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58061
OCT 7

Birds Co

Mr Keaton Geologist

1919
9 Oct

Last previous Paper.
5/6 8/2
GC

Claims his services for one year
to develop mineral resources of CAP

Dr. H. Read

I enclose a letter from the
Engineers with a copy of the title
which I held up since 57689 was
under cover & looked blank
today.

The title was of the statement
(made in this letter) that a British
Company was already at work. The
info. comes from a man named [unclear]
says it belongs to the [unclear] of [unclear]
Group. I have no info. about it
at all, and Dr. H. Read contains
and [unclear] it [unclear].

I reply by enclosing a copy of the
letter which is to go to the [unclear]

copy sent to OAG 8/22 1919 - 17 - Oct 17 1919 - 20 - 8/22

and subsequent Paper.

257682, and say that [unclear] 12-5-11

reports that it is not possible to
 begin other projects and to avoid
 the need to consider any application
 they may make when the end is reached
 of the territory is possible to proceed with the
 procedure, we are sending a copy of them to the Admin.
 - and that they have the right to
 the British colony to the quality
 - but that if they will, it is as further
 details, including the name of the
 & the area in which it is working
 we will make enquiries.]

sent
 []
 10/1/19

Oct 10/1919

it was understood from Miss Walsh
 that it was your intention before the
 war - that the case under the
 proposed arrangements can
 really be said as an argument for
 showing you the country seriously to
 have jurisdiction.

- a good copy of map to be
 H. Byatt - the date on $\frac{R}{57682}$

done
 H. V.R.
 10/5/19

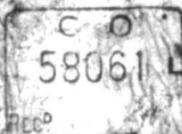
BIRD & Co.

TELEGRAMS: BIRD & CO. LTD.
MONEY ORDER, GRACE, LONDON.

PHONE: 8552 AVENUE.

WIRELESS,
CABLE, &
ALLAN (MONTROSE).

I/WK



7, GRACECHURCH STREET,

LONDON, E.C. 3. 9th October 1919

Recd

OCT 1919

His Majesty's Under Secretary of State,
for the Colonies,
Colonial Office,
Downing Street, S.W.1.

Sir:

With reference to previous informal conversations with Sir Herbert Read, we hereby beg to submit our formal application for the loan of Mr. Kitson's services to assist us in our operations in East Africa. In the event of our receiving this favour, we should like to claim his services for one year from the date of his being seconded to us with facilities for a possible extension in the event of any considerable developments being still in hand at the date of expiry of this period. Further in view of the fact that Mr. Kitson is in England now and that it is imperative in our interests, and also we venture to suggest in your interests, that a Geologist should proceed to East Africa at a very early date, we respectfully suggest that he may be seconded to us forthwith, thereby no doubt saving some very precious months.

We have in conjunction with our Calcutta Company a number of Geologists at work in India, but owing to the war they are, either new men recently engaged, or the old staff who are due to receive leave and are in urgent need of a holiday. Also we feel that Mr. Kitson has a general experience above any of our own men, who have been more particularly engaged on Coal.

In an expedition such as we have planned for Mr. Kitson it would be necessary for us to arrange the details carefully before he sailed, and in this connection Mr. Kitson's knowledge and experience would be invaluable.

The local conditions in East Africa are somewhat different to Indian conditions, but approximate very closely to West African conditions. Moreover Mr. Kitson would be working

H.M.S. 078.2.0.

9.10.19

under Sir John Eaglestone, Thomas Knave, and it is to Sir John Eaglestone that we are indebted for Mr. Kitson's name.

We wish to emphasize that it is our intention to develop the mineral resources of this country and not merely to obtain concessions and sell them at a profit.

Our operations in India will be sufficient evidence of the seriousness of our intentions.

We can claim to be the greatest producers of manufactured Jute. We have the largest output of coal. We are the only firm who have been able to turn out a satisfactory Tea Chest from 3-ply wood, in competition with the Japanese and Swedish Boxes. We have a very large Engineering business and are increasing this very considerably, having an order at the present time 160,000 of Machine Tools; this Engineering Company employs 13,000 people. We are the pioneers for the supply of Electricity to the Indian Collieries, having electrified the Jherria Field and supplied practically the whole of the machinery, mechanical and electrical, for the operation of the Mines in this Field. We are sending out a Blast Furnace Plant at the present time for the smelting of our own Iron Ore. We are manufacturers of Silica and other Bricks. We are the largest firm in the Mica business. We make paving stones for street pavements. We are the Managing Agents for the largest Paper Mill in India and are putting up a Plant at the present time for the manufacture of Bamboo Pulp. We have several large Tanneries and are also arranging to manufacture boots to the number of 1200 to 1500 a day. We have erected 90% of the Aerial Ropeways in India. We have also Woollen Mills, Coke Ovens and Bye Product Plants, Lime and Cement Works, Electrolytic Bleach Producing Plant, and in addition have the largest labour organisation in the East.

It will be unnecessary for us to go further as the list is becoming tedious, but we could materially add to this list other important undertakings.

When we seek our Properties it is with the direct intention of developing them industrially and it is to do this that we are asking for facilities and concessions in East Africa.

