

1938

38357

CO 533/500  
KENYA

38357

MEMORIALS TO HIS LATE MAJESTY KING GEORGE V.

Previous

7062/22/36

GENERAL

Mr. Hibbert 9/5  
Mr. Duff 9/8  
Mr. Hibbert 11/5  
227 98

Subsequent

294

25/2/36

309

4/3

Mr. Hibbert

7/3

Mr. Higgins

8/3

Mr. Creay

8-3

Mr. Hibbert

9/3

Mr. Pasrain

12/3

227 R88

✓

Mr. Creay

8/4

Mr. Hibbert

✓

247

28/4

Mr. Hibbert

24/4

Mr. Duff

29

Mr. Creay

30/4

227

9/5

19888

1. Crown Jewels - Minutes 22.2.38  
The copy of correspondence with Sec of King George V Memorial Fund Committee, Nairobi, concerning memorials to His late Majesty, together with copies of quotations, drawings & photographs referred to & enquire whether C.O. have any suggestions to make as to any particular model which should be used.

The Secretary to the King George V Memorial Fund Cttee has written to the C.A. to find out whether it is possible to obtain copies of busts or plaques of His late Majesty. The enquiry is merely for information, it not yet having been decided in Kenya what form the memorial is to take.

The C.A. have sent ~~me~~ over copies of the corresp. in order to hear "whether we have any suggestions as to any particular model which should be used." It would seem that this question is one which can only be decided by the Cttee in Kenya; it is hardly an business to tell the Cttee at this stage what we think they should do.

? Reply in that the C.O. has no objection to offer.

Clardy White 1/3/38

So far as I am aware the correct procedure is to obtain H.M.'s permission before selecting a bust or plaque

was to be <sup>a</sup> replica of a bust executed to H.M.'s commission by a British sculptor, and also in connection with a bust for the Nairobi Town Hall which was to be executed by a South African sculptor. It would therefore seem that we ought to do so in this instance.

Could you however obtain confirmation by telephone from <sup>Sir A.</sup> [Major] Hardinge that this assumption is correct, whereupon a letter <sup>to a Palace</sup> explaining what is proposed and sending the designs enclosed by the Crown Agents can be prepared for your signature.

*J. Mitchell*

8.3.38,

*Yes. Sir A. Hardinge says that we should refer this to the Palace.*

*G. Gray*

8.3.38.

*Then, as proposed, but I don't think it is necessary to send a communication to the Palace. We can explain what is proposed in a v.o. letter as under the photographs.*

*J. Mitchell*  
9/3

*J. J. Pearson*  
15/3  
*done*

- 2. To Major Sir A. Hardinge (5/3) ----- 5.4.38
- 3. Major Sir P. H. L. Hardinge - 3/0 ----- 6.4.38  
P.H.L. does not approve of the designs.

M. Creasy

You was on this morning that you  
has been for St. Mark's P.S. at St. M.  
was and noticed some of the designs which  
has been obtained by the C.A., as that  
in this name supplied for the plaque in the  
C.A.

I have spoken to Mr. [unclear] (C.A.)  
as well as check to be the designs for  
is to be done in the matter as to what  
placed until he hears from us.

*[Signature]*  
8/4/38

Mr. Hibbert.

Please see now Sir Alexander Hardinge's  
letter of the 6th April attached, and my  
reply. (You will see that to speak of H.M.  
disliking the designs is a bit of a meiosis.)  
We must now wait to hear further from Sir  
Alexander Hardinge later on in the month, but  
I do not know whether you will think it worth  
while to let the Crown Agents have something  
in writing to make it absolutely sure that  
the present designs are not used. We cannot  
afford to risk a slip up over this.

I have sent  
to C.A.  
*[Signature]*

F. Creasy  
8/4/38.

Li. A. Hardinge did not return  
the designs I sent in to him.

5/ to C.A. (10/20) 8.4.38

6 Sir A. Hardinge s/o 19.4.38  
Suggests getting into communication with  
Sir Tom Reid-Dick who is preparing a  
plaque for Sandringham Church.

Mr. Dawe.

