

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

SHEET TWO.

EASTERN PROVINCE

INTERLAND JURISDICTION

Headquarters

District Number
to my administration here.

1935

Your obedient servant,

H. R. Wellington
(H. R. Wellington)
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

H. R. WIGGS
cal.

Republic of Liberia,
Eastern Province,
Liberian Hinterland.

MR 22 1935

Juahzen,
District NO. 3,
March 12, 1935.

HAB
His Excellency,
Edwin Barclay,
President of Liberia,
Executive Mansion,
Monrovia.

Excellency,

I have been very anxious to communicate the suggestion of requesting Your Excellency's kind permission, in permitting me to take 100,00 native voters to poll their tickets on the day of election at the Butaw Poll, since the request for a poll at Juahzen, was not granted.

I was hoping that Your Excellency, would have been able to touch this point before election, but it does not seem possible, hence I am submitting this for your sanction.

I am asking the Party, to assist me with a fund of \$500.00 five hundred dollars to defray necessary expenses of what amount possible. I can assure Your Excellency, that the men will be orderly and votes cast without injury to any of them.

With the view of having a favorable consideration,

Approved
** 1000*
Written in book by President
I have the honor to be,
Excellency,
Your obedient servant,

[Signature]
(E. M. [unclear])
District Commissioner.

Republic of Liberia,
Eastern Province,
Liberian Hinterland.

MAR 23 1935

(HAB)

Juahzen,
District NO. 3,
March 17, 1935.

X
His Excellency,
Edwin Barclay,
President of Liberia,
Executive Mansion,
Monrovia.

Excellency,

I addressed a letter to Your Excellency, in which I expressed my anticipations with regard to the ensuing election and what could successfully be achieved without difficulty.

I am awaiting instructions touching the outlined and hope to have your approval. I mentioned about recruiting one thousand native voters, these will be recruited from the two districts of this Province; allocating two shillings to each of the men for their up keep at Butaw for about three days.

I am confident that every success will result, the management will be efficiently conducted without a loss to the Party.

With the view of having Your Excellency's kind consideration and with expressions of my warmest esteem,

I have the honour to be,
Excellency,
Your obedient servant,

E. Tyson Woods
(E. Tyson Woods)
District Commissioner.

Approved

387/385/'35

11th April, 1935

X

Sir,

I have the honour by direction
of His Excellency the President to say
that in respect of your letter of 12th
March relative to voters for election,
your suggestion, as contained therein,
meets the approval of the President.

With kind regards,

Yours faithfully,

Mr. E. Tyson Woods,
District Commissioner
Juahzon.

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Republic of Liberia,
Eastern Province,
Liberian Hinterland.

District No.3,
April 18, 1935.

His Excellency,
Edwin Barclay,
President of Liberia,
Executive Mansion,
Monrovia.

Excellency,

It is with a view of submitting in brief, the working strength of the road project put on by the chiefdoms listed below.

The activities of the chiefs wreck and despoil any energy for reforms and improvements within their confines, however, I am still urging the program.

The Paramount Chief of the Jeadepo chiefdom, totally failed in supplying labourers for public work, I was obliged to impose a fine of fifty (\$50.00) dollars upon him, and also the chief of Wyjah, a fine of twenty (\$20.00) dollars. These chiefs claim that their boys are hiding away in the County because no road work is being carried on there and this is a chance of escaping labour.

Juarzon Chiefdom	tax	50	supplied	46
Tarjozon	"	60	"	40
Wyjah	"	20	"	9
Seekon Section	"	20	"	10
				Total 105 laborers.

Paramount Chief Fonneon	fine	\$20.00	
"	"	Jahboe	" \$50.00 \$70.00

With such frail labour it is difficult to accomplish any speedy and effective work.

The chiefs will not supply any implements which is a requisite to the end of grading roads.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient servant,
Lysen Woods
District Commissioner

MAY 13 1935

X
Greenville,
May 8, 1935.

His Excellency,
Edwin Barclay,
President of Liberia,
Executive Mansion,
Monrovia.

Excellency,

I beg to submit that accordingly, the voters were taken to Greenville on the 6th. instant for the election, and had them to return to their respective sections two days afterwards.

It is regretable to mention that these men were not given proper attention by the Leaders of Greenville, I was obliged to make personal arrangement for their upkeep after the election.

The Leaders gave me an order of (£9: 0:0) nine pounds on the shops for the accommodation of these men which was totally inadequate and they suffered hunger, however, I manifested the usual interest for and on behalf of the Party and Administration.

Fourhundred men were taken to Greenville, and two hundred ordered to Seeton's Polls, what amount sent the chief I am not certain.

It is not meek to state my activities, but fearing that a misrepresentation may be made I have thought it best to give detail of the day. The officials will explain that the polls were principally controlled by the voters from the hinterland under my supervision, and the Leaders did not have the courtesy to offer me and the District Staff a drink of ginger ale after three days struggle with the interior people.

The brief outline is to report the facts, and to give note of the friendly attitude of the chiefs excepting the Paramount Chief of Juahzon Section, who I was compelled to suspend before leaving the District for disloyalty to the Administration.

I have the honour to be,
Excellency,
Your obedient servant,

(E. T. See Woods)

MAY 13 1935

Republic of Liberia,
Eastern Province,
Liberian Hinterland.

District No. 3,
May 10, 1935.

His Excellency,
Edwin Barclay,
President of Liberia,
Executive Mansion,
Monrovia.

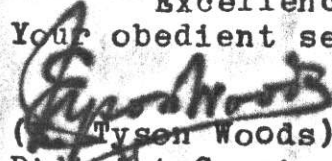
Excellency,

With thrilling appreciation, your undersigned, and the Official Organization of District No. 3, Eastern Province, extend through these succinct lines, their felicitations for the success achieved at the Polls.

We feel assured under this National accomplishment, that a new day in the annals of our history is sure to dawn.

With expressions of distinguish respect,

MAY 13 1935

I have the honour to be,
Excellency,
Your obedient servant,

(Tyson Woods)
District Commissioner.

X
998/383/'35

16th July, 1935

My dear Commissioner Woods,

I have already instructed the Interior Department to send you copy of the complaint made against you by Chief Yenforeh of Tarjozon Chiefdom and expect, after a while, to have your observation thereon.

It, however, occurred to me that I should write you personally about these matters. It is becoming increasingly annoying to the President to have these constant complaints against your action. Generally, you make plausible explanations, but I am struck with the fact that in no District of the country are so many complaints made against the Commissioner as against you. Whilst it is obvious that all these complaints cannot have foundation of fact or can easily be explained, still the frequency of them shews the unsettled condition of your District. Some of the things that have been told me seem to be deliberately designed just for money making. They are contrary to the Regulations and contrary to the policy this Government expects to pursue with respect of

Commissioner E. Tyson Woods,
Juazon District, F.P.

2

the native population. The one aim of Government is to keep the population contented and to give them a chance to make a living. Meanwhile, it is expected that they should contribute towards the development of the Country by making roads and erecting such public buildings as may be necessary for the housing of the administrative officials. But it appears to me that you are careless in respect to whether or not the people are satisfied and contented, so long as you can find means to extract from them money for your own personal use. This would appear to be a rather harsh statement of mine, but one instance mentioned to me, if true, would seem to justify my assertion.

