

EAST AFR. PROT

C.O.

22273

Recd 15 May 15

22273

War

1915

14th May

Last previous Paper.

1. RAILWAY RATES
FOR EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
2. ARMOURD TRAIN

1. Submits letter from G.O.C. the Forces respecting heavy charges for conveyance of troops and materials. Considers Protectorate should not make profit on this service.
2. Protests against the deal of Railway authorities to dismantle armoured train unless W.O. purchases it or pay for its hire.

Mr. G. Fiddes.

Telegraph to
Puruma
Nairobi

Sent early report on Wapflines
letter to War Office 25th March
regarding railway rates charged
to military. With reference to
last para. of this letter
armoured train should be no more

F.O.

Let to far as 17 May '15
Copy above to W.O. 12 May '15
Copy for 359. 20 May '15
Govt recommended tel 26 July '15
Ans 5 day for 359

Next paper

35247

Printed at the War Office

disassembled by Railway Dept.

- send copy of our let. to the
W.O. for info: & say that we will
address a further comm: to them
re recd. of a report from the
L^r - & send copy of W.O. L^r &
Sue. to for: in confirm: of
our let. D.T.

It is possible that we may receive
a reply from the for: on the subject
by the next mail.

H. J. R.

17/5/15

17 5 15

at once

17 5 15 20

W. R. R.

W.D. have attended to this matter of railway
charges on another page.

? Del. to

Goreman Ranch.

26 July

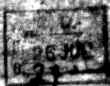
by C. J. 17/5/15

making notes
rubbish

then may report the expected
replies

Bonnie Law

S. R.



17 5 15

at once

H. J. R.
17/5/15

disassembled by Railway Dept.

- send copy of our let. to the
W.O. for info & say that we will
address a further comm. to them
in re: of a report from the
L. - & send copy of W.O. L. &
Sme. to L. in confirm. of
our let. D.T.

It is possible that we may receive
a despatch from the L. on the subject
by the next mail.

H. J. R.

17/5/15

Per 17.5.15

at once

17/5/15 20

To R. & L.

GD have attended to the matter of railway
charges on our order books.

2. Del. to

Governor's Office.

Sent 5.35 PM
26/7/15

21. July

By L. of 17 May

re: railway rates

under the
re: railway rates

Bombay

S. R.

W.O. 26.7.15

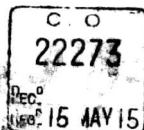
at once
H. J. R.
26/5/15



Any further communication on this subject should be addressed to—

The Secretary,
War Office,
London, S.W.,

and the following number quoted.



**War Office,
London, S.W.**

14 May, 1915.

0165/6819

(F.1.)

Sir,

I am commanded by the Army Council to send you the enclosed copy of a letter dated 25th March, 1915, which has been received from the General Officer Commanding the Forces in British East Africa and Uganda, regarding the railway rates charged for traffic on the Uganda Railway in connection with the Expeditionary Force.

As Mr. Harcourt is aware, the bulk of the extraordinary expenditure incidental to the operations in East Africa will fall, under existing decisions, on this Department.

The General Officer Commanding anticipates that one of the heaviest items of this expenditure will be for transport on the Uganda Railway, for which very high rates are being charged by the Protectorate Government.

It appears to the Army Council a question for serious consideration whether the Uganda Railway should be allowed to make any profit, at the expense of Imperial funds, on the transport of troops, horses and stores in connection with the military operations now proceeding in East Africa. The propriety of such a profit in existing circumstances would seem open to question even if the forces in East Africa had not been sent there partly for the defence of the Protectorate.

It

It is for consideration whether the charges made against Imperial Funds in respect of military traffic should not be so revised as to cover only actual out of pocket expenses, and the Council would be glad to learn Mr. Harcourt's views on this fundamental question before considering any rates in detail. It is perhaps not wholly irrelevant to recall that the Uganda Railway was constructed out of Imperial Funds at a cost of over £5,000,000 and presented to the Protectorate free of charge.

As regards the armoured train referred to in the last paragraph of the General Officer Commanding's letter, I am to state that, having regard to the fact that it is employed primarily for the protection of the State Railway, the Council are not satisfied with the information before them, that any part of its cost should properly fall on Army Funds.

