

EAST AFR PROT.
15804

15804
REC'D
Prd 5 APR 15

Governor
Elfield 171
1915
23 March
Last previous Paper.
6/65

OIL FUEL
SALE TO PUBLIC

States for reasons given is not in favour of
suggestion made by Mr E.W. Cowan. Pending further
expression of of S's views is unwilling to pursue
matter further.

Mr. B. [unclear] Mr. G. Fiddes.

I think we must agree
with the Gov., whose views
appear to be sound.

To the Gov. we concur in
~~that sale to the public is inadvisable~~
his ~~view~~, and inform Mr
Cowan that the oil imported
by the Gov. for its use will
not be available for purchase
by private individuals.

The agreement seems to be final - so far at least
at least in principle, as far as
local ~~govt.~~ sale for profit is concerned. On
the general question of principle, I do not
think we are bound to accept the view that the
establishment of new industries
necessarily be subject to the interests of the Gov.

To Cowan 6 April 15

Subsequent Paper

merchant.

Wells

7/15/15

P. S. R.

7/14/15

alone P. S. R. 9. 4. 15

No. 171

15804
5 APR 15

March 15

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 56 of the 22nd of January respecting the sale of oil fuel to the public by the Government and to state in reply that I am not in favour of the suggestion made by Mr. E. W. Cowan on this subject.

2. Clause 9 of our agreement with the Anglo-Persian Oil Company reads:-

"The buyers guarantee that the fuel oil purchased under this agreement is solely for their own requirements and undertake not to resell the same".

3. Apart from the condition imposed in this clause I do not consider it is desirable that the Administration should sell any of their stores to the public except in cases where it is necessary for the public service and where the sale is for the benefit of the public.

... within a reasonable period of
time elsewhere in the country. The successful
administration of a large system is of too
great an importance to include in the operations
of a trader, and I would submit that it is not
advisable that we should enter into competition
with industries that rightly and properly belong
to the trading community, and should assist the
development of the commercial industries and
future prosperity of the country.

4. The present enquiry is in connection with
industries of the future, in which there is
sufficient time for an oil fuel supply to be
established outside our own system, and I am of
opinion that it would be a most fair and legitimate
ground for complaint on the part of local merchants
if we were to comply with the request, or
quote selling ~~the~~
the

Gov. 15804/1915
E.A.P.

475

4 April 1915.

Draft.

Sir,

F. W. Lawson Esq

M. Inst. C. E.

[$\frac{C}{765/15}$]

With reference to the letter from this Office of the 20th of January I am directed &c to inform you that the Gov. of the E.A.P. has reported that oil fuel imported into the Prot. by the Gov. for its own use will not be available for purchase by private individuals.

F. W. L. 12/4/1915.

Bottomley 12.4.15

Stamp: *SECRET* (partially obscured)

15804/1915
APR 13 3 APR

14 April 1915.

Sir,

DRAFT.

APR

No. 244

Mr. Sir H. C. Bedford.

MINUTE.

Mr. Harper 12/4/15.

Mr. Bottomley 12.4.15

Mr.

Mr.

Mr. G. Fiddes.

Sir H. Just.

Sir J. Anderson.

Lord Islington.

Mr. Harcourt.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 171, of the 8th of March and to inform you that I concur in your view that the sale of oil fuel to the public by the Post.

should not be admitted. ~~is inadmissible~~ ~~admitted~~ ~~admission~~

L

(Sgd.) L. HARCOURT.

Drafts