

C. S.

MISCELLANEOUS (General)
No. 15/44.

19₄₄

Mr. E. Enestrom.

SUBJECT.

19₄₄

8th February.

Previous Paper.

SHORTAGE OF TRANSPORT FOR BRINGING
IN PEAT SUPPLIES.

MINUTES.

- 1. Letter from Mr. E. Enestrom of 8. 2. 44.
- 2. Letter to Mr. E. Enestrom of 11. 2. 44.
- 3. Letter from Mr. M. G. Greece of 15. 2. 44.
- 4. Letter to Lt. Colonel. Mombur of 16. 2. 44.
- 5. Letter from _____ 21. 2. 44.
- 6. " " _____ 22. 2. 44.
- 7. " " M. G. Greece, Esq, "

PA

Subsequent Paper.



Port Stanley,

Falkland Islands.

8th February, 1944.

The Honourable,
The Colonial Secretary.
Stanley.

Sir,

We the undersigned beg you to bring before His Excellency the following:

- (1) Shortage of transport for bringing peat to our homes.
- (2) We are some of Stephen Kiddle's peat customers and his lorry is in very bad condition that he assures us that he will be unable to deliver our peat.
- (3) We are unable to obtain other local transport owing to these having their hands full with their own customers.
- (4) Coal is too expensive and is needed for the war effort.
- (5) Could the Officer Commanding Imperial Troops be approached with a view of obtaining Military lorries with their own drivers to bring our peat home, or,
- (6) Could the Government assist with their lorries and thus solve the problem for this season.

Hoping His Excellency will give this matter his earliest consideration,

We are,

Sir,

Your Obedient servants,

A. J. Kiddle
E. McIntosh

Mrs E. Ryan.

S. J. H. H. H.

S. J. H. H. H.

Mrs J. Robertson

W. E. Kelway.

E. Wilson

W. Falton

G. Pearson.

J. G. G. G.

W. J. M. A. H. H.

W. J. M. A. H. H.

(Hon. Sec.)

(Colony Club)

W. J. M. A. H. H.

W. J. M. A. H. H.

W. J. M. A. H. H.

W. J. M. A. H. H.

H. Biggs

W. J. M. A. H. H.

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E. E. E. E.

R. L. Robson

D. Lehen

L. G. Allan.

J. G. Berntsen

B. Peck

H. Jennings

W. J. M. A. H. H.

W. J. M. A. H. H.

W. J. M. A. H. H.

15/44.

(2)

11th February, 44

Sir,

Red!

With reference to the letter dated the 8th February, signed by several residents of Stanley, including yourself, regarding peat supplies. It will be readily understood that this situation cannot be accepted as the responsibility of the Government. I have, however, much sympathy for the people concerned and I understand that the Military Authorities will be found to be sympathetic and helpful if a direct approach is made to them. I suggest that you should act as a body in this matter and choose a small Representative Committee to lay before the Staff Captain a fully worked out plan by which all the peat in question may be delivered in the most economical manner and full payment ensured.

I have the honour to b

Sir,

Your Obedient servant

K. G. BRADLEY

Colonial Secretary.

E. Enestrom, Esq.,
STANLEY.



(3)

Stanley,

15th February, 1944.

Sir,

Red 2.
I have the honour to refer to your letter No. 15/44 dated 11th February, 1944 addressed to Mr. E. Enestrom on the subject of the transport of peat to certain residents of Stanley.

As suggested in your letter under reply, a Committee was formed to deal with this matter consisting of -

Pay. Licut. J. H. Poynor
Mr. S. Kiddle (Contractor)
Mr. M. Evans (P.W.D. Lorry driver)
Mr. G. Pearson - do -
Mr. R. L. Robson
and the writer.