I attach a letter, with enclosures, from  
Sir Alexander Hardinge to Mr. Creasy on the subject  
of the memorial busts of King George V for Kenya.

I should be grateful if, in due course,  
the Department could say what reply should be made  
to Sir Alexander Hardinge, and what should be done  
in the matter of a communication to Sir William  
Reid-Dick.

*[Signature]*  
20.4.38.

I asked for the file, as about 1938

*[Signature]*  
29/4

(The C.A. is the one to explain matters to the  
C.A. in the matter, that is the point!)

To Maj Sir Alexander Hardinge (enclosed) 30/4/38  
DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE  
7 To C.A. (1 and 2 original designs) 30/4/38  
Cons

8 C.A. Kenya 9/8/38 6.5.38  
Finds photographs of the bust done for  
Buckingham Palace & Balmoral. Proposes  
to inform Kenya of the position.

The price of the plaque refers to a bust made  
is higher than that of the others for the C.A.  
per quotation, but it is for a larger size.

? reply that in case the other proposed  
than the photograph

*[Signature]*  
9/5

*[Signature]*  
11/5

Kenya 9188



4, MILLBANK,  
NEW TEL. NO. WESTMINSTER,  
ABBEY 7730 LONDON, S. W. 1.  
(VICTORIA 7730)

Colonial Office (Mr. Hibbert).

7  
With reference to your minute of the 3rd May, I have discussed the question of a suitable plaque or bust with Sir William Reid-Dick, K.C.V.O., R.A.

He said that he had not yet started work on the plaque of the late King George V for Sandringham Church, mentioned by Queen Mary, and he expected it would be ready in about two months' time.

With regard to the question of price, Sir William said that would depend on the number required. As a rough estimate, twelve plaques in bronze about 3 feet x 2 feet would cost approximately £900 F.O.B. or £75 each.

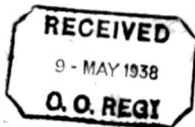
As regards the cost of a bust, a copy of the bust of the late King George V, done for Buckingham Palace and also Balmoral as shown on the enclosed photograph would cost £350 in bronze and £400 in marble. Sir William Reid-Dick said that he had undertaken not to do copies of this bust at less than this figure.

Subject to your approval, we propose to send the above information to Kenya, explaining that the other designs do not meet with the approval of His Majesty and Queen Mary.

/Will

ans. of and in air 13

Kenya 9188



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NEW TEL. NO. WESTMINSTER,  
ABBAY 7730 LONDON, S. W. 1.  
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Subject to your approval, we propose to send the above information to Kenya, explaining that the other designs do not meet with the approval of His Majesty and Queen Mary.

*one of each in air 9*

/Will

Will you please return the enclosed photograph with  
your reply.

Sam Hill

6th May, 1938

C. O.

Mr. Hibbert 23/4/38.

Mr. D. G. We

Mr.

Sir H. Moore.

Sir G. Tomlinson.

Sir C. Hodsonley.

Sir J. Shuckburgh.

Parnt. U.S. of S.

Parly. U.S. of S.

Secretary of State.

For Mr. Hibbert's signature.

Mr. E. A. McGill,

"W" Department,

Crown Agents for the Colonies.

With reference to my minute of

- (5) the 8th April in connection with your  
(1) minute Kenya 9188 of the 22nd February,

We have now heard from His Majesty's Private Secretary that Queen Mary has been shown the designs obtained by you and shares the dislike for them expressed by the King. Her Majesty mentioned that Sir William Reid-Dick, K.C.V.O., R.A., is now making a plaque of the late King George V for Sandringham Church. Her Majesty thought that possibly copies of this plaque might be obtained and used for the purposes suggested by the Kenya Memorial Fund Committee. We of course do not know whether this would be practicable

2 DRAFT s

MINUTE.

(Encl. in No. 1. - in  
envelope below No. 1.)  
above

**FURTHER ACTION.**



practicable from the point of view of  
finance, but you will no doubt get into  
communication with Sir William Reid-Dick  
on the subject and let us know what is  
proposed in due course. The designs  
enclosed in your minute of the 22nd February  
are returned herewith.