It is reported to me that whenever the Revenue Agent comes for the collection of taxes, when the Chiefs bring the money to you, if it should not be the full amount due, you deduct from the amount paid over to the Revenue Agent certain sums as cost on the ground that the Agent had sued the Chiefs before you. This seems to me to be merely an excuse to extort money out of the people in an illegitimate way. It would appear to me that a more desirable policy would be to advise the people to get their taxes by a certain day prior to the arrival of the Revenue Agent. They would

then have notice as to what time the Revenue Agent may likely come upon them for the taxes and would therefore use their every effort to collect the money by that date. In this event they would very likely have the whole of the taxes and there would be no necessity for you to impose costs upon them under the garb that suit had been ^{filed against} ~~imposed~~ upon them for the taxes. Even if the taxes have not been wholly paid, there is no necessity for you to impose such a burden on the population unless after giving them time to complete the taxes they have failed; and in such event the Revenue Agent should file with you a list of delinquents and these summoned to give reasons why taxes have not been paid fully. Then cost may follow. But, unless this is done, I do not see how you can collect money from these people under such a garb.

2. The people say you never give them a chance to make their farms. If this is true, it is contrary to the Regulations as you know and is short-sightedness in that unless the people have opportunity to provide for their sustenance, you will have famine in the District and they themselves, apart from suffering such a disaster would be unable to contribute otherwise to the economy of the Country by purchasing

goods and improving the Country. The Regulation provides that every year, during farm season, the people should be given opportunity to go to their farms and work them, and that during that time public works and cases in court should be suspended, except cases of a criminal nature. What is the object of compelling the people to be at work to the neglect of their personal interest? What object are you serving and what benefit are you giving the people in such a case?

3. The Regulation provides that you should have a certain number of messengers. I understand that you have a host of sixteen messengers who prey upon the country under the garb of collecting monthly supplies when, as the people say, they regularly give the supplies without any delay. The increase above the number provided by the Regulation is not justified unless it can be supported.

4. Again they say you have a host of personal friends scattered throughout the District and who have to be supported by the population. This is contrary to my policy which is that the Chieftoms shall be imposed upon in this way as little as possible and that the supplies furnished under the Regulation should be the only requisition made on them outside

of the labour requisition. What is the idea of having so many persons around you at the expense of the people?

These things have to be collected or else you will fall down in the estimation in which I have always held you. I should like a complete answer to these complaints and if there is any truth in them you are to make a complete reversal of your policy, else I shall have to find someone else to take charge of the District. I am tired of so many complaints.

Yours faithfully,

Republic of Liberia,
District No.3,
Eastern Province L.H.

X
Juarzon,
August 1st. 1935.

His Excellency,
Edwin Barclay,
President of Liberia,
Executive Mansion,
Monrovia.

Excellency,

I beg to onw receipt of your letter of July 16th. ult.
which arrived to-day's date.

I have read with especial interest your notations, and
wish in short to explain details touching the complaint of the
Paramount Chief of the Tarjozon Chiefdom.

With reference to the charges preferred against me, I
want to request that Your Excellency, will please accept to send
in this District, an Inspector who will rigidly inquire into the
passed and present conditions of this District since my incum-
bency, and if any of the charges that have been made against me
are found to be true that the penalty of death be decreed against
me for misleading the government and maladministration to the poor
native citizens under my jurisdiction.

I am willing to hypothecate any property, salary or other
security, to the government for expenses created if these charges
are found accurate and proven. It has been but one wish with me
and that is, to have Your Excellency's presence here or a repre-
sentative to pass upon my activities.

I have submitted my observations to the Interior Depart-
ment, and as such I will brief these lines.

I am enclosing original letters from the Revenue Agent,
with respect to the tax collections; date of request for prose-
cution and dates in payments by chiefs.

AUG 10 1935

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two.

The bases of tax collections in this district, have always been adjusted by me for reasons that I know the financial conditions of the natives and use every indulgence and measure to prevent the Revenue Agent prosecuting them, but all of this seems that I am the cause of their paying taxes to government in their opinion and they become vexed with my activities.

I have never charged any cost against chiefs who have paid in taxes partially, and, in two instances since my incumbency have any cost been assessed against tax delinquents and this was during the year 1934, after a five months period was given the chiefs to make good their overdue taxes.

I have on no occasion collected a cent of taxes in this district without the Revenue Agent making application to have the chief present, and when they come to his call he is always present and the sums are paid to him and receipt issued in my presence to such chief.

I have not allowed the arrears of taxes and fines to suffer hence I am charged by these people with things that have never entered my mind.

I have always superseded the Regulations when it comes to the farming period, by allowing the entire district five months to make farms. From November to March of each year, no court, road or any administrative work of that nature is carried on. The Tarjozon people as a rule do not cut their own farms, just a precious few, they largely depend upon other sections to lend them labour for this purpose. If any one comes just at this writing in the district, they will find that other section people have a plenty of rice and food stuff, but the Tarjozons are bent on selling other commodities to purchase their rice and such other expenses they have to undergo.

I do not encourage suits in the district; in truth it is always my mind to have their difference settled by the chiefs and clan chiefs out of court, consequently the district court house is hardly any use to the district in this specific purpose.

I really do not know how to explain the ration issue, for reasons that the Regulations provide 50 hampers of rice, and I demand only 35 hampers during the rice season and during the farming seasons a less number of hampers. I have this scheduled in my observations which I am enclosing in this mail.

With regards to civilized persons in the district, this of itself shows how cleaver these people are, they hate to see any thing with a pair of trousers on unless he is a civilized man connected with the district staff. I have got but three only civilized men in this district: Mr. Campbell from Sinoe (Kru) Mr. J.W. Griggs, (Bassa) Mr. Alfred Poney Sinoe, (Kru) clerk to the Tarjozon chiefdom and recently I took on one Mr. Johnson who was former clerk to the Tarjozons as road overseer. I have not got a single man from Grand Bassa excepting Mr. Griggs who came to seek employment and I intimated that there was no chance and he asked to be clerk to any of the chiefs who would

three.

would/
accept of him and I gave him over to the Seekon people because they complained that chief Yanforeh, kept imposing upon them and to check this for peace and order I assigned him to that sub-section with an allowance of TEN SHILLINGS per month only.

These men are directly under my control and are fed from the 35 hampers of rice.

The chief of this chiefdom, is here at the Compound at this writing, and I read his complaint from the Interior Department together with your letter to me and asked him to tell in truth what gave rise to such complaints; he said to me that his people are making representations which he knows nothing of but the object of his report was to request that his fine be rescinded. Such matters as these are greatly annoying to Your Excellency, which I realize, but with remarks of a chief as above mentioned it puzzles any experienced worker.

The forth coming of these complaints are efforts of Mr. T.N. Bote, Mr. T.S. Cole (uncle to the chief) who wanted me to curtail public work in that chiefdom. Mr. Botce, requested me to send hammock and boys for him, I wrote him to say that I had no money but that he should endeavour to get these from the chief in accordance with the regulations; he had to return to Since without calling here-he wrote me asking for goats and other commodities, I had none for myself and it was impossible for me to send him these things when I was buying rice here to feed myself and the staff owing to the limited supply by the chiefs of the district-he remarked to the chief that he will see that another is sent to this district as he was responsible for his Commission and had influence enough to send another as he was private detective to the Government and was sent to conduct election and watch general conditions throughout the County in which he travelled; the people not wanting government control and being influenced by a native-civilized as themselves took this for currency and entered a council; this I am ready to prove.

Mr. Cole, wanted to be district clerk, I could not take him on owing to his inefficiency, and this made him ^{not} and he prompted his chief to report "cruelty" by the Commissioner" without having reasons for such. He has left the district on hearing of my return to Juarzon.

