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DEC 26 1916

Serial  
118

1916

Last previous Paper.

MESSRS KLATZER & CO. OF AMSTERDAM

Trans memo. and enclosure from Chief of Customs respecting activities of firm suspected of trading with enemy. States reply sent to Chief of CUSTOMS

~~Mr. Butler~~

~~Mr. Dixon~~

I presume that all we can do is to send a copy of this to the Foreign Trade Department for such action as they may consider necessary and practicable.

Jab

2/1/17

I agree

CWD

2/1/17

Jab

3.1.17

at once

Copy of 7.1.17  
who's copy - copy above sent. Refers to 2/2/17

Subsequent Paper.  
40/2890

Office copy  
11657  
East Africa Protectorate.

No. 118.

CONFIDENTIAL.

September

140

S2005

REC'D

SEP 26 DEC 16

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a memorandum from the Chief of Customs with enclosure respecting the activities of a firm trading under the name of Blatzer and Company, Amsterdam.

2. In reply the Chief of Customs was informed that, if he has reason to suspect that the goods are of enemy origin or imported in contravention of the law relating to trading with the Enemy he may seize and deal with them under Section 4 of the Customs (War Powers) Ordinance 1916; otherwise the goods should be released.

3. I consider it desirable however to acquaint you with the fact that this firm is exporting

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

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

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET, LONDON, S.W.

exporting goods to this Protectorate and is endeavouring to increase its trade locally, and I am of opinion that in view of the doubtful character of the concern that it is advisable to take such action as may be calculated to prevent it from acting for or on behalf of enemy firms in its business with the East Africa Protectorate.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,

Sd/- ~~OF~~ ~~CC~~ ~~BOWLING~~

GOVERNOR'S *Deputy*

*Conf*  
INCLOSURE

Reference No. 118 of 23 Sept 1916 Mombasa,

142

September 8th, 1916.

No. 12/HQ.

CONFIDENTIAL.

The Hon'ble

The Chief Secretary,

Nairobi.

Ref. Chief of Customs' minute No. 15/24 dated  
10th August, 1916.

In accordance with paragraph 4 of Mr. Major's minute  
No. 10000 milk imported by Klatzer and Co., at Amsterdam  
to Messrs. White Wilson and Co., Manchester and imported  
by their representative in Mombasa have been held up  
pending a satisfactory explanation of the transaction.

2. The Advisory Board on Enemy Trading at a meeting held  
on 14th August made the following record:-

"Klatzer and Co., Amsterdam. Correspondence with  
Kettles Roy considered by the Board who noted that  
Klatzer and Co., had informed Roy that owing to  
Government restrictions they are unable to do any  
export business. Recommended that any attempt at  
further business transactions be held up."

3. The Cable Censor's Handbook records that this firm  
was reported on the 21st October 1915 as doing active trade  
with Germany and to be under German influence.

4. Klatzer and Co., are also described in "Who's Who" as  
having sent a consignment of milk to Vienna - French War  
Office 17-1-1916.

5. I submit that the consignment under notice should be  
released only under the strictest guarantee that no benefit  
will accrue to the enemy and I suggest that the present

transaction

transaction be used to enable His Majesty's Government, if so desired, to bring pressure to bear on Messrs. Klatzer and Co., in order to induce them to enter into such guarantees as will permit of their removal from the Black List.

6. I enclose a memorandum by Mr. Walsh relative to an interview with Messrs. White Wilson's representative.

Sd/- H. B. Cox.

Deputy Chief of Customs.

The Deputy Chief of Customs.

Mr. Gill, the representative of Messrs. H. White Wilson and Co., called yesterday with reference to the importation of 50 cases milk per 'Comrie Castle' from Klatzer and Co., whose name appears in Black List B.

He stated that he was quite unaware that the firm was under suspicion and ordered the goods from the Head Office in the ordinary way of business after having seen samples of the milk ('Mermaid' Brand) at the office of Mr. Kettle Boy who at that time (about six months ago) acted as selling agent of Klatzer & Co. He was quite prepared to do anything required of him in the matter but pointed out that the name of the firm did not appear in the published (Statutory) list and there was at the time of ordering the goods nothing whatever to indicate that they were not above suspicion.

I suggested to him the absolute necessity for making preliminary enquiries before having any dealings with neutral firms, particularly with those resident in countries contiguous to enemy territory and informed him of the risks attending to such transactions. Mr. Gill was apparently not fully aware of the danger and promised to write to his Head Office on the matter and also to have no more dealings with the firm of Klatzer and Co.

With regard to the consignment under notice I told him that the goods would be detained pending the decision of the Chief of Customs to whom the facts would be reported.

Sd/- G. Walsh

Collector of Customs.

7-9-16.

Ga. 2119  
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[Signature]

8 Jan 1917

Sir

I am to transmit to you  
the said to the Secretary  
Balfour for information and he  
may consider necessary or practicable  
the acc. copy of a report sent from

the Gen of the [I.M.], enclosing  
a copy of a memorandum from  
the Chief of Customs, with  
enclosure, regarding the activities  
of a firm trading under the name of

Jan 20 1917

70  
Copy for Capt. [Name] 25 Jan 1917

DRAFT

Mr. Cantello  
Mr. [Name]

MINUTE.

- Mr. Lowell
- Mr. [Name]
- Mr. [Name]
- Mr. [Name]
- Mr. [Name]
- Mr. [Name]
- Mr. [Name]
- Mr. [Name]
- Mr. [Name]
- Mr. [Name]

No. 118. 23 Sept 1916  
[Handwritten notes]