

1926

XF: 4802  
7 JUN 1926

KENYA  
CO 533/360

XF: 4802  
7 JUN 1926

NO. of  
GOV'S DEPT  
NORTHCOTE 485

Date  
1926 May 1926.

NYALI BRIDGE.

CLOSED  
UNTIL



Previous paper	(Minutes within)		
See X.F. 4286 (Macupa Vadiet)	X. G. A.	10/6	
	E. A. P.	14/6	
	Mr. Stirling	14/6	
Subsequent paper	Room 3	10/6	
X/15227/26	Room 1	10/6	
	Wesbomney	21/6	
	Room 1	9	
	Mr. Botthamley	9/7	
	Room 24		
	Room 3	14/7	
	Room 1		

NOT TO BE TURNED INSIDE OUT

15/4504/26 21  
1) Gov's Deputy Northcote 466 ----- 12th May 1926.

Reports that scheme by Nyali Sisal Estates for bridging Mombasa Harbour has been approved subject to concurrence of the Admiralty and enclosed for transmission to the Lords Commrs of Mombasa District Cttee, plan and copy correspondence with Mr Rodwell.

Mr. Rodwell called on me about this proposed bridge early in <sup>April</sup> ~~the~~ year, <sup>clearing</sup> some obstruction locally. I advised him to telegraph to Nairobi, and it would appear that the result has been satisfactory. The bridge will join Mombasa Island and the <sup>Spit</sup> of mainland on the other side at points well to the north of old Mombasa Harbour, and will not interfere with the <sup>shore</sup> ~~sea~~ traffic in that harbour. The land on the Spit was leased to the Nyali Sisal Estates with which Mr. Rodwell was connected. He retains an interest in some of the land on the Spit which it is proposed to develop, as I remember, for residential purposes.

There is no reason why we should take a hand in this matter, and all we need do is to send a copy of the despatch, and the enclosures, to the Admy. and ask for their concurrence in the Governor's approval of the scheme.

(It does not seem in any way to infringe on the arrangements for the development of the waterways, but in view of the Consulting Engineers' criticisms of the local plan for the new Macupa bridge, it might be as well to send the despatch to Mr. Mitchell unofficially, and say that we presume it is not necessary to examine the proposal from the point of view

of

interference with the flow of water on the other side of the Island.

W. S. G. 14.6.26

14.6.26

14.6.26

I should mention that Mr Rodwell called again last week & asked whether we had heard from the Gov. & if not, whether we could telegraph as then for his views. He was endeavouring to raise money for the project & those with money to lend would not put it up until the question of Admiralty concurrence, mentioned in Gov's let to him of 29 April was cleared up.

~~Monday~~  
Tuesday, 14.6.26

After speaking to Mr Allen & told Mr Rodwell that there was barely time for a dip to have come & that if he thought the matter had been shelved again he should get his local people to stir the Govt up then; if he did then there was still sign of delay, S.G.S might be prepared to consider making Gov. for a report.

He suggested that he might go & discuss the scheme with

Mr Adley himself. I said I didn't see how Adley could express any opinion until they heard what Kenya had to say. His attitude was, however, that C.O. was doing nothing to help him in a scheme which would greatly benefit the Colony, & I went so far as to ring up the Admiralty & explained the matter (esp. that until we heard from Kenya we were officially ignorant of the whole thing). Mr Adley promised to find a suitable person to receive Mr Rodwell & listen to him.

S.G.S. cel.

14.6.26

Very useful. I am afraid X is a common affliction, but to do with from here.

15.6.26

- 2 To Admiralty (w/orig. no 1)
- 3 To Mitchell (w/orig. no 1 - see draft)

Mitchell  
Agrees that it is not necessary to examine the proposal from the point of view of interference with the flow of water on the other side of the Island.  
First sent to Adm. staff  
14 June 1926  
14.6.26



14 July 1926

X.F.4902/26.

Sir,

With reference to Sir Edward Grigg's telegram to you of the 29th of April 1926 regarding the proposed construction of a bridge to connect Mombasa Island with the mainland at Nyali; I am directed by Mr. Secretary Amery to inform you that he has now informed the Governor of Kenya by telegraph that he does not raise any objection to the proposal. You will no doubt receive in due course a definite communication on the subject from the Government of Kenya.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) W. C. BOTTOMLEY.

