

EAST AFR PROT  
47405

69  
47405  
REC'D  
REG-2011-11

1914  
1 Oct  
previous Paper  
3977.32

Magadu Co.

disruption of operations through war.

submit report cannot be made  
payments of compensation or interest on capital  
on account of delays which are only partly  
attributable to conditions of war.

Mr. G. Frides

Ref: the 15<sup>th</sup>, with  
person concerned that a school has  
been used from the fort & that  
the line has not been taken over  
by the fort for military purposes - that  
reasons, the 15<sup>th</sup> & their contractors were  
requested to withdraw their men & stock to  
a point where they could be given such  
protection as was possible, but that  
the local fort seem to have done nothing  
to prevent the migration of the men & stock  
to the fort to anticipate the movement  
of the men & stock to the fort by  
the local fort.

Magadu Co. 1914  
1 Oct  
previous Paper  
3977.32

present time, work can be resumed at  
any moment in any part of the system,  
if notes from hostile sources are accepted  
& that the local representatives of the Govt appear  
to exercise this qualified permission to  
be sufficient for their purposes - that  
the Govt does not consider that either  
compensation or interest on them - the  
Govt is paid by the Govt to the Govt -  
that the Govt does not consider it is in the  
Govt's interest to pay the Govt -  
Govt 1/14

I do not know the name of the person  
the person said that the person  
was known to them as the  
Capital was running out - asked  
whether there was any prospect of their  
getting compensation said that that was  
a big question that what was done for  
me it had to be done for all & he asked  
whether would whether there was any chance of  
getting something from the Government I told  
him that I thought that it was early  
day to talk about that. I got the name  
the name of the ship & said that he was  
looking for a party to sail in some of the

which the Govt has been receiving  
the Govt to be paid - later than the  
interest in the ship. 8/14

47405

47405

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

NAIROBI, 14th OCTOBER 1914

BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

CONFIDENTIAL No. 161.

October, 17th. 1914,

Sir,

310

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch 841 of the 12th of September enclosing a copy of a letter from the Magadi Soda Company, Limited, on the subject of the delay to be caused to their operations owing to the war.

2. The Company are not correct in saying that the Magadi Railway has been taken over by this Protectorate for military purposes. Owing, however, to the fact that it might have afforded an easy means of invasion of the Protectorate, and also by reason of the extreme difficulty of providing adequate military protection for the staff employed on construction works, the Company and their Contractors were requested to withdraw their men and stock to a point where they would be in such safety as could be offered.

3. I informed the General Manager at the time of my desire that as little inconvenience as possible should be caused, and in consequence the Uganda Railway Administration offered to find employment for

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

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

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET,

LONDON, S.W.

for such of the labour thus recalled as were under agreements which were not on the point of expiry. This offer was however not accepted, and all the men were returned to their homes.

4. When in due course it was found expedient to use the line, more especially for the first 26 miles, the contractors were given the use of their rolling stock and in order to afford them all the facilities possible in the disturbed condition of the country, 200 men were sent to them from the Uganda Railway and 500 men were obtained from the military authorities to assist in putting the first 26 miles in good running order.

5. I understand that at the present time the Company and their Contractors can resume work at any moment on any part of their system, accepting any risk they may run from hostile sources. I believe that, with their knowledge of local conditions and probabilities, they consider this qualified permission to be quite sufficient to meet their requirements for the continuance of their industries.

6. The Acting General Manager of the Uganda Railway informs me that, if the line from the Junction to mile 26 were completed and in good running order, he would be prepared to take over the working of this section. He has, however, recently inspected it and regrets that such a course would be impossible in its present condition. The Resident Engineer of the Magadi Railway fully agrees with him in this opinion.

7. It is quite true that the preparations for exploiting the soda deposit at Lake Magadi are disorganised, but I am informed that for the past five or six months considerable friction has arisen between the Company and their Contractors and that in consequence the erection of the manufacturing plant at the Lake has been almost at a standstill. The existing state of war may perhaps have accentuated the situation but certainly cannot be regarded as the original cause of it, and the resulting inconvenience from which the Company are at present suffering is a condition which must be accepted as one of the accidents due to the location of their interests in this Protectorate. The line has not been taken over by the Government and its condition is not such as would warrant attention. The Section as far as mile 26 has however perforce been considerably used during the present month for the purposes of moving troops and supplies.

8. I do not consider that either compensation or interest on their outlay should be paid by Government to the Company on account of delays which are only partly attributable to the condition of war.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your Obedient, Obedient Servant,

*Alfred B. B. B.*

GOVERNOR.

Gov. 474057 1914 *ES*

*File*

11 December 1914 322

*Ans'd 52202*

DRAFT

*gale Soda Coy. Ltd M.I. 37732*

*Gentlemen,*  
With reference to the letter from this Office of the 7<sup>th</sup> of Oct, and previous correspondence, I am directed to inform you

that a report has now been received from the promoter of the R.R. from which it appears that the Niagara Railway has not been taken over by the Govt for

military purposes, that for military reasons, the Govt and their contractors were requested to

MINUTE

*Sheperd 9/12/14*  
*Buttmanly 5/22/14*  
*H. J. ...*  
*I. Anderson*  
*E. + Emmitt*  
*H. H. ...*

*2*

*Copy for file*

*6/12/17*

and such from point  
of view could be put  
into practice as soon  
possible but that the  
total government  
has been brought by  
in their favor to complete  
the government and  
to avoid the delay of a  
total government  
also for the  
Rising and elsewhere.

2. The present state  
that, at the present time  
work can be removed at  
any moment on any part  
of the work for

hostile sources are  
accepted and that  
the best representation  
of the day appear to  
consider his qualified  
position to be  
sufficient for their  
purposes. ~~to~~  
Lodge does not  
consider the other  
representation as valid  
in that money should  
be paid by the bill  
to the day. I  
am to add that the  
interwork concerns in  
the Governor's view.