With reference to extortion and greed for money; Mr. President, if you only knew the back ground of these complaints and the persons who are encouraging and supporting them, I am confident that I will be promoted to one of the best districts in the hinterland, but the great veil of distance keeps this hidden from the eyes of the Executive.

The inspiration for Interior Service, came into my mind during the year 1930, when I was Typist in the House, and read the Report of the International Commission; the pangs, the hor-

four.

horrors/

the many malfeasance and other cruel acts reported shocked me greatly and gave me the inspiration to come and help restore broken and crushed confidence. I came to fulfill and not to create and destroy good policies of Your Excellency's Administration but to add to a restoration of peace and order among the natives, with such a view and effort how could I become so cruel and wicked to practice wickedness.

In conclusion, I submit and request that Your Excellency, will pardon me, but send an Inspector or order the chiefs and myself to Monrovia for an investigation, charging me with all expenses if these charges are proven against me.

I am confident that Your Excellency, is exhausted with the volume of complaints that have been submitted from time to time against my activities, but these complaints are results of the people not wanting government rule. I am satisfied that some day if not now, another Commissioner will be sent here, and unless he be a new man in the service, he will not be in this district three months.

Enclosed I am forwarding documents of tax movements from the Revenue Agent, and am prepared to send any other document touching activities here.

Thanking Your Excellency, for the personal letter and interest manifested in me,

I beg to remain,
Your Excellency's obedient ser-
vant

[Handwritten signature]

Republic of Liberia,
District NO. 3,
Eastern Province.

Juanzon,
July 24, 1935.

His Excellency,
Edwin Barclay,
President of Liberia,
Executive Mansion,
Monrovia.

Excellency,

I beg most respectfully to submit for Your Excellency's
information, copy of my observations on the charges alledged by
the Paramount Chief of the Tarjozon Chiefdom of this District.

With expressions of distinguished respect,

I have the honour to be,
Your Excellency,
Your obedient servant,


(E. Tyson Woods)
District Commissioner.

original

Republic of Liberia,
District NO. 3,
Eastern Province.

X

Juanzon,
July 24, 1935.

Subject:- OBSERVATION SUBMITTED ON THE CHARGES
ALLEGED BY THE CHIEF OF THE TARJOZON
CHIEFDOM DISTRICT NO. 3, EASTERN PROVINCE
LIBERIAN HINTERLAND MAY 23RD. 1935.

1. The complaint submitted to His Excellency, the President, embodies four items which I would like to make quite clear since an investigation on the spot is not possible.

- a. That an illegal Fine of (\$72.00) seventy two dollars was imposed upon the Tarjozon Chiefdom without justifiable causes under pretext that labourers were allowed to take produce to market at Since after election.
- b. That it is my habit of calling secret councils with the Clan Chief of his Chiefdom to subvert their loyalty to him and recommend one to succeed him if accepted by them.
- c. That I have styled and established another migrated tribe in their own chiefdom on their territory (Tarjozon), and that he has no account of three years taxes paid in by these people.
- d. That fifteen regular Messengers are attached to the District Ministerial Staff, and disperse them among his chiefdom after collection of Monthly Subsistence to avoid the consumption of rations that sale be made and funds pocketed

2. In commenting upon item (a), would it seem rational or politic immediately after an election for a fine to be imposed upon a faithful and loyal chief who endeavoured to obey orders and instructions- the representation is misleading. Election was on the 7th. of May, the chiefs were given one month rest from road work and the Supervisor of Roads was thus advised. I left for Monrovia and instructed the chief to supply the labourers on the 1st. of June of the current year, failing this he would be fined in the sum of \$72.00, in that he had not been supplying labourers in common with the other sections. On the 27, of May I was at Monrovia; his complaint states that I prevented him from sending his delegation to ~~represent~~ represent his activities-how could such be possible. On returning to the district, I ordered the Supervisor of Road to hand in his report; in this report not a single man was supplied during my absence from the district. I called in the chief

chief/

with his Clan Chiefs on the 22nd. of July, to ascertain their reason for the none supply of labourers. The clan chief stated in council that they were instructed by the Paramount Chief to withhold supply of road labourers failing to observe his orders would subject such clan chief to a fine. He anticipated making a report to the government against my returning to the district since I was off for Monrovia, in that he was responsible for a Commissioner being stationed in this district and is quite able to have the Commissioner transfer or removed at his option. Under this influence and circumstances the clan chief said, they did not supply the labourers. (Minutes of council can be sent if so desired, but do not wish to burden this observation) After investigation of the cause of the chief for disobeying instructions, I on the same day and date imposed the fine. At the time when his delegation was made up I had not imposed this fine, but threaten it if he failed to comply with orders for boys.

The Paramount Chief of Tarjozen, has always given trouble in the supply of labourers for public work. The report of the manager of the road shows that he has on some occasions supplied four to nine labourers when he is charged in a number of fifty labourers in consideration of the capacity of his Chiefdom. Whenever he is brought to answer or explain the shortage he states "that I can not make men" when he has his section full of people idling day in and out. For his continual disobedience and indulgence in the request of his tribesmen to tardy the work I was forced to impose this fine which is legal to save further disobedience.

3. Touching item (b) embodied in this observation. This count of the Chief is far fetch. Would it seem possible with the volume of experience that I have undergone in the settlement of political differences in this district, to cater to the clan chief to subvert the Paramount chief by instigating a propaganda for his removal when just last year he was Commissioned by His Excellency the President, after a three year struggle for a Commission which I recommended would settle the chiefdom... The Clan chiefs are so astonished at this report made by the Paramount Chief until they are ready to come up to Monrovia to repudiate the report without my having to submit a single comment. I leave this for your sound judgment.

4. Touching item (c) embodied in this observation. The Seekon people which he complains of in his complaint are the most industrious set of natives living in that chiefdom-they are of greater asset to the district than the entire Tarjozen tribe. He has the habit of imposing upon these people when it comes to the question of labour-making them the burden bearers simply because they were migrated and settled in that region after some distant tribal war, and do not agree for his Tarjozen people to share equally obligations due government, but rather his kith and kins to sport the whole while and these people form his working class to which I objected. For my not willing to support and acquiesce in his imposition on a set of people who are endeavouring to build and make more extensive their capacity of existence he seeks through this method to represent that no accounts can be given of the taxes paid in by these people. When I took over the District, the Seekon people living on his territory were just a grasp of about fifty settlers with limited authority by the Tarjozen people with oppressive

oppressive measures; these measures were reported to me and I checked them by establishing these people into a group under Regulations, allowing them more consideration and encouraged them to make more extensive their fields of operation, and today they have 100 odd huts when nearly his section has 62 since 1930, and these Seekons 100 odd since 1932.

With regards their taxes, these are seldom in arrears when in truth he has such a heavy deficit until much trouble will result before a completion ever will be made. The Bureau of Internal Revenue, has full tax movement of this district and will show where the taxes are whether paid in by the Seekons or not. I ordered the Collector of Internal Revenue (Revenue Agent) to issue all receipts of the Seekon's chief in his name that he may receive the commission paid by government as an incentive to him and his people since they were more hopeful than the Tarjozon who were in the habit of running away and taking ships to the Coast leaving their land vacant; to this he objects in order that he may get the commission for himself.

