EAST AFR PROT

27597

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Int. 7 MA 19

Assisted Passages to Wives of Local Forces

1919
May

previous Paper.
O.H.

States no assistance can be offered resulting in charge against Army funds. Suggests that Min. of Shipping be asked to reduce fares in such cases

Mr Calder Mr M[?] Mr Bottomley

I do not think the W.O.'s suggestion that we should ask the Mr of S. to help is useful. "The Colonial Office Scheme" is presumably the Overseas Settlement Office, who have a scheme to assist ex-service men's passages, who have a guarantee of work in the colonies, and I should hardly think this scheme could also be made to help the wives of ex-local forces men.

The only thing left seems to be to ask the Gov. if the S.A.P. Gov't would be prepared to bear the cost, as for the wives of Gov't officials.

? Telegraph as at A

A

Next subsequent Paper.

39636

HewHo 13.5.19

minute below. The foregoing principle that assisted
passages should be granted, & there was no suggestion that
the cost should come from imperial funds.

? Copy our letter to W.O. & this reply to Gov., saying that
cost must be borne by E.A.P. funds & that we are informing
those who apply here for assistance that a refund of the
excess will be granted them on their arrival in E.A.P.; &
inform those who have been told a further communication
will be sent of the decision.   J.H.

The intention was that the incidence
... the future incidence of
...
to a ... charge between two
... ... but in two
cases ... which we must definitely
... ... in East
... without consulting the Gov.
... ... proceed as our leader

... 2/8/9

Mr. ...
This is a scheme of limited scope —
the local settlers ... joined up locally
... came home because she
... have been sent on the farm.
I should like to know first of all
... the scheme ... of
... being administered
by the A.S.O. has no bearing on their

Cases.

Wed 13.5.19

Mr Bottomley

If these men had come home & enlisted they would
have been entitled to be repatriated at the public
charge. They did not come home but went on
active service locally. Meanwhile war circs
made it necessary (so I understand) that their
wives & families should come to England.

Strictly I am of the view that these people ought to
be sent back if at all at expense as repatriation
cases.

If this cant be arranged, they should be
granted .... on the charge at the
..... for tali. ....
Treasury .... will be necessary &
Col army should see

14.5.19

[bracketed left margin note:] no made claims
.... as
.... have
.. brought in

[bracketed left margin note:] but letters as
.. definite
.....

If these E.A. local forces fell within the definition governing the forces to which the O.S. scheme applies then wives & children are entitled to the amount of the cheapest Govt. passage (I think it was settled that they wd. not — traveling 3rd class on lines where white foreigners were travel below 2nd) & I see no reason for taking it up with the Treasury. If they do not we might ask Treasury to consider their case, bt. cold. under O.S. scheme.

There have been previous letters from the army in E.Africa asking for passages for these wives. These might be looked up & if the men fell "under the O.S. definition, they might be informed of the position available

Ma 24/5 above

Mr. Bottomley

Col. Amery.

Our scheme, like the repatriation scheme, is not intended to apply to Colonial

Forces, so that I am afraid we

cannot deal with these cases.

I find however that in actual

practice the repatriation of ... has been

... to those Colonial Forces which are

paid ... Imperial Funds but that wives

are ...

... this ... after the outbreak of

... proceed the forces, and are

themselves entitled to repatriation. The

... practically on this

... the E.A. cases ... be

... repatriation scheme,

... as I understand, the E.A.

... Forces are in some cases to be paid

partly from Imperial Funds.

Some ... might however be

dealt with under our scheme provided that
we could follow the lead of the repatriation
committee and deal with Colonial forces
which are raised from Imperial funds.

I have spoken to mr Waterfield
of the Treasury and he suggests that the
Treasury shd. be approached officially on
the subject.

The Treasury will no doubt
decide whether it is preferable that these
cases should be dealt with by extending
the repatriation scheme, or the award of
settlement scheme to cover them, or in
some special manner outside these schemes.

A.P.B. 25. 5. 19.

From the point of view of getting something
done I suggest that, in that of my
previous minutes, we start by accepting the

cases as E.A.P. cases for the purpose
of the limited privilege with which we
are administratively concerned (...
who came home for counsel). This
will dispose of the hardest cases and
the question of ... E.A. forces
generally the O.S.O. ...
can be put to the ... accordingly
... & I think by the O.S.O.

