

EAST AFR. PROT.

C O
26809

No. 26809

29 11 55

No. 362

1905

Home

Previous Paper

(Subject.)

- 1) Post Office at Nyoro
- 2) Telephone line between Nyoro Stn + La Delamere estate

Asks for authority to spend £100 on the provision of (1) and £200 for construction of (2). It is only desired to spend second item this year + ask £ can be met from savings from fiscal estimates. The first item will be included in next year's budget. La Delamere will guarantee expenditure.

(Minutes.)

Copy of despatch + first two items to the S.P.O. for any persons which they may be good enough to offer.

at once.
H-J.R.

1/8

S-R

And 372 24 Aug 1905

Copy

222

Commissioner's **20809**

Mombasa, ^{P.O.}
Recd. 23 JUL 05

June 27th 1905.

AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

No. 762

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith and to recommend for your favourable consideration a copy of a despatch with enclosures which I have received from the Post Master General requesting authority to expend the sum of two hundred pounds on the erection of a telephone line between Nioro Station and Lord Delamere's estate, and one hundred and eighty pounds on a post office at Nioro. Of this amount it is only desired to spend the first item, viz: two hundred pounds, during the current financial year, and this sum can be met by savings from the Postal estimates. It will suffice if the second item is included in next year's budget, and this matter is only brought forward now as it forms a part of the telephone scheme.

H. M. Principal Secretary of State

for the Colonies.

Downing Street,

LONDON.

2. As reported by Mr. Gosling, Lord Delamere has agreed to guarantee such a revenue as will warrant the establishment of a Post office at Niuro, and in view of the fact that owing to the increasing number of colonists round that Station it will in any case be necessary to open a Post Office there shortly, I venture to hope that this proposal will meet with your approval.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

J. Stewart

C O
26809

REC^d
REC 23 JUL 05

234

BRITISH EAST AFRICA AND UGANDA.

GENERAL POST OFFICE,

NORWICH.

Dated 20th June 1905.

Registered No. 234/05
No further correspondence on this subject
the above number should be quoted.

Sir:-

I have the honour to inform you that Lord Delamere recently requested me to go into the question of the provision of telephone communication between Mjoro Station and his camp and farm. He wished to know if the Administration would undertake to provide this, and if so upon what terms.

I pointed out to his Lordship that it was not usual for the Administrations of British Colonies to provide telephone communication excepting in cases where the wires formed part of a telephone exchange, or were connected with a Post Office as private wires; further that there is no Post Office at Mjoro. I suggested that if it could be found to establish a Post Office at or near Mjoro, either by building a line relief story tower, it might be possible to make some arrangement regarding the desired telephone. At a subsequent interview Lord Delamere undertook to enter into an agreement guaranteeing such a revenue as would warrant

Deputy Commissioner
East Africa Protectorate

NORWICH.

Reference nil.
Inclosures 2.
Received
by bag

NO. 234
M. J. S. STRAIGHT

*Received from the
Post Office
for Mjoro Station
23rd June 1905*

the establishment of a Post Office: this on the lines sometimes adopted for telegraph offices in England where a minimum revenue is guaranteed by interested parties.

3. The question of the terms upon which the telephone could be erected was discussed with the Superintendent of Telegraphs at an interview at Bombay on the 10th ultimo. An extract from the memorandum of that interview is enclosed, from which it will be seen that the estimated cost of the line is £200 and the necessary annual charge £75 per annum, subject to a guarantee of five years rental. The amount of the proposed rental, together with a statement of certain conditions which are necessary owing to the route of the proposed line being unurveyed, was then communicated to Lord Delamere, subject to your approval being obtained for the expenditure involved, and his Lordship has accepted the terms and conditions proposed.

4. I now beg to request authority for the expenditure of a sum of £380, viz:- £200 for the proposed telephone line and £180 for a Post Office building at Hjoro. Of this amount £200 is desired to be expended during the current financial year and £180 next year.

..... Dealing first with the item of £200 I submit that it is desirable that telephone communication be kept under the control of the State, the private wires erected according to the arrangements customary in other Colonies; further that the placing of Lord Delamere's establishment in telephonic communication with a Post and Telegraph Office is desirable in that it will encourage the use of the telegraph and so increase the revenue. The terms proposed have been

compared

compared with those charged elsewhere (I have obtained for reference copies of the Postal Guides of every important British Colony) and they are rather more in favour of the Government than is customary. In this regard I would remark that until we have more practical experience of the effects of lightning currents on telephones in West Africa than we at present possess it is desirable to anticipate a heavy depreciation from this cause, and charge accordingly.

5. The amount required could be re-allocated from the salaries vote of this Department. Five European Officers whose appointments have been provided for in the Estimates cannot, according to the latest advice, be appointed in time to draw pay before the end of June, and the sum of £210 (being the amount of their joint salaries for the first quarter of the financial year) should therefore be available.

6. If you should so far approve of this proposal as to forward it for sanction of the Secretary of State I beg that I may be advised accordingly in order that the Superintendent of Telegraphs may at the same time forward his indent for the necessary material; this to be passed to the Crown Agents if the re-allocation is allowed.

7. With regard to the sum of £180 for a Post Office at Ijoro, including quarters for a Postmaster, I submit a plan and specification, together with an estimate by the Director of Public Works which is for the amount stated. It will suffice if the amount is included in the Estimates for the next financial year as the telephone line will be completed before April

next. I bring the matter forward now simply because the provision of a Post Office building at Njoro is an integral part of the proposed arrangement with Lord Delamere. I may add that the colonisation around Njoro is such that it will in any case probably be necessary to open a Post Office there in the course of the next eighteen months.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient

humble servant,

(Signed) J. GOBLING

POSTMASTER GENERAL.

