

1935

38118

KENYA  
CO 533/458

1935

38118

Mr. Hamilton Moore.

Compassionate Grant.

Previous

15955/29.

R. 297 10/9  
R. 309 17/9  
Mr Perkins 19  
m. Flood =

Subsequent

297 25/9  
R303 /  
R. 297 29/9  
Mr. Perkins 29  
m: Flood /

Aug 297 17/5  
Room 309 7/5  
Mr. Freeman 1  
297 21/5  
297 28/5  
Room 309 3/5  
Mr. Freeman 3  
Mr. Flood 3  
Room 309 /  
4/ 7/6  
297 17/8  
Room 309 19/8  
Mr Campbell 19/8  
Mr. Greenwith 20

297 26/7  
Room 309 26/10  
Mr Perkins 29/11  
m: Flood 29  
R. 297

FILE A. 297

1. Hamilton Moore ..... 15th May, 1935.

Furnishes details of his service with B.A.M. Labour Corps 1917-1919 and his subsequent incapacitation and treatment as regards pension. Seeks an interview with regard to granting him a compassionate grant.

Mr. Moore called on the 14th of May and said that he had spent two hours with the Crown Agents on the 13th of May, when a file had been found about him. He had been told by the C.A. that the C.O. was the only office which could settle his grievance. His story was somewhat confused, but he pledged that his pension, granted in 1919, was illegally terminated after six months. He mentioned confidentially that he had been in prison in 1926 for trouble with some cheques. I spoke to C.A. and gathered that there was correspondence with C.O. in 1926, about Mr. Moore. The papers were unfortunately in process of binding, so I politely <sup>Sacked 5/5</sup> informed Mr. Moore <sup>that he</sup> ~~made~~ his representations in writing. He returned on the 16th and handed in <sup>the</sup> letter dated the 15th of May, saying that he had ~~sent~~ sent copies to Lady Astor and to other M.P.'s. I said that examination of the earlier papers would take time and that most likely we should have to refer him to the Ministry of Pensions. He pressed for an acknowledgment of his letter. I submit draft.

*C.A. Gossnell*  
17. 5. 35

*What has he been doing for the last 16 years? - part of course in jail but what about the rest. Why no conv.?*

*J. 20.5.*

*To Hamilton Moore (1 amed) 21/5/35*  
DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE

3. Hamilton Moore . 22 May 35  
Suggest that any medical examination which may  
now be made would not indicate his condition between 1919  
1922 & state further as to his war pension.

The following is a precis of the  
earlier correspondence.

17th. of November, 1919.

Crown Agents sent us copies of correspondence  
from High Commissioner for the Union of South  
Africa, showing that Lt. Hamilton Moore was  
released from service with the E.A. Military  
Labour Corps on the 9th. of April, 1919, and  
awarded a pension by the Imperial Pensions Board,  
Pretoria, at the rate of £52/10/- per annum from  
10/4/1919 to 31/10/1919 <sup>less</sup> the period he was  
in hospital, viz., 17/4/1919 to 15/5/1919, for  
which he was paid hospital allowance. The  
pension was based on 30% disability (truly see  
70467/19).

19th. of December, 1919.

We informed Ministry of Pensions that the  
Crown Agents had been authorised to pay the  
pension to Mr. Moore accordingly. The M/P  
was asked to arrange for Mr. Moore's re-exam-  
ination and for the payment to him of any  
further award which he would have received had  
he served under British Army Regulations.

15th. of July, 1920.

M/P replied that Mr. Moore re-enlisted in the  
Imperial Labour Corps on the 20th. of August  
1919 with the rank of Company Sergeant-Major,  
and that under Army Regulations he would not  
be eligible for any award of retired pay until

67394/19

70467/19

34812/20

He became an officer  
in 1920. v. NO. 13.

he ceased to serve with H.M. Forces. He had  
therefore received an over-payment as regards  
his pension for the period 20/8/1919 to  
31/10/1919. M/P proposed to request Mr. Moore  
to refund the amount overpaid, and if he refused,  
to recover the amount from his effective pay.  
~~He~~ agreed to the proposal 24/7/1920.

24th. of May, 1921.

M/P stated that Mr. Moore had ignored all com-  
munications regarding the refund of the amount  
overpaid (£10/8/10) but <sup>as</sup> they had heard that he  
was discharged from the Imperial Labour Corps  
on the 9th. of November, 1920. The M/P stated  
that he was again eligible for an award at  
Officers' rates, but in the absence of an appli-  
cation from him and particulars of his address  
they did not propose to take any action. ~~He~~ <sup>He</sup>  
concluded 10/6/1921.

