

EAST AER. PROT
52840

129

52840
REC'D
SEP 10

Ray 107
1919
July

1) Motor Cars for Govt. Works
2) Motor Transport Staff

6670

gives particulars of motors purchased from military Recommended A.B. Simpson for part of Mechanical Transport Office + D.T. Roper as machine stores on 2 releases

Mr. Girdle

Internal evidence identifies this scheme with the "expanded system" referred to in ^{para 145} p. 11. Estimate despatched.

(top of p. 6 of print in Gov/2 8670/19), except that

- (a) no provision was made in the draft Estimate for the Mechanical Transport Office. This has been added at £500
- and (b) the amount provided for "spec of expenditure" only covered the purchase of 9 cars - £2000 - as against the 96 cars actually purchased.

From as it was, the estimate scheme was directed to be suspended on or about 1st July or 28/7/19. It is clear that all had not arrived when this despatched

6711
Simpson

was drafted - or even sent off - but it
is odd that in his subsequent Ed. 44780
the Gov. did not mention that, so far
from suspension being possible, he was
committed to a much larger scheme.

The Gov. anticipates that recurring
expenses will be covered by the provision for
"Transport" made under the estimates for
the various departments, but for original
cost (not stated) he looks mainly to
general savings, & as he has been told to
economize drastically all round the
project is not satisfactory.

? Ask. ref. & refer to our Ed. of 14 July
on 28670 directly suspension of the
Smaller Scheme. Say that as the Gov. is
fully committed ~~to~~ the larger scheme was
reported the S. of S. has no option but to
give his ~~own~~ sanction to it & the
appl. which it involves.

Say that while the S. of S. does not
doubt that the arrangements made may
lead to economy in the long run and to
increased efficiency he views with
anxiety the immediate additional
burden on the Protectorate at a time
when it has been necessary for him
to direct drastic retrenchment in
public expenditure.

Ask for inf. as to the amount
paid for the cars, and express
appreciation of the action of the Fed.

Cross in front of the [unclear] and [unclear]
to the West. East.

G. C. S.

130

17.2.19.

18.9.19
at [unclear]

Box

Even in getting the size and balance

G. H. Post, Esq.

G. C. S.

130

17.9.19

G. S. 18.9.19

at New

Post

AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

NAIROBI

52810
BRITISH EAST AFRICA.Rec^d
Draft SEP 19
24 July, 1919.

No. 709.

My Lord,

I have the honour to inform Your Lordship that in 1917 when it was ascertained that the military authorities would be disposing of a large number of motor vehicles locally, it was decided to form a Civil Motor Transport Depot in Nairobi, with a view to securing increased efficiency throughout civil departments by supplying officers with more rapid means of locomotion than had hitherto been available. This point was previously emphasized by the Acting Governor in his Confidential despatch No. 54 of 20th March, 1918, pages 16 and 35, in forwarding copies of the draft Estimates for 1918-1919.

2. To this end the Acting Governor appointed a Committee, by whom figures were collected from all departments, and a scheme drawn up for purchasing and distributing the motor vehicles when they should be ready for disposal.

3. In view of the prolongation of the local campaign no further steps were possible until the end of 1918 when arrangements were concluded with the Salvage Commissioner and a total of 96 cars were

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
VISCOUNT MILNER, P.C., G.C.B., G.C.M.G., &c., &c.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET,
LONDON, S. W.

were purchased by this Government's representative at Dar-es-Salaam, not however without a certain amount of difficulty in coming to agreement as to the value of the various vehicles. In addition to these, 6 ambulance cars were presented to the Medical Department by the Red Cross Society and are included in the number of vehicles on charge at the Nairobi depot.

4. On the advice of the Committee I sanctioned the appointment of a Motor Transport Officer to take charge of the cars, and to be the general supervising authority in connection with the scheme; at a salary of £500 per annum, his engagement to be in the first place for one year, together with that of a European Mechanic at £300 per annum. The salaries of these officers will be met by reallocation of Head XVII of the Estimates, the vote for the Transport Department, which is being reorganized and placed under the Public Works Department, the posts of Transport Officer and one Assistant Transport Officer being abolished. The initial expenses in connection with the purchase of the cars will be met from savings on Departmental votes and the amount provided in the Estimates under Head XVIII, Transport Special Expenditure; while the running expenses will be met from the recurrent travelling votes of the Departments concerned. I have decided to treat the Mechanical Transport Depot as well as the general Transport Department, as a branch of the Public Works Department and in consequence the Mechanical Transport Officer and Mechanic become members of the Staff of that department.

5. The Committee, having carefully considered a number of applications, advised the appointment of Mr. A. B. Simpson, late Lieutenant in the East Africa Mechanical Transport Corps, as Mechanical Transport Officer, and in this recommendation I have concurred after fully satisfying myself of his qualifications. Mr. Simpson has accordingly been engaged on a year's contract and has assumed his duties with effect from 17th June.

6. For the post of European Mechanic, Mr. J.T. Roper, late Sergeant Major, East Africa Mechanical Transport Corps, has been engaged on a monthly basis with a view to giving him a trial in this capacity. There were a considerable number of applicants for the post, and Mr. Roper's application was only approved after full consideration.

7. The final distribution of the cars by stations and departments has not yet been made, as the work of reconditioning is at present in progress. I have however provisionally approved the arrangements recommended to me by the Committee and when matters are in a more advanced stage, the final scheme for allocating the vehicles will be elaborated.

8. I trust that Your Lordship will express concurrence in the steps which I have taken in the matter.

I have the honour to be,
Your Lordship's
humble, obedient servant,

Edward Northey

GOVERNOR.

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1205E
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WY

W

Law

DRAFT.

Northey
help
no. 975

24 September 1919
Sir,

MINUTE.

Business 19 Sept
Cable 20 9 J

- G. G. G.
- H. H. H.
- E. E. E.
- G. G. G.
- A. A. A.
- M. M. M.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your report no. 707 of the 21st of July regarding the formation of a Civil Motor Transport Dept. in Hawaii, to purchase 46 cars from the Salvage Company. The presentation by the Railways Board of your ambulance cars, the provisional approval of the same by the Civil Motor Transport Department of the 1st of August, and the order to be made, to take charge of the cars, with the necessary members of the staff.

Yours faithfully
The Director

to be fully committed to the scheme
as now reported by Mr. Shaw
but to give my sanction to
it & to the steps which it involves,
but I would make your attention to
my letter of the 14th of July in which (28670)
I declared that the much smaller
scheme submitted with the lists
must for the financial reasons
therein explained be suspended
while I do not doubt that the
arrangements made may lead to
money - to long run & to increased
efficiency in the conduct of public
business, I cannot but regret
that this immediate additional
burden on the State finances at a time
when I have felt it necessary to
direct drastic retrenchment in the
public expenditure.

I shall be glad to receive notice as
to the ^{amount} paid for the cases which
have been purchased by the Govt &
I desire to express my appreciation
of the handsome gift by the State