

CNP 1/1/18

File No. 19/6/14

Volume \_\_\_\_\_

# R. C.'s Office



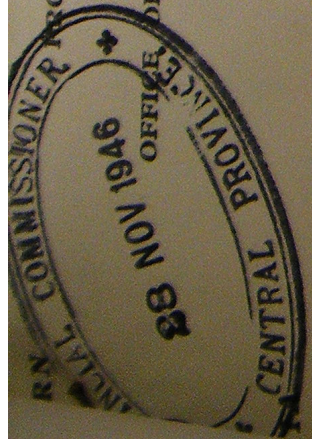
Local Government.

Township Locations & Compounds

African Trading Sites.

In reply please quote

No.....0593/3/46.



PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION.

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT COMMISSIONER,

P.O. Box 201

LUSAKA.

27th November, 1946.

The Provincial Commissioner,  
BROKEN HILL.

I forward a copy of a letter from the Secretary of Chilenje Town (African Suburb) Lusaka enquiring about the possibility of opening a Co-operative store.

2. The position at the moment is that there are two African traders at Chilenje Town, Joseph Mumba and Jacob Kalidza. Neither of them have been really satisfactory either from the point of view of doing good business or satisfying the needs of the inhabitants. The African Committee with my support have already warned these two traders that their leases are likely to be terminated at the close of the year.

3. I feel that this effort on the part of Africans to start a Co-operative Society is worthy of considerable encouragement. The Superintendent at Chilenje Town, Mr J. L. Stamford Burrows is very interested in the scheme. It is realized that Mr Boyd Wilson, the new Registrar of Co-operative Societies is due to return next year and it might be better to wait for his advice before commencing the scheme, but in view of the fact that the inhabitants of Chilenje are unlikely to have any store where they can purchase things at the end of the year, I feel that a start should be made if possible before he returns.

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4. There are two matters on which advice and assistance from the Government are required.

(1) The majority of the inhabitants of Chilenje Town are African Civil Servants. I presume that there would be no objection to them becoming members of a Co-operative Society for the purposes of trade. It would appear that this is more in the form of an insurance than an actual commercial undertaking.

(2) I cannot see that such a Co-operative Store would be a success unless goods were ordered wholesale from outside the Territory. The reason why the majority of African traders in this district have failed so far is that they generally obtain their goods from Indians locally and pay too much for them. If goods are to be ordered from outside the Territory some backing would be necessary from the Government at the outset and I shall be glad to know whether Government would be prepared to assist in this matter.

*GP Currie*

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

1/16 of the  
1928-29

The Hon  
Central  
LIBRARY.

No 18/CAT/46

SECRETARY:- Peter Mukanzo,  
Chilenje African  
Township  
Post Office,  
LUSAKA.

The, District Commissioner,  
LUSAKA.

Sir,

I am instructed by the members of the Management Committee Chilenje Town to place before you a proposal to establish in the Township, a Co-operative or Community Store.

The scheme has been discussed thoroughly by the Committee with responsible people of the Community and has their wholehearted approval.

The following is apoint that we should like your advice on:-

- (a) That although money in the form of shares would be contributed toward the initial outlay, it is felt that further backing by Government would give the concern an added and prospect of success.  
Is this possible?

The Superintendent of the Township has sat in our discussions and supports the idea: he has offered to give every assistance providing the scheme has your approval

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Is this possible?

The Superintendent of the Township has sat in our discussions and supports the idea: he has offered to give every assistance providing the scheme has your approval officially.

We wait your instructions giving official approval or rejection as you may decide.

I am,

Your obedient servant;

(Signed) Peter Mukanzo  
(SECRETARY)

CHILLENJE AFRICAN TOWNSHIP MANAGEMENT  
BOARD.

u/12-(7).

3/2

29th November, 1946.

The Honourable The Chief Secretary,  
Central Offices,  
LUSAKA.

1/2

PROPOSED AFRICAN CO-OPERATIVE STORE AT  
CHILLENJE AFRICAN TOWN : LUSAKA.

I attach, hereto, a copy of a minute No.0593/  
3/46 of the 27th instant from the District Commissioner, Lusaka,  
together with a copy of a letter from the Chilenje African  
Township Management Board in regard to the possibility of opening  
a co-operative store in Chilenje Town (African Suburb) Lusaka.

