

1937

38240

C0533/484

38240

/A.

KENYA

/A.

ORGANISATION OF TERRITORIAL FORCE

COAST DEFENCE FORCE

LOAN OF WAR OFFICE PER REL

Previous

1936

Subsequent

6

31/1/38
MAR.

K. 297
309

~~Mr. Parkin~~

Major Cole
Mr. Parkin

R. 297

R. 309

Major Cole

Mr. Parkin

298

297

Mr. Randall

R. 297

R. 309

Mr. Parkin

303

298

297

Mr. Randall

R. 297

17/1/37

17/1/37

24/11

27/12/37

4/12

2/12

8/12

1/12

22/12

22/12

23/12

23

11/11

7/1/37

8/2

R. 297

18/1/37

R. 309

19/2

R. 303

22/2

299

21/2

297

10/3

R. 309

17/3

R. 297

5/4

R. 309

6/4

Mr. Parkin

8/4

Major Cole

8/4

303

13/4

298

19/4

297

25/4

309

3/5

Trs., in triplicate, Army Form B199A. in respect of Lieut. M.W. Biggs.

DEFENCE.

Transferred to
R. J. Biggs -

Send 2 copies to Mr. Kenya
A
1 Ref. No 13 on the 1936 file

C.A. Gossnell -
18/1/37
above

2 To Kenya - 167 - (1936 and in 1) A/1 - 24/1/37

[Handwritten mark]

3. CROWN AGENTS.....MINUTE.....9.3.37.
Trs. memorandum from Chief Inspector of Taxes, regarding Lieutenant M.W. Biggs and requests to be advised as to what reply should be given.

4. P.O.C.A. No 3 Aug 3. 17/2/37

[Handwritten mark]

5. To D. J. Handley }
6. "Kenya Secret } Drafts in 38066/7/37 } 6.1.37
18.1.37

[Handwritten mark]

Nominal.

7. LIEUT. B.P. ROBERTS.....2.4.37.
Requests to be informed when Lt. Biggs appt. terminates and the next vacancy occurs together with information regarding pay & quarters, etc., as for a married subaltern.

Lt. Biggs is employed in a purely temporary capacity and we do not know when his appointment will terminate, or ^{whether} it is intended that his place should be filled when he leaves.

? Reply that Lt. Biggs is serving at Mombasa ^{on loan from the Army} in a purely temporary capacity and that the Secretary of State has not been informed by the Government of Kenya ^{the desirability of} whether a further Royal Engineer officer will, in fact, be required when Lieutenant Biggs' ^{temporary} appointment terminates.

J.P. Parker

P.L. Cole

C.A. Gossnell
6/4

To Roberts. (Tansd)

19 APR 1957

DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE

9. I.G. Form 13. in respect of Lieut. M.W. Biggs.

Curby
A. Storr
3/18/57

S.I. Coe
3.5.

J.J. Pagan
4/5
above

10. GOV'S DEPUTY (WADE).....291.....28.5.37.
Requests to be informed by air-mail whether, in
circumstances detailed, there is any objection to a
passage to England being provided for L/Sgt. Lentell.

There is no record that Sgt. Lentell
would be required to serve for
12 months only in Kenya or that
he would only be required to
train European personnel.
However it appears that he can
be spared, so we can agree to
his being returned. But I'm
not sure whether we must get
W.O. approval first.

(The cost of the out-going passage,
and any other expenses for the 30 days will be
of this A.C.O. ^{recovered} recovered
under the "Abnormal Expenditure
Vote".)

Send a copy of the despatch to
the W.O. mentioning X & say

that it is assumed that the A.C.
will agree to the restoration of
Sgt. Lentell to his British unit
on his return to this country &
that in the circumstances the W.O. is
asking the Gov. to arrange for
Sgt. Lentell's early return -
write to Governor accordingly.

As regards para 3 of the despatch, it
will be recalled that the W.O. is
not satisfied with the establishment
of the Examination Battery and
Defence Election Light Unit proposed
by Kenya, & have asked that
the proper "Colonial Establishment"
for these units should be recruited.

C.A. Storr
4/6/57

He is really a war office man who is temporarily
employed in Kenya and it is for war office to lay
down any restriction as to his employment, not the British
Sgt. Lentell was not, so far as I am aware, hired
by the British office that he would only be in Kenya
for a year. It was held that his employment was
a temporary nature.

I think that before approving, we should ask W.O.
for their views. I would send a copy of 10 to W.O.
The above account for a very early reply in view of the
last para of the despatch.

J.J. Pagan
7/6
at once

P.S. Coe
7.6.57

11 To. W.O (w/c 10).

23/6

9.6.37

22. WAR OFFICE

9.6.37

DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE Requests to be informed of the date when Lieut. W. Biggs will be available for restoration to his British Corps.

