

1925

KENYA  
ZANZIBAR

290

C. O.  
35706

DATE

1<sup>st</sup> July, 1925.

5 JUL 25

H. C. Derham

leaf  
100

Rifles acquired by Govt of Zanzibar  
from Kenya

This copy of despatch (with enclosure)  
which he has addressed to the  
H. C. Zanzibar

Previous Paper

MINUTES

The usual 'bicker' occurs about W. de W. ...  
Perhaps we had better write for the I. G.'s  
about

7.8.25

May be seen 'car' about, bleed?

1925

1925

Mr. Mackie

Suggest that Kenya  
exchange some of their  
large stocks of Mk. VI Armes  
for the Mark VII Armes in  
Zanzibar - Mark VI Armes

Subsequent Paper

45943 136ar  
(Govt. buy Kenya)

Hand leaf (with copy above) 2nd SEP 1925

ferred from the Puffin boat  
by Kenya to Zambar.

Kenya will want more  
MK VII in the course of  
time.

A slight compensation shd. be  
paid by Kenya

It is unlikely that the Zanzibaris  
<sup>force</sup> will be called upon to engage  
in serious fighting -

Kenya & Tanganyika could  
supply MK VI ammunition in  
sufficient quantities to last  
Zanzibar for several years.

8/9/25

J.H.

Mr Boddanley

I began drafting a Riv & then  
found it was complicated than  
I seemed. I therefore discussed it  
further with Col. Hamilton.

For the reasons given he thinks  
it unnecessary & undesirable that  
there shd. be any H.V. Mark VI  
rifles in Zibar. They have at  
present 200 H.V. Mark VI Rifles  
& 103,000 rounds Mark VI ammunition  
and 350 rifles in Kenya having  
Mark II ammunition (which they  
don't like) & 28,000 rounds of  
ammunition less than Mark VI

Col. Hamilton thinks that

- (1) The decision as to the 350 rifles  
for Kenya shd. stand but that  
Kenya ~~should~~ shd. exchange those  
supplied *in* so far as to ensure

that ~~as far as~~ they all take  
Mark VI ammunition & subject  
to that are as modern & include  
as many fitted with cut-offs as  
can be supplied

(2) That Zanzibar will give to Kenya  
in part payment its 200 Mk.  
Mark VII rifles & all its Mark VII  
ammunition & get from Kenya  
200 Mk. rifles as at (1) above

(3) That for its 550 Mark VI rifles  
Zanzibar will obtain from Kenya  
or Tanganyika what ammunition  
it requires - as will be possible  
in some cases.

It is awkward to make Zibar  
not only take 550 Mark VI rifles from  
Kenya which it does not like; but  
also give up its new Mark VII  
rifles & take 200 Mk. Mark VI

rifles from Kenya, but I see <sup>232</sup>  
no other logical solution of  
the difficulty, & the principles  
underlying the new one  
undoubtedly sound.

? Arrange accordingly (desp  
to Zibar; cover up. to  
to Kenya)

Jan 29/55

I see as better way out and in  
should favour the I.G. advice.

Good 17.4.55 ...

KENYA.

No 100.

CONFIDENTIAL.



GOVERNMENT HOUSE,  
NAIROBI,  
KENYA.

1st July, 1925.

Sir,

*A. H. C.*  
*1913/6 Zanz.*  
*25*  
of 1.7.25.  
Report.

With reference to the High Commissioner of Zanzibar's despatch (Confidential) of 4th April addressed to you on the subject of rifles recently acquired by the Government of Zanzibar from Kenya, I have the honour to transmit for your information a copy of a despatch (with enclosure) which I have addressed to the High Commissioner, Zanzibar.

I have the honour to be,

Sir.

Your most obedient, humble servant,

*J. A. Herbert*  
ACTING GOVERNOR.

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

S.A. 6002/2/25.

1st July, 1925.

Sir,

With reference to your despatch No. 287 of the 16th April, I have the honour to transmit for your information a copy of a report which I have received from the Acting Officer Commanding Troops on the subject of the rifles recently supplied to your Government.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

ACTING GOVERNOR.

