

1933

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KENYA

CO 533/439

Masai Taxation.

Disposal of cattle in order to obtain money for tax.

Previous

see. 18045/32.

Subsequent

Kyari

10/10

Koom 509

11/10

D. C. A.

14/10

M Flood

16

Sir C. B. Stanley

16

7768

1. A/Comm. Deputy Wade obs (A.M. Mail) — 30 Sept 33.
Submits scheme for the disposal of Nyasai cattle in order
to obtain money for these tax & suggests that a suspense
account be opened for the purpose of recording purchase &
sale of cattle. Requests to tel. reply.

This has curious ramifications. If the Nyasai can be
induced to sell their surplus beasts so much the better.
The Morris Carter Commission stresses the over-stocking that
exists and the Governor is anxious to do something about
it. But the trouble is that there is no market for the
animals save - as here - as fertilizer material.

But that is a side-line. This proposal is not to
let the Nyasai pay the tax in cattle. Govt will buy
the beasts @ 7/- a head and sell them at the same
price to the Nyaisi factory.

These transactions do clearly come under Col. Reg 289
but it is equally clear that they should be approved
since the proposal to open a suspense account should
be approved as in the similar case of the Turkana goats
(18075/32) - where, however, it was a case of payment of tax
in kind.

? Approve by tel^m.

J. E. A. Flood
11-10-33

D.C.A.

I take it you won't wish to raise any
objection. Kenya is well aware of the rules.

M^r Flood

No objection

A. J. Harding

D.C.A.

P.T.O

4-10-33

Apart from the accounting
question, I think it is
fairly clear from the despatch
that the Masai will not be
compelled to deal with their
cattle and that they will
choose the best to be sold. The
Govt officials are wisely to
collect the animals.

Obviously the Masai will
get rid of their worst beasts (a
good thing), but 77/- is not
a fair price.

I have forwarded the att.

13.4.33

16.10.33

ms

(M)

To Gov Kenya Tel No 220

17.10.33

C. O.

3322/33

2

Mr. Flood 11.10

Mr. A. J. Harding 14/10/33

Mr.

Mr. Parkinson.

Mr. Tomlinson.

Sir C. Bottomley. 16.10.33 *at home*

Sir J. Shuckburgh.

Perm. U.S. of S.

Parly. U.S. of S.

Secretary of State.

H

*Cash sent
11.4.5 - 17.10.33*

C. D
17 OCT
18

70 220

Your dep. 30 Sept 74 563

DRAFT. *code 141
no priority*

the proposal approved

Governor

74/10/33

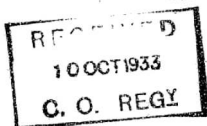
FURTHER ACTION.

ad.
AIR MAIL
KENYA.

NO. 563.



GOVERNMENT HOUSE
NAIROBI,
KENYA



30th September, 1933.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to Section 289 of the Regulations for H. M. Colonial Service and to ask your approval to a deviation from the established principle in the following case:-

Great difficulty is being experienced by the Masai in finding money for their tax, a large proportion of which is outstanding. The sale of cattle represents practically the only means by which the money required can be obtained by the Masai, and difficulty in disposing of their cattle has been created by:

- (a) the unusually large number of cattle that are everywhere being offered for sale,
- (b) the phenomenally low price prevailing, and
- (c) the exceptional drought conditions and consequent lack of grazing.

2. The question was discussed at the Provincial Commissioners' Meeting held in July, and it was recommended that a scheme proposed by the Provincial Commissioner, Masai Province, be adopted under which the fertiliser plant belonging to the Nairobi Municipality should be used for the disposal of cattle to enable the Masai to procure money for their tax.

3. Arrangements have now been made with the Nairobi Municipality ...

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
MAJOR SIR PHILIP CUNLIFFE-LISTER, P.C., G.B.E., M.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET,
LONDON, S. W. 1.

Amos. Tel. (2)

- 2 -

Municipality under which the Municipal Council is prepared to purchase as a first instalment 1,000 head of Masai cattle at the price of Sh.7/- per head. A careful record will be kept of the costs of dealing with these cattle through the Council's by-product plant with a view to ascertaining whether it will be possible for the Council to submit a more favourable offer to Government for the purchase of additional cattle.

4. The cattle will be collected by the Administrative and Veterinary Officers in sufficient quantities to meet the demands of a week's supply to the by-products plant, and taken over at Ngong by a Veterinary Officer who will issue a written receipt. This receipt will entitle the holder to a payment of Sh.7/- on presentation at the Administrative Headquarters at Ngong. Payment will be made later by the Municipality for the cattle received in Nairobi, and while it is probable that there may be losses between Ngong and Nairobi and before the cattle are taken over by the Municipality, it is hoped that, as a result of the increased material available for the by-products plant, the cost per carcass will be lessened, and the Municipality be in a position to purchase subsequent instalments of cattle at a higher price. The distance between Ngong and Nairobi being only 16 miles such losses are liable to be negligible in number.

5. I am advised by the Treasurer that this method of buying and selling cattle constitutes a service involving receipts and payments and that in accordance with the Regulation referred to it is necessary that the whole of such receipts and payments should, except where otherwise authorized by me with your approval, be provided ...

provided for in the annual estimates and accounted for accordingly.

6. The Treasurer, after discussion with the Auditor, has advised me that this is one of the isolated cases where an exception to the regulation in question is justified and in which it will be more satisfactory in every way to open a Suspense Account for the purpose of recording the purchase and sale of these cattle.

7. With that advice I concur and now request your approval.

8. A reply by cable will be appreciated.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

W. H. D. I.

ACTING GOVERNOR'S DEPUTY.