K. H. RODWELL, ESQ.

- Mr. [unclear]
- Mr. Jeffries 12/7
- Mr. Bottomley 12/7
- Mr. E. J. Harding
- Mr. Strachey
- Sir J. Shuckburgh
- Sir G. Grindley
- Sir C. Davis
- Sir S. Wilson
- Mr. Ormsby-Gore
- Earl of Clarendon
- Mr. Amery

4 July 1926

and Sir [unclear]

I am etc to Sir Edward  
with reference to [unclear]  
to you the [unclear]  
Grigg's telegram of the [unclear]

DRAFT.

29th of April 1926 regarding the proposed  
construction of a bridge to connect  
Mombasa (land with the  
mainland at Nyali, (an  
etc to inform you that he  
has now informed  
you - of Kenya ~~arriving no objection~~  
to the proposal and that you  
will no doubt receive in due  
course a definite communication  
on the subject from the Kenya  
Government of Kenya

K. H. Rodwell, Esq

X [British Empire Club  
12 St James's Square  
Piccadilly]

X Mr. Humphrey has  
discovered that  
this is what the  
tel. address  
"Udipatria St. James"  
represents (Udipatria is  
[unclear])  
off

(Signed) W. C. BOTTOMLEY.

I.F. 4802/26.

Telegram from the Secretary of State for the Colonies  
to the Governor of Kenya.

Sent 4.20 p.m. 12th July, 1926.

12th July.

Your despatch 12th May No. 485 Mombasa  
Bridge Admiralty have no objection. Proposal is  
approved but Mitchell advises that bridge should be  
so designed as not to restrict waterway unduly.  
Question of possible effect on flow through Macupa  
Straits should be taken into account in a connection  
with projected Macupa Causeway.

AMERY.



L. J. 402/26.

Telegram from the Secretary of State for the Colonies  
to the Governor of Kenya.

Sent 4.20 p.m. 12th July, 1926.

12th July.

Your despatch 12th May No. 485 Harbour  
Bridge Admiralty have no objection. Proposal is  
approved but Mitchell advises that bridge should be  
so designed as not to restrict waterway unduly.  
Question of possible effect on flow through Escape  
straits should be taken into account in connection  
with projected Escape Causeway.

AMERY.

Collected from X.P. 4802  
4.20 for  
12.7.26  
Jaw  
12-July 1926.

6.

- Mr. [unclear] 12/7
- Mr. [unclear] 12/7
- Mr. [unclear]
- Mr. E. J. Harding

- Mr. Strachey
- Sir J. Shackleton
- Sir G. Grindle
- Sir C. Davis
- Sir S. Wilson
- Mr. Ormsby-Gore
- Earl of Clarendon
- Mr. Amery

0.7  
R 12 JUL  
DJ

Your des. 12<sup>th</sup> May No. 485  
Mombasa Bridge  
Admiralty have no objection  
~~Your No. 485. Admiralty concurs.~~

Proposal is approved provided  
bridge is so designed as not  
to restrict waterway unduly.  
Question of possible effect on  
flow through Mombasa Straits  
should be considered &  
taken into account in  
connection with projected  
Mombasa Causeway.

DRAFT.

~~Handwritten~~  
Lodi telegram  
~~Handwritten~~  
Governor  
Nairobi

Sincer.

but practical opinion that  
bridge should be

[Two drafts]

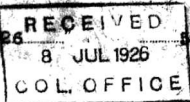


Any further communication  
should be addressed to—

The Secretary of the Admiralty,  
London, S.W. 1.

Admiralty, S.W. 1.

quoting "M. 2025/26



5th July, 1926.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. X.F.4802/26 of the 17th ultimo, forwarding a copy of a despatch from the Governor of Kenya regarding the proposed construction of a bridge to connect Mombasa Island with the mainland at Nyali, I am commanded by My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to request that you will inform Mr. Secretary Amery that they have no objection to this project.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Under-Secretary of State,  
COLONIAL OFFICE,  
S. W. 1.

4  
10

**ENGINEERS.**

GOODE, FITZMAURICE, WILSON & MITCHELL  
(LATE GOODE, SON & MATTHEWS)  
M. F. GOODE, H. INST. C.E.  
A. T. GOODE, H. INST. C.E.  
W. G. MITCHELL, F.R.S.E., INST. C.E.  
A. G. VAUGHAN, F.R.S.E., INST. C.E.  
CHARTERED CIVIL ENGINEERS

*9, Victoria Street,  
London, S.W.1.*

21st June, 1926.

