

EAST AFR. PRO-
167/14

16774
RE REC 7 MAR 20

A.G.
COVERING 204

1920

TRANSPORT DEPT MOTOR BOAT

28th FEBRUARY

Last previous Paper.

Trs corres re boat requisitioned by Naval Transport Dept and returned in bad state of repair. Requests representations to Admiralty with view to replacement by new boat without delay.

Copy to Admiralty & say that we wish they will open & be arranged forwarded by the OAG.

W.S. 31.3.20 a 5

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Last subsequent Paper.

no
1959!

16774

MAR 20

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
NAIROBI.
407
BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

28th February, 1920.

AFRICA PROTECTORATE
No. 204

My Lord,

I have the honour to enclose, for Your Lordship's information copies of correspondence relating to a motor-boat, the property of the Transport Department, which was requisitioned at the outbreak of war by the Naval Transport Authorities.

2. Your Lordship will observe, from the enclosures, that this boat, which, when handed over, was nearly new, was returned at the conclusion of hostilities in a bad state of repair, and that an old and inferior engine was substituted for the 8 h.p. Kelvin Engine with which the launch was originally fitted.

3. Every effort has been made to put the boat in repair, and Rs.1500/- have already been expended in an attempt which has proved fruitless. In her present condition the boat

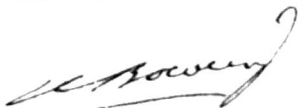
is

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
VISCOUNT MILNER, P.C., G.C.B., G.C.M.G., &c. &c.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
BOWLING STREET,
LONDON, S.W.

3-408
is a source of useless expenditure and I should
be grateful if Your Lordship would cause
representations to be made to the Admiralty with
a view to that Department replacing the launch
by a new one. The present boat could then be
sold, and the amount realised be credited to the
Admiralty.

4. As the waterbourne traffic of the
Transport Department is increasing, and the use
of a reliable motor-launch is an urgent necessity,
I should be glad if, in the event of my
suggestions meeting with Your Lordship's
approval, the Admiralty may be approached without
delay.

I have the honour to be,
Your Lordship's
humble, obedient servant,



ACTING GOVERNOR.

Transport Department.

Mombasa

9th May 1918.

The Senior Marine Transport Officer,
Dar-es-Salaam.

Thro: the Naval Transport Officer
Kilindini.

I beg to inform you that on the outbreak of hostilities a Kelvin Motor Launch belonging to this Department was commandeered by you, it is now I understand in Darassalam.

2. I would be glad to know whether you are in a position to return it as it is three and half years, since it was taken over and is badly needed. I would be very grateful if it could be returned at an early date.

3. I would point out that the launch when taken over was practically new as it only arrived in this Country in 1913. I trust therefore that it will be returned in thorough working order, or, if not in good order, that another will be handed over in its stead.

sd/- . H. Pickwood
Ag. Transport Officer

E. L. O.

No. B. 267/14

Naval Transport Officer,
Kilindini

20th May 1914.

From :-

The Naval Transport Officer,
Kilindini.

To :-

The Acting Transport Officer,
(East Africa Protectorate)

Transport Department
Mombasa.

Reference your letter Military No. 31/15 of 9th
regarding the Kelvin motor launch belonging to your
ment, which was requisitioned by the Naval Transport
rities. I have to inform you that, the motor boat
be spared at present.

Will you please let me know the date on which
boat was requisitioned.

sd/- W.J. King.
Lieut. R.N.V.P.
Naval Transport Officer

Copy

3410

Military No. 31/15/14

Transport Department
Mombasa
20th May 1914

The Naval Transport Officer,
Kilindini

Ref: Your No. B. 267/14 of the 20/5/14
Re Kelvin Motor Launch belonging to Transport Dept.

The Kelvin Motor Launch was purchased locally from
Messrs. W.J. King & Co. for Rupees 3000/- in May 1914 and was
commandeered by the Officer Commanding Marine Defence, Kilindini,
on the outbreak of hostilities in August 1914.

sd/- H. Pickwood
Ag. Transport Officer

Transport Office,
Mombasa,
12th February 1919.

The Naval Transport Officer,
Kilindini.

Reference your letter No. B. 267/14 of the 20/5/14
Re Kelvin Motor Launch belonging to Transport Dept.
"Kelvin Motor Launch"

I would be grateful if the Kelvin Motor Launch belonging
to this Department could be returned to me at an early date.

2. I would point out that the Launch when taken over was
practically new as it only arrived in this country in 1913. I
trust therefore that it will be returned in good working
order, or if not in good order that another will be handed over
in its stead.

3. I trust that you will see your way and let me have the
launch as soon as possible as it is badly needed.

sd/- H. Pickwood
Ag. Transport Officer.

Memorandum

From Naval Transport Officer,
Kilindini.

To Mr. H. Pickwood,
Mombasa.

It is requested that you will let me have a receipt for the motor boat handed over to you yesterday as soon as you can conveniently do so.

sd/- N.K. Butters.
Lieut. R.N.R.N.T.O.
for Divisional Naval Transport
Officer.

No. 31/8
Transport Department
Mombasa, 24th April 1919.

The Divisional Naval Transport Officer,
Kilindini.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your memo dated the 24th instant asking for a receipt for a motor boat shown to me on the 24th instant. This boat has seen hard service and I only receive it under protest on behalf of the Government of B.E.A.

