

C.S.

SECRET

DEF/GUN/1#13

1932.

No.

5/4/32.

Colonial Secretary.

SUBJECT.

1932.

12th December.

Previous Paper.

FIXED ARTILLERY DEFENCES OF STANLEY -

(In continuation of Taking over of 6" Guns
M.P. 217/32.).

MINUTES.

1-9. Letter from Commodore, H.M.S. Durban, 9/12/32.

O.C. Def. Force. J.E.M. 15/12/32.

Mr. J. Roberts. DMC 16-12-32

Circulated.

Julian

13.12.32.

10. Letter to Commodore H.M.S. Durban 20/1/33

y.e. Letter to the Commodore (rel 10)

for y.e.s signature, if approved, in reply

Julian

21.1.33.

Subsequent Paper.

Letter from Commodore, Durban; 18/2/33. 11.

12

G. E.

Re 12-11 Scht. 1

will circulate in the first place to
the Local Defence Committee.

J. E.

27. 2. 33.

Hon C. S.

Approved

J. E.

28. 2. 33

Re: 7.

Local Def. C. 11/2

please circulate to the
members of the Local Def. C.

J. E.

11. 3. 33.

C.S.O. No. S/4/32.

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 2.

- (1) Major the Hon. J. Innes-Muir. J.M. 14-3-33.
(2) ~~Hon. G. Roberts. C.M.G. 15-3-33.~~
Do see, please. kindly
return to Secretary.
J.S.
13-3-33

13-23. Minute from Hon. D.P.W. 31/3/33.

y. 8.

Draft despatch to

S. J. S. Schmal together with

draft letter to Commodore, S. A.

2. I will Mark the D.P.W.

Hon C. S.
The despatch expresses for the preparation of the estimate

my views clearly
Do please check
the Hon G. Roberts for
preparation of estimate

which has evidently entailed
much labour.

J.G.
24-4-33

15. 4. 33.

Secret despatch to S. of. of 18/4/33. 24-43.

" " " Commodore
H.M.S. Durban 24/4/33. 44

Secretary, Loc. Inf. C^{ms},

for circulation, please.

just

Major the Hon J. Innes Mair J.M. 26.4.33.

~~Hon G. Roberts~~

CMB

27-4-33.

Circulated please (Enclosures 24-44).

Lt White
Sec: Local
Defence Committee.
26/4/33.

Letter from Commodore, H.M.S. 45-49
"Durban" to C-in-C, America & West
Indies Station, 25 Febry 1933.

" " " " " " 50-51

The Commanding Officer of H.M.S. "Dartless"
accompanied by Commander Lauchner and
his Gunnery Officer met me at Govt. House
at 10.30 a.m. today. The Hon. George Roberts
was present. Captain Alencaster explained that
he has received from the Admiralty Telegraphic
instructions to proceed with moving the
Second 6" Gun from Sapper Hill to Canopus
Hue position. After some discussion it was
arranged that the P.W. Dept. should give
all assistance required in moving the gun.

M. Carpi Kallera

28. 10. 33

52. Minute from Hon. D. P. W. 6th November, 1933.

Copied from
M.P. 217/32.

Hon. Col. Sec.,

A copy of Red (52) has been sent by me to the Commanding Officer of H.M.S. "Dauntless", and in view of that Report he has informed me that he has arranged to examine the sight together with Hon. Director Public Works.

.

(Itld.) M.C.H.
11.11.33.

53. Letter from Captain, H.M.S. "Dauntless", 6.11.33.

54. " " " " " 7.11.33.

Hon. D. P. W.,

To note para. 2 of Red (54).

C.I.J.

for C. S.
22.11.33.

Hon. Col. Sec.

Noted.

C.I. Roberts.
24/11/33.

55-58. 1st Secret despatch of 22/9/33.

59-68. Minute from Director, Public Works, 23/11/33.

M.C.

Reds. 55-58 + 59-68 Submitted

C.I.J.
for M.C.
27/11/33

Hon. Col. Sec.

No reply appears called
for to reds 55-58?

72-76 Letter from Capt. H. S. Daintless, 6/12/33
 77 " to " " " " 14/12/33.

Y.E.,

Letter faired and submitted for favour of
 Your Excellency's signature. Draft despatch to
 S. of S. also submitted for approval.

A copy of Reds 72 - 74 should be forwarded to
 the Adjutant, F.I.D. Force for issue to Captain
 Watson ?

A.S.
 for C. S.
 14.12.33.

Hon. Col. Sec.

Letter signed. Draft
 despatch approved.

2. Please forward a
 copy of Reds 72-74 as
 you suggest.

McH
 15. XII. 33

78. Minute to Adjutant. Defence Force, 14/12/33.

79. Secret despatch to S. of S. of 16/12/33.

J.H.
 Despatch submitted for favour
 of Your Excellency's signature.

A.S.
 for C. S.
 15/12/33

Hon. Col. Sec.

Thank you, Sir.

McH

15. XII. 33

S. of S. Secret despatch of 26/1/34 80

Minute to Hon. Treasurer 29/3/34. 81.

P. A.

McH
14. I. 34

S. of S. Secret telegram No. 24 of 28/5/34. 82. 84

Y.E.

Submitted. The despatch
referred to should arrive this
mail.

The estimate of cost for
fun position re at Lanopas
has is shown in red
65 and this was forwarded
to the S. of S. with red 79.
With the present burden of
unemployment and other
unavoidable heavy expenses such
as new power unit for the
W. of T. Station, and in the very
near future an increased power
unit for the Electric Light, it
seems difficult to see to what
extent the Colony can contribute
to the cost of its defences.

McH
24. I. 34.

30. I. 34.

C.S.O. No. S/4/32

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 5

Hr. C. S.

Please G. F. will
despatch when received.

Yms

30. 5. 34.

85-84.

S of S Secret despatch of 6/11/34.

1/1.

Submitted.

MCH
by E. S.
1. 6. 34.

Hr. C. S.

Draft telegram is
replied herewith.

Yms

5. 6. 34

Note. Please consult Hr. S. D. O.

and give view to his concurrence before

despatch.

Yms

6. 6. 34.

Hon. Am Secy.

I enclose, please.

J.S.M. 5/6/34.

Secret telegram to S of S. no. 29 of 6/6/34.

(88)

p. a.

MCH
7. 6. 34.

Secret telegram from S of S. no. 29 of 14/6/34.

(89)

Yh. Submitted. On re-examining the original code telegram from the S. of S. it would appear that (c) was placed incorrectly in the decode.

(b) should continue after "from" ~~the~~ provision of observation and control position, then

(c) be a suitable central position provision of minimum arrangements necessary re. re.

On the other hand under (c) following the word "provision" there is a full stop, vide copy of corrected decode

2. It would appear that owing to an error in placing (c) in its wrong position in the decode, (c) of red 88 should be deleted.

MCH
as ab.

19. 6. 34.

Hon. C.S.

Although the error in decoding is unfortunate the position becomes clear. Telegram in reply herewith.

2. With reference to refs 87-86 and in particular to para. 2 (d) I am unaware that I have that I undertook on behalf of this Govt. to do more than provide the accommodation necessary for the practice (half-calibre) charges. Certainly I do not recollect having committed this favour in respect of the

regarding for the outfit cordite.

Ind

19.6.34.

Secret Telegram (No. 32) to Supt. 20/6/34

(90)

P. R.
mcH
20.6.34.

Secret telegram (No. 35) from S of S of 9/7/34

(91)

Yk. Submission. Estimates relation to
the Sapper Hill position are shown
in reds 24-33, and the Caropus
Lut position in reds 60-65.

mcH
ayes.
11.7.34.

Hon. C. S.

1 discuss this matter this
morning with you, Hon. S. M. O., Mr. White
at Mr. Challen.

2. Please ask Mr. White at Mr.
Challen to prepare revised estimates for

(i) Observation and control position
at Sapper's Hill (see red 29 herein),

(ii) Gun pit at Caropus Hill
(see red 61 herein).

(iii) Observation and control
position at Canopus Hut
(see vol 62 here)

(iv) Cordite store (see paras. 3
or vols 86-85 here)

3. The estimates should show
the cost of labour and of
materials separately; materials
shall be charged at cost price
and no allowance should be
included for supervision or for
departmental charges. In my
view the only item of work
which might reasonably be
undertaken by the personnel of
H.P.S. "Exeter" is under (ii)

Gun position at Campus Hut -
Fixing timbers for bed and moving
gun into position.

4. Of these works the most
urgent is the Gun Pit at Campus

Hut. Can Mr White at Mr Challen

say how long it is likely to take

to complete it?

5. This paper may be

communicated as Secret to Mr White

at Mr Challen.

14-10-34
date of writing
Hon. Director P. Wks.

12. 7. 34

For necessary action please.

WCH
ag. ed.
12. 7. 34.

Hon Colonial Secretary.

I beg to submit revised estimates, totalling £1,950, showing labour and stores separately, for the works mentioned in telegrams in M.P. S/4/32, viz:-

- (i). Observation and control position at Sapper Hill and repairs to gun platform.
- (ii). Gun pit and drainage from pit at Canopus.
- (iii). Observation and control position, Canopus.
- (iiia & b). Timbers required and living hut at Canopus.
- (iv). Cordite store in central position.

2. It is estimated that the whole works can be completed within 14 weeks from time of commencement.

3. With regard to the alternative site at Canopus, in a dip in the peat bank to the South East of the site chosen by Commodore R.H.O. Lane-Poole, R.N., after taking levels it was found that the difference in the ground level of the two sites was some 24 feet, and after excavating to solid in the dip it would mean that it would be necessary to build up (including gun and mounting) to a height of 27 feet to obtain the same field of vision as at the site originally chosen, and in view of this it is suggested that the alternative scheme be dropped.

4. The gun site at Canopus is in a large peat bank and it will be necessary to excavate to solid foundation for all work. Depths were taken giving an average of

- 16 feet for the gun pit.
- 10 feet for the drainage from gun pit to low level.
- 18 feet for the observation and control position sited to the North West

of the gun pit, and for the drainage trench from control position to gun pit.

5. Timbering, sheeting and strutting etc. will be essential during excavations to hold back the semi-liquid peat, and it will be necessary to purchase the timbers required from Messrs Falkland Islands Co.

6. The estimate does not include the moving and fixing into position of the gun and mounting at Canopus, which, as mentioned in paragraph 3 of His Excellency's minute of 12th July, 1934, can be done by H.M.S. "Exeter" during that ship's visit.

R. White

for Director of Public Works.
23rd July, 1934.

J.H. Submitted. I agree with the remarks made in para. 3.

2. It seems to me to be preferable to proceed with the Site which was originally selected, and I understand in conversation with Mr. White this morning that risk in excavating would be much minimised if Timbering, strutting &c is used while the work is being carried out.

3. There is a shortage of suitable timbers but the P.W. Dept. have asked the F.I. Co. to endeavour to obtain some by the purchase voyage of the "Laponia".

*McH
W.C.*

20.7.34.

C.S.O. No. S/4/32

Sheet No. 9

Inside Minute Paper.

Hr. C. S.

Draft telegram here with.

2. Please convey to them

White at Chelles my grateful

appreciation of the care and

trouble taken by them in the

preparation of these estimates

which are admirably clear and

full.

[Signature]

23. 7. 34.

Telegram to Govt. No 35 of 24/7/34.

Hon. Director Public Works.

To note and please
inform Messrs White and Challen
accordingly.

[Signature]
A. C. S.

24. 7. 34

Reeds 92-8

(99)

Hon. Colonial Secretary.

Noted thank you, and
Mr G. Challen has been so informed

P.A.

W. G. G. G.
25/7/34.

Minute from Hon. A.C.W. of 13/8/34.

(100)

Yh. Submitted. I fear we shall
have to wait for a reply?

mch
ay cs.
14. 8. 34.

Hon. Director P. Works.

To see,

mch

Hon. Col. Secretary.
seen please.

W. G. G. G.
15/8/34

P.A.

mch
15. 8. 34.

J. M. G.
14. 8. 34.

Yh. It is now nearly two months
since red 99 was sent and we
have received no reply. Mr. Hensley
tells me he was informed on "Essex"
that they had received instructions
to move the gun when they arrived
on 19th Nov^r, but I fear that
unless we get an early reply it will
not be possible to complete the work
in time even then it may take
much longer than anticipated.

Perhaps the attention of the
S. of S. could be drawn to the matter.

mch
ay cs.
17. 9. 34.

C.S.O. No. S/4/32

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 10

Mr. C. S.

Draft telegram hereunder.

Yours

18. 9. 34,

101. Telegram to S. of S. No. 53 of 18/9/34.

P.A.

19. 9. 34.

102. Telegram from S. of S. No. 62 of 4/10/34.

Hon. S. P. W.

to note for necessary action
please.

C. S. P. W.
5/10/34

Hon. Col. Sec.

Noted the work has
been started today Friday
5th October, a report as to the
possibility of getting the work completed
by the arrival of H.M.S. "Exeter" will
be forwarded during the coming
week.

C. S. Roberts.
5.10.34.

Telegram from Commodore H.M.S. "Exeter" of 6. X. 34. 103.

Mc.

Red. 103 submitted.

A.S.D.
for C.I.
8/10/34.

Hon. Director P. Wks.

To sec. Do you consider that
the work will be completed in
time?

A.S.D.
for C.I.
8/10/34.

Hon. Col. Sec.

The work was commenced the same day
as telegram Red 102 was received. There is
not sufficient time to complete the foundations
for the gun by the 19th November 1934.

The work will take 10 weeks, therefore the
earliest date at which it will be ready
is the 14th December 1934.

I submit that telegrams might be sent
in the following sense.

To the Secretary of State.

Your Telegram Secret N°62 preparatory
work in hand but regret to report
that foundation for gun cannot be completed
until 14th December 1934.

To Commodore H.M.S. "Exeter"

Your telegram of 6th October foundations
for gun will not be completed until
14th December 1934.

E. Roberts
9-10-34.

JH.
Submitted.

A. L. S. for
10/10/34.

Hon. Col. Sec.

There is no need to telegraph
S. of S. as we have complied with
his instructions inasmuch as
work was commenced on the
same day as we got the
authority.

2. Send telegram to
Commodore:

"Your telegram 6th October
"authority to commence work
"only recently received and
"our position cannot now be
"completed until about middle
"December"

McH.
A. L. Gov.
10.8.34

1044 telegram to Commodore, Ender, 10/10/34

Hon. D.P.W.

10 note.

A.S. for CS
11/10/34

Hon. Col. Sec.

Notes.

McMurtre

D.P.W.

11/10/34

P.B.
11/10/34

Telegram from H.M. S. "Palmer" of 14. X. 34. 105.

J.H.
Submitted.

? to Hon. D.P.W.

A.S. for CS
15/10/34

Hon. Col. Sec.

Yes, please. Perhaps Hon. George
Roberts can arrange to expedite
the work as we must do our
best to meet the wishes of
the Commodore.