2. The District Commissioner, Lusaka, asks for  
advice and assistance from Government on the two following  
matters:

- (1) Is there objection to African Civil Servants becoming members of a co-operative society for the purpose of trade. In my opinion there should be no objection to Civil Servants be-

(1) Is there objection to African Civil Servants becoming members of a co-operative society for the purpose of trade. In my opinion there should be no objection to Civil Servants becoming shareholders (as members of the public) in a true co-operative society, so long as they did not take an active part in any way in the business of the society. European Civil Servants held shares in the Civil Service Co-operative Society which was formed in Livingstone many years ago. However, I would be grateful for a ruling on that point.

(11) Relates to backing by Government in relation to the ordering of trade goods from outside the Territory. The District Commissioner does not make it clear whether he means financial backing or backing in the form of a guarantee. Personally, I would not recommend either form of backing. If African co-operative societies are to develop into strong institutions, they must be content to start in a small way compatible with their resources to ensure that the growth will be natural and sturdy. Naturally the advice of competent Europeans would be essential in the first place, but they should not be "spoon-fed". There are a number of successful African Traders in the Territory, such as Manda at Mkushi, who have built up successful businesses by their own initiative. Indians are not the only wholesale traders. There are others who cater for the needs of African traders, such as Pelletier at Ndola. However, as my personal views may not tally with those of Government, may a reply be given to this point also, please?

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3. I feel that it would be wiser to postpone the start of this venture until the return of Mr. Boyd-Wilson, so that the organisers may have the benefit of competent advice. It would not be difficult to create a buying syndicate, but that is not the same as a co-operative society, which is a much more complicated organisation and I consider that approval

should/.....



should not be given to African Civil Servants to become members of a trading syndicate.

3. As the Commissioner for Native Development is on the spot, possibly he may be willing to discuss the whole subject with the District Commissioner, Lusaka, with a view to advising the Africans, who are interested in the establishment of a co-operative store.

PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER.

COPY TO:

The Commissioner for Native Development, Lusaka.

The District Commissioner, Lusaka.

21st February, 1947.

The District Commissioner,  
LUSAKA.

CO-OPERATIVE STORE : CHILENJE AFRICAN TOWN.

I refer to your minute, reference No. 0593/3/46, of the 27th November, 1946, on the above subject.

2. The Secretary for Native Affairs has minuted to me, inter alia, as follows:

".....on the subject of an African Co-operative store at Chilenje African Town, I am to say that it is considered wisest to postpone this venture until Mr. Boyd Wilson has taken up his duties as Registrar of Co-operative Societies. This matter will be referred to him on his arrival."

E. D. CLOUGH

PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER.

In reply please quote

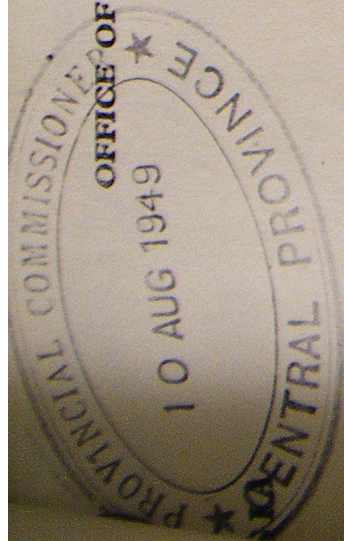
No. NAT/88/41

P.O. Box 201

L U S A K A

9th August 1949

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT COMMISSIONER



The Provincial Commissioner,  
Central Province,  
BROKEN HILL.

COMMERCIAL CENTRE - CHILENJE AFRICAN SUBURB.

The African Management Board brought up the question of extending trading facilities in the Chilenje Suburb in order to provide enterprising Africans with an opportunity to establish commercial businesses. At present there is a Co-operative Store which caters for some of the needs of the residents, but it is suggested that facilities be made available for a Tea Room, Bicycle Repairers, Furniture Manufacturers and similar trades.

The Management Board favours the establishment of suitable buildings by Government in the Suburb, which could then be let as rented premises to selected African Tradesmen.

I think that this suggestion merits consideration as Chilenje Suburb could be developed into a neighbourhood unit for Africans. There is at present little opportunity for Africans to establish themselves in commerce, and the residents

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The Management Board favours the establishment of suitable buildings by Government in the Suburb, which could then be let as rented premises to selected African Tradesmen.

I think that this suggestion merits consideration as Chilenje Suburb could be developed into a neighbourhood unit for Africans. There is at present little opportunity for Africans to establish themselves in commerce, and the residents of Chilenje appear to be very anxious that such an opportunity should be created. No doubt when the new African Town is established consideration will be given to the development of a commercial centre, but it is also intended that Chilenje Suburb should expand into an African Town, and I think that the layout should include a shopping centre. Before I pursue the matter further I should be grateful for your comments.

