

EAST AFR. PROT
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War

1919
Dec

Non-European Clerks of Milky Audit & MAC
C.A.P.C

Last previous Paper
T
12
187

2 copies of telegram recd re - of C.A.P.C
and original counterforce from Mr
G.D. Curwalkar

Mr. Curwalkar

has to the fact which has been
sent to us since and registered as 65 of
The paper is not clearly stated
and if taken as there are one side of
the as before but what appears
to have happened is

Certain Clerks were engaged
as temporary clerical clerks in the
Pay Dept, Audit Dept and Labour
Corps, at various scales of salary

In consequence of the increase
cost of living certain ~~clerks~~ were
made in their salaries ~~clerks~~ were
made to them in the shape of ~~clerks~~
allowance

Next subsequent Paper
50
70987

allow and full pay leave. It is
claimed, however, that even so their
salaries are less than those of ~~our~~ permanent
civil clerks (with war bonus) or of Asiatics
working under military conditions.

The clerks of the Pay Corps apparently
appealed for ~~the~~ ^{civil} war bonus on
the ~~same~~ scale.

The clerks of the other Dept.
appealed for ~~the~~ ^{same} and were told
that they would not have it
because they were temporarily engaged, and were
not in the ~~same~~ ^{same} military
regiment of the ~~same~~ ^{same} (branch).

(I) that they would not have
the ~~same~~ ^{same} ~~scale~~
(I) ~~the~~ ^{same} ~~scale~~
(I) ~~the~~ ^{same} ~~scale~~

The result of their appeal was
that the authorities decided that ~~the~~
action made to the Pay Corps clerks
was a mistake and that ~~the~~
payments made.

As regards action I do not think
we can do anything but send a copy
of the encls. (6872) ~~all~~ ^{all} do as we don't want
two copies) to O.A.C. Lt. ref our Lt. in
68196 ? C.J.J. 11.12.19

x except for the
tel. from Memo
which must be

at [unclear]

En. [unclear]

was 11.12.19 [unclear]

[unclear]

For Office,
London, S.W.1.
Number quoted,
Veronica 948.

C.O.
69325
RE-
9 TC 3

WAR OFFICE,
LONDON, S.W.1.

0165/1068. (P.2.a.)

December 1919.

Sir,

in continuation of war office letter no. 0165/1025.
of the 11th ultima, I am directed to forward herewith for
disposal, copy of a telegram which has been received in this
department relating to the east African Pay Corps, Non-
Europeans, and the Original correspondence received from
Mr. W.S. Radwalker, receipt of which has been acknowledged.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. D. ...

W. D. ...
the Assistant Financial Secretary.

The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office,
S.W.1.

TELEGRAM

DLA 49/15 Nairobi 77 15 00

LCO TROOPERS LH

East Africa Pay Corps Non Europeans, duly attested on
corps strength treated as soldiers under Martial Law found
eligible for gratuity and bonus entered into further years
agreement to serve from April last gratuity and bonus paid
as privates. Headquarters now consider payment erroneous
and recovery being effected from salaries similar
concession allowed Indian personnel Tickers Transport
etc. Requesting you instruct suspend recovery memorial
posting Headquarters Refuse forwarding hence send direct

YOUR REPRESENTATIVE STAFF

B. TADWALKER,
MILITARY ACCOUNTANT
AND
AUDITOR.

ESTATE AGENT

AND BROKER

WARREN

TELEPHONE NO. 242

P. O. Box No 319

491

Nairobi, 28th November, 1919.

Enclosed:-

- 1 Confirmation of order
- 2 Supplementary Cable Petition
- 3 Letter from me to the Commandant

Mr. A. J. J. J.



Sir,

On 28th October 1919 for and on behalf of the non-European and Asiatic Clerks of the Military Audit Department and Military Labour Corps a brief petition of their grievances wasabled for your favourable consideration and decision. In the ordinary course this should have been transmitted to you by the General Officer Commanding E.A. Force but since he declined to do so, petitioners were under the painful obligation of sending it direct to you.

A copy confirming the cable referred to is enclosed herewith.

This petition having had to be called mentions briefly the broad outlines of the grievances of your Petitioners and it has therefore been necessary to supplement it by enclosing an appendix containing such explanation and additional information as was not convenient to be included in the telegram.

Trusting that this will receive your favourable consideration and thanking you in anticipation of your reply in due course.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

The Secretary,
WAR OFFICE,
LONDON

Your most obedient servant

B. Tadwalker

Confirmation of Cable despatched

492

on 29th October 1919.

by

Mr G.B. Tadwalker for and on behalf of
Non-European Asiatic clerks of the Military Audit and
Military Labour Corps. Nairobi.

Troopers

Copies to

Chatelries

Kaloph Estrand

London.