MCH

15. X. 34.

Hon D.P.W.

Referred to you please.

A.S. for CS
15/10/34

C.S.O. No. 5/4/32

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 12.

Hon. Col. Sec.

Every endeavour will be made to have the foundation ready for the gun. It is too soon to say that it can be completed, it largely depends on the weather, and what we are likely to find, as excavating in 18 ft of soft peat will require plenty of timbering and great care.

C. Roberts.

P. M. D.

16.10.34

W. H.
Submitted -

C. I. for C. S.
16/10/34

Hon. Col. Sec.

Sir. I have spoken with the Hon. George Roberts who has informed me that every effort will be made to have the position ready.

P. A.
17/10/34

M. C. H.
16.10.34

Minute from Hon. D.P.W. 20/11/34 106-107.

JW.

Submitted.

C. J. J.
for S.
20/11/34

Hon. Col. Sec.

I agree that a meeting of the Defence Committee should be held and if any modification is decided regarding question of magazine then I can telegraph the S. of S.

2. A meeting might be held on Monday before the 26th inst. at 11 a.m. I will however consult with the Commodore about this.

MCH

22. XI. 34.

Hon. D.P.W.

Secy. Defence Committee. noted 22/11/34

no note.

C. J. J.
for S.
22/11/34

Hon. Col. Sec.

Noted.

C. J. J.

D.P.W. 23/11/34

108-110.

111.

112.

113.

Letter from Commodore A.C. Evans of 28/11/34.
Minute from H.C. Ag. Governor of 28/11/34
Letter to Commodore A.C. Evans of 29/11/34.
Minute from Hon. D.R.W. of 29/11/34.

YK.

Res. 113 submitted.

C. I. J.
for C.S.
3/12/34

Hon. Col. Sec.

The recommendation
of Hon. Director Pub. Works
approved.

McH
4. XII. 34.

Hon. D.R.W.

to note.

C. I. J.
for C.S.
4/12/34.

Hon. Col. Sec.

noted.

C. Roberts.

D.P.W.

5.12.34.

YK.

? Will it be necessary to
forward a copy of Res 108-110
to the I. of S.?

C. I. J.
for C.S.
7/12/34

/Hon. Col. Sec.

Yes, but I think in the first instance the S. of S. had better be informed by telegram regarding the gun position at Canopus New, that is, that owing to the difficulty of the work due to the extraordinary depth of hear it was not possible to complete gun pier and foundations during the recent visit of H.M.S. "Essex" and that the work cannot be completed at the earliest until the end of the year.

That at a meeting of the local Defence Committee at which Commodore Evans was present it was agreed after examination of the position by Naval authorities that a Central Magazine would be of little value and it was recommended that a magazine should be constructed at each gun position. Estimated cost of Central Magazine £170 and estimated cost of ~~two~~ each magazines £240 or £70 more. Commodore has reported matter to Admiralty.

You might kindly draft a telegram after first verifying the facts.

MCH

10. XII. 54.

Hon. S.P.W.

Do you concur in the

Terms of the draft telegram
to the S. of S. Please.

C. J. R.
for C.S.
11/12/34

Hon. Col. Sec.

It will be necessary to alter the draft telegram.

The cost of a magazine at one gun instead of in the central position is £240 or £40 more, whereas the cost of the two magazines recommended to be built is £480.

In para 10 of Commodore Evans report he recommends that a shell room be built at the Canopus star side, the estimated cost of this is £238 as shown on Red 60.

The magazine at the Canopus side will be of little use if the nearest shells are at Lapper Hill.

C. Roberts.

D.P.W.
11-12-34.

yfr.

Draft amended telegram submitted

C. J. R.
for C.S.
13/12/34

Hon. Col Sec.

Telegram as drafted may
go.

mch

15-XII-34.

Telegram to S. of S. of 14/12/34. (114)
Secret despatch to S. of S. of 21/35. (115)

Y/B.

Despatch submitted for favour of
Your Excellency's signature.

G. J. J.
for S.
3/1/35

Hon. Col. Sec.

Thank you, signed.

mch
3. 1. 35.

P. A.
3/1/35.

Minute from Hon. D. P. W. 18/1/35. 116-121.

S. of S. Secret despatch. of 7 Dec 1934. 122-123

Hon. D. P. W.

In the light of heads 122-123
You will no doubt wish to submit
a fresh statement?

G. J. J.
for S.
20/1/35.

C.S.O. No. 5/4/32

Inside Minute Paper.

15'
Sheet No.

Hon. Colonial Secretary.

In accordance with enclosure 123, I submit a revised claim on the Imperial Government (Army Funds) for the total of £1,305. This cancels enclosures 116 - 121, and an adjustment voucher for 1934 will not now be required - all expenditure in 1934 will be charged against the Imperial Government.

2. Details of expenditure, as enclosures 116 - 120, will continue to be kept in case the Imperial Government should ask for details at a later date in support of the claim.

C. Roberts.

Director of Public Works.
25th January, 1935.

Yff
Submitted with draft
despatch.

*C. J. J.
for C.S.
26/1/35.*

Hon. Col. Sec.

Thank you. We must get
our claim away this mail
in order to comply with
2 (b) of reg 123.

McH

27.1.35

Despatch to S. of S. Secret of 28/1/35.

124-125.

Y/6. Despatch submitted for signature.

C. J. J.
for S.
29/1/35.

Hon. Col. Sec.

Signed, thank you.

MCH
24.1.35

P.A.
30/1/35.

S. of S. Telegram. no. 20 of 2/2/35.
Minute from Director P.W.Ks.

126.

127.

Y/8. Submitted for information.

It is anticipated that the work of the defences will be completed at an early date. The S. of S. has been informed (incl. 125) of the proportion of the total cost of £1920 payable from Army funds.

Reply to recd (126) drawing attention to despatch of 28th Jan'y 1935 and stating that the whole work will be completed before the 31st March, 1935 at the approved cost of £1920.

MCH
CS.
11.2.35.

11/12

128. Telegram to S. off. No 16. Secret of 14/2/35.

Director Pub. Wks.

To note.

MCH
CS.
15. 2. 35

Hon. Col. Sec.

Noted.

The work on the Central Cordite stone will be put in hand at once. The concrete blocks have been made, and it is anticipated that the work will be completed by the 31st of March. It is proposed to erect the building on the site selected by the Commander and Gunnery Officer of H.M.S. "Essex". The site is situated at the South end of the road to Big Rookery Bay.

C. Roberts.

D.P.W.
16-2-35.

~~B. 15. 1. 35~~
~~MCH 15. 2. 35~~
B. 15. 2. 35
MCH 28/3/35
20/3/35

Director Pub. Wks.

Will you kindly
report when work is completed.

MCH
Ct
24.5.35

Hon. Col. Sec.

All work to be carried out
by this Government has been
completed, ready for one of H.M.
ships to mount the gun, and store
the cordite.

C. Roberts.

12.4.35

P. Submitts for information.
Will P. kindly retain this
paper for filing in the safe
at Govt. House.

MCH
Ct.
12.4.35

H.C. further def. rec'd yesterday
for action

Will 11/5/35

S. of S. sent despatch of 1/4/35. 129.

(130)

Minute to D.P.W. 14/5/35.

131-137

- minute from D.P.W. 16/5/35.

138.

minute. " " 16/5/35.

139.

Despatch to S. of S. Secret. of 17/5/35.

Yr.

Despatch submitted covering
Statements called for in red
129.2. I also submit S.W. for
£615, being the Colony's share
of the defence scheme.MCH
CS.

17. V. 35

15/V/35

Yr. This paper is returned for
filing at Gov. House.MCH
CS.

18. V. 35

I have received this today. Will
you please forward it and up 217/32
to O.C. D. 7. who is referring to the
6 in. guns

3/3/36

This paper was
actually filed at
Gov. House but
was borrowed in
Nov^r 1935.
MCH
S.S. 36.

Hon. Treas.

Sent to you with
C.S. 217/52.

McH
C.S.
S.S. 56.

Letter from O.C. Defence Force, 17/3/36. 140.

Minute to Clerk. Defence Committee, 20/3/36. 141

O.C. Defence Force.

I visited the Magazine at the 6" Gun at Sapper Hill with you yesterday afternoon. We agreed that immediate measures should be taken to remove the shells, have them cleaned and coated with an oil mixture, and store as many as possible in the observation post which appears very suitable as it is dry. The present Magazine which is built into the earth will always be damp and anything stored in it must have constant attention. This will be possible if say half the number of shells can be moved to the observation post. Do you confirm this please!

2. We afterwards visited the 6" Gun at Canopus Hill. We found that the breach of the gun was rusty owing to the wooden plug having been broken. It seems that

C.S.O. No. L/4/32

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 18

the plug was not sufficient to adequately protect the breech. indeed no effort appears to have been made to protect the various parts of the gun. The gun has not been handed over to the Col. Govt. as it has not been mounted but notwithstanding this, I think steps should be taken to clean the breech as much as possible, pack in grease and build a plug round it so as to prevent removal by boys and others. Do you agree, please?

M.C.H.

24.5.36

Hon. C.S.

I confirm para 1.

N. r. C. para. 2 The removal of the rust from the breech will require to be done very carefully. Emery cloth MUST NOT be used as the loose wear on the breech threads might cause a misfit. I think cleaning with kerosene oil & drying and then packing with grease etc. as you suggest is as much as we can do until an expert opinion can be obtained.

J. O. R. J. D. F.
24/3/36

Director Public Works.

I understand that you
inspected the shell magazine
at Sappers Hill and also the
6" gun at Canopus Huc.

2. Do you agree please
with the proposals put forward
in my minute of the 24th inst.

WCH
25. 5. 36.

Hon. Col. Sec.

I entirely agree with
your views please.

C. Roberts

D.P.W.
26/3/36.

Yr. Submitted. I consider that
the suggestions put forward in my
minute of the 24th inst. should be
carried out without delay.
Unless the shells are seen to they
will become useless. If part of
the number are removed to the
observation post they can be
periodically inspected and cleaned.

The O.C. Defence Force might arrange
for the work to be done under
the supervision of Capt. Allan, and
particularly the cleaning of the
breach of the 6" gun at Canopus
Huc. I fear that if the breach
of this gun is left exposed much
longer it will be ruined.

WCH
27. 5. 36.

Thoroughly approved
WCH 27/3

C.S.O. No. L/4/32

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 18

O. C. Defence Force.

Will you kindly arrange for the work of cleaning and removing the shells to be put in hand as soon as possible.

Perhaps the cleaning of the breech of the 6" gun could be seen to by Capt. Allan who understands the care necessary.

MCH
Ch.

27.3.36.

Hon Ch.

The work will commence tomorrow (Wednesday). Four unemployed members of the Defence Force have been engaged for the work. Although this Colony has not yet taken over the Gun at Canopus Hut, all expenditure will be charged to the Military Vote - upkeep of 6" Guns. Every endeavour will be made to keep the vote within the amount provided but as this work was not foreseen there may be some little additional expenditure:

For J. D. J.
31/3/36

O. C. Defence Force.

I agree. I fear that the expenditure is unavoidable.

MCH
Ch.

31.3.36

Hon Ch.

Noted. J. D. J.

1/4/36

B.f 7.4.36
MCH. 1.4.36

O.C. Defence Force.

How is the work progressing,
please.

MCH.
C.S.
6.4.36.

How C.S.

The first report is at Red (142)
Should you wish to make another
visit to see the result of the work
& the re-organisation I shall be
pleased to attend at whatever
time may be convenient to you.

Arrangements have been made
to carry out the work at Canopus that
as & when weather permits.

Joe.
2.9.53,
7/4/36

O.C. Defence Force.

Thank you. I will let you
know when I can visit the
magazine.

MCH.
C.S.
7.4.36

Col. Sec. MCH.

Joe.
2.9.53,
7/4/36

Minute from O.C. Defence Force, 16/4/36. 143.

YfB.

Red (143) submitted for information.

C.S.
17/4/36.

20/4/36

C.S.O. No. S/4/32

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 19...

Ch. Clk.

B.I. on 24/5/36. J. 24/5/36

DE again
on 15/9/36
yagls
9/6/36
B.F. 15/9/36
yagls

(144)

Telegram from Commodore W.I. Squad. D 14/9/37

Y.E.

Rec (144) and drop telegram in reply
submitted for approval.

Jed 17/9/37

Hon. C.S.

Approved.

mch
17.9.37

acs

At despatch.

Jed 17/9/37

(145)

Telegram to Commodore Bermuda 17/9/37.

146-150

Letter from Captain H.M.S. "Ajax" of 18/4/37.

acs

When did 146-150 come from them?

Jed 17/9/37

H.C.S.

Reps referred to would seem to have come from
G.H. They have been received in this office since
last mail. Jed 22/9/37.

Y.E.

(146) - (150) Submitted - paras 5, 6, 7 & 13 are
receiving attention Jed 22/9/37

Transferred
to S/3/33.

No. not from
Govt. House.
mch

Hon. C.S.

Seen. I fear nos 146-150
have been overlooked in the
C.S. office. These were
certainly not received last
mail but I believe by the
mail of 27th July. As is
customary these were sent
to your office when received.

m ch

23.9.37

Letter to Director of Public Works 24/9/37 (151)
" from " do 25/9/37 (152)
" " do 28/9/37 (153)

F.E. Submitted for information. This refers to item 5 of (138)

Ref
29/9/37

PA 1/10/37

m ch
29.9.37

Letter from Commodore H.M.S. Ecker 28/9/37 (154)

Letter from Commodore H.M.S. Ecker 29/9/37 (155-157)

Telegram from " do " 16/10/37 (158)

Telegram to " do " 16/10/37 (159)

Telegram to " do " 19/10/37 (160)

~~Letter to Lt. Brownhills of 16/10/37 (161-162)~~

Minute to D.P.W. of 1/11/37 161.

" from " " 2/11/37 162.

Transferred
to m.p.
5/3/33.

Transferred
to 5/1/37.

Transferred.
to 5/1/37.

T.E.

led (162) submitted.

When I arrived in the Colony I received a provision of £950 for the building of a magazine & on being informed that it was required for military purposes I proceeded to investigate the accommodation available for military requirements. On being satisfied that our accommodation was adequate I suggested the removal of gelignite & other explosives, if any, to Surf Bay as it had nothing to do with the military Dept.

2. The question of the storage referred to in (162) is a matter I consider for

Departmental arrangement & as the Surf Bay Magazine is ^{now} required for the storage of Cordite arriving at the Dept. this temporary accommodation must be given up to the D.P. and he should submit his recommendations for storing the gelignite in charge to his Dept.

Ref
2/K1/57

Hon. C.

That is so, but the fact remains we have not got the new magazine it was proposed to erect. As the temporary accommodation is required for the Cordite shortly expected the D.P. who has no other storage accommodation available other than the magazine

Please see
25/34
attached
Ref
2/K1/57

in the Magazine Valley. Is there
any reason why he should not
store in that Magazine the
gelignite mentioned?

