

*Noted in the ...
C. ...*

KENYA

X. 1835
18 FEB 1926

DATE

Conf
17

14th January 1926

287

SPECIAL WARRANT # 1,500.
Ford Chassis for S.A.T. Dept., K.A.R.

Report is issued and requests that
in the circumstances covering sanction may be
afforded.

MINUTES

NOTES

If the need for these chassis is
urgent, as stated in para 5,
Kenya have rather forced our
hands and we can hardly
object to the use of Fords in this
case, in spite of our Dept. on 50813/24
? We must approve, but say that
S.O.S. must not in any future
case, provision will be made in
sufficient time to allow for
obtaining the cars through the
C.A., as suggested in the above mentioned
copy

*Kenya
for K.A.R.
Kenya*

*copy.
22.1.26*

*... are here not
... had M. about
... to ...
... copy*

28/1/26

Paper

Mr Boltwood

FW 53298/25 KAL Revised & No. concept was
amended:

The position is become difficult
to follow. 53298/25 and Revised and will
both refer to the same question of
the improvement of mechanical
transport in connection with the
supply of the posts in the Northern
Frontier Province.

But my ~~to~~ Rep. does not refer
to the previous telegram - Revised
It, as it were, affords it will show
herefore that the 6 Ford Chassis
which they have purchased locally
are additional to, and separate from,
the 7 Albion Chassis which they
asked the C. agents to procure a
month or two ago. Nothing is,
however, very clear.

1 car. Also in the first place to
refer the enquiry to (by minute) to
the C. Agents soon to make

sure that the order in 53298/25

(A)

is still proceeding & has not been

cancelled by Kensa & for this

is variation from

views on the General ~~and~~ in 4

as to the local surplus of

(B)

Ford Cars, which was discovered

on Gov 16604/25 Wah & Gov 50113/24
Kensa Kensa

Crown Agents (the Hogg) Gov 24/2/26

Will you pl. let us know on (A)?

as (B), response is how long it would
have taken you to obtain and ship
Ford or similar chassis if you had
had the chance.

W.D. Hogg

24.2.26.

Mr. Bottonley.

(a) We have heard nothing from Kenya suggesting cancellation of the 7 Albion chassis which were ordered a few months ago. These chassis were passed for shipment on February 19th, and are probably on board ship by now, so that it would probably be too late to cancel now if the Kenya Authorities should desire to do so.

(b) With regard to the question of purchasing Ford cars and lorries, Colonial Governments obtain no advantages either in cost, or as regards early delivery, by ordering these through us instead of through local Ford Agents. About 5 years ago we had much correspondence with the Ford Co. because they did not allow us any discount, and in most cases, would only supply us through Agents in the Colonies or from their Canadian branch. Consequently as it appeared to be distinctly disadvantageous for Colonies to purchase Ford vehicles through us, a circular letter dated 14th October, 1920, of which I enclose a copy for your reference, was addressed to all Colonies using motor transport suggesting that when Ford vehicles and their spares were required, they should be purchased from the local Agents.

Since the date of that circular letter the position has changed somewhat so far as the spare parts only are concerned, and we are now able to obtain 25% discount on these, but it is questionable whether the advantage of this is sufficient to offset against the advantage of being able to get immediate delivery from the local Agent.

As regards time taken for delivery, the Ford Co. could probably execute any reasonable order for chassis or spare parts within a fortnight of receiving the order, but the total time required for delivery in the Colony would depend on the length of the voyage and the frequency of sailings as well as upon the time taken for the indent to reach us and for the firm to submit their tender.

WEH/AG

W. E. Hogg (Colonial Agent)
12/2/26

A copy of this Circular was sent to the Colonial Office on 21/10/20 and again on 2/1/25.
W.E.H.
Mr Bottonley

2. Ack ^{then} note the special rates, in which his purchase was made locally & approve the issue of the 4/6 for

£1500

£500 5/3/26

Car. and then let Mr Hogg's account be settled in Sept.

W. E. Hogg

5.3.26

all the...

Dated 14th October 1920 from the Crown Agents

COPY OF CIRCULAR TO COLONIES USING MOTOR TRANSPORT

Sir,

With reference to the purchase of Ford cars and spare parts, I have the honour to inform you that the Ford Company has established Agencies for many Colonies and Districts with whom they have agreements controlling prices in such districts.

2/ ^b

2. Copies of correspondence with the firm are

2/ ^a ₂₀

attached, from which it will be noted that they are not prepared to grant this Office any facilities which would enable cars or spares to be supplied at a lower rate than through their district Agents. We are, of course, able to purchase from the Agent in the United Kingdom but, owing to import duties here, the prices delivered in the Colony will generally be higher than those charged by the local Agent, who imports direct from America.

3. In the circumstances, we would suggest that where it is desired to purchase Ford cars or spare parts in districts covered by an Agent of the Ford Company, it would be in the interest of the Colonial Government to purchase through the Agent in preference to indenting on this Office.

COPY OF LETTER FROM THE FORD MOTOR CO. TO CROWN AGENTS,
CHIEF ENGINEER.

