

E. AFRICA  
W. AFRICA

42860

Re: 28  
Rec: 28 17

42860

Grade

1917

27 Aug.

at previous Paper.

42735

42985

42735

Assistance to Cotton industry

Concerns in terms of proposed letter to Treasury.  
Assumes, however, that if necessity arise, the  
proposal to include Nigeria in the scheme would  
revise.

~~W. Strachey~~ (away)

Mr. Grenville

First? send to the Treasury

the letter drafted on 38985.

In sending a copy to the B. of T.  
we can promise that <sup>the question of</sup> Nigerian  
participation shall revise if it

is found necessary? - but this  
may wait till the Lyons letter  
42735 has been re-circulated  
& considered.

That let. is I think too optimistic  
- the O.A.G. will probably have to be  
told to revise his ideas on the  
assumption that no cotton will  
leave E. Africa in 1918 - & to  
bear in mind that any other like  
letter must be called for & not

to be read as 30 Aug. 1917  
And. 677 abse int. 6 Sept 17 42735/17/1917

next subsequent Paper.

42735

42985

42735

in - say - Dec. When it will be too late.

In any case, we ought to get Treasury approval for the principle as soon as we can.

L.C.S. 28/9/17

I agree as to Nigeria

A. J. H. 28/9/17

G. S. S. 17

at once

Any further communication should be addressed to--  
**THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY,**  
at the address given opposite.  
The following letter and number should be quoted:--

C. 13227.

Telegraphic Address:  
**COLASTA, LONDON.**  
Telephone No. 3840 Victoria.

C. D.  
42860  
522  
17  
BOARD OF TRADE,  
(COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT),  
GWYNNE HOUSE,

WHITEHALL,  
LONDON, S.W. 1.

27th August 1917.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of 16th August (38985/17) on the subject of the scheme for the continuance of cotton growing in British Africa, I am directed by the Board of Trade to acquaint you, for the information of the Secretary of State, that on the assumption that, so far as can be at present foreseen, the shortage of tonnage is not likely seriously to affect the position in Nigeria, they concur in the terms of the letter which Mr. Long proposes to address to the Treasury and of which a draft accompanied your letter under reply. It is, however, assumed that if necessity arise the proposal to include Nigeria in the scheme would revive.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

The Under Secretary of State,

Colonial Office,

S. W.

13.5 FT.  
42860/17

B of T/38985/East Africa  
West Africa

*Car*

30

in draft form to Board of Trade  
for concurrence

*Concurrence retained*  
*- see 42860*

*pl. dft*

Downing Street,

30 *HA* August, 1917.

DRAFT.

SECRETARY  
TO THE TREASURY.

MINUTE.

*Ans d 42860*  
Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Long to request you to inform the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury that he has received a copy of a letter addressed to them from the Board of Trade on the 3rd of August, on the question of the measures necessary to secure the continuance of cotton growing in British Africa in view of the difficulties which have arisen with regard to shipping.

- Mr. Bottomley 15/8/17 + 29/8/17
- Mr. Stalley 15
- Mr. Grindle.
- Mr. Lambert
- Mr. Road. 16
- Sir G. Fiddes.
- Sir A. Steel-Maitland
- Mr. Long.

*Copy (in 141) B. Fine 10/17  
42860/17*

2. Mr. Long trusts that Their Lordships will be prepared to give favourable consideration to the proposal that a Government guarantee should be given for the payment of interest and repayment of capital in the case of

2 dfts

*Ream.*

money advanced by the Banks to finance the arrangements for buying cotton and storing it pending facilities for shipment

3. In Uganda the cotton growing industry is essentially a native one which has grown up entirely through Government encouragement, and its collapse <sup>through</sup> ~~and~~ the absence of facilities for disposing of the cotton would entail great difficulties on the Protectorate Government from the point of view of both administration and finance.

4. Although in Nyasaland a considerable part of the industry is in the hands of European estate holders, the same considerations, as in Uganda, apply to the preservation of the native industry.

5. The proposal made by the Board of Trade includes Nigeria as well as the two Protectorates in Eastern Africa, but Mr. Long considers that, for the present at any rate, the circumstances do not demand that Nigeria should be included. He has no doubt that Their Lordships would prefer

that the operation of the scheme should be restricted as far as possible, but he earnestly trusts that they may be willing to agree to its adoption in the case of the other two Protectorates.

I am, etc.,

(SD)



C. W. BENDLE