

60013/36 B. Guiana.

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C. O.

Mr. Rootham 16/6/36.

Mr. Sidelotham 16/6/36

Mr.

Sir C. Parkinson.

Sir G. Tomlinson.

Sir C. Hattanley.

Sir J. Shuckburgh.

Permt. U.S. of S.

Unly. U.S. of S.

Secretary of State.

Ans'd 32  
J

DOWNING STREET,

22 June, 1936.

Sir,

I am etc. to refer to

(20) Colonial Office letter numbered as above of the 11th May and connected correspondence regarding the British Guiana - Surinam Boundary, and to ~~transmit to be laid before the~~ enclosure, for the information of the Army Council, copies of a despatch dated the 8th May which was addressed to the Governor of British Guiana, and of a telegraphic reply which has been received from him.

2. It will be seen that the Governor agrees that it will be undesirable to concede the point raised by the Netherlands Chargé d'Affaires regarding the estuary of the

**DRAFT.** conson.

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,  
WAR OFFICE

To Gov. No. 173. B.5.36.  
No. 17

Fr. Gov. Tel. No. 90. 1.6.36.  
No. 26

FURTHER ACTION.

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the Courentyne River. The point referred to as "No. 63" in the Governor's telegram is to be found <sup>marked as 'BEMM 63'</sup> in the neighbourhood of the junction of latitude 6° and the coast of British Guiana on the map published in 1913 on the scale 1 inch = 10 miles, by the authority of Governor Sir Walter Egerton under the direction of the then Commissioner of Lands and Mines, Mr. F. Fowler.

(annexed below -  
to be returned  
to Mr. Sidebotham)

3. The Secretary of State understands the Chief British Commissioner's proposal to mean that the boundary mark referred to in Article 1(2) of the draft Treaty will be <sup>or in the neighbourhood of</sup> erected at "No.63", and that structures projecting more than 50 metres into the river may be built as far as a point ten miles upstream from that boundary mark. On this assumption, he concurs in the Commissioner's suggestion.

4. He would accordingly propose that Articles 1 (2) and 5 (2) of the draft Treaty with the Netherlands Government should be formulated

C. O.

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Sir J. Shackburgh.

Permt. U.S. of S.

Partly. U.S. of S.

Secretary of State.

formulated as follows:-

Article 1 (2).

"The beginning of the left bank of the River Courantyne at the sea shall be the point at which a line drawn on a bearing from true north of 28° east from the beacon erected at or in the neighbourhood of "Benab or 63" which is marked at approximately latitude 6° north and longitude 57° 10' west on the map of British Guiana at 1 inch to 10 miles published under the authority of Sir Walter Egerton by Mr. L.S. Hohenkerk, Government Surveyor in 1913, intersects the shoreline.

Article 5 (2).

"The subjects of His Majesty

Beacon to be erected before the treaty is signed by a joint commission.

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*The two protocols appearing in the present draft treaty below Article 1(2) should remain as drafted*

FURTHER ACTION.

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Majesty the King shall have full liberty to drive piles, construct wharves, boat houses, or any <sup>other</sup> structures, on the left hand of the river, always provided that such structures do not impede navigation, and do not project beyond the thalweg of the channel of the river which flows by that bank, or at any place above a point 10 miles upstream from the beacon referred to in Article 1 (2) more than 50 metres from the lowest recorded low-water mark into the water channel of the river. No prescriptive rights of any kind against Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands shall be derived from the existence of such works either on the river or on its bed."

5. ~~He would be glad to learn whether the Army Council are in agreement with his view.~~ *If so, he will prepare to request the Foreign Office to inform the Netherlands government accordingly.*

*He would wish to know whether the Army Council sees any objection to the Netherlands being so informed accordingly.*

*and within the consequent attentions in the treaty the draft treaty*

I am, etc.,

(Signed) H. BECKETT