase of 1,600 King's African Rifles. These

despatches are contained in the

Annex and those which formed the subject

of enquiry by the Committee.

It is desirable that the

Committee desire to place

the following remarks on record.

1. Report on East Africa Protectorate

and Uganda.

9

It is not clear how the

mentioned in the

purchase of 1,600 King's African Rifles

is made up. The latest returns give

the

5

the establishment of the 2nd and 3rd

Battalions as under: -

2nd Battalion 420

3rd Battalion 790

This total includes Officers Band and the
two regiments at Tanziibar. This

is a total of 1,150 men which
must be reduced to 700 at Tanziibar.

That ~~percentage~~ percentage of
an attachment

is larger than ~~the~~ the

~~the~~ the

~~the~~ the

force ~~is~~ is at Tanziibar and Lokoja.

From ~~the~~ the it is possible within ten days

to concentrate a force of 500 men at all places

to be equipped with modern

and ~~modern~~ modern

with a higher percentage of white officers
than is usual in the ~~army~~ army as well

as ~~the~~ the Commissioned Officers.

19 It appears to the Committee

that in considering detailed distribution
and strength in the various Protectorates

the conditions vary so greatly that they cannot ~~really~~ ^{usefully} be compared. With reference to the ^{in the several instances} Sahara, concerning the possibility of reinforcements from India, Aden and Zanzibar, it is pointed out that the object of maintaining a force of trained regular troops in East Africa is to avoid the ^{need} of having to call on India for reinforcements. Although, as in the case of Somaliland, it has not always been found possible to avoid this, so

Majesty's Government

The Indian

to the employment of our Indian troops in East Africa is appreciated by His Majesty's Government. Reinforcements from India should not therefore be counted upon in calculating the annual military requirements of the East African Provinces.

// The Indian Government have recently laid down that troops cannot be spared from Aden. ~~As far as possible the company~~

12 The question of forming a Colonial Staff Corps has already been fully considered. It ^{was} not considered sound either from the point of view of economy or efficiency.

The proposed measure for the re-organization of the Indian Staff Corps
(a) That under the present management the financial office was done in the whole way for officers there is the possibility of difficulty in substituting suitable officers.
(b) By continuing to train British appointments officers are kept up to the mark in modern training.
(c) The formation of a Colonial Staff Corps would not be a long process in list.

13 With reference to the wider distribution of troops the following factors must be considered:

(a) A standing force must be kept concentrated at some central strategic point ^{in accordance with the threat of war} sufficient ^{sample} to deal with any probable emergency that may arise.

Although the strength of such a force may be the subject of ^{its own} consideration

dependent as it is on the general political and military situation, which will

vary

8

vary from time to time. The principle that requires the maintenance of such units remains the same.

(14) There are on military grounds stronger objections to the multiplication of detachments especially when such detachments consist of less than a company.

The following are the principal objections:

(a) All troops, and especially native troops deteriorate rapidly unless under the command and in constant touch with their officers.

(b) Officers in some cases are not to be trusted and even sink in their professional training if on detachment for any length of time. There is the danger that finding little military occupation they will devote too much of their time to the excellent sport provided at many installations.

(3) It

87

It is not always possible to discover quickly whether officers have an aptitude for dealing with native troops. Native troops require careful handling and a serious situation might arise if an officer unsuited to such work was on detachment some distance from Headquarters.

The Committee would point out that the system of detachments was in force in Uganda up to 1906. This system then occurred seven posts. It was because this situation was found unsatisfactory from the strategical, health and training point of view that it was modified.

If the system of detachments was to become the recognised policy in East Africa a larger proportion of white officers and possibly non-commissioned officers would be required.

15) In comparing the distribution of

our own troops with that of Germany,

the following facts must be taken into

consideration. The German Companies

are tactical units consisting of 170

to 250 highly drilled native troops,

with an establishment of 3 white

officers, 3 white non-commissioned

officers, a Quartermaster, Doctor and white

hospital non-commissioned officer, 3 field guns and 2 maxims.

The native police are trained to take

their place in the fighting line, and in

the event of the troops being required

to concentrate, ~~it is reported that there~~

are semi-drilled levies capable of taking

their place. Communications have been

much improved and all recent reports

tend to show not only that the Germans

lay great stress on concentration, but

that they have made elaborate arrange-

ments to enable them to make use of their

regular troops as a striking force.