5. Touching item (d) embodied in this observation. With reference to the engagement of fifteen regular Messengers and that these messengers are stationed in his chiefdom after the collection of the Monthly Supplies, is misleading and far fetch. With the trend of mind of the people of this district, it would not be punitive to express that each *clan* ~~inhabitants~~ needs five equipped soldiers to be placed in each town for the observance of order and peace. I have engaged in the service the following enlisted Messengers in strict accordance with the Regulation and instructions of Interior Department.

2 Prison Warders
2 District Interpreters
8 Messengers
1 Bugler

3 Road Messengers...these men are uniform alike in "Blue Drill" serving in their capacity. There are often and on boys catering for enlistment in the messenger corps around the district.

With reference to the sale of Monthly Subsistence, I wish it was possible for a monthly return to be made your Department.

The following sections pay thus:

Juarzon Chiefdom	8	Hampers	rice	ea.	56	lbs.	gross	
Tarjozon "	12	"	"	"	56	"	"	
Seekon section	3	"	"	"	56	"	"	
Wyjah "	4	"	"	"	56	"	"	
Karbidee "	2	"	"	"	56	"	"	
Jeadepo "	6	"	"	"	56	"	"	Total 35 H'pers

The above statement of account is exactly what is received at this office and only when the season for rice is on.

four.

Feeding of the District Staff including the detail soldiers and that of Messengers of Revenue Agents and other District Commissioners Messengers passing off the district, together with the prisoners from time to time, this supply becomes exhausted before the close of the month. Whenever I have occasion of patrolling the Tarjozon Chiefdom, I purchase food and use only rations due the Camp if it has not been delivered. The chiefs whenever they are summoned in a council, I am compelled to feed them as they generally do not bring along with them food to maintain themselves. With such low toll in ration supplies where comes the surplus for sale. I regret that no fixed regulation is made by the Interior Department against chief gambling at the reputation of Commissioners when in their acts of disobedience they are held under law and regulation and seeks malicious method to rid themselves.

The Chief of Tarjozon has been under censure for not paying into the Bureau of Internal Revenue, the dollar tax fee when he collects this and utilizes it to his personal benefit-I have him now under ~~penalty~~ for the payment of some fifty dollars due account Government Tax Fee and he thinks that a report will relieve him of this gross act of his.

In conclusion I submit this brief observation and would be in readiness to furnish any evidence and document necessary to explain the basic causes of this wicked complaint of Mr. Yenforeh and his Nephew T.S. Cole clerk to his chiefdom who has deserted the district since hearing of my return to the district.

I have the honour to be,
Mr. Secretary,
Your obedient servant,

(E. Tyson Woods)
District Commissioner.

X

Precis of
The Report of Paramount Chief Yenforeh
of Tarjozon
against
District Commissioner Tyson Woods.

The District Commissioner is in the habit of disregarding, absolutely, the Interior Regulation of 1931 concerning Portage, in that he compels the Chiefs to supply men to carry luggage for his friends and refuses to pay the men. Besides, he collects the monthly supply of rice, sells or gives it away, instead of using it for the messengers and soldiers. He then sends the soldiers and messengers on patrol, so that they might be fed by the people. If food is refused them, they maltreat the people.

In 1933 after settling a dispute between Tarjozon, Yarn and Plembarbo, he ruled that Plembarbo was entitled to a Clan Chief who would be subject to the Paramount Chief of Tarjozon. Subsequently, the Clan Chief of Plembarbo has been allowed to pay taxes directly to the Revenue Agent and not through the Paramount Chief. We are willing to pay taxes, but, the District Commissioner usually takes a portion of the taxes for his cost, and refuses to pay us our tax commission.

In 1934, he collected from each Paramount Chief and Clan Chief, Provision and money to be used to entertain the President and his suite. Upon your cancelling your visit, he refused to return the things collected.

If the people do not attend market in hordes, he imposes fines on the population;

if the children do not sell all of the market, the soldiers and messengers take away the produce and refuse to pay. These things cause the population to become dissatisfied and desert their country.

When C.C.Yannoo and Pyebo returned a few months ago, after having brought to you a complaint against District Commissioner Woods, he had Yannoo beaten, Imprisoned and fined £5:0:0.

These things have caused much unrest in our country, so we bring them to your notice and ask for consideration.

Attached, please find written documents to prove our accusations.

Republic of Liberia,
Eastern Province,
Liberian Hinterland.

Juanzon,
District NO. 3,
July 24, 1935.

His Excellency,
Rowin Barclay,
President of Liberia,
Executive Mansion,
Monrovia.

Excellency,

I beg to hand herewith copy of the delimitation made between the Districts of NO. 2 and 3 of the Eastern Province, in accordance with instructions of the Interior Department for Your Excellency's information.

It is hoped that same will be endorsed in that every effort tendering to make correct lines of identity has been utilized for a joint result of that of the Government and Chiefdoms concerned.

It was not possible to have all of the chiefs present during the setting of the Commission owing to the fall of heavy rains, nevertheless an orderly adjustment and conclusions were arrived at with the chiefs present.

I have the honour to be,
Your Excellency,
Your obedient servant,
E. Tyson Woods
(E. Tyson Woods)
District Commissioner.

AUG 3 1935

T C H I E N

T W O,

July 20, 1935.

The Honourable
The Secretary of Interior, R.L.,
Interior Department,
Manrovia, R.L.;

Mr. Secretary,

Pursuant to your instruction under Ref. 1129/175/
'35, the Commission was duly organized on the 9th of
July for the purpose of bringing to a close the Boundary
Issues of dispute between the Commissioners of The No.
2 & 3 District, Eastern Province, Hinterland Jurisdic-
tion.

In submitting this Memorandum, the Commission
has taken into consideration the importance and urgency
of the mission, and have endeavored to strike a correct
division so as to enhance a stable and permanent Bound-
ary Line between these Districts, and a state of rest
among the Tribes occupying these areas.

In laying Lines of Identity, points suggested
by the Executive as outlined on the Map of the Eastern
Province, have been keenly observed and maintained.
The former Section or town, "Sasadi" is located in
that region but the tribe has deserted this site and
and migrated to another area.

The following is the Delimitation arrived at
and it is hoped that it will meet the desired end:-

DELIMITATION:

DELIMITATIONS:

1. District No.2 shall include all of the territories occupied by the B'haie, Pla, Bhaizen, Gbabe, Berbe, Gerbe, Neerbe, Sadapin², Tchian, Kaana, Kenebe, Glayo, Twarbe, and Putu, between the Nuon or River Coss River and the Cavalla River along the France-Liberian Boundary.
2. District No.3 shall include all of the territories to the North of the Nuon River of District No.2 and to the West of District No.1. and to the South of District No.2. That is to say, all of the territories occupied by Bee, Saken, Tarjosen, Harlaye, Gedepe, Perpe and Timpe.
Harlays

In the delimitation of the boundary line it is essential to ^{mention} that great areas that were formerly inhabited are depopulated by migration to the Sea Beach and other Tribes, and consequently, this memorandum cannot be of a fuller text than what it contains. The regions of the Timpe and part adjacent are still occupied by the hostile tribes hence no patrol has been made by this Commission, but having information from Chiefs together with traces outlined on the Map by the Executive, ^{S&C} those forming part of District No.3 of the hostile zone have been included in the No.3 District until hostility shall have ceased.

The Commission has done its best to delimitate the boundaries of these two Districts in strict accordance with the delineations outlined on the Map of this Province, and we are of the opinion that the delimitations made will be of economical and political value to the Province; but if this value is to be maintained, the Commission suggests that the Executive Government will adopt measures to compel the return of ^{Tribesmen} ~~Indians~~ of the Interior to their respective Districts and Clans.

