

EAST AFR. PROT
22393

22393

Boothby G.C.

1914
19 June

Last previous Paper.
W/ 20028

Termination of appl.
leave salary

Requests that 3 mos leave period was
date fr. 9 May.

W Boothby

I originally suggested in my
minute of 19/5/14 on East Africa
that we should follow the "Mc" of
the Bd. of Enquiry & grant
him leave under normal
current regulations - i.e. 60
vac. leave for voyage & in
respect of 31 months service.
It was decided to ask
Gen. G. M. consider leave of
& we proposed 5 months leave
in all in all with 11 months

7 July 14
CA
Copy of papers for Capt M Boothby G.C.

Subsequent Papers
3150

However it is not absolutely
hopeless yet & we must hope
for the best, I have written to
Ponsonby to encourage him to
press his point, but as he rightly
says there is no point to press.
It is most fortunate that Mr.
Butler will be in England
before I leave.

I can do not trouble to answer
this. I only thought you would
like to know what is going on
in Paris. They are having trouble
with a colonial governor who has
just returned from French Equatorial
Africa & is opposing the scheme.

Yours sincerely

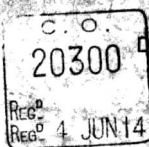
P. B. Proudhon.

arms & ammunition recently introduced by the Germans at the last moment.

Today I have a letter from Viscount de Poncins in Paris saying that the French Govt. is in a lamentable state, (see today in the paper the Cabinet has resigned) & that largely owing to this unsettled condition his Govt. will not let him sign the Protocol now. At

the last sitting all was agreed & settled & had it not been for the Germans asking for time to obtain sanction from Berlin to sign the one Protocol without the other, the agreement would have been signed the next morning.

Now as far as I can see there is very little chance of it ever being signed & all the trouble & delay we have been to is wasted. It is the most disappointing & exasperating thing I have ever known & is to me the greatest disappointment I have ever had

TELEGRAMS
"DALE"DALE CASTLE, 679
MILFORD HAVEN,
S. WALES.3rd June 1914.

Dear Mr. Read.

You will no doubt
have heard by now some
rumour of the possible
disaster which is threatening
the conference. Mr. Craigie
sends me very unsatisfactory
news, all due to this wretched

leave with full salary from
the date of your embarkation
for the East, and that as the
orders have been instructed
~~to~~ to issue your salary
accordingly as it becomes
due

3. I am also to inform you
that the verbatim report of the
Board of Enquiry is a confidential
document & cannot be
communicated to you, ~~but~~
~~that~~ no reference was made
in the letter from his Grace of the
29 of May to the Lords Guilden,
as the Board is ordered in
respect of that excess expenditure
the reports by Messrs. ^{Mr.} Pennell, Mr.
Blain, and ^{Mr.} Macnaghten are not
in the possession of his Grace. In
any case they would ~~be~~
presumably be confidential reports and
not for your perusal.

Witness my hand
for the Under Secretary of State

W. 20028/1914 C.S.P.

673

R. 1000
D 11

12 June 1914

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Harcourt to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st of June

and to inform you that he regrets that he is unable to reconsider his decision that further employment in the Colonial Service cannot be offered to you

With regard to your leave of absence Mr. Harcourt has approved of your being granted 3 months' leave

Cop. for Capt. to give to

DRAFT

By Wright
PRICE

MINUTE

- Mr. Harcourt 9/6/14
- Mr. [unclear] 9.6/14
- Mr. [unclear] 10/14
- Sir G. Piddar
- Sir H. Just
- Sir J. Anderson
- Lord Emmott
- Mr. Harcourt

[Handwritten mark]

to 20028/914 Ed.

678

52 12 June 1844

Gentlemen,

15/12/48

With reference to the letter from
this Office of the 1st of June

I am directed to inform you
that he has approved
of Mr. C. G. Wright,
Acting Engineer, Port D.

Ed. being wanted
leave of absence with
full salary for three
months from the date
of his embarkation for
E. Africa, and to request
that you will issue Mr
Wright's salary as it became
due.

DRAFT

The Secy Agent

MINUTE.

- Mr. Macdonald 9/1/48.
- Mr. Pitt Rivers 9/6/48
- Sir G. Fiddes.
- Sir H. Just.
- Sir J. Anderson.
- Lord Emmott.
- Mr. Harcourt.

for exam

J. H. READ

Secretary of the Admiralty

to grant the
promised leave of absence
for three months but informed her
in the event of his completing
30 months service in the

Post, and in the
circumstances I have ^{decided, without waiting for your} approved ^{reply, to}

of his being granted leave
for that period
with full salary with effect
from the date of his departure
from East Africa.

