

EAST AFR PROT
17186

17186
REC'D
Rrg^c 7 JUN 10

G.P.O.
1910

Adm. Jaayiba, East Service
Call at Kismayu

to file
16330

Submits status on sufficiently connected with
regular calls at Kismayu & Kismayu. Inquires
whether it is considered that a regular call is
sufficiently desirable to justify incurrence of
consequent maintenance of base of post at Kismayu.

576. tel. Length
at base
H. J. R
10/11

File in 40
4 copy to 40336 by J.C.
Til 014 20 p.m. 11 20 10

subsequent Paper.
11/13/14

GENERAL POST OFFICE, LONDON.

6 June 1910.

17186
Recd
Recd 7 JUN 10

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 31st ultimo, No. 16155/1910, respecting calls at Kismayu of vessels employed on the Aden-Somali Mail Service, I am directed to state that the conditions accepted by the Company in this respect are embodied in the draft contract, a copy of which accompanied the letter from this Office dated the 23rd of March last, No. 224,989. It will be observed that calls at Kismayu, or other ports not being ordinary ports of call, may under Section 19 be exacted four times in each year for the purposes specified in that Section, by authorised officials, which term is defined in Section 1 to include the Governor of the British East Africa Protectorate. So far as the Postmaster General is aware no such call has, as yet, been exacted during the present year, or indeed since the commencement of the service under the new conditions in February 1909.

I am, however, to point out that under existing conditions this power should not be exercised without due regard to the risk of missing the homeward mail connexion at Aden. It is thought, nevertheless, that a call at one additional port (e.g. Kismayu),

The Under Secretary of State,

COLONIAL OFFICE.

may

may be occasionally expected on the homeward journey without altering the hour of departure from Zanzibar and without serious risk of losing the connexion at Aden, except during the latter part of May and the early part of June, when the British-India boats are sailing under the Monsoon time-table, while the Peninsular and Oriental boats from India, although receiving a Monsoon allowance are usually not experiencing the full force of the monsoon, and therefore are availing themselves of the allowance only in a limited degree. (If the Governor has good reasons for exacting a call at Kismayu by the vessel scheduled to leave Mombasa on Wednesday, the 29th instant, it is thought he may safely do so.

The Postmaster General has assumed that the Governor has in contemplation only occasional calls in special emergencies. If, however, he is contemplating a regular call, the matter bears a different aspect. In this connexion, I am to advert to the 2nd paragraph of your letter of the 8th of January last, No. 39395/99, respecting the omission of the call at Lamu, which has formed the subject of some personal discussion at the Colonial Office.

The only contract call at present made between Aden and Zanzibar is at Mombasa, but under the terms of the Contract the Postmaster General is at liberty to require (Section 10) contract calls at two additional ports (which might be Lamu and Kismayu), subject of course to requisite modification in the time-table.

On the other hand, the contractors have the option

of calling for their own purposes at Lamu and Kisumu, without being required by the Postmaster General to do so, provided they were the time lost in making such calls.

The call made at Lamu on the homeward journey before February 1908, was not a contract call; but was made at the Contractor's own option. So far as the Postmaster General can learn there is no immediate probability of the resumption of a call at Lamu under these conditions.

If, therefore, regular calls are to be made in future either at Lamu or Kisumu, or both, an alteration of the time-table will be necessary. It will probably be thought desirable that if such calls are made they should be made on the homeward journey. Both these ports are entirely unlighted and present difficult approaches, and it would be necessary that the vessels should always make long ports, and enter them during daylight. So far as can be seen, if it were decided to take one, but not both, of these places as contract ports, the departure from Zanzibar, now fixed for 11.0 p.m., would have to take place on the evening of the previous day, and from Mombasa now fixed for 6.0 p.m. at 4.0 a.m. on the same day. This would clearly mean the practical loss of a business day for posting purposes, both from Zanzibar and Mombasa. On the other hand, if the vessel were to leave Zanzibar and Mombasa a full twenty-four hours earlier than at present, the practical curtailment of postal facilities would not be substantially greater, and this margin of time would probably be approximately sufficient to provide for regular calls on the homeward journey both at Lamu and Kisumu.

Before proceeding to ascertain precisely what alterations of the time-table would be necessary, the Postmaster General will be glad to learn whether Lord Crews considers that a regular call at one or both of the ports in question is sufficiently desirable to justify whatever inconvenience may be attendant on a curtailment of the time of posting at Mombasa and Zanzibar. Before any alteration is actually carried out, it may be found expedient to obtain the observations of His Majesty's Consul at Zanzibar, so far as that place is concerned.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Wm. Pitt Rivers

2
C.O.
PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

RECEIVED
28 JUN 1910
COL. OFFICE

153

THE SECRETARY, GENERAL POST OFFICE, presents his compliments to THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES and with reference to the Colonial Office note of the 22nd instant, begs to transmit herewith a copy of the draft contract for the Aden and Zanzibar Mail Service.

The signature of the Instrument has been deferred pending the settlement of the question of the penalty to be imposed on the British India Steam Navigation Company for a certain breach of the conditions stipulated for in the draft contract under which the service is already being conducted.

W. Head

GENERAL POST OFFICE, LONDON.

27 June 1910.

S. R.

*attached to
letter dated 29/6*

M. W.

29/6

29/6

P.P.O.
17.86

S.A.P.

Thom's House
1/12

15

DRAFT

Telegram to
Junction
Nairobi.

with reference to your letter
of 8.2

MINUTE

- Mr. Read 10 June
- Mr.
- Mr. Piddie
- Mr. Just
- Mr. Coze
- Sir C. Lucas
- Sir F. Hopwood
- Col. Seeh...
- Lord Crom...

calls at
Kisumu may be
sent four times

to suit your
convenience

Government officials
The Government

Office back to any
state of call of the

Company's vessels.

copy of etc. on 16.5.51
copy of draft contract
742/10 + copy 1/17/86
to the file for 17.5.51

T.F.8

Post office front

at that ^{incident}

conditions ^{incidents} should be

exercised without due

regard to the risk

of missing the ^{important} ^{business}

order, but if you have

good reasons for

starting call at

Kisumu by vessel

leaving Mombasa

at June they

that that you may

safely do so.