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MR. A. BLANKWITZ CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION
DUE TO MILITARY OPERATIONS

915

April

The copy of proceedings of Board of Investigation. Finding is that net pay is \$13,14.8 in full compensation. Amount is to be charged to War Expenses. Reader's sanction.

Previous Paper

4144

W. Thompson Sanction kept as proposed
- + send copy of corresp to the
P.O. for info. with ref to 7-0
4/14/62

17.

H. J. R.

30/12/15

Perhaps as he is a U.S.
Citizen we should

tell P.O. we propose
if they concur to
Sanction pay ment

CB

at proposed by Mr. Thompson 4/4/62
at office H. J. R. 5/1/62

Jan 367 - Copy to file and 20 may 2234
Copy original to W.O. on 8 April 1962

Subsequent Paper

22234

C. O
19762
REC-29 APR 15

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
NAIROBI,
BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

AFRICA PROTECTORATE

No. 258.

April 7th, 1915
216

zc

Sir,

With reference to your despatch No. 974 of 29th October, 1914, on the subject of Mr. C. A. Blanko's claim for compensation for loss incurred owing to the occupation by Indian troops of his premises in the Protectorate known as the "Tsavo Tannery". I have the honour to transmit to you a copy of the Proceedings of a Board held for the purpose of investigating the claim.

2. The finding of the Board, in which I concur, is that Mr. Blanko should receive the sum of Rs. 206/- or £13.14.8 in full compensation for losses. This amount is to be charged as "War Expenses".

3. I should be glad to receive sanction to make payment accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

GOVERNOR

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
LEWIS HARCOURT, P.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET,
LONDON, S. W.

30
4/14/15
14
Proceedings

No. F.W. 136.

From Officer Commanding, Voi.
to Brigade Major, Mombasa Area.

With reference to your note dated 14.2.15 re the compensation to be given to Mr. Blanke.

1. In view of the fact that the claimant Mr. Blanke neglected to make any arrangement to leave any representative in charge to protect his interests or his factory at Tsevo, or, if he did, such representative took no steps to make himself known to the Military Authorities when the factory was visited; I am of the opinion that no compensation should be given to Mr. Blanke.

2. The damage done by the Military is as small as to be quite negligible.

The pump is returnable, in good order, and is valued at £100. The value of the paint, scantlings, etc., is returnable as a trade.

Paint	15-0-0
Scantlings	10-0-0
C.I. 20 sheets	20-0-0
Nails, nuts, etc.	8-0-0

For the hire of 60 sheets of iron roofing, at 10/- per sheet a hire of Rs. 1 per sheet might be paid.

Suggested maximum compensation is Rs. 206-0-0 net.

Correspondence returned.

(sgd) Lt. Col.
Commanding Troops, Voi.
Voi. 19.2.15.

19.2.15.

The Brigade Major,
Nairobi.

Ref 34 B.A. d/ 22.12.14, forwarding petition of Mr. Blanke to the Secretary of State for the Colonies re Tsevo Tannery.

Mr. Blanke's petition appears as item 4 of his letter to be based on uncertain information, and is devoid of detail. A Board of Officers was assembled at Tsevo on 20th Dec, 1914, to enquire & report on the damage alleged to have been done to the Tsevo Tannery by the Military, the proceedings of which are attached. From the proceedings of the Board it is elicited that the chemicals have not been utilised or damaged by the Military authorities, but have been afforded the best protection available and not been exposed to the weather.

Should these chemicals be found to have deteriorated on the return of the owner, the loss he sustains would be entirely due to the fortunes of war.

Some sheets of corrugated iron roofing etc have been used, but have not been much deteriorated in value.

The Board attach a list of articles such as scantling and a pump which have been utilised in the absence of the owner, and which some compensation might be given.

I am informed that Mr. Blanke did not himself visit the Tannery and left in charge of a Mr. Le Petit. This Mr. Le Petit left the country, and in turn left the Tannery in charge of a Mr. Le Petit.

On the outbreak of war the Tannery building was used as a Hospital of the 39th Punjab, whereupon Kanau disappeared. I am informed that this matter was paid by a Mr. O.N. Rees, of E.T. Since then the building has been used by the Supply Depot at Tsevo. I also enclose a statement by Mr. W.H. Krolinger, (late Lieut) sometime Supply Officer at Tsevo.

(sgd) Lt. Col.
Commanding Troops Voi District.

