

DOMESTIC

EAST AFR. PROT.

No. 29401

29401

Recd  
P.O. 11 AUG 08

Previous Indication

Aug 29

1908

Aug

Previous Paper

No. 24497

(Subject)

Wireless Telegraphy  
in the Italian Empire

Enclosed are all the bills and making  
unofficially issued proposals. None of any useful  
purpose would be served by an interview.

(Minutes)

Mr. Reed

I have replied to Mr. Mackay  
that further consideration of Mr. Holdsworth's  
schemes might perhaps be hung up  
as I am going on leave for a month  
but that at present I did not see that  
any of them could be accepted.

The Company are naturally anxious  
to avoid competition. (see para. 6 of  
the Committee's report). There is nothing  
in this, I think, to alter the action  
proposed on 24487.

Reminded to Mr. Mackay 11/8  
at the end of a month

at 11/8  
O.V.K. 11/8

P.T.O.

Mr. Read

If the scheme is likely to prove remunerative to the Govt. I do not see why the Eastern Telegraph Co. should be allowed to share in the profits. Indeed, I do not know why the banks mentioned the matter to their respective Govts. when we get the figures and asked for drafts on 22/2/87. ~~When the figures~~ should the figures turn out favourable we should perhaps consider whether anything could be done through the Telegraph Co.

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see in 35769  
36186 *Aug 22*  
13/10

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29401

GENERAL POST OFFICE, LONDON W.C. 2

August 1908.

Dear Johnson,

I enclose a copy of a letter from Mr. Hibbardine in which he makes unofficially certain proposals on the subject of Wireless Telegraph Communication in British and Italian East Africa.

Your will remember that I mentioned to you that I had been sounding the Eastern Company informally on the subject and this is the result.

I told Mr. Hibbardine that I thought it would be useful if he put forward his suggestions informally in the first instance with a view to making a formal offer if any of the suggestions should commend itself to your Department. I am inclined to think that the items with regard to augmentation of standard revenue under the sliding scale are excessive in the case of purely local traffic; and on my making this remark to Mr. Hibbardine he said that the Company would be quite prepared, he thought, to consider any reasonable amendments.

Do

Do you think it would serve a useful purpose if Mr. Hibberdine were to come to see you on the subject? If you thought it desirable, I could come down at the same time so that we might talk it over with him together. He is staying at Dover at present and he tells me that he would be prepared to come up at any time to discuss questions of this kind if desired.

Yours very truly  
R. J. Mackay

W. Johnson, Esq., C.M.G.

COPY.

29401

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The Eastern Telegraph Company, Limited, Rec<sup>d</sup> 11 AUG 08

Eleatra House, Finsbury Pavement,

London, E.C. 22nd July 1908.

No. TA.

Dear Mr. Mackay,

Referring to our interview on the 17th instant, and to telephonic correspondence subsequently, I now beg to enclose a Memorandum containing three schemes for working wireless on the East Coast of Africa.

It is understood that these propositions are put forward conditionally on our finding after expert evidence that we are able to establish and work the proposed stations, and also that if any of the schemes are adopted, sufficient land will be given to us to put up the proposed wireless installation at Lamu, Kiwayu or Vombasa.

Yours truly,  
for Managing Director,

(Sd.) W. Witherline  
Traffic Accountant.

Mr. Esq.,

GENERAL POST OFFICE,

LONDON.

PROPOSED WIRELESS INSTALLATIONS ON THE EAST COAST OF AFRICA.

SCHEME.

(A). Eastern Co. to establish wireless station at Lamu, to communicate with either Zanzibar or Pemba, station to be worked by staff of British East Africa Protectorate already working the land telegraph in common.

(B). Revenue from wireless to belong to British East Africa Protectorate.

(C). Government not to compete with existing Uapiti Company between Zanzibar or Pemba and Mombasa or Coast of British East Africa Protectorate.

(D). Company's present revenue (1907) on terminal traffic between British East Africa Protectorate and Zanzibar is 54,000 words, value at 6d. = £1,200 per annum.

If the value is the same for 1908, tariff to be reduced to 5d. per word 1st April 1909.

If then reduced to 4d. revenue averages £1,800 for 3 years, tariff to be reduced to 3d.

Revenue derived from traffic between German East Africa and British East Africa Protectorate not to be taken into account.

SCHEME.

(A). Eastern Co. to establish, at its own cost, wireless station at Kisumu to work to Giubio on one side and Pemba or Zanzibar on the other, to be worked by staff supplied by British East Africa Protectorate.

(B). Same as 1st Scheme.

(C). do. do.

(D). do. do.

SCHEME.

(A). Eastern Co. to establish, at its own cost, wireless station at Mombasa to work Giubio and Pemba or Zanzibar, to be worked by Eastern Co's officials.

(B). Eastern Co. to purchase Sultan of Zanzibar's wireless station at Zanzibar at price to be arranged.

(C). Eastern Co. to retain all revenues; tariffs with Giubio to be mutually agreed.

(D). Tariffs between Mombasa and Zanzibar for terminal traffic to remain as at present until revenue reaches £2,000 average 3 years, when rate reduced to 5d, and after as follows:-

Average 3 years	£2,300	at 5d.,	to 4d.
.. ..	£2,600	.. 4d.,	.. 3d.