Draft herewith.
C.A. Tompkins
11/6

AIR MAIL 13

To Kenya - 463 - Cons - 15/6/37

DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE

14 To W.O. (w/c 13) 12 - 24.6.37

No reply received to (11)

? Wait a week

Yes. Not more -
C.A. Tompkins
24/6

D. 297
24.6.37

15. WAR OFFICE

25.6.37

(11/Ans) No objection to Sgt. Lentell's early return but considers he should be replaced as soon as possible & enquires whether it is agreed that another R.A. N.C.O. should be provided.

As regards the last paragraph of No. 15, the cost of Sgt. Lentell's outward passage was charged to special expenditure, and provision was included in the grant from Imperial Funds. We might warn Kenya that the cost of the relief N.C.O. will have to be charged to Kenya funds. Draft herewith.

C.A. Tompkins

29.6.1937

I think we might go so far as the last sentence as amended.

J.J. Barrin
30/6

It can't be paid from the grant: the Battery is now a permanent feature of the landscape.

J.J. Barrin
30. June

6/9

16 To Kenya - 515 - (w/c 11 & 15) (10/Ans) Cons - 5/7/37

4/15/37

17 To W.O. (w/c 16) B/A - 13.7.37

M.M.

18. GOV. KENYA.....423.....3.8.37.
Details circs. in which he requests War Office be approached with a view to secondment of Lt. M.W. Biggs as Royal Engineer officer to the Coast Defence Unit, K.A.R.

19. GOV. KENYA.....451.....10.8.37.
Trs. obns. on question of replacing L/Sgt. Lentell by another R.A. N.C.O. and requests to be notified of the sailing date of the officer selected.

20. WAR OFFICE.....20.8.37.
Requests to be informed of the date when Lieut. Biggs will be available for restoration to his British Corps.

DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE

No. 18.

It will be remembered that Lieutenant Biggs was sent to Kenya in a hurry last year to assist in the training of the Coast Defence Unit. He was not seconded ^{in the usual way} ~~was seconded~~. It is now desired that he should be seconded to the Coast Defence Unit, K.A.R., on the usual K.A.R. secondment terms. I have seen a copy of the correspondence between the Secretary to the Governors' Conference and the Governments of Kenya, Uganda and Zanzibar regarding provision

provision for the salary (£550) of one Regular Officer for the R.E. Section (Electric Lights) of the Coast Defence Unit. I assume that Lieutenant Biggs would be seconded as a Lieutenant with less than seven years' regular service. He was gazetted 2nd Lieutenant on the 27th of August, 1931.

? Write to War Office as in draft herewith.

No. 19.

? Ask the War Office to find a suitable R.A. non-commissioned officer to replace Lance Sergeant Lentell, on the terms and conditions mentioned in the despatch. Draft to War Office herewith.

No. 20.

In view of the action proposed on No. 18, this can be put by.

C. G. [unclear]
9.9.37.

No. 19.

1. I suggest that it is desirable that Lance Sgt. Lentell's successor should come to the C.O. in interview by the Staff Officer, K.A.R., before being appointed. (This is a regular apppt.) If this is appd. dft. despatch should be amended accordingly.

2. General Spifford is very interested in this Coast Defence unit. May the file please be circulated to him after action has been taken. (He returns on 14th. 13th).
W. P. [unclear]
9.9.37.

difficult explanation

21 % W.O. (w/c 19) cons
22 % W.O. (w/c 18) cons

DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE

General Gifford

24 SEP 1937

23. WAR OFFICE

DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE

No objection to secondment of Lieut. Biggs to Coast Defence Unit of K.A.R. & presumes that 13.6.36 is the date on which his secondment takes effect.

13.6.36 is the date Lieut. Biggs left England on loan to Kenya - see No 12 in 1936 file. He has since been paid for by Kenya. Now he is being seconded to the K.A.R., and the point of dating the secondment 13.6.36 is in order that his pension for that period should be payable by Kenya as from that date.
? copy of No 23 LF to Kenya for observation

Clotney White 28/10/37

P. I. [unclear]
28/10.

J. J. [unclear]
2/x1
[unclear]

after action has been taken, the file should be circulated to the Repulse to add to Biggs's name for inclusion in the Army List, K.A.R.

P. [unclear]
28/10.

noted [unclear]
11/10/37

24. 20. Kenya 964. (w/c. 23). 18th Nov. 1937. 9/1. 6 NOV 1937

25. WAR OFFICE.....26.10.37.

(21 ansd.) In circo described enquires whether a non-commissioned officer of the Royal Artillery is reqd. for duty as an instructor.

Kenya wanted the NCO. who is to replace Lt-Sergeant Lentell as instructor also to be an Artificer. W.O. say such men do not exist. ? Do we now ask W.O. to find an instructor (I have him trained in range-finding etc as requested in para 2 of No 19) and abandon all idea of getting an Artificer-instructor, later asking Kenya if we are to find an Artificer too.

Over

If Kenya do want an Artificer as well we shall name to point out that the same Artificer can fit both guns & range finders (para 2 of 25). Kenya will have to decide which she wants, or if she wants both.