Texas

W 20028/1914

678

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

12 June 1914

Sir,

With reference to my confidential despatch of the 29th of May, I have the honour to transmit, to you for your info, the accompanying copy of a memo with Mr. C. Wright relating to the termination of his appointment as an Asst Engineer in the P.W. Dept. I do I forward in my despatch ~~the~~ ^{an} ~~opinion~~ ^{opinion} that, in view of the report of the Board of Enquiry, a copy of which was forwarded with your Conf. despatch of the 29th of May, Mr. Wright should ~~be~~ ^{be} ~~dismissed~~ ^{dismissed}.

[CONFIDENTIAL]

Ms. No. 51500

DRAFT

CONFIDENTIAL

The Hon. Mr. C. Wright

MINUTE

- Mr. Harper
- Mr. [unclear]
- Sir G. Piddis
- Sir H. Just
- Sir J. Anderson
- Lord Emmott
- Mr. Harcourt

Wright's Memo (20028)
 June (copy to [unclear])

[CONFIDENTIAL]

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and others due shortly to whom assistance would have to be made
in the event of further action in the matter being necessary
make the matter one of urgency.

I have the honour to be,

Mr.

Your most obedient servant,

Christ

4. The fact that no Bill of Quantities was supplied to the Engineer in charge, and many other minor points.

If these are the extenuating circumstances the only conclusion to be drawn from them that the money allotted was insufficient and the over expenditure that took place unavoidable.

9. With regard to para. 3 of your letter I have the honour to point out that as the Government recognise that they are not justified in exacting any refund of the excess cost, and as I am entitled to this leave in accordance with my Agreement, and which is part of the engagements of my term of service, I have the honour to request that the same may be paid to me monthly as it falls due, as I am not in a position to wait indefinitely for same.

10. In conclusion I have the honour to request that the Secretary of State may see his way to granting me the requests made in this letter, namely:-

1. To reconsider my request for further employment in the Colonial Service.

2. That my leave pay may be paid to me as it falls due.

11. In the event of his not seeing his way to grant me the above, that I may be furnished with:-

1. The verbatim finding of the Board of Enquiry.

2. The reports on my work by Messrs Creswell, Blain and McNaughton.

These are required in order that I may with them and other papers already in my possession take the necessary steps to clear my professional record of the slur of incompetency. An early answer will oblige for as matters stand at present it would be useless to seek employment, and the fact that there are at present several East Africa Officials in England and

This over expenditure occurred on the two bungalows on Nairobi Hill, over expended by the sum of £285/- and on the Treasury House Mombasa, over expended by the sum of £140/-.

The whole of this over expenditure of £425/-, of which 71% was expended in Nairobi, and 29% in Mombasa, was explained by the Director of Public Works as due to "Laxity of control" on my part. Your letter omits any reference to the heaviest item of over expenditure, which occurred in Nairobi, after my departure to Mombasa, and the responsibility for which the Board entirely exonerated me.

I have therefore the honour to enquire if the responsible person or persons have been deprived of their leave pay, and are considered incompetent and unfit for further employment in the Colonial Service. If not I have to point out that such a ruling in my case, after exonerating of responsibility by the Board of Enquiry, to be extremely unjust.

8. With regard to the certain exonerating circumstances in Mombasa to which you refer, I presume you mean, :-

1. That in cubing out for his approximate estimate the Government Architect did not take into consideration, in making comparisons with the actual cost of existing bungalows, the fact that prior to 1906 all transport and freight on materials was charged to a Transport Vote and not to the work concerned, and also the increased cost of freight and labour since 1906.
2. The extra height of walls in the plinth, involving extra masonry in walls, and built before I took over charge.
3. The fact that the necessary tanks and outhouses were omitted from the original plans, and were an after thought.

I therefore have the honour to call for all reports on my work made by Messrs. Hain, Whighton, and Creswell, under whom I served, and at the same time to point out that the latter, who reported adversely holds no Engineering qualifications whatever and therefore I do not consider him qualified to report on the work of a trained Engineer.

I might also mention that I hold similar Engineering degrees to those of the Director of Public Works of East Africa, and have since 1898 to the date of my arrival in the Protectorate always worked under fully qualified Engineers, from whom I hold certificates, and on the strength of which, and my qualifications I was accepted for an appointment under the Colonial Office.

5. With reference to the finding of the Board of Enquiry, which you state was that, the cost of the work at Mombasa as carried out by me was excessively high.

I have to call your attention to the fact that in reply to my request for a Board I was informed that His Excellency the Governor was pleased to accede to my request that an investigation should be held "for the purpose of ascertaining to what extent I was responsible for the over expenditure incurred on Government buildings."

I cannot see that the finding of the Board as communicated to me in your letter of 29th May in any way answers that question.

6. I therefore have the honour to submit that the verbatim finding of the Board in connection with the purpose for which it was convened may be communicated to me.

