

1938

38367

CO 533/500  
KENYA

38367

Position of the Royal Italian Consul General  
at Nairobi.

Previous

see gov/60162/22  
Kya  
5/12/22

297  
309  
~~no files~~  
~~no files~~  
Mr. Rankin <sup>ns</sup>

6/8  
10/8  
10/8

Subsequent

Mr. Dawe

11/8

299

12/8

297

12/8

303

13/8

298

18/8

297

19/8

297

30/5

309

2/6

Mr Campbell

2/6

Mr Howard

2/8

Mr Rankin

7/6

R 297

20/8

Mr Howard

14/8

Mr J. P. Martin

24/8

Mr Rankin

13

pending case

1/9

Mr Dawe

13

309

15

297

R 298

15/6

R 297

16/7

309

18/7

Mr Sumner

18/7

309

18/7

207

21/8

303

25/8

298

Italian Gov. 99. Conf. - 17.5.38.

Explains present position regarding the Royal Italian Consul General at Nairobi

The Governor wants to know whether he should go beyond the established procedure in dealing with the Italian Consul-General at this particular time: particularly in view of the possibility of Marshal Balbo again visiting Kenya next Sept.

This seems to be a matter in which clearly we should be guided by the F.O.  
But in the first instance G.O. should see.

F.O. for the same

Domestic  
20.

F.O. guidance will probably be desirable in view of the last sentence of para 5 relating to the rapprochement, such as it is. The Gov's own suggested solution in para 6 seems quite a happy one.

(The last sentence of para 4 is good) - & delightfully ambiguous.

J. M. Campbell

2.6

Cassidy is appears

Chas

that F.O. advice will  
be received in this  
matter. The circular  
of 1 June 1906 appears  
to be the last one  
on the subject of the  
position treatment  
of foreign consuls.

E.A.D. may, however,  
be interested to see  
the copies flagged  
in 90177/137 same  
dealing with difficulties  
encountered with the  
Italian Consul in  
Cyprus (see para  
5 of No. 15 in that  
file concerning the  
appellation "Royal")

L. J. Francis  
7 - 6 - 38.

we are should be  
guided by the P.O.

J. Francis

Put it to the F.O.  
Let me see the dft.  
A. M. D. D. D. D.  
13/6  
15/6

2 to F.O. (ref 9 box 1/0/20). com. 18 JUN 1938

But no reply sent to this

C. J. Gray  
29/ 16/7/38

They have had less than a month, & Keegan  
does not need the reply till September at  
the earliest

but in a month of nothing  
in my view

C. J. Gray 18/7

I don't mind early August  
if nothing in my view

Noted 21/8/38  
18/7/38  
C. J. Gray

29/7

Please note accordingly

C. J. Gray 18/7

R 303

Please remember vide minute of 18/7  
of Jackson 29/7  
2/8

3 Foreign Office 11/6/38

Ref 2. Present relations do not appear to call for  
departure from precedent regarding attitude towards  
Italian Consul-General of Genoa is invited to attend  
reception, suggestion in No. 1 meet case

Direct to me for consideration

Howard Graham

Mr. J. V. Martin  
to note on return  
19/8/38

18/8/38

to Dyer

you will, I think, wish to  
see F.O. reply to no. 2. I  
submit the supp. for concern  
based on F.O. action.

submit.

10/07/38.

Attn

HJM

11.8

to L. Kenya Camp - Answer - 12 AUG 1938

Handwritten notes

to Kenya Camp

to F.O. (1938) - B.F.A. Camp - 18 AUG 1938

B.H. v. ... minute of 10/7/38.

J. Jackson 29/1  
29/8.

**NOTED PRECEDENTS**

Setting Precedents  
should note this.

L. J. ...  
24. 8. 38.  
alone.

C. O.

Mr. Surridge. 10/8/38.

Mr. ~~Sturges~~.Mr. ~~Davis~~ 11.8

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.



DOWNING STREET.

12. August, 1938.

DRAFT, for consen.

KENYA.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Governor.

Sir,

I have etc. to refer to

your Confidential despatch No.99

of the 17th of May in which you

sought guidance as to the attitude

to be adopted at the present time

towards the Italian Consul-General

in Nairobi.

I have consulted the  
 S. H. for Foreign Affairs in the regard  
 Viscount Halifax, who has been  
 and his view is that  
 consulted in the matter, the

present condition of Anglo-Italian

relations would not appear to call

for any departure from precedent

on your part as regards the general

attitude

FURTHER ACTION.

Copy to F.O. 1f.

See minutes

Copy 4 F.O.

attitude which you should adopt  
towards the ~~London~~ Consul-General.

~~in Harrold~~

3. With reference to the  
specific question of the possibility  
that the ~~London~~ Consul-General might  
wish to invite you to an official  
reception at the ~~London~~ Consulate  
in the event of a further visit to  
Kenya by Marshal Balbo, <sup>Viscount</sup> Lord Halifax  
is of the opinion that the solution  
suggested in the last paragraph of your  
despatch under reference would best  
meet the case.

~~London~~  
4. I concur in the  
views expressed by  
Lord Halifax: and you  
will no doubt be  
guided by them.

