KMM 1 TRP 255

P.O. Box 3,
FRANCISTOWN
27th JUNE '39.

CHIEF ISHEKEDI KHAMA,
P.O. SEROWE.

DEAR SIR,

I wonder if you will be good enough to help me out of a rather difficult situation?

I have been approached by my brother-in-law, Mr J. DEDMAN of the Transportation Department, Rhodesia Railways, Bulawayo, with a view to ascertaining from you if you would be agreeable to granting him permission to shoot certain classes of game in the Nata Area.

As far as I can make out his intention is to proceed from Francistown on August 16th 1939 with a friend of his named Evans and Mr J. Campbell of the Tati Company here, and by way of the W.N.L.A. camp at Nata River, to proceed to MAUN and the Chobe River and thence on to Kazungula.

The idea is to spend the first fortnight of their leave shooting and the latter fortnight fishing on the Chobe and Zambesi Rivers, returning

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via Victoria Falls and the Wankie Game Reserve to Bulawayo.

From this you will gather that their intention is not to stay in one spot and slaughter game but rather to keep on the move and see as much of the country as they possibly can.

Both Messrs. DEDMAN AND EVANS are keen photographers and are particularly interested in film photography, a good deal of which they hope to do. They have, however, put several questions to me which I feel only you can answer.

Firstly, they would be pleased to know if you would grant them permission to shoot (1). Buffalo (2). Lion (3) ORYX (GEMSBUCK) (4). LETCHWE (5) SPRINGBUCK. I might add here that my brother-in-law is a hunter of wide experience, but, with the exception of lion, he has not had the opportunity of shooting any of the above-mentioned varieties of buck. Of the other two gentlemen Mr Campbell was fortunate enough to "bag" a Springbuck last year after obtaining your permission to shoot one, but both he and Mr Evans are keen to obtain one of each of the above merely

as trophies. I have gone into somewhat too much detail perhaps but I have done so in order to guide You, if necessary, in Your decision regarding the number of head of game You will permit each member of the party to shoot.

Secondly, the question of the prospects of obtaining Your permission to shoot ONE ELEPHANT AND ONE RHINO has been raised and here again I must leave the answer entirely in your hands. From persons who know the Nata I have learned that Elephant are quite plentiful along the Nata River but that the prospects of seeing Rhino are far removed. I shall deem it a favour if You could give me Your opinion on this matter, and at the same time let me know if You would permit them to shoot one of either of the above two animals.

In concluding I would like to state that I know each member of the party well and I feel confident that any privilege You may grant them will in no way be abused. I am known to Chief PETO MPHOENG

and I have had the pleasure of meeting You on the occasion of one of Your visits to Francistown so that I do not think You would deem it necessary to approach my immediate superior, Mr. D. W. DEWAR, as to my ~~social~~ standing and character; but should You feel at all dubious I feel ~~sure~~ sure that Mr Dewar would only be too pleased to enlighten and assist You in any way possible.

I shall be very grateful for any advice or ~~assistance~~ assistance You may give me with regard to the subjects I have raised, and, whilst apologising for any trouble my requests may cause You, I sincerely trust You will favour me with Your replies at Your earliest convenience.

With greetings.

Yours faithfully

J. E. Palmer.

(J. E. PALMER
LOCAL ACCOUNTANT
& SECRETARY
TATI COMPANY, LIMITED.
P.O. BOX 2,
FRANCISTOWN)

(RABASUTO)