

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF  
SOUTH AFRICA.

No. 3 / 4317

(7)

<p>OFFICE OR INDIVIDUAL</p> <p>From Ministers No. 58</p> <hr/> <p>1923 2nd February</p>	<p>SUBJECT</p> <p>Tristan da Cunha.</p> <p>Representations by The Rev M. Rogers with a view to Annexation of Tristan da Cunha to the Union: Views of the Union Government regarding.</p>
<p>PREVIOUS PAPERS</p> <p>3/4287</p> <hr/> <p>2-1-23 To Rev. Rogers " " B. of S. 27. " " L. S. 12. 6. 5.4.23 " Ministers</p>	<p>MINUTES</p> <p>3.2.23 <u>Letter from Naval C-in-C (Ackt.).</u></p> <p><i>Attch. from Rev Rogers:</i> <u>Secretary.</u> <i>? to Min for information</i> <i>Geo</i> <i>4/4</i></p>
<p>SUBSEQUENT PAPERS</p> <p>3/4322</p>	<p>No. 3 / 4317</p>



PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE  
CAPE TOWN.

- 2 -

reply by "H.M.S. Dublin" that he should be informed that his representations have been received and are now under discussion with the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and that while they do not wish to make any definite statement now in regard to his proposals, MINISTERS do not view with favour the proposal that the Island should be annexed to the Union. The whole subject will be discussed on receipt of a report by the Rear Admiral ~~of "H.M.S. Dublin" after he has had personal contact with the islanders,~~ and a decision will be communicated to Mr. Rogers as soon as an opportunity thereafter is afforded.

576

*W. M. M.*



P.M.53/1

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE  
CAPE TOWN.

2 FEB 1923

✓ REGD. G.G.O.

FEB 2 1923

3/4317

MINUTE NO. 58.

MINISTERS have the honour to acknowledge receipt of His Royal Highness the Governor-General's Minute No.3/4287 of the 22nd January 1923 forwarding a communication from the Reverend H.Martyn Rogers, Missionary on Tristan da Cunha, on the subject of the future of the inhabitants of that Island.

MINISTERS have carefully considered the representations put forward, but they do not view favourably the proposal for the annexation of Tristan da Cunha to the Union.

With regard to any measures to be taken for the welfare of the inhabitants, MINISTERS would suggest that the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies should consult Commander Frank Wild of "The Quest", who spent some time on the Island during the recent tour of "The Quest" in the South Seas. Not only did Commander Wild visit the Island personally but the Medical officers of his Ship also did so, and in discussing matters with Ministers on their arrival in South Africa, they did not appear to have formed a favourable opinion of the residents themselves, or of the judgment and discretion of the Reverend H.Martyn Rogers.

MINISTERS are taking advantage of the forthcoming visit of "H.M.S.Dublin" to Tristan da Cunha, and are asking the Rear Admiral to instruct the Surgeon in charge to observe very closely the mental capacity of the population and their general physical development, so that on any question of assistance to the inhabitants of the Island, which may be discussed afterwards, such information may be available.

MINISTERS suggest that in the event of His Royal Highness replying to Mr.Roger's letter and despatching such

reply .....

No. 3/4317.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
CAPE TOWN.

2nd February 1923.



Sir,

I am directed by His Royal Highness the Governor-General to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th September regarding the future of the inhabitants of Tristan da Cunha. His Royal Highness referred the matter to his Ministers, who have requested that you may be advised that your representations have been received and are now under discussion with the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and that, while they do not wish to make any definite statement now in regard to your proposals, they do not view with favour the suggestion that the island should be annexed to the Union.

His Royal Highness Prince Arthur of Connaught is communicating a copy of the correspondence to the Secretary of State for the Colonies with his Ministers' comments, and directs me to express to you his warm interest in the islanders and his best wishes for the success of your work and for their future prosperity.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Sgd.) B.E.H. CLIFFORD.

SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

The Reverend H.M. Rogers,

Tristan da Cunha,

South Atlantic.

their general physical development and report with a view to further consideration of the question of assistance.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord Duke,

Your Grace's most obedient, humble Servant,

ARTHUR FREEDYKE

GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
CAPE TOWN.

SOUTH AFRICA.

No. 27

2nd February 1923.

My Lord Duke,

With reference to my despatch No. 396 of the 15th June 1921 and to Mr. Churchill's despatch No. 215 of the 28th June 1921, I have the honour to transmit a copy of correspondence with the Reverend H.M. Rogers with regard to the future of the inhabitants of Tristan da Cunha. It will be observed that my Ministers do not view favourably the proposal for the annexation of Tristan da Cunha to the Union.

2. In regard to measures for the welfare of the inhabitants, my Ministers suggest that Your Grace should consult Commander Frank Wild of the "Quest" who spent some time on the Island, as also did the Medical Officer of that vessel. Ministers gather that these gentlemen did not form a favourable opinion of the residents or of the judgment and discretion of the Reverend Mr. Rogers.

3. The Naval Commander-in-Chief, Africa Station, has advised that H.M.S. "Dublin" will sail for Tristan da Cunha about the middle of March and my Ministers have asked that <sup>the</sup> ship's surgeon will observe very closely the mental capacity of the population and

/their

His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, K.G., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O.,

&c.,

&c.,

&c.,

Colonial Office,

LONDON.

16th September  
1922.  
Letter from  
Rev. H.M. Rogers.

2nd February  
1923.  
Letter to -do-



GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
CAPE TOWN.

No. 3/4317.

2 February 1923.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 1581 of the 8th January, I transmit herewith a letter addressed to the Reverend Mr. Rogers, missionary on the island of Tristan da Cunha. I should be grateful if this letter could be delivered by some responsible officer on arrival of H.M.S. "Dublin" at the island.

For your information I enclose a copy of correspondence with the Reverend Mr. Rogers. I have sent a copy to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

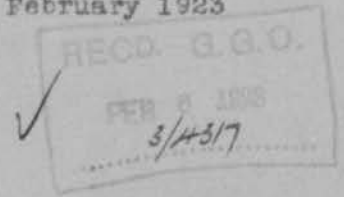
(Sgd) ARTHUR FREEDMAN

GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

THE NAVAL COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,  
AFRICA STATION,  
SIMONSTOWN.

OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,  
AFRICA STATION,  
SIMONSTOWN, C.P.

3rd February 1923



No.1581.

Your Royal Highness,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No.3/4317 dated 2nd February 1923, enclosing a letter addressed to the Reverend Mr. Rogers, missionary on the Island of Tristan da Cunha, which will be given to the Commanding Officer of H.M.S. "DUBLIN" for delivery.

I also acknowledge the receipt of a copy of correspondence with the Reverend Mr. Rogers, and note that you have sent a copy to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I have the honour to be,  
Your Royal Highness's Obedient Servant,

REAR ADMIRAL,  
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

His Royal Highness the Governor General,  
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA,  
CAPETOWN.



The inhabitants of Tustin  
 do thank the  
 Excellency the Governor  
 General for his reply  
 to their letter & very  
 regret that the Union  
 Ministers do not see  
 their way to accepting  
 Tustin into the Union  
 They when a Wireless  
 Plant could be erected here  
 to benefit Cape Farmers  
 with weather reports & so  
 render the island of use to  
 South Africa.

To His Excellency  
 The Governor General & South Africa

UNDER-CHIEF,  
 TION,  
 NSTOWN, C.P.

ary 1923  
 REC. G.G.O.  
 FEB 5 1923  
 3/4517

receipt  
 923,  
 Mr. Rogers,  
 which  
 M.S. "DUBLIN"

copy of  
 and note that  
 e for the

se,  
 ient Servant,

*Arthur Frederick*

REC'D. G.G.O.  
 APR 8 1923

Copy sent to *Minister*  
 For *Information*  
 Min. No. *3/4514*  
 Date *5th April 1923*

ARTHUR FREDERICK

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA,  
 CAPETOWN.