However if one hand of the rangefinder is all that an ordnance Artificer is wanted for in Kenya, para 4 of 25 will meet all requirements. It will only be necessary to appoint an ordnance Artificer if there is permanent work.

It might be possible, if the work required on guns is not permanent, to make a similar arrangement for an RA Artificer to go from Egypt to a month or so.

Clough White
9/11

This is a matter which must be decided by Kenya. Personally, I would say that they want an Artificer RA.

I suggest that we send copies of 24 and 25 to Jiv. Kenya (not up to 19) and ask to be informed whether they require an RA NCO multi-utility or ^{NCO} artificer, or RA OTC ^{artificer} artificer.

P. I. B. G.
5. 11.

J. J. Pascoe
10/11
above

26 Kenya 993 - (7/21/10/11/25) - 19 Annual - Bonn - 15 NOV 1957

DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE

27. GOV. KENYA 658 3. 11. 37.

Requests W.O. be approached with a view to their agreeing to the secondment of Battery Sergeant Major P. Lawrence, P.A., on the usual K.A.R. terms in order to regularise the position.

28. COL. SEC. KENYA 3 PM. 11. 11. 37.

States that ref. in para 1 of (27) was made in error - appl. of a ~~qualified~~ ^{qualified} Great Artillery Artificer to replace Lt Sglt. Lenthall is still desired & would appreciate early selection of suitable candidate.

~~The upshot of Nos 27 & 28 is that they want us to hurry up with the replacement of Sglt. Lenthall. No 26 does so.~~

P. Put by
Clough White
9/11

Lance-Sergeant Lenthall & Sergeant Major Lawrence were sent to Kenya, to work with Lieutenant Biggs, in a hurry, in 1936 (see minutes in Not in -36 file). Lt S Lenthall is now in process of being relieved (see No 26). Arrangements have been made for the secondment of Lt Biggs (see No 23). No 27 proposes that a similar arrangement for secondment should be made in the case of S/M Lawrence.

1. Write to W.O. as in off. beneath

Clough White
2/11

I have illegally amended the draft, as NCOs are not "seconded". That term applies only to officers. NCOs are sent to Kenya.

P. I. G. W.
10/11

3/11/38

27. To W.O. (for return for No 27) - Com

DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE

2. 12. 37

36. Gov. Kenya Feb. 20/4 1.12.37
DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE (26 Ansd.) Request selection of a Non Commissioned Officer
Artificer Royal Artillery to replace Lt/Sgt. Lantall
to be made as early as possible.

Inform W.O. as in D/S. Keenish
Clotworthy 2/12

A.S. Glee
4/12.

31. To W.O. (25 ansd) 1/1/38 F.12.37

DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE

Mr. Randall Bonoli

Asst. War Office 21.12.37

(29 Ansd.) No objection to loan of Battery Sergeant Major
Lawrence for service with K.A.R. and requests date
of secondment to be communicated to W.O. in due course.

Para 2 of (32) raises the same point as came up
in connexion with Lt Biggs' date of secondment - see no (33).
As in great case it will be sufficient to send a copy of
32 to Kenya Lt Ref 27 for other info. and obsvns.

Clotworthy 22/12

Sgt. Lawrence embarked on 9/7/36
(V. No 7 on -/36) & I assume that
his appl. to the K.A.R. will be
on form that date. ~~proposition~~ original
to mention this to Kenya?

J.J. Pascoe
22/12

Yes, as it affects date from which pension
contributions are to be payable.

He should also inform the CA's of the appl. of
Sgt. Lawrence to the W.A. u.s.f. 9.7.36 (explaining
that he is being transferred to Kenya & is now a
new appl. sailing from home)

A.S. Glee
23/12.

J.J. Pascoe
23/12
at home

This file should be
closed at end of
year and a
KAR file made
for this unit.

Mr. Randall to be
called "KAR 25"
Lawrence's name in
R.A. P. file leading
also to the records.

33 To CA
DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE

34 To W.O. (32 ansd)

35. No. Kenya 13 (1/c.32) - 27 Ansd. 12 JAN 1938

Open app for Lt. Biggs
& Sgt. Major Lawrence.
Lt. Biggs: see 5H.205 KAR.
Sgt. Maj. F. Lawrence: see 5H.206 KAR.

Clotworthy start Biggs file
w. copies of 22, 23 & 24:
and copies of 29, 32, 33 & 34
& 25 for Lawrence's 1/1/38
(When Biggs file is opened
the 3rd item should be noted
in the K.A.R. diary and
a note made of the fact
that Mr. Randall should
see the Gov. people to own desk)

Mr. Randall to
note as at x on
page
Notes to Mr. Randall
8.2.38

C. O.

Mr. *Mania 28/12*
 Mr. *Hutchings 1/1/38*
 Mr.
 Sir H. Moore.
 Sir G. Tomlinson.
 Sir C. Bottomley.
 Sir J. Shuckburgh.
 Perm. U.S. of S.
 Parly. U.S. of S.
 Secretary of State.