ISO J. C. HIBBERT

3 May,  
April, 1938.

~~ISO J. C. HIBBERT~~

8  
6

Not acknowledged  
20/4



WINDSOR CASTLE

19th. April, 1938.

Dear Creasy,

In continuation of my letter of April 5th., I have now spoken to Queen Mary about the memorial busts of King George V to be put up in Kenya.

Her Majesty shared the general dislike for the designs submitted, and pointed out that Sir William Reid-Dick is now making a plaque of The late King George for Sandringham Church. Her Majesty thought that possibly copies of this one might be obtained and used for the purpose, but I do not, of course, know whether this would be practicable from the point of view of finance. Anyhow it might perhaps be worth while for you to get into communication with Sir William Reid-Dick on the subject.

I return the designs herewith.

Yours sincerely,

A. H. 2. Sturges

Gerald Creasy Esq.,  
OBE.,  
Colonial Office.

Reply in envelope of 20/4

1938

8th April, 1936.

Dear Hardings,

Many thanks for your letter of the 6th of April regarding the designs for the busts and plaques which it is proposed to set up in various towns in Kenya as part of the memorial to King George V.

I have taken steps to ensure that no use is made of the designs which I forwarded to you in my letter of the 5th of April, and I should be grateful if, as you suggest, you would let me know of a more suitable plaque from which copies could be made.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) GERALD CREAS

The Rt. Hon.

Sir Alexander Hardings, G.C.V.O., K.C.B., M.C.



WINDSOR CASTLE

6th. April, 1938.

Dear Creasy,

Thank you for your letter of today's date.

I have shown The King the designs for the busts and plaques which the King George V Memorial Fund Committee in Kenya propose to set up in various towns in the Colony.

I am afraid that you might be shocked if I repeated some of His Majesty's comments, which, if I may say so, I feel are fully justified! It would, I regret to say, be impossible for The King to give his approval to these, and I think that the best plan would be for me to wait until Queen Mary comes to stay here within the next week or so: I will then find out if there is in existence any plaque of King George V from which good copies might be made.

Yours sincerely,

Gerald Creasy Esq.,  
OBE.,  
Colonial Office.

*A. H. L. ...*

C. O.

Mr. Shergold.

Mr. Whitcombe. } 4/4

Mr. Hibbert. } *AP*

Mr. Creasy.

Sir H. Moore.

Sir G. Tomlinson.

Sir C. Bottomley.

Sir J. Shuckburgh.

Parms. U.S. of S.

Parly. U.S. of S.

Secretary of State.

Qto. for Mr. Creasy's signature.

Downing Street,

5 April, 1938.

*Dear Hardinge*

It has come to our knowledge

that the King George V. Memorial Fund Committee in Kenya have decided that part of the money collected locally in memory of His Late Majesty should be devoted to setting up one or more visible memorials, and are contemplating that these should take the form of busts or portrait plaques to be set up in various towns in the Colony.

The Committee have approached the Crown Agents for the Colonies, ~~in~~ ~~the matter~~, who have obtained designs for busts and plaques from various firms in this country and have sent us specimens of those submitted by

Mr.

**DRAFT.**

MAJOR THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

SIR ALEXANDER HARDINGE, <sup>G.C.V.O.,</sup> K.C.B.,~~K.C.V.O.,~~ M.C.**FURTHER ACTION.**

Mr. Allan Howes, Messrs. <sup>H</sup> E.H. Martyn and  
Company Limited, and the Bromsgrove Guild  
Limited, which I enclose. We should be  
very grateful if you would advise us  
whether His Majesty would approve <sup>of</sup> any of  
these designs <sup>being made,</sup> should it eventually be  
decided to adopt this form of memorial, or  
whether there are any other designs which  
<sup>is</sup> he would prefer <sup>to</sup> adopted.

~~Would you be so good as to  
return me the enclosures to this letter  
with your reply.~~

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) GERALD GREASY

RECEIVED  
 23 FEB 1938  
 C. O. REGY

Colonial Office. (Mr. Howard).

Please see the attached copy of a letter we have received from the Secretary of the King George V. Memorial Fund Committee, Nairobi, concerning memorials to His late Majesty, and also copy of our reply of the 2nd February together with copies of the quotations, drawings and photographs referred to therein.