*June 21<sup>st</sup> 1926*

No. 1

I have looked through the proposals for the bridge over Mombasa Harbour received with your letter of 17th June, and return the papers herewith.

Your assumption that it is not necessary to examine the proposal from the point of view of interference with the flow of water on the other side of the island appears to me to be correct, always assuming that the bridge is so designed as not to restrict the waterway unduly.

All that appears to me to be necessary is that, when examining the project for the Macupa Causeway, the proposal to build a bridge across Mombasa Harbour should be taken into account, as our present information is that Port Tudor fills partly through the Macupa Straits, and a constriction of the waterway in Mombasa Harbour might conceivably have some effect on the flow through the Straits.

*Yours sincerely  
H. H. S. Penttill*

W.C. Bottomley, Esq., C.M.G., C.B.E.  
Colonial Office.



12

Mr. Seal Oct 6.26  
Mr. Allen 19/6  
Mr. Potbury 15/7  
Mr. E. J. Harding

Ind

7th Oct. X.F. 4802/26 - Kenya.

Mr. Strachey.  
Sir J. Shackburgh.  
Sir G. Grindle.  
Sir C. Davis.  
Sir S. Wilson.  
Mr. Ormsby-Gore.  
Earl of Clarendon.  
Mr. Amery.

Sir

17 June 1926

See

I am etc. to his. to you  
to be laid before the L.C. of  
the Admiralty the  
acc. & copy of a despatch with  
enclosures, from the Governor  
of Kenya, regarding the  
proposal of a local firm  
to construct a bridge  
connecting Nambasa Island  
with the mainland at  
Nyali.

DRAFT.

The Secretary  
Admiralty.

\*  
The Seal has  
been sent to  
Mr. E. J. Harding  
& enclosed

J. Gov. 12 May  
2 enclosures

2 off. - See  
further minutes.

[2]

2. The Agency would be  
glad to learn whether the  
L P of course in the Governor's  
~~advisory~~ approval of this  
proposal.

I am et.

COMPLY.

XP.4802/26.

Downing Street.

13  
17 June, 1926.

Dear Mr. Mitchell.

I am taking the liberty of sending to you the enclosed despatch from the Governor of Kenya, regarding a proposal of Nyali Sisal Estates Limited, to build a bridge from Mombasa to the mainland.

A copy of the despatch has been sent to the Admiralty, with a view to obtaining their concurrence in the scheme. In the meantime we should be very glad if you could find time to look through it and confirm our assumption that it is not necessary to examine the proposal from the point of view of interference with the flow of water on the other side of the island.

Would you kindly let me have the papers back after you have read them?

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) W. C. BOTTOMLEY.

H. H. G. MITCHELL, ESQ.,

Fr. Gov. Kenya  
12th May '26.

Mr. Seal. 14.6.26.

Mr. Allen 15/6  
Mr. Bottomley's

Mr. E. J. Harding.

Mr. Strackey.

Sir J. Shuckburgh.

Sir G. Gandy.

Sir C. Davis.

Sir S. Wilson.

Mr. Ormsby-Croft.

Earl of Clarondon

Mr. Abern.

Ind. Ansd no. 4  
Gov. Dep. AF 4802/16 Kenya

C. D.  
R 15 JUN  
D 16

June 1926

*[Handwritten signature]*

DRAFT. So. for Mr.  
Bottomley's signature.

Dear Mr. Mitchell

The Dan talks.

H. H. G. Mitchell Esq.  
(then Col. Fitzmaurice,  
Wilson & Mitchell)

the liberty of sending  
to you the enclosed draft  
from the Gov. of Kenya,  
regarding a proposal  
of Nyali Social Estates,  
to build a bridge  
from Bombasa to the

Gov. Kenya 12/26  
see cl 3  
(original for return)  
2 of 1

mainland

looking of the der hatch  
has been sent to the Admiralty,  
be kept with a view to obtaining  
their concurrence in the scheme.  
In the meantime, I should be very  
glad if you could find time to  
look through it and confirm  
my assumption that it is not necessary  
to examine the proposal from the  
point of view of interference  
with the flow of water ~~from~~  
the other side of the inland.

Would you kindly let me  
have the pp back after you have  
read them

Yours sincerely

KENYA.

No 485



GOVERNMENT HOUSE,  
NAIROBI,  
KENYA.