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER,

K A N Z I B A R.  
-----

Defence Headquarters,

Nairobi,

Kenya Colony.

No.03861

9th June, 1925.

29

The Hon.Colonial Secretary, Nairobi.

Rifles for Zanzibar.  
-----

Reference your No.A.4962/8/20 dated the 2nd June 1925.

I would remark that in Kenya the pre-Mark VII S.M.L.E. rifle, of whatever pattern or mark, is still considered a modern rifle. Only within the last twelve months has the K.A.Rifles in Kenya been armed with the High Velocity rifle (no cut-off).

I attach a copy of the letter from the Secretary to the High Commissioner Zanzibar, which, together with its enclosure, formed the basis of the sale to Zanzibar of the rifles in question. The Inspector General was well aware of the large stocks of pre-Mark VII rifles, and the very limited number of High Velocity rifles held in Kenya, so that it is inconceivable that any misapprehension existed as to which rifle was being negotiated for.

2. Reference para 2 of the Asst. Commandant Police's Minute, and the Acting High Commissioner's despatch, paras 2 and 3.

The Zanzibar rifles formed a portion of the stocks acquired from re-arming the K.A.Rifles with Mark VII. High Velocity Rifles. The old K.A.R. Rifles were distributed partly to Kenya Police to replace their armament of long S.M.L.E. rifles, partly to Defence Force, and partly to K.A.R.Stores. The K.A.R.Stores supplied the Zanzibar issue. It was not specially remarked that a pattern rifle with no cut-off was being sent; had it been so, the issue would still have been made, as, for training purposes, this particular pattern is the nearest approach to the High Velocity rifle now being used by the K. A. Rifles in Kenya.

The "danger" of a no-cut-off rifle, and in fact, the force of the complaint in the above mentioned paras, escapes me; The Zanzibar authorities now wish to acquire Mark VII H.V.rifles, yet (as supplied to Kenya) this rifle is without a cut-off. Will they not be equally as "dangerous".

3. I shall be grateful to learn the number of High Velocity rifles mentioned in para 1 of the Assistant Commandant's minute.

sq. C.H.Fowle.

Major.

3rd Battalion K.A.Rifles &  
Ag. Officer Commanding Troops.

closing copy of para 2  
C.O.Conf.desp. of 28.5.24  
the High Commissioner,  
Zanzibar.

(21587/24)

For 35706/25 Kenya  
Zibar

236

C. D.  
R 18 SEP  
D 18

Machig 17/9/25  
Dettweiler 17/9/25  
Strachey.

Ind

18 Sept 1925

- 1. Shuckburgh.
- 2. Davis.
- 3. Grindle.
- 4. Masterton Smith.
- Ormsby-Gore.
- Inery.

Sir,  
I have etc to inform you that  
the Acting Secy of Kenya has

DRAFT.

14

copy to secy Kenya 28 SEP 1925

Zanzibar Conf:  
Br. Resident

forwarded to me a copy of  
the Insp. which he addressed  
to you as Acting Secy  
Commissionary in July 1925  
regarding the 350 rifles  
recently supplied by the  
Govt of Kenya to the Govt  
of Zanzibar.

of this Insp to go  
Kenya in short etc

I have discussed this  
matter with the P.S. and

Col Hampton is not in

favour of introducing into

the E. African dependencies

more modern rifles than

is absolutely necessary  
for defense purposes, and  
having regard to my  
~~opinion~~<sup>view</sup> and the fact  
that it is unlikely that  
the Zanzibar Police will be  
called upon to engage in  
serious fighting, I am  
definitely of opinion that  
it is not desirable that <sup>any of</sup> the  
Zanzibar Police should be  
supplied with Mark VII

H.V. Rifle  
I have now seen the Home  
Office decision that Mark VII  
is to be over from Kenya 350  
i.e. they should  
take Mark VII ammunition and  
be of as modern a <sup>as possible</sup> type,



- Mr. Trachey.
- Mr. J. Shuckburgh.
- Mr. C. Davis.
- Mr. G. Grindle.
- Mr. J. Masterton Smith.
- Mr. Ormsby-Gore.
- Mr. T. A. Inery.

