

CONFIDENTIAL.

1932.
~~1929.~~

C.S.

No.

C/9/32

S. of S. Confidential

SUBJECT.

1932.

~~1932~~
~~1932~~

9th March.

Extracts from a report of proceedings of the
Commodore, South America, in H.M.S. "DURBAN" at
Stanley from December, 1931 to January, 1932.

Previous Paper.

MINUTES.

1-5. S. of S. Confidential despatch of 9/3/32.

P. H. [Signature]

24.5.32

Subsequent Paper.

Copy.

M.645/32.

Admiralty, S.W.1.

29th February, 1932.

Sir,

I am commanded by My Lords Commissioners
of the Admiralty to transmit for the information of the
Secretary of State for the Colonies, extracts from a
report of proceedings of the Commodore, South America,
in H.M.S.DURBAN at Port Stanley Falkland Islands from
the 17th December, 1931, to 2nd January, 1932.

I am, etc.,

(Signed) S.H.PHILLIPS.

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,
COLONIAL OFFICE.

Copy.

M.645/32.

From: The Commodore,
South America.
H.M.S. DURBAN at Anoud.

Date: 18th January, 1932. No. 193/16.

To: THE SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY,
(Copy to COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, AMERICA AND
WEST INDIES).

x x x x x

At 0900 on 17th December I arrived off Point
Pembroke, West Falkland.

x x x x x

I exchanged calls with His Excellency the
Governor on the 18th December.

Having been informed that the Oversea Defence
Committee had approved of the removal of the 6-inch
gun from Mount Low to a position adjacent to the one
on Sapper Hill (vide your letter AWI 0837K of 1st
September 1931), I proceeded at once to make the
necessary arrangements for carrying out this work.
The gun was dismounted, lowered on to a special cradle,
constructed for the purpose by the shipwrights of
H.M.S. DURBAN, and dragged from Mount Low to the
site of the former pier in Sparrow Cove. This work was
completed by the 24th December, after which, owing to
Christmas week and the round of entertainments and
sports organised by the people of Port Stanley, I
decided not to proceed with the building of the pier
before
(which might be demolished by gales/our return next
year) and to defer the completion of the work (which
consists

consists in transporting the gun by water to Port Stanley and mounting it on Sapper Hill) until next year. The estimated time that will be required is four weeks.

x x x x x

Together with my staff Officer I went into the question of Naval measures of defence and administration in accordance with Chapter V. of the Standing Instructions for the Station, consulting members of the Falkland Islands government and the Manager of the Falkland Islands Company.

x x x x x

It will be noted that S.S. JAFONIA has now relieved S.S. FALKLAND as the Falkland Islands Company's steamer. The former is a modern up to date ship designed for service in these inhospitable waters. Her Master was able to give me some useful hydrographic information concerning other anchorages in the Falkland Islands.

x x x x x

A combined operation in conjunction with the local Defence Force was planned but was frustrated by a concentration of events the principal of which were an extension of the Christmas holidays and the departure of DAUNTLESS.

x x x x x

The Falkland Islands Company are building a small floating dock inside the Naval camber, which should

should be completed in the near future. The Manager informed me that Their Lordships had given permission for this use to be made of Admiralty property.

x x x x x

(Signed) R.H.O.LANE-POOLE.
COMMODORE.