

E. AFRICA
ZANZIBAR
S. J. O. G.

C O
9459
12 MAR 13

G.P.O.

1913

11 Mch.

(last previous Paper)

40823/12

Aden-Zanzibar Mail Service

Sends copy letter addressed to Treasury
in further refer to proposals for negotiations
with Honourable Castle S.S.C.

W. Bostanley

As regards para 3, it is worth
noting what was recently
ascertained from a U.C.
Co. officer who came to the
Co. recently, as to an
apt. viz. that all this com-
plaint by the Co. of insufficient
accommodation at K. M. ...
much exaggerated - what he
pointed out was that the

Co had spent on to the ...
since their worst boats -
absolutely unsuitable for

Next subsequent Paper

18440

1913
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Letter to J. Anderson

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We can only put this by, but I think
we ought to suggest to Gen. E. W. P. privately that
he should call for an official report from
the Post Office on how these U. C. boats
are found in the way of loading and
unloading appliances. If it is a fact that
each hold is only served by one winch
or boom (or rather the gear is called that
serves as the jib of the crane), the matter
could surely be put right at very small
expense and ought to be attended to
independently of the question of new boats.

One would be glad to go for the U. C. on this,
but first we must know which of the boats are
deficient in this respect. The "Goth" we know to
be a bad boat in all respects.

Yours
17/13

H. J. R.

17/13

as at H. J. R.

Ch. 10. 3. 13



The Secretary to the Post Office presents his compliments to the
Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies

and, by direction of the Postmaster General

encloses a copy of the undermentioned papers.

General Post Office.

11 March, 1913.

Reference to previous correspondence:

Letter ^{to} ~~from~~ the Post Office of the 5th of February 1912
No. 1835/1912.

ENCLOSURE.

Name and Date.

Subject.

Letter to the Treasury of the
14th of March 1913.

Mail Service to British East
Africa and Zanzibar.

(Similar letter sent to Foreign Office.

COPY.



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GENERAL POST OFFICE, LONDON.

10 March 1913.

5263/12.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 4th ultimo No. 25892/12, concerning the Mail Service with British East Africa and Zanzibar, I am directed by the Postmaster General to state, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, that, as mentioned in the last paragraph of the letter from this Office of the 20th of December last, reasonable facilities will still be afforded by existing services for sending Mails to British East Africa and Zanzibar even if a controlled Mail Service by the East Africa Line of the Union Castle Mail Steamship Company is not arranged.

A statement is enclosed showing the opportunities for the despatch of Mails to British East Africa and Zanzibar during the first quarter of this year, from which it will be seen that, even if no Mails were sent either by the British India Line or by the Union Castle Line, there would still be a Mail Service three times a month under the present arrangement of French and German sailings. The intervals between the sailings vary since the French service - like the Union-Castle - is every four weeks, while the two German services are both performed once in

Secretary,
TREASURY.

each Calendar month. It will be noticed that Mails for Zanzibar sent by French Packet arrive at their destination two days before the Union Castle Steamship is due although despatched from London five days later. This has only been so since the beginning of this year when the dates of sailing of the French Packets were altered.

The Time Table of the Union Castle boats on their outward voyage allows for a stay of five days at Kilindini (Mombasa), whereas the French boats are scheduled to proceed on the following day. It is understood that the provision of additional lighters and wharfe accommodation at Kilindini is in progress; and the Union Castle Company expect to find themselves able to shorten their stay at that port and to accelerate arrival at Zanzibar proportionately.

As the statement shows, the Mail Service with British East Africa is at present mainly dependent upon foreign lines of steamships, and it cannot be said that it would be much less so if a contract were concluded with the Union Castle Company for the continuance of the present Steamship Service as a Mail Service.

From the point of view of the Post Office a subsidized service by the East African Line of Steamships of the Union Castle Company is not a necessity. Mails are at present sent by the Union Castle Steamships from Aden when there is an advantage in point of time in doing so; and payment for the conveyance of the correspondence is made at the Ship Letter rate of 3d. per packet. So far as the Post Office is concerned, and while the call at Aden is maintained, this arrangement might continue as regards Letter Mails.

and negotiations might be entered into separately with the Union Castle Company for the transmission of Parcel Mails to Rhodesia and Nyasaland by the Steamships of their East African Line.

It is understood that the question of the granting of a subsidy to the Company is not entirely an open one since the Agreement between the Crown Agents for the Colonies and the Union Castle Mail Steamship Company, which was signed on the 12th of August 1910, promises in clause 5 that "His Majesty's Government will do their best to arrange for the carriage of Mails outward and homeward by the Steamers of the Union Castle Company, paying to the said Company a proper subsidy for the work done in connexion with carrying Mails".

