

PARAPHRASE TELEGRAM

From the Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Governors of the East Africa Protectorate, Uganda, Zanzibar, Nyasaland and Somaliland.

(Sent 4.10 p.m. 5th May, 1917.)

Recd 3 May 1917
2.57 PM

Secret.

In face of the grave danger to food supplies in United Kingdom we are confronted by the prospect of serious privations at home and it is necessary for all exports of food to be stopped with exception of those foods which can be shown to be both absolutely unobtainable elsewhere and indispensable.

Salt, milk, coffee, and salt fish are the only exceptions to the above rule.

This cancels the arrangements previously made in my secret telegram of 2nd February and subsequent correspondence.

In so far as substitutes cannot be found locally you should consider most carefully how far foodstuffs for EA you have asked from United Kingdom can be obtained from EA or South Africa and you if necessary should communicate with EA the necessary arrangements with EA Governments.

When any public notification on the subject is made by you you should also explain that self denial on the part of the civil population both at home and overseas has become necessary in order that essential supplies for troops on active service may be maintained.

LONG.

Words underlined to be varied according to local peculiar situation of the various Colonies.

EA South Africa cases of Somaliland.