(Signed) ~~in Harrold~~

In any further communication on this subject, please quote

No. R 5698/7/22.

and address—

not to any person by name

but to—

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

FOREIGN OFFICE.

S.W.1.

4th August, 1938.

Sir,

C.O. REGY

With reference to Colonial Office letter No. 38367/38 of the 18th June, I am directed by Viscount Halifax to state that in his view the present condition of Anglo-Italian relations would not appear to call for any departure from precedent on the part of the Governor of Kenya as regards the general attitude which he should adopt towards the Italian Consul-General in Nairobi.

2. With reference to the specific question of the possibility that the Italian Consul-General might wish to invite the Governor to an official reception at the Italian Consulate in the event of a further visit to the colony by Marshal Balbo, Lord Halifax is of the opinion that the solution suggested by the Governor in the last paragraph of his despatch No. 99. of the 17th May would best meet the case.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

*W. B. Ingram*

The Under-Secretary of State,  
Colonial Office.

C. O.

38367/38 Kenya.

Mr. MacDougall. 15/6/38.

Mr. *Dave* 16.6

Mr.

Sir H. Moore.

Sir G. Tomlinson.

Sir C. Bottomley.

Sir J. Shuckburgh.

Permt. U.S. of Sr

Party. U.S. of S.

Secretary of State.



*Answer: 3.*

*J.*

*[Signature]*

DOWNING STREET.

18 June, 1938.

**DRAFT.**

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,  
FOREIGN OFFICE.

Sir,

I am etc. to transmit,

for <sup>the</sup> Viscount Halifax's information

a copy of a despatch from the  
Governor of Kenya in which guidance  
is sought as to the attitude to be  
adopted at the present time towards  
the Italian Consul-General in  
Nairobi and, in particular, to any  
official reception at the Italian  
Consulate that may be accorded  
Marshal Balbo in the event of that  
officer again visiting the Colony.  
I am to invite reference in this  
connection to your ~~20000~~ communication

Fr. Kenya No.99 - 17th May  
(1)

Circular despatch 1st June, 1906.

**FURTHER ACTION.**

(5) on  
46503/66/38 E.A.

R405/3931/22 of the 23rd of April

and



and to connected correspondence  
regarding Marshal Balbo's recent visit  
to Kenya.

2. A copy of a Circular despatch  
of the 1st of June, 1906, regarding the  
position and treatment of Foreign Consuls  
in the Colonies, to which the Governor  
refers in the 5th paragraph of his despatch,  
is enclosed for convenience of reference.

3. Mr. MacDonald would be grateful for  
Viscount Halifax's guidance as to the reply  
which should be sent to the Governor of  
Kenya.

I am, etc.

*Ag. a. J. D. D.*



17th May, 1936.

Sir,

I have the honour to request that guidance may be given as to the line I should adopt in regard to the position of the Royal Italian Consul General in Nairobi.

2. Care has always been taken not to accord to foreign Consuls any status corresponding to that of a diplomatic agent. This, I may say, has already led to difficulties on more than one occasion, but the policy has been strictly followed. When important foreign representatives or individuals have visited this Colony and have been asked to dinner at Government House, I have usually made a point of asking the relative Consul, and on such occasions have generally put him somewhat higher in the seating at table than he would otherwise be. This occurred during the recent visit of the French Admiral Godfrey and also that of Marshal Balbo, Governor-General of Libya.

42503/64/36 L1

3. At the time when the duration of Marshal Balbo's visit was uncertain, the Italian Consul General had taken an opportunity to inform my private Secretary that he, the Consul, proposed to give a dinner to Marshal Balbo and to enquire whether an invitation to me to attend that dinner would be acceptable. My private Secretary replied tactfully in the negative. The case actually did not arise because Marshal Balbo only stayed one night, and dined at Government House. ....

copy to [ ]  
[ ]

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE MALCOLM MACDONALD, F.C.S., M.P.,  
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,  
DOWNING STREET,  
LONDON, S. W. 1.

House.

4. In the course of a recent conversation with the Italian Consul General, he mentioned to me that Marshal Balbo might be visiting Kenya again in September in order to do some big game shooting. He hinted that on that occasion he would take the opportunity of holding a reception at the Consulate and hoped that I would find it possible to attend as an indication of the friendly relations that had been re-established between Great Britain and Italy. As the conversation was carried on in French, I was able to return a somewhat indefinite reply.

5. I gather from a Circular issued from Downing Street on the 1st of June, 1906, and signed by Lord Elgin, that it would be undesirable for me as Governor to attend any reception given by the Italian Consul General, and this is confirmed by a private letter dated the 12th of December, 1922, from Sir Cecil Bottomley to the late Sir Robert Coryndon. But I shall be glad to know whether the special circumstances at the present time render it advisable to make any exception in case the eventualities mentioned in paragraph 4 should arise.

6. I might add that I have met Marshal Balbo previously, and that in view of our connection with aviation we are on friendly terms, and have mutual friends. It might therefore be possible to provide a solution to the potential problem by my accepting a private invitation from the Italian Consul General to meet Marshal Balbo and finding a suitable excuse to avoid attending any official reception held in his honour.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant.

*RB* Brooke-Popham

AIR CHIEF MARSHAL  
GOVERNOR.

Gov 60161/22 Kya  
flagged in  
solution  
below