

1924

K-NYA

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C.O.
49095
17 JUL 24

GVERNOR CORYNDON 1248

18th September 1924.

CIRCULATION:-

Bottley

SOLDIER SETTLEMENT SCHEME.

W. Strachey

Fwds petition from twentythree alien soldiers who were not eligible to participate in 1919 lottery, for grant of land. Not disposed to consider favourably.

U.S. of S.

U.S. of S.

Secretary of State

Previous Paper

H. G. C.
31593

MINUTES

It was decided on 31/10/24 not to re-open the land settlement scheme in favour of selected applicants who were unsuccessful in obtaining farms. There can clearly be no question of going on to favour of these applicants who were debarred from participation in the scheme by reason of not being British subjects, even if the view were taken that the limitation of the scheme to British subjects

Subsequent Paper

M. 60178
799 1/2

MINUTES.

MINUTES NOT TO BE WRITTEN
ON THIS SIDE.

subjects was in fact

inadvisable

Oft. for current

herewith.

1883 11 24

It was agreed that rather
than of us to remove
British soldiers or to
interfere with the country, but
that does not mean that
we should after five years
of the release of them.
And as it was not a
land release. I do not think
it is necessary to
take any further action.

KENYA
No. 1248.



GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
NAIROBI,
KENYA

C.O.
49095
17 OCT 21

18th September, 1921.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to my despatch No. 724 of 31st May, on the subject of the petition from British Ex-Soldiers who were unsuccessful in the lottery for farms under the Settlement Scheme in 1919, and to forward herewith a petition from twenty three alien Ex-Soldiers who were not eligible to participate in that lottery.

2. The reasons given in that despatch for my inability to recommend the earlier petition apply with equal force to the present memorial, and I am not disposed in the circumstances favourably to consider the representations made by persons, whose claims were not contemplated in the original scheme.

3. With regard to the statement in the covering letter from Messrs. Shapley and Schwartz to the effect that the petitioners have approached the local Government, I am advised that there is no record of a concerted application in the terms of the petition having been made nor indeed of any individual application.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient, humble servant

R. J. Long
GOVERNOR.

RIGHT HONOURABLE

J. H. THOMAS, P.C., M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET, LONDON, S. W.,

HAPLEY & SCHWARTZ:

P. O. Box 286,
Advocates & Solicitors:

N a i r o b i

9th August, 1924.

Sir Robert T. Coryndon, K.G.M.G.,

His Excellency the Governor,

The Colony and Protectorate of Kenya,

N a i r o b i .

Your Excellency,

Petition by Alien Ex-Soldiers:

I have the honour to enclose herewith in triplicate a formal petition from certain Alien Ex-Soldiers, who served in the Great War, and are now resident in this Colony and Protectorate, and to request you to be kind enough to forward same to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the favour of his consideration.

Our clients inform us that they have approached the local Government here, but that it has not been possible to do anything for them on the lines they have sought, but they would humbly request Your Excellency to favourably support their case.

We have etc.,

Ed. Shapley & Schwartz.

ENCLOSURE

Dated this ninth day of August, 1924.

Kenya
Match No. 24 of 18.9. 1924

283

A

P E T I T I O N

from

ALIEN EX-SOLDIERS.

KENYA COLONY.

000

Nairobi.

Kenya Colony.

9th August 1924.

The Right Honourable J.H. Thomas,
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
Downing Street,
London.

Sir,

Re. Aliens who served in the Great War.

We, the undersigned persons who are all of alien birth and are now residing in the Colony and Protectorate of Kenya, beg to present out humble petition to you as follows:-

At the out-break of the Great War, when the call was made for volunteers to protect the Empire in its hour of need, we responded to the call alongside of the many others who joined up, and were, of course, largely citizens of the British Empire.

We set out our names and records of service below for your information and same can be substantiated by reference to the Official Records.

Soldiers who served in the Great War and were British Subjects (and in some cases, we understand, are not) were given an opportunity to acquire land in this Colony under the Soldier Settlement Scheme and as a result of this a large number of them have received grants of land upon very favourable terms. In this connection, we would venture to point out that the original purchase price which was to be charged for what were termed "B" farms was reduced and is in practice remitted on the necessary developments being completed, whilst the "A" or smaller farms were allotted free of purchase price.

