

EA of AFR. PROT  
S. 11. 121

4489  
JAN 15

Ritch L W  
1915  
25 Jan.  
Previous Paper  
No. 2560

Deportation from Prot.

Request to assistance in  
obtaining address

Answer  
Copies to J. A. B. S.  
Answered tel 3 Mar 15 w/g 7/611

~~Mr. B. S.~~ ~~Mr. B. S.~~  
Mr. G. Fiddles  
I ask you the representative with  
be communicated to W.O. - & send  
copy of one page to W.O. ~~W.O.~~ W.O.  
W.O. 29.1.15

H. J. R.

29/1/15

HJR

29/1/15

At once P.M. 29.1.15

Next subsequent Paper  
No. 2560

4489

1, Garden Court,

Temple, E.

REC 28 JAN 15

25th January 1915

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The Under Secretary of State,

Colonial Office,

Whitehall, S. W.

Ref. 2174/1915.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of even date, for which I thank you.

From my conversation this morning with Mr. Read, I gather that the Governor of the E. A. Protectorate repudiates any responsibility for my deportation from Africa and informs you that General Aiken is solely responsible therefor.

As far as I know, I am a complete stranger to General Aiken, consequently General Aiken could only have ordered my deportation on the strength of some report communicated to him, and from which, presumably, he assumed that my presence in E. A. Africa was inimical to the success of military operations.

I respectfully submit that in common fairness I should have been afforded an opportunity of meeting and refuting any charge and of defending myself from so serious a punishment as has been inflicted upon me and mine for, as I confidently allege, no crime or offence either civil or military.

The Civil Courts of the Protectorate were in session on the very day of my arrest, while a martial court could, of course, easily have been convened, so that it is difficult to understand why no charge was preferred and prosecuted either under civil or military law, did any grounds for laying any such charge exist. I ask even at this stage for an opportunity to defend myself in either of both.

Mr. Read was good enough to refer me to the War Office and indicated that the Colonial Office had nothing further to do with the

matter. I purpose calling at the War Office in the hope that I may receive satisfaction and I would respectfully ask that you be good enough to use your influence with the Secretary of that Office in the direction of securing an impartial inquiry and redress.

I have refrained hitherto from publishing the facts of my case because I am still hoping that investigations will be made and that they will disclose that a mistake has been made which as far as possible will be remedied. Moreover I do not want to add to the Government's difficulties. I cannot, however, remain silent under this imputation of disloyalty to my country, nor yet allow my family to suffer through my enforced idleness and professional ruin. I do hope, therefore, that the Secretary of State for War may be persuaded to take a sympathetic interest in this matter with a view to justice being done.

I have the honor to remain

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

*L. W. Ritchie*

R - CAP  
4459 S.B.  
75



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2 Feb 1915

Sir

I am to ask the recd. of

DRAFT.

W. Ritch Esq.

Your letter of the 25th of Jan.

on the subject of  
relative to your deportation from

the CAP to this country,

and to inform you that your

representations will be

communicated to the W.O.

MINUTE.

Mr. Jewell 30/1/15

Mr. Bottomley 31.2.15

Mr.

Mr.

Sir G. Fiddes.

Sir H. Just.

Sir J. Anderson.

Lord Islington.

Mr. Harcourt.

67/100 2 Feb 15

HUF

(Signed) H. J. READ.

for the Under Secretary of State