

Христио АНДОНОВ—ПОЛЈАНСКИ

БОСАНСКО — ХЕРЦЕГОВАЧКИ УСТАНАК 1875 И 1876 ГОДИНЕ У ИЗВЕШТАЈИМА БРИТАНСКОГ КОНЗУЛА У СОЛУНУ И ДРУГИ ПРИЛОЗИ

БОСАНСКО-ХЕРЦЕГОВАЧКИ УСТАНАК из 1875 године нашао је на широки одјек у Великој Британији. Британска дипломатија, још од раније чвршће заинтересована за догађаје на Балкану, сматрала је овај устанак сигналом за још већи ангажман у решавању Источног питања, за још доследније спровођење своје империјалистичке политике у овом делу света. Због тога британски дипломати у Османском царству добили су широка овлашћења за стално и пажљиво посматрање тока овог устанка, устаничких акција и односа Високе Порте, као и других сила заинтересованих, у већем или мањем обиму, у решавању овог, за оно време, Гордијевог чвора на Балкану. Ове интенције британске политике најангажираније је спровео у дело британски конзулат у Солуну. Дипломатски претставници овог конзулата одиграли су улогу у праћењу тока Босанско-Херцеговачког устанка, као и за што верније информисање своје амбасаде у Цариграду и владе у Лондону. Најагилнији у овом послу био је конзул Џ. Е. Блант (J. E. Blunt), чији извештаји доприносе расветљавању новијих страница овог устанка.

Извештаји и други прилози Џ. Е. Бланта о Босанско-Херцеговачком устанку обухватају период од 18 августа 1875 до 1 августа 1876 године, односно период прве фазе устанка, који заузима димензије његовог ширења и последице примирја од 25 јула 1876 године. Ове извештаје и прилоге Џ. Е. Блант је слао свом амбасадору у Цариграду — Х. Елиоту (H. Elliot) и секретару за спољне послове — Лорду Дербију (the Earl of Derby). Они су били директно упућивани претпостављенима или индиректно послати, најчешће Лорду Дербију. У извештајима налазимо и различите прилоге, којима је именовани конзул поткрепљивао своје ставове или преносио званичне материјале издате од турске владе и турских војних кругова. Овде сусрећемо и званичне телеграме, затим исечке из турске солунске штампе, као и друге материјале.

У сагласности са постојећом конзулском јурисдикцијом конзул Џ. Е. Блант углавном је обухватио подручја у непосредној околини Солуна. Међутим, због непостојања конзулата у Скопју и Битољу, овај конзул је више пута обухватао и подручја ових конзулата, односно скоро највећи део Македоније.

Материјале за своје извештаје и прилоге конзул Џ. Е. Блант је прикупљао на више начина. У првом реду преко самосталног посматрања ствари и догађаја, затим преко рада својих службеника и информатора преко званичних турских извора, као и преко других канала.

У извештајима британског конзула Џ. Е. Бланта наилазимо на интересантне материјале о Босанско-Херцеговачком устанку и за све последице које је овај крупан догађај наметнуо Османској империји и Великим силама чиме је започела нова фаза у развоју Источног питања.

Приложени материјал о Босанско-Херцеговачком устанку даје подробнији увид почетка, тока и завршетка његове прве фазе. Општа је констатација да се у њима устанак прати континуирано и са пажњом. У првом плану то су саопштења о устаничким акцијама, а затим око контраакција турских власти да спрече ширење устанка. Највећи део података односи се на турску војну припрему, за скупљање, прегруписање и слање трупа на босанско-херцеговачка бојишта. У том погледу центри у Македонији служе као главна база за концентрацију турских трупа и за њихово пребацивање у Босну и Херцеговину. С тим у вези, са пажњом се прати ток устаничких акција и односа турских снага, као и други подухвати повезани са резултатима самог устанка. Сви ти материјали служе као веродостојнији извор за историју Босанско-Херцеговачког устанка.¹⁾ Међутим у њима сусрећемо контрадикторност, неразјашњеност и недоследност. Критичким коришћењем и компарирањем документације могуће је доћи до праве истине.

У Прилогу излажемо оригиналну транскрипцију извештаја и других материјала Џ. Е. Бланта, које се односе на Босанско-Херцеговачки устанак — 1875 и 1876 године. У погледу транскрипције може се констатовати извесна нескладност у француским прилозима. У примедбама покушавамо да дамо извесна објашњења око нејасноћа у тексту, а и друге податке повезане са самим проблемом устанка.

¹⁾ Види: Correspondance respecting the Affairs of Turkey and the Insurrection in Bosnia and the Herzegovina. — Turkey (1876), 1—376. — Account and Papers 43 (1876), vol. LXXXIV, 255—562 (J. E. Blunt 354—376); List of Foreign Office Records to 1878. London 1929, (Salonica, Uscup, Monastir pp. 222—243).

О најновијим прилозима за историју Босанско-Херцеговачког устанка види: „Међународни научни скуп povodom 100-godišnjice ustanka u Bosni i Hercegovini, drugim Balkanskim zemljama i Istočnoj krizi 1875—1878. godine. Т. I—III. Sarajevo 1977.

1.

J. E. Blunt²⁾ to the Earl of Derby³⁾

No 12
Political

Salonica⁴⁾, August 19. 1875

My Lord,

I have the honour to inclose for your Lordship's information Copy of a Despatch I have this day addressed to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople⁵⁾ reporting military preparation in my Consular District in connection with the insurrection in the Herzegovina.

It is the popular impression here that the Austro-Hungarian Government does not maintain an exact Neutrality; and that the insurrection cannot be quelled without much difficulty and bloodshed.

I have the honour to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt

INCLOSURE

J. E. Blunt to Henry Elliot⁶⁾

Copy
No 35

Salonica, August 19. 1875

Sir,

I have just been informed that a contingent of the Rediffs⁷⁾ of Roumelia⁸⁾ is to be enrolled for immediate active services.

It will be composed of 20 Battalions of 800 men each. Three of these Battalions will be enrolled in Province of Salonica, and the remainder in provinces of Monastir⁹⁾, Drama, Serres, Thessaly and Epirus.

²⁾ Ц. Е. Блунт (J. E. Blunt), британски конзул у Солуну; на служби у овом конзулату од 1872 године. (The Foreign Office List. London 1878, 39).

³⁾ Едвард Хенри Смит Стенли, петнаести Лорд од Дербија (Edward Henry Smith Stanley, fifteenth Earl of Derby, 1826—1893), од 1874 године Секретар за спољне послове у влади Дизраелија (Chambers Biographical Dictionary. London 1946, 293). Види: Lord Derby, The Eastern Atrocities. London 1876, 23; W. V. Temperley and L. M. Penson (eds.), Foundations of British Foreign Policy from Pitt (1792) to Salisbury (1902) or Documents old and new selected and edited. Cambridge 1938 (XIX. Beaconsfield, Derby and Salisbury 1876—80, pp. 375—389).

⁴⁾ Данашњи — Солун.

⁵⁾ Данашњи — Цариград (Истанбул).

⁶⁾ Хенри Елиот (Henry Elliot), британски амбасадор у Цариграду 1875 и 1876 године. (PRO.-FO 78/2402. Turkey. Salonica, 1875).

⁷⁾ Редифа (Rediffs) — резервна војска, резерва. (Види: А. Škaljić, Turcizmi u srpskohrvatskom jeziku. Sarajevo 1966, 533).

⁸⁾ Румелија (Roumelia) — турски назив за заузете територије; затим назив за већи део европске Турске, у којој је улазила и Македонија. Од 1864 године са увођењем новог административног уређења званично овај назив се губи, но, ипак остаје у употреби. (Види: Советская историческая Энциклопедия. Т. 12. Москва 1969, 256).

⁹⁾ Данашњи — Битољ (Битола).

One the available Regular Troops in Monastir have been ordered by the Porte¹⁰⁾ to proceed to the Herzegovina; and those in the provinces of Epirus and Thessaly are being collected at the ports of Prevesa and Volo respectively where they are to be shipped, if required, for Antivari.¹¹⁾ The garrison duties in these provinces will devolve on the Rediffs.

I am also told that Mehmed Ali Pasha¹²⁾, the Imperial Commissioner for the suppression of brigandage in Thessaly and Epirus, has been ordered to proceed at once to the Herzegovina, but in what capacity my informant does not know.

I have, etc. etc.

Signed/J. E. Blunt

(Public Record Office (PRO).¹³⁾ — Foreign Office (FO) 78/2402. Turkey Salonica 1875).

2.

J. E. Blunt to the Earl of Derby

No 13
Political

Salonica, August 29-th 1875

My Lord,

I have the honor to enclose herewith for the information of Your Lordships Copy of a Dispatch I have this day addressed to Sir Henry Elliot reporting incursions recently made by the Montenegrins¹⁴⁾ and Serbians¹⁵⁾ into Turkish Territory, and the concentration of Turkish Troops at Novi—Bazaar¹⁶⁾ and Sienitza¹⁷⁾ in the South of Bosnia.