To avoid the payment of taxes and other public services, they are leaving the Districts thereby giving their Paramount Chiefs various troubles, and the District Commissioners experience many inconveniences in the performance of their duties in keeping

PAGE THREE.

With His Excellency's Interior Policies. This is the only
solution by which an effective reform program will be reached.

The above delimitation to be effective by the rati-
fication of the Interior Department.

Respectfully submitted,

We have the honour to be,

Mr. Secretary,

Your obedient servants,

J. P. ...
[Signature]
SPECIAL DELIMITATION COMMISSIONER

Republic of Liberia,
District No. 3,
Eastern Province.

Janzon,
August 5th. 1935.

His Excellency,
Edwin Barclay,
President of Liberia,
Executive Mansion,
Monrovia.

Dear Mr. President,

In accordance with your instructions I have mailed my observations on the charges alleged by the chief of the Tarzon Chieftom, but inadvertently did not send in a copy of the decision rendered in the land dispute between the Seckon people who migrated in Chief Yenforeh's territory. I am dispatching the entire records for review as this might be of importance to Your Excellency.

In addition to the observations filed, I would like further to express, that no demand is made for food on any of the Tribal Authorities for cool labourers; they have always supplied their own food without reference to this office, and no other supply of rice or cornmeal has been requisitioned, their representation here is malicious.

As regard extortion and methods for seeking money for personal use outlined in his report, I am at a state of quandary what to express. I am not endeavouring to court any sympathetic feelings or indulgence in the slightest manner with the Executive, for wrongs that I have committed, but I must confess that I cannot express how greatly I am grieved at these shocking complaints of chief Yenforeh, when in truth I am ever and anon in a penny state in this district; but for my salary I would not be able to maintain myself and family. I flatly refuse to hear cases in original and discourage such as they have a tendency of affecting the economic glands of the country; for this reason the clerks here have always become dissatisfied with my activities in the courts.

Since my appointment by Your Excellency, I have endeavored to adhere to the strictest and honest manner with which the reform policies will work to the economical, social and industrious good both to the natives and government. If ever any Commissioner has laboured for a joint interest by which a stable Interior Administration may be established I have under severe humiliations and insults by the people.

AUG 24 1935

(2)

In concluding these succinct lines, I submit that Your Excellency will pardon me for making a request that an experienced Inspector be sent to pass upon my activities impartially since my incumbency in this district, and if the charges which have been submitted from time to time to the Executive are found true, that the government subject me to any punitive measures most rigidly. I am placed at a disadvantage because the government do not know the condition in which I met this district and its present state, but if the many atrocious fields from which these malicious complaints were made known I am confident that the Executive would see that some redress be given the writer.

I have not sanctioned any other policy than what was handed in the Regulations and by Instructions, and these have been carefully carried into effect with no little indulgence and sympathy, however, some future will reveal the atom.

I anticipated no speculative motives whatsoever; the government not being a commercial house, but to build an economical, social, and industrious district to be handed down to posterity.

With expressions of my warmest esteem;

I have the honor to be,
Mr. President,
Your obedient servant,
Apzon Woods
District Commissioner.

DEPOSITIONS IN THE INVESTIGATION OF THE LAND ISSUE RAISED BY THE
YARN PEOPLE AGAINST THE SEEKON PEOPLE NEAR THE RIVER SANQUIN.

In the Magisterial Division of the District
Court, sitting in Seekon section,
November 14th, A.D. 1933.

Court met today at the hour of 10,0'clock a.m.

Present were the following :

E. Tyson Woods, District Commissioner.
T. S. Cole, (Actg.) District Clerk.
Yenforoh Fow, Paramount Chief, Tarjozon.
Panto, Clan Chief Seekon Section.
Yanno, " " Tarjozon Section.
Pinjeebo " " Z " "
Power, " Kulu "
Towlish " Yarn "

The Commissioner announced to the Council that he was present in Seekon for the purpose of adjusting the land dispute between the Tarjozon and the Seekon people near the river Sanquin, and it is expected of every person concerned to be summoned by the Chiefs in order that a square deal and equal chance be given the contending parties. The Chief of Seekon in reply extended his thanks to the Commissioner for the kind remarks made, and, said that he was much pleased to have him present in his section for that purpose, for the reason that the Tarjozon (Yarn) section of people have been giving them unnecessary trouble about this particular tract of land.

The Paramount Chief of the Tarjozon Section returned thanks to the Commissioner for what he had said referable to a final settlement of this dispute between the Seekon and Yarn people, because the Seekon people want to claim their own chieftaincy and want of all want to take a piece of land that is not theirs by legal ownership or purchase in the native way.

The Commissioner requested the representative chiefs to name their witnesses that they may be qualified before deposing. The Paramount Chief of the Tarjozon section said that he would like for the old heads of the Country to give a short account of the entire history of the Yarn Section in connection with the Seekon people, and how they came to this land and not the question of any witnesses, to which the District Commissioner readily agreed, if this he said will bring satisfactory adjustment about. He then produced one old man Bhar, and introduced him to the District Commissioner as being the oldest man living amongst the Seekon people and the first man who had settled here, hence his statement is necessary and important.

Bhar to the stand.

Mr. Bhar, you are brought to give the full account of the land on which the Seekon people are living; which land the Tarjozon (Yarn) people claim ownership, what do you know in connection with the issue?

Old man Bhar replied saying that I am a very old man, and I have no cause to lie, I will say just how this land business is. This land is really the property of the Yarn people. I am both a Yarn and Seekon man. My father was a Yarn man and my mother being a Seekon woman, I invited many of my Seekon people to come and live with me on this tract of Yarn land. They accepted of my invitation, this has been many years ago and I can't see what the confusion is about this late day; only that the young people do not live in harmony as we used to do formerly.

Question by the District Commissioner.

You give me therefore to understand that the Seekon people are a migrated group invited to live here by your permission and not otherwise?

Ans. Yes.

Chas. the Seekon Chief in his general remarks said something about a war between the Yarn and the Dolo tribe some years ago this they said brought them to this land, because they were asked by the Tarjozon people to render aid in defense of their country against the Dolo people, and this land was given in compensation by the Tarjozon, as the Seekon people claim for the assistance given, is this true?

Ans. Yes, this land was given to the people as such.

Tallow to the stand.

Mr. Commissioner, I am a Yarn man just as Bhar who just left the stand, and as we are called to give the truth in this land issue I am here to tell you how it really is. We native people like to talk and make big of small things that could be settled in a peaceful manner among ourselves. This land you see is the property of the Yarn people, but it was mutually given to the Seekon people by us for the assistance they gave us in the Dolo war, so I need not talk too much, but he have given you the truth. This land is not the real property of the migrated Seekon group by our permission or grant.

Panto, Clan Chief of Seekon to the stand.

Mr. Commissioner, why have all of this talk about this land, we are strangers here and if the Yarn people or Tarjozon do not want us to be fair with us, let them pay us for our trouble with them in helping them during their war, and we will cross the river and return to our own country. They are talking about this land that they could not defend some years ago against the Dolo tribe, and we really saved them by coming to their assistance when they called upon us, and as a compensation they gave us this land.