JS *gt*

Dec, 1937.
 12 JAN 1938

DRAFT.

Kenya
H. A. R.
no. 13.
Ser.

21. 12. 37 (no. 32)

Sir,
 I have to ask the
 (27) receipt of your despatch no. 658
 of the 3rd of November, and to
 transmit to you, for your
 information, a copy of a letter
 from the War Office ^{regarding} ~~relating~~
 to the employment of
 Battery Sergeant Major F.
 Lawrence with the H. A. R.

2. Battery Sergeant
 Major Lawrence's appointment to
 the H. A. R. will have effect
 from the 9th of July, 1936,
 i.e. the date on which his
 colonial employment commenced,
 and the Army Council has
 been so informed.

3 dfts

FURTHER ACTION.

38240/12/37

9

34

C. O.

Mr. *Moore* 28/12

Mr. *Whitehead* 1/1/38

Mr.

Sir H. Moore.

Sir G. Tomlinson.

Sir C. Bottomley.

Sir J. Shuckburgh.

Permt. U.S. of S.

Parly. U.S. of S.

Secretary of State.



11 JAN 1938
Dec. 1937.

DRAFT.

The U.S. of S.,
War Office.

3d/ft

FURTHER ACTION.

I am *cc.* to ask the receipt of your letter no. (32) 0165/2312 (A.G. 6(a)) of the 21st of December, and to request you to inform the Army Council that the appointment of Battery Sergeant Major F. Lawrence, Royal Artillery, to the H.A.A., will have effect from the 9th of July, 1936.

I am *cc.*

(Signed) A. J. DAWE.

KENYA.

No. 658



RECEIVED

- 9 NOV 1937

C. O. REQ

10
27
GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
NAIROBI,
KENYA.

3 November, 1937.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to my despatch No. 451 of the 10th of August last and to the appointment of Battery Sergeant Major P. Lawrence, Royal Artillery, to the establishment of the Coast Defence Unit in the place of Lance Sergeant E.H. Lentell who is being allowed to return to his British unit.

2. I am informed that this Warrant Officer was promoted to the rank of Battery Sergeant Major in his home unit on the 13th of August last, and approval has been given locally for his salary from that date to be brought into line with non commissioned ranks seconded to the King's African Rifles in this Colony. He has accordingly been appointed to the scale of salary of £390 by £10 triennially to £410 per annum.

3. The Brigade Commander is particularly anxious to retain the services of this Warrant Officer and requests that arrangements may now be made for his secondment to the King's African Rifles in the usual manner. Sergeant Major Lawrence is agreeable to this course and

I

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
W. ORMSBY-GORE, P.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET,
LONDON S.W.

19.
Reference made in
envo - see No. 28

Consolid. (35)

I shall accordingly be glad if the War Office can be approached with a view to their agreeing to his secondment on the usual King's African Rifles' terms in order to regularise the position.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient, humble servant,

R Brooke-Popham

AIR CHIEF MARSHAL,

GOVERNOR.

Tel. No.—Whitehall 9400.

Any further communication on this subject should be addressed to:—

The Under-Secretary of State,
The War Office,
London, S.W.1,
and the following number quoted.

0165/2342. (A.G.G.(a)).

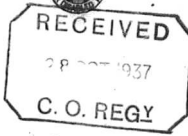
12

25

Dupl in 208

THE WAR OFFICE,
LONDON, S.W.1.

26th October, 1937.



Sir,

21

With reference to your letter, number 38240/1A/37, dated 24th September, 1937, regarding the relief of Lance Serjeant E.H. Lentell, Royal Artillery, at present employed with the Coast Defence Unit at Mombasa, Kenya, I am commanded by the Army Council to inform you that there are no Warrant or Non-Commissioned Officers serving in the Royal Artillery with the qualifications specified therein.

I am to say that the duties of an Artificer R.A. and those of a non-commissioned officer instructor are quite distinct from each other. Moreover the duties of an Artificer R.A. do not permit of his fitting and repairing range-finding instruments, this type of work being carried out by an armament artificer of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps.

In the circumstances I am to request that you will be good enough to say whether a non-commissioned officer of the Royal Artillery is required for duty as an instructor.

The period necessary for an armament artificer to carry out the inspection and adjustment of instruments at Mombasa would be about one month, and in the reply to your letter number 38240/3/37 dated 24th September, 1937, it will be suggested that the inspection should be carried out by an artificer sent from Egypt.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. H. Williams

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

26

2 on 38240/3/37

38240/1A/37.

214

C. O.

Mr. Grossmith. 9/19/37.

Mayor Bishop (in minute) 9/4.

Mr. Cole ^{Mr. Parkin.} 1879 f. *Amad* (25)

Sir H. Moore.

Sir G. Tomlinson.

Sir C. Bottomley.

Sir J. Shuckburgh.

Permt. U.S. of S.

Parly. U.S. of S.

Secretary of State.

Jos



24 September, 1937.

Sir,

DRAFT.