I have the honor to be, et.. etc.

J. E. Blunt

¹⁰⁾ Порта (Porte); Висока Порта (Sublime Porte) — Паша-каписи, баб — и-али; зграда турске владе, односно Османске империје.

¹¹⁾ Данашњи — Бар.

¹²⁾ Мехмед Али Паша (Mehmed Ali Pasha) османски комесар за Тесалију (PRO.-FO 78/2402).

¹³⁾ Сва приложена документација је из фондова званичне архиве Велике Британије у Лондону (Public Record Office).

¹⁴⁾ Односно — Црногорци.

¹⁵⁾ Односно — Срби.

¹⁶⁾ Данашњи — Нови Пазар. Употребљава се форма — Novi Bazaar и Novi Bazar. (PRO.-FO 78/2402).

¹⁷⁾ Данашња — Сјеница.

INCLOSURE

J. E. Blunt to H. Elliot

Copy
No 88

Salonica, August 29.th 1875

Sir,

I addressed Your Excellency the following Telegram (in cipher).¹⁸⁾
„August 28th 1875 Official Reports received here Yesterday state that Servians crossed frontier Wednesday last, and attacked near Nova Warosh¹⁹⁾ in Bosnia, a squadron of Turkish Cavalry killing Captain and several men, same day Montenegrins made eruption into Ottoman Territory they were repulsed leaving Seventy four men killed and wounded.

This morning orders were received here from Porte to despatch immediately all enrolled Rediffs to Novi-Bazar instead of the Herzegovina.

The above information with the following particulars was furnished to me from a sure source.

The squadron of Turkish Cavalry was surprised and fired upon by parties of Armed Servians who had crossed the frontier on Wednesday the 25th Instant. Its captain and Lieutenant besides two troopers were killed, and is had to retreat in view of the position and force of the aggressors.

The Report from Novi-Bazar does not state whether the Servians recrossed the frontier.

The affair near Popova²⁰⁾ close to the Montenegrin border appears to have been far more serious.

According to the official Report wired to the Minister for War, a body of insurgents reinforced by armed Montenegrins under the Chiefs Milan and Potta²¹⁾ was attacked and defeated by a Battalion of Turkish Troops in the vicinity of Popova. The conflict last 4 hours, and the report adds that the long range of their Rifles enabled the Imperial Troops to inflict on enemy a loss of 34 in killed and 40 wounded, without their losing a single man.

A Montenegrin onbashi (corporal)²²⁾ was taken prisoner by the Turks.

The Ottoman Authorities anticipating further aggressions on a more formidable scale from Servia and Montenegro are concentrating Troops in the vicinity of Scienitza and Novi-Bazar. Both here and at Monastir streng-

¹⁸⁾ Односно — сурпер, метод тајног писма.

¹⁹⁾ Односно — Нова Варош.

²⁰⁾ Свакако — Попово Поље или Попово (Види: S. Ljubobratić — Т. Kruševac, Prilozi za proučavanje Hercegovackog ustanka. — Godišnjak Istoriskog društva B i H V (1956), 318—325.

²¹⁾ Ради се о вођи устаничких добровољаца — Милана Раковића (Милан) и попа Жарка Љешевића. (Potta — односно Прота). О овом догађају види: М. Екмеџић, Ustanak u Bosni, 1875—1878. Sarajevo, 1960, 109—111. Овај аутор користи и извештаје британских конзула у Босни — Фримана и Холмса упућени Дербију и Елијоту).

²²⁾ Онбаша (onbashi-corporal) — десетар, каплар. (А. Škaljić, Op. cit., 502).

then orders have been received from the Porte to despatch with all possible speed to the above localities the Rediffs are generally destined for the Herzegovina.

The Monastir Battalion was dispatched yesterday by train from Kiupruli.²³⁾

The Istip²⁴⁾ and Uscup²⁵⁾ Battalions will start tomorrow, and those being enrolled here. Serres and Drama will leave this in three or four days; the Railway will carry them as far as Mitrovitza 250 Miles distant from here and about 3 days from Novi-Bazar.

I have, etc. etc.

Signed/J. E. Blunt
(PRO.-FO 78/2402)

3.

J. E. Blunt to the Earl of Derby

No 14
Political

Salonica, August 30th 1875

My Lord,

I have the honor to inclose in Copy a further Despatch which I have addressed to Sir Henry Elliot, reporting military movements in connection with the insurrection in the Herzegovina; and adverting to the sentiments of the Christian inhabitants, and to the revival of brigandage, in my Consular District.

I have the honor to be., etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt

INCLOSURE

J. E. Blunt to Henry Elliot

Copy
No 39

Salonica, August 30th 1875

Sir,

I have the honor to report to Your Excellency the following information on the military movements in Thessaly furnished to me by Mr Vice Consul Suter²⁶⁾ under date Larissa, August 23d 1875.

„The total forces in Thessaly consist of: —

One Battery, 6 guns of Field Artillery, stationed at Larissa;

4 Squadrons of Cavalry, Lancers, in barracks at Tirnova;

²³⁾ Данашњи — Титов Велес.

²⁴⁾ Данашњи — Штип.

²⁵⁾ Данашњи — Скопје.

²⁶⁾ Сутер (Suter), британски вице-конзул у Лариси. (PRO.-FO 78/2402),

1 Battalion, 8 companies, half cautioned at Volo, half at Armyro, of Infantry;

1 Battalion, 8 companies, distributed between Larissa and Tricalla of Infantry;

1 Battalion, 8 companies, distributed between Farsala, Dunoco and Feneri, of Infantry;

The Artillery and Cavalry have not moved.

Recent telegraphic orders to hasten off all the Infantry which was not to have started for 10 days to come, have hurried matters; and last night the two Battalions collected here, commenced their march, to join the one mustered at Volo, whence the whole will embark in government Steamers expected there for them, to be landed, I believe, at Antivari.

The Infantry thus disposed of is to be replaced in Thessaly, for the present by the local Rediffs now being called out.“

M-r Vice Consul Blakeney²⁷⁾ writes to me under date — Prevesa August 22nd 1875 that: „All troops at present in Epirus are ordered to leave for the Herzegovina.“

Yesterday evening the provincial Authorities received orders from the Porte to expedite the levy of Rediffs. These orders are executed with great energy by the Pasha of Salonica. Fully 20.000, men it is estimated, will be enrolled in provinces of Salonica, Thessaly, Epirus, Monastir, Serres, Drama and Uscup. —

The withdrawal of so many hands, chiefly from the agricultural Class, when harvest is barely completed, and the vintage is approaching, will inconveniently interfere with the industry of these provinces — but the recruitment is proceeding very satisfactorily, and the different districts are furnishing their quota of men with promptitude if not enthusiasm.

These warlike preparations, the anxiety of the Ottoman Authorities at the situation of affairs in the Herzegovina, and the great uncertainty which the public feels with regard to the issue of the present crisis, contribute in no small degree to the excitement of the people, and to the circulation of all sorts of reports. The latest is that the Latin or Roman Catholic Albanians of Miridit²⁸⁾ — a very warlike people — are disaffected, and waiting for a favorable opportunity to make common cause with the insurgents; but the Ottoman Authorities here have received no information whatever in confirmation of this report...²⁹⁾

At present I do not apprehend any serious troubles in these frontier provinces³⁰⁾ further than a revival of brigandage, of which already, I am sorry to say, there are very strong indications.

²⁷⁾ Блакени (Blakeney), британски вице-конзул у Превеси. (PRO.-FO 78/2402).

²⁸⁾ Мирицити, Мирдити (Miridit), племе у северној Албанији.

²⁹⁾ Текст у продужетку говори о ситуацији у Македонији и није у складу са темом. Види: Љ. Лапе, Друштвено-економске прилике у Македонији у доба Босанског Херцеговачког устанка и личност Димитрија Поп Георгија Беровског. — Посебна издања књ. ХХХ. — Одј. Друштв. наука књ. 4. АНУ Б и Х 1977, 131—142.

³⁰⁾ Мисли се о Македонији и друге граничне покрајине Европске Турске.

Almost immediately Mehmed Ali Pasha was transferred to the Herzegovina the Robber Chief Stiatzo (?)³¹ who had taken refuge in Greece, crossed the border into Thessaly to renew his former courses; and two other Chiefs Caloyeros and Rappos have also begun to give signs of activity.

Caloyeros with 7 Confederates has made his appearance in district of Carditza in Thessaly, and has already captured one hostage.

In district of Doiran in Macedonia the brigands have very recently perpetrated most atrocious outrages. They seized, about five days ago, a wealthy Turk and his wife, and after subjecting them to gross indignities, they gouged out the man's eyes, and then hacked him to pieces in his wife's presence! the latter they mutilated by cutting and maiming her hands! She is still alive and has given information which it is hoped will lead to the apprehension of the Author of these horrible outrages. — The Pasha of Salonica has dispatched after them the Colonel commanding the Provincial Police.