The Right Honourable J.H. Thomas,
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
Downing Street,
London.

9th August 1924

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We have represented our case, to the best of our ability, to the local Government with a view to obtaining grants of land on similar terms to those granted to other British soldiers who were not of alien origin, but we have been told that nothing can be done for us in the matter of such grants or indeed in any other way.

We are all of us settled in this country and earning our living here and we all expect to remain here permanently and make this country our home, and we therefore venture to lay our humble petition before you for your favourable consideration on the broad and general principle that ^{as} we were considered good enough to be allowed to fight for the British Empire, we should be conceded similar privileges to those granted to the others of our fellow soldiers and that a dividing line should not be drawn against us because we happen to be of alien origin.

We would point out that most, if not all, of us would have become naturalized British Subjects by this time but for the intervention of the War and the consequent difficulties which were imposed thereby, and as a matter of fact it has not been possible for us to become British Subjects by naturalization or we should have accordingly done so.

We have proved our willingness to defend the country we live in and should be ready to do so again if the need should arise, and, in this connection, we would venture to draw attention to the fact that

The Right Honourable J.H. Thomas,
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
Downing Street,
London.

9th August 1924

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foreign subjects, as for instance in French Morocco, have formed a Foreign Legion for emergency service, and this we would be prepared to do if thought desirable, but probably, in view of our number, Government would prefer to utilise our services in the Defence Force.

There are not a great number of us but we believe we can honestly claim to have done our duty and would leave our case in your hands with a view to the matter being fully considered and some recognition made to us, preferably in the right to acquire land, in accordance with the principles of British justice which we take it will be extended to all those who fought for the British Empire in the Great War.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most humble and obedient servants,

Name. Edward Ruben Rank 1st Grade Conductor
No. 1557 Corps. P.A. Animal Transport
Service. 4 years and 120 days to 13/12/1918.

Name. Constance Rank
No. Corps. Military Labour
(Carriers Hospitals)
Service. From 24th February 1917 to 30th September 1918

sd/- Lt. C. Cagnolo.

Name. John Maraviglia M.B.F. Rank. Lieutenant
No. (Medical Assist.)
Corps. Military Labour
(Carriers Hospitals)
Service. From 28th January 1916 to 28th February 1919.

sd/- Lt. J. Maraviglia.

Name. Joseph Prina. Rank. Lieutenant (Medical
Corps. Military Labour (Carriers
Hospitals)
Service. From 7th January 1916 to 31st October 1918.

sd/- Lt. J. Prina.

Name. Lorenzo Ferrari Rank. East African Volunteer
No. 3143 Corps. East African Pioneer
Campaign.
Service. From July 19 - 1915 to Jan. 7th 1916.

sd/- Lorenzo Ferrari.

Name. Otto Stenmark Rank. Sergeant
No. 3048 Corps. E.A. Pioneers
Service. from 4 years 183 days.

sd/- Otto Stenmark.

Name. Alexander Scordoulis Rank. Accountant
No. Corps. Supplies
Service. from 14th September 1914 to 15th Sept. 1916.

sd/- A. Scordoulis.

Name. Salvin David Kampf. Rank. Sergeant.
No. Corps. Ordnance Dept.
attached list.
Service. from 11th August 1915 to 1st December 1916
5th April 1916 to 14th October 1916
Protectorate

sd/- M.D. Kampf.

Name. Jack Katzler Rank. Intelligent Agent
No. Corps. Intelligence Dept.
E.A.M.T.
Service 3 years 7 months.

sd/- J. Katzler

Name. Seraphina Drudi M.B.E. Rank. Nursing Sister
No. Corps. Military Labour
(Carriers Hospital)
Service from 1st January 1916 to 28th February 1916

sd/- Sr. Seraphina Drudi.

Name. Nino de Luigi Rank. Private Driver
No. 2330 Corps. E.A. Mechanics
Service. from August 1911 to 11th Feb. 1918 (8 yrs)

sd/- Nino de Luigi.