However let them pay us our expenses in the war, and we give

up their land, and return to our country across the river, but we will not go without our money being returned to us. It is a native custom that the inferior tribe kill a leopard and take it to the superior tribe to show appreciation for their valour. This the Yarn people did to us, they killed a leopard and brought it to us as an appreciation for the valour we showed in their behalf in the war, this they know to be the truth, and now they hate us for the good we did for them.

The Commissioner, then asked both sides if they had any more witnesses to produce who replied, No. The Commissioner informed both parties he shall hand them the decision after returning to the compound, and thanked the old heads for the information they had given.

Council adjourned.

Certified to be a true and correct copy from the Original.



District Clerk

JUDGMENT IN THE LAND ISSUE RAISED BY THE YARN SECTION OF THE
TARJOZON TRIBE AGAINST THE SEEKON PEOPLE WHO MIGRATED FROM THE
THE SEEKON SECTION OVER THE SANQUIN RIVER.

This matter was brought before this office by Clan Chief Teewleh of
Yarn section (Tarjozon) for the Tarjozon people of that section.
The following facts were brought out after due examination of the
issue at Plambarbo section.

(1) That Bhar the oldest man living in the Seekon Section (a native
of Yarn) said that the tract of land situated and lying in the
Yarn section of country near the river Sanquin, was given over to
the Seekon people in consideration of the aid rendered the Yarn
people by the Seekons during the Dolo war between the Yarn and
that tribe, and further, that Bhar was left there to invite the See-
kon people over to build that portion of country in consequence of
the ruin brought about by the Dolo War.

2^d That the Seekons migrated upon his invitation, and they have al-
ways been cheerful workers from that day, and there is no fact that
this portion of land was not given these people, but this day young
men are seeking spoils without justifiable causes.

(3) That Witness Tarlow stated that he also is a half born Seekon
and Yarn man, but living presently with his father people in Yarn,
and to the best of his knowledge, he fails to know of any time when
the Seekons gave any trouble to the Yarn, but the Yarn invited the
Seekons to rendered some assistance or service in a war between
the Yarn and Dolo tribe some long years ago. The land in dispute
is the Seekons, by right of the mutual compact made between and the
Seekons. Further there is no rightful ownership to the property by
the Yarns.

In consideration of the foregoing facts given in evidence ,
it is hereby adjudged by this Court , that the tract of land lying
near the river Sanquin , known as Plambarbo , owned by the Seekons, is
to be possessed by the Seekon people without further molestation
and trespasses by the Tarjozon people or tribes.

In keeping further with Interior Regulations of 1931
section 58 , under caption of Immigration, the seekon tribe is
authorized to function as a separate and distinct set of people,
and are entitled to have their own Clan Chief or head man as pro-
vided for in said regulation, but subject to a general rule by the
Paramount Chief of the Tarjozon Section.

Given under my hand and signature of office
this 16th day of November A.D. 1933

E. Tyson Woods
District Commissioner,
District No. 3, E.P.L.H.

Certified to be a true and correct copy from the original.

Chalapa
District Clerk

X
(HAI 89)
Tahjuoson Section,
Sinoe County,
Liberia,

August 5th, 1935.

His Excellency,

Edwin Barclay,

President, R/ L.

Your Excellency,

We the people of the ^{above} named Section take this medium to communicate with you touching the action of one District Commissioner Wood, of Eastern Province.

The nature of ^{the} complaint as follow to wit.

During last election We were ordered to proceed to Sinoe Greenville to hold an election, while we were there the said D.C. Mr. Wood asked the Paramount Chief who was at home to furnish some boys to clean the Public road. The Paramount Chief in turn said to him he was waiting the people who were at Sinoe. The D. C. considered this as refusal thereupon he imposed a fine of \$100.00 for which We took appeal to your Excellency this appeal Your Excellency gave us a letter to D. C. Wood.

To our surprise after We returned were informed by the D. C. that your Excellency confirmed his action. Therefore the fine was paid consequently he imposed another fine amounting to \$9.60 to be pay by each Clan, Which he called cost for the Taxes.

Therefore your Excellency We appealing to you this injustice done us by the D. C. Wood ^{is} unwarrant. We as a loyal partisans of the true whig party were doing our duty toward the party and to make the campaign successful We remained in Sinoe until

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elective and for foregoing reason We should not be fine.

As the fine of \$9.60 imposed upon each of our Clans it is illegal as there is no ~~collar~~ collar of right to imposed such fine upon us because he is not a Revenue Collector therefore We are sending this protest to your Excellency for your consideration and immediate action thereon. we are suffering under the iron rule of this man. This new administration we are looking to your excellency to release us from the burden of tyrannical rule of Mr. Wood. This is new Liberia we expecting justice be meted to us as a free Citizens of our common country. Altho we are not civilize but we feel that we should enjoy freedom under our own FIG-TREE.

We have the honour to be,

Yoursobedient Servants.

Yenfueh Faoh, Paramount Chief.

Yenfueh Faoh

Yondu-Wehon

Yondu-Wehon

Teah Deeboe Pahjoeboe

Teah Deeboe Pahjoeboe

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mark

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his

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Pahjoeboe

Republic of Liberia,
District No. 3,
Eastern Province.

Juarzon,
August 10th. 1935.

His Excellency,
Edwin Barclay,
President of Liberia,
Executive Mansion,
Monrovia.

Excellency,

I have to-day received from Chief Yenforeh of the Tarjozon Chiefdom, the full sum of SEVENTY (\$72.00) two dollars in settlement of the fine imposed upon him and his people for the non supply of labourers in accordance with Regulations and Instructions duly issued to him, and have deposited same with the Revenue Agent with a receipt issued in favour of the Chief.

I have explained the circumstances which occasioned this fine and would not have done this without being justified by Regulation. The present supply of his labourers is 14 only boys since my return to the district. I have never made it a habit of imposing fines upon chiefs for every minor violation of the regulations, if this was done the revenue of government under the fine item would culminate in some hundreds monthly in this district, but rather this every ounce of indulgence, advice, and good will is given so as to encourage them to become satisfied with civil rule. I have tried to protect revenue of government on legal lines without organizing methods of fraud and extortion or under garb of prosecution for taxes without the submission of same by Revenue Agent. Every possible means by which taxes could be collected without recourse to law to incur expenses have been suggested from time to time to the chiefs, but most of them are horrible in their attitude towards its settlement which is kept hid from the Central Government. Cost in Revenue issues have never exceeded (\$5.00) five dollars in each single case.

I am compelled to inform you again of another council that has been held by a portion of the Tarjozon people, and they are now enroute to Monrovia. The original complaint was drafted by Mr. Cole, Nephew to Mr. Yenforeh and sent up by one of the Clan Chief of the Plains Section. The Kule people are struggling to be disjoined from his chiefdom, the Plahn Clan Chief are struggling to get his position as Paramount Chief, and all must be had at my expense by fabrications and misleading statements: this is the basic foundation of the present fine issue.

(2)

I am submitting a few of the general habits of the Tarjoren people which I have endeavoured to check without meeting any ameliorative condition.

(a)

The leading Clan Chief Yonne, is a man who has been practicing the Human Leopard Witch Society; I informed the chief that an investigation will be held to solve this practice in his Chiefdom, he opposes this, that it will break his country.

(b)

Another practice among them is; generally, persons are killed within their confines and highways by a group of Witch Dealers. I had an investigation of one issue and the parties are here present in the Guard House under conviction. The chief has given me no little annoyance concerning the release of these people; stating that he feels that they should be charged a sum of money only which I objected to.

(c)

It is their habit of leaving their mean towns and living in one hut villages away in high forest as not to be seen by officials of government for the purpose of avoiding government obligation.

