

DESPATCH

EAST AFR. PROT.
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1908

B.M.L.

Previous Paper

Doc 4

(Subject.)

Death of Sergeant Rogers

To Reports

(Minutes.)

Mr. Reed

7 Copy Sect. 3 to head board

A.C.W.

Boys

W.L. 30/3

done

Subsequent Paper

Governor's Office

C. O.

18915

Nairobi,

Rec^d

MAR 28 08

March 6th 1908.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

No. 118

(Indi. S)

My Lord,

In confirmation of my telegram No. 42 of the 18th ultimo notifying the death of Sergeant Rogers of the European Police, I have the honour to transmit herewith reports on the sad event from the Inspector General of Police and the Principal Medical Officer together with a short account suitable for communication to the relatives of the deceased.

I have the honour to be,
With the highest respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,
Humble servant,

H. H. PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF STATE

FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET,

LONDON, S. W.

L. G. P.
M. P. S. D.

Death Report

Admitted

miles from Athi River. Mr Morgan arrived soon after 10/ a. m. & found Sergeant Rogers still alive but unconscious he removed him from the chair & placed him on the bed & propped his head with pillows. Police Constable Williams arrived shortly afterwards. Sergeant Rogers revolver was lying on the ground about 17 contained 3 cartridges. Sergeant Rogers died at 11 a. m. Mr. Morgan sent a doctor to the station to see the Master. Mr. Morgan requested him to telegraph for a doctor. On examining the furniture Captain Smith found blood stains on the left arm & on the seat of the chair, also some blood stains on the edge of the camp table. Dr Wiggins did not consider a post mortem necessary & stated that death had taken place 6 hours previously. (I attach Dr Wiggins report hereto)

Captain Smith removed the body to Nairobi & took possession of Sergeant Rogers private papers, & of the revolver.

On going through his papers, there could be found no reason for Sergeant Rogers committing such an act except that he was worried about his sister's engagement to a man he did not approve of. He left no letter stating his intention to commit suicide.

M. D. Sullivan
Inspector General of Police.

THE SECRETARY
TO THE ADMINISTRATION.

Inquiry as to death of Sergeant Rogers
A. A. P. Police.

WIGGINS 20078

I am Medical Officer E. A. P. at Nairobi. In
response of a report received yesterday I went
to Achu River at No 2 Camp on quarantine outpost.
In tent there I saw the body of Sergeant Rogers
of the European Police. Sergeant Rogers was dead
he was lying on his back on his Camp bed. There
was ~~sign~~ ^{no} ~~one~~ present but not fully.

There was wound on left eye and at back of the
head evidently due to a bullet wound there was brain
matter protruding from the wound behind. He had
evidently been bleeding from eye nose & mouth all
dried when I saw him. His death was due to the
wound. The wound corresponded with a 480 bullet
there may have been marks of searching but I
did not see them owing as the blood all over the
face and to extravasation of blood under skin.
Direction & everything else corresponded to a self
inflicted wound. Exhibit 1 is about size of bullet.

It was impossible to say one way or another if
he had been suffering from sun or not.

(Signed) A. Harrison.

17-2-06.

In Despatch No. // of Dec 6 1908.

DEATH REPORT.

Name. Sergt. J. A. Rogers.
 Nationality. European
 Age. 32.
 Sex. male
 Date of death. 16 February 1908.
 Cause of death. Gunshot wound of head.
 Place of death. Police Camp, Athi River.

History.

An urgent message received by Dr. Wiggins from P.M.O. accompanied by a telegram, at about 1.30, stating that the deceased had shot himself, and was still living.

Dr. Wiggins left Nairobi by special train just after 2 o'clock and arrived at the Camp just before 3 o'clock and found that the patient had died at about 11 a.m.

(As reported by the European Constable.)

On examination a bullet wound at the left eye was found, the bullet having passed through the brain, and gone out by the back of the head, on the right of the occipital bone, and from thence to the roof of the tent. The body was brought to Nairobi at about 4.30 P.M. and placed in the mortuary.

No post mortem made.

An inquest was held on the 17th and the verdict given was "suicide & the tent partially collapsed".

Dr. J. A. Wiggins

Continued

Principal Medical Officer.

In Despatch No. 117 of Dec. 4 1908

COPY.

**Death of Sergeant Rogers of the European
Police Force, Nairobi, on the 15th February 1909.**

On the 15th I received a telegram from the Station
Master, Athi River Station, informing me that Sergeant
Rogers, who was engaged on the plains some six miles
from that station, had been found dead in his tent. I
at once notified the Police and Dr. Wiggins, and in a
very short time they left in a special train for Athi
River Station.

From the evidence at the inquest it would appear
that in a moment of temporary mental aberration, Sergeant
Rogers had shot himself with his revolver, and that
death had been practically instantaneous. No medical
aid could have been of any assistance. It was impossible
to say whether Rogers's condition leading up to the
act had been caused by sunstroke, the sun at the time
having been very powerful and the heat on the Athi Plains
greater than usual.

Sd/- J. WILL

Principal Medical Officer,