

1923

KENYA

27B 394

FROM  
THE EASTERN & SOUTH  
AFRICAN TELEGRAPH  
CO. LTD.

DATE  
12 June 1923.

E/C O  
29580  
RE  
RI 13 JUN 23

FOR CIRCULATION:

Mr. Bushell  
Mr.  
Mr. B. Gandy  
Ass't. U.S. of S.

Ass't. U.S. of S.

Ass't. U.S. of S.

Secretary of State.

SUBJECT

DIRECT DEALING WITH THE PUBLIC ON  
MOMBASA ISLAND.

Requests reconsideration of the matter in  
light of correspondence in 1906-7.

Previous Paper

X 25062

Lock + June 7<sup>th</sup>  
x Shuttles around 11 July '23  
copy to Bombay Annex Tiffenhead and -7 and  
Date 35705/23  
copy to London 25  
JULY 7/23 H.P.

## MINUTES

Sent off & recirculated  
Ass't  
13.6.23

1. As regards direct dealing calories before cable copy with public, the G.R.O. have told us in telegram 18337/21 that the general policy of the G.R.O. is to permit "in suitable cases" such dealing.
2. G.R.O. have further said in telegram 18337/21 that it is the practice to grant such facilities; to cable copy in other colonies.
3. But we know from 1.0./573172 that the proposal to allow the E.S.C. to deal direct with the public for the collection and delivery of tel. in Bombay has been abandoned for the present (i.e. up to 1923).
4. Considering further that it will be remembered that

Subsequent Paper

M/S

Mr. J.  
35507  
See  
9/24/23

## MINUTES

MINUTES NOT TO BE WRITTEN  
ON THIS SIDE.

The Marconi Co. in their recent application to erect a long distance station in Kenya have urged that no right to deal directly with the public telegraphable by public and be granted to the Cable Co. Marconi's knew of the negotiations somehow. We have said nothing whatever to Marconi's on the subject, but in view of conf. Dip.

(11/5/23) At Kenya on 2438923, we have told Day that as what would be put to him at any provisional arrangement with the Cable Co., they proposed in the note that the negotiations with the Co. who were to be present for the moment.

On the present S.P.O. view was that there was no reason to refuse giving the cable Co. this right or the right of a possible competitor.

were now given to the Cable Co., without a similar right we have to the 295 given to the Marconi Co., if applied for (see G.R.O. 18337/21).

1. Quite apart from the Marconi point, the Kenya Govt. has been much adverse from giving the Cable Co. a license to deal direct with the public except on terms - see O.R.G. file 681/21. And in earlier history see minute in G.R.O. 42802/20.

2. The matter has dragged on - a now as yet. It appears to come to any sort of arrangement with the Co. over the question, we have reached the present position of dead lock - which, incidentally, suits us very well in one way, i.e. vis-à-vis Marconi in case their scheme for Station No. 2 is proceeded with.

7. The actual position is now  
that negotiations having  
prac'd, the Cables Co<sup>y</sup>  
claims the right to deal  
direct with the public  
in Montrose Island  
in view of a concept<sup>a</sup> that  
existed in 1906 & 1907.  
See concept<sup>a</sup> in question  
is met in S/ 4431/07 {Last  
a m/ 6667/07 {Last  
a m/ 6667/07 {Last

8. Mr. Fitzgerald Travellers  
This claim in S/ 25062/23 &c  
None of his arguments have  
yet been put to the Co<sup>y</sup> by  
- see para 3 of 21321/23

Trouble you, in the first instance,  
advise after reading S/ 4431/07,

m/ 6667/07, S/ 25062/23  
& S/ 21321/23 whether, in  
your opinion, the Cables Co<sup>y</sup>  
can legally claim now  
the right to deal direct  
with the public in Montrose  
Island.

ACCF  
20 6 23

Mr Parkinson  
If you will give me a ring sometime  
when you are in New York  
discuss this. I have some more  
facts

1/3

26  
1/6

his information or to  
part comments from the  
G.P.O here we may have  
to refer to them. best yet

G.S. 19.6.23 a.m.

The London & South African Telegraph Company Limited  
London Wall, London

TA/266.

London

12th June

Sir,

We have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 25062/23 of the 29th ultimo, with regard to the correspondence recently exchanged between ourselves and Mr. Fitzgerald, Postmaster General of Kenya.

Although it is noted from your letter that there is no prospect of any agreement being arrived at for direct dealing with the Public in Mombasa Island, I beg to remind you that this Company claims the right to deal direct with the Public in accordance with the correspondence exchanged with the then Postmaster General of British East Africa in 1906 and 1907 and subsequently confirmed by the Colonial Office in their letter No. 4931, dated the 16th February 1907. In view of this confirmation it is difficult to understand why my Company should be precluded from so acting, and I beg that the matter may have further consideration.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Managing Director.

The Under Secretary of State,  
COLONIAL OFFICE,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

6.  
29080/23 Kenya

293

~~Annot  
35/266~~

DRAFT.

Managing Director,  
African & South African  
Telegraph Company Limited

MINUTE.

Mr. Brett June 30.

Mr. Wilkinson 30/6/23

Mr. Buskell 2/7

Mr. D. W. Sutherland

Sir G. H. Read 2/7/23

Sir J. Masterton Smith

Mr. Ormsby-Gore

Duke of Devonshire

14 July 1923

In reply to your letter of 12<sup>th</sup> June  
I am aware that  
so far as he is aware, no  
claim to a legal right  
~~to~~ deal direct with the public  
in Mombasa Island  
privileges were advanced  
quite recently by your company  
(2) Before it can be tested  
the claim)

~~is to the Regs - must ask~~  
~~I must request you to~~  
that you will be good enough to  
indicate precisely the

point which you claim

to formulate the grounds

upon which the claim is

~~based,~~  
made, with references to

particular documents &

particular words in those documents.

R

(Signature) H. J. REAII

~~is~~ the Sys. must ask  
I am to request you to  
tell you will be good enough to  
indicate precisely the

what which you claim

to formalize the grounds

upon which the claim is

based,  
~~made~~, with references to

particular documents or

particular words in those documents.

P.C.

(Signed) H. J. REAII