In adverting to the revival of brigandage in my Consular District I should add that the Pashas of Janina and Salonica have been recently authorized by the Porte to offer an amnesty to all Brigands who surrender themselves to the Authorities.

Brigands against whom no accusers appear within a given date after they surrender, are not to be subjected to punishment, but only to two years' police Supervision; those against whom accusers can prove their crimes will undergo two years' imprisonment — and two years' police supervision.

This measure, I fear, will only tend to fasten the evil from which these frontier provinces have suffered so much and so long.

I have, etc. etc.

Signed/J. E. Blunt
(PRO.-FO 78/2402)

4.

J. E. Blunt to the Earl of Derby

No 15
Political

Salonica, September 2nd 1875

My Lord,

Intelligence reached here yesterday from Novi-Bazaar, that armed parties of Montenegrins had again crossed the frontier—menacing Gusinje, a small town not far from Ipek³²), an Albanian town in North Albania³³), included in my Consular District; and that at the same time large bodies of armed Servians appeared on the frontier, not far from Novi-bazaar; and

³¹) Вероватно — Stiatzo или Stratzo. (PRO.-FO 78/2402).

³²) Данашњи — Пећ.

³³) У ствари ради се о црногорској варошици — Гусиње.

that some of them have made inroads into Turkish territory. My informant further tells me that the official Telegrams, conveying the above intelligence to the Ottoman Government, add that the *Christian*³⁴⁾ and Mahomedan Peasants in the vicinity of the frontier had retired for safety into the town of Novi-Bazaar. I have every reason to believe that the above information is correct.

The general in Command at Novi -Bazaar has telegraphed for reinforcement, and my correspondent at Mitrovitza³⁵⁾ writes under date the 29-th Ultimo as follows: „On our arrival here*)³⁶⁾ the soldiers had hardly prepared their tents and beds for the night when a telegram from the Commander at Novi-bazaar ordered them off at once to that place, and the whole battalion left 3 hours after its arrival. They say that Yeni-Varosh (Nova Varosh) beyond Sienitza — a small town near the Servian frontier, has been blockaded by Servians — and that there was hard fighting going on. — This is getting rather close.“

In the meantime most active efforts are made by the provincial Authorities to dispatch the Rediffs to the scene of disturbances.

The Monastir, Uscup, Istip, and Salonica Battalions — representing a force of 3200 men, — fully equipped and armed with break loaders have reached Novi-Bazaar. The Serres Battalion, 800 strong, is expected here tonight and will be conveyed tomorrow by Railway to Mitrovitza. Two further Battalions from Drama and Giumorjina will embark on Saturday the 4-th Instant at Cavalla in Government Steamer; they will be here on Sunday night and start on Monday the 6h Instant for Mitrovitza. A Battalion of Broussa Rediffs is daily expected here en route to Uscup to be stationed there — at which place, I am assured, large supplies of Military equipments and provisions are being collected.

Fresh orders have been received by the military Authorities at Monastir from the Ministry of War for the additional levy of Rediffs; and large-contracts for Biscuit and flour have been made by the Authorities of Monastir, Salonica and Uscup. I am also happy to say that with a view to get rid of the odious system of embargo, the authorities are purchasing 1.000 horses for the transport Service of the troops at Novi - Bazaar.

On the whole it appears from these preparations that the Ottoman Government are increasing to the utmost extent that is practicable their forces in the disturbed districts.

Omer Pasha, the Governor General of Salonica³⁷⁾ a military man — seems to think that the object of the Mountenegrins and Servians is to get possession of the strip of Country in the South of Bosnia which separates Servia from Montenegro and thus close the door into Bosnia from Roumelia.

But as far as I can recollect the topography of this part of Turkey and the spirit of its inhabitants, I do not think that such a result can be easily, effected. The Country in question is mountainous, occupied by Albanians

³⁴⁾ Подвучено као у оригиналу. (PRO.-FO 78/2402).

³⁵⁾ Односно — Косовска Митровица.

³⁶⁾ Примедба је од потписника овог извештаја.

* With the Uscup Battalion of Rediffs. (Примедба као у оригиналу).

³⁷⁾ Има се у виду — главни Валија у Солуну. (PRO.-FO 78/2402).

of whom fully Eight tenths are staunch Mahomedans. Who are accustomed to desultory warfare, and from whose assistance the Gouvernement will derive great advantage in any emergency in which they may feel that the existence of the Empire is at stake.

Already those in the towns of Ipek and Jacova have taken up arms and marched to the assistance of Gusinje; and the military authorities of Monastir and Salonica have received from there and from Prisrend, Pristina and other towns and Villages pressing applications for Rifles and amunition.

I have the honor to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt
(PRO.FO 78-2402)

5.

J. E. Blunt to the Earl of Derby

No 16
Political

Salonica, September 6th 1875

My Lord,

I have the honor to enclose herewith for the information of Your Lordship, the Copy of a Despatch which I addressed on the 4th Instant to Sir Henry Elliot reporting further information on military preparations in my Consular District.

I have the honor to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt

INCLOSURE

J. E. Blunt to Henry Elliot

Copy
No 42

Salonica, September, 4th 1875

Sir,

I have not been able to learn if the Authorities here have received any further information relative to the Servian and Montenegrin inroads into the South of Bosnia.

In the meantime this Authorities continue their military preparations with all diligence and despatch.

A large Government Steamer, the „Malakof“ arrived here yesterday morning from Constantinople with a battalion of troops on board. These troops were immediately disembarked and despatched by Railway to Mitrovitza from where they will march to Nish, an important fortified town near the Servian frontier, to join the Corps d'Armée which is being concentrated there. This Steamer also brought large quantities of arms, ammunition and other military stores which are being landed and dispatched to Uscup.

The Serres Battalion 800 strong, arrived here last night, and left early this morning by the railway for Mitrovitza with orders to proceed from there with all possible dispatch to Yeni-bazaar³⁸⁾ where a Corps d'Armée is being collected also, to be Commanded by Mehmed Ali Pasha who is expected there the 6th Instant from Scutari³⁹⁾ in Albania.

The Drama and Ghimourjina Battalions have marched down to Cavalla and are there waiting the Government Steamer which is to embark then for Salonica.

One thousand Bashi Bozouks⁴⁰⁾ are being enrolled at Uscup for Service at Novi-bazaar (Yeni-bazaar) and one thousand at Philippopoli⁴¹⁾ for Nish.

The large barracks and stables outside of this town are being repaired and furnished at a cost of L 5.000; and the Pasha of Salonica has received orders from the ministry of war to take efficient measures in order that the Troops at Yeni-bazaar should have sufficient supplies at command. These being contracted for, for three months Viz. —

250.000.	okes	of	flour	per	month	
110.000.	do	—	fresh	meat	per	month
10.000.	do	—	Salt	do.	do.	
20.000.	do	—	Butter	do.	do.	

Officers have also been dispatched into the interior to purchase 20.000 native Blankets.

With reference to the troops which have passed through this town I must say in justice to the Ottoman Government, that their order and discipline were equally conspicuous: not a single case of drunkenness and licentiousness was reported against them.

Most of them seemed to me to be seasoned soldiers, and far better officered and equipped than was the case during the Crimean War.⁴²⁾

I have, etc. etc. etc.

Signed/J. E. Blunt

(PRO.-FO 78/2402)

³⁸⁾ Односно — Нови Пазар.

³⁹⁾ Односно — Скадар.

⁴⁰⁾ Башибозук (Bashi Bozouk) Basibasouk) — нередовна турска војска.

⁴¹⁾ Данашњи — Пловдив.

⁴²⁾ Кримски рат (1853/54—1856 г.)

6.

J. E. Blunt to the Earl of DerbyNo 19
Political

Salonica, September 16th 1875

My Lord,

I have the honor to enclose a Copy of a Despatch which I addressed on the 13th Instant to Sir Henry Elliot, reporting the dispatch of more troops to the Servian frontier.

I have the honor to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt

INCLOSURE

J. E. Blunt to Henry Elliot

No 45

Salonica, September 13th 1875

Sir,

I have the honor to report to Your Excellency that Troops continue to be dispatched to the vicinity of the Servian frontier.

The Ghiumorjina Battalion arrived here on the 7th and was dispatched on the 8th Instant to Mitrovitza by the Railway.

The Drama Battalion arrived here on the 9th and left for Mitrovitza on the 10th.

On the 11th Instant a Government Steamer, the „Feizi Bahri“ brought here two battalions from Smyrna. These troops were immediately landed and dispatched the same day to Mitrovitza with orders to march from there to Nish. They took with them o nethousand cases of ammuniton.

This morning a Government transport arrived from Constantinople full of military stores, which are being landed and forwarded by Railway to Uscup.

A General of brigade is expected here with a large staff to superintend the purchase and transport of provisions to the troops at Novi-bazaar.

The „Edirne“ a Steam frigate puried (?)⁴³⁾ for 20 guns arrived here yesterday; and two dispatch Boats are also expected here. These Vessels of War are to be employed as Coast guard Cruisers in the Gulf of Salonica.

