

DOMESTIC.

EAST AFR. PROT.
UGANDA

32463

32965

Recd Oct 10 1909

Name or Individual:

String J.

1909

50cts.

at Previous Paper.

10
20991

negotiations w/ E. Tel. Co.

Received letter from Co. pointing increase of
 personal rate for traffic exchanged with Britain
 from 6s to 10 cents per word to Jan 1909 &
 Land lines fed to & from E. Afr. are connected rate
~~will remain at 6s cts~~

W. Johnson

218

Oct 6

W. Read

Copy attached for ref. to 16574,
 sending at same time copies
 (already made) of the Agreement
 att'd to 16574, & plain that in view
 thereof it did not appear possible
 to negotiate with offer any reduction
 to personal rate or to offer any increase
 thereof to reduce their rates generally
 to East Africa - suggested in en. to 20771
 I send copy of our despatch to H.C. ref.
 to 20771, from encls gen 12/10
 "Duke of York Point Rd
 rec'd a letter on 6667/10

218
Oct 12
W. Read

Subsequent Paper

20779

London

October 6th, 1905.

The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office,
L O N D O N .

32963

Rec'd OCT 05

Sir,

With reference to the communication which I addressed to His Excellency the Governor of East Africa, in April last, regarding the proposed attempt to obtain a revision of the terminal charges for cablegrams at Mombasa, I have now the honour to inform you that I have succeeded in inducing the Eastern Telegraph Company to increase the amount allowed to my Department for expenses of delivery. The increase will be $\frac{5}{4}$ centimes per word, making, with the present allowance of $\frac{6}{4}$ centimes, $\frac{13}{4}$ centimes per word. This alteration will take effect from the 1st. January next and will bring an increased revenue of about £320 per annum. I enclose the letter in original from the Traffic Accountant of the Eastern Telegraph Company regarding this matter.

It will be observed from the enclosure mentioned above that the increased terminal will only apply until there is a connection between the land-lines of British East Africa and German West Africa. In this regard I may say that

for addrs.

Dated 10th July, 1909.

The Under-Secretary of State,

Colonial Office.

LONDON.

Sir,

With reference to the communication which I addressed to His Excellency the Governor of East Africa, in April last, regarding the proposed attempt to obtain a revision of the terminal charges for cablegrams at Mombasa, I have now the honour to inform you that I have succeeded in inducing the Eastern Telegraph Company to increase the amount allowed to my Department for expenses of delivery. The increase will be $\frac{1}{2}$ centimes per word, making, with the present allowance of $\frac{1}{2}$ centimes, $\frac{13}{2}$ centimes per word. This alteration will take effect from the 1st January next and will bring an increased revenue of about £320 per annum. I enclose the letter in original from the Traffic Accountant of the Eastern Telegraph Company regarding this matter.

*2d
Enclosure
q.v.*

It will be observed from the enclosure mentioned above that the increased terminal will only apply until there is a connection between the land-lines of British East Africa and German East Africa. In this regard I may say that

(2)

When I first called upon Mr. Hibberdine to enquire if the
Cable Company could possibly consider an increased
terminal, he agreed that the Company was threatened with
the competition of a Government land-line to German East
Africa and a similar installation between Mombasa and
Zanzibar. His obvious suggestion was that the Company
could hardly be expected to make any concession of rates
in the circumstances. I pointed out, in reply, that if the
competition which he feared actually occurred it would be
largely due to the absence of an adequate terminal for
cablegrams handled by the Government at Mombasa. At present
the Government was only getting 6½ centimes per word for the
Mombasa Telegraph Traffic with German East Africa, but if
the British and German systems were joined by a land-line,
the Government would get 35 centimes per word for the same
traffic. This difference between the rates of collection
would yield an income of nearly £350 a-year, an amount
sufficient to pay working expenses and yield a satisfactory
interest on the capital expenditure involved in making the
land connection with the German East Africa Telegraph lines.
Mr. Hibberdine promised to consider the matter.