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,
WAR OFFICE.

(15)

1000/1000000 (14)

I am etc. to refer to your letter of the 25th of June No. 0165/2312 (A.G.6.(a)), regarding an application made by Lance-Sergeant E.H. Lentell, Royal Artillery, to be allowed to return to his British Unit, and to transmit to you, to be laid before the Army Council, a copy of a despatch from the Governor of Kenya reporting that it is most desirable that Lance-Sergeant Lentell should be replaced by another Royal Artillery non-commissioned officer who should be a qualified Coast Artillery Artificer.

copy this to Kenya (26)

FURTHER ACTION.

2. Mr.Ormsby Gore will be

obliged.

obliged, provided the Army Council

see no objection, if ~~arrangements~~

~~the name of~~
may be made for the selection of

a suitable non-commissioned officers, *who are desirous of*
and are recommended
for employment in Kenya on the terms

and conditions mentioned in the

Governor's despatch

may be forwarded to the Colonial Office with a
view to one being selected
for the vacancy.

in order to see that it will
be possible for the selected non-commissioned

officer ~~could be given~~ *to receive* the special

instruction referred to in the second

paragraph of the despatch.

I am, etc.

(Signed) J. E. W. FLOOD

KENYA
No. 451

RECEIVED
GOVERNMENT HOUSE
NAIROBI
KENYA



19¹⁴
GOVERNMENT HOUSE
NAIROBI
KENYA

10 AUGUST, 1937.

Sir,

16

I have the honour to refer to your despatch No. 515 of the 5th July, regarding the application of Lance-Sergeant E.H. Lentell to be allowed to return to his British Unit, in which you asked for my observations regarding the question of replacing him by another Royal Artillery non-commissioned officer.

copy W.O. 21.
Amund 26

2. I share the views of the Commander, Northern Brigade, that a replacement is necessary as it is considered imperative that the existing very weak establishment of the Coast Defence Unit should be maintained in order to render it in any way efficient. The Brigade Commander requests that the non-commissioned officer selected should be a qualified Coast Artillery Artificer and is particularly desirous that before he is sent out he should be given experience with the fitting and repair of the "Eighteen foot Bar and Stroud" range finder and the D.R.F., on both of which he will be required to work. The non-commissioned officer selected will also be required to instruct in gun drill and range finding. He should, if possible, be unmarried.

3. I take this opportunity of stating that in the proposed new establishment of the Coast Defence Unit, provision for which will be considered in due course by the Standing Finance Committee in connection with the 1938 draft Estimates, a post of Artificer at £390 per annum in the scale of £390 per annum rising by £10 triennially to £410 has been inserted and it is

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
W. ORMSBY-GORE, P.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET, LONDON S.W.

recommended

recommended that Sergeant Lentell's successor should be appointed thereto. The conditions of service will be as laid down for British Warrant and Non-Commissioned Officers seconded to the King's African Rifles (Pamphlet African No.784).

4. As the Brigade Commander reports that Sergeant Lentell cannot be released from his present duties until his relief has arrived in this Colony I shall be glad if the sailing date of the non-commissioned officer selected can be notified to me as soon as possible in order that arrangements can be made for the booking of Sergeant Lentell's passage.

5. I note that the cost of replacement will in your opinion properly fall on Colonial funds.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient, humble servant,

J. Brooker Popham

AIR CHIEF MARSHAL,

G O V E R N O R.



C. O. RLGY

3 August, 1937.

Sir,

13.
With reference to your despatch No. 463 of the 15th June I have the honour to inform you that proposals for the reorganisation of the Coast Defence Unit, which are forming the subject of separate correspondence through the Governors' Conference Secretariat, involve an addition to the establishment of the Engineer Section of one Regular Officer in the rank of Lieutenant on a permanent basis.

SEE 34176/37 K.A.R.
(5)
(in circ)

2. Provision is being made accordingly in the 1938 draft Estimates for consideration by the standing Finance Committee and should these Estimates be approved the Brigade Commander strongly recommends that Lieutenant M.W. Biggs should be appointed as the Royal Engineer officer to the Coast Defence Unit, King's African Rifles.

By W.O. Z.
Amund. (24)

Colonel Campbell reports that this officer is particularly suitable for the appointment in view of his proficiency in Swahili and on account of the fact that he has been entirely responsible for the training of the African ranks in the searchlight section of this newly formed unit.

3. I endorse the Brigade Commander's recommendation and I shall be glad if the War Office can be approached with a view to their agreeing to the

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

secondment

W. ORMSBY-GORE, P.C., M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET, LONDON S.W.

secondment of this officer to the King's African
Rifles on the usual terms.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient, humble servant,

Brooke-Popham

AIR CHIEF MARSHAL,
GOVERNOR.

38240/1A/37.