2. The boat I am taking over consists of the hull of a Kelvin Motor Boat with a Rec engine, but I would point out that the boat as originally taken over by you was practically new and had a Kelvin motor. It was bought for my Department for the sum of £.300/- in 1914.

3. I enclose a certificate for the Port Officer, Mombasa and would request that either a new motor Boat be supplied in the place of the one handed over in August 1914 or a second hand boat in the same conditions as the one originally handed over.

4. In this connection I would refer to my letter to the Naval Transport Officer, Kilindini, No. 31/4 of the 12th February 1918, a copy of which I enclose for ready reference, I may state that a copy of this letter was forwarded to the Div. Nav. Transport Officer, Durban, for his information.

① 412

Transport Department

Mombasa, 28th April, 1919

No. 31/9

Sir,

Reference my letter No. 31/4 of 12th February, 1919 I have the honour to enclose for your information a copy of a letter I have addressed to the Divisional Naval Transport Officer, Kilindini on the subject of a Motor Boat handed over to me by him which is stated to be the boat taken over from my Department on the outbreak of the War.

2. I would be grateful of an early settlement of this matter as I think you will agree that I cannot accept a boat that has seen 4 1/2 years hard work in the place of a practically new boat.

3. You will observe that I have only taken over the hull and Rec engine from the Divisional Naval Transport Officer under Protest.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant

sd/- H. Pickwood

Ag. Transport Officer (Civil).

The Principal Naval Transport Officer

D u r b a n .

P. T. O.

20th May 1919.

Principal Naval Transport Officer,
South and East Africa.
To, Acting Transport Officer,
Transport Department,
Mombasa.

Sir,

In reply to your letter No.31/9 of the 26th April, I have the honour to point out to you that this Motor Boat was taken over, for War service, by the Authorities in Mombasa at the outbreak of the war, as you state, and previous to my arrival. It was used continuously on service connected with the defence of British East Africa and the conquest of German East Africa by the Naval Transport Service.

The boat has been taken kept in as good repair as possible, but has doubtless been worked hard. The Kelvin engine being worn out, was replaced by the only kind available.

Should the Government of British East Africa wish to have compensation of the Imperial Government, either for the use of it during the war, this claim should be made to the Admiralty through the Colonial Office. I have the pleasure and acknowledgment of the use of the boat by the Transport Department for the period since October, 1914.

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

Ed/- Edward Headlam,
Principal Naval Transport Officer,
South and East Africa

413

26th April 1919.

Sir,

I have the honour to report that I have this day examined the hull of the Motor Boat pointed out by you.

The boat was in a neglected and dirty condition. There was one foot of sea water in the bottom and I was unable to examine the keel.

There was evidence of extensive alterations and repairs having been effected; but it will be necessary to carry out a further considerable over-haul and some repairs to again put the boat in proper order.

I consider the hull is worth about half the value that it was when she was new.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

Ed/- A. Hewitt.

Acting Port Officer.

Transport Officer

Mombasa

C.O. J. J. PUBLIC RECORDS

The Kilindini Marine & General Engineering Works

(Wm.R.Parr & Co.)

Mombasa, 2nd January 1930

The Chief Transport Officer
Mombasa,

Dear Sir,

We have examined the Engine of the Motor Boat which you sent us for repairs to Gear Box etc. and report as follows :-

It is an old Motor Car Engine, Rec. 4 cyl. with the original Clutch and an odd Gear box, both Middle gear wheels are stripped of teeth and need renewing, and the Engine is in a bad condition generally. The Water circulating Pump is unsuitable.

We consider this Engine is unsuitable for the boat, as the machine cannot run up to its proper speed on account of the Pitch of Propeller.

Yours faithfully

Kilindini Engineering Works

sd/- H.J. Dove
Manager

Transport Motor Launch

Length 26 feet

Breadth 7 ft. 3"

Depth 2 ft. 6"

Clencher built with Teak wood planks & hardwood frames

Tiller Steering

Step for mast forward

Locker in bow & another in Stern

Engine

4 Cylinders, Rio. Motor Car Type with original clutch & odd Gear Box

Bronze Shaft & Propellor

Hand worked Bilge Pump

Seats 35 to 40 people

Faint handwritten notes at the bottom of the page.

16774/20

Ind.

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1959

DRAFT.

The Sec.
Admiralty

[Signature]

1st
April 1920

MINUTE.

Sir,

- Mr. Powning 1 April
- Mr. Bullen 1/4/20
- Mr.
- Mr. Grindle.
- Sir H. Lambert.
- Sir H. Read.
- Sir G. Fiddes.
- Col. Amery.
- Lord Milner.

I am in letters to you
to be laid before the C.
of the Admiralty the
copy of a despatch with
enclosures, the copy
for the Board with
reference to a motor boat
belonging to the Transport
Dept. which was

28 Feb. 1920

requisitioned at the outbreak of
war by the Naval Transport
Authorities.

Now Marine trusts that,
in the crisis, their Board
will agree to the proposal
that
~~assumption~~ for the ^{boat} ~~boat~~ should
be replaced by the Admiralty -
+ that the ~~price~~ of the sale
of the old ^{boat} ~~boat~~ ^{should} be set
to the ~~benefit~~ of the ~~State~~

(Signed) H. J. READ