These and countless irregularities are constantly carried on by these people and when efforts to retard this backward trend is made, they result to their usual fabrication. If civil rule is curtailed in that chiefdom not a single complaint will be heard.

This short information is given in addition to what has been submitted already by me.

It would be ever appreciated if the chief, Mr. T.S.Cole, and any other could be called to confront these charges. Not a single one of the Clan chiefs and their Clerk, would stand in an investigation on this charge. The discharged clerks and other civilized persons who were dismissed from this district on account of their illacts are constantly urging complaints against my activities.

It is with no view of giving any personal account of my efforts here; but I can say that my activities have been uninfluenced by motives contrary to honesty in administration, and, that I should give unvarnished truth only whenever I am called upon to explain issues within my knowledge. I would rather be recalled from service Mr. President, than to have the confidence imposed in me by you tarnished without a review of my works here. I have endeavoured never to swerve from honor's broad way, and, in this, I have held tenaciously to the policies that tend for accurate reforms.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient servant,

Lyson Woods
District Commissioner.

1245/385/'35

4th
3rd September, 1935

Mr. Commissioner,

I am instructed by His Excellency the President to say that since his last letter to you others of your District have brought reports against you.

From observation, His Excellency is convinced that the cause of the frequent complaint is a series of rivalry amongst the leaders of the several Chieftdom for the Paramount Chieftaincy, and the complainants have reported certain conditions which His Excellency is convinced cannot be remedied save by his very presence.

His Excellency has decided to make a trip to the Juahzon District as soon after the heavy rains are over as possible, and I have been instructed to so advise you.

Your obedient servant,
RSE

Mr. E. Tyson Woods
District Commissioner,
Juahzon District. E. .

Republic of Liberia,
Eastern Province,
Liberian Hinterland.

Juarzen,
District NO.3,
28th. September 1935.

His Excellency,
Edwin Barclay,
President of Liberia,
Executive Mansion,
Monrovia.

Excellency,

I beg to own receipt of letter 1245/385/'35 with respect to the Tarjezen Issue, and Your Excellency's anticipations of visiting the Juarzen District so soon after the heavy rains.

I indeed cherish the hope that a general review be made on the spot of the volumes of complaints and political propagandas that have been submitted to the Executive from time to time.

I am compelled to mention in this despatch, that Commissioner H.R.W. Diggs, of the Number Two District of this Province, has under the influence of his clerical staff and Paramount Chief Beh of Tchien instigated the Seeken people to protest against that Chiefdom being surrendered to my jurisdiction after the delimitation was made, and this has been instanced by a series of correspondence between us which will be submitted on your arrival to this district.

Unless conditions at Tchien are checked, the whole enlistment of forty odd Messengers, Stationmasters and transportation of various commodities; there will be a disruption of that District. I visited Tchien, and the Mandingo Chief and other officials told me that they fear for Tchien's future.

The conditions above mentioned will be presented to Your Excellency when visiting this District.

I have the honour to be,
Excellency,
Your obedient servant,
[Signature]
District Commissioner.

OCT 25 1935

Republic of Liberia,
Eastern Province,
Liberian Hinterland.

Juarzen,
District NO. 3,
October 26th. 1935.

His Excellency,
Edwin Barclay,
President of Liberia,
Executive Mansion,
Monrovia.

Excellency,

I beg to submit that on the 19th. of October, a group of the Seekon people who had left the interior for a number of years and taken residence in Sinoe, returned to the district with a view of settling themselves in their former homes.

The Leaders of the group are: Nemmeh, Posen and Toobasay, who made representation in Court that they were exhausted of the imposition of certain citizens whose premises they were living on in Sinoe, and had come to live again in the interior and wanted a protection in that they were obligated in some respect to many of them and were afraid that they would be summoned and sent back to those whom they had reference; I intimated to them that the Government would not permit any undue advantage to be taken of any of them that they were originally natives of the interior and had return home just as they migrated to Sinoe. (40 in number)

The Leaders informed me further, that they were glad that I accosted them concerning the returning to their homes, this opportunity had been one that they were seeking for years for reasons that they are living in actual serfdom. During farming periods they have got first to make farms for their "masters" after which undertake their own and most times they are late and have to go the year round loafing here and there for daily meals.

The Leaders above named were not coerced nor penalized in any capacity but were glad to get away from the bounds of certain citizens who feed them with thoughts of hatred for their own interior homes. I am not enclosing minutes of the issue which formed a part of the investigation held on the 19th. of October of the current year.

In submitting this information, it is necessary to mention that the majority of these people are persons once living on the farm of Hon. Roberts of Sinoe. I allotted to them all exemption from public service and obligation for a period of one year in order to rebuild their towns and make farms.

I have the honour to be,
Excellency,
Your obedient servant,

E. Tyson Woods
(E. Tyson Woods)

Republic of Liberia,
Eastern Province,
Liberian Hinterland.

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Juarzen,
District NO.3,
November 2nd. 1935.

His Excellency,
Edwin Barclay,
President of Liberia,
Executive Mansion,
Monrovia.

Excellency,

The Paramount Chief of the Jeadepe Chiefdom, has made representation in person and by delegation that they are being greatly distressed by the constant influx of the Tiempo people into this chiefdom of his without any fear, and have been doing much damage to his people by stealing their wives and other properties-taking and carrying many of his men along also.

The Paramount Chief, requested that I send a few soldiers and messengers to ward of these evils, but I informed him that I was not authorized to station soldiers in his chiefdom, especially when there was all possibilities of combat betwixt the Tiempoes and the soldiers. I suggested that this issue be submitted to the Executive for hearing and conclusion.

He reported further, that a group of his people are becoming allied with the hostile tribes and unless a check is immediately made he and just a few of the Jeadepes will be found to occupy the chiefdom under his jurisdiction.

In consideration of the foregoing and other great points brought out by him, I have suggested that he leaves at once for Monrovia where he will be able in person to furnish all circumstances relative to the present unrest.

With the hopes that the chief will be able to explain in full the difficulties,

I have the honour to be,
Excellency,
Your obedient servant,

[Signature]
District Commissioner.

Republic of Liberia,
Eastern Province,
Liberian Hinterland.

Juarzon,
November 7th. 1935.

His Excellency,
Edwin Barclay,
President of Liberia,
Executive Mansion,
Monrovia.

Excellency,

It is necessary that I report every minor occurrence until
Excellency's arrival in the district.

The Clan Chief of Tarjezen, was reported for having shown
respect to the National Flag by one Clan Chief of Bee of the NO. 2,
District Eastern Province.

An investigation was held upon the complaint made and after a
impartial examination, it was proven that the Clan Chief Yonne, called
the Liberia Flag, a "Society Flag and should not pass through his town
and country". Upon this I fined him the sum of fifteen dollars with
cost of the investigation.

Regreting exceedingly that an inspection could not be made this
year,

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I have the honour to be,
Excellency,
Your obedient servant,

E. Tyson Woods
(E. Tyson Woods)
District Commissioner.

X
Krutown, Monrovia,
December 18, 1935.

His Excellency,
Edwin Barclay,
President of the Republic of Liberia,
Executive Mansion,
M o n r o v i a .

Your Excellency,

We have the honour most obediently to announce our arrival in Monrovia. We are here to meet Your Excellency, (1) to congratulate you for your overwhelm election at the Polls of Liberia; (2) to submit to your Excellency's special attention Complaints against Commissioner E. Tyson Woods, of our District.