I beg leave to correct an error in my Report No 38, of the 29th ultimo: — Senitza, and not Novi-bazaar, is three days distant from Mitrovitza. Novi-Bazaar can be reached in one day from Mitrovitza.

I have, etc. etc. etc.

Signed/J. E. Blunt

(PRO.-FO 78/2409. Turkey, Salonika. 1875)

7

H. Elliot to J. E. Blunt

Therapia, Sepr. 19. 1875

In some of your Desps.⁴⁴⁾ are reported that Basibazouks had been sent to Nish and Novi Bazaar.

Are you satisfied that the report was correct.

H. E.⁴⁵⁾

(PRO.-FO 195/1072. Turkey. Salonica (1875)

8.

J. E. Blunt to the Earl of Derby

No 21
Political

Salonica, September 20th 1875

My Lord,

I have the honor to enclose herewith a Copy of my Despatch of this date to Sir Henry Elliot reporting further Armaments in this province.

I have the honor to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt

⁴³⁾ Нејасно у оргиналном тексту. (PRO.-FO 78/2409).

⁴⁴⁾ Односно — Despatches (Dispatches).

⁴⁵⁾ Иницијали односе се на — Хенри Елијота.

INCLOSURE

J. E. Blunt to Henry Elliot

Copy
No 48

Salonica, September 20th 1875

Sir,

On the 16th Instant I forwarded to Your Excellency a Telegram — in Cipher — worded thus:

„Authorities continue Armaments. Thirty Guns, Six hunderd Artillerymen, five hundred horses, twenty ammunition Waggons, and 140 tores ammunition leave Monastir today for Nish. No recent news from insurgent districts.“

I beg leave to report the following further military preparations in this province: —

On the 17th Instant a government steamer, the „Sheriff—Ressan“ I believe arrived here with a battalion — 800 strong — on board.

These troops immediately disembarked, and were conveyed on the 18th by the Railway to Pristina from where they marched to Nish.

On the 19h Instant other Government steamer — the „Izzeddin“ arrived here from Prevesa with General Fuad Pasha on board.

This general landed here, and will proceed tomorrow to Novi-bazaar to take the command of a Division under the orders of Mehmed Ali Pasha. The „Izzeddin“ after discharging a quantity of Arms and ammunition destined for the 3d Army Corps at Monastir left this morning for Constantinople.

The „Jeizi Bahri“ and the „Houdavendighiar“ two Vessels of War arrived in this port early this morning, the first from Smyrna with two Battalions and one thousand cases of ammunition on board, and the second from Constantinople loaded with ammunition.

The two Battalions — 800 men each — have been landed. One of them has already left by the Railway for Pristina with orders to March to Nish; the other will be conveyed tomorrow to Mitrovitza and march thence to Novi — Bazaar.

The Houdavendighiar after discharging her Cargo of ammunition will take on board 500 bat horses and 4.000 trusses of hay, for krek for army in the Herzegovina.

I am told that more troops are daily expected here from Asia Minor. I should add that the troops which up to this day have been dispatched to the frontier, were all armed with „Sniders“, that each man carrid three days provisions; and that moreover every battalion was supplied with from L 4.000 to L 5.000 of ready money.

I have, etc. etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt

(PRO.-FO 78/2409)

9.

J. E. Blunt to Henry Elliot

No 49
Sent Home

Salonica, September 28th 1875

Sir,

According to recent intelligence received here from private sources it seems that bands of Servian volunteers continue to cross the border into Bosnia between Yeni-bazaar and Novo-Varosh, that they are invariably defeated and driven back by the Turkish Troops; and that the Christian peasants out his side of the border are quiet and take no part in these inroads.

In Monastir, Serres, Uscup, Larissa, Drama and other chief centres in my Consular District perfect tranquillity reign and the taxes continue to be regularly paid; — and I am glad to say that the prediction that there would be a revival of brigandage in the greek frontier provinces consequent upon the removal of Mehmed Ali Pasha has not been fulfilled so far.

On the contrary the brigand Chief „Rappos“ with three or four followers has very recently given himself up to the Ottoman Authorities in Thessaly.

As regards military preparations no further troops have arrived at Salonica since my Report No 48 of the 20th Instant.⁴⁶⁾

Ammunition and military stores continue to be dispatched daily to Novi-bazaar.

The 3 Battalions of Thessaly Rediffs have embarked at Volo in Government Steamers and left that place on the 18th to be landed I believe at Antivari.

Large supplies of breechloaders, Cartridges and powder are being dispatched to Prisrend⁴⁷⁾ the Chief town in North Albania. Yesterday morning no less than 140 tons of Gun powder were conveyed by the Railway to Pristina destined to Prisrend.

Ali Saib Pasha, Ex-Minister for War, arrived here on the 26th and left out the 27th for Monastir, where he has been appointed Governor General and Commander in Chief of the 3d Army corps.

Raouf Pasha Ex — Minister of Marine arrived here the same day and has entered upon his duties as Governor General of Salonica in the room of Omer Pasha recalled to Constantinople.

⁴⁶⁾ Види: Извештај бр. 9 (Inclosure).

⁴⁷⁾ Односи се на — Призрен (на Косову).

Dervish Pasha who was lately transferred from the Government of Bosnia⁴⁸) to that of Monastir, and subsequently called to the capital, also arrived here on the 26th and will embark in today's mail boat for Constantinople.

I have the honor to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt

(PRO.-FO 195/1065. Turkey. Salonica 1875)

10.

J. E. Blunt to Henry Elliot

No 50
Confidential
Not Sent Home

Salonica, September 28th 1875

Sir,

With reference to that part of my Dispatch No: 49 of this date reporting the expedition of military stores to Prisrend the Chief town in North Albania I beg leave to add that I have heard from a reliable source that the military Authorities are collecting large supplies of Arms and Ammunition at Monastir, Uscup and Prisrend for the purpose of arming not only the 2nd ban of Rediffs, but the Albanian bashibozouks should their services be at any time required by the State.

I have the honor to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt

(PRO.-FO 195/1065)

11.

J. E. Blunt to the Earl of Derby

Political
No 23

Salonica, October 3rd 1875

My Lord,

I have the honor to enclose herewith copy of my Dispatch of this date to Sir Henry Elliot relating to Turkish Armaments; and to the outrages which are perpetrated by the insurgents in the Herzegovina.

I have the honor to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt

⁴⁸) Везир Босне од маја 1874 године. (Васа Чубриловић, Босански устанак, 1875—1878. Београд 1930, 36).

INCLOSURE

J. E. Blunt to Henry Elliot

Copy
No 51

Salonica, October 3rd 1875

Sir,

I have the Honor to report to Your Excellency that two Government Steamers the „Houdavendighiar“, and the „Izzeddin“ left this port for Klek⁴⁹⁾ on the 29th Ultimo: the former with 350 bathorses, 750.000 lbs. of biscuits and 3.500 brasses of Hay, and the latter with ammuntion, barley and other Stores, on board, destined for the Imperial Troops in the Herze-govina.

The Steam Frigate „Jeizi Bahri“ arrived here from Smyrna on the 30th Ultimo with 2 Battalions of Rediffs on board. These Troops disembarked here and were immediately dispatched by the Railway to Pristina with orders to march to Nish. The „Jeizi Bahri“ left this morning for Smyrna to embark 2 more battalions.

The „Shani Nousret“ a Government transport also arrived here on the 2nd Instant from Smyrna, I believe, with 4 battalions on board, 2 of these Battalions will proceed to Novi-Bazaar — and 2 to Nish.

Within the space of one month — that is to say between the 3rd of September and the 2nd Instant — 14 Battalions^{*50)} of Rediffs have landed here, and have been dispatched to Nish and Novi-bazaar. This number does not include the Monastir, Uscup, Istip, Serres, and Salonica Battalions which have been enrolled and dispatched to the frontier by the provincial Authorities; and I am assured that 12 more battalions which are being enrolled in Asia Minor will shortly arrive here for the same destination.

No recent official information that I knew it has been received by the Authorities here from the insurgent districts.

The following is an extract from a Letter which I received yesterday from a correspondent (an Italian)⁵¹⁾ dated Mostar September 17. 1875:

„The insurgents commit atrocities; they pillage and burn the villages, and Massacre the families of those who refuse to join them against the Government. They respect not the aged, the women and the Children; they

⁴⁹⁾ Лука на Јадрану.

⁵⁰⁾ Примедба је од потписника овог извештаја.

* With one of two exceptions all these Battalions had thier full complement of 800 men each. (Примедба као у оригиналу).

⁵¹⁾ О дописницима италијанских листова за време Босанско-Херцеговачког устанка види: Rade Petrović, Stillman i Danusso о Hercegovačkom ustanku 1875—1878 — Godišnjak XI (1960), 284—285.

kill all, and many families are thus obliged to take refuge in Ragusa.⁵²⁾ Eight Italians embarked on board the Steamer Lucifer at the Bocche di Cattaro;⁵³⁾ they had gone to join the insurgents but have returned as beggars having been robbed by them of all they possessed.“—

I have, etc. etc. etc.

