

EAST AFR. PROT

47187

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O.A. 3
Bawing 123

1917
23 July

KISSILGHIR

Last previous Paper.

This preliminary report by Govt Analyst. A further report accompanied by maps and plans will be sent in due course.

27995

Mr. Butler.

8ft here with
L.C.S. 1/10/17.

2/10/17

at once

Copies with sample, 60mp shot in 5000 ft
46748:188
5 Oct 18

Next subsequent Paper.

5125

172187
 GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
 NAIROBI,
 17
 BRITISH EAST AFRICA

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

July 23rd, 1917.

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Sir,

5/24 x 25
 With reference to your predecessor's Confidential despatch dated the 19th of June 1916, on the subject of Kiesulghur discovered by Professor Simpson in the Magadi Area, I have the honour to transmit herewith a preliminary report by the Government Analyst.

2. A further report, accompanied by maps and plans, will be transmitted in due course.

3. I regret the delay in replying to your predecessor's despatch which has been occasioned by the shortage of staff in the Survey Department.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,

[Signature]

ACTING GOVERNOR.

HONOURABLE
 ER LONG, F.C., M.P.,
 SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
 DOWNING STREET, LONDON, S.W.

13th July 1917.

The Hon. Ag. Chief Secretary,

Nairobi.

Diatomaceous Earth.

I have the honour to submit the following preliminary report upon the deposit of diatomaceous earth (kieselguhr or diatomite) which occurs in the neighbourhood of Mile 61 on the Magadi Line.

A detailed description of the deposit, with maps, is in preparation, but as the maps cannot be ready for a further short but indefinite period I beg to submit a statement of some of the more important results of the expedition conducted by me between 14th. Sept. and 14th. December 1916.

1. No diatomite, in quantity, of a quality superior to the sample taken home by Professor Simpson and reported upon by the Ministry of Munitions, was discovered.
2. In the immediate vicinity of the Magadi Railway, mile 59/17 to mile 63, the deposit was carefully prospected, and I estimate that something like forty three million cubic feet, weighing about 620,000 tons, of diatomaceous earth, of a quality similar to the sample previously examined, occur in these deposits. Practically the whole of this is within the quarter-mile Magadi Railway Reserve zone.
3. Deposits of this nature are common in the Rift Valley, and extend from Lake Magadi in the South as far as Lake Baringo in the North.

Microscopical examination of this deposit reveals its relationship with that in the Kedong Valley, with which it is almost continuous, and distinguishes it from the deposit at Lake Magadi on the one hand and from a different type again found further North in the neighbourhood of Elmenteita and Silgil. The latter, which occurs in large quantity, resembles in microscopic characteristics a sample of Kieselguhr imported for laboratory purposes but of unknown origin, and deposits of that nature may perhaps, therefore, be deserving of greater attention.

The Elmenteita type was submitted to the Imperial Institute in 1910.

4. It is very important that specifications regarding diatomaceous earth should be obtained so that deposits may be valued immediately in respect of one or other of the uses to which this material is put. No information is obtainable locally regarding the standards required, or tests to be applied, for grading deposits of this nature, nor of the commercial value attaching to the various grades. The millions of tons of diatomaceous earth in this Protectorate can only be satisfactorily prospected with a knowledge of commercial requirements.

If the Imperial Institute could afford this information and also submit samples of different grades having commercial values it is highly probable that one or other grade would be found, whilst those having no present and obvious technical use need not receive further attention.

5. Composite samples, taken over certain areas, the

approximate quantity of such material being
are submitted herewith. It is hoped that, al
probably below the standard required by the
give manufacturer, a commercial may be assi
to them by the Special Institute.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. H. K. Khan

Government Analyst.

Gov EAST

47187 G.D.C. 0072

5^{Oct} Sept 1917

ms d 51257

Sir,

I am so to transmit to you, the accompanying copy of reports with the Govt of the EAST regarding the deposits of diatomaceous earth in that Protectoral country.

His Excellency has the existence of these deposits has also been mentioned in the memo. by the Commissioner of Mines, a copy of which was sent to you on the 13th of July, and a copy of your report of the 26th.

DRAFT.

Director
Geological Institute

MINUTE.

Mr. Poston 1/10/17

Mr. Becher 2/7/17

Mr. Grindle.

Mr. Lambert.

Mr. Read.

Mr. G. Fiddes.

Mr. H. W. ...
Mr. ...

Mr. Long.

for copy

Gov. Conf. 19.6.16. (27825/16)

Gov. Conf. 23.7.17 (47187)

CO/5276

2. You will observe that
a further report will be
sent from the Protector
had on the 4th inst.
We long will be glad to
receive your views on
the Govt Analyst's report,
both generally and as
concerning the further
inquiry proposed in
your letter of August
25th as to the possibility
of manufacturing canvas
in East Africa on a
profitable scale.

3. A parcel, which
no doubt contains the
~~rest~~ samples referred
to in para: 5 of the
report, was received with
Mr. Bowring's despatch
^{sent} and is enclosed herewith.

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