McH.

J. XI. 57

Y.E.

a new magazine was not & is not yet required by the
Military Department.

2. as stated on the telephone to Y.E. what I think is
required is a store for the P.W.D. gelignite and it
seems to me that the cost should be very little to
provide this small accommodation

3. If the present shell store at Sapper Hill is suitable
for the D.P.W. arrangements could be made to clear
out the few remaining shells and leave that
space entirely for the D.P.W. until he has time
to build another store.

4. The objection I have to the storing of gelignite
with ammunition in Magazine Valley is that of
dual control, with both members of the defence
force & P.W.D. staff it might be very difficult to
place responsibility in the event of an accident.

McH.
4/11/37

The Hon. C.S.

The D.P.W. might be asked to
furnish an estimate of the cost of
a small store suitable for storing
P.W.D. explosives

2. The shell store at Sapper
Hill would probably do for temporary
storage of gelignite. The store can
be opened to the D.P.W.

3. I agree with your para. 4.

McH.

4. XI. 57

163. Minute to D.P.W. 4/11/37
164-165 Minute from D.P.W. of 9/11/37.
(166) " to " " "

Reds 164 to 166 submitted. The following references are to paras. in D.P.W's. Minute.

Paras. 1
& 2.

I understand from Capt. Fleuret that the shell store was built under the direction of the D.P.W.

Para 3.

It seems to me ridiculous that the D.P.W. should state "It is well known to those having a knowledge of explosives containing nitro-glycerine that to store them in a damp place is highly dangerous" and then to ask Y/E. to relieve him of all responsibility.

Para 4.

Arrangements have been made for the storage of P.W.D. explosives in the magazine at Magazine Valley and the D.P.W. will be entirely responsible for this magazine during the period of storage. *nile* (166)

Para 5.

The additional articles referred to in this para. can be stored in the same accommodation as that referred to above. The General Foreman of Works is Superintendent of the Stanley Fire Brigade.

Para 6.

A new file will be opened in connection with the work mentioned therein. In connection with the cost, however, I would remind Y/E. that a very suitable storage building was erected at Surf Bay at a cost of approximately £217 and the accommodation available there appears to be more than would be required for the P.W.D. explosives.

Para 7.

I fail to see why the Military Department should be asked to select a site for a building in which it is proposed to store P.W.D. explosives. I should have thought that a D.P.W. would not only be capable but

would/

would prefer to do this himself; after all the present Director selected a site for a magazine at Felton's Stream.

Para. 8. It will be observed that the Minute dated the 8th November (red 163) was actually typed on the 4th November, but through an oversight in the outer office it did not come to me until the 8th. In any case the delay has not caused any material difference.

Para. 9. The subject matter appertaining to the new building will be extracted to the new file.

2. It is no concern of the Military Department where P.W.D. explosives are stored and there should not be dual control of the explosives magazine. As O/C. Defence Fence, I have given the D.P.W. every assistance and consideration in the matter, and I am not prepared to go any further.

Ag. C.S.
9/11/37.

Don C.S.

I am glad you have been able to arrange for the storage of P.W.D. explosives in the old magazine for the time being.

2. I should imagine that the type of magazine erected at Surf Bay for £217 would be far too large if used for the sole purpose of storing P.W.D. explosives. Would it not be possible to erect a small building for less than £150? The D.P.W. might prepare a plan of proposed dimensions together with estimated cost.

3. Since the building will be

C.S.O. No. 5/4/32

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No.

for the sole use of the P. who De
the DP. who should suggest a
suitable site. The Military Dept.
can then say whether they
have any objection to the site
suggested.

4. Those portions of the
correspondence dealing with provisions
for storing P. who explosives
can go in an open file.

McH

10. XI. 32

P. X
9/11/32

SECRET

H.M.S. "DURBAN" 9

at Stanley.

9th December 1932.

No.0166/310

Sir,

I have the honour to report as follows regarding progress made with the fixed defences of Port Stanley during the present visit of H.M.S. "Durban"

2. The Sapper Hill gun, six inch B.L. Mark VII, registered number 1805, and mounting have been completely assembled for drill, and tests and preparation for firing have been carried out with the assistance of the Artillery Section of the Defence Force while under instruction.

The mounting is in good condition, the base platform has not yet been repaired but is serviceable. The gun is serviceable but has a slight corrosion of the rifling at the muzzle end and a shallow score in the obturator seating.

Gun and mounting will be put in a state of preservation before "Durban" sails, and all gear and equipment stowed as shewn in Appendix A.

It is the intention to deliver this gun and mounting complete to the Colonial Government on the occasion of the Centenary, after mating the obturator with a full charge shotted round.

3. The ex-Mount Low gun, six inch B.L. Mark VII registered number 1641, and mounting have been left near the proposed site on Sapper Hill in a state of preservation and all movable parts stowed as shewn in Appendix A. The timber of the platform is sound and can be re-erected in the new site.

4. The ex-Glasgow Field gun, twelve pounder, eight hundredweight, registered number 1227, complete with mounting, and the three pounder Hotchkiss, registered number 2721, complete with mounting, Admiralty Pattern Number 1155, are in Customs Bonded Store, Stanley, serviceable and in a state of preservation.

5. As the whereabouts of the memoranda of inspection for the above mentioned guns cannot be traced in Port Stanley Government Offices, the Admiralty have been requested to forward copies of them to you.

6. The Colonial Government have reconditioned a living hut on Sapper Hill as a store for small gear belonging to the gun mounted there.

7. As it has been agreed that the present Colonial magazine is unsuitable for storage of a large quantity of

His Excellency, the Governor,
Port Stanley.

cordite, the enclosed

app B & E

cordite, the enclosed detailed plans and drawings of a proposed magazine, shell-rooms, and protective works suitable for a two gun battery on Sapper Hill, have been drawn up by the ship's officers with the assistance of the Director of Public Works.

8. The question of supply of outfit cordite for the six inch guns has been deferred until suitable storage is available for it, but three hundred A.P. shell for them are being brought in "Dauntless", and Admiralty approval has been requested for six inch and three pounder sub-calibre practice ammunition to be purchased from H.M. Ships as required at current rate book prices.

No ammunition is available for the twelve pounder field gun and no arrangements have been made for supplying any.

Thirty-two rounds service ammunition for the three pounder Hotchkiss, with tubes and fuzes and a quantity of smallarm ammunition are now stored in the Colonial Magazine.

9. Two Pattern VII targets have been shipped in "Dauntless". These are intended for full-calibre practice from Sapper Hill, whether towed or moored. The range to Port William is too great for useful practices with sub-calibre guns, but these can be carried out against the targets in Port Harriet.

10. It is desirable that accurate maps of the surrounding country should eventually be provided for the use of the Battery Officer in order that the weapons may become fully effective against land targets.

11. The Stanley members of the Artillery section of the Defence Force have carried out drills onboard and at the Sapper Hill gun on six days, as arranged by the Colonial Government.

In addition, all members have voluntarily attended a course of nine evening lectures.

The officers and Control personnel have received instruction in control against ship targets and carried out drill with the necessary instruments lent by "Durban".

The section is not yet capable of carrying out a practice but are anxious to learn and it is anticipated that with a little more instruction a sub-calibre practice will be possible.

If practicable, it is proposed to bring one officer and one Gunner's Mate of "Dauntless" to Port Stanley in "Durban" on 24th January, 1933 and leave them there until "Dauntless" arrives on 8th February, to give further instruction to the Artillery section and to complete preparation of the Sapper Hill gun for handing over to the Colonial Government.

12. H.M.S. "Dauntless" will be directed to :-

(1) Land and assemble two pattern VII targets in the Government dockyard.

(2) Land and install ...

- (2) Land and install rangefinder on Sapper Hill.
- (3) Land and store 300 six inch shell in Sapper Hill shell-room.
- (4) Land sub-calibre guns, loading teacher, control instruments, and spare gear in Government Dockyard.
- (5) Continue training of Artillery section and if practicable arrange sub-calibre firing by them before ship's departure.
- (6) Complete reconditioning of six inch gun No. 1805 and mounting and fire one full charge shotted round from it.
- (7) Transfer all the above mentioned stores to the charge of the Falkland Islands Government with usual supply and receipt notes.
- (8) Make covers for six inch gun and rangefinder (from canvas to be purchased by the Falkland Islands Government)

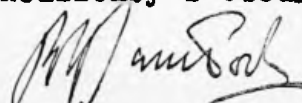
13. It is assumed that the Falkland Islands Government will :-

- (1) Complete building of rangefinder platform on Sapper Hill (by 8th February 1933)
- (2) ^{Recondition} ~~Construct~~ a shell-room on Sapper Hill (by 8th Feb: 1933)
- (3) Provide a temporary control hut on Sapper Hill.
- (4) Take over charge of six inch gun No. 1805, mounting, and spares, and ammunition and stores referred to in paragraph 12 above, and provide suitable storage for them, before "Dauntless" sails.
- (5) Provide transport for six inch shell and rangefinder to Sapper Hill.
- (6) Purchase 32 rounds 3 pounder practice ammunition from "Dauntless" and stow them in Colonial Magazine or new Sapper Hill shell-room until required for practice.
- (7) Purchase from "Dauntless" requisite canvas for making gun and rangefinder covers.
- (8) Arrange for provision of a magazine suitable for six inch outfit cordite. (In due course, sending me a copy of detailed estimates for information)
- * (9) Repair wooden gun platform (in due course)

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Excellency's obedient Servant


Commodore.

Appendix A.

LIST OF GUN MOUNTING GEAR STORED IN PORT STALEY.

<u>Gear.</u>	<u>Where Stowed.</u>	<u>No.</u>
6" B.L. Mk VII and P.III Mounting Complete. Reg No of Gun 1355.	Sapper Hill.	
6" B.L. Mk VII and P.III Mounting in Parts. Reg No of Gun 1641.	Sapper Hill.	
Cradle with return springs and recoil cylinder complete with piston, etc.	Sapper Hill (Cleaned and under preservation.)	1.
Pedestal with training worm wheel, band brake and footstep bearing complete.	Sapper Hill.	1.
Wye bracket and Pivot,	Sapper Hill.	1.
Platforms and Training and Elevating Gear Brackets (attached.)	Sapper Hill.	1 of each.
Training Gear Box with Worm and Frictional Gear.	Sapper Hill.	1.
Bolts holding down packing ring.	Sapper Hill.	20.
Plates for foundations. (1/2 inch.)	Sapper Hill.	2.
Packing Ring.	Sapper Hill.	1.
Guards.	Sapper Hill.	2.
Strong Back for removing footstep bearing.	Sapper Hill.	1
Breech complete with mechanism, Lock and Box Slide & Anti-Friction washers and spring for catch retaining breech screw open,	Custom House) DRILL SHED.) Custom House.)	1
Shot guide with adjustment ^{WITH} lock eccentricity.	Custom House. DRILL SHED.	1
Locks (Spare).	Custom House. DRILL SHED	2
Discs (obturator) adjusting.	Custom House. DRILL SHED	2
Trigger, Striker, Spring. Extractor, parts 1 and 2, Spring (Shot guide.)	Custom House DRILL SHED	1 of each.
Tube, Vent rimmers .	Custom House. DRILL HALL.	2
Hand extractors.	Custom House. DRILL HALL.	2
Lanyard Grip.	Custom House. DRILL HALL.	1
Striker. spare.	Custom House. DRILL HALL.	1
Wrenches, breech mechanism.	Custom House. DRILL HALL.	1
Vent clearers.	Custom House.	2
Telescopes.	Drill Hall Office.	4
Tubes, boxes.	Drill Hall Office.	1

<u>Gear.</u>	<u>Where Stowed.</u>	<u>No.</u>
Sight complete,	Custom House. DRILL HALL.	1.
Fuze Key.	Custom House. DRILL HALL.	1
Key Key - Fixing ring protecting seat of obturator.	Custom House. DRILL HALL.	1
Elevating wheels,	Custom House. DRILL HALL.	1
Training Wheels,	Custom House. DRILL HALL.	1
Training shafts, short with pinions.	Custom House. DRILL HALL.	1
Training shafts, long with pinions.	Custom House. DRILL HALL	1
Training pinions, brass.	Custom House. "	1
Trunnions, unlocking spanners. LEFT.	Custom House. "	2
Trunnions, Unlocking spanners. RIGHT.	Custom House. "	2
Spanners. forcing out bolt,	Custom House. "	4
Indicators.	Custom House. "	2
Covers protecting M.V. Connectors,	Custom House. "	2
Pistol Grips.	Custom House. "	2
Box battery.	Custom House. "	2
Circuits firing.	Custom House. "	4
Circuits illuminating night sights.	Custom House. "	6
riasaba Heads (with ^{out} hair).	Custom House. "	2
Trunnions blocks complete Left and right,	Custom House. "	2
Pedestal, holding down bolts.	Custom House. "	4
Fixing in screws and nuts.	Custom House. "	2
1 5/8 inch countersunk bolt, for holding down ring.	Custom House. "	1
Field Gun 12pdr 8 cwt on carriage complete (Reg No 1227)	Custom House. "	1
Carriage (Reg No 252)		1
Breech mechanism (No 14078 of breech)		1
Spare breech mechanism.	Custom House. "	1
Spanners in box. Nos 71-76, 79 and two others.	Custom House. "	5
Rear sights.	Custom House. "	2
Limber, pole and drag ropes, hand spike,	Custom House,	1 of each.
Tampion.	Custom House..	1

SECRET

(4)

Page 3.....

<u>Gear.</u>	<u>Where Stowed.</u>	<u>No.</u>
Cover for Gun.	Custom House.	1
1' 3/8 inch counter sunk bolt for holding down ring and 2 nuts.	H.M.S. "Durban" for "Dauntless."	1
German Field Gun mountings.	Custom House.	2

Appendix B.

Explanatory notes regarding plans of proposed defences on Sapper Hill. (Appendices C, D and E)

Description of the Defences.

The arc of possible attack by gunfire from sea extends from Port Fitzroy bearing south 55° West to the western end of Port William bearing North 20° East (Mag)
The arc of possible attack by land extends from the southern side of Mount Wickham heights South 80° West through South East and North to Saddle Hill in the West.

The observation and control hut (Appendix D) is situated in the crest of Sapper Hill with clear arc of view from 259° to 290° through North and East (Mag) and to a minimum range of 3,000 yards approximately. The total height of the erection above the present ground level is 3 feet. Camouflages can be easily affected due to the natural surroundings which will make the position difficult to detect.

Gun Pits (Appendix C)

No 1 gun together with its Shell Room should be protected with breast-works, minimum height 4 feet and 15 to 20 feet in depth (Sangar type), but to be increased in height as necessary to meet the gun in the arcs of limited depression which should be determined as the positions are erected.

NOTE--The limit of depression above No 2 gun is horizontal minimum range obtainable 4,200 yards with full charge.