Signed/J. E. Blunt
(PRO.-FO 78/2409)

12.

J. E. Blunt to the Earl of Derby

Political

No 24

Salonica, October 14.1875

Copy sent to H. M.

Embassy at Constantinople

My Lord,

I have the honor to report to Your Lordship, that Lord Russells⁵⁴⁾ Letter of sympathy for the insurgents of Herzegovina and Bosnia, as published in the „Times“; and the theory propounded by the „Times“ for constituting these two provinces into independant Principalities under the Seizerainty of the Sultan have caused a very bad impression among the influential Turks in this City;⁵⁵⁾ — they think, and indeed it is the general impression among the Greeks here, that Her Majesty's Government have changed their policy towards the Turkish Empire.

I enclose extract of a Letter which I have recently received from a Bulgaro-Wlach at Kiupruli; — and also the translated copy of a leading Article of the „Zaman“ (Times) of Salonica — an independent Turkish paper which has a wide circulation in this province.

The „Zaman“ also recently published a very strong article against the „Times“ espousing it to contempt and derision for espousing the cause of an insurrection which has been fomented and is supported by foreign Agency.

I am glad to say that from all I hear tranquility continues to prevail in Thessaly, Epirus and Macedonia.

Troops continue to arrive here and to be dispatched to Novi-bazaar and Nish.

I have the honor to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt

⁵²⁾ Односно — Дубровник. О избеглицама види: Marko Vego, Korespondencija ustaničkih vođa u Hercegovčkom ustanku 1875—1876 god. s don Perom Bačićem iz Stona. — Glasnik Zemaljskom muzeja u Sarajevu (Istorija i etnografija) n. s. sv. XI (1956), 41—48

⁵³⁾ Односно — Бока Которска.

⁵⁴⁾ Леополд Русел (1828—1894), британски дипломата. (Види: R. Petrović, Stillman i Danusso., 294).

⁵⁵⁾ Ibidem, 283—284.

INCLOSURE I

Translation of a Leading Article published in the Turkish Newspaper „Zaman“ of Salonica⁵⁶⁾

Nous avons promis dans notre No 124 de donner à nos abonnés les nouvelles que nous aurions puisées relativement à l'insurrection de l'Hercegovine.

D'après les diverses feuilles politiques que nous avons parcourues la cause de la révolte ne serait point comme on la prétendu, le refus de payer les taxes légitimes exigées par le Gouvernement, comme la Dime, le remplacement militaire etc. etc. le fameux projet de réunir toutes les races Slaves sous un seul noyan serait le véritable mobile de cette affaire.

Nous savons que l'intention des Slaves est de se condenser tous sous la bannière de la Russie; mais autant ce projet est difficile à réaliser, autant il est facile au Gouvernement Impérial de comprimer la révolte.

L'opinion publique qui est toujours porté à exagérer les choses prétend que les forces des insurgés sont très considérables; que celles-ci sont commandées par des chefs étrangers, et que la Serbie et le Monténégro viendront soutenir les agitateurs tout ceci pourtant n'empêche pas le Gouvernement de venir à bout de ces insurgés.

A part une grande partie de l'armée active qui a déjà été envoyée au théâtre de l'Insurrection voici que la première classe de Rediffs s'y rend, et si besoin est, nul doute que toute la nation ne s'éleve en masse à la défense de notre glorieuse patrie. Nous ferons de nos jours une forteresse inexpugnable contre toute espèce d'attaque.

Si les habitants de l'Herzégovine en se soulevant croient suivre l'exemple de Crète et s'attendent à ce que nous fassions pour eux des règlements et des compromis spéciaux — qu'elle grosse erreur! Le temps d'interventions étrangères n'est plus. Afin de conserver l'intégrité de notre pays et de finir une fois pour toutes avec ces insurgés punissons les rigoureusement et étouffons ce incendie selon nos propres volontés sans nous soumettre à celles de l'Etranger.

Puisque nous savons par nombreux exemples que dans ces sortes de questions la perte de temps ne sert ordinairement qu'à provoquer l'intervention étrangère et des grandes dépenses.“—

INCLOSURE II

Extract of a Letter in English from a Bulgaro-Walach at Kiupruli.—⁵⁷⁾

„I take the liberty of requesting you will have the civility to transmit to me some times the English news, which you receive from England the land of liberty and the fatherland of the first constitution.

⁵⁶⁾ У прилогу чланак из „Замана“ дат је у преводу на француском. Овде га преносимо како је у оригиналу, без већих интервенција и коректури превода. (PRO.-FO 78/2402).

⁵⁷⁾ Исечак из писма преносимо како је у енглеском оригиналу. Писмо је без потписа. (PRO.-FO 78/2402).

England as I remarked in the last numbers of the *Levant Herald*⁵⁸⁾, and particularly the Articles in the „*Times*“ has changed its oriental politics.

I am glad — even enthusiasimized to see her again as the first champion of ⁵⁹⁾.....may heaven reserve her for ever.“

(PRO.-FO 78/2402)

13.

J. E. Blunt to the Earl of Derby

Political
No: 25

Salonica, October 18th 1875

My Lord,

I have the honor to inclose herewith for the information of Your Lordship a Copy of the Dispatch which I have this day addressed to Sir Henry Elliot in relation to the appointment of Raouf Pasha⁶⁰⁾ to the Command in Chief of the Ottoman Troops in the Herzegovina.

I have the honor to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt

INCLOSURE

J. E. Blunt to Henry Elliot

No: 54

Salonica, October 18th 1875

Sir,

I have the Honor to report to Your Excellency that yesterday evening Raouf Pasha Governor General of Salonica, received a Ciphred Telegram from the Grand Vizir announcing his appointment as Commander in Chief of the Imperial Troops acting against the insurgent districts; and requiring him to make arrangements to proceed to his command with all possible dispatch either by sea or by a special train to Mitrovitza.

His Excellency who was kind enough to communicate to me this Telegram half an hour after its receipt, told me that subject to the Porte's approval, he proposes going by the Mitrovitza route as he will have the advantage of personally observing the state of things in the districts near the Servian frontier.

⁵⁸⁾ Турске новине.

⁵⁹⁾ Изостављено као у оригиналу. (PRO.-FO 78/2402).

⁶⁰⁾ Код В. Чубриловића (Op. cit., 96) — Реуф Паша.

He expects to leave this and arrive at Mitrovitza on Wednesday the 20th Instant. On Thursday Evening he will reach Novi-bazaar where he will remain the whole of Friday to inspect the Army, and confer with Mehmed Ali Pasha. On Saturday the 23rd he will continue his journey to Bosna—Serai⁶¹⁾ by way of Sienitza and Tashlidja (Plewle) and arrive there on or about the 27h Instant.

Raouf Pasha during his short tenure of office acted in a liberal and enlightened spirit, and appreciating fully the urgent necessity of reforms, appeared determed to carry out the Imperial Edicts which have been recently promulgated for the better administration of the provinces.

His removal from Salonica is therefore universally regretted.

I have, etc. etc. etc.

Signed/J. E. Blunt

(PRO.-FO 78/2402)

14.

Henry Elliot to J. E. Blunt

Therapia, Octr 20. 1875

Sir,

I have received the copy of your Desp. No 23. to the E. of⁶²⁾ Derby reporting that the letter of Ld. Russell and the recent articles in the Times Newspaper has given (?)⁶³⁾ to an impression that there was a change in the policy of H. M Govt. towards this Country.

I have to remark that when occasion offers in will explain that such is not the case.

Ld. Russell' letter merely expressed his own individual views and met with little approval in England.

H. M. Gt. have no connection with the Times newspaper, whose articles in favour of erection Bosnia into an autonomous State do not appear to represent the opinion of any considerable member of those who have practical occur intense (?) with the recruitments of that province.

⁶¹⁾ Односно — Сарајево.

⁶²⁾ E. — Earl.. У овом писму — препису су дате много-скраћенице. Они се износе као у оригиналу. (PRO.-FO 195/1072).

⁶³⁾ Нејасно у оригиналу.

H. M. Govt. cannot be sympathize⁶⁴) with populations which have grievances to complain of, and there is no change in their policy, where has always been to encourage the Porte to proceed with the improvement where is called in the administration of the Provinces.⁶⁵)

H. E.⁶⁶)

(PRO.-FO 195/1072)

15.

J. E. Blunt to the Earl of Derby

No: 27

Salonica, November 25th 1875

I have the satisfaction to report to Your Lordship that tranquillity continues to be preserved in Epirus, Macedonia and Thessaly. The Vice Consuls in Epirus and Thessaly inform me that these provinces are comparatively free from brigandage.

Macedonia is still infested by some bands of robbers, but Ahmet Hamdi Pasha, who has recently been transferred from the Pashalik of Bosnia to that of Salonica, is taking energetic measures against them.

I have the Honor to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt

P. S. November 26th 1875

A Telegram arrived here this morning from the Porte intimating that Ahmet Hamdi Pasha has been superseded as Governor General of Salonica by Hussein Avni Pasha, one of the Ex-Grand Vizirs.