16

C. O.

- Mr. Grossmith.
- Mr. ~~Poskin~~ ^{30/6}
- Mr. ~~Flood~~ ^{30/6}
- Sir C. Parfynson.
- Sir G. Tomlinson.
- Sir C. Bottomley
- Sir J. Shuckburgh.
- Permt. U.S. of S.
- Parly. U.S. of S.
- Secretary of State.

C.O.
R 30 JUN
D 1/11

DOWNING STREET.

5 July, 1937.

HR MAIL

Sir,

I have etc. to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 291 of the 28th of May regarding the application ² from Lance-Sgt. E.H. Lentell to be allowed to return to his British Unit in the United Kingdom, and to transmit to you ² a copy of correspondence with the War Office.

2. I shall be obliged if you will furnish me with ^{your} observations which ~~you may have to offer~~ ^{regarding} in regard to the question of replacing Lance-Sgt. Lentell by another Royal Artillery non-commissioned officer.

3. With regard to the last paragraph of the letter ^{from} the War Office, it will be recalled that the cost of the outward passage provided for

Lance

DRAFT.

KENYA
NO. 515
GOVERNOR

To W.O. 9/7/37
From W.O. 27/7/37
Copy to W.O. (11)

FURTHER ACTION.

edit
W.P. H.

Lance-Sgt. Lentell was included in the special expenditure incurred up to the 31st ^{9/}March, 1937, in connexion with the

Italo-Ethiopian conflict, for which a grant ~~it will be a matter for~~ ^{debated} was made from Imperial funds. ~~It is considered,~~

~~considered.~~ ^{Whether} however, that the cost of replacing this N.C.O. ~~should~~ ^{may} properly be charged to ~~Kenya~~ ^{Colonial} funds. ~~in the event of the grant being continued.~~ ^{cost} ~~I have, etc.~~

I do not however think it would be fair to attempt to charge the cost of replacement to Imperial funds ^{even} if the grant is continued. The battery is now a permanent feature of Kenya's military organization & its cost ^(properly) will fall on Colonial funds.

(Signed) W. ORMSBY GORE.

Tel. No.—Whitehall 9400.

Dupl. in R. 298

30

15

Any further communication on this subject should be addressed to—
The Under-Secretary of State,
The War Office,
London, S.W.1,
and the following number quoted.

0165/2312. (A.G.6.(a)).



THE WAR OFFICE
LONDON, S.W.1

25th June, 1937.

Sir,

//

With reference to your letter No.38240/1A/37 dated 9th June, 1937, regarding No.1425690, Lance-Serjeant E.H. Lentell, Royal Artillery, at present serving with the Mombasa Coast Defence Unit, I am commanded by the Army Council to inform you that this non-commissioned officer was informed at the time of his selection that the employment at Mombasa would be of a temporary nature, probably from nine to twelve months. There is no evidence that he was told that he would have to train European personnel only.

In view of the above, the Army Council would have no objection to Lance-Serjeant Lentell's return being carried out at an early date, but consider that as his withdrawal from the Mombasa Coast Defence Unit will reduce that Unit below the minimum strength required to ensure that it is in any way effective, another Royal Artillery non-commissioned officer should be despatched to reach Kilindi as soon as possible.

I am to enquire, therefore, whether it is agreed that another Royal Artillery non-commissioned officer should be provided.

I am to add that the cost of the passages of Lance Serjeant Lentell and of any relief sent out in his place will be chargeable against Colonial Funds.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

H. Greedy

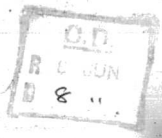
The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office,
London, S.W.1.

Copy to Kenya 16

C. O.

3F240/1A/37 11
Mr. *W. Smith 7/6.*
Mr. *Poskin 8/6 f.*

- Mr.
- Mr. C. Parkinson.
- Sir G. Tomlinson.
- Sir C. Bottomley.
- Sir J. Shuckburgh.
- Perm. U.S. of S.
- Partly. U.S. of S.
- Secretary of State.



for 30
9 June, 1937

DRAFT.

The U.S. of S. War Office

Not 1936 file

I am able to refer to your letter of the 30th of June, 1936, No 0165/2274. (A.G.6.(a)) and subsequent correspondence regarding the selection of Lance Sergeant E. H. Lentell, Royal Artillery, to assist in the training of the Mombasa Coast Defence Unit, and to transmit to you, for to be laid before the Army Council, a copy of a despatch from the Governor of Kenya reporting that this N.C.O. has applied to be restored to his unit in England.

2F 2 May 1937 (10)

Copy to Kenya - (16)

2. Sergeant Lentell was informed

FURTHER ACTION.

informed at the Colonial Office
that his employment in Kenya
was of a purely temporary
nature. There is no record, however,
that he was told that his
employment would be for a
period of one year or that
he would only be required to
train European personnel.

3. Mr. Amery's office will be
obliged for any advice which
the Army Council may have
to offer in regard to Sergeant
Lentell's application, and in
view of the last paragraph
of the former's despatch a
very early reply to this
letter will be appreciated.

