

16000

27/11/17

EAST AFR. PROT.

16000

War
(with New Zealand)

1917

MILITARY EXPENDITURE

SUPPLY OF STAFF, COAL ETC. FROM INDIA

26 March

Last previous Paper.

Enclosed copy of letter from India Office reapp recovery of cost. Proposed to agree procedure that value of rans from India by Director of Rlys in P. should be debited to M.O. in Indian War Accounts with arrete for credits in Cannon Charges Act for issue to Uganda Railway.

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After consulting his Read I telephoned to Mr. Woodhead regarding this involves our accepting the position (already taken by W.O. with regard to coal & from Delagoa Bay) that the working of the military railways is a concision change. This is implied by our memo: on 57217/16 which included in M.C.C.A. "all cost of transport within East Africa".

It is obvious that this is a point which will require special consid in the final settlement of accounts & I made it clear to Mr. Woodhead that we still keep a hand as to the basis of

See below 4 April 1917 16513.17

Next subsequent Paper.

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adjustment — also

- (1) that the credit in favour of U.S. will require a special vote to be made as regards capital supplies for the Uganda Reg.
- (2) that the U. R. credit will not be made this financial year.

W.C.B. 28.3.17

See no 16573

26th March, 1917. 208

16000

REC^D
REC^D 27 JAN 17

Dear Bottomley,

With reference to your note of 25th October last, about railway staff, coal and material sent from India to East Africa, I enclose a copy of a further semi-official letter of 21st instant (and enclosure) from India Office.

The original correspondence from the India Office (copy sent to you with my letter of 21st October) seemed to point to the Uganda Railway only being concerned, and it was accordingly agreed that India should recover everything from the Protectorate. It now appears that Military railways also are concerned. I propose to agree, therefore, to the procedure now suggested, viz: that the value of coal and stores requisitioned from India by the Director of Railways in East Africa should be debited to the War Office in the Indian War Accounts - provided that satisfactory arrangements are made for credit to be given in the East Africa common charges

India Office,
Whitehall,
S.W.1.

1st March 1917.

REC^d
RECEIVED 27 JAN 17

Dear Croeland,

Please refer to your note of 26th October (0165/7969) requesting that claims for the value of railway materials and coal supplied to East Africa should be preferred by the Government of India direct on the Protectorate Government. I now enclose a telegram from India urging, at the instance of the Director of Railways, East Africa Force, reconsideration of the procedure.

It is clear that the Director is taking steps to recover the value of any supplies made by him to the Uganda Railway proper, as distinct from military etc. railways. Consequently, as all charges in India are to continue to be reported separately, in so far as they relate to the operations in East Africa, do you think you could, without inconvenience, now consent to the debits being raised in the War Accounts? I gather from the correspondence that the "Director of Railways" on whose requisitions the supplies from India have been made is independent of the management of the Uganda Railway proper. Perhaps there was some little misunderstanding on this point when the correspondence from India was originally submitted to you.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) M. Robinson.

Telegram.

From
Viceroy (Finance).Dated
19th March 1917.

Received at India Office 20th 9 a.m.

16000

REC.
REF. 27 MAR 17

Please refer to your telegram dated 27th October 1916 and Robinson's letter to Well dated 1st November 1916 regarding adjustment of the value of supplies of coal materials for Uganda Railway. We had issued necessary instructions to give effect to your Order but have received following representations from Director of Railway Construction Darassalam:-

"Referring to your Circular 157-B/16 6th February I would explain that all staff and stores asked for from India were requisitioned by me for military purposes. Some staff was given to assist Uganda railway while working under control of Military Department. Complete lists of such staff have been already sent to you with examiners No. E/15 6th instant, and debit against Uganda Railway for recovery of advances made in India can be therefore raised by you. As regards stores certain things were issued to Uganda Railway by me from Military Stores and materials originally received from India for military railways, and action is being taken here already to obtain refund in kind or recovery of value, which latter would be treated as reduction of war expenditure for railways. Readjustment proposed in your circular therefore means heavy extra work with some eventual results. I venture to suggest reconsideration. Readjustment involves heavy extra work in India too, and we accordingly support Director's proposal that the value of the coal and stores supplied from India should be adjusted through war accounts, necessary credit to Imperial Government being afforded in British East Africa Accounts. In any case we would ask for early information whether orders contained in your telegram dated 27th October 1916 are likely to be modified in view of representations from Director of Railway Construction, as it is desirable to avoid two sets of readjustments.