

E. AFRICA  
S. AFRICA  
20024

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20024  
Recd  
May 10

Foreign Office

1916

29 Apr.

Last previous Paper.

30  
1802

Mr. Thoms proposed visit to Africa

Sends note from Norwegian Minister enclosing letter from Mr. Thoms resp. proposed itinerary which now includes Port. E. Africa. Encloses note to Norwegian Minister declining to grant desired facilities, also draft to him on the subject.

Feb 6, 9 or 9 and 4, 1916  
Copy done F.O. 16 4 May 1916  
Copy done for Mysaca Secrecy 31 May 16 23, 20, 16, 24

W. Davis

Papers sent to you with draft this morning. The attend arrangements make this more a matter for you than for us - at present - but in view of the reference to Portuguese East Africa I think it will be desirable to telegraph about Mr. Thoms to Mysaca etc.

W.D. 1/5/16

W. Davis

19852 has doubtless not stated to you, as directed

W. Davis

Important after copies tel. to you about ...

Next subsequent Paper.

21213  
K.S. of.

I doubt if we could telegraph to  
Mykland, & we can at all events  
wait till next week & see whether Mr  
Thoms starts. The doubt the let. to  
S. Africa could also wait, but you  
may wish to send out copy of certificate  
by this week's mail. 6. Oct. 24/16.

See ~~the~~ 24213.

In any further communication on this subject, please refer to N. 72916C and address The Under-Secretary of State, Foreign Office, London.

C. B.  
20024  
REC'D  
1 10

The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies — and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copies of the under-mentioned papers.

Foreign Office,

April 29, 1916.

Reference to previous correspondence:

Letter <sup>no</sup> from Foreign Office: of April 18.

Description of Inclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Honourable Minister April 15.	Mr. Thomas
do. April 25.	
H. M. Minister at Lisbon, No. 127 Cont., April 26.	

Similar letter sent to

Copy  
(72918)

NORWEGIAN LEGATION,  
LONDON.



The Norwegian Minister presents his compliments to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, with reference to his note of the 14th instant respecting Mr. Chr. Thams's proposed visit to Africa, has the honour to transmit herewith enclosed copy of a letter, he has just received from the named gentleman.

M. Vogt begs leave to invite Sir Edward Grey's kind attention to the fact that Mr. Thams now proposes to visit on his approaching journey only South Africa and Portuguese East Africa, postponing his intended visit of British East Africa, Uganda and the Belgian Congo until after the end of the hostilities in German East Africa. Mr. Thams, who now intends to sail from England by the R. M. S. "Walmer Castle" on the 6th of May next, is most anxious to be allowed to embark from Plymouth, and M. Vogt ventures to express the hope that such permission may kindly be granted him.

In his aforesaid letter Mr. Thams also states that he is desirous of taking out with him a rifle and a shotgun with some ammunition, regarding which the gunmakers, Messrs, John Rigby & Co, Ltd., have already sent in an application for export licence. The Minister begs leave to apply for Sir Edward Grey's kind assistance in order that the desired licence may be granted.

M. Vogt

Copy.

(72916)

NORWEGIAN LEGATION,

LONDON.

Paris, 11th April 1916.



Dear Sir,

MY JOURNEY TO EAST AND SOUTH AFRICA

You will remember the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway wrote to you on the 29th October last, asking you to obtain every facility from the British Government for my journey to the Congo, through British East Africa and Uganda, as well as the South Africa.

By your esteemed favour of the 6th March, you inform me that you have received information from the British Foreign Office that this question has now been reconsidered, and the competent Department of His Majesty's Government is being requested to take the necessary steps to provide the facilities required by me during my trip, at the same time the British Foreign Office request to be informed of the date on which I propose to start, so that the necessary detailed instructions may be issued.

When I was last in London I conferred with Monsieur Denyn, Chef du Cabinet du Ministre des Colonies de Belgique, and was informed that the Belgian Government would give me every facility for my voyage to the Belgian Congo, at the same time, however, he told me that on account of the war in

German

German East Africa and the fact that a considerable number of letters were supplied from the district, through which I had the intention of travelling, he advised me to postpone my journey to the Belgian Congo, until after the hostilities in German East Africa.