This Constant change of Governors' within less than nine weeks three Governor General have been superseded at Salonica is productive of very great harm to the provincial Administration.

J. E. Blunt

(PRO.-FO 78/2402)

⁶⁴) У оригиналу — sympathise.

⁶⁵) О британској политици према Источном питању види: W. V. Temperley, and L. M. Penson, Foundations of British Foreign policy, pp. 375—389; R. W. J. Seton-Watson, Disraeli, Gladstone and the Eastern Question. London 1935, 16—50. О британском јавном мњењу за време Источне кризе види: G. C. Thompson, Public opinion and Lord Beaconsfield (1875—1880). London 1886, vol. I, 23—172. (Види: Хр. Андонов-Полјански Британска библиографија за Македонија. Скопје 1966, 136 и сл.).

⁶⁶) Односно — Henry Elliot.

16.

J. E. Blunt to Henry Elliot

No: 4
Not Sent Home

Salonica, January 21st 1876

Sir, I have the satisfaction to report to Your Excellency that perfect tranquillity continues to prevail in the town and province of Salonica.

I beg leave to avail myself of this opportunity to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's Telegram of the 11th Instant by which Your Excellency is pleased to convey to me Your Excellency's entire approval of my having refused to attend the meeting called by the Austrian Consul, and stating that no such step should be taken without a reference to the Embassies except upon an evident emergency.

I have the honor to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt
(PRO-FO 195/1107. Turkey, Salonica 1876)

17.

J. E. Blunt to the Earl of Derby

Political
No: 3

Salonica, January 25th 1876

My Lord,

I have the honor to transmit to Your Lordship herewith enclosed a copy of a Despatch which I have addressed to Sir Henry Elliot reporting information from the insurgent districts.

I have the honor to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt

INCLOSURE

J. E. Blunt to Henry Elliot

Copy
No: 6

Salonica, January 23. 1876

Sir,

On the 21st Instant I telegraphed to Your Excellency as follows:—
„Official intelligence reached here this morning that the insurgents have been completely routed by the Turkish Troops near Trebigne.⁶⁷⁾

⁶⁷⁾ Односно — Требиње.

Large numbers of wounded rebels have gone to Ragusa.“

The authorities here have not yet received details of the above engagement.

Parties who have recently come here from Bosnia state that notwithstanding the great severity of winter the Ottoman Troops are gradually subduing the insurgents.

My informants also tell me that the districts in the South to Bosnia, under the command of Mehmed Ali Pasha, are no longer molested by Servian inroads.

I am further informed that the manager of the Salonica Railway has received orders to make arrangements for the conveyance of 20 stores (?)⁶⁸⁾ of Mortar Shells⁶⁹⁾ to Uscup destined for the Fortress of Nish near the Servian Frontier.

I have, etc. et. etc.

Signed/J. E. Blunt

(PRO.-FO 78/2495. Turkey. Salonica 1876)

18.

J. E. Blunt to Henry Elliot

No: 15
Not Sent Home

Salonica, March 14. 1876

Sir.

I have the honor to report that troops are being collected here from the interior for service in Bosnia and the Herzegovina.

Those destined for Bosnia will be sent by the railway to Mitrovitza while the reinforcements for Herzegovina will be despatched in Government Steamers to Klek.

I very much regret to say that the inhabitants complain of the insubordinate Conduct of these troops, they are composed of Albanian recruits principally and do not appear to be held under good discipline by their officers.

Some of the Foreign Consuls also have had occasion to complain to the Pasha of Salonica of their misconduct, and have applied to their Embassies to address representations to the Porte on the subject.

I have the honor to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt

(PRO.-FO 195/1107.)

⁶⁸⁾ Нејасно у оригиналу.

⁶⁹⁾ Један вид кратких топова. (The Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English. London 1967, 636).

19.

J. E. Blunt to Henry Elliot

No: 16
Not Sent Home

Salonica, March 21st 1876

Sir,

I have the honor to report that the local Authorities have received stringent orders to press the expedition of reinforcements to the insurgent districts.

Last week a Battalion 800 strong arrived here from Smyrna in a Ves-sel of War and on landing was immediately dispatched by the Railway to Mitrovitza and has already reached its destination — Novi-Bazaar.

The „Ismail“ a Government Transport left this Port for Klek on the 17h Instant with 700 recruits on board. And an other transport with a batta-lion on board was dispatched on the 11h Instant from Cavalla, also bound to Klek.

There are about 2000 troops here waiting for transport to Convey them to Klek and I hear that recruits and rediffs are being collected in Thes-saly and Epirus for service in Bosnia and the Herzegovina.

Tranquillity prevails in Macedonia.

I have the honor to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt
(PRO.-FO 195/1107)

20.

J. E. Blunt to Henry Elliot

No: 17
Not Sent Home

Salonica, April 22nd 1876

Sir,

I am told-but I — cannot say if there is any foundation in the report — that the Ottoman Authorities are quietly arming the mahomedan popu-lation in the North Albanian districts near the Montenegrin and Servian frontiers.

Last year large quantities of Gun powder and Rifles were collected at Uscup and Prisrend; and I know for certain that a special train has been requisitioned by the Pasha of Salonica for the transport to Uscup of 60.000 Rifles expected to arrive here in a few days.

A Government steamer is on the way here to emdark 1,200 infantry for Klek — and the local authorities are again buying horses and mules for transport service in Bosnia; and contracting largely for Barley, Rice and Butter for the Army at Novi-Bazaar.

I am glad in having to report that tranquillity prevails in my Consular district; and that the Easter festival has been celebrated by the Christians at Salonica, Monastir and other Chief towns with the customary public rejoicings and demonstrations.

I have the honor to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt
(PRO.-FO 195/1107)

21.

J. E. Blunt to Henry Elliot

No 18
Not sent Home
Confidential

Salonica, April 22.1876

Sir,

After writing my Report No: 17 of this date I was told by a person of confidence that he had seen a Mahomedan Merchant who arrived here this morning from Bosnia and had heard from him that now that the insurgents had rejected the conciliatory offers of the Porte, the mahomedan inhabitants of that province would shortly rise en masse against them.

I have the honor to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt
(PRO.-FO 195/1107)

22.

J. E. Blunt to Henry Elliot

No 21
Not sent Home

Salonica, April 28. 1876

Sir.

Yesterday I forwarded Your Excellency a ciphered Telegram reporting the receipt of orders by the Provincial Authorities to enrol forthwith 28. Battalions of Rediffs of the 3rd Army Corps — the Head Quarters of which are at Monastir.

These Battalions will be drawn exclusively from the population of the Vilayets of Salonica, Janina and Monastir, and will consist of 800 men each — or 22,400 in all. I am told that the Local Depôts are amply provided with arms, but not with clothings, for these troops.

In Officers, Medical Doctors and stores the Depôts are also sadly deficated.

I have the honor to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt
(PRO.-FO 195/1107)

23.

J. E. Blunt to the Earl od Derby

Political
No: 39

Salonica, June 23rd 1876

My Lord,

I have the Honor to enclose herewith a copy of my Despatch of this date to Sir Henry Elliot reporting that large reinforcements, and supplies of Ammunition are about to be despatched to Novi-Bazaar, near the Servian frontier.

I have the honor to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt

INCLOSURE

J. E. Blunt to Henry Elliot

Copy
No 59

Salonica, June 23. 1876

Sir,

I have the honor to report that the Pasha of Salonica has received orders from the Porte to make arrangements with the Manager of the Salonica — Uscup Railway for the early conveyance of 3 Battalions of Infantry to Mitrovitza.

These troops are shortly expected here from Smyrna and are to reinforce Mehmed-Ali-Pasha's Corps d'Armée at Novi-Bazaar, near the Servian frontier.

Very large supplies of Ammunition will also be despatched to the Depôts, near the frontier; and the transport of which by Railway to Mitrovitza will cost L 8.000!

I am assured that Mehmed-Ali-Pashas Army is in good condition, and prepared to occupy Servia at the shortest notice.

I have the honor to be, etc. etc. etc.

signed/J. E. Blunt
(PRO.-FO 78/2495)

24.

J. E. Blunt to the Earl of Derby

Political
No: 45

Salonica, July 3rd 1876

My Lord,

I have the honor to enclose, for the information of Your Lordship a copy of my Despatch of the 1st Instant to Sir Herry Elliot, reporting further military preparations in my district.