25755/21

38350/22

3rd. of August, 1922.

Mr. Moore applied to C.O. for his Medals,  
Address: 71, Comeragh Road, West Kensington.  
Medals sent 18/8/1922.

22191/23

3rd. of May, 1923.

Mr. Moore applied to C.O. for copy of his  
Clearance Certificate. Address: 27, Connaught  
Road, Leytonstone. A letter stating particulars  
of his <sup>Service</sup> certificate was sent to Mr. Moore on  
the 9th. of May, 1923.

15955/29

20th. of December, 1929.

Crown Agents sent us copies of letters received  
from the Officers' Association through the  
Office of the High Commissioner for South  
Africa, regarding a request by Mr. Moore for

renewal of his disability pension.

30th. of January, 1930.

*We* ~~The M/P~~ <sup>*to M/P*</sup> was asked to consider the application and to reply direct to the Officers' Association.

7th. of February, 1930.

The M/P stated that the necessary action was being taken by the Ministry.

Mr. Moore contends that his service in the Imperial Labour Corps from 20/8/19 to 9/11/20 did not invalidate the disability pension awarded to him from 10/4/1919 to 31/10/1919. The fact is that had he applied to M/P for re-examination and continuation of his pension immediately after he had ceased to serve with the Imperial Labour Corps, his claim would have been fully investigated. But he appears to have done nothing at the time because he was asked to repay £10/8/10 in respect of the pension paid to him during the time he was serving in the Imperial Labour Corps.

~~Copy~~ <sup>1, 2, 3</sup> Send copies of ~~to~~ to the M/P, Reference No. 3 on 15955/29 [for observations.]

*A. Prosser*  
3/5/31

saying that the matter appears to pertain

to that Dept. rather than to Co.

do so inform the Home

*A. Prosser*  
3/5

*J. E. G. 4.6*

~~DESTROYED~~ <sup>To Moore (3 end)</sup> STATUTE

~~DESTROYED~~ <sup>To Sec of Pension, WC 12304</sup>

DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE

6. Crown Agents.----- minute----- 18.8.36.  
Transmits in original letter from H. Moore requesting official letter to confirm his military service.

DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE  
*I think the easiest way out of this would be to send Mr Moore a copy of the letter which was sent to him on the 9<sup>th</sup> August 1920. (22191/20)*

*A. Prosser*  
19.8.36

But we did communicate via Home Office, as Mr Moore appears to be an one of his visits to prison at the moment, and ask them to cause it to be forwarded if no objection is seen. Perhaps we did do a brief covering explanation of how we came into it.

*Yes: we should give a full record of him as far as we can.*

(I have spoken to Mr. Widdows H.O.)

Send H.O. and in 6 in orig. *S. Campbell*  
keep copy 19.8. Home

7 So P.O. (info. by of 9/6/23 on 22191/23 & orig. end. to 6) — 28 AUG 1936

*CA*

9. Crown Agents, ----- minute. ----- 9.9.36.  
Ref. No. 6; transmit in original further letter from  
Mr. H. Moore requesting further official letter regarding  
his pension.

DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE

to submit a draft  
reply to Mr Moore for  
consent.

C. J. Eaves  
17.9.36.

The letter part of para 2 might perhaps  
more appropriately be sent in an official letter  
from H.O. But it is all on record here, &  
was included in the letter to the H.O. (No 7); &  
it seems pretty clear that he was allowed  
to see that letter. On the whole therefore  
there seems no objection to his Sp.

As regards his request that it  
shd. be sent to a private address, to be  
forwarded - I see no objection. The  
alternative procedure wd. be to send it  
to the H.O. to be forwarded - if no objection  
is seen. But then it is clearly the  
objection to the forwarding of such a letter,  
& - I think - equally no objection to  
sending it direct to the address requested.

J. J. Parker  
13/9

- we can't go on corresponding with this fool of a  
gad-bird. He probably makes fraudulent use of our  
letters.

We ought for our own sake to ask H.O. what he  
has been doing, and what is known about him.

21.9  
24.9

9. J. H. Moore (incl. to S. Luce) - 25 SEP 1936  
of photo, as indicated  
& add.

10. To Crown Agents-----w/c 9.----- 29.9.36.

11. Home Office.----- 28.9.36.  
Transmits in original letter from Mr. Moore, at present in  
Bristol Prison, requesting letter enclosing copy of No. 7  
for use at trial on 6th Oct; considers that copy of an  
official letter should not be sent to him, but sees no  
objection to special letter being sent covering the  
points raised.

of the H.O. 19/9  
requires again it is  
to R 247.

