

EAST AFR. PROT
57604

C O
57604
REC'D
FEB 18 NOV 18

Serv Dep? Conf
March 109

1918
2nd Oct -

Last previous Paper
500
54395

Copy to Com 11 Dec 18 ✓
Incl Conf - copy to Com 11 Dec 18 ✓
67 Feb 19

Next subsequent Paper
300
54641

Military officers
The only
was Capt A.

54395 -
for the delay
the East. Govt.
you that the
personally responsibility
of the case
authorities
early order
has been a
desires to be
responsibility.

was 4/12/18

Legree

was
6/12/18

No. 169

CONFIDENTIAL

2nd October, 1918. 22

Sir,

With reference to paragraph 3 of your Confidential despatch of the 17th of April, 1917, and paragraph 6 of your predecessor's Confidential despatch of 2nd August 1916, on the subject of responsibility for irregular military expenditure in the earlier stages of the war, I have the honour to state that, whilst enquiries that have been made reveal an unsatisfactory state of affairs with regard to military accounts at the beginning of the war, and particularly so in regard to the accounts of the Ordnance Branch of the local forces I am of opinion that none of the temporary military officers concerned should be held personally responsible. The only officer with regard to whom any doubt was entertained was Captain A. Braithwaite, and in view of paragraph 2 of your predecessor's Confidential despatch of August 2nd, 1916, the question of this officer's personal responsibility could not properly be raised. Further, there appears to have been no evidence

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

WALTER LONG, P.C., M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET,

LONDON, S.W.

No. 169

CONFIDENTIAL

2nd October, 1918.

32

Sir,

140
086
200

With reference to paragraph 3 of your Confidential despatch of the 17th of April, 1917, and paragraph 6 of your predecessor's Confidential despatch of 2nd August 1916, on the subject of responsibility for irregular military expenditure in the earlier stages of the war, I have the honour to state that, whilst enquiries that have been made reveal an unsatisfactory state of affairs with regard to military accounts at the beginning of the war, and particularly so in regard to the accounts of the Ordnance Branch of the local forces I am of opinion that none of the temporary military officers concerned should be held personally responsible. The only officer with regard to whom any doubt was entertained was Captain A. Braithwaite, and in view of paragraph 2 of your predecessor's Confidential despatch of August 2nd, 1916, the question of this officer's personal responsibility could not properly be raised. Further, there appears to have been no evidence

140
086
200

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

WALTER LONG, P.C., M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET,

LONDON, S.W.

... of suspicion of dishonesty on the part of any of his employees.

2. I regret that this matter has been so long delayed. This has been due to the fact that it was referred to the Board of Directors for an expression of opinion, which, in spite of the long period allowed for consideration it has not been possible to obtain.

In this connection I would invite reference to the report of the Board of Directors of November 1916.

I have the honor to be,
Sincerely,
Your obedient servant,
[Signature]

WILLIAM B. ...

Question Personal responsibility
for the unauthorized expenditure should
not be pursued the proper, with
the concurrence of the A.C., to give
them authority for disregarding the
early or name accounts which
has ⁹⁻²⁵⁻²¹ withheld been withheld pending
a decision on that question, ↓

1
Signed J. J. HEAD