

EAST AFR. PROT

49702

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Lambert & Co.

1917

8 Oct.

Last previous Paper.

48044

Priority certificate

Submit criticism of local arrangements in East.

Ans? Copy refer to Ser 701 case  
Mog M A  
15 Oct 17

As to A, no doubt their info is by telegraph & the resolutions are on the way.

? Ack: say that their letter will be referred to the O.A.G. by mail - and send copy of course (our letter on 48044, this & reply) to O.A.G. in short diff. for obvious.

Copy of 49702 & reply to M/M BE for info

St. S. 10/10/17

W. Kent

October 8th., 1917.

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# LAMBERTS LTD.

(NAIROBI),

55, SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON, S.E.

49702

The Under Secretary of State,  
Colonial Office,  
London, S. W. 1

Dear Sir,

Reference 48044/1917.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd. October.

We are informed by the Secretary of our Company at Nairobi that the Nairobi Chamber of Commerce has forwarded to England copies of special resolutions & a memorandum upon the subject of the Priority Committee at Nairobi.

We are not quite certain whether the communications have been sent to the Ministry of Munitions direct or whether they have been sent to you.

Mr Eastman's Committee has been seriously criticised in the local Press & though this may not be a matter of much importance it is obvious that the complaints made against the Committee are wide spread & do not emanate from one particular Firm.

Mr Bewrings statement to you, that no Priority has been recommended for initial equipment of estates, clearly shows that the Committee have failed to grasp the real facts.

There are many Plantors of coffee in the Colony who prepared their estates & planted the coffee before the War broke out, but they deferred ordering & putting down the Machinery necessary for dealing with the crop until such time as the trees should have nearly reached the bearing stage. It is very hard on these Plantors that they should be ruined now for want of machinery to clear the crops.

It would appear that the Priority Committee in Nairobi have constituted themselves upon a policy of destruction calculated to give a serious set back to the Colony; and as they cannot possibly know what material the Ministry of Munitions can spare, we would

(contd.)

(continued)

LAMBERTS LTD.

(2) contd.

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suggest that the settlers requirements be made known to the Ministry, leaving them to decide what can be shipped.

We do not think that any ~~settlers~~ ~~firm~~ in the colony would complain if ~~any~~ ~~firm~~ that their ~~requirements~~ cannot be fulfilled ~~due~~ to more urgent requirements for ~~the~~ ~~country~~.

It would appear also that Mr Bowring should know the local conditions better than the Priority Committee, and that he should advise the Committee, whereas your letter states that the Committee advise

Yours faithfully,

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF

LAMBERTS Ltd.

(IN AID OF)

*L. D. Andrews*  
Secretary

L 129207/7 cat.

SL

DRAFT.

Messrs Lamberts & Co.

15 October 1917

Gentlemen,

MINUTE.

I am in touch the recd  
of your letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> of  
October on the subject of the  
Priority Committee at Harlow  
& to inform you that it  
will be agreed to the Gov  
of the cat. by mail

- Mr. Branley, 11 Oct.
- Mr. Ballouley, 11.10.17
- Mr.
- Mr. Grisette
- Mr. Lambert
- Mr. Read
- Mr G. Fildice
- Mr A. Steel-Maitland
- Mr. Long

15 Oct 1917  
Copy Mr G Fildice

W. J. BEAD

W. J. Bead  
also B/16