Ford, Ontario.

August 13th 1920.

Dear Sir,

We have your letter of July 23rd regarding purchase of Ford spares for shipment into various territories under our control.

We quite recognise the authority of the Crown Agents as a purchasing capacity but are unable to meet with the requirements of your office by selling material direct into our various representatives' districts.

There would be no objection to your communicating direct with our dealers in the several countries wherein you operate and making purchase from our dealers through your own channels.

There is no advantage to be gained by yourselves in endeavouring to purchase from the factory direct, as we are bound by the terms of our contract to protect the dealers' prices and in turn are bound to maintain the prices established by ourselves, so that you would obtain identically the same service point of price and would probably secure more prompt delivery by placing your order direct with the dealers in whose territories you are operating.

Yours, etc.

FORD MOTOR COMPANY OF CANADA LTD.

(Sgd) -----

Sales Department,

Export Division.

KENYA.

No. 17


 GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
 NAIROBI,
 KENYA.
CONFIDENTIAL.
 K. 1835
 18 FEB 1926
14th January, 1926.

SIR,

I have the honour to report that the existing motor fleet of the Supply and Transport Service of the King's African Rifles has been employed recently on the conveyance of officers' baggage and the transport of stores in general in connection with the transfer of the Northern Frontier Province from Military to Civil Administration.

2. It has in consequence become necessary to obtain other means of transport for the usual supply of rations from railhead Thika to Meru to complete depots in the Northern Frontier Province where the King's African Rifles and Police detachments were only rationed till the end of December.

3. The lowest tender received for hire of transport for the purpose was £1,500 and it was a more economical proposition in the circumstances to purchase six Ford Chassis and to allow the Supply and Transport Service to fit them with suitable bodies. These lorries were obtainable locally and on completion of the work will be an asset to Government.

4. I accordingly authorised the issue of a Special Warrant for £1,500, which sum will cover

 RIGHT HONOURABLE
 LIEUTENANT COLONEL L.C.M.S. AMERY, P.C., M.P.,
 SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
 DOWNING STREET,
 LONDON S. W.

the

the cost of placing the lorries on the road and the cost of petrol, and trust that your covering sanction will be accorded to my action.

The expenditure will be a charge against General Savings.

5. Whilst the terms of your Confidential despatch of 24th November, 1924, have been borne in mind I would submit that in this instance the urgent nature of the purchase prohibited the order being placed in the hands of the Crown Agents for the Colonies.

50113/24

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant.

Edward Gigg

G O V E R N O R .

number 9/3
revised 10/5 J

Ind

500

X 1935

26-Heinga



17 March, 1926.

Sir,

I have etc. to ask the

recd. of your conf. despatch no. 17

of the 14th of Jan'y. in which

you report the purchase

of six Ford Chassis to

provided for the transport of

rations from railhead at

Shika to there to complete

AFT.

JH^c

29

~~copy
this
file~~

number 9/3
rebig 10/5 f

2nd Geo
X 1935
26 Kenya



17 March, 1936

Sir,

I have etc. to ack. the

recd. of your conf. despatch no. 17

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RAFT.

P 4c

29

~~copy
file
etc.~~

number 9/3 Ind Gov
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26 Kenya



17 March, 1926

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AFT.

Handwritten initials

Handwritten signature

K.A.R. & Police depots in
the northern Frontier
Province.

2. I note the special
circs. in which the purchase
of these chassis was made
locally & I approve of your
action in authorising
special expre. of £1,500 in
this connection.

I have etc.,

(Signed) L. S. AMERY

K.A.R. & Police depots in
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I have etc.,

(Signed) L. S. AMERY

COPY OF LETTER FROM THE CROWN AGENTS TO THE FORD MOTOR CO.

23rd July, 1920.

Dear Sirs,

With reference to recent enquiries which have been sent to you for Ford Spares, we note that it is your custom to refer us to your agents in various parts of the world.

The Crown Agents for the Colonies are the authorised purchasing agents for the supplies required by the Governments of the British Colonies and such supplies should be purchased through this office.

In view of this explanation, I shall be glad to learn that you are prepared to quote us for such supplies on your usual expert terms.

You may possibly consider it advisable to indicate to your various local agents that, under the regulations of the British Colonial Office, supplies required by the Colonial Governments, should be purchased through the Crown Agents for the Colonies.

Yours faithfully,

for CHIEF ENGINEER.

Confidential.

12 March, 1926.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your confidential despatch No. 17 of the 14th of January in which you report the purchase of six Ford Chassis to provide for the transport of rations from railhead at Thika to Meru to complete King's African Rifles and Police Depots in the Northern Frontier Province.

2. I note the special circumstances in which the purchase of these chassis was made locally and I approve your action in authorizing special expenditure of £1,500 in this connection.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

(Signed) S. AMERY

SIR,
GENERAL COLONEL,
SIR E. W. H. GRIGG, K.C.V.O., C.M.G., D.S.O.

Enc.

Enc.

Enc.