

EAST AFR. PROT

40286

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REC'D
17th 22 NGV 13-

FSI

1913

31 Oct.

Last previous Paper.

Unallocated Store
for Telegraph & Telephone material.

Submits proposal for establishment of
asks that sum of £5000 be allowed for the
purpose.

Mr. J. Somers, Col. Read

Uganda has an unallocated Store Dept for
Telegraph and Telephone material: maximum
at present £4000. (see Gov/2/888/13 (Up. etc).)

The O.A.S. of Col. suggests the introduction of
a similar system in that Prots. - and
proposes to provide £5000 for the purpose.
He is providing in the Ests for 1914-15 for
additional staff to manage the unallocated
store.

He points out that when the telegraphic and
telephonic systems of the Prots. are expanding
rapidly, it is often necessary to buy material
in a hurry when high prices are ruling: and
works are delayed in many cases for lack
of material: he believes further that freight
charges are cheaper on large consignments.

The proposal appears reasonable.

and may be considered with the aft Ests.

Mr. Somers has endeavored to trace the origin of this
Uganda A.S. account, but it appears to have
been

1167-1311 W1.29 897-08
11 508 11/12 A.S.R.W.

Next subsequent Paper.

Part by

to [unclear]

? wait for reply from 131
enquiry in [unclear] [unclear]

accf

14/3/14
wets 16/3/14 at me

Shore

This has now been explained
in [unclear] 26/3/14

The unallocated stores system
will be put into force now, as

Gov. knows from [unclear] that
[unclear] approve.

? [unclear]

accf

31/7/14

at me

[unclear]

31/7/14

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GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
NAIROBI,
BRITISH EAST AFRICA

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

October 31st 1913.

482

No. 851

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that in view of the excessive difficulty experienced in providing for the expeditious expansion of the telegraph and telephone system which the present rapid growth of commercial development in the Protectorate renders necessary the Postmaster General has submitted a recommendation for the establishment of an unallocated store for telegraph and telephone material.

2. Mr. Gosling points out that under the present system the provision of a new telegraph line or the expansion of the telephonic system occupies considerable time since the material required cannot be ordered from home until the necessary funds have first been obtained and the local reserve of material at disposal would only suffice to meet a very small extension of the system. Moreover, delays incidental in obtaining fresh stock from home are such that even when orders are forwarded in advance it is difficult for any work of an important nature to reach completion during the financial period in respect of which sanction has been accorded.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

LEWIS HARCOURT, P.C., M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET, LONDON, S.W.

3. I am of opinion that in view of the rapid progress of this Protectorate and the urgent necessity, following as a result, for provision for a correspondingly rapid expansion of the telegraph and telephone system, some arrangement whereby a comparatively large stock of material can be kept at hand in anticipation of future requirements is essential. The draft Estimates for the Post Office Department for the coming financial year contain provision, as regards staff, for the working of an unallocated store. The adoption of such a course would have the financial advantage of obviating the hurried purchase of material, when, possibly, prices run high and as the depreciation of telegraph and telephone material is not great the investing of surplus balances in such stores would be a sound and economical proceeding from a financial point of view. Furthermore, an additional advantage would be gained by the fact that freight and other charges on comparatively large consignments are proportionately cheaper than on small quantities.

4. Should this proposal meet with your approval I would ask that the sum of £5,000 be allowed for an unallocated store. This amount should be sufficient to meet present requirements.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,


Deputy GOVERNOR.