

EAST AFR. PROT
4101 15/16

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Gov
Bowring 857

Attempts to wreck Railway

1915
15 Dec

No further letter from Directors of
Railways as to

Last previous Paper.
for 2100 15/16

Copy to D.O. with ref to me
17 4 27 of Jan 7 27.
at once.
to S.O.
27/1/16

Copy to D.O. with ref to me
17 4 27 of Jan 7 27.
at once.
to S.O.
27/1/16

Next subsequent Paper.
for 6776/16

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

No. 859

430
4101
GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
NAIROBI. REC.
DEC 26 JAN 16
BRITISH EAST AFRICA

December 15th, 1915.

Sir,

for
2100 15/16

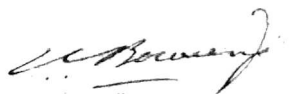
In continuation of my despatch No. 825 of the 3rd instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith a further letter from the Director of Railways on the subject of the attempts made by the enemy to wreck the Uganda Railway.

m D. of R.
. 12. 15

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,


GOVERNOR'S Deputy

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

ANDREW BONAR LAW, P.C., M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET,

LONDON, S.W.



INCLOSURE

431

In Despatch No. 859 of 15.12.1915

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
MANAGER, N. R. B.
P. O. Box No. 27.

Uganda Railway

4101
RECEIVED
26 JAN 16

FOR HERETO IN
YOUR REPLY.

General Manager's Office.

Nairobi, 16th Decr. 1915. 191

M. S. A.

The Honourable
The Chief Secretary
to the Government,
N A I R O B I.

Sir,

Attempts made by the Enemy to wreck trains.

In continuation of my letter No. D 12/344/458 of the 25th November, I have the honour to forward particulars of the attempts made on the Railway by the enemy referred to in paragraph 15 thereof:-

1. At 3.10 a.m. on the 28th October No. 17 up goods train from Kiindini to Voi ran over an enemy mine at Mile 63/4. The force of the explosion was taken by the foremost vehicle, a covered bogie truck, which was derailed and severely damaged. The next vehicle, a covered bogie truck, the engine (No. 33B), water tank and another bogie truck were all derailed and slightly damaged. A portion of the permanent way was blown away, but fortunately none of the train staff were injured. The line was blocked from 3.10 a.m. on the 28th October until 9.40 a.m. on the 28th October, when through communication was re-established.

2. The approximate cost of repairing the damage is as follows:-

/Engine/

Engines	Rs. 75.00
Rolling Stock	1010.00
Permanent Way	<u>481.37</u>
Total:-	<u>1566.37</u>

4. On the 26th October, 1914, a down special goods train from Makindu at 9.30 p.m. to Voi exploded an enemy mine at mile 114/11. This occurred at about 6.5 a.m. (not at 9.30 p.m. as stated in my previous report). The mine sweepers in front of the train, viz, a loaded covered bogie and two four wheel covered trucks, also loaded, passed over the mine safely, the engine No. 113 N, receiving the full force of the explosion and being severely damaged. The two leading wagons kept the rails, although the engine and six vehicles following were derailed, and this no doubt prevented the derailed vehicles from turning over on to their sides. None of the train staff were injured. The Permanent Way was damaged for a considerable distance, and this resulted in the line being blocked from 6.5 a.m. on October 26th until 7 a.m. on October 27th.

5. The cost of repairing the damage in this case is approximately:-

Engine	Rs. 1,500.00
Rolling Stock	100.00
Permanent Way	<u>417.91</u>
Total:-	<u>2,017.91</u>

6. At about 1.30 a.m. on the 19th November No. 17 up goods train from Kilindini to Voi ran over an enemy mine at Mile 76/12. Two mine sweeping bogie wagons (loaded) in front of the engine passed safely over the mine, which exploded underneath the engine (No. 111 N) partially derailling it and causing severe damage. Two covered bogie wagons, being the fifth and sixth vehicles from the engine,

/were/

were also derailed and slightly damaged. The damage to the Permanent way was not heavy. The Driver (Pinto) and the engine staff, although not injured, were severely shaken.

7. In this case it would appear that a special device with ratchet arrangement was used by the enemy, allowing the two mine sweeping vehicles to pass safely, but exploding when the third vehicle (in this case the engine) passed over it.

8. The approximate cost of repairs is as follows:-

Engine	Rs. 3,500.00
Permanent way	<u>438.38</u>
Total:-	<u>3,938.38</u>

9. A further explosion occurred at about 11.15 p.m. on the 9th instant. No. 10 down goods train from Nairobi to Makindu struck an enemy mine at mile 239/4, causing slight damage to the Permanent way. I am at present unaware of the damage caused to the engine and rolling stock, but will forward further details in due course.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Sd/ B. EASTWOOD, Colonel.

for/ Director of Railways,
I.E.F. 'B'

D.