No 2 Gun Pit is designed to be sunk into the rock of the hill and breastworks to be adjusted to the limits of depression as necessary.

Trench System.

The defensive works are shown in detail in the plan; the connecting trench is drawn arbitrarily and may follow the easiest course providing that it passes more than 15 feet from any other position or work.

The Shell Rooms (Appendix D) is designed to be immune from short range fire on all bearings except upon the roof which is shrapnel and splinter proof only.

NOTE--The existing dug-out at No 1 position "Sapper Hill Gun" is suitable as a shell room if re-constructed as shown in the plan.

The Magazine.....

The Magazine (Appendix E) is designed to be defiladed and immune from fire below 30° angle of descent from the sea but is vulnerable to land artillery from North and West. Protection of the magazine from this latter quarter can be accomplished by additional shell-proof breast works and roofing.

The capacity of the magazine with normal stowage is ---

136 cases or 524 Full charges.
Full stowage is 164 cases or 628 full charges of 6-inch B.L. ammunition.

General Remarks concerning Plan. (Appendix D). All positions are on sloping ground or near changes in levels and drainage is easily accomplished.

Earth works above all positions can be made to lie in the line of the curve of the hill and below the crest when viewed from seaward.

Gun emplacements are designed for all-round fire but protection may be improved if this is found to be unnecessary after further investigation of the defence problem.

With regard to concealment and camouflage, it is suggested that the rangefinder and control hut breast works should be built before the rangefinder is erected and dazzle painting employed immediately, and the rangefinder mounting covered with canvas.

It is suggested that before any work on the control position is commenced, that a wire fence be erected around the proposed positions.

Lighting. Fitted lighting circuits are not contemplated. Six magazine hand lamps will provide all lighting necessary in the defences.

Firing Circuits and Night Sights. A stock of inert cells or old pattern Leclanche firing batteries will be required for this purpose.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
STANLEY.

20th January, 1933.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

S E C R E T.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of and to thank you for your letter No. 0166/310 of the 9th of December, 1932, on the subject of the progress made with the fixed defences of Port Stanley during the recent visit of H.M.S. "Durban".

2. The position of this Government in regard to the several points raised in the last paragraph of your letter is as follows :-

- (1) Rangefinder platform will be built immediately on receipt of the rangefinder pedestal.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) Suitable shelter for control purposes on the occasion of practices will be provided.
- (4) Yes, ammunition being restricted to shells i.e. to the exclusion of cordite.
- (5) (6) and (7) Yes.
- (8) The Colonial Government is prepared to carry out all constructional work in connection with a suitable magazine, unskilled labour being provided by the Colonial Government without charge and the cost of all materials and of transport etcetera thereof being borne by the Imperial Government. The Colonial Government, if desired, is prepared to supply the materials, transport etcetera at actual cost.
- (9) Yes.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Commodore R. H. O. Lane-Poole, O.B.E., R.N.,
H.M.S. "DURBAN".

JAMES O'GRADY.

(11)

H.M.S. "Durban",

at Port Stanley.

18th February, 1933.

No. 1421/310
Sir,

In continuation of my letter of 9th December, 1932, I have the honour to report that the following further work on the fixed defences has been carried out during "Durban's" presence at Port Stanley for Centenary Week.

2. Six inch gun No. 1805 on P.III mounting was delivered to the Falkland Islands Government on the occasion of the Centenary Review on 12th February, 1933, the gun having fired a shotted round with full charge (adjusted to 24 lbs 12 oz - Cordite M.C. size 19 in accordance with Admiralty instructions) to mate the obturator.

The gun and mounting functioned correctly and are serviceable.

3. The memorandum of examination of this gun has not yet been received in Stanley, but copies of my report to Ordnance Depot, Woolwich on Form S.1404 of a visual examination carried out before the firing, and of the round fired, are attached for information of the Officer Commanding Defence Force.

4. Six inch B.L. gun No. 1805 and mounting P.III, mounted, with spares complete, and a quantity of ordnance and gunmounting stores shipped from England by "Dauntless" and "Durban" have been transferred to the charge of the Officer Commanding Falkland Islands Defence Force who has given receipts for them on behalf of the Falkland Islands Government.

5. All the items mentioned in paragraphs 12 and 13 of my letter of 9th December have now been completed by "Durban" and the Defence Force with the exception of the sub-calibre firing, the repair of gun platform and the provision of a cordite magazine.

6. The Colonial Government has reconditioned a shell store on Sapper Hill, splinter proof, with wooden frames, concrete floor and drainage, which can be made shell proof on all sides by the addition of breastworks. Three hundred rounds six inch A.P. shell are now stowed therein.

7. The Admiralty have approved of practice ammunition and ordnance stores being supplied to the Falkland Islands Defence Force at current rate book prices, and other naval stores at rate book prices plus 15 per cent, all transactions being reported for financial adjustment in London.

8. The War Office will supply free, three field telephones with two cells each provided that they receive official application for them from the Falkland Islands Government.

9. It is recommended that the following steps be taken at an early date as precautions against fire and the approach of unauthorised persons to the Shell Store.

- (a) Enclose the shell store and gun position with an unclimbable fence with locked gate.
- (b) Erect a conspicuous notice bearing warning of danger and the need for precautions against damage and fire.
- (c) Fit an outer covering of iron plating to the door of the shell store.

I have the honour to be.

Sir,
Your Excellency's obedient Servant.

His Excellency the Governor
of the Falkland Islands.
PORT STANLEY.

12

18th February. 1933.

Sir,

2nd 51
L. A. P. 217/32.

Commodore

MINUTE.

To

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

31st March, 19 33

From Director Public Works,

Stanley.

M.P. Secret 4/32.
SAPPER HILL GUN BATTERY.

I beg to forward 5 copies of estimates of the work required at the Sapper Hill gun battery in accordance with drawings etc drawn up by H.M.S. "Durban".

2. It should be stated that the site on Sapper Hill is composed of a hard metamorphic rock throughout necessitating continuous blasting for excavations.

3. No provision is made in these estimates for the other gun position.

J. Roberts.
Director Public Works.

PORT STANLEY, FALKLAND ISLANDS.

SAPPER HILL GUN BATTERY.

Estimates for work in accordance with drawings
etc, drawn up by H.M.S."Durban".

The site of the battery on Sapper Hill is composed of a hard metamorphic rock throughout, with outcrops, necessitating continuous blasting for excavations.

Breastwork on Sangar type principle.

SUMMARY OF ESTIMATES.

Work.	Total Estimate.			Estimated Labour and Materials separately.					
	£.	s.	d.	Labour.			Materials		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
1. Main Magazine for outfit cordite.	1,081.	12.	8.	729.	16.	1.	351.	16.	7.
2. Communication and ammunition trenches.	1,153.	11.	5.	919.	5.	5.	234.	6.	0
3. Observation and control position.	261.	5.	3.	192.	7.	0	68.	18.	3
4. Breastwork for forming gun pit extending to shell room.	209.	9.	0.	191.	8.	0.	18.	1.	0
5. Repairs etc. to gun platform.	34.	13.	0.	13.	17.	6.	21.	1.	6
6. Strengthening and further protection of present shell room and approach trench.	36.	8.	8.	28.	12.	0.	7.	16.	1
7. Unclimable fence to enclose the area.	123.	0.	0.	30.	0.	0.	93.	0.	0
Total.....	2,900.	0.	0.	2,105.	0.	0.	795.	0.	0
				£2,900.	0.	0			

(1). MAIN MAGAZINE FOR STORAGE OF OUTFIT CORDITE.

Full storage capacity - 164 cases or 628 full charges.

ESTIMATE.

		£.	s.	d
153 cubic yards.	Blasting in solid rock. @ 38/-.	290.	14.	0
61 cubic yards.	Concrete in walls, floor and roof. @ 55.	305.	0.	0
	Re-inforcement to roof.	12.	0.	0
47 cubic yards.	Rubble filling around walls. @ 3/6d.	8.	4.	6
7 yards run.	Forming drain from Magazine to North. @ 10/-	3.	10.	0
	Two pairs of double 3" doors hung with gunmetal hinges and fitted with gunmetal lock. Outer doors to be covered with sheet steel.	18.	0.	0
	Skeleton lining Magazine with timber. 3" x 1" spaced 3" secured to 3" x 2".	16.	7.	6
	Timber gratings for floors of stowage bays. 3" x 1" spaced 3" on 4" x 2" bearers.	4.	18.	9
7 yards run.	Duck-run for floor of Magazine and ammunition lobby. @ 14/6d.	5.	1.	6
475 ft. super.	Corrugated iron above concrete roof. @ 8 1/2d	16.	16.	6
156 No.	18 fts x 4" x 4" Sandy Point timbers - two layers of distributing timbers. @ 6/5d.	50.	1.	0
30 feet run.	Timber revetment of 9" x 3" on edge. @ 5/-	7.	10.	0
	Anchorage for timber revetment consisting of old railway metals.	4.	10.	0
350 cubic yards.	Earth cushion and impact course. @ 8/6d.	148.	15.	0
70 cubic yards.	Breastwork around sides and approaches. @ 8/6d.	29.	15.	0
512 yards sup.	Turfing for camouflage. @ 1/-	25.	12.	0
CARRIED FORWARD.....		£946.	15.	9

BROUGHT FORWARD.

£. s. d.
946. 15. 9.

Splinter proof covering to
ammunition lobby consisting of
timber roof and supports covered
with corrugated iron and
2 ft. of earth and rock. 28. 5. 4

Removing shells from present dug-out
at Sapper Hill and storing in
isolated shed at Wireless Station,
and returning to Sapper Hill
when blasting and other work is
completed at Sapper Hill.

26 journeys @ 2/6d. 2. 5. 0
Labour storing. 4. 10. 0
Clearing and preparing
hut at W/T Station. 1. 10. 0 8. 5. 0

377 cubic yards. Blasting in solid rock
for trenches. £ 38/- 2983. 6. 1

452 yards 10% Contingencies and Supervision. 98. 6. 7.

113 yards van. TOTAL..... £1,081. 12. 8.

43 yards van. Fisher covering
consisting of 4" x 6" timbers
and 1" boarding. 24. 7. 6

80 cubic yards. Breastwork and
Estimated Labour..... 729. 16. 1.

" Materials..... 351. 16. 7.

£1,081. 12. 8.

10% Contingencies and Supervision. 104. 17. 5.

TOTAL..... £1,183. 11. 5.

Estimated Labour..... 919. 5. 5

" Materials..... 234. 6. 0

£1,153. 11. 5.

(2). COMMUNICATION AND AMMUNITION TRENCHES.

Communication and ammunition trench from Magazine to control hut, shell room and gun pit. Also entrance trench to Magazine. Part covered part open work.

ESTIMATE.

113 yards run of trench, 6 ft deep, 4 ft wide, covered at approaches to Magazine, shell room, and control hut for protection against splinters. Bottom to be levelled up with duck-runs and drainage under.

		£.	s.	d.
377 cubic yards. Blasting in solid rock for trenches.	@ 38/-	716.	6.	0
452 yards sup. Building up sides with rock.	@ 8/6d.	192.	2.	0
113 yards run. Duckrun for trenches.	@ 14/6d.	81.	18.	6
45 yards run. Timber covering consisting of 4" x 4" timbers and 1" boarding.	@ 10/10.	24.	7.	6
80 cubic yards. Breastwork and covering of rock and earth to trenches where made splinter proof.	@ 8/6d.	34.	0.	0
		£1,048.	14.	0
10% Contingencies and Supervision.		104.	17.	5.
TOTAL.....		£1,153.	11.	5.

	£	s	d
Estimated Labour.....	919.	5.	5
" Materials.....	234.	6.	0
	£1,153.	11.	5.

(3). OBSERVATION AND CONTROL HUT POSITION.ESTIMATE.

40 cubic yards.	Blasting in solid rock @ 38/-	76.	s. 0.	d. 0
23 cubic yards.	Sheeting and concreting walls, floor and roof. @ 55.	115.	0.	0
1 No.	Strong door and frame. (Say).	5.	0.	0
	Shutters for closing aperture when not in use.	3.	0.	0
9½ cubic yards.	Rock filling around walls for drainage. @ 3/6d.	1.	13.	3
	Drainage from hut to low level.	7.	10.	0
	Setting instruments on completion.	2.	10.	0
40 cubic yards.	Breastwork for upper part of hut and rangefinder. @ 8/6d.	17.	0.	0
81 sup yards.	Turfing and camouflage. @ 1/-	4.	1.	0
2 cubic yards.	Blasting in solid rock for base of rangefinder @ 38/-	3.	16.	0
	Levelling up base with concrete and bolting down.	2.	0.	0
		<hr/>		
		£237.	10.	3
10% Contingencies and Supervision.		23.	15.	0
		<hr/>		
TOTAL.....		£261.	5.	3.
		<hr/>		

Estimated Labour.	£	s	d
	192.	7.	0.
" Materials.	68.	18.	3.
	£261.	5.	3.
	<hr/>		

(4). BREASTWORK FOR FORMING GUN PIT.

ESTIMATE.

Rough rubble wall to support breastwork

149' x 4'6" x 2'. requiring with timber is

Say 50 cubic yards

@ 22/-.

£	s	d
55.	0.	0.

Filling for breastwork from 15 to 20 ft,
x 4'6" high.

155' x 2' x 4'6") Say 276 cubic yds

168' x 16' x 2'3".) @ 8/6d.

£	s	d
117.	14.	0.

Turfing slopes and top of breastwork.

168' x 19'. Say 355 sup yds @ 1/-

£	s	d
17.	15.	0.

Estimated Labour.....

£	s	d
13.	11.	0.

" Materials.....

£	s	d
21.	1.	0.

£190.	9.	0.
-------	----	----

10% Contingencies and Supervision.

£19.	0.	0.
------	----	----

£209.	9.	0.
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Estimated Labour.	£	s	d
	191.	8.	0.

" Materials.....	£	s	d
	18.	1.	0.

£209.	9.	0.
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(5). REPAIRS ETC. TO GUN PLATFORM.ESTIMATE.

Estimated cost of repairing with timber is

£47. 6. 0. It is suggested that this

be carried out with concrete at an

estimated cost of £34. 13. 0.

	£	s	d
Estimated labour.....	13.	11.	6
" materials.....	21.	1.	6.

£34. 13. 0

10% Contingencies and Supervision.

TOTAL.....

Estimated Labour.....

" materials.....

£34. 13. 0

6. STRENGTHENING AND FURTHER PROTECTION OF PRESENT SHELL ROOM AND APPROACH TRENCH FOR 10 FEET FROM ENTRANCE.

ESTIMATE.