The risk of Uganda or Nyasaland
cases of the kind ... arising now
is not very great (I class the
... case below as an E.A.P. case
... the E.A. ... forces
... Uganda force).

W... 30/5/49 LP...

... no right to put a general ...
... ... case & would
... if as are ... L. Plant—
... ...

...

Any further communication on this
subject should be addressed to—

The Secretary,
War Office,
London, S.W.,
and the following number quoted.

27597

War Office,

London, S.W.

13/East Africa/74 (S.R.1.A.)

6th May, 1919.

Sir,

I am commanded by the Army Council to acknowledge
the receipt of your letter No. 21704/1919 dated the 25th
April, 1919, on the subject of granting assistance, in
certain cases, towards the cost of return passages to
East Africa for the wives of Members of the East African
Local Forces, and to inform you that the matter has been
referred to the Repatriation Committee, and on their
recommendation the Council regret that they are unable to
afford any assistance which would result in a charge
against Army Funds.

The Council suggest that the Ministry of
Shipping be approached with a view to a reduction in fares
in such cases, or the Colonial Office scheme, which it
is understood is in contemplation, may be of assistance
in this matter.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

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

The Secretary,

The Treasury.

Sir,   19ᵗʰ June 1919

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I am directed by ... .
to transmit to you, to be laid before the
Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury,
copies of correspondence with the War Office
relative to the question of granting assistance,
in certain cases, towards the cost of return
passages to East Africa for the wives of
members of the East African local forces.

It would appear that the recommendation
of the Repatriation Committee in the matter
is based on the fact that Army Council Instruc-
tion No.570 of 1919 lays down that wives are
only entitled to claim repatriation at the
public expense "provided that the husbands
came over after the outbreak of war and joined
His Majesty's Forces and are themselves
entitled to repatriation," since it is under-
stood that the Repatriation Committee are, in
practice, dealing with certain Colonial Forces
..... are paid from Imperial Funds.

Under the Overseas Settlement scheme,
...Colonial Forces are excluded, so that the
things now in question fall outside the scope
of that scheme also.

Lord Milner is, however, of opinion
that in the case of members of the Colonial
Forces which are paid wholly or partly from Imperial Funds,
wives and families ...... is entitled, in view
of the military service of their husbands, to

at the expense of Imperial Funds

free passages/ to the parts of the Empire
in which they were previously domiciled.
This privilege might be granted by
extending the scope either of the
Repatriation Scheme or of the Oversea
Settlement Scheme. If, however, Their
Lordships are of opinion that, as a matter
of policy, such an extension of either of
those schemes would be inadvisable, Lord
Milner would suggest, for their considera-
tion, that free passages should be granted
under some special adhoc arrangement.

(Sgnd) G GRINDLE

No. 29597/19 ?A?.

Aug 1919.

Sir,

I am ... to ... you to inform the L.C. of the Treasury that he has received, since the conclusion of hostilities, a number of applications from the wives of members of the E. African local forces, domiciled in E.A., for financial assistance towards the cost of their passages back to E.A., the claims being based on the arrangements made for the repatriation of soldiers of the Imperial forces, who came from abroad to serve, & of their families, and on the greatly increased cost of passages between the U.K. & E.A. at the present time.

2. After consultation with ... of the ...

DRAFT.

MINUTE.

considers that it would be equitable to grant assistance to certain cases where the families return to England was directly caused by the husband's having joined the forces — e.g. when, in the absence of the husband it was impossible for the family to be left ... farm, and they had to be ... home for the sake of security.

... is of opinion that these cases ...

DRAFT.

... number of ... of family who were domiciled in ... before he joined the forces, and who are returning there.

It is not possible to frame an estimate of the cost which would be involved, but judging from the number of applications received ... which the condition stated in para 2 of this letter would apply, it would not be large.

MINUTE.

Mr.
Mr.
Mr.
Mr. Grindle.
Sir H. Lambert.
Sir H. Read.
Sir G. Fiddes.
Col. Amery.
Lord Milner.