

wants to experiment with
the light Ford car before
committing himself to the
Corries. The proposal
is reasonable & provided
that the car in its 'explorations'
does not get entirely
broken up, it should come
in useful later for other
purposes.

? act. except. approve
proposal. say that incident
will be sent to C.A. for execution
& advise that cost shd be
met as in disp. (not from
unallocated store account)

Send incidents in original
to C.A. for execution explaining
that the car will have to
run on rough 'dirt' roads
for 'exploring' purposes.

ALB
17/11/11

In the Gold Coast, the merchants
have for some time been using
light Ford cars (also some Benz

(cars) with some success for 202
transporting produce from inland
to the Coast. but they are probably
more of the same long type
than ordinary cars. They run over
rough mud roads here also.

Apr 17/1914

This piece of work is decidedly experimental
and I fear that it will be better
to experiment with a Ford than with
a expensive motor long wheel
be unmanageable if it gets into
any difficulties.

I am yours

Ed

18/4/14

at once

Dr 100. 4. 14

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
Nairobi,
BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

No. 253.

March 19th, 1914.

Sir,

With reference to your despatch No. 984 of November 15th, 1913, I have the honour to inform you that in accordance with instructions the Director of Public Works and Captain Neave have submitted a report respecting motor transport in the Northern Frontier District with recommendations for utilising the provision made in the Estimates for 1914-15.

In the attached report from the report you will observe that the purchase of a Ford Motor car for exploration purposes is strongly advocated and I think that good reasons have been shown to justify its use.

3. A start will be made to align the

new

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
LEWIS HARCOURT, P.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET,
LONDON, S.W.

new route to the North as soon as possible after the beginning of the forthcoming financial year and I do not doubt that the work will be much facilitated if a motor car is at the disposal of those entrusted with the undertaking.

4. I trust therefore that you will sanction the purchase from the Vote Public Works Extraordinary, Item 54 New Roads and Bridges.

5. In the event of sanction being given I should be obliged if the attached indent could be handed over to the Crown Agents.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble obedient servant


Deputy GOVERNOR.

ENCLOSURE No

In Despatch No. 223 of 13/11/35

P.

Extract from Report on Motor Transportin the Northern Frontier District.

The first step towards establishing the possibility of motor transport over the roads and tracks beyond Veru should be the purchase of an ordinary Ford car from next year's Road Vote to be used as an exploring car in cross-country running. Government as an alternative to buying a car might invite tenders for a month's use of a car, but as the daily charges for a car and chauffeur might be as high as £20 per day, it is probably be advisable to buy a new car and a driver. In this car an Northern Frontier District Officer with three or four picked labourers with axes, block and tackle, a stump jack, and occasionally explosives, might clear miles of track in the course of a month and collect invaluable information as to the feasibility of various routes. Any route which the Ford car could not travel with ease, might be abandoned as a route for heavier lorries. We strongly recommend that

£500 of next year's Road Vote may be utilized in the purchase of a car, payment of a driver (if found necessary), and of the picked labourers, and the cost of petrol and the equipment referred to above. It is quite likely that upon the execution of the £500 vote in question, the car might have established transport facilities which would justify its further running costs being met by re-allocation of Northern Frontier District funds. It might even justify the entire abandonment of ox and camel transport on certain routes and the inauguration of motor transport in one or other of the forms which are at present under consideration. I may add that the Engineers on the Mombasa Water Supply are at present considering the abandonment of a light petrol tractor for the conveyance of heavy loads, and instead of asking for a still lighter road car, with the wheels removed, to take two oxes, or perhaps even to be used at a trip - this method allowing of the transport of a large bulk of stores by "little and often" instalments, without injury to a soft road and inferior bridges.

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Gov. 13502/914

E.S.P.

267

22 April 1914

Sir

DRAFT

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 253, of the 18th of March, and to inform you that the C.A. for the Cols. have been authd. to comply with ~~order No. 9~~ for ~~the~~ ~~use~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~P.W.D.~~ for exploration purposes in the Northern Frontier District

2. The cost of the car should be met as indicated in the 4th para. of your despatch.

2

MINUTE.

Mr. Harper Apr 20/14

Mr. Read 20/

Sir G. Fiddes.

Sir H. Just.

Sir J. Anderson.

Lord Emmott.

Mr. Harcourt.

dyf6