28 cubic yards.	Earth and rock protection for shell room.	8/6d.	11.	18.	0
25 cubic yards.	Earth and rock protection for 10 feet run of entrance trench to shell room.	8/6d.	10.	12.	6.
	Strengthening present shell room to support the extra weight above.				
	4" x 4" uprights and bearers.		3.	3.	5
	Timbering sides and roof of trench at approach to shell room.)				
	Making good sides after blasting in solid rock. (Note blasting allowed for under "Trenches")		7.	8.	6
	Making and laying 10 ft run duckrun.				
			233.	2.	5
	10% Contingencies and Supervision.		3.	6.	3
	TOTAL.....		236.	8.	8

Estimated Labour.....	28.	12.	0
" Materials.	7.	16.	8.
	236.	8.	8

Carried Forward.

7. UNCLIMABLE FENCING TO ENCLOSE SAPPER HILL GUN BATTERY, CORDITE MAGAZINE, SHELL ROOM ETC.

Chain link fencing, patent "Crapo" process. Fencing 6 feet high, with bent over arms on standards to carry 3 lines of barbed wire. (On similar lines to fencing at Wireless Station).

ESTIMATE.

Cost per
yard in England

Chain link fencing, 6 ft high, in rolls of 25 yards lineal, including straining wires. Say 4 inch mesh of 10 gauge. @ 2/13/- roll.

s d
2. 0 $\frac{2}{3}$

Ironwork.

(Height fencing above ground 6 ft. with 3 lengths barbed wire above)

Depth posts in ground. 2'6".

Overall height ironwork - 8'6".

Intermediate standards, pointed for driving. Section 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 3/16", spaced 12 ft apart.

2/10 each.)

Backstays for above standards.

3/2d. "

Earthplates " " "

6d "

2. 0.

Bent over arms on standards to carry 3 lines barbed wire complete with bolts, fastenings etc.

1/6d. "

Cost per yard run in England. Say.

4. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d

264 yards run Fencing as above. @ say 4/1d.

53. 18. 0

EXTRAS.

5 No. Corner straining pillars, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 5/16", with 2 stays to each complete with strainers, bolts etc. @ 34/6d.

8. 12. 6

2 No. Gate pillars with one stay to each complete with strainers etc. @ 29/6d.

2. 19. 0

1 No. 9 ft wide double gate frame with strong lock and keys and other fittings.

Say.

5. 5. 0

Carried Forward.

£70. 14. 6

	£	s	d
BROUGHT FORWARD.....	70.	14.	6

792 yards run barbed wire.

Say 2 rolls of $\frac{1}{4}$ mile each @ 12/-	1.	4.	0
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Extra for additional bolts etc.	Say.	1.	11.	6.
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£73.	10.	0
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Estimated delivery, freight, landing etc charges.	17.	10.	0
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£91.	0.	0
------	----	---

ERECTION.

Transport to site, excavating earth and rock, levelling, concreting where necessary and erection fence.	34.	0.	0
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£125.	0.	0
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	£	s	d
Estimated Labour	30.	0.	0

" Materials.....	93.	0.	0
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£123.	0.	0.
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GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
STANLEY,

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

SECRET.

18th April, 1935.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to the previous correspondence terminated with your Secret telegram, No. 63 of the 16th of December, 1931, on the subject of the decision taken to transfer to this Government the two six-inch guns at Stanley mounted together in one position on Sapper Hill. At the present moment the one gun has been handed over mounted in this position and the second gun has been transported from its original position at Mount Lowe but has not been mounted or handed over.

2. Since the decision to transfer the guns was taken a fresh development has occurred which makes it imperative to review the whole question with more especial regard to the mounting of the second gun.

3. A tactical exercise of an essentially practical nature was held on the 9th and 10th of February last between the Falkland Islands Defence Force and H.M.S. "Durban". I annex a copy of the joint report on the exercise as well as a copy of the minutes of the fifth meeting of the Local Defence Committee at which it was discussed. You will see that the main conclusion drawn from the lessons of the exercise is that by reason of their limited range the two six-inch guns sited together at Sapper Hill will not be adequate for the protection against bombardment from the sea of the

oil/

Enclosure I
in duplicate.

Enclosure II
in duplicate.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
SIR PHILIP CUNLIFFE-LISTER,
G.B.E., P.C., M.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

oil tanks at the Admiralty fuel depot and of shipping in Stanley harbour, and that the recommendation is made that the second gun should be sited in an alternative position, for example the position known as Canopus Hut on the peninsular forming the southern shore of Port William. At the sixth meeting of the Local Defence Committee, a copy of the minutes of which is also annexed, the further matter was raised as to whether the range of these guns - B.L. 6" Mark VII Reg. Nos. 1841 and 1805: first issue 9th of January, 1903, and 31st of December, 1903, - even if the second gun is sited in a position such as Canopus Hut, will be sufficient to cause an attacking cruiser to stand so far out to sea as to render the bombardment of the oil tanks and shipping in the harbour an operation of extreme difficulty.

Enclosure III
in duplicate.

4. I suggest, therefore, that, before proceeding further in this connection, you may think fit to consult the Overseas Defence Committee, and in particular to obtain their opinion as to the degree of effective resistance which these two six-inch guns, sited the one at Sapper Hill and the other, say, at Canopus Hut, can be reasonably expected to offer to an attack by a cruiser or an armed merchant vessel with eight-inch or modern six-inch guns (see G.D.C. 542 - M. paragraphs 23-27; estimating scales of attack B. 1. and B. 2.).

5. At first sight it may appear, perhaps, that exaggerated importance is being attached to the defence of Stanley. I am firmly convinced, however, that in time of war the Falkland Islands will be of great strategic value to the Empire. I feel too that half measures can be of no avail and that the problem must be faced now in its full magnitude.

6. I am furthermore in complete agreement with the opinion recorded by the Local Defence Committee to the effect that the need for the defence of Stanley is purely an Imperial need and that the Colony should not be called upon to do more of its own resources than it has done or is doing. It has been represented by the Commoire, South America, that to complete the gun position on Sapper Hill certain work as detailed on the basis of one gun in the enclosed specification, which has been prepared by Mr. G. Roberts, Director of Public Works, is required at a cost of £2,900. I submit that, in the event of a decision to proceed with the plan, this figure is quite beyond the Colony's financial capacity. The work itself could be and, if desired, of course would be done by the Public Works department with your sanction, I should be most ready so to assist and furthermore to concur in its being carried out at cost price and to all overhead and departmental charges being waived. I should be ready also in like manner to co-operate in any measures which may be undertaken regard to the mounting of the second gun.

7. I am addressing you in a separate despatch in reference to the recommendation recorded in paragraph 10 of the minutes of the fifth meeting of the Local Defence Committee relative to the command and training of the Falkland Islands Defence Force.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,
humble servant

JAMES O'GRADY.

Enclosure IV
in duplicate.

NOTES AND CONCLUSIONS ON TACTICAL EXERCISES.

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A meeting of the Umpires and officers of H.M.S. "Durban" and Falkland Islands Defence Force was held in the Colonial Secretary's office on the 11th of February, 1933, Commodore R.H.O. Lane-Poole, O.B.E., R.N., in the Chair.

2. Lieutenant Commander R. Leeds, R.N., detailed the general situation and special plan. The objective of the raiding cruiser was to destroy the oil tanks and shipping in Stanley Harbour and also to demolish the W/T station.

3. "Durban" was stated by the gunnery experts never to have been within effective range of the 6" gun on Sapper Hill and to have fired unmolested at the oil tanks and the shipping.

4. The attempted landing in Port William was stated by the attack to have been a feint. The defence claimed that it was never taken seriously and in any case was repulsed immediately, the boats being either sunk or driven off with loss under heavy Lewis gun and rifle fire and also Hotchkiss gun fire.

5. Captain Pym, R.N., described the march to and demolition of the W/T station. A landing was effected in Berkeley Sound about 2 a.m. with a party of forty marines and sailors. After a four hours' tramp across camp and through streams the W/T station was reached and captured without opposition. It was then demolished. The original intention had been to disembark in Berkeley Sound but owing to the physical condition of the men, the operation being in time of peace, it was decided to abandon the return journey.

6. The Officer Commanding, Falkland Islands Defence Force, pointed out that if the three scouts detailed to guard the approaches to the W/T station had been on the alert there would have been a different tale to tell, as a mounted machine gun section as well as Lewis gunners and infantry were in readiness in reserve on Sapper Hill. He claimed too that the landing party would never have been able to make their way back to Berkeley Sound. He remarked also on the shortage of men available on a peace footing to protect the relatively large defended area.

7. The following conclusions were arrived at:-

- (a). The oil tanks and shipping in Stanley harbour were destroyed by "Durban" without sustaining loss or hurt.
 - (b). The feint at landing in Port William did not achieve its purpose and probably was costly.
 - (c). The wireless station was demolished, but it is doubtful whether the landing party would have succeeded in effecting re-embarkation.
-

LOCAL DEFENCE COMMITTEE.

The Fifth meeting of the Local Defence Committee was held in the Colonial Secretary's office on Saturday the 11th of February, 1933.

I. There were present:-

The Colonial Secretary. (Chairman).

The Officer Commanding the Falkland Islands Defence Force.

The Honourable C. Roberts.

Commodore R.N.C. Lane-Poole, O.B.E., R.N.

Lieutenant Commander R. Leads, R.N.

Mr. L.S. White. (Secretary).

2. The minutes of the Fourth meeting held on the 3rd of February, 1933, were read and confirmed.

3. The lessons to be learned from the tactical exercise held on the 9th - 10th February, 1933, were discussed.

It was agreed

(1). that this was the first realistic exercise which had taken place locally,

(2). that in drawing up plans for a similar exercise in the future full allowance should be made for the very material difference between war and peace conditions as regards the Defence Force and defence arrangements, e.g., man power and communications.

(3). that the 6 inch gun (or guns) at Sapper Hill is inadequate for the defence of the oil tanks and shipping in Stanley harbour against bombardment from the sea.

(4). that the night march from Berkeley Sound to the Wireless Station had demonstrated that it was possible for troops to advance across the country and that the description "impassable" commonly applied to the camp required modification.

4. After free discussion it was agreed unanimously that in time of war the need for the defence of Stanley was purely an Imperial need. Its value lay in the oil tanks for re-fuelling naval vessels and in the harbour for use as a contraband control base and as a refuge port for merchant shipping. The defence of Stanley was to be regarded, therefore, essentially as an Imperial liability, the Colony being prepared always to assist within the measure of its resources, which resources, however, should not be overstrained.

5. It was decided that the best position for the second 6 inch gun at the moment unmounted at Jagger Hill would be on the peninsula, for example at the Canopus Hut position. It was further decided, therefore, that no steps should be taken to mount this gun at Jagger Hill in accordance with the present intention until the situation had been represented to the Overseas Defence Committee. The view was expressed that a gun mounted at Mount Low would be of no appreciable value for the defence of the oil tanks and shipping in the harbour, although, of course, it would command Berkeley Sound.

6. The general organization of the Defence Force came under discussion. It was agreed that in view of the considerable developments which had taken place in the last two years, more especially in regard to the technical arms, e.g., the Vickers gun and artillery sections, circumstances had so altered that in order to ensure efficiency the services of a whole time professional officer with up-to-date knowledge of the modern practice of war were essential for the command and training of the Defence Force. It was decided, therefore, to

recommend that the Imperial Government should be approached with the view to seconding an officer on the active list for this purpose - preferably a Royal Marine officer of the rank of Captain.

The opinion was expressed that having regard to the considerations recorded in paragraph 4 of these minutes and to the financial liabilities already incurred by the Colony the expenditure in connection with this officer would fall properly on the Imperial Government.

7. It was decided to recommend, furthermore, that the total expenditure in connection with the mounting of the second 6 inch gun and the constructing of the position, at Canopus Hut or elsewhere, should fall on Imperial funds, the Colonial Government being prepared, if required, to supply the materials necessary and to carry out the work at actual cost. The constructing of the position, it was explained, included the provision of a shell room, control room, rangefinder and platform and trench system. The outfit cordite for this gun would be stored in the main magazine at Pepper Hill, and a ready use store would be constructed near the gun when hostilities appear imminent. The gun would be manned and the position maintained out of local resources.

Read and confirmed this 4th day of April, 1933.

CHAIRMAN.

LOCAL DEFENCE COMMITTEE.

The sixth meeting of the Local Defence Committee was held in the Colonial Secretary's office at 2.45 p.m. on Tuesday the 4th of March, 1933.

1. There were present:-

The Colonial Secretary. (Chairman).

Major the Honourable J. Innes-Moir.

The Honourable G. Roberts.

Mr. L. B. White. (Secretary).

2. Before the actual business of the meeting started the Chairman proposed that a silent tribute be paid to the memory of the late Lieutenant Commander R. Leeds, R.N., who had done so much in connection with the preparation of the draft defence scheme, and news of whose death at Valparaiso had lately been received. The members accordingly rose and stood in silence.

3. After discussion, the minutes of the last meeting together with the notes and conclusions on the tactical exercise held on the 9/10th February, 1933, were confirmed.

4. Arising out of the minutes, the decision as recorded in paragraph 5, in regard to the second 6 inch gun being sited on the peninsular to the East of Stanley harbour, was reviewed. It was felt that, before any step was taken in regard to the mounting of the gun in this position the question should be fully investigated by experts as to whether the range of the gun so mounted would be adequate to cause an attacking cruiser to lie so far out as to make the bombardment of the oil tanks and shipping in the harbour a matter of extreme difficulty.

5. It was decided to ask the War Office, on the recommendation of the Commodore, H.M.S. "Durban", to supply free of charge for use of the Defence Force:-

3 Field telephones complete with 2 cells to each.

6 copies of books of reference and text books on storage and maintenance ashore of ammunition and explosives.

6 copies of books of reference and text books on control, organization and operation of land artillery and fixed defences, etc.

Also to ask the Admiralty to supply:-

One Naval or Ordnance rate book in connection with the ammunition and ordnance stores and other naval stores to be supplied to the Defence Force.

6. The detailed estimates, prepared by the Director of Public Works to plans drawn up by H.M.S. "Durban", for forming the Sapper Hill gun battery, comprising magazine, observation and control position, trench system, gun pit, breastwork, camouflaging etc, all enclosed by an unclimbable fence, were adopted.

7. The Adjutant, Falkland Islands Defence Force, had suggested that steel helmets be provided for the Vickers gun section, but it was decided that this be left in abeyance for the time being.

8. The first part of Chapter I of the Defence Scheme was considered and passed except for the following queries:-

- (a). "The tops of the wireless masts are visible from seaward except between bearings"
- (b). "The oil tanks are completely hidden from seaward except between bearings"

It was decided to write to the Commodore, H.M.S. "Durban", asking that particulars of these bearings should be communicated.

9. It was arranged to hold the next meeting at 2.45 p.m. on the 11th April, 1933, in the Colonial Secretary's office.

Read and confirmed this 11th day of April, 1933.

CHAIRMAN.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

SECRET.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

STANLEY,

24th April, 1933.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your Secret letter, No. 9199/510 of the 18th of February, 1933, and to enclose for your information a copy of my Secret despatch to the Secretary of State for the Colonies of the 18th of April, 1933, on the subject of the defence of Stanley with reference more especially to the use of the two six-inch guns.

