

EAST AFR. PROT.

No. 21796

21796

REC'D  
19 JUL 06

Comms  
date Conf  
1887

(Subject.)

1906

Land Grant.

Capt. C. J. Hakab.

Last previous Paper.

Is report by Land Officer in

(Minutes.)

Mr. Head  
As Capt. Hakab informed  
I wish to amplify his previous  
letter I think we shd send  
the Land Officer's report to him  
for any further doors he may  
wish to open.

any shd we include  
the 3rd part of the report - I think  
as the charge against Mr  
Wright (the one made in a  
letter to Mr. Neom) was  
evidently intended to be  
slandered to us and people  
conspicuous butres & others  
are far too fond of bringing

Copy of Mr. C. J. Hakab's  
letter to Mr. Neom  
1887  
Comms

Next subsequent Paper.

back of charges of corruption  
against our officers. Lord Selous  
mentioned to say that Lord  
Ellis considered that the charge  
did to other substantiated or  
with drawn

19/6

Mr. Antrobus

Left. Wabab said in his letter that he  
could not bring himself to believe the  
charge is the absence of proof & he  
ought to have waited for the proof before  
making the statement. I would present a  
paper by Mr. Ellis

I am sorry to see that the Comtee  
allowed the land to be transferred to  
Lord Selous. <sup>The 70 page</sup> Lord Selous was the  
owner of a large tract of land for 49  
years

which on about annual basis was 100,000  
acres at a rate of about £200 a year, & was  
to be spent in development during that 50 years  
in consideration of the great benefit which  
he was supposed to have conferred upon  
the Protectorate by his pioneer work.  
The pioneer work appears to have been not without  
benefit to  
Lord Selous himself, for a deep  
well at Gabilung dated the 21/10/1917

Mr. D. Johnston says:-

"In a report to persons supposed to be  
sportsmen, game & birds, who were all to  
the part of the aim to shoot big game,  
I would point out to your Lordship that  
behind their profession of sport there is  
often a very practical purpose

only by Mr. D. Johnston  
is believed in the  
then have at  
them have to  
suppose that  
£20,000  
half profit out  
in 1917

hunting. Lord Selous, for instance, left  
the part of the country last year with  
£10,000 worth of ivory, & he retained  
Officer (S. Atkinson), who remained behind,  
has been steadily shooting elephants  
over some apparently without much  
regard for the provisions of the Uganda  
Game Regulations

Lord Selous is said to be returning to  
the country very shortly. I am also  
informed of the intention of other big  
game shooters to go on a regular commercial  
expedition to invade the same territory.  
However, without going into the question  
whether the fact was or was not justified,  
I think that, in a country where the  
area of land available for European  
settlement is so limited as in the

E. A. P. 100,000 acres is quite enough  
for our man to kill. But I understand  
that Lord Selous is making inquiries about  
the "wholesale" he can, e.g. on the return  
of land, industrial, & mining concessions  
for the Half-Year since 30 June 03.  
I see that on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May of that  
year he bought about 2,000 acres of  
fenced land for £286

I think that we should tell the  
Comtee that it seems undesirable to  
let so much land get into the hands  
of one person

Yours faithfully  
H. J. R.  
I saw Capt. Wabab 20/6 to day

He was rather annoyed at not  
having received an answer before  
with hold his report in the P.  
to delay the side until 2:30  
July in order to have time  
to get a reply from us.  
You tried out to find that  
he was desirous to be here in order  
to appointing a special agent to  
look after his affairs in the  
t.l.p. during his absence.

He advised the statement  
that he regretted that Mr.  
Barton Wright had thought that  
he was bringing charges against  
him in England, & he admitted  
that the passage in his letter  
of 14th March to Mr. Nelson  
(9488) was open to miscom-  
-prehension. He will no  
doubt withdraw the imputations  
if we suggest his doing so  
in writing. M.C. 9/4

agree that the Land Officer's  
report should be sent through  
Mr. Cathcart Watson, J.P., to  
Capt. Wabab - with the  
expectation of a hope that  
he will withdraw the  
charges against Mr. Wright.  
M.C. July 7

LC 107

Returned to the Private Secretary  
I received as proposed  
M.C. July 11  
at once

Commissioner's Office,

REC 18 JUN 06

Nairobi,

May 21st 1906.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE,

CONFIDENTIAL (27)

(Incl. 1.)

My Lord,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Lordship's despatch (Confidential) of the 23rd March last, and to submit a report by the Land Officer on the matters referred to by Captain Wahab.

2. Your Lordship will observe that as a matter of fact a point was stretched in allowing the request made by Captain Wahab to transfer an area to Lord Delamere.

3. Mr. Barton Wright has, I consider, rightly objected to the expressions used in Captain Wahab's letter.

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

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,  
humble servant,

E. M. Principal Secretary of State  
for the Colonies,  
Downing Street,

LONDON, S.W.

21736

Rfc<sup>a</sup>  
Rfc<sup>b</sup> 19 JUN 06REPORT.

125,000

Captain Wahab originally put forward, in April 1904, a settlement scheme, in which he asked that <sup>one</sup> hundred and twenty five thousand acres be reserved for him, and that he would bring out and settle on the land a number of Scotch crofters. This proposition was not allowed by Sir Charles Eliot, and Captain Wahab received an answer to this effect. Captain Wahab and wife applied for certain plots in Nairobi, which were granted, and still remain unimproved, and in August 1904 obtained, with Government consent as stated, the one thousand six hundred and forty

1,840

acres of land at Nakuru.

2

Captain Wahab placed his affairs, I understand, after leaving the country, in the hands of a solicitor, Mr. Allen. In November of last year I wrote this gentleman informing him that, owing to the representations of Mr. Hobley, Assistant Deputy Commissioner, as rent on the area of five hundred and forty acres was nine months over-due and up to date no occupation or development of the land had taken place, I had placed the case in the hands of the Crown Advocate for action, on account of failure to comply with the Crown Lands Ordinance under both heads. This was followed by payment of rent, and an offer to put stock on land, and almost immediately afterwards by a request to be allowed to transfer the land to Lord Delamere. This transfer I was averse to, as I consider that in the case of land having been taken up for purely speculative purposes,

purposes, and "where after a reasonable time has elapsed nothing has been done the supposition is justifiable" that permission to transfer should be withheld and that action for forfeiture should be taken; in this case however you decided that permission to transfer would be given.

3 That, as suggested in Captain Wahab's letter, this was a disreputable deal between the Land Office and some influential settler, is a very serious charge to bring forward, and an apology is due to me from Captain Wahab, and that the author of the delusion, the "brother officer" referred to by Captain Wahab, be made known, and called upon to withdraw or substantiate his statement.

4 Captain Wahab's complaint regarding non-reply to his letters falls to the ground, since he had placed the matter in the hands of a Solicitor, who complains equally of Captain Wahab's unbusiness-like methods - a triangular correspondence as attempted, could if permitted only lead to confusion.

Wason

5 As Mr. Cathcart who knows me personally, forwards the letter of complaint I would be glad if the reply be returned through the same channel, and that he be acquainted with the fact that it is a matter on which I court the fullest enquiry.

Sd/- R.B.Wright.

May 22nd 1906.