

KENYA

475

C.O.
39710

39410

REC'D
DEL 15 AUG 20

MUNDREY CAPT S.C.B.

LAND SETTLEMENT

1920

10th August

Last previous Paper.

M/1054/19

For reasons stated requests a cable may be sent asking for early issue of title deeds of farm 167

Mr. Lockman

Capt Mundry called two days ago
I saw him.

Of course we know nothing of
the case of Capt Gordon Hewitt's tenure of
his land (see 3054/19).

Capt Mundry has told me that he had
been waiting 18 months for the issue of this
title, that his partner had assured him
personally that it would be put through,
that he has sunk all his money in
machinery etc for the development of the
land, & now cannot raise any more
because the bank will not advance it
until the title is issued, and his partner

Case of Camp 14 Aug '20.
Coral held 21 Aug '20 20035
Copy come Gov. 1296 23 Aug 20 M/10835/20

subsequent Paper.
M/10835

we not prepared to find course for
him until this is done.

I pointed out to him that we
are not in a position to insist that
the title should be issued, as it was
impossible to say here whether the matter
was moved on by delay in the Land
Office owing to idleness (as he says)
or whether there was some other reason,
but I said we could make enquiries of
Govt.

He wishes this to be done by title, as
the matter is urgent, & said he would pay
for the title if we said he had to be
in that best world, as according to him
his present inconvenient situation is entirely
due to Govt. delay, & he thinks Govt.
should put it straight. I did not
hesitate ask him to sign an acknowledgment

though I think he ought to pay
I indicated a list etc. for Govt.
If it is decided that he should pay all
Govt. expenses, it can be said that
we can be told the maximum (this will be
better than sending him a copy) & if not
we can tell him what we propose to say
& send him a form of undertaking to
sign (I don't think we need ask for a deposit
... replica of him who is known to us
through having served in the K.A.R. - see

file 2563/K.A.R.

25/12/40

I suspect that there may be
difficulty with Capt. Gordon
Hewitt. I think he is not
letting this man down.

I will tell him that we are
willing to send a cable
if he will pay - but that
it would be preferable to send
copy of his letter by post
rather than telegraph.

Reply, as the Prot. G.
will appreciate the position
better if his full statement
is sent to them - with
which he requires, & send some
money form for completion
if he desires cable

All

12 F. 20

alone

we have
not done
response
able all

John

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22, RYDER STREET,

ST. JAMES'. S.W.

August 10th, 1920.

Dear Mr. Jeffries,

Following on our conversation this morning, concerning my affairs in East Africa, I herewith submit a written statement, as desired. I should be extremely grateful if you would kindly give this matter your personal attention by cable, as it is most urgent.

Yours truly,

S. B. Munday

I would be obliged if you could send me copies of your earlier correspondence for the benefit of my intended investors

S. B. Munday

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C.O.
39710

22, RYDER STREET,

ST. JAMES'S, S.W. 20

August 10th, 1920.

EAST AFRICA.

To: The Secretary of State,
The Colonial Office,
London.

Dear Sir,

Following on my personal interview this morning, with reference to the Title Deeds of my estate, No. 167, Sirgoit Eldoret, Uashin Gishu Plateau, British East Africa, I have the honour to submit this my most urgent appeal, for support at your hand.

In December 1918 I purchased land on Farm 167 from Captain Gordon Hewitt, who holds this farm on occupation license from Government (Ordinance No. 612 of 1915). Since this date I have visited East Africa with a view to encouraging the output of flax in the Colony, to the benefit of my several neighbours and myself.

I have sunk in round figures £10,000 in development, equipment and a flax mill during the last year.

By virtue of the Government Ordinance of March 1920, fixing the Rupee at 10 to the £ sterling, I have incurred an automatic overdraft at the Standard Bank Eldoret, for which I was not prepared. On my return to England, May 1920, I drafted a Company for the introduction of more capital, but I now find myself entirely at a standstill, being unable to raise a temporary loan from the Bank, or to raise capital from any source whatsoever because the East African Land Office have not yet issued the main Title Deeds of Farm 167 to Captain Gordon Hewitt.

On my arrival in East Africa, July 1912, Captain Hewitt, myself, and our lawyers received the assurance of the Land Officer at Nairobi that the Deeds would be issued, as yet we have not received them.

Captain Hewitt finds himself involuntarily holding up our industry to his disadvantage, as he is himself a neighbour, and he is also unable to satisfy other intending flax growers on this Farm 167 to whom he has ^{sold} and intends to sell, plots of land in the vicinity of my Flax Mill, by reason of the fact that the main Title is not yet forthcoming from the Land Office.

My present position is most deplorable, my native labour and manager are without funds, though I am in a position to introduce extensive capital at once on the Title Deeds being deposited at the Bank at Eldoret.

My neighbours are relying on me to erect my mill, and develop flax in their neighbourhood, and they are at present asking me what acreages of flax they should at once start to put in.

I can do nothing for myself or them without my Deeds. Captain Hewitt has been endeavouring to obtain them for a year, with no success. I might respectfully point out that I have done everything in my power to develop the flax industry in East Africa to the benefit of myself, my fellow settlers, the home markets and my new home in particular. I would therefore be more than grateful if a cable could be sent to His Majesty's Governor in Council, in East Africa, direct, with the humble request that the main title of Farm 167 be handed forthwith to the Standard Bank at Eldoret, in the name of Captain Hewitt, and that this Bank be advised without delay that the matter has their attention, with a request that our affairs be considered favourably by them until such deeds are forthcoming.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

S E B Munday
(Captain)

M/39710/20

Kenya

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28 Aug. 1920

DRAFT.

C. B. Munday

MINUTE.

- Mr. Jeffries 13.8.20
- Mr. Parkin 14
- Mr.
- Mr. Orville
- Sir H. Lambert
- Sir H. Bood
- Sir G. Fiddes
- Col. Amory
- Lord Milner

M/40835/20
Copy for 1326. 23 Aug. 20.

I am in to ask the
 receipt of your letter of the
 10th of Aug., regarding his
 assistance in obtaining the
 issue of the title deeds of
 Farm No. 167, Uasin Gishu,

in the Kenya Colony, on
 which farm you have
 purchased land from Capt.
 Gordon Hewitt for the purpose
 of growing flax.

2. Lord Milner will be
 prepared to send a telegram
 to the Gov. of Kenya on the
 subject, if you are prepared
 to pay the cost, and

will sign the enclosed undertaking
to that effect. You will need to
to the effect that you had
complained of the delay in
issuing the title deeds, which
is placing you in a serious
financial position, I would convey
your request that the deeds may
be handed to the Standard Bank
of Africa, Eldoret, in Capt. Gordon
Hurst's name, and that the Bank
may be informed immediately that
the matter is in hand; and I
would enquire whether it was
possible for this to be done, or,
if not, what is the reason for
the non-issue of the deeds.

I would also explain, however,
that it would be preferable
to send a copy of your letter
+

~~Deeds Bank for~~

DRAFT.

MINUTE.

to the Gov. by despatch, 481
with a request for a telegraphic
reply, as the Colonial
Govt. will be ~~in a better~~
~~position~~ better able to
appreciate your position if
your full statement of the
case is sent to them;
and I am to request you
to state whether you would
desire this, or whether you
address

address to your request that
a telegram should be sent

I am,

(Signed) H. J. READ