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*The British Counsellor in Bern, R. Lyon-Dalberg-Acton, to the Secretary of State  
for Foreign Affairs, G. Curzon of Kedleston<sup>1</sup>*

Berne, 14 May 1919

Director of Political Department<sup>2</sup> told me today that Swiss Government would not wish to precipitate decision in respect of resolution of Vorarlberg population. Swiss Government incline to advocate union on the ground that such accretion of territory will form counterpoise to Bolshevik element in Switzerland, and will also place under Swiss control main railroad east which will thus be independent both to Germany and Italy. He does not think that in the event of union being decided upon by both parties Italy will put forward any claim for territorial compensation. Switzerland also favours union as only alternative of union with Germany. Political director does not consider Peace Conference will intervene in this question which like that of neutral zones will be (? for omitted) parties to settle amongst themselves.

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<sup>1</sup> Telegram No. 816: UK-NA FO 608/27/6. Written by the embassy counsellor of The British Embassy, Richard Lyon-Dalberg-Acton (1870–1924), [dodis.ch/P38602](https://dodis.ch/P38602), to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, G. Curzon of Kedleston (1859–1925), [dodis.ch/P37180](https://dodis.ch/P37180).

<sup>2</sup> Felix Calonder (1863–1952), [dodis.ch/P333](https://dodis.ch/P333), Swiss Federal Council from 1913 to 1920 and Head of the Political Department from 1918 to 1920.