7. The Board set at my request, not to determine whether the expenditure on Government works was excessive, but to fix the responsibility for the over expenditure.

and also to a local resident requiring the services of an Engineer. These I eventually refused, and was then asked by the Director of Public Works if I would take charge of the Mombasa Division. This I accepted on the understanding that I should be allowed to complete thirty months service, and be entitled to all leave accruing.

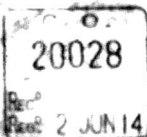
I held Executive charge of the Mombasa Division for nine months and Mr Hobley Provincial Commissioner shortly due home on leave, can speak for my work there.

On being relieved of the division I was posted as Engineer-in-charge of works in Jubaland, where I finished my tour of service. Had I been considered incompetent as an Assistant Engineer, Mr. McGregor Ross would have been unable to recommend my services to the Government of Uganda, which he did in September 1912 namely after 12 months service in the Protectorate, and afterwards to give me a higher post in his own Department, which he did in December 1912 when he appointed me Executive Engineer in charge of the Mombasa Division.

Afterwards in October 1913 I was appointed Assistant Engineer in charge in Jubaland by the Acting Director of Public Works. I fail to see how the Government of the East Africa Protectorate can take the above record to be one of incompetency, and therefore request that the Secretary of State, on behalf of the East Africa Government will correct his statement with regard to incompetence, and reconsider my application for employment in the Colonial Service.

4. Should he not see his way to granting me further employment I shall have to seek the same elsewhere and while his letter of the 29th May stands, I should find it impossible to obtain a suitable appointment.

From C. G. Wright, A.M.I.C.E.
79 Margaret Street, London, W.



To The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office,
London, S. W.

1st June 1914.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your No. 18498/1914 dated 29th May 1914, and to state that para. 2 of same is not understood. You inform me that the Government of the East African Protectorate do not consider me competent for the work of an Assistant Engineer in the Public Works Department.

2. In answer to this I have to inform you that on arrival in the Protectorate I was appointed to the Londiani Usin Gishu road and worked under Mr Cresswell Executive Engineer for five months. During that time I had occasion to disagree with him on many points in connection with the work, and was finally reported on badly by him. On my presenting my view of the matter to the Director of Works I was recalled to Nairobi for work there, where I was favourably reported on by Messrs. Blain and McLaughlin. On 22nd June 1912 I expressed my willingness to continue my services for a period of thirty months which my agreement allowed of, and was informed that His Excellency the Acting Governor was willing for me to remain on duty for a further period of six months from August 31st.

At the same time the Director of Works asked me if I would accept an appointment under the Director of Public Works, Uganda, on road work, and recommended my services to him and

Letter. Dr. G. Fielder.

The "extenuating circumstances" were that, having been regarded as incompetent as a temporary Asst. Surgeon, he might have been then offered to go to some of our important divisions. I don't think we need refer to this at present though if he presses us we shall have to say it.

As regards leave pay, ^{used} ~~that~~ he had better proceed as Mr. Parkinson proposes, that as we have told him we are counting on the Gov. I should have preferred to hold it over (I am convinced he is entitled to it).

As proposed? ^{6th 3/6/14}

J. J. D.

3/27/14

I don't think it is fair to the man to offer him leave pay subject to a refund of the Gov. Agents. It is so clear from the report of the Board that he was promised the pay (\$9 of June to 18208) that I sh^d let him have it, & tell the Gov why we had done so. Otherwise as proposed.

alone

~~Ch. J. D.~~

Room 3

have any leave.

669

I will simply act. receipt.
say that Prof's reports that he
cannot reconsider his decision
as to re-employment - that
he is willing to deal with
the leave question as proposed
above - & enquire whether Prof.
will sign an agreement to report
if called upon to do so - say that
the outline report of the Bd. of
Inquiry is a conf. document
& cannot be communicated
to him; but that you refer
was made to the Morrison
buildings in an letter because
the Bd. contacted him in
respect of that leave - & that
the reports of Messrs (Russell,
Main & Macneighten are not
in the possession of the Prof.
but that in any case they wd.
pleasurably be conf. reports
at least not for Prof. Wright's
personal use.

copy of report
copy of report

to prove incompetency.

He makes a good point when he refers to Mr. Ross' view of himself to the Ugandan Govt & we may have occasion to drop heavily on Mr. Ross if his explanation is not satisfactory.

The point that measures need not be given for non-re-employment referred to in your minute on A. J. 10298/40 will be borne in mind. His agreement is up & there's an end of it.

No refⁿ was made to the Nairobi work, because the Board covered him.

As to leave, I think that we might go so far as to let him have 3 months leave with pay from date of embarkation as it falls. We provided that he signs an agreement to refund such pay if on receipt of Govt's reply to the communication sent on 29th May ~~left~~ it is decided that he is not to have