Name. John Rifkin Rank. Sergt. Farmer
No. 5034 Corps. East. A. Transport
Service. from 22/10/1914 to 22/8/1916.

sd/- J. Rifkin.

Name. Samuel Rifkin Rank. Sergt. Farmer
No. Corps. E.A. Veterinary
Service. 4 years 189 days

sd/- S. Rifkin.

Name. C.J.S. Poy Rank. Trooper.
No. 151 Corps. East African Mounted
Rifles.
Service. from 25th August 1914 to 27th April 1915.

sd/- C.J.S. Poy.

Name. Joseph Perrachon M.B.E. Rank. Lieutenant
No. (Medical Assistant)
Corps. Military Labour
(Carriers Hospital)
Service. from 7th February 1916 to 28th February 1919.

sd/- Lt. J. Perrachon.

Name. Euripides K. Psiloyenis Rank. Soldier
No. Corps. Inland Water
Transport Royal Engineers
Dares Salaam.
Service. from 29th of August 1917 to 31st March 1919

sd/- E.K. Psiloyenis.

Name. Jules Bernard Poy Rank. Lance Corporal
No. 811. Corps. East Africa Supply
Corps & transferred to the
East Africa Medical Service
Discharged Medically Unfit
after an operation.
Service. From 9th March 1915 to 5th May 1916.

sd/- J.B. Poy.

Name. Alfred Bernhard Johansen Rank. 1st Grade Cook
No. 1604 Corps. East African
Transport Corps.
Service from 8th December 1914 to 31st April 1919.

sd/- A. Johansen.

Name. G.W. Thomson Rank. Driver
No. 2971 Corps. E.A. Transport
Service from 17th March 1917 to 1st April 1919

sd/- G.W. Thomson.

Name. G.H. ... Rank. ...
No. ... Corps. ...
Service. from August 1914 to February 1918 (4 yrs)

sd/- G.H. ...

Name. Gunnar Venustland Rank. Pioneer
No. 2112 Corps. East African
Pioneer Corps
Service. from April 1917 to January 1919 (one year and
264 days)

sd/- G. Venustland.

Name. Aron Woolman Rank. Private
No. No. Corps. E.A. V.P.
Service. from Aug. 1914 to Jan. 1915.
was not allowed to join again as had to look after
Capt. Tryon's farm, which farm E looked after till
the end of the War while he served.

sd/- A. Woolman.

Name. P.E. Anderson. Rank. Lt./Corporal
(Over)

No. 3142 Corps. E.A. Pioneers Coy.
Service from June 1915 to July 1917.

sd/- E. Anderson.

Govt 49095/24
Kenya

296

25/11/24
25

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26 Nov 1924

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the

receipt of your letter No.

1248 of the 18th of Sept.

~~transmission~~ in which you

forwarded a petition from

certain ex-soldiers

for grants of land in the

country.

I am pleased to request

that you will inform me

by return of post that you have

received their petition;

and

that I appreciate the

services which they

rendered to

RAFT.

my

no. 1197

London

MINUTE

figures 3.11.24
Bottomley 3.11.24

Stochay 24/11/24

Graville

London

108 on m

the British ~~transport~~ ^{cause} ~~transport~~ during
the war; but that after

careful ~~conson~~ ^{conson} I regret
to find myself unable to
meet their wishes, as it has

already been necessary
to have ~~had~~ to decide that

there can be no question
of re-opening the Soldier's

Settlement Scheme, (even

with a view to subsidising

the claims of persons who

are already selected in

other schemes.

It is true, but who were

not successful in obtaining

places in the allotment.)

(Signed) L. S. MERRY.

the British ^{cause} ~~interest~~ during
the war; but that after
careful ~~consideration~~ ^{consideration}, I regret
to find myself unable to
meet their wishes, as ~~it has~~
^{already been necessary}
to ~~decide~~ ^{decide} that
there can be no question
of re-opening the Soldier
Settlement Scheme (even ^{that}
with a view to ^{re-opening}
the ^{benefits of} ^{the} ^{scheme}
are usually ^{selected}
in ^{the} ^{settlement} ^{under}
the ^{scheme}, but who were
not successful in obtaining
farms in the ^{settlement})

(Signed) L. S. AMERY.