

1925

KENYA

C.O.
5958

REC'D
RE. 7 FEB 25

DATE

SENIOR CORYNDON.

TEL

6th February 1925.

CIRCULATION:—

Bottomley

M'BARAKI,

Considers that if Inchcape is to retain lease and option proposal to purchase must be abandoned. No difficulty will be raised to development by private enterprise. Cannot agree to cancellation of existing sidings agreement. This is not a special haulage charge.

Previous Paper

MINUTES

We discussed this in Mr. Combs's office room this morning. Draft herewith for circulation.

JHC
10.2.25

W.S.D. 10.2.25

h.a.

Subsequent Paper

Apr. 6295

Telegram from the Governor of Kenya to the Secretary of State for the Colonies. Dated 6th February.

(Received Colonial Office 8.56 a.m. 7th February, 1925)

5958
Recd 7 FEB 25

6th February.

Your telegram of 24th January.

Government is of opinion that if Inchcape is to retain the lease and option all efforts to purchase Mbaraki must be abandoned. No difficulties will be raised to the development of Mbaraki by private enterprise if the terms of the lease are not infringed and work does not prejudice either the control or bed of the harbour itself but this Government has not before it any definite proposals as to how Grogan or Inchcape propose to proceed with such development. Recent conditions at Mbaraki on medical and other grounds are most unsatisfactory. Government however cannot agree to cancellation of existing sidings agreement under which Mbaraki was connected with main line by private siding but it is prepared to ^{introduce same charges} revert to the old truck charges originally quoted to Grogan. ^{as are quoted in page 146 Uganda Railway Tariff Book Feb 1925} The wharfage company ^{for the lease between the pier & sidings wharf etc.} must have been aware of ~~that~~ agreement when it entered into lease.

¹⁹²
²³
This is not a special haulage charge against Mbaraki see Sir Herbert Read's letter to Grogan 19th May 1925 enclosed in your despatch of 23rd May Kenya Confidential. It is the only charge made and is of the same character as all other siding charges in the Colony. There are many other sidings outside Kilindini Port area and all ^{pay} siding charges of the same character but very according to the length of the siding etc. Mbaraki is also outside port area. In view of great increase of traffic and ever prospect of further increase Government is asking you to estimate for substantial extensions of deep water berth(s). Charges at Government berth and lighterage wharf will be re-arranged from time to time so as to secure full use of berth(s) and pier(s) the inevitable loss at the port being met from railway rates.

10.2.25
10.2.25.

Handwritten: J.M. Amsal 29.3.4

Handwritten: 10
Coded 9.25
2.0 P.M.
12.2.25
S.F.W.

Shuckburgh.
Grindle
H. ...
Sterton Smith

as accounted
at ...
11.2.25

12 FEB
13 "
AFT: Telegram

Handwritten: 12 February 1924

SMOR,
rcol.

Your telegram 6th February Crown
prepared to sell Mbaraki estate free of
all encumbrances for £350,000. Owing
to attitude of his bank he is
precluded from giving further
financial support to the Kilindini
Estates Company after completion of the
earthworks contract still in hand and he
says that this involves the fall of
the Company. Matter is therefore
urgent. Am strongly of opinion that
it is to the interest of Kenya Govern-
ment to acquire Mbaraki estate before
further complications are caused by
Kilindini Estate Company going into
liquidation.

Inchcape

Handwritten note:
and purchase rights in
based ...
value and I
it would be that taking
up ... it would be
... if this opportunity
lot of acquiring ...
to ...

Inchcape has definitely

agreed to give up his option to purchase but asks (1) abolition of siding charge to Mbaraki. (2) that he should retain lease of Mbaraki Pier.

This demand however seems to be prompted only by his strong objection to introduction of South African system by which railway controls ports.

Ormsby Gore Commission are in favour of separate port authorities *at East African ports* on which

railway, steamship companies and merchants would be represented. Has

local commission of enquiry on port question reached any conclusions?

Compromise might be reached by setting up port authority on which African

Wharfage Company would be represented together with other interests affected and by giving lease of Mbaraki Pier to that authority which would also control Government Wharves at Kilindini.

Under this arrangement

question of siding working would probably present no difficulty. Other questions

*(without my assistance
to be made 2/10/44
at request of Mr. ...)*

questions would no doubt require consideration but if you agree I propose to sound Inchcape on the lines I have indicated. No doubt it would be necessary for Railway to give subsidy to Port Authority for some years in view of heavy debt charges on Kilindini Wharf.

AMERY.

Mr. Murphy's Son

In connection with the
 of these Mubanski drafts,
 you see Major Egan's
 is attached.

It is proposed that even to
 H. K. Lambert should
 the position with the
 at 11 am Monday.

W. J.

18/1/15

TELEGRAMS. CAPCAL.
TELEPHONE 4487 KENSINGTON.

216

52, DRAYCOTT PLACE,
S. W. 3.

Feb. 27. 1925.

Personal

Dear Anthony

Do please clean up the Nabinski business.

I understand for a few weeks I had written

convinced you that the King's Government is now trying to scramble out of the whole position they declared was in the venture and have now worked it so successfully that they have disfigured the Bank, ruined the Company and reduced me to a state of neglect and bitter despair.

There must be some ethics even in Government transaction in business.

After at long last receiving the offer of Dec. 18th 1924 and your statement at our last interview that the conditions of the offer (which condition incidentally was a quite improper one) had been substantially complied with by Lord Justice's letter, I considered the principle of a sale was finally established and I acted accordingly. I closed all my arrangements for completion of the second part, broke up my organisation and began preparations for another line of activity before I die. It is impossible for me now to begin again and retrieve all the lost thousands after losing all these months of time, and I am in fact already otherwise committed.

The whole affair is an unaffable scandal - which

I want to forget as soon as possible

There must be some ultimate arbiter in these matters. Presumably it is for me and I appeal for protection

I am settled to have the matter cleared up with further delay so that I may still have time to do some other work

Yours sincerely

W. B. George