

*MCA*

EAST AFR. PROT.  
23892

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23892  
Recd  
24 MAY 15

Gov's Dep't 321  
Drawing  
1915  
2nd April  
of previous Paper.  
19028

COMMISSION FOR S. ABYSSINIA  
EXPENDITURE

The copy of letter from Mr. Theagar, Authority, given to Mr. Hodson for purchase 30 steer mules for Nairobi for military purposes. Requests details of expenditure be left to Mr. Hodson for first year at least provided total estimate of 1935 is not exceeded without authority.

*The Hon. Sir G. Fidler.*

As it was contemplated in 19028 that Mr. Hodson would require 6 mules only, I presume that the outlay for 30 mules now given is intended to carry him on for some time. It may prove, gradually, a very useful way of transporting mules to the S.A.P.

Mr. Theagar is better able to advise in this matter than anyone else, is he not?

? Approval of arrangements made & concern in the suggestion that Mr. Hodson might gain a free hand in the first year subject to the max. of £435. Copy of comp. 4.6.20 for info. W.C.F.

Alone  
26.5.15  
H. J. P. 26/5/15  
P.M. 26.5.15

*Mr. Theagar  
27 May 1915  
Copies to...*

Subsequent Paper

AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

No. 321

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,  
NAIROBI,  
BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

23892  
REC'D  
24 AY 15

22nd April, 1915.

Sir,

*See 1902*  
With reference to my despatch No. 234 of 26th March regarding expenditure connected with His Britannic Majesty's Consul for Southern Abyssinia, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of a letter from Mr. Theisger under date of 19th March on the same subject.

2. Authority has been given to Mr. Hodson to purchase 30 steer mules on behalf of this Government and deliver them to the Officer in charge at Moyale for transfer to Nairobi where they will be used for military

RIGHT HONOURABLE

LEWIS HARCOURT, P.C., M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET,

LONDON, S.W.

military purposes.

3. I would suggest that the details of expenditure connected with the post of His Britannic Majesty's Consul in Southern Abyssinia be left to Mr. Hudson for the first year at least, provided the total estimate of £935 is not exceeded without your previous consent.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,

  
GOVERNOR 

## ENCLOSURE

In Despatch No. 32/ of 22 4 1915

315

BRITISH LEGATION

ADIS ABABA.

19th March, 1915.

Your Excellency,

With reference to Mr Walker's despatch no. 4 of February 21st concerning the expenditure necessary for the new Consular post at Mega, I have the honour to state that there is only one point on which I have any suggestion to offer and that is regarding the transport. It has I think been overlooked that, while Mr Hodson will require mule transport to take him to Mega, once he is there mules will be useless for local purposes of transport and he will require camels, which will both be cheaper and more effective. I would therefore suggest that Mr Hodson should purchase his mules here on behalf of the East Africa Government and on arrival at Mega he should hand them over to the authorities at Moyale either for local use or for transfer to Nairobi as may be thought most desirable.

Mr Hodson's journey down to Mega would thus cost the Government practically nothing as he would have had the use of Government mules for his transport down and any additional expenses would be covered by the enhanced value of

Excellency

Mr Henry Conway Salfield, K.O.M.G.  
Governor of British East Africa.

value of the mules in the Protectorate.

Mr Hodson could then purchase eight camels locally to serve him for his journeys along the frontier or hire as he finds most convenient. In my opinion a combination of these two systems would be best and I think Mr Hodson should rely mostly on hired animals for his journeys and keep 5 or 8 camels of his own for light work or emergencies, as nothing would be easier than for the Abyssinians in any crisis to prevent his travelling by passing round word that no camels were to be hired out to him, a command which the Borana would not dare to disobey.

The provision made in the Estimate for riding mules for his escort would remain untouched.

The whole question of Mr Hodson's expenditure for the first year must be somewhat in the nature of an experiment and apart from the above alteration I concur in all that Mr Walker has laid down. It is difficult to say what the cost of Mr Hodson's camel transport will be but I should think that the total will amount to somewhat less than in Mr Walker's estimate. I believe that good camels can be purchased at 50/- each and when not in use they should be grazed in the low country in a Borana village, 2 men being hired to look after them.

With regard to hiring camels for his Journeys I would suggest that Mr Hodson should send in his accounts quarterly under a separate heading and section B in the estimate would thereby be eliminated and paragraph b of a section B would need some modification, as probably

- 3 -

Probably 4 armed men would be sufficient as a guard for his transport and the other five would need to be replaced by local camel men at a cheaper rate.

I have the honour to be,

Your Excellency's

most obedient, humble servant

(Sd) W. Theisger

Govt 23872/1915

M.P.



Sir

31 May 1915

Sir

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No 321 of the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April & to inform you that I approve of the arrangements made regarding the expenditure connected with the post of H.B.M.'s Consul for Southern Abyssinia, and I concur in the suggestion that the details should be left to Mr. Hodson should he give a free hand during the first year subject to

DRAFT

M.P.

No 321

Mr. St. O'Connell

MINUTE

Mr. Harper 28/5/15

Mr. Bottomley 28/5/15

Mr. Kipler

Mr. H. Juck

Mr. Anderson

Mr. Linnart

Mr. Harcourt

Copied to 27 maps to

the maximum of 1935

not being exceeded

NOV 2 1935