Voi. 18.2.15.

Transferred to G.O.C. Mombasa Area.

(sgd) I.M. Stewart, Brig. General,
Commanding Nairobi Area.

Proceeding of a Board assembled at the Tsavo Tannery by order of the O.C. Tsavo on the 30th December 1914 for the purpose of assessing as far as possible the damage done and loss incurred to the Tsavo Tannery property during the occupation of the same by the Military Authorities.

President. Major. A. A. McHarg. R.E.
Members.

213

Capt. D. S. George 98th Infantry
Lieut. D. H. Moulford 98th Infantry.

The Board having assembled are of the opinion that it is impossible for them to state what stores were removed from the Tannery prior to the 26th of November 1914.

Major McHarg R.E. and the detachment 98th Infantry arrived at Tsavo on the 26th of November 1914.

On the 30th of December 1914 there is no responsible person present residing in Tsavo who is able to furnish any information with reference to any articles taken from the Tannery since its occupation by the Military authorities prior to the 26th November 1914.

The Board suggest that a reference be made to Lieut Furlong (since ~~retired~~ retired) and that he be asked to give any information he can.

The following articles have been taken on loan from the Tannery since the 26th November 1914 for Military purposes and should be returned at the end of the war.

- 1 Pump & 57 feet of pipe line value Rs. 200/-
(in use at Tsavo camp)

The pump it is reported was broken by African Transport coolies, but is still workable.
Rs. 100/- would probably fair compensation for damage done to pump cost of carriage and re-erection at the Tannery.
30 corrugated galvanised iron sheets 9' x 2' 3"
1 small iron double block pulley
1 small iron single block pulley
1 coil of wire priced Rs. 15/-
1 rope 5/-.

The following articles have been taken over permanently:-

- Paint value Rs. 15/-
- 5 scantlings of wood 20' x 5" x 3"
- 20 corrugated galvanised iron sheets 9' x 2' x 3"
- 40 iron nails (4" long)
- 20 3/4 nuts washers and bolts for C.G.I. sheets.
- 2 small 4oz sample bottles containing apparently poison were for safety's sake destroyed.

Apart from this no other chemicals have been touched, and should they deteriorate the loss incurred should be borne by the owner.
The following chemicals were found

- 5 Carboys sulphuric acid (about 6 gals each)
(one was open and full)
- 3 drums of linseed oil about 24 gals
- 1 1/3 rd of a cask of lime (open)
- 1 drum of oil (open)
- 6 large casks of alum (unopened)
- 10 large casks of dry chemicals (unopened)
- 5 large casks of dry chemicals (open)
- 5 small casks of dry chemicals (open)
- 1 drum containing some liquid (open)
- 1 drum containing some liquid (unopened)
- bins of chemicals
- 1 tin of chemicals (open)

The above appear to be in good condition and are stored under cover in a shed belonging to the Tannery with protection from wind and rain on all four sides.

The following additional stores were found:-

- approximately 200 sheets of corrugated G.I.
- 100 Scantlings of wood
- 2 rolls of wire netting
- 3 clewbars
- 2 cutting tools
- 1 two handled saw
- 1 grindstone.

The board have issued instructions that all the scantlings of wood, and the corrugated iron G. sheets should be collected and stored away, and a safety map of all the stores at the

Owing to the members of the Board being unacquainted with the local rates, they are unable to quote rates for articles taken and they suggest that a reference be made to local contractors for these rates.

(sgd) A.A. Montagu. Major. R.E. President etc.
D.S. George. Capt. Members. 1st Lt. Staff
D.R. Montagu. Lt.

20070 20.12.11.

Gov. 19762/1915

220

7 MAY 1915

E. A. P.

W
E

10 May 1915

Hand 20234

DRAFT

With reference to

your letter of the

10th inst.

in which you

transmit

to be

read before being

Edward Roy, the

accompanying copy

of a deep-sea enclosure

from the Gov. of the Ed.

Copy for 5720234
Copy for 5720234
Copy for 5720234
Copy for 5720234

relating to the claim of
Mr. C. A. Blanche, a
United States citizen,
for compensation for loss
incurred owing to the
occupation by Indian
troops of his premises
in the Park known as
the "Isavo Tannery".

2. Subject to Sir
E. Grey's concurrence, Mr
Harcourt proposes to
sanction the payment
of the compensation recommended
by the Government.

(Signed) H. J. READ,
for the Under Secretary of State