May, 12<sup>th</sup> 1926.

XF: 4802

7 JUN 1926

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that in 1921, the Manager of Nyali Sisal Estates Limited approached the Mombasa District Committee with a view to obtaining from Government the sole concession to bridge Mombasa Harbour. Although the scheme from the first received the support of the District Committee, Sir E. Northey was not at first in favour of the project. The scheme, however, was again brought before the District Committee in March 1922 and was in that month approved in principle by the Governor in Council.

2. The Manager, Nyali Sisal Estates Limited was at that time informed of Government's decision but the scheme remained in abeyance until the 17th of April last when a telegram was received from the Manager, who is now in England, requesting Government's confirmation of the decision given in 1922. It may be stated in this connection that the District Committee's recommendations remain unchanged.

3. In view of the importance of Mombasa waters, the Lords of the Admiralty will no doubt be interested in this scheme to which approval has only been given subject to the concurrence of their Lordships.

4. Copies of the minutes of the Mombasa District Committee -

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

LIEUTENANT COLONEL L.C.M.S. AMERY, P.C., M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET, LONDON, S. W.,

Minutes:  
Correspondence:

PLAN:

*Copy kept 1 inch / 10/11/26 in orig.  
to Comm Agent. 21 July 1928*

*20* *XF 4802* *15*

Committee of the 3rd of March, 1922, and subsequent correspondence, together with a plan, are forwarded for favour of transmission to the Lords of the Admiralty, and I shall be glad to learn whether the scheme has their approval.

5. The Governor has no power to make any specific exemptions from payment of customs import duties, and it will be observed that Mr. Rodwell was notified accordingly in His Excellency's telegram of the 29th April.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
GOVERNOR'S DEPUTY.

MINUTES OF THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE.

Friday March 3rd, 1922.

J. H. Osborne in the Chair.

Present:- Messrs. A.E. Garland, P. Barry, W. S. Wright, C. E. Jackson, J. M. Jamieson, Capt. S.A. Jones, Mr. Kamis bin Mohamed, Dr. G. Walker, M.O.H., Messrs. J. Nicholson, E.B., A.C. Wright, D.S., J. McJannet, D.E.

Messrs. K. H. Rodwell and R. Rodwell present by request.

The Minutes were taken as read and passed. The Chairman reported the business done as the result of the last meeting.

AGENDA:

A Nyali Bridge:

Mr. Rodwell laid the details of the Scheme before the Committee. Mr. Rodwell having expressed his desire to have a written scheme approved by the Committee to place before His Excellency the Governor on his arrival here on the 15th instant, the Committee agreed to pass the following recommendations:-

Recommendations:-

1. Proposed by Mr. Frudd seconded by Mr. Barry
  - (a) That the nearest approach to the Bridge Head from Salim Road be acceded.
  - (b) That the land required for the Bridge Head be granted to the Company at a pepper corn rental.

Passed unanimously.

2. Mr. Rodwell asked the Committee to approve the following:-

The material for the bridge be admitted free of Customs duty and future Ordinance not withstanding.

Proposed by Mr. W.S. Wright seconded by Mr. Frudd and passed without further discussion:-

That the Government be asked to put the Company in the position to make the contract for the material for the Bridge on an Import Duty Free basis.

3. The Committee approved the following:-

That there should be a permanent right of way approximately on the road now in use from the Company's boundary (adjoining the quarry) to the Wharf at English Point and a tram line on the same, vide Plan

Sub-Division No.67 re sub-division Plots Nos.1/104.

Note:-

Arising out of the foregoing recommendations the Committee expressed their opinion that the road in discussion should be 60 feet in width and decided to record this opinion for the future guidance of those concerned with the Town Planning of the Mkomani Area.

4. Mr. Rodwell asked the Committee to approve the following:-

That the control of the Bridge lie with the Company provided that toll does not exceed the following maxima:-

All passenger vehicles (persons limited to 6)	...	...	Sms.2.00 cts.
Motor Bicycles	...	...	0.50
Push "	...	...	0.25
Foot Passengers	...	...	0.10
Animals	...	...	0.10
Vehicles for commercial purposes loaded or empty not exceeding 1½ ton	...	...	2.50
Exceeding 1½ ton but not exceeding 3	...	...	4.00
Limit 3 tons without permission:			

The following recommendation proposed by Mr. Frudd seconded by Mr. Barry was passed unanimously. In view of the maximum charges now submitted by the Company and approved by the Committee, the Committee recommends that their former minute as reported to Hon. Colonial Secretary in the Resident Commissioner's letter No.34/21 of 15.8.21 be rescinded and that the Company have control of the Tariff of tolls and the Bridge generally.