*F. N. H. Healy*

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

1st. September, 1949.

The District Commissioner,  
LUSAKA.

2/7

CHILENJE COMMERCIAL CENTRE.

With reference to your minute NAT/88/41 dated 9th. August, 1949, provided you and the Management Board agree, I have no objection to the establishment of a commercial centre at Chilenje African Suburb.

2. I am doubtful, however, about the suggestion that Government should put up the buildings and rent them to selected African Tradesmen. I should prefer the people you mention to put up their own buildings. I think they should submit plans to the Local Authority and that all buildings should be made to conform with the general lay-out and architectural style of the suburb.

J. P. MURRAY.

ACTING PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER.

L U S A K A

22nd October 1949

SIA

The Provincial Commissioner,  
Central Province,  
BROKEN HILL.

AFRICAN OWNED STORES: CHILENJE SUBURB.

2/8  
With reference to your minute No. 1469/NAT/A/1/1 of the 1st September 1949, I have discussed the question of stores with the Chilenje Management Board who are in favour of allowing selected Africans to lease a plot in the Trading Area on which to build their own store.

2. I attach a draft form of agreement of tenancy. It was thought that a monthly lease gave the lessee insufficient security of tenure, and that at this stage it would be undesirable to grant a long tenancy of 10-20 years. It was considered that an annual tenancy was fair, and one which gave the Trader sufficient opportunity to establish himself.
3. To conform with the existing plots the site should be restricted to one third of an acre.
4. I have interviewed an applicant called David Siwale, who has £70 saved and is a bricklayer earning 7/6d. per day. He has been recommended by the Chilenje Management Board, and wishes to build a tea-room. I would like to approve of this venture, and enter into an agreement with Siwale.

14th. November, 1949.

The District Commissioner,  
LUSAKA.

AFRICAN OWNED STORES ; CHILENJE SUBURB.

4/10  
With reference to your minute NAT. 88/69 dated 22nd. October, 1949, I think we may get ourselves involved with the Local Authority, the Licensing Board, and the Department of Lands if we start leasing trading plots in Lusaka without their consent. The terms are really very favourable which you propose to offer and you could not at the moment get a plot at Serenje or Mumbwa on these terms, especially considering that there is only a very vague building clause.

2. As far as the African is concerned I think 12 months notice is too long. In my experience it is not until he has made you almost desperate by the dirt, tumbled down buildings, mealie gardens, chickens, goats, that you eventually give him notice to quit, and then in the interval he does a minimum of repairs and somebody relents and the whole process starts over again. Otherwise he goes away to Mazabuka without leaving an address and the

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3. I think, however, that a case might be made out for a very limited number of small stores for such necessities as food, but would be chary about starting a trading area at Chilenje unless you assured me that these points are covered. If the Local Authorities have no objection I will then take up the matter with the Lands Department to see what sort of leases they are willing to issue.

**J. P. MURRAY,**

PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER.



in reply please quote

No. NAT. 88/87

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

P.O. Box 201

L U S A K A

2nd December 1949

DESIA

The Provincial Commissioner,  
Central Province,  
BROKEN HILL.

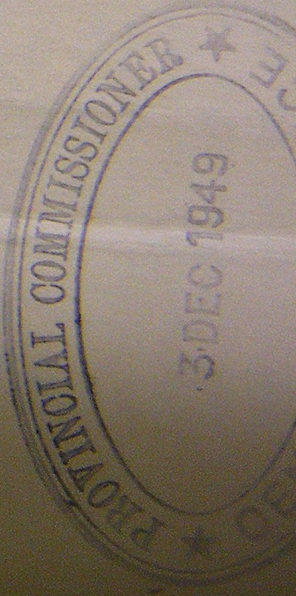
AFRICAN OWNED STORES: CHILENJE SUBURB.

I have to refer to my predecessor's minute No. NAT. 88/69 of the 22nd October 1949, and to your reply No. 1880/NAT/A/1/1 of the 14th November 1949. In view of the fact that Chilenje Suburb is shortly to be taken over by the Lusaka Management Board the matter should be put before this body, I think, for consideration. I will also discuss it with the local Licensing Authority. I am keen that proper trading facilities should be provided in the New African Housing Areas, but agree that the matter should have the proper consideration by the local authorities concerned.

2/10

*H.B. Waugh*

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.



*Handwritten notes and scribbles on the right margin.*