2. I enclose also copies of the enclosures in this despatch, namely :-

- (i) Notes and conclusions on tactical exercise held on the 9th/10th February, 1933.
- (ii) Minutes of the fifth meeting of the Local Defence Committee.
- (iii) Minutes of the sixth meeting of the Local Defence Committee.
- (iv) Estimate for construction of Sapper Hill Battery position (on the basis of one gun).

3. I enclose furthermore a copy of my Secret despatch of the 19th of April, 1933, on the subject of the command and training of the Falkland Islands Defence Force.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES O'GRADY.

COMMODORE R. H. O. LANE-POOLE, O.B.E., R.N.,
H.M.S. "DURBAN",
AT BERMUDA.

PORT STANLEY , Falkland Islands. - FIXED DEFENCES.

Sea .

25th February, 1933 .

089/310.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, AMERICA AND WEST INDIES STATION

With reference to paragraphs 1 and 2 of my letter No.089/310 of 5th April, 1932, further progress was made during "Durban's" visits to Port Stanley in December, 1932 and February, 1933, and I submit the following account of the present situation regarding the fixed defences there.

2. In accordance with O.D.C. Memorandum No.623 , paragraph 7,(i),(a), and Admiralty Letter M.01202/32 of 16th September, 1932, six inch B.L. gun No.1805, mounted on Sapper Hill on P.III mounting, with spares complete, together with a rangefinder, control instruments, three hundred shell, and a quantity of armament and naval stores and gunnery publications were transferred to the charge of the Falkland Islands Government, after firing one shotted round (to mate the obturator) on the occasion of the Centenary Review on 12th February, 1933. The gun and mounting functioned correctly, and are serviceable.

3. Six inch B.L. gun No.1641 has been moved by "Durban" from Mount Low to Sapper Hill and left there unmounted, with its P.III mounting and wooden platform, plates and bolts, its gunsights and spares complete being in the Drill Hall, Stanley, the whole in state of preservation and in the custody of the Officer Commanding Defence Force. It is now proposed that this gun should be moved again, and mounted in a position near Canopus Hut, vide my letter No.0201/310 of 25th February, 1933.

4. Receipts on behalf of the Falkland Islands Government for the guns and equipment mentioned in paragraphs 2 and 3 above have been obtained and forwarded to the Admiralty.

5. The memoranda of examination have not yet been received in Stanley, and in their absence it is considered that both six inch guns should be measured for wear and estimation of muzzle velocity, and the cone seatings gauged in accordance with O.U.6184/1930, Instructions for Maintenance of Naval Ordnance, as soon as the mounting of gun No.1641 is completed. It is therefore recommended that the ship detailed to mount the gun should be directed to obtain from an armament depot and bring out the necessary instruments for these measurements. One copy of my report to Ordnance Depot, Woolwich, on Form S.1404, of a visual examination carried out before firing and of the round fired, is attached and another has been supplied to the Falkland Islands Government.

Enclosure
No.1

Enclosure
No.2

6. It having been agreed with the Governor that the present Colonial magazine is unsuitable for storage of a large quantity of cordite, the enclosed detailed plans and drawings of a proposed magazine, shell stores and protective works

suitable for

suitable for a two gun battery on Sapper Hill have been drawn up by the ship's officers with the assistance of the Director of Public Works of the Falkland Islands Government.

Copies of these plans were forwarded to the Colonial Government on 9th December, 1932 ; the Governor has since been informed that they are equally suitable for a single gun battery in all respects except for the site, store, and trench for No.2 gun.

In view of the frequency of visits necessary for care and maintenance of cordite, it would be desirable in any case to store the outfit cordite for both guns in a main magazine on Sapper Hill, and in accordance with the policy recommended in C.D.C.823, paragraph 10, article VII, to provide a ready use magazine near the second (distant) gun only when hostilities appear imminent.

6. The rangefinder mounting supplied is installed on a temporary base constructed by the Colonial Government near the Sapper Hill gun, pending construction of the control hut shown in the plan near which the rangefinder will be permanently housed.

7. The Colonial Government have reconditioned a living hut on Sapper Hill as a store for small gear belonging to the gun mounted there, and have also re-constructed the shell store shown in the plan, splinter proof, with wooden frames, concrete floor and drainage, which can be made shellproof on all sides by the addition of breastworks. The three hundred six inch shell are now stowed therein.

8. With reference to C.D.C.623, section 10, paragraph VI, having regard to the capability of the guns of opposing light enemy craft, landings, and troops ashore, it is considered that the additional supply of 199 rounds per gun to be made when hostilities appear imminent should consist of High Explosive and Shrapnel shell in equal quantities.

9. The Admiralty having approved of practice ammunition and ordnance stores being supplied to the Falkland Islands Defence Force at current vocabulary prices, and other naval stores at rate book prices plus 15%, thirty-two rounds of three pounder sub-calibre ammunition and a small quantity of naval stores have been so supplied and the relevant voucher forwarded to the Admiralty for financial adjustment.

10. There is a naval field gun (landed by "Glasgow") twelve pounder eight hundredweight No.1227 complete with mounting, also a three pounder Hotchkiss No.271 (formerly mounted in seal protection vessel "Afterglow") complete with mounting Admiralty Pattern No.1155 in Customs bonded Store, Stanley, both serviceable and in state of preservation. These are presumed to be already on the charge of the Falkland Islands Government.

No ammunition is stored for the field gun, but there are two boxes of service ammunition for the three pounder Hotchkiss in the Colonial Magazine.

11. In addition to the stores already sent, it is desirable that the following should be supplied to the Falkland Islands Government for use with the six inch guns:-

(1) Tampions

- | | | | |
|-----|--|---|----------|
| (1) | Tampions for 6" B.L. Mk.VII | - | 2 in No. |
| (2) | Balls steel special for foot step bearing in pedestal. (Spares normally kept in depot) | | 1 set |
| (3) | Plugs, air hole cylinder. (To complete spares) | | 2 |
| (4) | Washer spring , belleville for clamping gear . | | 2 |
| (5) | Three pounder sub-calibre dials. | | 2 |

12. In the event of a decision to mount and equip gun No.1641 in a site remote from Sapper Hill, the following control instruments additional to those already supplied will be required, as indicated in C.D.C.623 M, paragraph 7, section 1, (a), (iii):-

One Pattern 3863 Rangefinder 12 ft. F.Q.2.
One Pattern 1487 Mounting M.Q.1.
One Pattern 3776 Range Clock.
One Pattern 5669 Mark VIII Dumaresq.
One Pattern 8011 Dessicator.

Commodore.

(A) EXPLANATORY NOTES REGARDING PLANS OF PROPOSED DEFENCES ON
SAPPER HILL.

Description of the Defence.

The arc of possible attack by gunfire from sea extends from Port Fitzroy bearing South 55° West to the western end of Port William bearing North 20° East (Mag.)

The arc of possible attack by land extends from the southern side of Mount Wickham heights South 70° West through South East and North to Saddle Hill in the West.

The observation and control hut (^{PLAN} ~~Appendix C~~) is situated in the crest of Sapper Hill with clear arc of view from 259° to 290° through North and East (Mag) and to a minimum range of 3,000 yards approximately. The total height of the erection above the present ground level is 3 feet. Camouflage can be easily affected due to the natural surroundings which will make the position difficult to detect.

Gun Pits. (See Plan "B".)

No 1 gun together with its Shell Room should be protected with breast-works, minimum height 4' and 15 to 20 feet in depth (Sangar type), but to be increased in height as necessary to meet the gun in the arcs of limited depression which should be determined as the positions are erected.

NOTE - The limit of depression above No 2 Gun is horizontal minimum range obtainable 4,200 yards with Full charge.

No 2 gun pit is designed to be sunk into the rock of the hill and breast-works to be adjusted to the limits of depression as necessary.

Trench System.

The defensive works are shown in detail in the plan; the connecting trench is drawn arbitrarily and may follow the easiest course providing that it passes more than 15 feet from any other position or works.

The Shell Stores (See Plan "C".)

Are designed to be immune from short range fire on all bearings ~~except~~ upon the roof which is shrapnel and splinter proof.

The Magazine (See Plan "D".)

Is designed to be defiladed and immune from fire below 30° angle of descent from the sea but it is vulnerable to land artillery from North and West. Protection of the magazine from this latter quarter can be accomplished by additional shell proof breast-works and roofing.

The capacity of the magazine with normal stowage is :-
126 cases or 504 Full charges.

Full stowage is 156 cases of 624 Full charges of 3-inch B.L. ammunition.

(A) EXPLANATORY NOTES REGARDING PLANS OF PROPOSED DEFENCES
ON SAPPER HILL.

General Remarks concerning Plan (See Plan "C".)

All positions are on sloping ground or near changes in levels and drainage is easily accomplished.

Earth works above all positions can be made to lie in the line of the curve of the hill and below the crest when viewed from seaward.

Gun emplacements are designed for all-round fire but protection may be improved if this is found to be unnecessary after further investigation of the defence problem.

With regard to concealment and camouflage, it is suggested that the rangefinder and control hut breast works should be built before the rangefinder is erected and dazzle painting employed immediately, and the rangefinder mounting with canvas.

It is suggested that before any work on the control position is commenced, that a wire fence be erected around the proposed positions.

Lighting.

Fitted lighting circuits are not contemplated. Six magazine hand lamps will provide all lighting necessary in the defence.

Firing Circuits and Night Sights.

A stock of inert cells or old pattern Leclanche firing batteries will be required for this purpose.

SECRET

PORT STANLEY, FALKLAND ISLANDS.
SITING OF SECOND SIX INCH GUN.

Sea.

25th February, 1933.

0201/310.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, AMERICA AND WEST INDIES STATION.

At the first meeting of the local defence committee on 3th December, 1932, I had occasion to point out that though in view of the Falkland Islands Government, the Overseas Defence Committee had approved the siting of the second six inch gun on Sapper Hill, the Canopus hut position recommended in A.W.I. letter 142 of 7th April, 1931 and quoted on page 7 of Overseas Defence Committee Memorandum 623M was still the better solution to the defence problem.

2. On my return to Port Stanley in February, 1933, I received a letter from the Governor (No. 5/3/25 of 18th January, 1933) agreeing to the second gun's being sited at the Canopus hut position, to be maintained in peace and manned in war by the Defence Force. He made it clear that the Falkland Islands Government could not undertake to move the gun there from Sapper Hill (whither it has just been moved from Mount Low by "Durban") but would supply up to fifty labourers without charge, and materials and mechanical transport at actual cost.

3. The site in question, about 200 yards East of Canopus hut, provides an arc of direct fire to seaward from 335° to 235° approximately, has a good view of the harbour and surrounding country and covers the entrances to Port William and Port Harriet.

Observation and gunfire are partially obstructed by William Island to the North East, but fire could be maintained in that small sector by indirect observation and by the use of half charges at short range.

4. The oil tanks on Navy Peninsula are at present open to direct fire from a ship at sea in the sector 105° to 120° approximately from the and to indirect fire from Berkeley Sound and from the Southward. A gun sited near Canopus hut would afford protection to the tanks in the sector of direct fire to a distance of 16000 in Berkeley Sound to a minimum of 12000, and to the Southward in conjunction with Sapper Hill gun to approximately 13000 yards. The danger to the tanks from indirect fire would not then be great, but with observation from air craft or from a position on shore would still be possible for a ship to lie in Berkeley Sound out of range of all guns and bombard Port Stanley.

5. The site is earth, rock and grass covered and it is considered that by suitable excavations the gun position and protective works could be built inconspicuously below

the crest of the

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PORT STANLEY, FALKLAND ISLANDS.
SITING OF SECOND SIX INCH GUN.

(Commodore, South America No.0201/310 of 25th February, 1933).

the crest of of the main hill. It is within easy reach of re-inforcements or protection by mounted infantry.

6. Alternative positions nearer Cape Pembroke which would afford a greater arc of fire have been investigated, and two found, one in the precincts of the lighthouse and another one mile West of it on a small rocky eminence. Both, however, suffer great disadvantages in regard to protection and vulnerability.

That near the lighthouse would experience considerable interference with the arc of fire by the lighthouse and buildings and return fire would entail destruction of the lighthouse and considerable damage to the gun crew from falling masonry.

A position in the rocky hill without overhead protection (which is impracticable) would be untenable under shell fire owing to the casualties that would result from the showers of rock splinters.

The ground to the Southward of Canopus hut is peat, rock and drift sand, which in wet weather would be most difficult to traverse, and a gun position in that vicinity would therefore require a permanent guard against surprise attack, as the long North shore offers considerable facilities for landing.

7. After the fullest consideration I recommend that six inch gun No.1641 should be moved to the Canopus hut site and mounted there by H.M. Ships visiting Port Stanley with the assistance offered by the Falkland Islands Government, and that a second rangefinder and set of control instruments for use at this point should be brought out by "York" or "Exeter".

8. A sketch showing the arcs of fire from the Sapper Hill and Canopus hut positions is enclosed.

(Sgd.) R. H. O. Lane-Poole

Commodore.

DUPLICATE.

52.

SITING AND MOUNTING OF THE SECOND
SIX-INCH GUN.

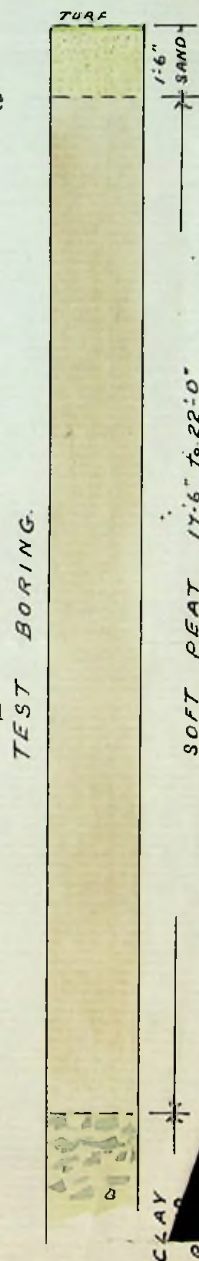
Hon. Colonial Secretary.

I beg to report that on Saturday the 3rd November, 1933, I carried out trial borings with a view to ascertaining the nature of the subsoil in the vicinity of Canopus Hut. I made several trial holes and it would appear that the whole area is covered with 17'6" to 22' of soft peat with an 18" overlayer of sand and turf. It would appear from this that the possibility of siting the gun at this position requires some further investigation.

2. I would submit that before any definite decision is made the question be fully investigated by experts as to whether the gun should be sited at the Canopus Hut position or at the Yorke Rocks, which are situated some 1,500 yards North East from the former.

G. Roberts,

Director of Public Works.
6th November, 1933.



53
H.M.S. "DAUNTLESS",

at Port Stanley.

6th November, 1933.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 3rd November, 1933, together with a copy of your letter to the Commodore dated 24th April, 1933, and enclosures.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Excellency's obedient servant,

C. O. Alexander

C A P T A I N.

