



MINISTRY OF  
DEFENCE

1919

PRH

Army Paper

3/9

ARTIFICIAL LIMBS ETC FOR NATIVE SOLDIERS

States difficult at present to depute experts to Africa and suggests measurements and casts of amputation stumps should be sent home. Encloses copy of directions. No communication received from General Headquarters, Dar es Salaam.

Leave Africa  
Leave Africa  
Leave Africa

Ref. to C.R. KAR. The last application

(apart from Maraland) to have been made  
(without letter) to you for further info. concerning

the making up of casts for

native soldiers.

Leave Africa

Document Paper

6/4/19

## MINISTRY OF PENSIONS

VICTORIA S452

## ARTIFICIAL LIMBS BRANCH

RECEIVED

16 ARTIFICIAL LIMB  
SUPPLIES.

With reference quoted

General/882

Money House,

Smith Square

London S.W.1.

S.C.O.  
20801ME  
REC 5 APR 19

April, 1919.

226

I am directed by the Minister of Pensions to acknowledge receipt of your letter 6985/18/19 of the 10th March together with copies of correspondence with local authorities in East and West Africa regarding the supply of artificial limbs and surgical appliances to native soldiers of the King's African Rifles, the West African Frontier Force and the East African Local Forces.

With regard to the proposal of the Officer Administering the Government of the East Africa Protectorate to send a man with expert knowledge of artificial limbs and appliances should be sent to East Africa, I am to say that in the present state of supply of artificial limbs it would be difficult to despatch expert workmen to East and South Africa. In the Minister's opinion the most effectual way of dealing at present with urgent cases would be to have very careful measurements taken of the amputation stumps and (not hollow) casts made of same. If the measurements casts are sent to the Artificial Limbs Branch of this Ministry arrangements can be made to supply the limb appliances required. I enclose a copy of directions concerning plaster casts. These suggestions however may be best tested by the statistician with Lord Milner has called, which may be such as to encourage trained workmen to go to East Africa and settle there.

I am to add that the communication stated to have been received from the Secretary of State, Whitehall, London S.W.1.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAKING PLASTER CASTS OF STUMPS IN  
THE LOWER LIMBS.

227

The patient should be in the erect position, supporting himself on the sound limb and on crutches.

In the case of double amputation the procedure is difficult and if the patient cannot stand on crutches with the help of assistants, the mould must be taken in the recumbent posture, taking care that the soft parts are not flattened by pressure of the couch or table.)

The skin having been thoroughly smeared with vaseline, quick-setting plaster bandages are applied from the extremity of the stump to a line a little higher than to which the bucket is intended to reach. The end of the stump should be covered in and enough bandages used form an even covering of three layers. The number of bandages used will vary with the size of the stump, which must not be constricted, the bandages must not be pulled tight nor laid into the commissure, and great care should be taken to avoid compression by virtue of unequal pressure.

As soon as the bandage is laid the mould should be filled with a thin layer of plaster of Paris. This may be done with a brush, a piece of sponge, or a cloth. The plaster should be applied in thin layers, allowing each to dry before applying the next. When the plaster has dried it can be cut away at the top and the bandage removed.

When the base of thigh amputations is very large it will facilitate carrying a turn of wire around the bone of the pelvis so that the stump can be cut away in one long, smooth edge. In the case of stumps of fibrous tissue or skin, the plaster should be laid along the front of the stump on the skin. As soon as the bandaging is done the mould is divided lengthwise down to the metal with a knife. Whence it is sprung open and removed and closed up again with a turn of Plaster bandage.

SURGICAL RECORD OFFICE

C.O. 533

221

W.C.O. 20801/19 <sup>2/2</sup>  
W.A.F.F.  
R.R.

228

DRAFT. Re

concern Navrakhi

undivided

May 1st. 1919. Subject

deservedly

MINUTE.

limbs await further despatch

before sending report called for

Maltares

Sir H. Lambest

Sir H. Read

Sir F. Fielder

G.D.M.P.T.O

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24 April 1919

M.O. 20801/19 E. Africa  
20077  
KAR

HGO 20801/19 E. Africa  
20077  
KAR

valwest (no eastern)

100' N slope

Soldado J.

Jan 1919

PLATE 1

no scale

no scale

no scale

MINUTE

no scale

Small areas of mixed soil  
N. 100' - 100' S. slopes  
soil very light with  
some stones & no vegetation  
soil light with many of cut grass  
and some small stones &  
clay here and there it may  
be mixed with sand about called  
for a few feet of

H.G.O. 2000/19 8. Africa  
R.A.R.  
2000/97

✓ 25 April 1919

Obt

Re to 2. Cameron

With reference to my letter of the <sup>10</sup> March 1919 to the <sup>(concerning)</sup> <sup>2000/97</sup> R.A.R. dated 20th March 1919, I have the pleasure to advise you that

I have sent to you a copy of the <sup>10</sup> March 1919 letter and plan for the <sup>20</sup> March 1919 to the <sup>20</sup> March 1919 letter and plan for the <sup>20</sup> March 1919

Supply of artificial limbs and artificial appliances to hospitals outside India and I shall be pleased to receive your views upon the subject.

At 10.15 of the 20th of March 1919

88

2000

19

June (Signed) MILNER

H.G.O. 2000/19 8. Africa  
R.A.R.  
2000/97

✓ DRAFT

✓ Repealed

MINUTE

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✓ 3 May

April 1919

Sir with ref to the 1st. to the Govt of the  
R.A.R. dated 20th March 1919 a copy is enclosed

I have the pleasure to transmit to you

a copy of a letter (with enc.) from  
the Ministry of War regarding the

Establishment of artificial limb and  
artificial appliances to Alfredo

Natalia <sup>2000/97</sup> and <sup>2000/97</sup> it will be 1st of

July 1919 <sup>2000/97</sup> you will be 1st of

(Signed) MILNER

J.