

DOMESTIC.

EAST AFR. PROT.

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REF 5 JAN 09

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1908

Municipality at Mombasa

Principal difficulties in the way of imposition of taxation in the 10 m. Strip are the French & German treaties & franchises. It is desired info as to position of Pt. Mombasa & franchise. As regards annexation of 10 m. Strip, adheres to view in F.O. C.O. 8 Feb 07. Annexation of mainland would lead to friction w/ Germany & France.

Mr. Read

The F.O. do not notice our suggestion for a separate agreement with Foreign Powers allowing us to tax their nationals. If the treaties really come to an end next year this will be all right but I think we had better tell F.O. that if we can become that full power to tax & rate foreigners in the coast strip will be obtained in 1910 we will not press our suggestion.

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as to the ~~last~~ ^{offering} the Powers on the subject of municipal rates.

And send copy of ~~some~~ copy to Gov. saying that if the treaties come to an end in any case it seems better to allow the present state of affairs to subsist as it is to continue for the present.

And draw his attention particularly to the F.O. ruling as to taxation of foreigners outside the limits of British subjects where foreigners are not taxed.

M^r. Austrians

We are all right as regards the former treaty, Aug 1910 being the latest date which the former Govt themselves have claimed as the date of signature of the treaty.

With regard to the Dual treaty, its abolition is to form part of the General settlement with France issuing out of the Annex Conference. But we have no guarantee that the negotiations with France will come to anything.

I think that the best plan will be to write to the F.O. & ask whether we are to understand that all the obstructing treaties, with the exception of those with France & Germany, have come to an end. - There is a mention of a treaty with Portugal.

(2) whether, in the event of the negotiation with France for the abolition of their treaty falling through, we shall be in a position after August 1910 to levy rates on all foreigners & Ambassadors with the exception of French subjects.

Nothing at that, as will be seen on refer to the one in 41740. There are only 10 French Ambassadors resident in Bombay & that the estimated yearly rental of their home property is only 3,660 Rs or some £2600, so that the loss of revenue will be inconsiderable even if they refuse to pay any rates at all.

(3) whether, in the event of the French subjects refusing to pay rates at all, we have the option of proportion of the rates paid by British or other foreign subjects.

releasing them from the Town Council
& so depriving them of any share ⁱⁿ the
expenditure of the money derived from
the rates - send copy of draft on
41790, copy of 432, & my reply, to the
Secy for info. J.D.

~~Handwritten~~
16 - J.R.

Let Mr. [unclear] see
the draft

8/1
at [unclear]
H.C.
- 9/1

In any further communication on this subject, please quote

No. 42163/08.

and address—

The Under-Secretary of State,
Foreign Office,
London.

430
Recd 5 JAN 09

FOREIGN OFFICE

January 4, 1909.

Sir:-

I am directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter 41790 of the 2nd ultimo respecting the question of establishing a municipality at Mombasa.

I am to state that the principal difficulties in the way of the imposition of taxation in the ten mile strip are the French and German Treaties with Zanzibar. The latter Treaty will however expire in August 1910 and Sir E. Grey has not considered it necessary in view of this fact to bring further pressure to bear on the German Government to modify its provisions. As the Earl of Crewe is aware it is hoped to include the former Treaty in the general negotiations pending with the French Government.

With regard to the enquiries contained in para-

graph

Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office.

(42163/08)"

paragraph 4 of your letter:

(1) The Mombasa Water Committee have probably the impending expiration of the German Zanzibar Treaty in their minds.

(2) Outside the Ten mile strip both foreigners and British subjects are absolutely under British Law and can pretend no claim to exemption from taxation.

(3) The Treaty of 1886 was abrogated by that of the 4th ultimo (of which a copy is enclosed). The position of British subjects under the former Treaty is therefore of academic interest only.

With regard to the annexation of the Ten mile strip Sir E.Grey adheres to the view expressed in the letter from this Department of February 8th, 1907 in that whatever steps are taken should benefit the mainland and island portions of the Sultan of Zanzibar's dominions equally.

Sir E.Grey is further of opinion that the annexation of the mainland could at the present moment hard-

(42163/08)

hardly fail to lead to friction with Germany and
France.

I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

W. Langley

F.O
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E.A.P.

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25
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and 5597

3 Gray

28 January 09

DRAFT

V.P.P.

F.O.

MINUTE.

Mr. Ellis 14/

Mr. Reak 11

Mr. Just.

X Mr. Antrobus, 23 f.

Mr. Coe.

Sir C. Lucas.

Sir F. Hopwood.

Col. Seely.

The Earl of Crowe.

Sir

I am directed by the Earl of Crowe to ask the receipt of your letter No 42163/08 of the 4th inst on the subject of the proposed municipality at Morroa, and to inform you that, before issuing any instructions to the Govt of the E.A.P. as to the course which he should pursue in this matter H.L. would be glad if he could be furnished with replies to the following questions. —

(1) whether ~~the~~ ^{he} ~~Government~~ is to understand that all

Copy sent to Govt of Conf
17 Feb 09
copy ~~sent~~ ^{sent} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~Govt~~ ^{Govt} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~Conf~~ ^{Conf}

the tariffs which give special
rights to foreigners in the
East India, with the excep-
tion of those with France
& Germany, have come to an
end.

(2) whether, in the event of
the negotiations with the
French for the abolition
of their treaty falling
through, it will be possible
to levy rates on all foreigners
in Montreal, except
French subjects. I am
to point out to in this
connection that, as will
be seen by reference
to the Mr. Young's memo
forwarded in the letter
from this Dept of the
2nd ult, there are only
10 Frenchmen resident
in Montreal & that the
estimated yearly rental
of their House Property
is only \$3680 or some-
thing less, or that

The loss of revenue will be
inconsiderable, even if
they refuse to pay any
rates at all.

3 whether, in the event
of French subjects
refusing to pay any rates
or making certain
proportion of the rates
paid by British or
other foreign subjects,
H.M.'s Govt. would be
willing to give up
excluding them from
the Town Council, & so
defining them of any
value in the case of
the money derived from
the rates.

(Signed) R. L. ANTONIUS