

EAST AFR. PROT.

C. P.
222

2 2 2 3 3

Reg.
No. 15

Home Office

1915

13 May

Last previous Paper.

8/29253/M

A. R. F. Mayer

Applic for Naturalization

Sends letter & encl. recd from previous
Summons & Summons submitting applic on
behalf of the group. Asks to be info of
decision taken.

Mr. Stanley
Dr. G. Fiddle

Write to Miss^{rs} Simmons & Summons
saying that their l^r has been
forwarded to the G.O. by the B.O.,
who state that the case is clearly
not one in which the applicant
is qualified for a C^{ts} of Naturalizⁿ
in the U.K.; & that, so far as
naturalizⁿ in the S.A.P. is concerned,
Mr. H. is advised that Mr. Dr. is
Equally unqualified - send copy of
our reply to H.O., taking the
opportunity of enclosing copy

To Messrs Simmons & Summons
London (copy above)
copy correct 29/5/15
Copy to Messrs Simmons & Summons G. W.O. 30 Oct 15 48617
21 May '15
M/M

Next subsequent Paper

W.O.

48617

of 29253 + of your reply - +
send copy of the present corresp - to
H. W. in D.T. in continuation of
depts: of the 7th of Aug: on
53/15?

H. W.

17/5/15

has amongst other things in hand "A" by saying
that the B. Nationality Status of Africa
Act 1948 does not enable the Gov. of a
British Protectorate to grant certificates
of naturalization to African resident
in the Protectorate

H.R.

7/5/15

at once P.S.

7.5.15

Robin 3

of 29253 + your copy
and copy of the present concept - to
H. L. in continuation of
depts: of the 7th of Aug: on
53/15?

H. L. L.

17/2/15

For message regarding "A" by saying
that the B. Nationality Status of African
Ad. you have not made the Gov. of a
British Protectorate to grant certificates
of naturalization to African resident
in the Protectorate.

K.R.

7/5/15

at once P.R.

7.5.15

Room 3

Any further communication on the subject of this letter should be addressed to—

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,
HOME OFFICE,
LONDON, S.W.

and the following number quoted—

278178

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HOME OFFICE,
WHITEHALL

15th May, 1915.

C O
22233

REC'D
MAY 15 1915

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary McKenna to forward a letter with enclosures, which he has received with reference to the application of Rudolf Frans Mayer for a Certificate of Naturalization, and to say that the case is clearly not one in which the applicant is qualified for a Certificate of Naturalization in the United Kingdom, and the papers are therefore transferred to the Colonial Office to deal with. Mr. McKenna will be glad to be informed of the answer sent to Messrs Simmons & Simmons.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

J. M. Pender

The Under Secretary of State,

Colonial Office.

Encs.

278178

SIMMONS & SIMMONS,

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS—

CONTROL CENT LONDON

TELEPHONE NO 386 & 411 BARR.



74, CHEAPSIDE,

LONDON, E. C. 5th May 1915.

5

The Secretary,
Home Office,
Whitehall. S.W.



Sir,
On the 21st May of last year we were informed by a representative in your department, in reply to an enquiry on behalf of our client Mr Rudolf Franz Mayer, that residence in a British Colony was not sufficient to entitle him to be naturalised here and that he must have resided in this Country for a period of five years.

Mr Mayer who is at present residing at Nairobi, British East Africa and is the joint proprietor with Mrs Maia Anderson of the newspaper called "The East African Standard, Mombasa Times and Uganda Argus", which is described as the oldest established newspaper published in British East Africa or Uganda, is most anxious to obtain his naturalisation under the circumstances hereafter related, and he instructs us to say he thinks, having regard thereto, he has a right to ask His Majesty's Government for protection.

We are instructed that Mr Mayer was born in Frankfort on Main on the 3rd February 1874 and went to South Africa in 1896 to join a relation in Kimberley and towards the end of that year he joined the Artillery section of the Diamond Field's Horse to help in the suppression of the

The Secretary, Home Office, contd (2)

SIMMONS & SIMMONS,

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS—

CONTROL CENT LONDON.

TELEPHONE Nos 1034 & 1034 BANK.