DRAFT.

the equipment  
~~and~~ <sup>to be</sup> ~~contains~~ include as  
~~the~~ <sup>with</sup> ~~the~~ ~~keura~~ ~~fort~~ ~~is~~ ~~in~~  
 many ~~of~~ <sup>of</sup> ~~the~~ ~~fort~~  
~~to~~ ~~be~~ ~~used~~ ~~if~~ ~~it~~

~~is~~ ~~considered~~ ~~desirable~~  
~~that~~ ~~the~~ ~~rifles~~ ~~used~~ ~~by~~ ~~the~~  
~~Jangibar~~ ~~Police~~ ~~are~~ ~~to~~  
~~be~~ ~~filled~~ ~~with~~ ~~cut-~~ ~~down~~,  
 as the keura fort is in a  
 position to supply <sup>the</sup> ~~keura~~ ~~as~~

It will be necessary to  
 send to the fort of Keura  
 H. K. <sup>the</sup> ~~Rifles~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~ammunition~~ <sup>new</sup> ~~in~~  
 of the J'bar Police and  
 from the fort of Keura  
 200 mark vi rifles  
 to replace them. The  
 fort will also be in a  
 all the  
 to supply Mark vi ammunition  
 to fort of Jangibar is likely  
 for its 550 mark vi  
 in some years to come. The  
vi Rifles & the Mark vi  
 which transferred to the keura fort  
 should be part payment for the  
 of the keura fort in supplying

as the equipment actually  
 in Jangibar  
 received from Keura does  
 not comply with the above  
 requirements the keura  
 fort will now be asked to  
 replace the Exchange with  
 supplied.

~~It is not~~ ~~for~~ ~~the~~ ~~to~~  
 necessary to dispose of  
~~the~~ ~~200~~ ~~H.K.~~  
 550  
 the Mark vi rifles to J'bar. P.D.

of course to read if he  
will communicate with  
the port of Kenya with a  
view to arrangements  
being made as a rule. I am  
sending a copy of his  
draft to the G. of Kenya.

I have

(Signed) L. S. AMERY

Breth. Sept.  
tracking up of

Ref. 35706/25 of bar

O. D.  
R 25 SEP  
D 26

2nd 297  
28. Sept 1925.

- Mr. Mackay.
- Mr. Shackleton.
- Mr. Davis.
- Mr. Grindle.
- Mr. Macintosh.
- Mr. Ramsay.
- Mr. Amery.

DRAFT.

copy

Recd  
on 25/706

Sir,

I have to ack. the recd.  
of your draft book No. 100  
of the 14 of July, & to have  
sent to you, for your info,  
a copy of a draft book  
I have sent to the British  
Resident, Zanzibar, regarding  
the rifles & the gun, & some of  
the rifles recently supplied  
to the Zanzibar Police  
etc.

(Signed) L. S. AMERY

It would be glad if we  
with communication with  
the fact of being with a  
view to arrangements  
being made as a rule. I am  
sending a copy of this  
draft to the G. O. of Kenya

I have

(Signed) L. S. AMERY

Sept 24  
Lackington 25/2/27

35706/25/27 Bar

C. D.  
R 25 SEP  
D 26

2nd 297  
28. Sept. 1925.

Wheeler,  
Stuckburgh,  
Lavis,  
Hindley,  
Masterion Smith,  
Moby-Gore,  
Mory.

Sir,  
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 10<sup>th</sup> 100 of the 1<sup>st</sup> of July, & to have submitted to you, for your info, a copy of a despatch which I have sent to the British

DRAFT.

15 Sept  
on 35706

Resident, Zanzibar, regarding the supply of two forty seven rifles. The rifles recently supplied to the Zanzibar Police.

(Signed) L. S. AMERY