No 9 complies with the suggestion  
at the end of the H.O. letter; so no further  
action here is necessary so far as  
Mr Moore is concerned  
? reply is - J. J.

[In view of the purpose for which he wants  
the letter, & in particular his intention  
to submit that the loss of his pension  
was mainly attributable to his present  
position. The words added at the end of  
para 2 of No 9 will not help him. But  
that is his own fault!]

J. J. Parker  
29/9

~~Transmission received 24/9~~

I have amplified the Sp. after  
discussion.

J. J. Parker  
13/9

12

To H.O. 27.9.36; 28.9.36; 29.9.36; 30.9.36



13. Home Office.----- 24.10.36.  
12 and reports that Moore has been sentenced to 12  
months imprisonment for false pretences; encloses  
statement giving his history as known to the police.

It is not likely that we shall  
hear anything further  
from Mr Moore until after  
he has completed his present  
sentence.

P. G.  
C. J. P. Smith  
26/10/36.

You may care to see

J. J. P. Smith  
29/x

An impressive record of petty swindling.

J. S. W. Flood

29/10/36

D.P. etc

136



Any communication on the subject of this letter should be addressed to—

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,  
HOME OFFICE,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

and the following number quoted:—

456443/29.

HOME OFFICE,  
WHITEHALL.

24th October, 1936.

RECEIVED  
26 OCT 1936  
C. O. REGY

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 30th September (12)  
(38118/35) regarding the case of William George Westbury,  
I am directed by Secretary Sir John Simon to say, for the  
information of Mr. Secretary Ormsby Gore, that he has  
ascertained that this prisoner received the letter which  
was addressed to him at his private address by your  
Department. It was not, therefore, necessary to give  
him the copy of the letter which you forwarded.

It is regretted that by an inadvertance the Home  
Office letter of the 28th September referred to this man  
as serving a sentence of imprisonment. He was then  
awaiting trial at the Bristol Quarter Sessions on a charge  
of false pretences. He has since been sentenced to twelve  
months' imprisonment with hardlabour for this offence.

In accordance with the request contained in the last  
paragraph of your letter I am to enclose a copy of a  
statement which has been furnished by the Commissioner of  
Police of the Metropolis which sets out what is known by  
the police of this man's history. A list of the convictions  
recorded against him at Scotland Yard is also enclosed.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

*Charles*

The Under Secretary of State,  
Colonial Office.

William George Westbury alias Robert H. Moore, C.R.O.  
No. 10082-23.

This man first came under notice here in 1920 when as 706740 company Sergeant Major Hamilton Moore, Accountants Corp 2nd Scots Guards he appeared at Wimbledon Petty Sessions on the 12th August 1920 charged with stealing a trench coat. He was discharged and handed over to a Military escort as an absentee.

In August 1923 as a result of sending his photograph to South Africa the finger prints of this man were received from the South African Criminal Bureau Pretoria showing eight previous convictions in South Africa.

As far as can be ascertained these convictions were with his other convictions put to him on each subsequent occasion when he appeared in Court and he did not deny them until January 1932 at the Central Criminal Court when by the order of the judge they were not, in consequence, mentioned in Court.

On the 29th September, 1936 information was received from the Governor H.M. Prison Bristol to the effect that the prisoner had (again) denied all the convictions recorded against him in South Africa.

As shown above these convictions were received from the South African Police with his finger prints and are no doubt correctly recorded. But they cannot be 'proved' here without bringing over an officer or officers from South Africa.

Westbury at the same time denied the conviction at West London Police Court on the 23rd April, 1925 but the Court record shows that he consented to be dealt with summarily and pleaded guilty to all charges.

He was married in the name of Robert Hamilton Burke Moore at Port Elizabeth on the 24th February 1903 to Louie Frances Robert, but she divorced him on the 28th March, 1928.

This woman's signed statement dated 11/9/23 at Port Elizabeth on his file, states that the British prison photograph shown to her/



her is that of her husband who about three months after his marriage was convicted of embezzlement at Port Elizabeth and sentenced to two years imprisonment and that when she went to meet him at Cape Town in 1911 she found that he was awaiting trial for a further criminal offence but she did not see him.

