

**KENYA  
TANGANYIKA**

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Previous Paper.

2492

Italian C.O. Mission  
Report

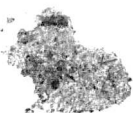
Material should be of possible on the side  
of interest.

Referenced to...

in D.O. article

Subsequent Paper

2492



h. Knight

I attach a memo recommending the payment of  
sum of £100.00. In view of that the reply to A.B.  
the attached would appear to be that they have been treated  
in the same way as all others who served in similar conditions  
in connection with the E.A. Local Forces and that exceptional  
treatment cannot be afforded to them.

It would seem that in view of the Crown's  
engagement no alteration can be made as regards the  
rate from which pay is effective

17/11  
14920

I have modified the enclosed  
memorandum as a result of the  
form in which a copy  
of it would be sent to the  
King P. S.

27/11/20

14920

W. Thornton

27/11/20









COPY.

## VICARIATE APOSTOLIC OF KENYA,

Catholic Mission,

Nyeri (British East Africa).

18th April 1920.

## Memorandum.

A body of forty-five Italian Missionaries (Fathers and Sisters) served voluntarily for about three years with the East Africa Medical Service in the Carriers Hospitals during the local war in the later German East.

On their discharge, at the end of the war, the Military Authorities recognised that certainly they would be entitled to War Gratuities, Bonuses and Clothing Allowances like other people who served there, but declared themselves not in a position to extend to the said Missionaries the benefits of such grants, for the fact that they, although had enrolled as a body, did not obtain any official denomination by which they could be included in the grants of the Royal Warrants issued for the Corps in which they served.

Moreover about twenty of them did not receive any wages on the first year of service, for the active that, when some compensation for their work was agreed to, the books for the said year were already closed; and the receipts affected to the War Office has not yet received any settlement.

The Local Military Authorities themselves considered unfair such an unfortunate occurrence towards this body of voluntary helpers being unusual in the British Army to not receive complete salary for services rendered, nor subsequently any gratuities, bonuses and allowances.

The above said Fathers and Sisters would most humbly ask of His Gracious Majesty the King to be pleased to command :-

1. That they be declared as aggregated to some Military Corps who served under similar conditions as they served, for instance to the "Territorial Force Nursing Service" mentioned for

gratuities

30th September, 1920

Dear Lord Stamfordham,

I understand from the War Office that the Duchess d'Aosta approached the King recently with regard to the services rendered by the Roman Catholic Mission at Nyeri during the campaign in East Africa. You forwarded to the War Office a memorandum on the subject for enquiry. The War Office communicate with Sir Edward Northey, but were informed by him that the question was one with which this Office were dealing. I now enclose you a memorandum on the subject, which sets out the position.

Yours very truly,

H. H. L.

The Rt. Hon.

... G. O. V. O.



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The Rt. Hon. *[Signature]*  
 G. C. V. O.

MEMORANDUM RE ITALIAN MISSION AT NYERI (WAR SERVICES)

Bishop Palko, Vicar Apostolic of Kenya, offered the services of certain Fathers and Sisters of the Italian Catholic Mission at Nyeri for work in the Carrier Hospitals from early in 1915 at the time when the arrival of the South African Forces in East Africa resulted in the number of native porters being considerably increased. When, contrary to first expectation, it became clear that the campaign against German East Africa would be of a prolonged nature, the British military authorities decided that the Missionaries should be paid with effect from January 1st, 1917, at the rate of Rs.150/- per month in the case of Fathers, and at Rs.75/- per month in the case of Sisters, these being the special rates given in the case of other local missionary bodies.

The claim of the Sisters for the award of war gratuities under Army Order No.194 of 1919 was referred to the local authorities in Kenya some months ago as a result of representations received from the Mission, and the action taken by the local authorities has not yet been reported.

The Governor of Kenya reported that he did not consider the Missionaries eligible for war bonus on the ground that they received special, as opposed to the usual, East African rate of pay. The Secretary of State accordingly asked the Governor to consider the matter further and the Governor's reply to this has not yet been received.

Claim

Claim for Clothing Allowance.

The grant of Clothing Allowance on release from military service is not admissible for any Nursing Sisters or Officers, of the East African Local Forces. The Sisters of the Mission have been regarded as equivalent to Nursing Sisters, and the Fathers as officers holding honorary commissioned rank. The allowance is, therefore, not admissible in these cases.

Complaints as to general conditions of service.

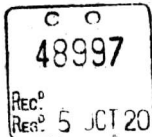
The conditions on which members of the Italian Mission served were the same as those in the case of other Missionary bodies whose members volunteered for service with the East African Local Forces, and the conditions have not been questioned by any of the latter.

Claim for pay in respect of services prior to January 1st, 1917.

The position is shown in the first paragraph of this memorandum. The services of the Fathers and Sisters were offered free, and it was decided that claims for payment prior to January 1st, 1917, could not be admitted.



BALMORAL CASTLE.



20

2nd. October, 1920.

Mr Thornton,

The King has read the correspondence relative to the Duchess d'Aosta's appeal on behalf of the Roman Catholic Mission at Nyeri.

His Majesty notes that the claims for War Pensions and War Bonus are still under consideration, and the King trusts that in dealing with these foreigners it may be possible to err on the side of liberality.

Yours very truly,

C. Thornton Esq.,  
C.M.G., C.V.O.,  
Colonial Office.