In consideration of this obligation and of the view expressed by Their Lordships (Treasury Letter of the 2nd of May 1911, No. R085/11) that, failing an arrangement with the British India Company, negotiations might be opened with the Union Castle Line for an improved service such as would justify a transfer of the subsidy from the British India Company, the Postmaster General thought it proper, before proceeding to negotiate, to submit the case for Their Lordships' further consideration. In doing so he valued the service, as explained, at the highest figure which can properly be assigned to it from a postal point of view.

With regard to the last paragraph of Their Lordships' letter under reply, the postal justification for subsidising the Union Castle Line has no doubt been slightly diminished by alterations made in the French and German Services with some consequent improvement of these alternative facilities

of communication. But as Their Lordships are aware the Postmaster General has frequently pointed out that the subsidy of £9,000 to the British India Line can only be partly justified on postal grounds; and he has therefore inferred that Their Lordships, in acquiescing in its continuance, have been actuated by other considerations such as those of commerce or prestige. Whether such consideration should now carry less weight than they have done in the past is a matter on which Mr. Samuel feels that Their Lordships will not expect him to express an opinion.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sd.) A. E. KING.

Opportunities for the despatch of Mails to British East Africa and Zanzibar during the first quarter of 1913.

Steamship	Date of despatch of mail from London.	Route.	Date of arrival at	
			Mombasa or Kilindini.	Zanzibar.
on Castle S.S. Co. East African Line	Jan. 3	Via Brindisi and Aden.	Jan. 22	Jan. 28
Services Postes de l'Inde	Jan. 8	Via Marseilles	Jan. 25	Jan. 26
British India	Jan. 10	Via Brindisi and Aden.	Jan. 27	Jan. 29
on East African Line	Jan. 11	Via Naples	Jan. 28	Feb. 2
---	Jan. 17	To Aden by Indian Mail for onward transmission at first opportunity.	---	---
---	Jan. 21		---	---
on East African Line	Jan. 27	Via Naples.	Feb. 14	Feb. 20
on Castle	Jan. 31	Via Brindisi and Aden.	Feb. 19	Feb. 25
on	Feb. 5	Via Marseilles	Feb. 22	Feb. 23
British India	Feb. 7	Via Brindisi and Aden.	Feb. 24	Feb. 28
on East African Line	Feb. 11	Via Naples.	Feb. 1	Feb. 6
---	Feb. 14	To Aden by Indian Mail for onward transmission at first opportunity.	---	---
---	Feb. 21		---	---
on East African Line	Feb. 27	Via Naples	Feb. 17	Feb. 23
on Castle	Feb. 28	Via Brindisi and Aden.	Feb. 18	Feb. 24
on	Feb. 5	Via Marseilles.	Feb. 2	Feb. 27
British India	Feb. 7	Via Brindisi and Aden.	Feb. 24	Feb. 28
on East African Line	Feb. 11	Via Naples.	Feb. 28	Feb. 3
---	Feb. 14	To Aden by Indian Mail for onward transmission at first opportunity.	---	---
---	Feb. 21		---	---
on East African Line	Feb. 27	Via Naples	Feb. 14	Feb. 20
on Castle	Feb. 28	Via Brindisi and Aden.	Feb. 16	Feb. 22

Expoy 259 E.A.
Zanzibar

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SL

DRAFT.

Harway Selfield, Esq. Capt.

Private

19. March 1913.

Dear Selfield,

MINUTE.

- Mr. Aclt 11/2/13
- Mr. Holt 18
- Mr. Head 18
- Sir G. Fiddes.
- Sir H. Just.
- Sir J. Anderson.
- Lord Emmott.
- M^r. Harcourt.

As you know, the Union
 Castle Company are always
 complaining about the
 lack of proper accommodation
 in Kilindini harbour, &
 the resulting delays in
 their steamer service. The
 Secretary of State is fully
 aware of the need for
 improvements at Kilindini
 & he is anxious that
 that work should be pushed
 on

In Quarts
 Mr. W. R. ...
 signature

vary; some appear to be
bad in every respect. 137

such as the Gotta

others such as the

Dunropan Castle

Carisbrook Castle are

rather better, and

doubt the new steamer

which the C^o. is building

for the East Coast route

will be quite suitable;

but the Secretary of

State would be glad

if you would get the

Post Office at Mombasa

or someone who is in

a position to see & know

the facts to send you

an official

arranged report