

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

Governor's Office.

DEP/WHA/1 # 4

No. 731

Date of Receipt.



From

SUBJECT.

Secretary of State for the Colonies.

(a) EXPORT DUTY ON THE WHALE OIL ON BOARD THE S.S. GUVERNOREN
 (b) WHALING LICENCE FOR "ODD" COMPANY FOR ENSUING SEASON
 Papers on the subject of

No.

Date

52

30th April

Colonial Secretary's Record No.

MINUTES.

Hon Col Sec
 To Treasurer to note

Registered Number of last Despatch.

22.6.15

57
 905

Hon. Treasurer / To note

C. J. Condell
 C.S.

28.6.15

Noted
 W. J. Thompson
 Treasurer
 28. VI. 15

H. S. / Returned

C. J. Condell
 C.S.
 29. 6. 15

57 / 6 15
 29.

No. next Despatch.

98
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151
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Reference to previous correspondence:—

~~Secretary of State's~~ } Despatch No. 26: 16 January 1915.
Governor's } - " - 27: 23 February 1915.

Falkland Islands

No 52.

Downing Street,
30th April 1915.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to you

the papers noted below on the subject of (a) the payment of export duty on the whale oil on board the SS "Suveroren"; and (b) the issue to the "Odd" Whaling Company of a whaling licence for the ensuing season.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

L. HARCOURT.

The Officer Administering

the Government of the Falkland Islands.

Date.	Description.
1915.	
14 April	To Herr Stalder Vink:
21 " "	From - do - :
30 th " "	To - do - :
" "	To the Crown Agents for the Colonies.

CRW

72
ENCLOSURE TO DESPATCH
No. 59 OF 30/4/15



COPY.
15970/1915

Downing Street,
14th April, 1915.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Harcourt to state that the Governor of the Falkland Islands has reported that Captain Leif Bryde, Manager of the "Odd" Whaling Company at the South Shetlands, has questioned the liability of that Company for payment of Export duty upon the barrels of whale oil which were on board the S.S. "Guvernören" at the time that she was burnt, and that Captain Bryde has agreed to the payment of the amount of duty in question, should it be decided, on reference to the Secretary of State, that the Company is liable to pay duty.

2. For the purposes of considering this question I am to request you to be so good as to forward the insurance policy, or policies, in respect of the S.S. "Guvernören" and of her cargo, or a copy thereof certified before a British Consular Officer, and also to state whether your Company have any other oil ready for export from the Falkland Islands or their Dependencies, and if so, whether the necessary declaration and bond have been given under Ordinance No. 1 of 1915 of the legislature of the Falkland Islands. A copy of the Ordinance is enclosed for your information which I am to request may be returned with your reply.

3. In the meantime no steps will be taken for the issue to the "Odd" Company of a whaling licence for the ensuing season.

HERR HALDOR VIRIK.

I am &c.,
(SD.) HENRY LAMBERT
For the Under Secretary of State.

157
15

HOTEL METROPOLE,

LONDON, W.C.

April 21st, 1915.

COPY.
Your ref.No.15970/1915

The Under Secretary of State
Colonial Office,
London, S.W.

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your favour of the 14th instant with reference to which I would express my keen regret that my manager, Captain Leif Bryde, at Falkland Island should have acted in a way, which may have caused dissatisfaction with his proceedings. If this should really be the case I wish to point out that it is quite contrary to my instructions, because as matter of fact I have always been anxious to comply with the regulations of the English Authorities in every respect. Captain Bryde has just come back after the loss of the S.S. "Guvernøren" and I have questioned him very strictly on this point. He declares, however, that he can not at all understand why he should be blamed for his proceedings at Falkland Island in any way. He explains to me that the Governor and he has been debating the question of export duty. The Governor at last admitted that it might be very questionable whether such duty should be paid upon the barrel of whale oil, which was burned on board the Guvernøren, and which consequently could not be exported or shipped. In the best of understanding he therefore agreed with the Governor that the question should be settled by the Colonial Office, London, and

and he further issued a letter in which he asked the writer as owner to pay any duty, which might be decided by the Colonial Office. I beg to enclose a copy of this letter. Therefore I can only say there must be some sort of misunderstanding somewhere if from any quarters it should be declared that the A/S "O D D" has not shown due loyalty. As already pointed out I have always been anxious to show loyalty and I am therefore pleased to place at your command all the documents and informations which may be desired.

