

1934

23192

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CO 533/448
KENYA

Reconditioning of Elgeyo-Marakwet Native Reserves

Previous

see 18014/32

Karnasia Reserve

Subsequent

38114/35

Regent

14/5

Room 301

18/5

Mr. Brewster

18

Mr. Flood

18

Mr. C. Bottomley

22

R. 309

24/5

Mr. Brewster

29/7

23192

FILE A

1. *Gov. Byrie to Gov* ——— *20/1/34*

Seeks authority to issue under the Native Authority Ordinance to restrict grazing in the Elgeyo-Marakwet Reserves during process of reconditioning.

C.I.
Native Reserves
Reconditioning.
Grazing Restriction.

It will be seen from No. 4 on 18014/32 that the Secretary of State preferred that the Governor should make no further use of the powers conferred by Section 8(r) of the Native Authority Ordinance until every effort had been made to induce the Native Council concerned to assume and exercise its proper responsibility in a matter such as this.

Efforts have been made to interest the local Native Council of Elgeyo-Marakwet, but they are averse from taking any action. If the grazing in the partially denuded areas of the reserve is to be saved some such measure as that proposed by the Governor is essential.

In the Chapter on "Overstocking" in the Carter Land Report it is recommended that steps be taken to confine sheep and goats to certain areas where they are unlikely to cause serious damage.

In the circumstances ? The issue of an Order under Section 8 of Chapter 129 providing for the restriction of grazing in the Elgeyo-Marakwet Native Reserve may be approved.

C.A. [Signature]
18/1/34

Agree

Approved

Yes: the natives have got to be saved from themselves in this case. The Carter report throws a lurid light on the evils of over stocking.

As the things I said on for approval but I am inclined to give the Gov. a free hand to make any similar

orders for any area which he may think desirable. It is essentially a matter for the local Government and I don't want unnecessary complications.

W. G. Flood
1955

16127/30 } Hans
3158/43 }

I have looked up the main papers about the case of § 5(r); the objection to giving the Govt a blanket charge under that subsection is still upheld, but what Mr. Flood proposes is different & in effect amounts to a further specific ban under § (8).

We certainly do not want to make any unnecessary trouble about word-tossing partners.

Therefore, on the Flood papers, you say that in future, as has been done in these two cases, an endeavour should be made to induce the local Native Council to take action before an order is issued.

W. G. Flood

22.5.54

2 To Kenya, Conf (C) (Hansard) 30 MAY 1954

16 Now see 3814/35

C. O.

23/92/24

Mr. *Evans* 26/7/24

Mr. *Frederick* 26

Mr. *Hood* 26/8

Mr. *Parkinson*

Mr. *Tomlinson*

Sir *C. Bottomley*

Sir *J. Shackburgh*

Permt. U.S. of S.

Parly. U.S. of S.

Secretary of State



54

30 May 1924

DRAFT.

Kenya
Confidential (2)
Kenya

Sir,
I have etc to acknowledge
the receipt of your Confidential
despatch No. 60 of the
20th of April and to inform
you that I approve the
issue of an order under
Section 8 (2) of the Native
Authority Ordinance, for
the purpose of restricting
grazing in areas in
process of reconditioning
in the Elgeyo-Marakwet
Native Reserves.

(2) I also approve the
issue of similar orders
without prior reference to me
for any other areas
in which you consider that

FURTHER ACTION.

that restriction of grazing
is desirable.

3. I ^{think it is most desirable necessary} ~~propose~~ ~~to~~ ~~propose~~ that
in future, as has been done
in the cases of the Kamasia
and Elgeyo-Marakwet
Native reserves, ^{every} ~~the~~ seasons
should be made to induce
the local Native Council
to take action before any such
order is issued, and I have no doubt
that you will share my opinion.

I have etc.

KENYA.

No. 60

CONFIDENTIAL.



GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
NAIROBI,
KENYA

20th April 1934.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your Confidential despatch of 22nd April 1932, in which you authorised the issue of an order under the Native Authority Ordinance providing for the restriction of grazing in areas in process of reconditioning.

2. In the despatch under reference you directed that action under this order was to be confined to Kamasia, but I now have the honour to request your permission to take similar action in respect of the adjoining native reserves of Elgeyo-marakwet.

3. In accordance with your instructions in the despatch under reference, efforts have been made to interest the Local Native Council, but they are averse to taking any action.

The lower lying parts of these reserves are geographically and climatically closely akin to Kamasia, though they have not yet become so denuded and eroded, but they are severely overgrazed, and if this is allowed to continue unchecked it is only a question of time before the country becomes an arid waste. The danger arises chiefly from the hordes of sheep and goats, and it is therefore ...

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.

*Answer (2)
No. 44
18/11/32*

KENYA.

No. 60

CONFIDENTIAL.



GOVERNMENT HOUSE

NAIROBI.

KENYA

20th April 1934.

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Handwritten:
No. 4
1801/32
Amended (2)

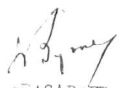
fore proposed to exclude these from certain areas which are the most gravely imperilled. It is hoped that if afforded this relief the grass will recover naturally. In a few more years it will be too late and actual reconditioning work, similar to that being carried on in Kamasia, will be needed.

4. There are considerable areas suitable only for sheep and goats, which can obtain quite good nourishment from certain kinds of thorn bushes which are useless for cattle. It is our ultimate object to confine sheep and goats to such areas, reserving for cattle as much of the better pastures as are necessary for their support. In this connection I invite your attention to paragraph 2037, (page 507) of the report of the Kenya Land Commission, where this policy is advocated.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,



BRIGADIER-GENERAL,

G O V E R N O R.