I am to add that the Council cannot think that the State Railway authorities would seriously propose to dismantle this train which appears to be of considerable value in defending and protecting the latter's own property, and they can only express the hope that the General Officer Commanding is under a misapprehension on this point.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

B. B. Clarke

COMMAND HEAD-QUARTERS,

B.E.A. and Uganda,



NAIROBI, 25th March, 1915.

From

The General Officer Commanding the Forces,
in B.E.A. & Uganda.

Sir,

I have the honour to bring the following to notice. I anticipate that one of the heaviest items against War Expenditure in this Protectorate, will be the sums expended on freight charges, and for the conveyance of troops on the Uganda Railway, and it is with a view to the excessive rates charged, that I now communicate the result of enquiries I have made.

This railway was constructed from Imperial Funds and subsequently presented to the Protectorate, so it might have been expected that specially favourable rates would have been granted by the railway for the carriage of Military stores for the protection of the Protectorate.

The Treasury authorities, however, explain that they are unable to modify any railway rates without the express consent of the Crown Agents, to whom it is suggested the question should be referred for consideration.

The railway has charged the expeditionary force the usual concession rates which are granted in peace time for the transportation of Government Officials and Government stores in British East Africa., but when it is explained that the
railway

The Secretary,
War Office., London.

railway profits are credited to the Protectorate's revenue, it will be understood that it is immaterial whether Government rates are high or low, since the funds travel from one revenue pocket to the other.

The situation is, however, very different in War time, when the cost of freight charges is transferred from War Office Funds to Protectorate Revenue Account, and for this reason the question is submitted for your consideration.

The relative cost of transportation of Military stores on the Uganda Railway and Indian metre gauge railways can be seen from a few examples given below:-

10 tons S.A.A. from Mombasa to the Lake - 584 miles.

Uganda Railway - Rs. 3270

Indian " 126

10 tons ordinary goods -

Uganda Railway 584

Indian " 125.

The Uganda railway coaching and freight tariff is enclosed for reference, whilst the Indian rates can be found in A.R.^x Vol. X Appx. V.

Beyond, however, the question of general tariffs, which the local Treasury Officials have stated their inability to modify without the consent of the Colonial Secretary, there has been a specific instance of my applying to the Railway authorities for assistance and their quoting without reference to the Crown Agents a rate which appears to me very unreasonable.

Before the arrival of "B" Force in E.E.A., the railway

railway had constructed an Armoured Train, which was used, free of cost, for patrolling the railway. The Railway authorities now insist that this train must be dismantled unless the War Office is prepared to pay £1600 for its purchase, or £200 monthly for its hire. This rate seems to me to be exorbitant.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) R. Wapshare. Major-General.

3.

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I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) R. Wapshare. Major-General.

SWO 22273/915
2a.p.

132

sent 6.55pm
17 May
Marshcross

DRAFT Telegram

Governor
Nairobi

Ans d 35247

Send early report
re the loss

MINUTE.

Mr. Kuper 17/5/15

Mr. Bottomley 7.5.15 f.

Mr.

Mr.

Mr. G. Fiddes.

Sir H. Just.

Sir J. Anderson.

Lord Islington.

Mr. Harcourt.

Wapsheres letter sent to
Lantern

War Office 25 March
Lorraine manufacturer

regarding railway rates
rabbism

charged to military
casualty

South reforms to
Silvergray recordings

last paragraph of
paffest

that latter armoured train

should for no account
be dismantled
Railway Department

W.O. 22273/915 *Exp.*

133

19 MAY 1915

2

19 May 1915

DRAFT.

Secretary
W.O.

MINUTE.

Mr. *Harper* 17/5/15
Mr. *Bottomley* 17/5/15

Mr.
Sir G. Fiddes.
Sir H. Just.
Sir J. Anderson.
Lord Jellicoe.
Mr. Harcourt.

[Handwritten signature]

[Large handwritten signature]

Sir,
I am directed by Mr Secretary *Harcourt*
to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th
of May, No. 016576879
(F.I.) and to transmit
to you for the info.
of the Army Council a
copy of a telegram sent
to the Governor of the
East on the 17th of
May regarding the
railway rates charged for
traffic on the Uganda
Rly. in connection with
the Expeditionary Force
in the East Africa and
Uganda and the proposed