

# PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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Kenya **KENYA**

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REF  
RE 26 OCT 23

FROM

DATE

*Colonial Office Secret* July 3<sup>rd</sup> 1922

FOR CONSULTATION:-

SUBJECT

~~Mr. Parkhill~~

Mr.

Mr

Asst. Secy of S

Notes of a Conversation in 3885  
from Foreign Office 3.7.22.

Chief U.S. of S

Head U.S. of S

Secretary of State

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Previous Papers

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Requirements for Record in view

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W. L. G.

Subsequent Paper

SECRET.

L.S.P. 249.H.

FINAL.

BRITISH SECRETARY'S NOTES OF A  
CONVERSATION HELD IN THE SECRETARY  
OF STATE'S ROOM, FOREIGN OFFICE,  
LONDON, ON MONDAY, JULY 3, 1922,  
AT 5 P.M.

PRESENT:-

GREAT BRITAIN.

His Excellency The Earl of  
Beaulieu, G.C.B., Acting  
Secretary of State for  
Foreign Affairs.

The Right Hon. W.S. Churchill,  
M.P., Secretary of State for  
the Colonies.

Mr. R. G. Vandierck, C.M.G.,  
M.P., Foreign Office.

Sir H. J. Ross, K.C.M.G., C.B. }  
Sir J. Macdonagh, K.C.M.G., C.B. }  
Mr. W. C. Bottlesley, C.M.G., C.B.E. }  
Colonial Office.

Sir Maurice Hanky, C.B.E., Secretary.  
Mr. Pembroke Wicks.

ITALY.

M. Schanzer.

Nobile Cav. Giacomo de Martino  
The Marquess Visconti Venosta.  
M. Guarriglia.

SECRET.

L.S.P., 249.H.

ITALY.

BRITISH SECRETARY'S NOTES OF A  
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OF STATE'S ROOM, WHITE HALL,  
LONDON, ON MONDAY, JULY 5, 1920,  
at 5 p.m.

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The Right Hon. W.S. Churchill,  
M.P., Secretary of State for  
the Colonies.

Mr. R. G. Vansittart, C.M.G.,  
M.V.O., Foreign Office.

Sir H. J. Ross, K.C.M.G., C.B. }  
Sir J. Haughey, K.C.M.G., C.B. }  
Mr. W. C. Bottonley, C.M.G., O.B.E. }

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M. Guariglia.

Colonel Office.

frontier that had always existed between Abyssinia and the adjoining British Colony. It was an artificial frontier; nevertheless the British Government asked the Italian Government to prevent tribes from crossing the frontier. That was an obligation they could not undertake. It was impossible to control nomad tribes. An army would be necessary for the purpose. The Italian Government were very grateful to the British Government for giving them this satisfaction of their management. Under the Treaty of London, they appreciated the gift of the Colony of some eighty thousand square miles. In order to solve the perpetually recurring question of these tribes he thought it would be better to maintain the ancient frontiers. The tribes in question in Italian territory instead of asking the Italian Government not to let them pass. This was not because the Italian Government wanted more territory but merely to avoid the tribal trouble.

/MR. CHURCHILL.

MR. CHURCHILL said that the British Government were giving to Italy a very valuable colony of 80,000 kilometres square containing some of the best cotton growing land. It was only just being realised by the British public and would undoubtedly cause some difficulty. No other nation in the world had done anything of the kind, and it was a unique episode in the history of the last few years. If the Italian Government were going to take advantage of this offer they must also take the responsibility of securing that the tribes in the hinterland did not raid British territory. The British Government were entitled to say that they must be secured from the raids of tribes who would probably belong to the Italian sphere and from whom the British colony must be protected.

(Mr. Churchill withdrew at this point.)  
M. SCHANZER said that the point was really a technical one. He suggested that the British Government should add a little more land in order that the trouble with the tribes might be avoided.

SIR HERBERT REAL said the line had been very carefully laid down by the Governor and his officials. It was not difficult to keep the peace. The British Administration had kept it with a double company of soldiers. All that was necessary was to construct a few wells from which trouble was feared. The nomad tribes were gradually pushing further west and the British administration had come to the conclusion that the movement must be stopped. He had seen M. Baccari who had made the same suggestion as M. Schanzer had just made, but had been told that the frontier line was laid down by the Governor and constituted a good tribal division and a good military division.

M. SCHANZER said that there was another question of frontiers, viz the extension to the east to the Lorian

Swamp/

Swamp.

THE MARQUESS VISCONTI VENOSTA said there had been an agreement made with Lord Milner in respect of the Lorian District in which a map had been supplied, but at a later stage a second map was sent which did not agree with the first.

It was agreed:-

That this latter question should be enquired into by the experts.

M. SCHANZER asked whether the British Government could give any concession in respect of the tribes.

SIR HERBERT READ said he was afraid it was impossible. The matter had been most exhaustively studied by the local officials.

LORD BALFOUR said that the Colonial Office had been able to deal with these nomad tribes with quite a small police force.

SIR HERBERT READ said they had only used a double company, 200 men, of the local regular troops.

M. SCHANZER said he would have a talk with M. Baccari who, he understood, was going to have further conversations with the Colonial Office.



**PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE**

**END**

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