I am etc

J. E. W. FLOOD

AIR MAIL

KENYA
No. 291



GOVERNMENT HOUSE
NAIROBI
KENYA

21
10

RECEIVED
3 JUN 1937
C. O. REC'D

28 May, 1937.

Sir,

(13) on 38240/19/36

Copy to W.O. (11)
Rund - (16)

With reference to correspondence concluding with your despatch No.828 of the 20th October, 1936, regarding the secondment of certain personnel to assist in the training of the Mombasa Coast Defence Unit, I have the honour to inform you that an application has now been received from Lance Sergeant E.H.Lentell to be allowed to return to his British Unit in the United Kingdom. He gives as his reason that he was informed both at the War Office and at the Colonial Office that he would only have to serve in this Colony for twelve months and that he was required to train European Volunteer Artillery personnel.

2. While it is on record that Sergeant Lentell and Sergeant Lawrence were lent to this Government temporarily to assist the permanent staff in the training of the Volunteer Artillery Coast Unit, there is nothing in the correspondence received by this Government in support of Sergeant Lentell's contention that he was only required to train European personnel.

3. You will be aware that the question of the establishment of the Coast Defence Unit is receiving renewed consideration in the light of further representations from the War Office, and I am not yet in a position to say whether, in the event of Sergeant Lentell being sent home now, a relief for him will be

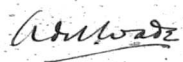
required

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
W. ORMSEY-GORE, P.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET, LONDON S.W.

required or not.

He will complete a year's residential service on the 6th August, 1937, and I shall therefore be glad to learn by air mail whether in the circumstances set out above there is any objection to a passage to England being provided for him as soon as possible.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most-obedient, humble servant,



GOVERNOR'S DEPUTY.

38 260/119/37 Regt
 Received under cover of Kenya 3rd Coy (S/Est. 19/3/14/3/38)
 dated 24.3.37.

9

CONFIDENTIAL

(Regd. in P.F. 5202 K.M. (Hospital Guards))

I.G. Form 13.

The Northern Brigade Regiment of the Royal West African Frontier Force
Battalion of the King's African Rifles

Personnel for special notice by I.G.

Rank and Name	Station	K.A.R. R.W.A.F.F. Unit	British Unit	Reason for bringing to notice
Lieut. R.M. Crosthwaite	Nairobi.	3rd. Bn.	K.O.S.B.S.	This officer was i/c Moyale Post when the Italians took over Ethiopian Moyale. He exercised tact and discretion in dealing with the situation arising out of such occupation.
Captain C.F. Rouse.) Mombasa.	Coast Defence Unit, K.A.R.	R.A.	Both these officers have done excellent work in connection with the raising and training of the Mombasa Coast Defence Unit, K.A.R.
Lieut. M.W. Biggs			R.E.	

Note:- This information is confidential for the Inspector General and will not be used in the official reports. It enables the O.C. Regt. to acquaint the I.G. with the name of any officer or B.Wt. & N.C.O. to whom he desires to draw the attention of the I.G. during his visit to station.

M. Thacker
 Major,
 Commander, Northern Brigade,
 THE KING'S AFRICAN RIFLES.

18th March, 1937.

RECEIVED

-5 APR 1937

REGY



Draft

To:- The Under Secretary of State for the Colonies.

From:- Lieutenant B.P. Roberts, Royal Engineers.

Sir,

Ans. J.

I have the honour to request that I may be given full details of an appointment that I understand exists at Mombassa, Kenya Colony, for a Royal Engineer Officer employed with the Coast Defence Section of the King's African Rifles.

The appointment at the moment is held by Lieutenant M.W. Biggs, Royal Engineers, and I would like to be informed of the date his appointment terminates and the next vacancy occurs, also pay and quarters, etc., as for a married subaltern.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

B. P. Roberts

Lieutenant, R.E.

4th (F) Company, R.E.,
Fort Monckton, Gosport.
2nd April, 1937.

Draft on
38066/4/37

6.
25

KENYA

SECRET

DOWNING STREET.

January, 1937.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram No. 1 of the 2nd of January regarding the special expenditure incurred in Kenya arising out of the Italo-Abyssinian conflict. I observe that while the estimated expenditure on police and miscellaneous services for the six months ending the 31st of March is less in both cases than the corresponding expenditure during the six months ended the 30th of September last, it is estimated that the expenditure on military services during the current six months will be greater than the expenditure during the previous six months. I request that I may be informed of the reason why expenditure on this head is expected to increase.

2. For the purposes of discussion with the Treasury as to the amount, if any, for which provision is to be made from Imperial funds, I should also be glad to learn whether the figures submitted in your telegram include any expenditure in respect of the additional personnel lent to your Government by the War Office for the purpose of expediting the training of the Coast Defence Battery at Kilindini. I am doubtful whether the cost of this personnel can properly be included in the "special expenditure" in question, but the officer and the two sergeants

THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING
THE GOVERNMENT OF
KENYA.

sergeants were in fact sent out at the time on account of the assumed need for greater expedition. It is therefore possible that this expense may be admitted, and I should be glad to be furnished with your views on this point.