C. O.
26809 228
19 11 05

MEMORANDUM OF ESTIMATED COST OF CONSTRUCTION, AND
NECESSARY RENTAL FOR A TELEPHONE LINE CONNECTING LORD DELAMERE'S
CAMP AND FARM WITH A POST OFFICE PROPOSED TO BE ESTABLISHED AT
OR NEAR NIORO STATION.

(Representing the joint views of the Postmaster General and
Superintendent of Telegraphs as expressed at an interview at
Mombasa on the 10th of May 1906).

COST OF CONSTRUCTION

Labour per mile	£ 2-0-0
Wire (double)	" 8-0-0
Poles	" 1-6-8
Insulators	" 3-0-0
	<hr/>
Total cost per mile	£ 14-6-8

Line 52 + 7 = A total length of 129 miles	
£14.3 M Miles 12.5 =	£ 178-3-4
Three Instruments etc., 2 1/2 each	" 15-0-0
	<hr/>
Total Capital expenditure	£ 194-3-4

Or say £ 200-0-0

CALCULATION FOR RENTAL

Take depreciation on cost of whole installation at 20 per cent per annum	£ 40-0-0
Engineering maintenance say 1/5 of time of man whose total emoluments are Rs.150	" 24-0-0
Working expenses say Rs10 per month (being proportion of Postmaster's time)	" 8-0-0
3 per cent on capital cost - interest	" 6-0-0
	<hr/>
	£ 78-0-0

H.M. Commissioner

Enclosure No. 1

In Sir D. Stewart's despatch
No. 562 of June 27th 1906.

Or say 2% per annum in view of fact that interest on capital will decrease as written off by depreciation allowance.

CONDITIONS PROPOSED

Annual rental subject to conditions regarding cost of poles and timber encumbrance being as anticipated. (Lord Delamere to supply poles at sums quoted and do any specially heavy clearing)

£. 75-0-0

DU RENTAL :- Five Years.

NOTE:- If at the end of five years Lord Delamere should refuse to continue the rental of the line the whole of the capital expenditure will have been recovered with interest and the line and instruments be the property of the Department.

COPYMEMORANDUMDirector, P.M.E.

Herewith plan and specification for Post Office building at Njoro Station of which I spoke to you a few days since.

Kindly let me have an Estimate for cost of building.

(Signed) J. Gosling.
P.M.E., 9-6-1906

SPECIFICATION FOR A BUILDING SUITABLE FOR A POST & TELEGRAPH OFFICE AT NJORO.

-----oO-----

1. Building to be of corrugated iron of internal dimensions 33 ft. by 24 ft. divided into 3 rooms as shown on plan annexed. To be erected upon masonry supports so as to leave a space of 2 ft. between the floor and the earth.
2. Rooms to be 10 ft. high from floor to spring of roof and 15 ft. from floor to ridge.
3. Rooms to be lined and ceiled with Deal or other suitable wood.
4. Covered verandah 24 ft. by 8 ft. with raised wooden flooring to be provided in front of building for convenience of public; 3 outer and 2 inner doors and 3 medium and 2 large windows to be fitted as shown on plan.
5. One counter window with doors for closing and one counter 4 ft. broad and 9 ft. long with two drawers 2 ft. by 2 ft. and 9 inches deep to be provided. Also screen for telegraph instruments 8 ft. long and 6 ft. high as shown on plan.
6. Corrugated iron out-house 16 ft. long and 8 ft. wide without floor or lining, to be erected and divided into 2 sections so as to form a boys house and cook house. Out-house to be 8 ft. from ground to spring of roof and 15 ft. to ridge. One door for each room to be provided but no windows.
7. A grass privy with pit to be supplied.
8. The 3 windows of the Post Office proper to be fitted with iron bars.
9. Letter box 2 ft. high and 2 ft. broad and 18 inches deep fitted with door at back and with lock and key; also aperture to permit of the posting of letters to be provided in the Post Office.
10. All outer doors giving access to the building to be fitted with wooden steps.

P.M.E.

Approximate cost of building to enclosed specification and plan £180.

(Ed.) W.H. Tanner.

14-6-06

C. 26809/1905 E.A.P.

20/8/05

DRAFT.

The Secretary
G.P.O.

9 Aug 1905

Sir,

Ind

I am directed by Mr Secretary Chamberlaine

Lytelton to transmit
to you a copy of a despatch
and enclosures received
from the Consul of the
East Africa Prots
regarding the proposed

MINUTE.

- Mr. Harper - 2 Aug
- Mr. Read H
- Mr. Antrobus.
- Mr. Cox.
- Mr. Lucas.
- Mr. Graham.
- Sir M. Ommalley.
- The Duke of Marlborough.
- Mr. Lytton

Ans'd 29/8/05

provide telephone
communication for
a private person
on certain terms

proposed a telephone
line between Nyoro
Station and Lord
Belmore's estate, and
Mr Lytton would be
glad to receive
any observations
which you may be good
enough to offer upon the
subject.

Copy's Commr 3/2 24 Aug 20

Inclusive No. 3
In Mr Chamberlaine's register
No. 26809/1905

*Ad. Howard 362. 27/8/05
(with form 2 enclosed)*