His Excellency the Acting Governor,
Port Stanley.

54

H.M.S. "DAUNTLESS",
at Port Stanley,
7th November, 1933.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of 6th November, 1933, with enclosure from the Director of Public Works on the "siting and mounting of the second six inch gun"; before sailing on 13th November I will examine other sites in the vicinity for suitability as regards arcs of fire, and will communicate their positions to you.

2. If these sites can be inspected by the Director of Public Works during the absence of H.M.S. "DAUNTLESS" a final site can be selected on my return.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Excellency's obedient servant,

C. O. Alexander

C A P T A I N.

His Excellency the Acting Governor,
Port Stanley.

WHITEHALL 9400.

078/136 (M.O.I.)

The War Office,

London, S.W.1.

17th July, 1933.

SECRET.

Sir,

I am commanded by the Army Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter 19243/33 dated 24th June, 1933, enclosing a copy of a despatch from the Governor of the Falkland Islands relating to the fixed defences of the Colony.

2. I am to state that the Council will be pleased to meet Secretary Sir Philip Cunliffe-Lister's wishes for the supply free of charge of three field telephones and the necessary copies of the books of reference.

3. I am to add that the Council would be glad to receive instructions regarding the despatch of these stores.

I am etc.,

(sgd.) A.E.WIDDOWS.

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,
COLONIAL OFFICE,
LONDON.

M.3286/33

Admiralty, S.W.1.,

31st August, 1933.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 24th June No.19243/33, I am commanded by My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, that they are prepared to supply the Falkland Islands Government with the following books on repayment terms at the prices shewn:

Rate Book of Naval Stores (1933-34)	17s. Od.
O.U.5365(a) Priced Vocabulary of Guns, Small Arms, Anti Gas, Respirators etc.	8s. 6d.
O.U.5365(b) Priced Vocabulary of Ammunition pyrotechnic stores, Bombs, etc.	8s. 6d.

This arrangement would be in accordance with the normal Admiralty practice when books of a similar nature are supplied to Dominions or Colonial Governments.

The books quoted are those which it is considered would be suitable for the requirements of the Falkland Islands Government.

I am etc.,

(sgd.) WILFRID MEBD

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,
COLONIAL OFFICE,
S.W.1.

53

20 September

3

19243/33

Sir,

With reference to the letter from this Department of the 24th June, I am directed by Secretary Sir Philip Cunliffe-Lister to transmit to you, to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the accompanying copy of a letter from the War Office regarding the supply of certain stores to the Government of the Falkland Islands in connection with the fixed defences of the Colony.

2. I am to enquire whether their Lordships would be willing to arrange for the transport of these stores to Port Stanley in one of His Majesty's Ships when opportunity offers, together with one set of the books referred to in your letter M.3286/33 of the 31st August.

I

THE SECRETARY,
ADMIRALTY.

Fr. War Office
17/7/33

549

3. I am to add that payment for these books will be arranged through the Crown Agents for the Colonies in due course.

I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed) H. T. ALLEN

58



FALKLAND ISLANDS

SECRET

DOWNING STREET,

22 September, 1933.

Sir,

With reference to Sir James O'Grady's
despatch No. 58 of the 12th April relating to the fixed
defences of the Falkland Islands, I have the honour to
transmit to you for your information copies of correspond-
ence with the War Office and the Admiralty on the subject.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

(Sgd.) P. CUNLIFFE-LISTER.

THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
FALKLAND ISLANDS.

Reds 93-96
int 21/7/32
Fr. War Office
17/7/33
Fr. Admiralty
31/8/33
To Admiralty
20 9/33.

SECRET.

(68)

No.

MINUTE.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute the above Number and the date may be quoted).

23rd November, 19 33

From Director of Public Works, To

Stanley.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

CANOPUS HUT GUN BATTERY.

I beg to submit, in duplicate, a report on the Canopus hut gun battery site together with basis of estimate and drawings.

C. Roberts.

Director of Public Works.

SECRET.

MINUTE.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted).

23rd November, 1933

From Director of Public Works, To

Stanley.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

CANOPUS HUT GUN BATTERY.

Further to my report of the 6th November, 1933, and reply from the Commanding Officer, H.M.S. "Dauntless" dated 7th November, 1933, regarding the site for the six-inch gun No. 1641, I beg to report that on Friday the 10th November, 1933, in company with Captain C.O. Alexander, R.N. and the Gunnery officer, H.M.S. "Dauntless", I visited the peninsula. In view of the report from Commodore R.H.O. Lane-Poole, O.B.E., R.N., dated 25th February, 1933 (reference O201/310) special attention was paid to the site at Canopus hut; several trial holes had been prepared over the whole site and these were tested in the Captain's presence. The site, which proved most suitable from elevation, solidity of foundation and least depth of peat, is shown ringed in red on the attached drawing. It is situated some 123 yards East of the existing 'Canopus hut'. This site has since been thoroughly tested and the depths found proved to be the same as those previously obtained.

2. The position is almost on the crest of the hill; the ground slopes gradually to the East, but changes quickly to the South, and drainage is therefore easily accomplished. Earthworks above positions can be made to lie in the line of the curve of the hill. The observation and control hut is situated in the crest of the hill and camouflage can be easily effected.

The gun with its shell room will be protected as they will be sunk below the level of the surrounding ground. The shell store and communication trenches will be covered so as to be shrapnel and splinter proof.

3. I have prepared plans and estimates for placing the gun on the site shown, but the arcs of fire and positions given in degrees should not be taken as accurate - these are only approximate for the purpose of drawing up plan etc.

A. Roberts.

Director of Public Works.

Enclosures.

Estimate for work.

Drawings.

(in duplicate).

PORT STANLEY, FALKLAND ISLANDS.

CANOPUS HUT GUN BATTERY.

ESTIMATE FOR WORK FOR SIX-INCH GUN No. 1641.

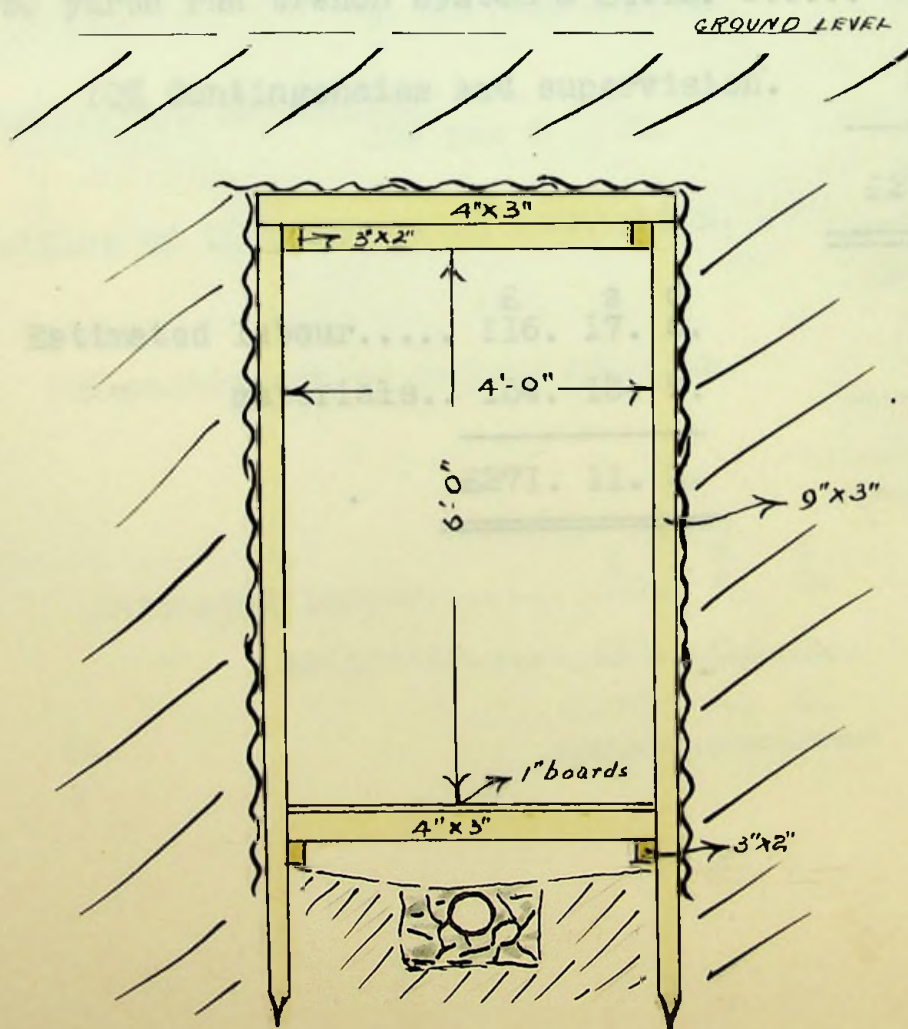
SUMMARY OF ESTIMATES.

	<u>Total</u> <u>Estimate.</u>			<u>Estimated labour and</u> <u>materials separately.</u>					
	£.	s.	d.	<u>Labour.</u>			<u>Materials.</u>		
(1). Communication and Ammunition trenches.	271.	11.	3.	116.	17.	6.	154.	13.	9.
(2). Observation and Control hut position.	270.	4.	0.	160.	4.	0.	110.	0.	0.
(3). Gun Pit etc.	1,115.	14.	7.	782.	8.	7.	333.	6.	0.
(4). Shell Room.	238.	10.	2.	131.	9.	11.	107.	0.	5.
(5). Unclimable fencing to enclose area.	274.	0.	0.	90.	0.	0.	184.	0.	0.
TOTAL.....	£2,170.	0.	0.	1,281.	0.	0.	889.	0.	0.
				£2,170. 0. 0.					

COMMUNICATION AND AMMUNITION TRENCHES.

Communication and ammunition trench from shell room and control hut and to gun pit covered so as to be shrapnel and splinter proof, bottom to be drained with 6" stoneware pipes in rubble filled trench. Sides to be supported with 9" x 3" timbers, 2'6" apart, which are to be driven through the peat and into the clay with a small pile driver. 3" x 2" timber runners top and bottom and 4" x 3" bearers top and bottom with the necessary duckrun on bottom. The side timbers are to be backed with galvanized sheeting for supporting the peat, and the roof is to be covered with the same material for supporting the earth and clay for protection.

50 yards run of trench system as sketch and estimate below.



ESTIMATE FOR TRENCHING (PER YARD RUN).

	£.	s.	d.
Excavate and wheel to dump. $1\frac{1}{2}$ cub.yds @ 3/-		4.	6.
6" drain in rubble trench. 1 yard @ 18/-	18.	0.	
2 No. 12 ft x 9" x 3" S.P.timbers @ 8/-	16.	0.	
1. $1\frac{1}{3}$ lengths 3" x 2" " " @ 2/6d.	3.	4.	
2/3rds " 4" x 3" " " @ 4/-	2.	8.	
$1\frac{1}{4}$ " 9" x 1" " " @ 3/6d.	4.	$4\frac{1}{2}$	
27 ft. run galvanized sheeting. @ 8d.	18.	0.	
4 lbs. Nails. @ 4d.	1.	4.	
1 cubic yd. filling on top. @ 3/-.	3.	0.	
2 yards turving & camouflag. @ 1/3d.	2.	6	
Driving 9" x 3" timbers, framing timber supports and fixing corrugated iron including transport of materials to site, etc. Say per yard run.	1.	5.	0.
Per yard run.	24.	18.	9.

50 yards run trench system @ 24.18. 9..... 246. 17. 6.

10% Contingencies and supervision. 24. 13. 9.

271. 11. 3.

Estimated labour..... £ 116. s 17. d 6.
materials.. 154. 13. 9.

271. 11. 3.

(2).

62

OBSERVATION AND CONTROL HUT POSITION.

Excavating peat and transporting to dump. 161 cub.yds @ 3/-.	£	s.	d.
	24.	3.	0.
Drainage from floor and walls to low level or connect to drain from gun pit, 6" with rubble filling. 32 yards run @ 18/-.	28.	16.	0.
Concrete for floor, roof and walls. 25 cub.yds @ 25.	125.	0.	0.
Re-inforcement for above. Say.	7.	10.	0.
Strong door and frame. "	5.	0.	0.
Shutters for closing aperture when not in use.	3.	0.	0.
Rock filling around walls and for base. 81 cub. yds @ 7/6d.	30.	7.	6.
Breastwork for upper part of hut and rangefinder. 60 cub.yds @ 3/-.	9.	0.	0.
Turfing and camouflage. 165 yds @ 1/3d.	10.	6.	3.
Setting up instruments on completion.	2.	10.	0.
	£245.	12.	9.
10% contingencies and supervision.	24.	11.	5.
	£270.	4.	0.
<hr/>			
Estimated labour.....	£	s.	d.
	160.	4.	0.
" materials.....	110.	0.	0.
	£270.	4.	0.
	<hr/>		

(3).

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FORMING GUN PIT.

Excavating peat and transporting to dump. 1,414 cub.yds @ 3/-.	212.	2.	0.
Forming breastwork of rock to support the peat face. 77 cub.yds @ 21.	77.	0.	0.
Earth filling between rock and peat. 533 cub. yds @ 3/-.	79.	19.	0.
Concrete foundations for gun timbers. <u>48 cub.yds @ 25.</u>	240.	0.	0. ✕
Rock filling between piers. 500 cub.yds @ 7/6d.	187.	10.	0.
Drainage from gun pit at an average depth of 10 ft. 60 yds run 6" drain. @ 18/-.	54.	0.	0.
Fixing timbers for bed and moving gun into position. Say.	150.	0.	0.
Turfing around site on completion. for camouflage. 220 sup yds @ 1/3d.	13.	15.	0.
	21,014.	6.	0.
10% contingencies and supervision.	101.	8.	7.
	21,115.	14.	7.
Estimated labour.....	782.	8.	7.
" materials.....	333.	6.	0.
	21,115.	14.	7.

SHELL ROOM.

Excavating peat and transporting to dump. 200 cubic yds @ 3/-.	30.	0.	0.
Drainage from floor and walls to low level or connect to drain from gun pit. 12 yards @ 18/-.	10.	16.	0
Concrete for floor, roof and walls. 25 cub.yds @ 5.	125.	0.	0
Re-inforcement for the above. Say.	7.	10.	0
Strong door and frame, steel faced.	8.	0.	0
Rock filling around walls and for base. 34 cub. yds @ 7/6d.	12.	15.	0
Earth filling over. 30 cub. yds @ 3/-.	4.	10.	0
Rock bursting course, hand packed. 8 cub. yds @ 10/-.	4.	0.	0
Turfing and camouflage. 44 yds @ 1/3d.	2.	15.	0
Timber base and rack supports for shells.	11.	10.	6.
	216.	16.	6.
10% contingencies & supervision.	21.	13.	8.
	238.	10.	2.