It was agreed by that Committee that Messrs. Poynor and Creece should interview the Staff Captain of 132 Force to negotiate for the hire of Army transport to relieve Mr. S. Kiddle's obligations. Satisfactory arrangements were made with Capt. Henderson, subject to the Force Commander's approval, for transport to commence on Tuesday, 22nd February on the basis that the Force would provide a 3-ton lorry with driver and four assistants to load and discharge peat; a guide to each householder's peat bog and house to be provided by us. The Committee again met on Monday evening, 14th February, and authorised Lieut. Poynor to conclude arrangements which the Committee had gratefully accepted.

On Tuesday morning, 15th February, Lieut. Poynor was advised that transport would not now be provided as the Force Commander had been told that Army vehicles could not do the work.

The position outlined in Mr. Enestrom's original letter to you dated 8th inst. requires further detail. Mr. S. Kiddle has contracted to transport peat to the Town and has outstanding at the present time no less than 36 householders with an average of 150 yards of peat each to supply. This quantity of peat will not be moved in less than 600 lorry loads. On the assumption that Mr. Kiddle can do no more than 10 loads per diem, always provided that his vehicle does not suffer a breakdown which seems imminent, it will take him fully two months to complete the work, weather conditions being in his favour. In addition, Mr. Kiddle has other contractual obligations to fulfill. It is considered most inadvisable to leave the carting of peat as late as April owing to the softening of the ground. Three members of the above Committee, viz. Messrs. Pearson, Evans and Kiddle have had lengthy experience in this work - all being drivers and they are of the opinion that Army vehicles, preferably the smaller ones, could do the job satisfactorily. Of the 36 customers Mr. Kiddle still has to supply, he has now undertaken to satisfy 18, leaving only that number for Army transport.

While it is fully understood that this situation is no responsibility of the Government, I have the honour to request that his Excellency will kindly consent to approach the Force Commander with a view to his revising his decision of this morning to cancel transport.

/I

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

your obedient servant,

Jng. Grell
for the Committee.

The Honourable

The Colonial Secretary,

Stanley.

16th February, 1944.

Dear Member,

I showed the enclosed letter to the Governor this morning and he asked me to suggest to you the possibility of experimenting with one vehicle and seeing whether, in fact, the job can be done or not. There is evidently a division of local "expert" opinion on the subject. Government has, of course, no responsibility in this case and the only reason that His Excellency is at all concerned about the matter is the absolute essentiality of all householders getting their winter fuel in before the bogs get waterlogged in April or May. As I expect you know the position is unusually difficult this year owing to the fact that Tussock cannot be brought in for horses and several carters are not able to operate in consequence.

Yours sincerely,
K. G. BRADLEY

. Colonel A. E. Momber.

(5)
Force H.Q.
21 Feb. 44.
FOR THE USE OF THE OFFICE ONLY

Dear *Bradley*.

Re Peat Carting.

1. If you will instruct Mr. Greece to come and see me to arrange details I shall undertake to carry the peat for the 13 residents.
2. I hope all concerned will, however, understand that unlike the last force I have neither the men nor the transport to again undertake such tasks whilst valuable Army Stores remain so inadequately guarded as to be repeatedly pilfered.
3. The committee concerned must further agree to pay into Army Funds the exact sum which would have been paid to Mr Kiddle under the original contract, for it must be agreed that it would be wrong for Mr. Kiddle to derive any profit on work carried out by Troops labour using Army Vehicles and petrol.
4. If Mr. Greece will telephone to me personally I shall let him know when I can see him.

Yours sincerely,

A. Elton

22nd February, 1941

Dear Member,

Thank you very much for your letter of the 21st February and for your very kind offer to help with the peat carting. I have told the people concerned and asked Mr. Creece to get in touch with you. I am sure they will be most grateful and will do everything possible to make carting as convenient as possible for you.

Yours sincerely,

K. G. BRADLEY

Colonel A. E. Member,
Officer Commanding Troops,
STANLEY.

7.

22nd February, 1944.

Dear Creece,

I enclose copies of further
correspondence I have had with Colonel
Momber about the carting of your peat.
You will see that he is prepared to help
and I suggest that you should get into
touch with him as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

K. G. BRADLEY

M. G. Creece, Esq.,
STANLEY.