

that he is physically  
fit for service —  
EA.

2 The conditions of  
the Agreement  
shown to be identical  
with those last  
related — the letter

for the Dept of  
(the 11<sup>th</sup> of August last  
copy 3/1 — to request  
that you will report  
— due course the  
date on which he  
will sail — order  
that the W.O. may  
be sent

and Capt Mr. Drake  
let be informed as  
directed in the 2<sup>nd</sup>  
page of that letter

POST OFF. PROT.  
No. 38602

38602  
Rec'd  
19 OCT 06

No or Individual.  
1906  
19 Oct  
Previous Paper.

(Subject)

Naval Exped - Unrecovered it relates to Porters

Transmits letter from Captain Lawson  
in which he explains what he did in the matter  
and suggests that it be placed on record  
as his future prospects might be damaged by  
the information appearing in it.

(Attention)

Send a copy of the letter from  
Mr. Gault to Major Mackay so  
you & your Major Mr. in a copy  
to Major Pope. Hearing of  
whether whether he can confirm  
what both have in regard  
to the number of the papers  
Mr. Pope  
etc

Copy comm. l. from 1906 sent 3/9/06  
Copy sent. Col. Pope's Navy 8/10/06  
Comm. 27 Feb 1906

Any further communication on this subject should be addressed to—  
The Secretary,  
War Office,  
London, S.W.,  
and the following number quoted.

C O  
38602  
Recd  
19 OCT 06

War Office,  
London, S.W.

Q165/5542, (A.G.S.)

19<sup>th</sup> October, 1906.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 11st ultimo, No. 24306/1906, I am commanded by the Army Council to transmit to you, for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the enclosed letter which has been received from Captain C.H. Urwin, 3rd Battalion The Lancashire Fusiliers, regarding the matters alleged against him.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

*E.W. Ward*

Under Secretary of State,  
Colonial Office,  
Whitehall,  
London, S.W.

476

From Captain C.H. Udwin  
Lancashire Fusiliers  
To The Adjutant  
2nd Lancashire Fusiliers



Fernoy  
10-10-06.

Sir

With reference to the correspondence re the non-recovery of advances made to the Porters of the Mandi Field Force, I have the honour to forward the following statement in reply.

From the correspondence I understand that,

(a) It is alleged that I neglected to take proper precautions for the correct issue of pay to the porters engaged for the N.F.F. during the time that I held the appointment of S.O. (G.M.G.) to the force.

(b) This neglect led to the non-recovery of a sum of Rs. 553, (difference between money advanced to and recovered from porters enlisted for the N.F.F.)

(c) Unless I can render a satisfactory explanation on the matter I am to refund the amount of the deficit.

With regard to (a).

Porters were enlisted by Civil Officials in accordance with Mobilisation Orders N.F.F. No. 5.4/-25/9/05, who should have provided them with brass tickets. This was not done in all cases, as is borne out in the Staff diary page 6 of the N.F.F.

After enlistment they were sent up the line where it was my duty to distribute them to Columns.

At Nairobi, finding that some of them had not got the brass tickets, I went to the Collectors Office and requested him to give me them, but this he failed to do, which failure I reported to the C.S.O. As the porters were still being sent up the line without being properly equipped, I wrote to the Collector requesting that the matter might be seen into. This communication was not answered but had on the whole the desired effect.

In consequence of the haphazard manner in which porters were being collected, equipped and despatched, I anticipated at once the possible result and took the following steps:

(1) I issued orders to the transport Officers of all columns that no advances whatever were to be issued to any porters under any circumstances. (This will be found in one of the letter books handed over by me to my successor).

(2) I caused the authorized total number of porters enlisted to be entered in a book in which was also entered the distribution of the porters to the various columns. This was to ensure that no more than the authorized number were paid.

With regard to (b):

I issued a circular to all Transport Officers that no porter was to receive pay unless the head man of the gang could produce a "chit" showing the numbers and names of his gang and their dates of enlistment and discharge. (This will also be found in the same letter books handed over by me).

According to Mr. Gamble's statement the non-recovered advances arose from porters which he admits were made after I had relinquished

my appointment; these may have been made under orders of the censor, but in the absence of such orders were in direct contravention of the instructions issued by me.

With reference to the statement by Mr. Gamble and corroborated by Major Mackay that I refused to take over the numbered tickets, I give of an unqualified denial, as I had no verbal communication with Mr. Gamble on this subject before leaving Nairobi to go up country, as is suggested in the letter from Mr. Gamble to Major Mackay. The tickets in question were eventually found in Major Mackay's Office by the Adjutant of the 3rd M.A.R. (Capt. Jenkins) on the demobilisation of Columns.

I was fully aware of the necessity of badges and, as their issue would have greatly simplified my work, I could have no possible motive in declining to take them, and even if I had so declined, Mr. Gamble had only to report the matter to the senior officer at Nairobi who would have ordered me to take them over.

With regard to the telegram from Capt. Haycock that he received orders from me as to the issue of advances, either Capt. Haycock's memory must have failed him or else the order, through no fault of mine, must have miscarried; at the same time I can find no authority to advance pay, as was done by Capt. Barrett and Haycock, persons whom they could not identify and for which they could not account in return. This must therefore have been irregular, I should be much obliged if this correspondence could be referred to Major Hennessey who is now in England and who, I think, will be able to set me straight.

In conclusion, I beg to point out that ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> letter conveys a very serious imputation on the manner in which I carried out my duties; I therefore request that my statement of the facts of the case may be put on record, so that my future prospects in the service may not be prejudiced by the unfounded allegations made against me.

I have the honour to be  
Sir

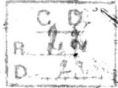
Your obedient servant

*Chas. H. Henson* Captain

Lancashire Fusiliers.

W.O. 38602

SAP



Indy 23 October 1906

DRAFT

Sir

Genl Col L.R.H. Pope-Hennessy

I am directed by the Earl of Elgin to transmit to you the accompanying copy of a letter which was addressed by Mr. O. Gamble, Paymaster, 1<sup>st</sup> Distt. A.A.R., (late Staff Officer (Finance), Wandri Field Force) to Major J. Mackay on the 30<sup>th</sup> of June last, together with a copy of Major Mackay's reply of the same date.

MINUTE.

- 11. ~~Bottleby 20/60~~
- 11. ~~Ellis~~
- 11. ~~Mr. Antrobus~~
- 11. ~~Mr. Cor.~~
- 11. ~~Mr. Lucas~~
- 11. ~~Mr. Graham~~
- 11. ~~Sir M. Ommalley~~
- 11. ~~Mr. Churchill~~
- 11. ~~The Earl of Elgin.~~

22/10/06

Gamble to Major Mackay 30 June  
(over - 34204)  
Major Mackay to Mr Gamble 30 June

Copy to 693 30 Oct 30 June

I am to advise whether you require a portion to confirm Mr. Gamble's account of

The communication between  
him and Capt. Hiram  
as to the number of  
the parties attached  
to the Field No., as  
its correctness has  
been denied by the  
last named officer.

7  
R. S. A.