74, CHEAPSIDE,

6

LONDON, E. C.

19

Pokwani Rebellion. He then took the oath of allegiance to Queen Victoria believing by that action he was recognised as a British subject as there was no other Colonial naturalisation law. In 1900 owing to business depression in South Africa he went to British East Africa and but visited this Country in 1914 has resided there ever since. In 1897 he became a member of the Church of England.

Mr Mayer further instructs us that some years ago his local Solicitor tried to obtain his naturalisation but was informed it was impossible as there was no naturalisation law in force in British East Africa. * In May of last year, as before mentioned, we made enquiries as to his naturalisation here and was informed that later in the year legislation would be passed which would enable him to obtain his naturalisation as one of our Colonial subjects. He states he is the only German subject allowed to reside in British East Africa and further that the authorities in this Country receive the "East African Standard" regularly and therefore must be well aware of the fact that it most strongly supports the local military authorities and that he has several times been thanked for his help and that he has, in addition, been asked to translate confidential documents for the military authorities. Mr Mayer points out that his position is serious as he has always acted as a British subject and considered himself as

* no trace of papers etc

such since taking the oath of allegiance in 1896, but the local military authorities have warned him that if by any chance he should fall into German hands he would be considered a traitor as his newspaper has been so strongly anti-german.

The firm of Anderson & Mayer is, he states, a British firm and all his interests are British. If you desire to make enquiries about him he requests you to refer to Brigadier and General Owen Thomas, /Mr J. J. B. Saffery of 35, Queen Victoria Street, E. C., who has acted as London Agent to his firm for years and is prepared to speak for him.

His ambiguous position is detrimental to his business and to his English partner who has five English children entirely dependent upon her, one of whom is now serving at the Front.

Mr Mayer has sent us a copy of an Affidavit sworn by the Revd. Marcus Fallon, Chaplain, Nairobi, on the 27th November 1914, which is as follows:-

"I, Marcus Fallon, Clerk in Holy Orders, at Nairobi, East Africa Protectorate, make oath and say as follows:-

1. "I have been closely acquainted with and have known Rudolf Franz Mayer, Proprietor of the "East African Standard" Newspaper for about six years.

2. "The said Rudolf Franz Mayer has been a regular attendant at the Church of England since I have known him and I have administered Holy Communion to him.

Secretary, Home Office contd (4)

SIMONS & SIMONS,

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:

CONTROL CENT LONDON

TELEPHONE HW 1024 354 5000

74, CHEAPSIDE,

8

LONDON, E. C.

19

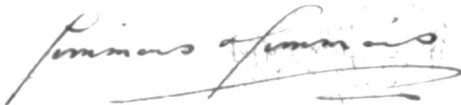
3. "I have absolute confidence in the loyalty and integrity of the said Rudolf Frans Mayer.

"What is stated above is true to the best of my knowledge information and belief."

Mr Mayer has also sent us a letter from the Chief Secretary to the Local Administration, the Hon. C. C. Bowring, a letter from the Chief Justice, Judge Hamilton, and one from Mr W. K. Motley, the Commissioner of Police, copies of which we enclose. These letters you will see speak highly of our client and we shall be glad if you will kindly take them into consideration. We shall be happy to let you have the originals if you so desire.

Trusting you will give the matter your sympathetic consideration, under the British Nationality and Status of Aliens Act, 1914.
We are, Sir,

Your obedient servants,





278178

9

C. O.
22233REC'D
REC'D 15 MAY 15

The Secretariat,
East Africa Protectorate,
Nairobi.

March 30th 1915.

Dear Mr Mayer,

You have asked me to record in writing that I have known you since your arrival in East Africa fifteen years ago, and I understand that you have reason to believe that such a certificate from me will assist you in obtaining your naturalization papers as a British Subject.

I have much pleasure in certifying that I have known you since the year 1900 and that I am aware that you have been associated with the publication of the "East African Standard" first at Mombasa and latterly in Nairobi for about 12 or 13 years.

I am also aware that you have been endeavouring to become a naturalized British subject for some time past but that you have been unable to do so owing to the fact that the Naturalization Act of 1870 is deemed not to apply to a British Protectorate.