716/ The question of the appointment of a Commandant for East Africa and Uganda was considered in 1906. There are certain advantages to be gained by such an appointment. On the other hand it would lead to increased expense, and the present system in which the Senior Officer Commanding Natal acts as Officer Commanding troops in the East Africa Protectorate has shown itself to work well.

With reference to the recommendations made by the War Office in paragraph 12 of the report *The East African Mounted Infantry Battalion* should be merged with one of the *existing* Battalions. The *War Office* second reason for recommending a reversal of the policy laid down in August 1906 as regards the abolishing of the *Forces* Battalion. The reasons for retaining

to be if anything
stronger now than they were then, on
account of the more active and efficient
of the Northern boundary and the
policy of opening up the Aohali country.

Committee
(8) They are in agreement with the
Commissioner regarding his proposals of
policing native reserves by means of
tribal police under the control of the
tribal authorities.

(9) They agree generally with the
recommendations that Protectorate Police
should not be used as garrisons. At the

same time if many such garrisons are
necessary it is clear that these cannot
~~be reduced from their present strength~~

either ~~radically decreasing their~~
~~numbers~~ *or* ~~by~~ *by* ~~increasing their numbers~~
efficiency or increasing their numbers.

Committee
(10) They are in favour of working on
the lines of the policy already indicated
i.e. a reduction of the Police Force

13 which

which ~~should be~~ ^{they consider as} rendered feasible

(a) by the increased efficiency of police

(b) by the comparatively settled state of the administered parts of the Protectorate.

(c) by the improved means of communication which render the transfer of troops to any disaffected area in the administered portions of the Protectorate comparatively easy.

(d) by the proposed employment of tribal police ~~in~~ ^{in the}

(e) ¹⁹ they consider that the minimum force necessary at particular points should consist of not less than four companies, exclusive of any ^{this force should be} ~~tribe~~ ^{tribes} which the Government may consider necessary to keep there if a ~~state~~ ^{state} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~drawn~~ ^{drawn} force is withdrawn.

(f) That every effort should be made to

economise men holding military and
Police forces, by ~~going away with all~~ ^{withdrawing}
unnecessary ~~armaments~~ ^{armaments}, guards and
ordances.

The Committee
AD # (7) ~~may~~ recommend that the ^{overton}
should now be asked to state ^{in detail}

(a) What ~~provisions~~ ^{provisions} of the Police
force is now ~~available~~ ^{available} for the
considerations ~~of the~~ ^{of the}
~~force~~ ^{force}, apart from any ~~regular~~
part of the military force.

(b) What ~~provisions~~ ^{provisions} are at present any
military or police ~~arrangements~~ ^{arrangements} or
detachments ~~maintained~~ ^{maintained} for any purposes
of ceremony or display ~~apart from~~ ^{apart from} the
actual necessities of defence.

(c) In what places ~~he~~ ^{he} considers a
purely protective force necessary and the
strength of such force.

(d) Now on the basis of a ~~striking~~ ^{striking}
force of ~~companies~~ ^{companies} and its view of the
military

military considerations advanced in
paragraph 3 of this report as would
be ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{to} ~~to~~ distribute.

- (a) The remaining four companies
of the King's African Rifles,
The Police

Z/ ~~10~~ With reference to the Indian
Contingent maintained in Uganda, as
this contingent is not due to leave
until 1913, there would appear to be
no immediate necessity for making any
recommendation. ^{in regard to it} The possible abolition
or at any rate reduction of this
contingent should be considered and
recommendations on this heading should
be ^{submitted} ~~made~~ by January 1912 so as to
allow of ample time for consideration.

16

22 - In considering the Reports on
 Masaland the Committee see no reason for
 questioning Va or Pearce's statement
 that the military needs of Masaland,
 taken by itself, could as far as man at
 present be foreseen, be met by the main-
 tenance of 2 companies of British
 Rifles, the Indians to amount to 1/2 and
 a Reserve of 200 men.

The question whether a force can
 be maintained to reduce to this
 extent. The answer must be in the negative
 given on the following grounds.