5. Finally the Committee recommends " Government may at its discretion take over the Bridge at its cost price plus 10% on giving 6 months notice of its intention to do so" and agrees in passing the following rider on the subject in general:-

This Committee is unanimously and strongly in favour of encouraging any and every method of communication between the Island and the mainland. The Committee undertook to forward a copy of the approved form of the above minutes to Mr. Rodwell.

The Executive Engineer brought up the question of strengthening the -

the -

STATE:

Priority:

Telegram to Rodwell, Nyali Estates,  
Mombasa.

Port Advisory Board agree with recommendations  
District Committee provided clearance at highwater  
not less than that of Makupa Bridge - do you agree  
please reply before Tuesday.

PRIVATELY.

M O M B A S A .

March 20th, 1922.

Telegram to Privately

Your telegram even date - reference  
clearance of Bridge. Quite agree.

RODWELL.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTE:

Council recommends that the principle of the construction of a bridge across the Bombay Harbour by private enterprise, and the contractor's right to levy tolls subject to Government control, be approved. Council further recommends that the inclusion of an expropriation clause in the contract be insisted on and that the specification be subject to Government's approval.

I concur.

Intd. E. N.

S.22875/32:

The Secretariat,

Nairobi,

24th March, 1922.

The Resident Commissioner,

Mombasa.

re: District Committee, Mombasa:

Bridge over Mombasa Harbour:  
Ref. your No.34 of 8th February 1922.

I confirm my telegram of 21st instant reading  
as follows:-

" Please inform Rodwell Government approves  
principle of construction of bridge across Mombasa  
Harbour by private enterprise and constructors'  
right to levy tolls subject to Government control.  
Expropriation clause to be inserted in contract  
and specification to be subject to Government's  
approval."

Sd. C. A. G. -ans.

For COLONIAL SECRETARY.

LONDON,

17th April, 1926.

Telegram from Rodwell to Governor, Nairobi.

Shall be glad have confirmation of recommendation and resolutions Mombasa District Committee March 3rd, 1922, and completed correspondence Nyali Bridge. Financial arrangements only await this confirmation - urgent.

RODWELL, URIPATRIA,  
ST. JAMES, LONDON.

Nairobi,

29th April, 1926.

Telegram to Rodwell, Drapatis, St. James, London.  
-----

22575 - Reference your telegram 17th April -  
Nyali Bridge - Government supports recommendations  
of District Committee made in March, 1922, subject  
to concurrence of Admiralty and to duty on  
materials in accordance with Customs Tariff.  
Relative papers being forwarded for consideration  
by Admiralty through Colonial Office.

G O V E R N O R .

No. 362 / T.P. 10

Resident Commissioner's Office,  
Nashua, 29th April, 1928.

The Hon'ble

The Acting Colonial Secretary,  
Nairobi.

BRIDGE BRIDGE.  
Nairobi, 29th April, 1928.

I have the honour to refer to my reply to your telegram and further to quote the following extract from the minutes of a meeting of the District Committee held on the 25th instant:-

The Chairman adverted to the circulating of numbers to examine the reports given by the District Committee in 1928 to the Royal Bridge Scheme and asked whether members had any comments to make.

The Executive Engineer asked whether it was proposed by the Company to supply water; such proposal did not appear in the scheme, but a water supply by the department could be arranged without difficulty if this requirement was made known in good time.

On the subject of the weight to be carried by the bridge Mr. Jackson stated that no design had been submitted but that a 4-ton load was, he believed, the maximum. A reference to the original recommendations revealed the fact that more than 3 tons could not be carried without special permission. As to this

the Assistant Land Officer recalled the fact that a big margin of safety had been allowed.

Mr. Lant asked whether the charges were in line with those recently recommended for Kansas Service and was informed that this was so and that Government had the option of taking over the bridge. This provision also severed any question of prejudice to Govt. in constructing a bridge at Kismet.

It was proposed by Mr. Lant and seconded by Mr. Jackson that this Committee wishes to emphasize the desirability of the Kyal Bridge Scheme, carried unanimously."

*C. Fisher*  
for RESIDENT COMMISSIONER.