We propose to refer the Committee's reply to you before we place the order, but shall be glad to hear before taking any further action whether you have any suggestions to make as to any particular model/<sup>which</sup> should be used for the purpose.

Summary of Quotations.

		£. s. d.
Messrs. H.H. Martyn.	Bronze Plaque.	1. 7. 6. f.o.b.
X Messrs. Bromsgrove Guild.	Bronze Plaque.	18. 10. 0. f.o.b.
	Bronze Bust.	75. 0. 0. f.o.b. (approx.)
Messrs. Birmingham Guild.	Bronze Plaque. 14" x 18"	30. 0. 0. f.o.b.
	Bronze Plaque. 16" x 23"	33. 0. 0. f.o.b.
Messrs. Morris Singer	Plaque.	50. 0. 0. c.i.f.
	Bust.	125. 0. 0. c.i.f.

*Samuel*

Crown Agents,

"W" Department.

22nd. February 1938.

Ans (17) Informal design

Copy.

FROM: THE CROWN AGENTS.  
TO: THE SECRETARY, KING GEORGE V. MEMORIAL FUND COMMITTEE,  
REF: W/Kenya 9168. NAIROBI, KENYA. B  
DATE: 2nd February, 1938

I have to refer to your letter of the 16th December under subject of proposed memorials to His late Majesty King George V.

2. We have requested a number of firms to quote for suitable busts or plaques, and we now enclose copies of quotations received from Messrs. H.H. Martyn & Co. Ltd., The Morris-Singer Co. and the Bromsgrove Guild Ltd., together with drawings and photographs referred to.
3. We also enclose a copy of a letter from Messrs. Birmingham Guild Ltd. in which they refer to particulars which they have already furnished under our reference G/Kenya 8441. On this occasion the firm offered a bronze plaque approximately 16" x 23" at an approximate cost of £33. or alternatively an oval plaque 14" wide x 18" deep at a cost of £30. These details were forwarded to Mr. J.G. Hamilton Ross, District Commissioner, Kisumu-Londiani, Kisumu, with our letter of the 19th March 1937, from whom the details and photographs could perhaps be obtained as the firm inform us that they have no further copies.

We are etc.,

MNL.  
B.W.



Copy.

FROM: SECRETARY, KING GEORGE V. MEMORIAL FUND COMMITTEE. NAIROBI.  
KENYA

TO: THE CROWN AGENTS.

REF: 2502 Kenya.

DATE: 16th December, 1937

KENYA KING GEORGE V. MEMORIAL COMMITTEE.

I have the honour to inform you that, as Secretary of the above Committee, I have been instructed to ask for your assistance.

2. My Committee have decided that part of the money collected in memory of His late Majesty shall be devoted to one or more visible memorials. It has been suggested that small memorials should be set up in various towns in this Colony. The actual form of such memorials has not yet been decided but it is thought that they should embody either a bust or a plaque of King George V. I understand that to have such work especially designed is very expensive, so I am to enquire whether it is possible to obtain replicas of some existing plaque or bust. My Committee would be very grateful if you would make enquiries as to the cost of such replicas as would be suitable. Details as to material, size and weight would be very much appreciated.

3. I am to say that my Committee will be extremely grateful if you will assist them in this matter.

I have the honour to be etc.,

(SGD)

MNL.  
0  
24

Copy.

15

FROM: THE MORRIS-SINGER COMPANY.  
TO: THE CHIEF ENGINEER. CROWN AGENTS.  
REF: EG/VMD.  
DATE: 24th January 1938.

Re. His Late Majesty King George Fifth Plaque.

In response to your letter of the 10th instant, we have been able to obtain from Allan Howes, Esq., Sculptor, two photographs, one bust of His Late Majesty, and a Plaque.

You will find the size of the Plaque marked on the back of the photograph, and the cost of a bronze from this model would be £50. c.i.f. extra.

The height of the bust is approximately 2'6" with the base, and this could be supplied in bronze with marble base for £125. c.i.f. extra.

If you could use either of these suggestions we should be pleased if you would let us know, and the return of the photographs after they have served their purpose, is asked for.