3. In my secret despatch No. (2) of the 3rd of July, I informed you that, pending the ultimate allocation of the expenditure involved in the loan of this personnel, I had suggested to the Crown Agents for the Colonies that a suspense account should be opened for their disbursements in this connection. I have now authorised the Crown Agents to charge to Kenya funds sum of £173,43d. being the amount standing in this account on the 31st of December.

4. It cannot be denied that Kenya's financial position has improved substantially and it may therefore prove more difficult for me to induce His Majesty's Government to accept the liability for this expense, which could in fact be met from the additional revenue received during 1936.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

(Signed) CROMBIE GOBE

Draft on
38066/7/36.

27

January, 1937.

Dear Wardley,

You will remember that in paragraph 5 of Treasury letter No. S.37489/01/36 of the 27th of May Their Lordships intimated that they would be prepared to consider representations that provision should be made to meet from Imperial funds the "abnormal" expenditure which is still being incurred by Kenya arising out of the Italo-Abyssinian conflict.

I now enclose a telegram giving particulars of the actual expenditure for the six months ended the 30th of September and the estimated expenditure for the six months ending the 31st of March next, amounting to £22,980. This money is being spent on the same general objects viz. frontier posts, patrols, etc. which are still necessary owing to the very disturbed conditions there, and the maintenance of the internment.

D.W.J. WARDLEY, ESQ., M.C.,

Draft on
38066/7/36.

27

January, 1937.

Dear Wardley,

You will remember that in paragraph 5 of Treasury letter No. S.37489/01/36 of the 27th of May Their Lordships intimated that they would be prepared to consider representations that provision should be made to meet from Imperial funds the "abnormal" expenditure which is still being incurred by Kenya arising out of the Italo-Abyssinian conflict.

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D. J. WARDLEY, ESQ., M.C.,

internment camp. As regards the latter we have explored with the Foreign Office the possibility of getting rid of the internees but have reluctantly had to accept the view that there is no alternative to keeping them in Kenya until our relations with Italy have reached a stage at which we can profitably discuss their disposal.

As regards the financial position of Kenya, it is true that there was a small surplus in 1936 and that the outlook for 1937 is not unpromising. Kenya is however still a long way off being in a position to afford expenditure of this kind and I trust that the Treasury will agree to its being included in the forthcoming supplementary estimate.

To the amount mentioned above there has to be added £1627 odd representing the excess of expenditure over the £14,000 provided last year.

There is also an item of something like £1238 which we do not think has been included in the figures submitted by Kenya, but which is also in the nature of "abnormal" expenditure incurred owing

to

29

to the international tension, and which we think might well be included.

The circumstances were that owing to the international situation the War Office were very much concerned at the time which was likely to be taken in training the personnel of the new coast defence battery at Kilindini, and they also felt that the situation demanded the presence of more trained European personnel than the normal regular cadre of 1 officer and 2 Non-Commissioned Officers. On the recommendation of the Oversea Defence Committee they therefore arranged to lend to Kenya temporarily the services of an additional Royal Engineers Officer and two additional Royal Artillery Non-Commissioned Officers. It was agreed with the War Office at the time that the cost of the passages and pay of this personnel should in the first instance be borne by Kenya funds pending a decision as to its eventual allocation.

But for the international situation and the consequent anxiety of the War Office to press on with the training of this battery as quickly as possible it would not have been necessary for Kenya

to

to borrow this additional temporary staff or to
keep them on as long as they have been kept and
I hope that the Treasury will agree to its cost also
being included in the supplementary estimate. If so,
the total amount to be provided would be £26,845.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) J. E. W. FLOOD

33 / 31

P/Kenya A.1488.

Mr. Grossmith,

COLONIAL OFFICE.

As arranged by telephone, I attach a memorandum from the Chief Inspector of Taxes, regarding Lieutenant M.W. Biggs, R.E., who has been lent to Kenya to assist in the training of the Coastal Defence Unit, and should be glad if you would advise us as to what reply should be given, unless you prefer to deal direct with the Chief Inspector in the matter.

(Signed) E. M. Collins.

Pay Department.
Crown Agents.
9th March. 1937.

Crown Agents,
Pay Department.

14 4

The reply is that Lt. Biggs is temporarily employed by the Government of Kenya and is receiving the pay of a Company Commander of the King's African Rifles at the rate of £700. p.a., and that it is not possible to say how long he will be so employed.

(Signed) C. A. Grossmith.

E.A. Department,
Colonial Office.

MEMORANDUM

From Chief Inspector of Taxes,
(Departmental Claims Branch)
Cornwall House,
Stamford Street. London. S.E.1.

to The Crown Agents.

Lt. M.W. Biggs, R.E.

I understand that the above-named was seconded
to King's African Rifles on 13th June 1936. Please inform
me of his annual salary and period of tour.

(Signed) A. Road.

5th April 1937.

32
end