I subsequently saw Mr. Hibberdine again at an interview at which Sir John Monks-Pendar was present, and he
made the verbal intimation confirmed by the enclosure.
The Eastern Telegraph Company clearly understand that the

when I first called upon Mr. Hibberdine he said that as the cable company were yet prepared to compete on an increased terminal, he remarked that the Company was ill-advised with the competition of a government land-line to German East Africa and a wireless installation between Mombasa and Zanzibar. His obvious suggestion was that the Company could hardly be expected to make any concession of rates in the circumstances. I pointed out, in reply, that if the competition which he feared set ally occurred, it would be largely due to the absence of an adequate terminal for telegrams handled by the Government at Mombasa. At present the government was only getting 8 centimes per word for the Mombasa Telegraph Traffic with German East Africa, but if the British and German systems were joined by a land-line, the government would get 35 centimes per word for the same traffic. This difference between the rates of collection would yield an income of nearly £350 a-year, an amount sufficient to pay working expenses and yield a satisfactory interest on the capital expenditure involved in making the land connection with the German East Africa telegraph lines. Mr. Hibberdine promised to consider the matter.

I subsequently saw Mr. Hibberdine again at an interview at which Sir John Denison-Pander was present, and he made the verbal intimation confirmed by the enclosure. The Eastern Telegraph Company clearly understand that the

(8)

Government must be free to call the conference for settling the German lines which ever it pleases. The Company's point is, that should such a connection be made they will suffer considerable loss and will not be able to pay the increased terminal. In this I quite agree, as a line connection between the German and British lines will affect also the traffic between Mombasa and Zanzibar, which could then be forwarded via Dar-es-salaam at a cheaper rate than the present charge for the direct cable from Mombasa. I calculate that the line would affect traffic which now brings the Company a revenue of over £2,000 a month. The Company recognises that a fixed connection between the British and German systems cannot be indefinitely delayed, and I imagine that the present concession has been made simply with the idea of destroying the financial inducement to run the line through at once. They have ~~exceeded~~ roughly £20. a month, whilst they stand to lose traffic worth £150. a month directly the line is completed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

J. Gob. 8

Postmaster General East Africa and Uganda.

Copy 463A
THE EASTERN & SOUTH AFRICAN TELEGRAPH COMPANY, LIMITED,

KENYTRA HOUSE, FINSBURY PAVEMENT.

LONDON.

30th September, 1899.

No. TA.

J. Gosling, Esq.,
Postmaster General,
British East Africa.

Dear Sir,

Referring to our interview to-day, I am instructed to inform you that this Company will be willing to increase the terminal rate for traffic exchanged with Mombasa Town from 6½ centimes to 12 centimes per word, on and after the 1st. January next.

It is understood that in the event of the land-lines between British East Africa and German East Africa being connected, the terminal payable for Mombasa traffic will revert to the present rate of 6½ centimes.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours truly,
for Managing Director,

(signed) W. Hibberdine

Traffic Accountant.

CONTINUATION OF PREVIOUS TELEGRAM DATED 8 OCTOBER 1909
TO THE VICE-REGAL SECRETARY, BRITISH EAST AFRICA
RECEIVED 10 OCTOBER 1909
FROM THE VICE-REGAL SECRETARY

October 8th, 1909.

The Under Secretary of State

Colonial Office,

L O N D O N

52963

Oct 8 1909

Sir,

With reference to the communication which I addressed to His Excellency the Governor of East Africa, in April last, regarding the proposed attempt to obtain a revision of the terminal charges for cablegrams at Mombasa, I have now the honour to inform you that I have succeeded in inducing the Eastern Telegraph Company to increase the amount allowed to my Department for expenses of delivery. The increase will be $\frac{1}{2}$ centimes per word, making, with the present allowance of $\frac{1}{2}$ centimes, $\frac{3}{4}$ centimes per word. This alteration will take effect from the 1st January next and will bring an increased revenue of about £320 per annum. I enclose the letter in original from the Traffic Accountant of the Eastern Telegraph Company regarding this matter.