I have the honor to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt

INCLOSURE

J. E. Blunt to Henry Elliot

Copy
No: 66
Sent Home

Salonica, July 1st 1876

Sir,

With reference to my despatch No 61 of the 26th Ultimo⁷⁰⁾, reporting, the arrival here of 3 battalions of Rediffs for the Army at Novi-Bazaar I have the honor to further report to Your Excellency, that another Government Transport, the „Nuvroundi Nousret“ arrived here from Smyrna on the 27th. Ultimo, with 3½ battalions of Rediff troops on board. These troops were immediately landed and despatched by special trains to Mitrovitza from where they marched to Novi bazaar. On the 28th ultimo another

⁷⁰⁾ Овде се не прилаже.

transport, the „Assir“ arrived here and discharged 50.000 rifles, 1.200.000 ball cartridges and a great quantity of other military stores, which have also been dispatched to Mitrovitza. 4 more battalions of Asia Minor Rediffs are expected tomorrow and also 1 Battery of Horse Artillery, and arrangements have been made to dispatch them at once to Mitrovitza; I hear that a Corps d'Armée partly of Rediffs and partly of Albanian irregulars is being formed in the plain of Cossova Pollie⁷¹⁾ and I am assured that the military authorities at Monastir have made arrangements for the muster of some 60.000 Albanian BashiBozouks to cooperate with the troops, in case of war with Servia or Montenegro. The raising of such a large force of Irregulars caused I am told much uneasiness and alarm to the Christian inhabitants in Macedonia, and upper Albania,

These mercenaries are as a rule badly paid and very badly officered and are excited to join the service by the hope of plunder and pillage.

I have, etc. etc. etc.

(Signed) J. E. Blunt

(PRO.-FO 78/2496. Turkey. Salonica, 1876)

25.

J. E. Blunt to the Earl of Derby

Political
No: 46

Salonica, July 5th 1876

My Lord,

With reference to my ciphered Telegram of the 3rd Instant relative to the Prince of Montenegro's declaration of War⁷²⁾ against Turkey, I have the honor to report to Your Lordship that the opening of hostilities by the Montenegrins and Servians, although not altogether unexpected, has produced much excitement among all classes of the inhabitant; and there is intense impatience to learn the result of the military operations on the frontier.⁷³⁾

Judging from all I see and hear the Turks experience great relief and satisfaction that the connections with Servia and Montenegro have been brought to a crisis which enables the Government to punish these two vassal provinces for their active intervention in favour of the insurgents in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

⁷¹⁾ Односно — Косово поље.

⁷²⁾ Односно се на Никола I Петровића (1841—1921), црногорски кнез (1860—1910) и његов однос према Босанско-Херцеговачком устанку. (Види: S. Ljubobratić — T. Kruševac, Prilozi., 301—306).

⁷³⁾ Упореди: М. Екџмеџић, Ustanak u Bosni., 226 и сл.; В. Чубриловић, Босански устанак, 196 и сл.

They feel that the resources of the Country are fully equal to the contest which is forced upon their Governments; and shew a patriotic willingness to assist and support the Authorities to carry on the War with activity.

Yesterday 125 Volunteers offered their Services, and more have come forward this morning.

Subscription lists have been opened, in answer to the appeal of the Government, to meet the Extraordinary outlay for Military purposes, and yesterday the first instalment of L 5.000, of these subscriptions, was dispatched to Constantinople.

Some Beys have put down their names for sums varying from L 50 to L 800.

2.000 Albanian Irregulars are marching from districts of Pristend, towards the Servian frontier, to support the operations of the Government Troops; and I am assured that the Albanian Miridits (Roman Catholics are also mustering in support of the Government. . . ⁷⁴)

Yesterday 2 more Government transports with Troops on board arrived in this port.

These troops — 3 Battalions with 1 Battery Horse Artillery of 6 Krup Guns and 110 horses — as well as 1.000 casses of ammunition were immediately landed and dispatched by special trains to Mitrovitza.

More troops are daily expected from Asia Minor.

It has been remarked that the several Regiments which have landed here were well equipped for active service.

I have the honor to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt
(PRO.-FO 78/2496)

26.

J. E. Blunt to the Earl of Derby

Political
No: 51

Salonica, July 13th 1876

My Lord,

I have the Honor to enclose copies of Telegrams received this morning from Bosnia by the Pasha of Salonica, and which His Excellency has communicated to me, relative to the military operations against the Servians.

The Communications between Mitrovitza and Yeni bazaar⁷⁵) have been reestablished.

⁷⁴) Текст у продужетку говори о ситуацији у Македонији и није у складу са темом.

⁷⁵) Односно — Нови Пазар.

Two more Battalions were dispatched this morning by Special Trains to Mitrovitza, and 2 Batteries of Horse artillery which arrived here this morning be sent there in the course of the day.

4 Battalions are expected tomorrow; and 6 more next week, all destined for Mitrovitza.

Dervish Pasha has been appointed to the Command of the Army in Bosnia, and is replaced at Mitrovitza by Ali Saib Pasha, formerly Minister for War.

Muhtar Pasha⁷⁶⁾ will Command the Army in the Herzegovina.

I have the Honor to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt

INCLOSURES
TELEGRAMS⁷⁷⁾

Bosnia, July 12, 1876

Au Gouverneur Général de Salonique

Je m'empresse de porter à votre connaissance que d'après les nouvelles exactes que J'ai récemment reçues les troupes Impériales qui se trouvaient du Côté de Vichegrad⁷⁸⁾ repoussant l'ennemi entrèrent en Serbie et prirent d'assaut la Ville de Kotroman. L'armée Impériale après s' être emparée et avoir mis en Sûreté les huit dépôts que contenaient de Biscuits et de différentes sortes de livres, incendia la Ville les Serbes ont eu des pertes considérables. Beaucoup d'armes et d'objets divers furent pris par les troupes Impériales. La Place de Kotroman est en train d'être fortifiée par nos troupes.

Les Serbes qui infestaient les environs de Yeni-Varouch⁷⁹⁾ furent battus et mis en fuite de sorte que le dit endroit est complètement sauvé du Siège. Les travaux de réparations de lignes télégraphiques étant déjà commencés dans quelques heures la ligne sera à même de fonctionner.

Le Gouverneur Général de Bosnie
Nazif⁸⁰⁾

⁷⁶⁾ Односно — Муктар Паша.

⁷⁷⁾ Ови прилози (телеграми) износе се као у оригиналу. Телеграми са турског преведени су на француски. Они су дати у лошем преводу. Текст је остављен као у оригиналу. (PRO.-FO 78/2496).

⁷⁸⁾ Односно — Вишеград.

⁷⁹⁾ Односно — Нова Варош.

⁸⁰⁾ Назиф Паша, босански валија. (Види; В. Чубриловић, Оп. cit., 249).

Le Gouverneur Général de Bosnie au Gouverneur Général
de Salonique
Juillet 12

D'après les avis qui me sont communiqués les troupes Impériales et les Volontaires ont attaqué Samedi passé les fortifications que les Serbes avaient faites sur la Colline de Tschovitz⁸¹⁾ près de Novi-Bazar. Après un combat de Cinq heures les Serbes furent dispersés laissant sur le Champ de Bataille plus 400 morts autant de fusils de Gibernes 387 Pedes(?)⁸²⁾ de fortifications plus de 200 Cabans — le nombre de leur pertes est resté inconnu à cause de la nuit. Nos troupes ont 5 morts et 12 Blessés.

Avant hier les Monténégrins furent repoussés à Podgoritz⁸³⁾ laissant sur les terrains plus de 800 morts —⁸⁴⁾

(PRO.-FO 78/2496)

27.

J. E. Blunt to Henry Elliot

No: 72
Inclosure
Sent Home

Salonica, July 13th 1876

Sir,

I have the Honor to enclose herewith a Translation of a Turkish Bulletin published on the evening of the 11th July by the Ottoman Authorities of this place relative to the recent successes of the Ottoman Troops in their operations against the Servians and Montenegrins.

Communications between Mitrovitz and Yeni-bazaar are reestablished.

Two Battalions left this morning for Mitrovitz, where the Commander in Chief Dervish Pasha has arrived, and taken the direction of Affairs.

Another Government Transport arrived here this morning with Troops on board, and more daily expected.

I have the Honor to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt

⁸¹⁾ Односно — Човица.

⁸²⁾ Нејасно у тексту.

⁸³⁾ Односно — Подгорица (Титоград).

⁸⁴⁾ Прилог је без потписа. Свакако је од Назиф Паше.

INCLOSURES

Translation of Turkish Bulletin published at Salonica on Tuesday the 11th of July 1876.⁸⁵⁾

The following is a copy of the Telegraphic Report addressed to His Excellency the Governor General of Salonica by the Ferik (Lt. General) Hussein Husni Pasha dated Mitrovitza July 10th 1876.—

I have just received a Telegram from Major General Hussein Pasha reporting that after equally defeating the Servians yesterday evening he effected his entry into Novi-bazaar at the head of his detachment.

According to secret orders, which I had dispatched to the Officer commanding our Troops in vicinity of Sossanitz⁸⁶⁾ to act in connection with a forward movement to be made by Hussein Pasha on Sunday morning the 9th Instant, the said troops attacked the Servians on the appointed day and forced them to retire pursuing them as far as the village of Soutchantza⁸⁷⁾ about 3 hours distant from the frontier, and there disposed them. The enemy left in our possession 600 needle guns 18 horse loads of ammunition, and other military stores.

The needle guns and ammunition were at once distributed to the Volunteers who were acting with our Troops, and were made good use of by them against the retreating Servians.

