



EAST AFR. PROT  
No. 8542

C/O  
8572  
REC'D &  
RES 12 MAR 06

File or Individual.

(Subject.)

1906

Mail Service to and from Aden.

10th March

Question of alteration of dates of departure from Aden so as to afford a service alternating with that maintained by the German Steamships was not by any means referred to B.I.S.N.C. - copy reply enclosed. It is not possible to alter their arrangements, except in matter of port of call.

at previous Paper.

(Minutes.)

Mr. Hoar

The G.P.O. and the B.I.S.N.C. are both unable to and unwilling respectively to effect any improvement in the service at Aden. Tending a decision as to further representations being made on the general question of sending mails by foreign v. English lines. ? Aden Comis report in 1905 sent him copy of our G.P.O. & G.P.O. (45376) & of their reply & would be useful to ask for his observations on the advantages of having a fortnightly service with regular ports of call & an alternate & homeward voyage.

Approved to 14 Aug 27.07  
Approved 29 Aug 31.03

W. Arthur

The contract runs for year to year, although it may not be possible to make any alteration for year, then it is never why we should not consider the position next year. The point must be whether the commission of a cargo service from Aden to Zanzibar by

8572 -  
Address reply to "The Secretary, General Post Office,"  
quoting Registered No. 93081.

3572

GENERAL POST OFFICE, LONDON.

10 March 1906.

198

Sir,

with reference to your letter of the 16th ultimo,  
No. 40398/1905, enclosing a copy of despatch No. 581, dated  
the 16th of October 1905, from the Acting Commissioner of the  
British East Africa Protectorate, relative to the Contract  
with the British India Steam Navigation Company for the Mail  
Service between Aden and Zanzibar, I am directed by the  
Postmaster General to acquaint you, for the information of the  
Secretary of State for the Colonies, that the question of  
altering the dates of departure of the Packets from Aden, so  
as to afford a service alternating with that maintained by the  
German steamships, was not long ago referred to the Directors  
of the British India Steam Navigation Company, in consequence  
of the representations made by the Postmaster General of the  
Protectorate and in a despatch addressed to the Foreign Office  
by His Majesty's Agent at Zanzibar.

From the Company's reply, of which a copy is enclosed, it

will be seen that the alteration proposed would interfere

Secretary of State,

GENERAL OFFICE.

materially

4-10-2765-71-15

materially with the service between London and  
 Zanzibar, and that they do not think it public either at  
 London or at Zanzibar that the Company's operations  
 should be affected by the inconvenience and  
 expense involved. In view of the magnitude of the Company  
 to carry out the service, and of the fact that it  
 had, there, and in other parts of the service  
 would not, it is, the Postmaster General approved  
 to line the service for the year 1896.  
 prepared on the same lines as the service for 1895.

As regards the suggestion that the Company should  
 the Company's route to Zanzibar, I am  
 the route, and the fact that the service is not  
 returned, and that the Company should not be  
 at those ports.  
 If it were the fact that the Company, of course, and their  
 when the Company, and that the service is not  
 to deliver, and that the Company should not be  
 has, and that the Company should not be  
 to deliver, and that the Company should not be  
 has, and that the Company should not be

As

As the Postmaster General is doubtless aware, the Contract  
 with the British India Steam Navigation Company now runs from  
 year to year, subject to the concurrence of the Lords  
 Commissioners of the Treasury. The service was formerly  
 known as the slave trade service, having been maintained with  
 a view to the suppression of the slave trade, and was taken  
 on the Foreign Office vote. It is stated that it could  
 be justified on purely postal grounds.

In these circumstances and in view of the representations  
 made by the Directors, the Postmaster General does not feel  
 that he is in a position to press the Company to alter their  
 existing arrangements, except in the matter of ports of call,  
 as referred to above.

I am, Sir,  
 Yours faithfully,  
 R. D. ...

*R. D. ...*

copy.

British India Steam Navigation Company, Limited.

9 Throgmorton Avenue,

London 18th October 1905  
E.C.

Ref. No. 448,982/05.

200

Sir,

With reference to your letter of 4th instant, I am instructed by the Directors of the British India Steam Navigation Company to say that they have carefully considered the proposal made by the Postmaster General of the East African Protectorate, to start the mail packets from Aden for Zanzibar a week earlier than at present, so as to alternate with the sailings of the German Steamers, and find that the effect would be to interfere materially with the cargo service between London and Zanzibar, which is maintained by a connection at Aden between the Company's steamers which run between London and Calcutta, and the local steamers which run between Aden and Zanzibar, inasmuch as it would involve cargo for Mombasa and Zanzibar, which is already detained five days at Aden by the present arrangement, being detained seven days longer at that port.

The Directors do not think that any advantage, commensurate with the inconvenience and expense involved by the detention of cargo, would be secured to the Mombasa and

Zanzibar

Secretary,  
General Post Office,  
London E.C.

bar companies by alternating the British and German services as proposed, especially seeing that Zanzibar and Mombasa have besides these two mail services, three other services per month.

I am instructed also to mention that this cargo service, is the only British cargo service via the Suez Canal, of some value to the Foreign Office, who have at least on some occasion urged the maintenance of the connection. The proposed alteration, involving twelve days detention at Aden, practically make the service unworkable.

The Directors express the hope therefore that the Post-General will be pleased to sanction the continuance of the present sequence of sailings for 1906 as at present, and that I will approve of the pro forma time table which I have the pleasure to submit herewith, and which is made up on that basis.

I am, etc.

(34) P. V. Abdul,

Secretary.

72

~~Pat~~ ~~EAT~~

8572  
874

201

DRAFT

AT (2-148)

Ans 20/4

4 April 1906

Common  
Major Sadler C85

MINUTE.

- Mr. Lobb <sup>21</sup>/<sub>3</sub>
- Mr. Ellis
- Mr. Antrobus
- Mr. Cox.
- Mr. Innes.
- Mr. Graham.
- Sir H. Osmanney.
- Mr. Churchill.
- The Earl of Elgin.

2/4/06

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Jacksons despatch of the 16th of October 1905, and in reply to transmit to you, for your convenience, the accompanying copy of prospectus on the subject of the proposed service between Aden and Zanzibar.

2. The Company's service would appear to be irregularly ill adapted for the carriage of passengers and from the evidence the above mentioned ship it is clear that the service is not...

S.P.O. 10-2-02 of  
(40396)  
S.T.O. 53051 10-2-02 of  
(8572)

to Mr...