

KENYA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SESSIONAL PAPER NO. 105 of 1956/57.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE EAST AFRICAN LAND FORCES.

Early this year the three East African Governments agreed, that, subject to the approval of their respective Legislative Councils, the East Africa High Commission should be authorised to provide certain administrative services for the East African Land Forces after 1st July 1957, when War Office control and administration of these forces will cease. This proposal proved to be unacceptable to the Uganda Legislative Council and the Uganda Government therefore agreed to attempt, in consultation with the other Governments concerned, to reach a solution of the problem which did not involve the High Commission.

2. The Governments of Kenya and Tanganyika, although they would have preferred the solution originally proposed, readily appreciated Uganda's difficulty in accepting it, and a joint re-examination of the problem was undertaken. As a result, the following proposals have now been agreed between Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, the three East African Governments and the Army authorities.

3. The General Officer Commanding will be responsible to the Governors of the three territories for the command, operations, discipline, organisation and training of the East African Land Forces. In addition, the civil organisations which are needed to provide the army with administrative services (pay, records, stores, supplies, ordnance, transport services, etc.) will also come under the direction of the General Officer Commanding. The General Officer Commanding will not, however, be financially accountable for expenditure on the forces. Financial control over expenditure on the forces and the responsibility for the employment of all civilian personnel, will lie (subject to any general or special directions of the three Governors) with a body to be known as the East African Land Forces Organisation. This will consist of the Minister of each of the three territories who is responsible for Defence (i.e. the Chief Secretaries of Uganda and Tanganyika and the Minister for Defence in Kenya). The Chairman of the Organisation will be appointed by the Governors from amongst its members.

4. This Organisation will have a full time executive officer to be known as the Permanent Secretary, with an appropriate staff. The General Officer Commanding and his staff will be responsible for ensuring that no expenditure is incurred without the agreement of the Permanent Secretary, who will work in the closest co-operation with them. His functions (which will be similar to those of the present Command Secretary who represents the War Office in the Command) will include the preparation of estimates in consultation with the General Officer Commanding and their submission to the East African Land Forces Organisation; and the supervision of all military establishments and expenditure.

From: Mr. J. S. Mburu, Ag. Regional Agricultural Officer, Central Region.

LANTANA AND BRACKEN AREAS - CENTRAL REGION

A summary of all the District Agricultural Officers' assessments and my own, is as follows:-

- 1) There are no vast contiguous areas in any District other than parts of Kirinyaga under lantana or Bracken.
- 2) In Kiambu, Nyeri and Fort Hall, bracken has been replaced to a great extent by wattle which in turn, is giving way to tea and pastures. Where land consolidation is now complete, patches of bush, bracken and wattle can be seen, but in time land owners will clear these for crops or pastures. This is evident in Fort Hall, where a good deal of lantana clearing is taking place.
- 3) In Kirinyaga, where the average size of a holding is much bigger than Kiambu and Fort Hall, uncleared or undeveloped pieces of respective holdings are much larger than the other two districts. These patches are not contiguous.
- 4) In the lower parts of Kirinyaga below the Sagana/Embu road, there are large expanses of lantana in the demarcated area and the rest is in the Rukanga and Chumbiri sub-locations, parts of which are un-demarcated.

There are approximately 10,000 acres in this area predominantly covered by lantana which could be developed for sisal and cotton as a development project.

As for the land which is registered as freehold, the problem of getting the individual land owners to join in a scheme will have to be solved.

- 5) In the lower parts of Fort Hall, especially in Locations 11, 15, and 20, there are approximately 30,000 acres of undeveloped land with low rainfall that could be developed for sisal schemes. This land is, however, privately owned.

In the same areas there are numerous unproductive swamps and flat valleys that could be developed for rice and vegetables. The acreage involved needs a ground survey.

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