This further corroborates the first and second South African convictions.

This man states that he was born in Devonport in 1874 that he was educated at "Public Schools" but does not wish to disclose their names or any information respecting his early life but mentioned that he went to South Africa at an early age. He states also that he served with the East African Forces from July 1917 to April 1919.

It appears then from his criminal record that except for the period 1915 to 1920 when he was possibly serving in the Army in Africa or this country he has been in prison every year since 1911. In 1919/20 he was serving in the Army here.

A copy of his criminal record is attached for the information of the Colonial Office.

G 13/10756

HCCP

<u>Sentence</u>	<u>Court</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Offence</u>	<u>Name</u>
2 years	Port Elizabeth	8.9.03	Theft	Robert Hamilton Burke Moore.
2 months	Volkerust S.A.	4.12.11.	false pretences	do.
3 months	Klerksdorp S.A.	10.1.12.	do.	do.
4 months (suspended two years)	Potchefstroom S.A.	23.2.12.	do.	do.
2 years	Pietermaritzburg	17.11.13	falsity	do.
12 months	Johannesburg S.A.	26.6.14	fraud 2 cases	do.
6 months	Ladybrand	1.10.14	false pretences	do.
6 months recogs.	Bloemfontein Nottingham P.S.	29.10.14. 19.10.20	fraud do.	do. do.
6 weeks	Westminster P.C.	13.6.23	do.	do.
6 & 6 months concurrent 3 and 3 months consecutive	South Western Police Court.	5.2.24	do four cases	George Westbury
6, 3 & 3 months consecutive	West London Police Court.	13.4.25	stealing money	Hamilton Burke Moore
6 & 6 months consecutive 3 months concurrent	Acton Petty Sessions	12.5.26	Attempted false pretences, false pretences and stealing suitcase.	William George Westbury
6 & 6 months concurrent	Portsmouth Petty Sessions	26.4.27	false pretences 2 cases.	Robert Hamilton Burke Moore
18 months	Hants Sessions	18.10.27	false pretences	do.
3 years penal servitude	Grimsby Sessions	9.7.29	do.	George William Westbury
12 months hard labour	Central Criminal Court	12.1.32	do. and attempted false pretences.	Robert Moore
24 months hard labour.	County of London Sessions	7.11.33.	Obtaining money by false pretences worthless cheque 2 cases.	William Geo. West- bury.

<u>Sentence</u>	<u>Court.</u>	<u>Date.</u>	<u>Offence.</u>	<u>Name.</u>
6 and 6 months } hard labour } consecutive )	Brighton Police Court.	20.9.35	false pretences 2 cases.  32 other offences admitted and taken into consideration.	William George Westbury.
12 months hard } labour )	Bristol Quarter Sessions.	6.10.36.	false pretences.  10 other offences admitted and taken into consideration.	William George Westbury.

12"

38118/35.

C. O.

O.D.  
30SEP  
30.

*Ans'd B*

Mr. Paskin 29/9.

Mr. Flood. 29/9

Mr.

Sir C. Parkinson.

Sir G. Tomlinson.

Sir C. Bottomley.

Sir J. Shuckburgh.

Perm. U.S. of S.

Parly. U.S. of S.

Secretary of State.

(11)  
*SZ*

Downing Street.

Sir,

I am etc. to ack. the receipt

of your letter No.456,443/29 of the 28th  
of Sept. transmitting a petition from

*(apparently)*  
~~Mr~~ H. Moore who is serving a sentence of  
imprisonment in Bristol Prison under the  
name of W.G. Westbury, and to enclose,

for the information of Secretary Sir John  
Simon, copies of further correspondence

with <sup>him</sup> ~~Mr Moore~~. As requested in his  
letter of the 7th of Sept. the letter of

(9) the 25th of Sept. from this Dept. was  
sent to him at his private address.

As that letter contains the  
substance of the relevant passage in the  
letter from this Dept. of the 28th of  
August, it would appear that ~~so far as~~  
~~this Dept. is concerned,~~ no further

action is necessary, *unless except to*  
*supply him with the copy enclosed in case*  
*the original has miscarried.*  
~~Mr~~ Moore's petition is

returned

DRAFT.

The Under Secretary of State,  
Home Office.

from Moore (encl. to No.8) ✓

To " (No.9.)

Petition. (encl. in No.11  
in original)

Memo. (a.h) ✓

FURTHER ACTION.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

CONTINUED ON NEXT FILM

TOTAL EXPOSURES ⇨

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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