

E. AFRICA  
HONG KONG

C. O.  
23583

23588

REC-  
REV. 17 APR 19  
133

WAR

1919  
6th April

STATUS OF EAST AFRICA AND HONG KONG VOLUNTEER CORPS

Previous Paper.

Instances applications received for demobilisation  
and requests information as to status of corps.

~~See previous paper~~

As regards the E.A. forces referred  
to the report that they are  
"consisting chiefly of white settlers"  
local forces raised in connection  
with the campaign <sup>against</sup> in S.E.A.  
& that members of these forces  
were employed in the local  
operations but were not liable  
for service outside East Africa; and

28/7/49

that there was no compulsory  
military service in E.A. before Dec<sup>r</sup>. 1915.

~~See previous~~

West. 19.4.19

Subsequent Paper.

Eastern Dept. requires that they say that the force  
was raised for purposes of local defence: that  
members were not liable for service  
P.T.O.

outside the Colony & that there  
was no compulsory mil. service  
in NZ before 31 Dec 1915.

AM 1/3/29

(Can't say this was kept)

At once  
AEO

should be made  
The Secretary,  
War Office,  
Park Buildings,  
St. James's Park,  
S.W.1.  
Following number quoted.

War Office,  
Park Buildings,  
St. James's Park,  
S.W.1.

23583  
REC'D  
APR 17 1919

15th April, 1919.

134

Dear Lambert,

We are receiving applications for demobilization of men who are now serving in the forces and who were prior to the 1st January 1916, serving in various volunteer contingents in the Colonies. Under Army Order 55 of 1919 we are retaining for the Armies of Occupation, with certain exceptions, men under 37 years of age who did not enlist for immediate or continuous service with the colours prior to 1st January 1916, but where men can prove that they have served prior to that date in some force, which placed them under compulsory obligation to serve if called upon, we are in certain cases extending the privilege of demobilization to them.

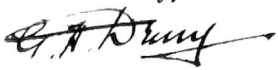
I have two cases before me now in one of which the man produces a discharge certificate from the East Africa Volunteer Corps in which he appears to have served as a pioneer in the East African Pioneer Company, having been discharged therefrom on the 31st December 1914 at Nairobi.

In another case a man produces a certificate of leave from the Hong Kong Volunteer Corps in which he appears to have served as a private from the 4th May 1914 to 15th March 1917.

I should be much obliged if you can give me any information as to the status of these volunteer corps. Whether they had joined the corps the men were subject to any compulsory obligation to serve either at home or overseas if called upon to do so.

I should be glad if you will let me have this information at your earliest convenience.

Yours faithfully,



Esq., C.R.E.,  
Office,  
Downing Street,  
S.W.1.

Enclo: 1. 588  
W 023588

WAR OFFICE,

PARK BUILDINGS,

ST. JAMES' PARK,

LONDON, S.W.1.

8th May, 1919.

135

Dear Lambert,

I should be much obliged if you could let me have a reply to my letter of the 15th April, a copy of which is enclosed, as the information asked for therein is urgently required.

Yours faithfully,

*G. H. Dury*

11, Regent Street, C.B.E.,  
Colonial Office,  
Downing Street,  
S.W.1.

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C.O. 533

220

Copy

15th April, 1919.

136

Dear Lambert,

We are receiving applications for demobilization of men who are now serving in the forces and who were prior to the 1st January 1916, serving in various volunteer contingents in the Colonies. Under Army Order 55 of 1919 we are retaining for the Armies of Occupation, with certain exceptions, men under 37 years of age who did not enlist for immediate or continuous service with the colours prior to 1st January 1916, but where men can prove that they have served prior to that date in some force, which placed them under compulsory obligation to serve if called upon, we are in certain cases extending the privilege of demobilization to them.

I have two cases before me now in one of which the man produces a discharge certificate from the East Africa Volunteer Corps in which he appears to have served as a pioneer in the East African Pioneer Company, having been discharged therefrom on the 31st December 1914 at Nairobi.

In another case a man produces a certificate of leave from the Hong Kong Volunteer Corps in which he appears to have served as a private from the 4th May 1914 to 16th March 1917.

I should be much obliged if you can give me any information as to the status of these volunteer corps. Whether when joined the corps, the men were subject to any compulsory obligation to serve either at home or overseas if called upon to do so.

I should be glad if you will let me have this information at your earliest convenience.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) G. H. Drury.

Lambert Esq., O.B.E.,  
Colonial Office,  
Downing Street,  
S.W.1.

C.O. 533

920

RECEIVED  
OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
FOR THE COLONIES  
15 APR 1919  
OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
FOR THE COLONIES  
LONDON

23588/19 Laafua

137



*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten mark]*

RAFT.

The Secretary  
Loan Office  
[Park Buildings  
St James Park]  
MINUTE.

8<sup>th</sup> May 1919

Sir

Pringle, 5 May  
Baker, 6 May

- Handl.
- Lambert
- Flour
- Fiddes
- Moory
- Milner

With ref to the Drump  
letter to Sir Henry Lambart of  
the 15<sup>th</sup> April regarding the  
demonstration of members  
of various volunteer contingents  
in the town, I am sorry to state  
for the info of the A.C. that  
the 20 names referred to are  
local forces consisting chiefly  
of white settlers raised in  
connection with the campaign  
against Laafua members

in the local operations but were  
not liable for service outside  
E. Africa.

The ~~Kenya~~ ~~Volunteer~~ Corps  
was formed for purposes of local  
defense & its members were not  
liable for service outside the Col.  
I am to add  
that there was no compulsory military  
service in the E. Africa or in  
Kenya before the end of 1945

W. G. B. B. B. B.