Should you wish to interview Mr. Allan Howes direct, he would be very pleased to keep any appointment you might make.

Yours faithfully,  
THE MORRIS-SINGER COMPANY.

(SGD)

MNL  
du

Copy.

FROM: BROMSGROVE GUILD LTD.,  
TO: THE CHIEF ENGINEER (CONTRACTS) CROWN AGENTS.  
REF: GHW/DMP.  
DATE: 13th January 1938.

W/Kenya 9188.

We acknowledge with many thanks receipt of your letter of the 10th inst., with regard to an enquiry which you have received from Kenya, for either a plaque or a bust of His Late Majesty King George V.

Unfortunately, we do not happen to have a model of a bust, but we could of course make one specially to meet your requirements and the approximate cost of making a special model and supply<sup>ing</sup> a bronze reproduction from it, life size, would be £75.0.0.

As an alternative, we have much pleasure in forwarding under separate cover to-day, a print copy of the full size drawing of the bronze plaque, similar to those which we have already supplied to you for Nigeria 3432/1, Nigeria 4239/1 and Nigeria 4491/1. The drawing is No. 24797 and gives full size details of the plaque. The portrait is modelled in bas-relief and the lettering round the outside is raised rounded section. We shall be pleased to supply you with a further copy of this plaque at the price previously charged, viz. £18.10.0.

We trust this suggestion will be acceptable, and if favoured with instructions we undertake to give you a first class piece of workmanship.

Yours faithfully,  
For BROMSGROVE GUILD LTD.,

MNL.

Copy.

FROM: THE BIRMINGHAM GUILD LTD.  
 TO: THE CHIEF ENGINEER. CROWN AGENTS.  
 DATE: 13th January 1938.  
 REF: LB/JW.

W/Kenya 9188.

With further reference to your valued enquiry of the 10th January, sent direct to our Birmingham Office, and following our telephone conversation of even date, we would refer you to previous correspondence on a similar subject, in the early part of last year, when we sent you illustrations of a Jubilee panel made by us, and for which we still hold the model.

We regret we have no further illustrations of this panel, that we can send, but we give you hereunder the dates of the correspondence referred to, and references which may enable you to trace. If this suggestion is of any service, we shall be pleased to go into the matter further, on hearing from you, and to re-confirm, or otherwise the present day costs of plaques on these lines.

Your enquiry	3.3.37.	Reference.	- G/Kenya 8441.	JD/LW.
Our reply	5.3.37.	"	" "	"
Your enquiry	2.3.37.	"	W/Nigeria 3432.	LB/MBN.
Our reply.	8.3.37.	"	" "	"
Your enquiry	8.3.37.	"	G/Kenya 8441.	JD/EM.
Our reply	9.3.37.	"	" "	"

Yours faithfully,

THE BIRMINGHAM GUILD LTD.

(SGD) G.W. SPENCER.

MNL

COPY

FROM. H.H.MARTYN & CO.LTD.  
TO: THE CHIEF ENGINEER (CONTRACTS) CROWN AGENTS. 18  
REF: PGT/RER  
DATE: 26th January 1938.

With further reference to your enquiry of the 10th inst., we have pleasure in enclosing our suggestion for the Portrait Placques of His late Majesty King George V. together with estimate for carrying out the work.

Trusting to be favoured with your further instructions,

We are,

Yours faithfully,

H.H.MARTYN & CO.LTD.

MNL.

19  
END

Copy.

FROM: H.H.MARTYN & CO.LTD.

TO: THE CHIEF ENGINEER (CONTRACTS) CROWN AGENTS.

REF: PGT/RER

DATE: 26th January. 1938.

ESTIMATE.

Kenya 9188.

Our estimate for supply No. 6 Cast Bronze  
Portrait Placques of His late Majesty King  
George V. in accordance with the design shown  
on our drawing, statuary finish and toned penny  
bronze colour, complete with necessary fixing  
lugs, packed and delivered London, amounts to  
the sum of ..... each £1. 7. 6.

The weight of each placque would be  
approx. 3-4 lbs.

H.H.MARTYN & CO.LTD.

(SGD)

MNL.