With reference to section 2 of your favoured letter I therefore beg to state that the A/S "O D D's" floating factory the S.S. "Guvernøren" is insured with the following companies, viz:- Jac.O.Lyngaas & Co. Tønsberg, A/S Norske Alliance, Kristiania, Joh.Wesmann, Kristiania, and Hvalfangernes Assuranceforening, Sandefjord, each with 1/4 of the insured amount Kr.600,000 - I have pleasure to hand you herewith the original policy of the Chief Underwriter, which please return when finished with. I have also ordered copies to be made out of the other policies, which I will pass on to you duly certified before the British Consulate - at the earliest possible date. The originals are wanted by the underwriters in order to pay out the amount of insurance. The cargo of oil is insured at the rate of Kr.70, per barrel but the final policies were only issued after the exact quantity of catch had been fixed. Temporarily the amount of insurance has been stipulated to Kr.2,000,000 whereof £31000 has been covered in English Lloyd

through

through Mr. Harald Stange, Kristiania., the rest has been taken over by the former mentioned underwriters with Kr.338,950 - each. I enclose the policy of the Chief underwriter, which you will be good enough to let me have back. As soon as I have certified policies from the other companies I will let you have them. Besides the above mentioned amounts I have also insured some outfit and disbursements and shall be pleased to send you certified copies of the policies if they should be of any interest to you.

As already mentioned the entire production of oil of the A/S "O D D" was lost by the fire at South Shetland and thus I have no oil to export. For your further informations I would mention that the documents which I have already passed on to the underwriters, prove that the steamer had on board 16653 barrels in all, when it burned and I shall be pleased to hand you legitimations to the effect that I have got insurance compensation for this number. You are probably aware that I have also another whaling company the "NORMANNA" but the floating factory of this Company has been chartered to the Chilian firm the SOCIEDAD BALLENERA MAGELLANE. I would however, mention that the ship has been ordered to Falmouth f.o. Enclosed I beg to return the Falkland Island Ordinance No.1. There is just offering itself a favourable opportunity of getting a new floating factory and I am therefore anxious to get my licence in order. ~~I would therefore respectfully request to get my licence in order.~~ I would therefore respectfully request you that the licence documents may be issued as soon as the circumstances
make

make it possible. I am of course fully aware that the English Authorities have many other much more important matters to deal with in these days and I am very sorry for having to trouble you but I trust you will excuse it in view of the fact that the matter is a very important one to me. I wish to state that it will never happen that I should not in every detail carefully comply with any regulation the English Government may lay down for the Norwegian whalers. If on account of this case I or my companies should have got into an unfavourable position in the opinion of the English Authorities, I would as far as my personal honourableness is concerned refer to my countryman, Professor Fritjof Nansen, who knows me well.

I am &c.,

(SD.) HALDOR VIRIK.

157
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PY.

PORT STANLEY,

February 12th, 1915.

TO A/S "ODD", (Haldor Virik).

Sandefjord,

The question has a reason as to whether the Export Duty should be paid on the 16500 barrels of oil on board the S.S. "Guvernøren" at the time she was burned.

The matter I understand will be referred to the Colonial Office, and I have therefore to request you kindly to pay the Crown Agents, Whitehall Gardens, London, the sum £206. 5. 0. should it be decided our company is liable for this tax or duty.

Yours truly

(SD.) LEIF BRYDE

Manager Odd Co.

19431/1915

157
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Downing Street,

30th April, 1915.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Marcourt to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st April with which you forwarded two of the insurance policies on the S.S. "Guvernören" and her cargo; and to state that he will await the receipt of certified copies of the remaining insurance policies on the cargo before considering the question of the liability of the "Odd" Whaling Company for payment of export duty on the whale oil on board the vessel at the time it was burnt. No further insurance policies on the hull will be required, and the one already furnished is returned herewith, together with the Falklands Ordinance you enclosed.

2. The Crown Agents for the Colonies have now been authorised to proceed at their earliest convenience with the issue to the "Odd" Whaling Company of a whaling licence for the ensuing season, on the understanding that the Company will, if called upon to do so, bring the produce of the fishing to the United Kingdom, even if this should no longer be required by the law of the Falkland Islands.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) H. J. READ,
for the Under Secretary of State

HERR BALDOR VIRIK.

15/15

19431/1915

Downing Street,

30th April, 1915.

Sir,

IMMEDIATE.

I am directed by Mr Secretary Harcourt to state that the Governor of the Falkland Islands has

No. 27 23rd Feb. 1915

I am directed by Mr Secretary Harcourt to transmit to you a copy of a despatch from the Governor of the Falkland Islands, and to request you to proceed at your earliest convenience with the issue to the "Ood" Whaling Company of a whaling license for the ensuing season, on payment of the usual charges.

I am,
Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) H. J. READ,
for the Under Secretary of State

2. For the purpose of...
I am to request you to be so good as to...
insurance policy, or policy...
3.3. "Governor" and of her cargo...
certified before a British Consul...
to state whether your Company...
for export from the Falkland Islands...
and if so, whether the necessary...
and bond have been given...
of the legislature of the Falkland Islands...
the Ordinance is enclosed for your information...
I am to request may be returned with your reply.

THE CROWN AGENTS
FOR THE COLONIES.

3. In the meantime no steps will be taken for the issue to the "Ood" Company of a whaling license for the ensuing season.

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HERR HALDOR VIRIK.

(SD.) HENRY LAMBERT
For the Under Secretary