

EAST AFR. PROT.

13 APR 10

10989

203

C7

1910

Case.

Previous Paper.

Survey Dept.  
Geographic Branch.

Inds memorandum on proposed establishment

Not Read

It was decided at the June meeting  
of the C-11 to be nothing on this matter  
we heard further from the Protectorate  
We see message on Sept 21/10

Put by

at all

H. J. R.

9/11/10

10,000

Previous Paper.



War Office,  
Whitehall,

S.W.

5.4.20

Dear Mr. G. H. Murray

G. H. Murray (APR 10)

was apparently a meeting  
of the War Office & the  
Ministry of Education  
at which it was decided  
that the War Office should  
have some through & direct  
communication with the  
Ministry of Education  
officially the War Office can  
only deal with the  
Ministry of Education

C. G. Close

C. O.  
10789

REC'D  
APR 13 1910

Memorandum on the proposal to establish  
Lithographic Branch of the East Africa Survey  
Department.

210

Objects.

A lithographic establishment would probably be expected to reproduce, directly or by mechanical process :-

- (a) Cadastral and revenue plans.
- (b) Plans required by other Government departments.
- (c) Certain topographical maps.

It is desirable to separate the consideration of (a) and (b), i.e. the production of plans and diagrams, generally in black, and requiring little skill in draughtsmanship and printing, from (c).

Cadastral  
Plans and  
other diagrams.

There is every reason for supporting any proposal to print locally, by whatever method may be approved, cadastral and revenue plans. One of the chief reasons for the re-organization of the Survey Department in 1906 was to reduce the arrears of work and to diminish the time occupied in the production of cadastral, (estate and settlement), plans.

If it is decided locally that the Bamrose process, now in use, is not satisfactory, either on account of want of clearness, or because larger numbers

of

of prints are now required than heretofore, that would be a reason for considering favourably the proposal to establish a lithographic plant capable of reproducing cadastral plans and similar work.

Miscellaneous  
Government  
Work.

(b).

Where a lithographic establishment exists it is always found that other government departments make use of it. A reference to the reports of the Ordnance Survey, or the Survey of India (for instance) will show that much work is done for other departments by the lithographic establishments of these two Surveys. Provided that the privilege is not abused, and that the cost of such extra work is properly accounted for, the practice is a good one, as it ensures a constant flow of work, and is more economical than the alternative system of departmental printing.

Cadastral-  
topographical  
Sheets.

(c).

These sheets are a special feature of the East Africa Survey and are the result of local conditions. It was decided that it was uneconomical to survey an area first for rapid allotment and again to survey it topographically.

Since no delay <sup>sh</sup> would take place in the reproduction of the cadastral-topographical maps, they might if the present arrangements are not considered satisfactory, be reproduced locally. It would not be wise to aim at a high degree of excellence in

lettering

lettering, drawing, or printing, anyway at first. Any such attempt would almost certainly result in unduly delaying the printing of the map. But it should be easily within the power of a small lithographic establishment to print small maps in 2 colours, black and brown.

Present arrangements.

The present arrangements as regards this class of map are as follows :- fair drawings are made in Nairobi, and <sup>then</sup> prints are taken from these. The originals are then sent to the Colonial Office, from thence to the Geographical Section, General Staff, where the re-drawing and printing are undertaken. The drawings received from Nairobi are, from the nature of the case, not sufficiently good to reproduce directly. The following Table shows the approximate cost of reproduction, and the time which elapsed between the dates of sending from Nairobi and arrival in Nairobi of the finished printed maps.

Cadaastro-

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13 APR 1951

Cadastral-topographical Sheets.			
No.	Size.	Cost.	Time interval (approx.)
1.	33" x 25"	£40	12 months.
2.	30" x 27"	£40	10 months.
3.	34" x 24"	£30	6 months.
4.	33" x 18"	£29	6 months.
5.	29" x 26"	£29	7 months.
TOTAL		£168	
Average		£33.6	

The cost was, in these instances, defrayed from War Office Votes.

It is clear that there is no objection in principle to such sheets being drawn and reproduced in Nairobi. Each sheet would take a litho-draughtsman about 4 to 6 weeks to draw.

The sheets of the regular  $\frac{1}{125,000}$ ,  $\frac{1}{250,000}$  or  $\frac{1}{1,000,000}$  series are in a different category.

These maps require the very highest draughtsmanship, and this is not to be expected in a small lithographic establishment. At present these sheets are given to some of the best litho-draughtsmen, or engravers, in Great Britain. If such men were required to serve in East Africa they would of course expect higher pay than they

regular  
topographical  
maps of  
the African  
continent.

(c.ii.)

they receive in England. If we take 12/- a day as the wages of a good draughtsman at home, it may be supposed that he would ask 18/- a day in East Africa. But his rate of work instead of going up, would go down; not only are the conditions less favourable to quick and accurate work, but more leave and more sickness must be allowed for. It is probably right to say that the work would cost about twice as much as at home. Such maps also require first class printers. It should be noted that for fifty years the drawing and printing of the Survey of India remained below European standards. They are still below such standards in the better class of topographical mapping.

Whether on grounds of economy or efficiency any proposal to print the regular topographical sheets in Africa should be negatived.

at of a  
all litho  
establishment.

A convenient establishment for revenue work &c., would be :-

1 white superintendent	.. ..	£220
1 native litho-draughtsman	} ..	£120
1 ,, printer		

on the assumption that only Vandyke process is used.

Working expenses	.. ..	£40
Annual cost	.. ..	£380
Cost of outfit	.. ..	£120

First year's cost £500 + cost of building.

War Office.

2nd April, 1910.

*Q7 close*