

EAST AFR. PROT

425 ¹³/₁₄

5 JAN 14

Governor
Belfield

2nd

1913

2nd December

Last previous Paper.

Yes
352 ¹⁴/₁₃

LAND LEASES TO HANDED HANIF

Colonial Secretary's report on the subject of land to be granted to the Hanif with the primary object of facilitating the survey in connection with the Government Office is not to be considered the most suitable method of dealing with cases of this kind.

Mr. G. Fielder

The other cases reviewed appear to have been entered in date to the hands of Hanif's, since they were before the creation of the Land Office (in 1903 - the year in which Mr. H. got the sub-commission) as they were not all for swamp land. The only reason different to me why those of them who were not for swamps should be allowed to stay in the hands of Hanif's, is that they had in some instances been granted to the Hanif by the Commission at the end of his letter (26/3/03) and it is perfectly reasonable to give them an act of grace that on refusal to be taken into the hands of the Government would create an obstacle to the development of the land & possibly of the health of the land - a large letter from the Secretary to the Secretary, 1/11/13.

Partly

Next subsequent Paper

Ch 16088/13

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
NAIROBI, HOMBASA,
BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

December 2nd 1913.

No. 950

75

5th 1/2 14

Sir,

*C. d. G.
252-4*

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 885 of the 22nd of October respecting the land leased to Mahomed Hanif.

2. In the early days of Nairobi, before the Land Office was established, a very large number of shamba leases were granted by the Provincial Commissioner to Indians with the primary object of reclaiming the swamp in close proximity to the Government offices. Many of these so-called swamp plots were however high up on dry land, and a considerable number of applications for permission to build houses and to be granted long leases were entertained. The rent in such cases remained unchanged, the extension of the lease being up to 99 years according to the class of house built in conformity with the rules then in vogue.

3. The whole matter is somewhat involved, promises of varying character having been given in different cases, and the Land Officer is at present considering the most feasible method of dealing with cases of shamba leases proper where no such promises have been

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

LEWIS HARCOURT, P.C., M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET, LONDON, S.W.

(2)

been given regarding the renewal of the leases and the terms to be imposed.

4. Some of the leases have already expired, and the lessees are being allowed to continue for the time being as tenants at will until such conditions have been formulated and submitted to me for my approval.

5. I should add that the case of Mahomed Hanif is in no way parallel, being nearly half a mile from the swamp in the suburb of Parklands.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,

Howay Bejiat

GOVERNOR.