We wish to point out that at the present time there is a British Mining Company operating in the late German East Africa, and this seems a reason for extending to other British

MINES, of S.S.C.

9.10.19.

Companies the right to develop the country. We understand that this Company is interested more particularly in Gold Mining.

We, of course, appreciate that for the time being no Mining Laws have been formulated, but at the same time we have the precedent of a British Company established out there, and we are quite willing to be governed by the same conditions as the firm in question, and also to accept any alteration of the conditions covering mining rights when the Mining Laws are formulated.

We are quite willing to supply a duplicate copy of any report made to us by Mr. Kitson to the Colonial Office, and this in itself will be of extreme value to them in ascertaining the mineral wealth of the territory.

All that we are asking is to be allowed an outlet for our energies and capital in this new country and encouragement and assistance to do so. We look upon Mr. Kitson's services as being a very helpful export to an end which must appeal to anyone who has the interests of this country to heart, as we trust that we can claim to have. The employment by us of Mr. Kitson would also be a guarantee to the Colonial Office that the spirit of their Mining Laws would be thoroughly respected.

We beg to remain, Sir,

Your most obedient servants.

Bridg

L. E. S. S.

4th October, 1919.

Mr. C. Bottonley, Esq., C.B.E.,

Colonial Office,

Downing Street,

LONDON, S.W.1.

Dear Bottonley

I hope that you will excuse my writing on a question connected with a Company to be formed in East Africa in which I may be interested.

Major Walsh, who you will remember we sent out in connection with Mica, thinks there are great possibilities of developing mines in German East Africa, and the Company is naturally anxious to secure a man who, by reason of health and experience of African conditions, would be most suitable for the development of mines work in that country.

I suggested as a possibility that the Colonial Office should be approached with a view to seconding Kitson from the Gold Coast. As you know this is often done in India, and this kind of employment is commonly regarded as one of the prizes of Indian service. The Company would, of course, pay his contribution to pension and any other conditions which the Colonial Office imposed. Kitson has done such splendid work that it might be regarded in the nature of a reward as the Company would certainly be prepared to pay him well.

There is one point on which you may be assured, and that is if I have anything to do with it the traditions of the Colonial Office in regard to development and treatment of labour, with which I venture to hope I am not unsuccessfully associated, will be continued.

No doubt there are people who are out to exploit the country and make money by getting and selling concessions; this is the sort of thing that this Company is not out for. They are desirous of doing the work themselves and are able to call up any quantity of capital that is necessary.

I am sure that Sir George and yourself would give this request favour consideration in view of the necessity for development by means of work and expenditure in the country itself, and not as happened in the Nigerian Tin Mines by financial operations outside.

Yours sincerely,



Court Street,

October, 1919.

Dear Sir John,

Thank you for your letter of the 4th which reached me this morning. Kitchin had already raised the question of his being secured for mineral investigation in German East Africa, and I ~~had~~ say that I should have been only too glad of the benefit of his ability in connection with any territory with which I deal. His success in the Gold Coast has been wonderful.

Unfortunately it is not possible for us to throw open German East Africa to mineral development or prospecting until we have a mining law, etc. on which to work. This is in train but it will be some months before a start can be made. In the meantime we have to put off all applications and promise them that when it is possible to make a forward move each applicant will have an equal opportunity to make proposals.

It follows that we cannot give facilities for prospecting to any particular firm however ~~well~~ might wish to enlist its cooperation in German East Africa.

We have
therefore

Sir John Eaglesome, F.C.S.G.

therefore had to tell Kitson (who saw Read yesterday)
that he should prepare to return to the Gold Coast when
his leave is up at the end of this month as nothing
can be done as regards German East Africa for some
time.

Yours sincerely,

(sd) W.C. Bottomley,

580/109 cat

DRAFT.

Messrs Bond & Co.

11th Dec 1889

Dear Sirs

MINUTE.

- Mr. Bramley 1000
- Mr. Barclay 13/5
- Mr. ...
- Mr. Grindle
- Sir H. Lambert
- Sir H. Read
- Sir G. Fydes
- Col. Anson
- Lord Milner

I am to send the rest of
 your letter of the 9th inst.
 to the ...
 to take to you for your wife to
 as a copy of a letter which
 has been addressed to the
 Ab. Nelson Esq regarding
 his former employment of
 Messrs Bond & Co. on mineral
 properties in the ...
 formerly known as ...

I am to inform you that
 while ...
 what to how ...
 that it is ...

Copy to Messrs Bond & Co. 1000 & 1001 ...
 1000 & 1001 ...
 1000 & 1001 ...

1000 & 1001 ...
 1000 & 1001 ...

CO. 111
 ...
 ...

Los Angeles

As to our prospectus was the all
be paid to consider and observation
In many ways when the advertisement
of the prospectus has further advanced
that in the meantime, a copy of
The letter is being sent to the address.

I am to add that how much has
no knowledge of the Por. Mining Co.
stated to be now operating out there ^{in Ega}
but that if as was understood
for some wealth, it was in evidence
before the war, he can hardly
be regarded as an argument for
throwing over the country generally
to new prospects.

EDWARD H. J. READ