Believe me,

Yours very truly,

O. C. Bowering

(Chief Secretary to the ^{Govt} ~~East~~)



278178

10

Re: Rudolf Frans Mayer.

This is to certify that I have known Rudolf Frans Mayer for the past six years - he is the joint proprietor of the Standard Printing & Publishing Works, Nairobi, and of the East African Standard, a Daily and Weekly Newspaper circulating in East Africa & Uganda.

His firm is one of good standing in Nairobi and nothing is known against his character.

W.K. Netley

COMMISSIONER OF POLICE.

Nairobi,

18th. December 1914.



278178

11

High Court of East Africa,
Mombasa, 22/1/15.

Dear Mr Mayer,

Your position as regards naturalisation as set out in your letter of the 20th inst. seems to be most unfortunate.

If it will be of any assistance to you I am happy to state that you have been known to me ever since your arrival in East Africa and that to the best of my knowledge you have always been a quiet and law-abiding citizen.

I am,

Yours truly,

R.G. Hamilton.

No. 22233/1913

EXP

12

fit.

CW

24 May 1915

Gentlemen,

DRAFT.

Miss Simmons
and Simmons.

MINUTE.

Mr. Harper, 18/5/15.

Mr. Bottomley, 18/5/15 f.

Mr.

Mr.

Sir G. Fiddes.

Sir H. Just.

Sir J. Anderson.

Lord Jellicoe.

Mr. Harcourt.

With reference to
to the Home Office
your letter of the 5th May,
relating to Mrs. Rudolf
Franz Mayer, I am
to state that he is

informed by the
the Home Dept
Home Office, that the
case is clearly not one
in which the applicant
is qualified for a
Home Certificate of
Naturalization in the
United Kingdom

Yours faithfully,
W. Harcourt

copy Gov. 262, 21 May 1915

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7	8	9	10	11	12

C.O. 533 160

BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

advised that so far as
 the B.N.P. is concerned the
 Mayor is equally unqualified,
~~for naturalization~~
 and that the British Nationality
 & Status of Aliens Act 1914
 does not enable the Gov.
 of a British Protectorate
 to grant certificates of
 Naturalization to aliens
 resident in the Prov.

2
 (Signed) H. J. READ.
 for the Under Secretary of State

H.O. 22233/1915
 C.D. 10 MAY 20
 Supt 20

13

21 May 1915

Sir,
 I am directed by Mr Secretary Harcourt
 to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th
 of May, No. 278778, and
 to transmit to you, for
 the info. of Mr Secretary
 Harcourt, the account
 copy of a letter addressed
 to Messrs Simmons &
 Simmons on the subject
 of the application of Mr
 Rudolf Franz Mayer
 for a certificate of
 Naturalization.

I am to take
 this opportunity to

DRAFT.

The N.S. of S.
 H.O.

MINUTE.

- Mr. Harcourt, 18/5/15.
- Mr. Barton, 18/5/15.
- Mr.
- Mr.
- Sir G. Fiddes.
- Sir H. Just.
- Sir J. Anderson.
- Lord Islington.
- Mr. Harcourt.

Mem J. & S. 21 May 15
 J.S. 7 Aug 14
 7 Aug 14 (29253)

copy Gov. 362, 21 May 15

comes with ~~the~~ summons
summons, dated the 7th of
August last, on the subject
of Mr. Mager's arrest
in the East.

(Signed) H. J. READ.

for the Under Secretary of State

come with ~~some~~ ~~information~~
information, dated the 7th of
August last, on the subject
of Mr. Mager's arrest
in the East.

(Signed) H. J. READ,
for the Under Secretary of State

Simmons and Simmons.

74 Cheapside, London, E.C.

5th May, 1915.

The Secretary,

Home Office, Whitehall, S.W.

Sir,

On the 21st — May of last year we were informed by a representative in your department in reply to an enquiry on behalf of our Client Mr. Rudolf Franz Mayer, that residence in a British Colony was not sufficient to entitle him to be naturalised here and that he must have resided in this Country for a period of five years.