For your Excellency's conviction as to the truthfulness of the complaints, we have a few written documents by the signature of Commissioner E. Tyson Woods on various occasions, which we are prepared to produce at the time of investigation. We should have been able to produce more but, in view of the District Commissioner, after he found our Paramount Chief keeping all communications filed, he ordered him to dismiss his Clerk and not to have anymore Clerk in our Chieftdom, but however, what he has received (the Paramount Chief) before then we shall produce for your Excellency's consideration.

A few months ago, we sent C.C. Yannoo and Pyebo to you with a written complaint against District Com. Woods, after they were leaving Monrovia they asked to give them a letter to the District Com. not to molest them for coming up this way which you did, and you told them that the District Com., will not interfere with them. Upon their arrival in the District and presentation of your letter to the District Com. he then caught C. C. Yannoo stripped him naked and he was severely flogged and was imprisoned for a period of six months, and upon release to pay a fine of \$5.00 (five dollars) (five Pounds). Our Paramount Chief went to the D. C. carried 5/- (five shillings) as bond fee for C. C. Yannoo. The D. C. Refused, said that he requires no money but, he will keep Yannoo and his son both in prison because they reported him to the President. The Paramount Chief asked him to release the two prisoners pending your Excellency's arrival for investigation and if the complaints against him are false malicious or misleading your Excellency would handle us for such acts to which he still refused. Therefore, Mr. President, you are our Father and in that we have registered our confidence at the Polls to straighten our affairs, we are appealing to you in the name of humanity to have mercy upon remove District Commissioner Woods and give us another man.

DEC 23 1935

(3) Your Excellency, we beg to refer you to Interior Regulation of the 1931 under Poterage, this passage of the Regulation Com. Woods totally disregarded and is still disregarding same.

(a) On one occasion he sent a message saying that the Paramount Chief must send down to Butou 20 (twenty) men to carry planks from Butou to Sinoe for his friend; the Paramount Chief then wrote him saying that the men should be paid as per the Interior Regulation he got angry and wrote the Paramount Chief to send the planks at once to Sinoe. (letter attached)

(b) Again Miss Pahyonnoe, a native trader at Tchen when leaving Commissioner Brown's District, he refused giving her Poters unless she could comply with the said Regulation, she had then to walk to our section. When she reached there she brought a letter from D.C. Woods instructing the Paramount Chief to give her 15 Poters to Sinoe; the Paramount Chief required payment but, the D.C. gave him no hearing. (letter hereto attached)

(c) He wrote the Paramount Chief on another occasion to supply to Mrs. Josephine Pearson, who was enroute to Tchen to take her to Plembarbo a day's walk and that he would pay. The P. C. did so, and Sine since February last upto the present has not yet received a cent. The letter is also attached, and had he paid the money we would have returned same, but inasmuch as we haven't received any payment for the boys thought to keep the said letter.

(4) Our Chiefdom is required to pay monthly 20 (twenty) hampers of rice, each hamper containing 60 (sixty) points. He orders us to send this rice down to Sinoe monthly for sale and to give his friends Hon. J. N. Lewis, et al. (copy of letter hereto attached) After he has sold all the rice of the District to West & Company at Sinoe, the messengers and soldiers have no food to eat, he then sends them on Patrol that they can be fed. They go and start flogging, forcing, and maltreating the people for food.

(5) When it was announced that you were coming to the District, he ordered each Paramount Chief to pay one goat and one pound sterling, and each Clan Chief one goat and ten shillings. The whole Chiefdom twenty hampers of rice from each town, two fowls, and the whole Section to give two hundred eggs. We supplied these, and after you did not come, he used these things for himself. We also sent him one hundred and fifty fowls.

(6) On the 16th of November, 1933 Com. Woods judged a land dispute between our Section and Yarn and also Plembarbo. He ruled that the Plembarbo is entitled to a Clan Chief to be governed by the Paramount Chief of Tarjozon. Subsequently, Com. Woods has been permitting the Clan Chief of said Plembarbo to pay Taxes direct to the Revenue Agent, and not t

through

through our Paramount Chief, which makes our people feel that the Seekon people have taken possession of a portion of our country and has got them all upset and will if a check is not put to it, it will cause a great trouble in the future. (copy of Judgement attached)

(7) The Clan Chief of Yarn reports to our Paramount Chief that the D. C. is continually fining him for his people not attending market in a great number. We conceived the interpretation of the Interior Regulation to read that:-

"Market is a voluntary enterprise and not
"a matter of compulsion, but whether a man
"has commodities or not, he is to attend
"market, he is bound to bring something
"to the market.

This is indeed a hard pressure on us, and causes the people to desert their country, whenever the children carry stuff to the market and is not sold out, the messengers and soldiers take it from their hands without any consideration whatever, the children then have to return home without money nor commodities.

(8) Mr. President, we are in perfect harmony to pay good taxes, but, when we pay the tax D.C. Woods takes some of the money out of the tax for his cost as he says, we then have to go to our people for them to find more money to make up the correct amount. He deducts *£12. 18-0-0* (eight pounds) from the tax as his cost. We fail to see his requiring cost for tax collection especially when we are willing to pay tax but the act of the District Commissioner in compelling us to pay cost without any trial we fail to see why; for this, we are appealing to you. Since the election of the Paramount Chief, this is the 3rd year, and we have paid two years' Taxes completely and haven't got any tax Commission from the Government. We wonder as to whether this money is still in the Treasury for us, or whether we are not entitled to any Commission.

Mr. President, in consideration of the above, we are begging Your Excellency to please lend us a listen ear, and relieve us of the depression under which we are labouring. We are suffering from the cruelty of District Commissioner Woods and his people, and we have appealed to you to-day as our father who is able to settle everything and bring about peace in the land.

We are anxious to meet you and when we shall have seen you, everything will be fully expressed from the deepest of our minds.

Wishing to hear from you early,

We remain dear Mr. President,

Your humble and obedient Servants,

Yenfored Mark *his* *Sewleh* *his*
Paramount Chief *mark* Yarn Section
Tarjazon *Plahn* Section *Clan Chief*

Juarzon District NO.3,
April 29, 1934.

Mr. Yenforeh,
Paramount Chief Tarjozon,
Plahn Section.

Sir,

This comes to inform you that I am today sending this messenger to collect the folws charged each town, and you are to give him a messenger of yours to accompanying him in the collection, as I wish to have only the number taxed each town and no more which you will please immediately put forward.

I am not certain of the date on which the President will be coming here but want to have everything in perfect order before his arrival that no shortage of food and the like may retard our work, hence please see to this at once.

I have decided to reduce the monthly supplies to the following as under listed and this proportion is to be during the present year begining from the first day of May of the present year.

Plambarboe Section	Three	Hampers	ea.60lbs.	per month.
Seor	"	Two	" 60 "	"
Kulu	"	(6) Six	" 60 "	"
Plahn	"	Four	" 60 "	"
Yarn	"	Four	" 60 "	"
Bigbush	"	One	" 60 "	"
				Total 20.

Please be informed that I will not reduce this under any circumstance: it will be useless for you to communicate with this office respecting reduction; the ration should be increased instead of reducing the supplies, but to render all possible assistance to you and the people I have done this in view of the annexed section which will shear the balance that you formerly paid. The oil you will please send as soon as you can and not delay further in this.

Failing to send in the supplies before the fifth of this month (May) you will be fined for derilect.

Yours faithfully,

District Commissioner.