

EAST AFR. PROT

39732

C O
37732
REC'D
Rec'd 2 OCT 14

497

Magadi Soda
Ltd

MAGADI RAILWAY

1914

1st October

States that they did not mean to suggest that it had been taken over altogether by the Government but temporarily for military purposes, Suppose request for interest will be considered when information is received from the Governor.

Previous Paper.

9
34300

See note - + copy of certificate
to be D.T.

at once
to J.R.
3/5/14

Copy forwarded to J.R. on 17 Oct 14
J.R. on 11 Dec 14
7445/14

Subsequent Paper.

44405

C. O.
37732
REC'D
OCT 14

Shell House,

25/27, BISHOPSGATE,

E. C.

493

1st October, 1914.

To the

Under Secretary of State for the Colonies,

WHITEHALL, S. W.

Sir,

MAGADI SODA COMPANY.

Referring to your letter of the 12th September, in

which you state that you were not aware that the Magadi Rly.

had been taken over by the Government of the British East

Africa Protectorate, we would point out that we did not mean

to suggest that it had been taken over altogether in the

terms of the contract of the Company with the Government,

but temporarily for military purposes.

While you informed us at the time that the matter was

being referred to the Government, after which you would

communicate further with us, we should like to bring to your

notice some of the evidence upon which we based our assertion:

A quotation from a letter received by Messrs. Livesey,

Sons & Henderson, Consulting Engineers to the Company, from

their Resident Engineer in East Africa, Mr Thomas A. Ross,

dated 27th August, runs as follows:-

C. O. 533 148
BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE LONDON

"On the 24th inst. the Military ran a train to Mile 28
"with 13 Signallers, and on the 25th a military train
"came down bringing the O.C. of Rly. Defence Forces.

"To-day (27th August) I am informed that a further
"military train is to come through Mile 28."

We received a letter dated September 9th from the
Contractors who are building the Railway, stating that they
had received a cable from their Engineer in charge of the Works
in East Africa, Mr Hicks, that little work was possible owing to
military trains running.

On the 17th September the same people wrote to us to
the effect that they had received a cable from Mr Hicks that
there was "much traffic". As this could not refer to traffic
either in connection with our Works at Magadi or in connection
with the Contractors of the Harbour operations, we thought it
was fair to assume that this was traffic for military purposes.

No doubt when you hear from the Governor on the subject
you will give the request made in our letter of the 9th Sept.
1914, further consideration.

We have the honour to be, Sir,

Yours obediently,

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF

THE MAGADI SODA COMPANY LTD.



MANAGER.

M.S. 37732/1914

E.A.P.

C. D.
R. 5 OCT.
D. 6

53

500

7 October 1914

Gentlemen

DRAFT.

The Magadi Sda Comd.

I am directed by Mr Secretary

Harcourt to acknowledge the receipt

MINUTE.

Mr. Harper 5/10/14
Mr. Bottomley 5/10/14

of your letter of the 1st of Oct

Mr.

~~and to inform you that~~ on

Mr.

the subject of the use

Sir G. Fiddes.

of the Magadi Railway

Sir H. Just.

by the Govt. of the E.A.P.

Sir J. Anderson.

for military purposes.

Lord Emmott - Islington.

Mr. Harcourt.

Copies for 912. 7 Oct 14

for the Under Secretary of State

(Signed) H. J. READ

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