Non-European and Asiatic clerks of Military Audit and Labour
Corps respectfully submit:-

Recognizing abnormal increased cost of living adequate
concessions for relief were granted from January 1917 to Asiatic
civil subordinates vide Sir Alfred Lascelles report to
Colonial Secretary. Petitioners were mostly attested and served
Military about five years. Regardless of this and high cost of
living they were deprived of War Bonus Gratuity and other
similar concessions due to military men. Petitioners submitted
to proper authorities that other Asiatic clerks of East Africa
Pay Corps have been given the concessions mentioned above and
since the Petitioners were equally subject to these trying
circumstances they craved that at least such relief as was
thought adequate and imperative by Sir Alfred Lascelles in the case
of civil clerks may not be withheld from them. In common
fairness Petitioners have been offered relief on new scale viz
addition of Rupees thirty per month to cover increased cost of
living from April last and also grant of 57 days wages after
three years completed service which is entirely inadequate and
unfair in view of fact Petitioners stood in graver necessity of
relief than now. After Petitioners engagements wages were con-
solidated, ration allowance to extent of Rupees fifteen to
thirty being included but not War Bonus Gratuity House
allowance etc.

P.T.O.

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The point therefore petitioners were engaged in salaries inclusive of everything is simply misrepresenting and erroneous another point also to be borne in mind being grades on civil basis were introduced and increases in salaries from time to time were given in consideration of comparatively more responsible duties performed. This only proper enquiry will show.

Petitioners consider they loyally served the Government during War and are therefore justly entitled to either civil concessions or to military privileges such as War Bonus Gratuity House allowance Clothing and Equipment allowance Passage to India etc. Pray that these be granted to all of your humble petitioners including those Asiatic clerks who were discharged being redundant prior to November 1918 and who received no relief on any scale. Petitioners who have been suffering grievously on so prejudicial and unjustifiable grounds look to you at the last moment for justice and fervently hope and trust they will not look in vain.

General Officer Commanding refused to forward this cablegram hence this direct. As result of this recoveries of concessions above referred are now being made from Asiatic Clerks of East Africa Pay Corps

(From

Lawalker for Clerks

Post Box 312.

E. B. J.

SUPPLEMENT TO PETITION CALLED ON

22nd OCTOBER, 1919.

The position of the petitioners is briefly thus:-

The Petitioners are Asiatics and were engaged early in 1914-1915 in the Military Audit Department and Military Labour Corps. Majority of them have been attested for the convenience of the Departments and have been serving locally since that year. When the economic conditions became more and more acute they applied to the General Officer Commanding and also to His Excellency the Governor of the Protectorate for relief and requested that the privileges due to Military men be granted. They also pointed out that other Asiatic Clerks of the East Africa Pay Corps who were on the same footing as your Petitioners have been granted the Military privileges of War Bonus and Gratuity. As they were attested and their case therefore should be similarly treated, but this was declined on the ground that the Petitioners were Civil men. Petitioners having been compelled to throw themselves on the help of the Government applied for civil concessions as recommended by Sir Alfred Mascelles in the case of Civil Servants. This was also declined for the reason that the Petitioners were neither Civilian nor Military men and that individuals concerned were locally engaged temporary clerks who were taken on as Civilians to supplement the establishment of certain Military Departments and they therefore are not entitled to any of the concessions applied for. The Staff Captain East African Expeditionary Force further stated in his letter of 22nd October last "They were given certain allowances on account of extra cost of living and in view of the fact that several had rendered long service, General Officer Commanding sanctioned their/given leave on discharge according to the length of the service". Petitioners fail to understand the reason given above. According to

a long period of service. The Petitioners of course understood that after six months of the termination of the War, services of the Petitioners would be dispensed with, if this is to be taken as the temporary service then the whole War was after all a temporary one and the augmented staff of the Military both combatant or otherwise was on the temporary service but in spite of all this the Military privileges appear to have been given, such being the case the Petitioners consider it a piece of misfortune that such an excuse should have been brought forward in the way of relief although they did so excellent work refraining all the time from protesting against more trying hardships they had to contend with during the critical times of the War. Petitioners' services have been at least as long if not longer as those of any staff of permanent civil department, the rigours of war were equally trying to both permanent and temporary, the Petitioners therefore doubt the justification or withholding the grant of relief on the Military or civil scale which was deemed so imperative and necessary by the Home Authorities. It is simply bewildering to the Petitioners to see that a differentiation should have been made between Asiatic and Asiatics whose case is identical with with the Petitioners. For your information it might be stated that the Asiatic clerks of the East Africa Pay Corps were also temporarily engaged like the Petitioners and were attested and considered as soldiers and the Chief Paymaster has seen his way to meet his clerks and privileges such as War Bonus and Gratuity have been granted, yet the Acting Director of Military Audit and Director of Military Labour had thought fit to deprive their clerks of the relief on the grounds above referred to. A petition was submitted to the Government here for grant of relief on civil basis as recommended by Sir Alfred Lascells but the reply received from the Chief Secretary to the Government is as follows:-

"I am directed to state ~~xxxx~~ that clerks of the Military Audit Department having been engaged at an inclusive scale of salary are not entitled to any payment in respect of War Bonus, House Allowance, Passage to India or leave allowance on account of service in that Department".