In communicating the above details, I have the Satisfaction to report to Your Excellency that under the auspices of our Sovereign⁸⁸⁾, this part of the Country is now free from the presence of insurgents.

A Copy of a further Telegram from the Lieutenant General Hussein Husni Pasha dated Mitrovitza July 11. 1876.

Yesterday a very sanguinary battle took place near frontier and about 6 hours from Yeni-bazaar. The Servians are surrounded. The Division at Sienitza is moving down upon them.

Telegraphic Report from the Governor General and Commander in Chief of Scodra⁸⁹⁾, to the Governor General of Salonica-dated July 10. 1876.—

Since I communicated to Your Excellency the details of the engagements on Sunday the 2nd Instant in Vicinity of Podgoritza, the Montenegrins gathered at Kotsche Wassovitch⁹⁰⁾ and other points on both sides of the border, evidently with the intention of there establishing their base of operations against us. I determined to present this, and with this object in view I dispatched to the spot-this morning at 5 O'clock A. M. 1 Batta-

⁸⁵⁾ Прилози се објављују у оригиналном преводу са турског.

⁸⁶⁾ Вероватно — Саница (°).

⁸⁷⁾ Вероватно — Сучанца (°).

⁸⁸⁾ Односи се на турског Султана.

⁸⁹⁾ Односно — Скадар.

⁹⁰⁾ Вероватно — Коче Васовић.

lion of Regular troops, and 2 Battalions of Rediffs supported by the Volunteers from Scodra, Podgoritza, Grudi, Hod, Malissa and Castrati.*⁹¹). There were more than 5.000 Montenegrins entrenched in the positions they had selected and occupied. They were at once attacked by the Imperial troops and Volunteers, and after a contest, which lasted 4 hours, they were Vanquished and forced to disperse.

The heads of 31 Montenegrin notorious Chiefs (the report compares them to Scorpious) were taken during the action. And more than 400 of the enemy were killed, and about twice that number wounded, by our bullets. They also left many Rifles Ammunition and officers accountments behind them.

On our side only 11 were killed and about 25 wounded.

This small sacrifice of life is manifestly owing to the grace and favour which our glorious Sovereign enjoys."⁹²)

(PRO.-FO 195/1108. Turkey. Salonica 1876)

28.

J. E. Blunt to Henry Elliot

Confidential
No: 77
Not Sent Home

Salonica, August 1st 1876

Sir,

With reference to my Telegam of the 27h Ultimo⁹³), I have the honor to report that intelligence reached here yesterday from official sources that Ahmed Muhtar Pasha has been defeated by the Montenegrins near Bilek⁹⁴), and forced to retreat with the loss of 3 guns!

Your Excellency will learn, from the 2 inclosed Copies of Telegrams, which have been furnished to me „Confidentially“, the Russian and Turkish Version of the Montenegrin successes. No 1 is from the Russian Consul General Jouéne⁹⁵); and No 2 from the Ottoman Consul General Danish⁹⁶) at Ragusa — addressed to their respective Legation at Athens.

⁹¹) Примедба је од Ц. Е. Блунта. (PRO.-FO 195/1108).

* Most of these Volunteers are Latin Albanians I believe. J.E.V. (Примедба као у оригиналу).

⁹²) Сви прилози су без потписа.

⁹³) Овде се не прилаже.

⁹⁴) Односно — Билећа.

⁹⁵) Односно — Александар С. Јонин, руски конзул у Дубровнику 1876 године. (Види: S. Ljubobratić, — T. Kruševac, Prilozi., 308).

⁹⁶) Даниш (Danish), Даниш ефендија, турски конзул у Дубровнику, 1876 године. (Види: Hamdija Kapidžić, Prilozi za istoriju Bosne i Hercegovine u XIX vijeku. — Gradja. Knj. III (1956), 141).

I have also read a long Telegram from Redip Pasha the acting Serriaskier to Ahmet Muhtar Pasha relative to the latters reverses. And instructing him to concentrate his forces at Fotcha⁹⁷⁾ where 10 more Battalions are to be immediately dispatched from Constantinople and other places Via Salonica and Mitrovitza besides the reinforcements Dervish Pasha has been instructed to send there from Sientitza.

I am also told that the Montenegrins surprised and cut to pieces a Battalion at Kutchi. killed the Colonel Salih Bey and most of his officers and captured 2 Krup guns!—

Mahmoud Pasha (Freiund) recently appointed to the Command in Chief of the Scodra Army, in the room of Ahmet Hamdi Pasha — arrived at Bar yesterday evening, and was expected at Scodra this morning.

As soon as all the reinforcements — already on their way — reach Bar, he will march against Montenegro from the South. While Ahmet Muhtar Pasha will attack it on the North from Fotsha.

Four Egyptian Krup Batteries (2 of them Mountain guns) arrived here last week and have been dispatched to Mitrovitza.

Yesterday a Transport brought here a Battalion which will be sent today to Mitrovitza with an other Battalion which is being landed from a Trapezunt arrived in the Port this morning.

I have the honor to be, etc. etc.

J. E. Blunt

INCLOSURES⁹⁸⁾

No: 1

Ragusa July 30. 1876

Le 23 nouveau style Monténégrins essayèrent échec près Mostar étant surpris — grâce au manque de Vigilance par Muktar Pacha. Ce qui les obligea faire retraite précipitée à Korito.

Muktar débarassa Nevesigne et Gatzko⁹⁹⁾ y pris des Troupes et à marche forcée arriva 27 à Bilek faisant ainsi mouvement tournant.

La position du Prince fut critique.¹⁰⁰⁾ Le Monténégro même découvert!

Placé sur les derrières de l'armée du Prince le 28 avec 26 Bataillons Muktar l'attaqua à Virbiza¹⁰¹⁾ trois heures au Nord de Bilek mais en une heure et demie du temps Muktar fut-complètement battu suivant à Bilek pied 4 Bataillons. Monténégrins pris 5 canons quantité armes 300 prisonniers parmi eux Osman Pasha et Sélim Pacha blessés.

⁹⁷⁾ Односно — Фоча.

⁹⁸⁾ Прилози се објављују онако како су у оригиналу. (PRO.-FO 195/1108).

⁹⁹⁾ Односно — Невесиње и Гацко.

¹⁰⁰⁾ Мисли се на црногорског кнеза Николе.

¹⁰¹⁾ Односно — Врбица.

Même jour Bojidar¹⁰²⁾ battu complètement Turcs qui comptaient prendre en possession le district Kutchi avec toutes les forces actives d' Albanie.

Ici Monténégrins prirent 2 Canons et tout le train de l'armée. Monténégrins ont déjà le 24 remporté aussi sur-le même endroit un succès très considérable — les pertes de deux cotés sont encore inconnues.“

No: 2

Ragusa July 31. 1876.

Le 28 à Virbiza Muktar Pacha à la tête de 5 milles hommes a du opérer un mouvement de retraite — 20 milles Monténégrins et Herzégovins ayant fortement lesse son avant garde qui s'était trop avancé malgré ordres donnés nos troupes ont eu des pertes sensibles. Nos soldats ont fait beaucoup de mal à l'Ennemi, et n'ont opéré leur retraite qu'après la perte de 3 (trois) Canons, de généraux Sélim et Osman Pachas de Cinq officiers supérieurs et de six Chefs de bataillons.“¹⁰³⁾

(PRO.-FO 195/1108.)

Христијо АНДОНОВ-ПОЛЈАНСКИ

БОСАНСКО-ХЕРЦЕГОВСКОТО ВОСТАНИЕ ОД 1875
И 1876 ГОДИНА ВО ИЗВЕШТАИТЕ НА БРИТАНСКИОТ
КОНЗУЛ ВО СОЛУН И ДРУГИ ПРИЛОЗИ

(Резиме)

ВО овој прилог авторот ги приложува дипломатските извештаи на британскиот конзул во Солун Џ. Е. Блант (J. E. Blunt) за Босанско-Херцеговското востание од 1875 година. Се приложува документацијата од 18 август 1875 до 1 август 1876 година во оригинална транскрипција. Кон уводниот дел на Прилогот изнесена е накратко историјата на прашањето за поводот и целта на испраќањето на овие стојносни извештаи, кои фрлаат нова светлина во историјата на ова забележително востание. Истакнувајќи ја големата заинтересираност на британската дипломатија за настаните на Балканот, авторот го подвлекува интересот на британските дипломати за живо следење на ова востание и на сите последици, кое тоа ги имало за развитокот на Источното прашање. Поврзано со тоа забележани се нужните податоци околу начинот на испраќањето на извештаите, нивната содржина и вредност. Кон Прилогот се додадени објаснувања за извесни нејасности во документацијата, како и други податоци поврзани со проблематиката на востанието.

¹⁰²⁾ Вероватно — Божо Петровић, командант Јужне Црногорске војске. (Саопштење проф. Д-р А. Лаиновића).

¹⁰³⁾ Ова прилога су без потписа. Из пропратног писма произлазе нивови аутори. (PRO.-FO 195/118).