It will be observed from the enclosure mentioned above that the increased terminal will only apply until there is a connection between the land-lines of British East Africa and German East Africa. In this regard I may say that

{8}

When I first called upon Mr. Hibberdine to enquire if the Cable Company were yet prepared to consider an increased terminal, he remarked that the Company was threatened with the competition of a Government land-line to German East Africa and a wireless installation between Mombasa and Zanzibar. His obvious suggestion was that the Company could hardly be expected to make any concession of rates in the circumstances. I pointed out, in reply, that if the competition which he feared actually occurred it would be largely due to the absence of an adequate terminal for cablegrams handled by the Government at Mombasa. At present the Government was only getting 6½ centimes per word for the Mombasa Telegraph Traffic with German East Africa, but if the British and German systems were joined by a land-line, the Government would get 2½ centimes per word for the same traffic. This difference between the rates of collection would yield an income of nearly £550 a-year, an amount sufficient to pay working expenses and yield a satisfactory interest on the capital expenditure involved in making the land connection with the German East Africa Telegraph lines. Mr. Hibberdine promised to consider the matter.

I subsequently saw Mr. Hibberdine again at an interview at which Sir John Denison-Pender was present, and he made the verbal intimation confirmed by the enclosure. The Eastern Telegraph Company clearly understand that the

(8)

Government must be free to make the connection with the German lines when and how it pleases. The Company's point is, that should such a connection be made they will suffer considerable loss and will not be able to pay the increased terminal. In this I quite agree, as ~~land~~ a line connection between the German and British lines will affect also the traffic between Mombasa and Zanzibar, which could then be forwarded via Dar-es-salaam at a cheaper rate than the present charge for the direct cable from Mombasa. I calculate that the line would effect traffic which now brings the Company a revenue of over £2,000 a-year. The Company recognizes that a land connection between the British and German systems cannot be indefinitely delayed, and I imagine the present concession has been made simply with the idea of destroying the financial inducement to rush the line through at once. They have conceded roughly £50. a month, whilst they stand to lose traffic worth £150. a month directly the line is completed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,


W. H. L.
Postmaster General East Africa and Uganda.

K

Eastern & South African Telegraph Company Limited
London & Mombasa Branch

167

P.A.

London 29th September 1919.

J. Gosling, Esq.,
Postmaster General,
British East Africa.

Dear Sir,

Referring to our interview today, I am instructed to inform you that this Company will be willing to increase the terminal rate for traffic exchanged with Mombasa Town from 6½ centimes to 12 centimes per word, on and after the 1st January next.

It is understood that in the event of the land-lines between British East Africa and German East Africa being connected, the terminal payable for Mombasa traffic will revert to the present rate of 6½ centimes.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours truly,
for Managing Director.


Alexander Macdonald
Traffic Accountant.

13

8/8/2962

{ rail
Uganda

DRAFT. Sab N° 629

~~Int'l.~~

460

Gold Coast

Bray

19 October

MINUTE

Mr. Parkinson res.
Mr. Arthur 13 f.
Mr. Fiddes
Mr. Just.
Mr. Cox.
Sir C. Lucas.
Mr. Hopwood
Col. Neale.
Lord Craven

With ref. to Mr. Jackson's
desp. N° 297 of the
24th of April thereon
hove to transmit to you
a copy of a letter from
John J. Gosling, P.M.G.

~~19/8/62~~
~~12963~~
and compound of the E.A.C. on the
subject of the revision
of the standard charges

of 16574

of the terminal charges
for cablegrams at
monbase, and
other points in course of

transit to P.O. 26 6/8/62
to 1st of Oct 1962
and after 28/2/62 in 1962/63

of correspondence
bearing upon
the position of
the Company.

In view
of the facts as
shown thereon,

I regret that
there appears to
be no possibility
of inducing the
Company to

reduce their

rate generally

at least Africa

as I have