

EAST AFR. PROT.  
46839

46839  
Recd  
Regd 2 OCT 16

For Cont  
Belfield 103

1916

25 August

Last previous Paper.  
500  
45654

RAILWAY TRANSPORT FOR COTTON LINT

This copy letter from General Manager re complaints of Uganda Cotton Buying and Ginning Coy from which it appears evident that their complaints are largely without foundation and that everything possible is being done to convey cargo offered at Lake Ports.

To Uganda Cotton Buying & Ginning Co. - 16 Oct 16  
and Cont. - copy attached 4.

Mr. Butler  
Pl. no 31947. Mr Eastwood presses the point about Oct cargo a little too far. As the mails were, a letter posted in Uganda in March might without undue violence be described as July in being by a recent mail.  
But his statements that consignments are dealt with in order of priority & that all 2 cargo up to Feb. & 1/2 of the March cargo had been cleared from Kinshasa by 12 June are satisfactory.  
I tell the Uganda Cotton Buying & Ginning Co. that we have ascertained a short time that it is evident that the 500 bales stated in their letter to be still at Mbarara must have been cleared from that port some time before the date of their letter, and add that by 22<sup>nd</sup> August.

Next subsequent Paper.

M  
67474

The cargo on board at Victoria Pier was  
practically confined to cargo received at  
late port since the beginning of May.

[Mr. Eastwood says nothing about  
shipments from Montaga, & I think  
we must leave that point alone].

UAS 3/10/16

W. Read.

Yes. We must let the Company  
see that their statements were  
not well founded.

W.R.

5.10.16

Yes - + copy of ...  
for - for info ...

at once.

W. R.

5/2/16

W. Botwinley

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE

No. 108.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,  
NAIROBI,  
BRITISH EAST AFRICA.CONFIDENTIAL.

August 25th, 1916.

46839

Rec<sup>d</sup>  
Reg<sup>d</sup> 2 OCT 16

SIR,

*MS*  
*31/10/16*  
*W.H.G.*

With reference to your Confidential despatch of 11th ultimo covering copies of correspondence with the Uganda Cotton Buying and Ginning Company Limited on the subject of alleged delay in the transport by the Uganda Railway of a quantity of lint cotton belonging to them, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a letter from the General Manager, Uganda Railway, from which it appears evident that the Company's complaints are largely without foundation, and that everything possible is being done to convey the export cargo offered at the Lake Ports to Mombasa with the least possible delay.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your humble, obedient servant,

*A. Conroy, Secy. Genl.*

GOVERNOR.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

ANDREW BONAR LAW, P.C., M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET, LONDON, S. W.

No.E/15/66/256.

CONFIDENTIAL

22nd August, 1916.

The Honourable The Chief Secretary,  
to the Government,  
East Africa Protectorate,  
Nairobi.

46839  
REC'D  
REG'D 2 OCT 16

Sir,

Preferential treatment of traffic.  
Your Memorandum 8/18610 dated the 18th August.

I have the honour to acknowledge the copy of the Colonial Office Confidential despatch of the 11th July, 1916, and the papers that accompanied it, that have been forwarded with your memorandum for my comment.

The letter of the Secretary of the Uganda Cotton Blowing and Ginning Company is full of inaccuracies. I regret I cannot consider they are all accidental.

There was not any cargo on hand recently that had been received by us in October, 1916. All October cargo was cleared in March, 1916.

Every consignment waiting for movement at Kisumu is dealt with in the order of its priority, not only of date but also the actual order of consignment. At the Lake Ports consignments are numbered as they are received for shipment and shipped in the same order.

Each consignment is numbered as it is taken on the ship at the port of despatch, the numbering commencing at 1 on each voyage. Movement is made from Kisumu in the same order as the goods were consigned and received on board the steamer.

At any moment we can give the original date and the number of consignment of the last train load of cargo that is forwarded from Kisumu, and although traffic has been held up and there has been congestion there has never been any confusion in the treatment of traffic.

On the 12th June the cargo on hand at Kisumu Pier was 3,772 tons. This was the result of the following movements.