The reduction presupposes that
 the Masaland Indians will be trained and
 maintain a reasonably effective force.
 At present the details are known regarding
 such force in so far as the time and in so
 far as it may take some time to organize.

(2) The forces proposed for East
 Africa

Africa, and Uganda are the bare minimum required for the internal needs of these Protectorates. They have at present no

reserve outside Nyasaland. In the event of serious trouble arising in any of the

Protectorates such as might be caused by the Jubaland Somalis, or if serious disturbances were required.

It is noted that the K.A.R. has been disbanded and the Pat. Alphon has been disbanded.

The complete Nyasaland supplies for the whole region are the only force available as

aid half such as troops from India, etc. are not taken into consideration.

(3) e. The relief of the Foreign Service Battalion would present considerable difficulties if the Battalion consists of four Companies and

of two.

In fact these two companies in Nyasaland supplies to the Reserve could be shared

18

~~...~~ from ~~the~~ only surplus of
~~...~~ of the ~~...~~ ~~...~~
~~...~~ the ~~...~~

over the two companies, 75 sides, and
230 reserves, is practically maintained
for general purpose of the four protectorates
equally divided between

*In these circumstances
the Controller thinks that
the cost of these surplus
troops say*

110,000 and in equity the share of
the four protectorates of the interests
are ~~...~~ saved. ~~...~~
~~...~~ effect until the ~~...~~ year.

~~...~~ on factor in Rhodesia is with

~~...~~ This course appears the (nearest
approximation, in practice, under pre-
sent circumstances, to the sharp
ideal of a common military budget, di-
vided from time to time by the Secretary
of State according to the military needs
of the Protectorates

from ~~the~~ ^{the} only margin of
sufficiency *off the transfer of the land*

23

~~Annual however the excess~~

over the two companies, 75 Sikhs, and

the Reserve, is ~~radically~~ ^{to} maintained

for several ~~years~~ ^{of the year} ~~the~~ ^{the}

*In the above circumstances
the Commission think that
the cost of the Staff
is Rs 150000*

10,00,000 in equity to be borne by

the Protectorates whose interests

are there ~~as well~~ ^{as well}

~~take effect until the year 1900~~

~~and the North-West Frontier Province is with~~

~~in mind.~~ This course appears the nearest

approximation, practicable under pre-

sent circumstances, to Sir A. S. S. S. S.

ideal of a common military budget di-

vided from time to time by the Secretary

of State according to the military needs

of the Protectorates

~~Gives the Military and Police Estimates
from 1906, for the three Protectorates~~

	<u>Military</u>	<u>Police</u>
1906-7	172,871	57,287
1907-8	180,954	64,900
1908-9	170,122	74,994
1909-10*	126,070	75,214

~~* Includes estimates for~~

~~the Protectorates of~~

~~19~~ 24. The Committee in considering the
Military problems of the Protectorates
have not taken into consideration the
question of a war with a European Power.
This question ^{is now under the consideration}
~~has been recently referred~~
of the Committee of Colonial Defence.

25. Finally the Committee after
reading the various despatches and

memoranda

20

Memoranda ^{on the organization of the Military and Police forces of the Protectorate} ~~on this subject~~ since

1906, ^{are} ~~cannot fail to be struck by the~~ divergent views held by the Civil and Military authorities ^{on the subject} and, ^{it would appear} ~~that~~

^{from recent} ~~by the despatches,~~ ^{that} the tendency is for this state of affairs to become more acute. The Committee consider themselves justified in drawing attention to the matter with a view to a remedy being found. On the one hand it will be noted ^{that} frequently proposals for reduction ^{of the Military force} which have been put forward and ^{that} ~~negatived~~ in some cases only a few months previously ^{have been} are again put forward unsupported by any new arguments.