The reason for non-payment of concessions asked for entirely differs from the reasons given by the Staff Captain East African Expeditionary Force and which have been dealt with in the preceding pages. In the opinion of the Chief Secretary the reason that Petitioners were Non-Civil and non-Military and temporary is of no moment but he considers that salaries were inclusive of War Bonus, House Allowance and all other items the petitioners asked for, in consequence none could be granted. It must be clearly stated here that on the date of the Petitioners' appointments in 1914 or subsequent to that year scale of salaries on civil basis ranging from Rs. 60/- to Rs. 250/- was arranged. When the War started it was impossible for any one to say how long the War would last and far less to gauge and predict the effects of the world-wide War on the Civil or Military service of this country. In view of this fact how the starting salary of say Rs. 75/- to 90/- was inclusive of War Bonus, Gratuity, House Allowance, Passage to India and Leave Allowance on account of service or other concessions granted to relieve the employee from the acute economic condition ruling in or after 1917. Instances can be suitably quoted and it can be proved that the salaries were not inclusive ones. This fact will be driven home by the instance which is given below:-

A certain clerk was employed in March 1916 on salary of Rs. 60/- per mensem subsequently his salary was raised to Rs. 80/-. This included Rs. 15/- for Ration Allowance. This termed in official records as consolidated pay. Further increments having been granted every year his salary reached to Rs. 125/- in August 1919. In consideration of the high cost of living a sum of Rs. 30/- as from April 1919 was

added.

added to his salary making a total of Rs.155/- per month. Later on his services were transferred to the Protectorate service and his salary there was Rs. 75/- plus Rs.45/- for House Allowance Rs.50/- for War Bonus making a total of Rs.170/- per month. If this clerk were to join the Protectorate service in 1917 he would have drawn the same amount of Rs.155/-. This is generally the case with all the Petitioners. In the year 1916 a certain allowance of Rs.15/- to Rs.30/- in lieu of rations was given and this was added to the salaries of the Petitioners and is being termed as consolidated. If the salaries of Petitioners were inclusive of everything the petitioners confidently believe that this extra allowance would never have been added to their salaries subsequent to their engagements. The Petitioners made repeated representations to the Civil and Military Authorities and pointed out how they were thrown into the depth of distress by pursuance of a policy so harmful to the interests of the Petitioners. The General Officer Commanding ruled later on by which Petitioners were granted 57 days' wages after three years' completed service that also at the option of the Departmental Officer and addition of rupees thirty for a month to cover the increased cost of living commencing from April 1919 for those who agreed to serve for a year or less as required from that date. The inadequacy of this palliative scale would be obvious to you when it is stated that the Petitioners stood in graver necessity of relief in and after 1917 when they are getting less pay than in April 1919 and the fact Sir Alfred Lascelles would not have recommended higher scale of concessions unless he found grave conditions justifying his doing so. The Highest civil or Military authorities in the country having greater or more important matters pressing upon their attentions hardly find opportunities to go into the details of such matters and a tendency of relying upon the decisions submitted by the Heads of Departments unfortunately arises and in countries like this where there is such a profuse growth of colour prejudice matters prove disastrous to the coloured subordinate staff generally, unless they are really under a very

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very sympathetic officer as is not the case at present of the unfortunate Petitioners. The Petitioners frankly admit that they have been in other matters treated in a fair manner by their officers and it has been a pleasure to work with them for so long a time. All the civil concessions granted so generously by His authority for relief have been given to the civil servants both Europeans and Asiatics all alike. But the great war is over all Europeans both temporary and permanent, combatant or non-combatant have all been paid War Bonus, Gratuity and other allowances, without hesitation but not a single Asiatic save a few Asiatic artisans and mechanics has been favoured with the grant of these military privileges, but he is refused for some reason or other. Not only this War Bonus and Gratuity which were granted to the Asiatic clerks of the East Africa Pay Corps are now being recovered as a result of representations made by the Petitioners for grant of these privileges to the General Officer Commanding, East African Expeditionary Force.

Your humble Petitioners therefore beg to bring to your attention the sad disappointment which prevails amongst the large section of the Asiatic Clerks of the Military Audit and Military Labour Corps in this country at the unjust treatment meted out to them on so prejudicial and so obviously unjustifiable grounds and earnestly beseech you that the ~~same~~ relief on the lines indicated in the enclosed cablegram be granted at an early date to your humble Petitioners.

A. P. Jaisankar
For the Petitioners.

7th November, 1919.

500

G. B. Tadwalkar Esq.
Nairobi.

Dear Sir,

I beg to bring to your notice one point in connection with the Supplement to the Petition dated on 23rd October 1919 on behalf of the staff of the Military Labour Corps. It is this that the contention appears to be that we are neither civilians nor military and on this plea payments due have been evaded to the Asiatics. So far my knowledge goes no civilian is awarded a Meritorious Service Medal but it is only due to the military men now by virtue of my good services I was awarded this medal and it has been a great surprise to me. Now under this circumstances the payments due to me as a military man could successfully be evaded. My staff were attested as a regular equipment and treated as military in the early period of the war. After the late on a new policy of exclusion from Asiatics in the military operations was inaugurated and as a result of this we have been called upon to face this situation.

I am sorry that as well as these points at the above mentioned consideration and the supplementary petition if possible.

Yours truly,

Arthur Joseph

(Sd)

Arthur Joseph