Under these circumstances, I have decided to postpone my journey to British East Africa, Uganda and the Belgian Congo until after the end of the hostilities mentioned, and I will again at that time take the liberty of requesting you to kindly apply to His Majesty's Government for the facilities they have kindly promised.

It is, however, necessary for me to go to South Africa and to Portuguese East Africa to look after H. S. H. the Prince of Monaco and my interests there. For this purpose, I should feel very much obliged to you if you would kindly inform the British Foreign Office that I will sail from England, either by the R.M.S. "Kenilworth Castle" on the 26th instant, or by the R.M.S. "Walmer Castle" on the 6th May. Both of these steamers belong to the Union-Castle Mail S.S. Co. - These steamers call two days later at Plymouth where the passengers of allied nationalities can embark. As there certainly is some risk to embark from Tilbury, and as embarking from Plymouth would save me two days' time, I should also feel much obliged if you would kindly obtain the permission for me, as a Norwegian subject, to embark from Plymouth. I am sure that the British Government will appreciate the reasons why I am very anxious to embark at Plymouth and you will certainly be able to give the British Government every

my behalf in this respect.

I am taking out with me a rifle and a shotgun with some ammunition and I hope there will be no objection to this. I might mention here that my Gunmaker, Messrs John Rigby and Co. Ltd., 43 Sackville Street, London, W. has already applied on my behalf for the necessary export licence for these weapons, as well as for the ammunition.

I will sail by one of the above-named steamers to Capetown, and then go by railway, via Johannesburg to Lourenço Marques. I will return either by the same way or via Beira, Salisbury, Capetown, and expect to be back in England again at the end of August.

I am taking out with me, Mr. Walter Polliot who will remain at Beira, as my Company's Local Manager. I have appointed him on the suggestion of Sir Walter Townley. I will also be accompanied by the Count de Bobone, Consul General of Monaco in Lisbon, and will take my valet.

Believe me, &c

(Signed) Chr. Thoms.

C O  
20024

Foreign Office.

April 26 1916.

72916/C.

212

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which you were good enough to address to me on the 15th instant, relative to Mr. Christian Thoms' proposed voyage to Africa.

As you will have seen from the note which I had the honour to address to you on the 18th instant, His Majesty's Government have decided that, in the present circumstances, it is impossible to grant such facilities as Mr. Thoms required.

I have the honour to be,  
with the highest consideration,

Sir,

Your most obedient,  
humble Servant,

Monsieur H. Vogt

&c., &c.



C O  
20024  
Rec'd  
Reg: 1 MAY 16

FOREIGN OFFICE.

April 26 1916. 213

Commercial.  
16/C)

Sir,

I have been in correspondence with the Norwegian Minister, who in support of a request for certain facilities in his proposed visit to British Possessions in Africa, the United States and South Africa.

As Mr. Thomsen is considered to be under the influence of certain points of view, it has been decided to refuse all facilities, and the Norwegian Minister is being so informed. The latter has, however, now stated that Mr. Thomsen proposes to visit on his approaching journey only South Africa and Portuguese West Africa.

This is the first occasion that has been made of Portuguese West Africa, and I request that you will inform the Portuguese Government, in case any application has been made for facilities for Mr. Thomsen, that His Majesty's Government have refused all facilities as regards British Possessions in Africa.

I am, with great truth and regard,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

(Signed) A. L. ...

Journal

L. Carnegie K.C.M.G., M.V.O.

Ac., Ac., Ac.



24/16.

20

Paraphrase of Telegram:

From the Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Governor-General of the Union of South Africa.

Sent 3.45 p.m., 2nd May, 1916.

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Referring to my despatch of 17th January,

secret, Thams proposes to leave for Capetown by  
 S.S. Walmer Castle on 6th May and to proceed to  
 Lourenço Marques via Johannesburg. Army Council  
 recommend refusal of permission to land in or travel  
 through British possessions in Africa and I request  
 that you will make the necessary arrangements.  
 Portuguese Government have been informed that in  
 British Possessions facilities will be refused.

BONAR LAW.

*Copy to Mr. H. May 16 2 12/3  
 Copy for Nyasa Secret 31 May 16 2040/16*