Thus in 1907 before even the reductions recommended by the Committee which sat in 1906 had been completed, fresh proposals were made. On the other hand there is ^{local} ~~undoubtedly~~ a tendency for the military

51

to regard ~~any~~ ^{for activities} proposal not strictly
 upon the ~~basis~~ ^{of} but as the main edge of
 the wedge leading to further reductions.
 A situation has thus arisen which is
 undoubtedly bad for the efficiency of
 the troops and cannot be in the interests
 of the Protectorates. The Committee
 consider that a remedy might be found
 in a more cordial cooperation in the
 interchange of views. They would ~~strongly~~ ^{feel that}
 recommend that in future such de-
 cisions as these questions are arrived at
 a full statement of the reasons on which
 they were based should be ~~given~~ ^{transmitted} to the
 Protectorate Governments. On the other
 hand the Protectorate Governments in
 proposing alterations in military policy
 strength and distribution should state
 fully the reasons which make such altera-
 tions desirable and should keep the
 military

52

211
Military authorities informed as fully as possible of the effect of the

Military forces of the Protectorates

In consequence of the necessity for the
above, the Committee would direct attention to the present of this Report in Appendix C. After considering this Memorandum the Governor and Legislative Council (with one dissentient) withdrew the proposal for reduction which had previously made.

~~26~~ 26 When this object in view the Committee

would recommend that the Inspector General King's African Rifles should submit

annually a report on the military situation in each Protectorate, this report could then be forwarded to the Governors of the different Protectorates for such remarks as they may wish to add, it would then form a definite basis on which to re-

C.O.
24841

E. Africa

Downing Street,

September, 1910.

DRAFT.

UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

The C. A. G.

Sir,

MINUTE.

Mr. Butler, September

Mr.

Mr. Fiddes.

Mr. Just.

Mr. Cox.

Sir C. Lucas.

Sir F. Hopwood.

Col. Gedy.

Lord Curzon.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Major Pearce's confidential despatch of the 18th of June relating to the military establishment of the East Africa Protectorate, and to transmit to you the accompanying copies of the report of a Committee which has had under consideration the reports made by Major Pearce and recommendations made by the Governor of the East Africa Protectorate with regard to the military and police forces in that Protectorate and in Uganda.

Report

5 copies

Copy to the Secy 19 Oct

*BSeco
24574
Saf*

3 d/ho

C.O. 24641 E. Africa

Downing Street,

13 September, 1916

DRAFT.

WEST AFRICA PROTECTORATE. No. 556

Governor
Colonel Sir Percy Girouard,
K.C.M.G., F.S.C., F.R.S.

MINUTE.

- Mr. Butler, Sept 28th.
- Mr.
- Mr. Fiddes.
- Mr. Just.
- Mr. Cox.
- Sir C. Lucas.
- Sir F. Hopwood.
- Col. Seely.
- Lord Crewe.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to you the accompanying copies of the report of a Committee which has had under consideration the recommendations made by you in your report on the East Africa Protectorate with regard to the strength of the military and police forces and recommendations made also as to the strength of the military forces in Nyasaland.

I agree generally in the views expressed by the Committee, and I should

be

Report
5 copies 9/28/16

3 dfts

them
pleas if you would, after giving your
careful consideration, furnish me
with your observations upon the report
and supply in particular the detailed
information asked for in paragraph 20
of the ~~original~~ report. Until I
am in possession of detailed information
I do not feel that it is possible to
pronounce finally upon the recom-
mendations which have been made to ~~you~~

I have, Sir,

DRAFT

UGANDA PROTECTORATE

No. 37

The C. A. G.

MINUTE

Mr. Butler, Sept. 21st

Mr.

Mr. Fildes

Mr. Jush

Mr. Cox

Sir G. Lloyd

Sir F. Hopwood

Col. Scott

Lord Cromer

S. C.
2411

Sir
Africa

Downing Street,

September, 1910.

I have the honour to transmit
to you the accompanying copies of the
report of a Committee which has had
under consideration certain recommenda-
tions with regard to the military and
police forces in the Uganda, East
Africa, and Nyasaland Protectorates.

I agree generally in the views
expressed by the Committee, and I have
to request that, after giving them your
careful consideration, you will furnish
me with your observations upon the
report, and supply in particular the

detailed

Report
5 copies of 24/10/10

3 copies

detailed information asked for in
paragraph 20 of the report. For
the purpose of supplying such in-
formation it should be assumed that
the mobile striking force referred
to in paragraph 13 of the report should
in the case of the Uganda Protectorate
consist of four companies of Hombos.
I have, etc.

This was the
intention of the
Lt. Col. I found
it was on my old
draft but it has
been dropped
out

JFAB