

EAST AFR. PROT.

38652

REC'D  
REG 15 JUL 16

38652

Corr'ds Deputy  
Bearing 412

1916

TELEGRAPH RATES FOR OFFICIAL PRESS SERVICE BETWEEN  
EAST AFRICA AND ZANZIBAR.

5th July.

Last previous Paper.

MO  
21889

Regrets that he cannot agree with view  
put forward by Company; no press rate has hitherto  
been granted by local Govt, and any action at  
present time would be out of keeping with recent  
increase in Post and Telegraph charges imposed for  
Revenue purposes.

Copy to Mr Brown, No. 23 Angles

~~Mr~~ Mr. Brown

Cop. to S. P. O. office  
with ref. to Mr. Brown's  
... ..  
for any other ... ..  
to Mr. ...

Ed? 8/8/16

Mr. Johnson

I think it would be sufficient to  
send copy to Mr. Brown unofficially  
pointing out that

- (a) if the C<sup>2</sup> had met the commissioning  
at reduced rates the Govt. could have  
changed its terminal at all,
- (b) the Govt. did not ask the C<sup>2</sup> to change  
reduced rates or ordinary rates but  
... ..

Next subsequent Paper

MO  
44100

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE  
No. 412.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE  
NAIROBI.  
38652  
BRITISH EAST AFRICA  
REC.  
Recd 15 AUG 16

July 5th, 1916.

Sir,

MO  
21889

I have the honour to refer to your despatch No. 343 of the 18th of May enclosing a copy of a letter from the Eastern Telegraph Company on the subject of the official press service between East Africa and Zanzibar.

I regret that I cannot agree with the point of view put forward by the Company. The news was sent to Zanzibar for public information, and in the normal course the Communiqués would have been passed to the press or to news agencies at the places where such Communiqués are prepared. In the present instance, however, at the instance of the Chief Secretary Zanzibar arrangements were made for that Government to bear the cost of transmission.

It

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE  
ANDREW BONAR LAW, P.O., M.P.,  
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,  
DOWNING STREET, LONDON, S. W.

*ST. 2000/21*

3. It was never proposed to ask the Company to take a reduced rate without making a similar reduction over the Government lines. On the contrary, if the communiques in question had been passed to Reuters Agents and telegraphed by them to Zanzibar, they would have had to pay press rates to the Cable Company and ordinary foreign rates to the Postal Department; whereas under the arrangements proposed the telegrams, being sent on Government account, would pay nothing to the Department. In other words the Government was prepared to forego the whole of its charges in respect of telegraphing these communiques to Zanzibar and only asked the Company to treat them, for purpose of charges, in the same way as if they had been forwarded by Reuters Agents.

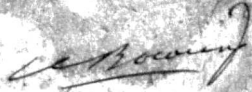
4. Instead of considering the proposal simply on its merits the Company appears to have sought to utilize it as a lever to persuade the Government to concede press rates to all foreign news telegrams. No press rate has hitherto been granted by the local Government for news despatched overseas which pays the same terminal charges as ordinary foreign telegrams. A time will no doubt arrive when such concession may properly be granted, but

any action of this nature at the present time would be out of keeping with the recent increases in our Post and Telegraph charges which have been imposed for Revenue purposes.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,



GOVERNOR'S Deputy

Gen. EAP

38652  
16

C. D.  
A. 23 AUG.  
B. 23

On Quarts for  
Mr. Johnson's signature

23 Aug 1916

Dear Brown

DRAFT

79 Brown Sq.  
S.P.O.

EC (21489)  
MINUTE.

My letter of the 18th  
of May. I enclose a copy of

a despatch which we have just received  
from the Gen of the EAP regarding

the official press service between  
E.A. and Jangzella.

<sup>You will see</sup>  
It is clear that if  
the Company had sent the  
communications at reduced rates the  
East would have charged no

- Mr. Jewell 21/8/16
- Mr. Burtles 22
- Mr. Johnson 23/8/16
- Mr. Grindley
- Mr. Lambert
- Mr. Wood
- Sir G. Fildes
- Mr. Steel-Maitland
- Mr. Bonar Law

5 July 1916. No 442

terminal at all, and do that  
the Govt did not ask the Company  
to charge reduced rate on ordinary  
pass telegrams, and therefore the  
question of Govt terminal on <sup>such telegrams</sup> ~~these~~  
does not arise.

WJG