Mr. Mayer who is at present residing at Nairobi, British East Africa and is the joint proprietor with Mrs. Paia Anderson of the newspaper called "The East African Standard, Mombasa Times and Uganda Argus" which is described as the oldest established newspaper published in British East Africa or Uganda, is most anxious to obtain his naturalisation under the circumstances hereafter related, and he instructs us to say he thinks, having regard thereto, he has a right to ask His Majesty's Government for protection.

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Mr. Mayer further instructs us that some years ago his local Solicitor tried to obtain his naturalisation but was informed it was impossible as there was no naturalisation law in force in British East Africa. In May (last) of year, as before mentioned, we made enquiries as to his naturalisation here and were informed ^{that} later in the year legislation would be passed which would enable him to obtain his naturalisation as one of our Colonial subjects. He states he is the only German subject allowed to reside in British East Africa and further that the authorities in this Country receive the "East African Standard" regularly and therefore must be well aware of the fact that it most strongly supports the local military authorities and that he has several times been thanked for his help and that he has, in addition been asked to translate confidential documents for the military authorities. Mr. Mayer points out that his position is serious as he has always acted as a British subject and considered himself as such since taking the oath of allegiance in 1896, but the local military authorities have warned him that if by any chance

chance he should fall into German hands he would be considered a traitor as his newspaper has been so strongly anti-German. The firm of Anderson and Mayer is, he states, a British firm and all his interests are British. If you desire to make enquiries about him he requests you to refer to Brigadier General Owen Thomas and Mr. J. J. B. Saffery of 35, Queen Victoria Street, E.C., who has acted as London Agent to his firm for years and is prepared to speak for him. His ambiguous position is detrimental to his business and to his English partner who has five English children entirely dependant upon her, one of whom is now serving at the Front.

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2. "The said Rudolf Franz Mayer has been a regular attendant at the Church of England since I have known him and I have administered Holy Communion to him.

3. "I have absolute confidence in the loyalty and integrity of the said Rudolf Franz Mayer.

"What is stated above is true to the best of my knowledge information and belief".

Mr.

Mr. Mayer has also sent us a letter from the Chief Secretary to the Local Administration, the Honourable U.C. Sowing, a letter from the Chief Justice, Judge Hamilton, and one from Mr. W. K. Motley, the Commissioner of Police, copies of which we enclose. These letters you will see speak highly of our client and we shall be glad if you will kindly take them into consideration. We shall be happy to let you have the originals if you so desire.

Trusting you will give the matter your sympathetic consideration under the British Nationality and Status of Aliens Act, 1914.

Yours etc.,

(Sd.) Simmons and Simmons

The Secretariat,
East Africa Protectorate,
Nairobi.
March 30th, 1915.

Dear Mr. Mayer,

You have asked me to record in writing that I have known you since your arrival in East Africa fifteen years ago, and I understand that you have reason to believe that such a certificate from me will assist you in obtaining your naturalisation papers as a British subject.

I have much pleasure in certifying that I have known you since the year 1900 and that I am aware that you have been associated with the publication of the "East African Standard" first at Mombasa and latterly in Nairobi for about 12 or 13 years.

I am also aware that you have been endeavouring to become a naturalised British subject for some time past but that you have been unable to do so owing to the fact that the Naturalisation Act of 1870 is deemed not to apply to a British Protectorate.

Believe me, Yours etc.,

(Sd.) C.U. Bowring.

(Chief Secretary to the Government)

Re: Rudolf Franz Mayer.

This is to certify that I have known Rudolf Franz Mayer for the past six years - he is the joint proprietor of the Standard Printing and Publishing Works, Nairobi, and of the East African Standard, a Daily and Weekly Newspaper circulating in East Africa and Uganda.

His firm is one of good standing in Nairobi and nothing is known against his character.

(Sd.) W.K. Notley.

Commissioner of Police.

Nairobi,

12th December, 1914.

Copy.

High Court of East Africa,

Mombasa.

22/1/15.

Dear Mr. Mayer,

Your position as regards naturalisation as set out in your letter of the 20th instant seems to be most unfortunate.

If it will be of any assistance to you I am happy to state that you have been known to me ever since your arrival in East Africa and that to the best of my knowledge you have always been a quiet and law-abiding citizen.

I am, etc.,

(Sd.) R. C. Hamilton.