	Tons.
Tonnage on hand 13th November, 1915 (when the military took control) .....	2,565
Received from November 14th to 30th .....	601
December, 1915 .....	811
January, 1916 .....	1,808
February .....	1,485
March .....	1,985
April .....	1,108
May .....	884
June 1st to 12th .....	442
	10,659
On hand June 12th 1916	3,772

627  
687

It therefore follows that on the 12th June one third of the traffic that had been received during March had been entrained, and makes it impossible for the 500 bales referred to by the Uganda Cotton Buying and Ginning Company as having been consigned in October to have been there at that date. I use the date June 12th for two reasons:-

10 - 1/2  
 from the Report  
 of the 12th May

- (1) That it is about the date when the letter of the local representatives of the Uganda Cotton Buying and Ginning Company must have been posted.
- (2) The figures are available in connection with a letter sent to the Chief Secretary, Entebbe, dealing with a local complaint of the same nature.

I give herewith the letter referred to in the foregoing paragraph.

" In reply to your letter of the 12th May, No. 2925, forwarding a letter from the Uganda Chamber of Commerce, in which they complain that goods booked from Kisumu have preference to goods booked from Uganda, I have the honour to state that as far as it can be arranged all goods are treated in their due and proper order. As a matter of fact we have now about 700 tons of export traffic that has been at Kisumu Station since February, but goods that we have at Kisumu are not "booked" but "stored" and booked when their proper time arrives. We are now booking Kisumu export traffic equally with Uganda traffic being cleared from Kisumu pier.

2. With regard to goods being taken delivery of at Kisumu Pier and re-booked I would refer you to my letter of the 21st December, 1915, to the Chamber of Commerce in which I propose the connection with certain traffic for the joint benefits of the merchants and the Railway. Such consignments are not given preference.

3. While fully recognising the anxiety of merchants and traders to get their goods through at the earliest possible date, I would like to place upon record the fact that in taking over the Railway and its attendant services the General Officer Commanding Troops, East Africa and Uganda, stated:-

" It will therefore be necessary to close the Uganda Railway to all but the barest necessities of civil traffic."

Notwithstanding this order we have since the date of its issue up to the present time dealt with the following approximate quantities of Uganda traffic:-

Upwards	Into Uganda	.....	Tons	5675
Downwards	- For Export	.....	"	6887

" In stating "dealt with" I mean finally dealt with.

- 4 -

Without wishing in any way to comment upon or criticise the statements contained in the letter of the Uganda Cotton Buying and Ginning Company, Limited, I must express the opinion that I think it is a matter of regret that the Secretary of State should be troubled by a complaint which has practically no foundation of truth in its composition.

I have received and taken all necessary action in connection with the cable of the Secretary of State requesting that hides and skins shall be given preference owing to their being required for military purposes.

W.O.  
35781

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Yours obedient servant,

(Signed) E. EASTWOOD.

Colonel,  
for Director of Railways,  
P. A. S.

Gov  
E.A.P.  
46839

513

5 OCT  
1916

6 October 1916

JS

(34947) Ans d 4/10/16

Sir,

With reference to the letter from this Dept. of the 11<sup>th</sup> of July, I am sorry to inform you that he has now received a despatch from the Gov. of the E.A.P. on the subject of your complaint regarding the delay at Kisumu of cotton bales consigned to the Uganda Cotton Marketing and Ginning Co. Ltd.

2. It appears from the info furnished by the Gov. that there is no foundation for the statement that shipments of bales are not dealt with at Kisumu in the order in which they are received, since and that all consignments are dealt with strictly in the order of date

DRAFT.

Secretary

Uganda Cotton Marketing and Ginning Co. Ltd.

MINUTE.

- Mr. No. 5710/16
- Mr.
- Mr.
- Mr.
- Mr. Read.
- Sir H. Just.
- Sir G. Pidd.
- Mr. Steel-Maitland.
- Mr. Bonar Law.

Copy for Gov to be sent to you

By Gov Lk.

priority.

3. By the 12<sup>th</sup> of June last  
all cargo received up to the  
end of February and on third  
of the March cargo had been  
cleared from Wisconsin, ~~the~~  
~~matter~~ and it is apparent,  
therefore, that the 500 bales  
~~mentioned in your letter of~~  
cotton despatched from your  
firm in October 1915 must  
have been moved from  
Wisconsin some time before  
the date of your letter of  
the 6<sup>th</sup> of July.

4. It appears that on  
the 22<sup>nd</sup> of August the  
cargo on hand at Wisconsin  
Pier was practically confined  
to consignments received  
at lake ports since the  
beginning of May.

  
(Signed) H. J. READ