Estimated Labour..... 131. 9. 11.

" Materials.... 107. 0. 3.

238. 10. 2.

59
58

UNCLIMABLE FENCING TO ENCLOSE GUN BATTERY,
SHELL AND CONTROL ROOMS.

Chain link fencing, patent 'Crapo' process. Fencing 6 feet high with bent over arms on standards to carry 3 lines of barbed wire. (On similar lines to the fencing at the Admiralty Wireless Station).

NOTE. Owing to the very gradual slope of the ground it will be necessary to fence some distance from the gun to enclose the battery.

600 yards run Fencing. @ 4/1d. 122. 10. 0

Extras.

5 No. Corner straining pillars. @ 34/6d. 8. 12. 6.

2 No. Gate pillars. @ 29/6d. 2. 19. 0

1 No. 9 ft wide double gate and frame with strong lock and keys. 5. 5. 0.

5 No. Quarter mile coils barbed wire. @ 12/- 3. 0. 0

Add for additional bolts etc. 2. 10. 0.

Delivery, freight, landing etc. charges on above. 30. 0. 0.

ERECTION.

Transport to site, excavating earth, levelling, concreting standards and erection of fencing. Say. 100. 0. 0.

£274. 16. 6.

SAY.... £274. 0. 0.

Estimated labour..... 90. 0. 0.

" materials..... 184. 0. 0.

£274. 0. 0.

Cross of the hill and camouflage can be easily effected.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
STANLEY.

28th November, 1933.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. S/4/32.

Sir,

With reference to your letter dated the 7th instant, regarding the siting and mounting of the second six inch gun, I have now the honour to transmit for your information a copy of a Minute by the Director of Public Works on the subject, together with estimates and plans for placing the gun on the new site which is stated to be some 125 yards East of the 'Canopus hut' site.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

M. C. Craig-Hallett

Acting Governor.

Captain C. O. Alexander, R.N.,
H.M.S. "Dauntless",
at STANLEY.

2Y.

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Admiralty, S.W.I.

M.4685/33.

30th September, 1933.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 19243/33 of the 20th instant, I am commanded by My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies that They will be pleased to arrange for the stores detailed in War Office letter 078/136 (M.O.1) of 17th July last to be conveyed to Port Stanley in one of H.M. Ships.

2. The first suitable opportunity will occur when H.M.S. EXETER leaves Devonport for the South America Station, probably about 12th November next. A further opportunity is expected to occur in January 1934.

3. Arrangements are being made for the books detailed in Admiralty letter M.3286/33 to be despatched in H.M.S. EXETER.

4. A copy of this letter is being sent to the War Office.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) V.W. Baddeley.

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

H.M.S. "DAUNTLESS",
at Port Stanley.

6th December, 1933.

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to report as follows
regarding progress made with the fixed defences of
Port Stanley during the present visit of H.M.S. "DAUNTLESS".

2. Six inch gun No.1641 and its P.III Mounting
have been moved from Sappers Hill to a position 200
yards east of Canopus Hut.

3. The hill on which Canopus Hut is situated
has been carefully surveyed and a series of trial
borings have been taken to ascertain the nature of the
subsoil. Resulting from this survey a position 123
yards east of Canopus Hut has been chosen as the most
suitable place for building the gun emplacement.

4. The Director of Public Works, who assisted
in the choosing of this site, has made out drawings of
the proposed gun emplacement, shell room, control room
and communication trenches, together with an estimate
of the cost both for material and labour.

*Withdrown and
placed with
Guns in
safe*

5. Six inch guns Nos. 1605 and 1641 have been
examined and measured, both guns being found serviceable.
Copies of my report on these inspections to the Ordnance
Depot, Woolwich, on form S.1404 are attached for your
information.

6. The memoranda of examination of these two guns
have been brought up to date from the result of these
inspections and have been returned to the Colonial
Office, Stanley.

*Red 106.
21/7/32*

7. In accordance with my letter to Your Excellency
dated 7th November, 1933, the 12 foot FQ2 rangefinder
has been repacked and embarked in H.M.S. "DAUNTLESS"
for return to store. The new rangefinder should be
handed over to the Falkland Island Government by
H.M.S. "EXETER" when she visits the Colony on
23rd February, 1934.

8. As stated in my letter dated 11th November, 1933,
the following practice ammunition has been taken on
charge by the Adjutant of the Falkland Island Defence
Force.

*Red 107.
21/7/32*

- 50 - 6" Practice projectiles.
- 60 - 3 pdr sub calibre rounds together with the
necessary clips.
- 4 - 3 pdr sub calibre ammunition boxes.

His Excellency the Acting Governor,
Port Stanley.

9. In addition

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9. In addition I have taken on charge from the Adjutant to the Falkland Islands Defence Force 32 empty 3 pdr cartridge cases and 3 empty 3 pdr Hotchkiss ammunition boxes, with a view to returning them to the armament depot and obtaining credit for the Falkland Islands Government. No guarantee for this credit can be given.

10. A report of these transactions has been made to the Admiralty for financial adjustment.

11. The artillery section of the Defence Force has been given six half days instruction in gun drill, control, and in maintainance of material, culminating in a sub calibre firing from the six inch gun mounted on Sappers Hill. Throughtout this period of instruction both officers and men have shown exceptional keenness and have made marked progress.

12. In order to obtain continuity in the instruction of this section and to ensure that a consistent fire control procedure is adopted, I am enclosing a pamphlet on the fire control arrangements for the information of the officer commanding the artillery section. A copy of this pamphlet together with a detailed report on the instruction given is being forwarded to the Commodore, South America.

I have the honour to be

Your Excellency,

Your most obedient servant

C. O. Alexander

C A P T A I N.

CONTROL OF GUNFIRE.

"A". Fire Control against a ship target.

1. Control Personnel and their duties.

The Control Officer. Controls the fire of the gun. In general charge of the Control position, guns crew and ammunition supply; being assisted by (1) The Rate Officer for Fire Control
(2) The gunlayer for charge of guns crew.
(3) An N.C.O. for Ammunition Supply.

The Rate Officer. In charge of the personnel in the Fire Control Room. Estimates the gunnery settings and operates the deflection Calculating Card.

Gunnery Operator. Sets the gunnery, passing the gunnery deflection to the Rate Officer and the Rate of Change of Range to the Clock operator.

Clock Operator. Operates the Vickers Clock passing the range to the communication number before each round.

Communication Number. Passes all orders between the Control and the gun.

Range-finders Crew.

2. Method of working the Instruments.

- Gunnery.
- (1) Set the bearing of the target to 90°
 - (2) Set "own speed" to zero.
 - (3) Set Inclination and speed of Enemy as ordered by the Rate Officer.
 - (4) Read off the initial Rate of Change of Range and Gunnery Deflection -- Pass the former to the clock operator and the latter to the Rate Officer.
 - (5) Orientate the whole gunnery until the bearing arrow is on the target and then with the fore-and-aft bar of the gunnery, kept rigid keep the sights of the bearing arrow aligned on the target. This will make the inclination set alter degree by degree with the bearing of the target, causing a change in the gunnery deflection and in the Rate of change of Range.
 - (6) When the deflection alters four knots pass it to the Rate Officer in the following manner:-
"Deflection has altered (four) knots more left(right)"
When the Rate alters by 50 yards per minute pass the new total rate to the Clock operator in the following manner:-
"Rate has altered -- Rate ---- yards per minute opening(closing)."

Clock Operator.

- (1) Set the Range of the target on the clock. This will be passed from the Rangefinder or the Control Officer.
- (2) Set the Rate as passed by the gunnery operator.
- (3) Set spotting corrections as ordered by the Control Officer.
- (4) Pass the Range to the communication number whenever the order "shoot" is given by the Control Officer.

Deflection Card Operator (Rate Officer).

- (1) Set the sliding bar to the appropriate Range by moving it up or down the card.
- (2) Set the lower arrow of the sliding bar against the value of the wind across the ~~Range~~ Range which the Control Officer has decided to use. Do this by moving the bar across the card.
- (3) Get the gunnery deflection from the gunnery operator and read off the resultant Gun Deflection on the upper scale of the sliding bar by noting the position of the appropriate gunnery deflection curve against the scale.
- (4) Pass the Gun Deflection plus or minus deflection spotting corrections to the communication number whenever the Control Officer gives the order "shoot". In order to remember the value of the Gun Deflection plus deflection spotting corrections keep the score on a piece of paper.

7. Control Procedure.

(a) Enemy in Sight.

- (1) The Control Officer passes the order "Enemy in Sight" together with a description of the target to the gun and Control. He passes the order "Load" to the gun.
- (2) The Rate Officer assisted by the Control Officer estimate the force of the wind across the range in feet per second and sets it on the deflection calculating card as described above.
- (3) The Rate Officer estimates the enemy speed and inclination and passes these estimations to the gunnery operator.
- (4) The Rangefinder gets Ranges of the target and passes them to the clock operator.
- (5) The gunnery operator and clock operator set their instruments as described in para 2 above.
- (6) The Range and deflection are passed to the gun.
- (7) At the gun the sights are set to the Range and deflection passed the gun is loaded and brought to the half-cock position.
- (8) The Rate Officer reports to the Control Officer "Range and Deflection set".

(b) Salvos.

When the Control Officer gets the report "Range and Deflection set" he will pass the order "Salvos" to the gun by the communication number.
At this order the gun is to be brought to the Full-Cock position.

(c) Shoot.

The Control Officer gives the permissive order "Shoot" whenever he wants to fire. The Rate Officer gives the order "Fire" when he is satisfied that the Range and deflection have been passed by the communication number at the gun.

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(d). Rapid Salvo.

When the Control Officer has "found the target" the order "Rapid Salvo" is passed, this means that the gun is to be fired as rapidly as possible without waiting for the order to fire between each round.

If the target is lost after being in rapid salvo the Control Officer passes the order "Salvo". This means that the gunlayer is not to fire unless he gets the order from the Control.

The Control Officer then gives the necessary spotting corrections with the permissive order "Shoot" between each round, the Rate Officer passing the order "Fire" as described in para 3 (c) above.

4. SPOTTING RULES.

Opening Fire.

Fire one round with the estimated Range and deflection on the sights. If the round falls out of line, apply a deflection correction of 2 Knots towards the target and fire again. Continue this procedure until line is established or the target crossed for line.

Every time the target is crossed for line apply half of the last correction in the reverse direction and continue to fire single rounds until line is correct.

NOTE:- (1) If the round is not seen apply down corrections of 500 yards without change in deflection, and fire single rounds until splash is seen; then proceed as above.

(2) Except in case given in note (1) above never correct for range until shots are in line with the target.

(b) Finding the Range.

If, after line is established, shots are observed over or short, correct towards the target in steps of 500 yards and fire single rounds until the target is crossed. Every time the target is crossed for range apply half the last correction in the reverse direction before firing again.

When the size of the bracket has been reduced to 100 yards assume hitting and fire as rapidly as possible.

(c). Keeping the Range

If the hitting range, found as in (b) above is correct, the normal error of the gun and gunlayer will make occasional shots fall over or short. If rounds fall continuously over or short it is an indication that the gun range is in error. If, therefore more than three successive rounds fall on the same side of the target, it is to be assumed "back" and procedure to be adopted is given in para (d) below.

(d) Regaining the Range.

If the target is lost, the order "Salvo" is to be given and the target regained by use of a 400 yards bracket as laid down in para (b) above.

Maintaining Line Correction.

Normally the tendency for shots to creep right or left should be countered by deflection spotting corrections of not less than 4 Knots but with small end on target, steps of 2 Knots may be necessary.

Should, however more than two successive shots fall far out for line the target is to be considered lost for line, and this is to be regained as laid down in para (a) above.

NOTE:- H.M.S. Boundless at 10000 yards from the gun and beam on to the line of fire represents 12 Knots deflection.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. S/4/32.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

STANLEY,

14th December, 1955.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 6th of December, 1955, and to thank you for your report regarding progress made with the fixed defences of Port Stanley during the recent visit of H.M.S. "Dauntless".

2. I am glad to learn that the Artillery Section of the Falkland Islands Defence Force have shown exceptional keenness and have made marked progress in gun drill.

3. I have to thank you for the pamphlet on the fire control arrangements which you kindly forwarded for the information of the Officer Commanding the Artillery Section.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

M. Craigie-Halkett.

Acting Governor.

THE COMMANDING OFFICER,
H.M.S. "DAUNTLESS",
c/o G.P.O.
LONDON.

No. 3/4/55.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute the above Number and the date may be quoted.)

MINUTE.

28

14th December, 19 33.

From

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To The Adjutant,

Falkland Islands Defence Force,

STANLEY.

I am directed by the Acting Governor to forward to you, for the information of the officer commanding the Artillery Section of the Defence Force, three copies of a pamphlet which has been received from the Captain of H.M.S. "Dauntless" regarding the fire control arrangements of the Section.

C. J. Russell

For Colonial Secretary.

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GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

STANLEY.

16th December, 1933.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

S E C R E T.

Sir,

With reference to paragraph 3 of Sir James O'Grady's Secret despatch of the 18th of April, 1933, on the subject of the siting of the second six-inch gun at Stanley, I have the honour to report that on arrival of H.M.S. "Dauntless" on the 27th of October, 1933, Captain C. O. Alexander, R.N., informed me that he had received instructions from the Admiralty to proceed with the work of transporting this gun from Sapper Hill to a position at Canopus Hut. Accordingly with the assistance of some fifty labourers made available by this Government free of charge the gun was removed to its new position but it has not been mounted or handed over.

2. To complete the gun position at Canopus Hut certain work as detailed in the enclosed plan and specification, which have been prepared by Mr. G. Roberts, Director of Public Works, is required at a cost of £2,170. In this connection I have to refer to paragraph 6 of Sir James O'Grady's Secret despatch of the 18th of April, 1933, and also to para. 7 of Enclosure II of the same despatch in which it is recommended that the total expenditure in connection with the mounting of the second six-inch gun and the construction of the position at Canopus Hut should fall on Imperial funds, the Colonial Government being prepared, if required, to supply the materials necessary and to carry out the work at actual cost.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient
humble servant,

M. CRAIGIE-HALKETT.

his 57-67.
Implicate.
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
SIR PHILIP CUNLIFFE-LISTER,
G.C.E., P.C., M.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

80

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

SECRET.

Downing Street,

26 January, 1934.



Sir,

Reds 54a-58

I have the honour to refer to my Secret despatch of the 22nd of September, 1933, regarding the fixed defences of the Falkland Islands, and to inform you that the Crown Agents for the Colonies are being authorised to pay to the Admiralty from Falkland Islands funds the sum of £1.15.10 being the cost of certain Admiralty books supplied to the Government of the Falkland Islands.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

(Signed) PLYMOUTH

For the Secretary of State.

OFFICER ADMINISTERING
THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. S/4/32.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute the above Number and the date may be quoted.)

MINUTE.

81

29th March, 19 34.

From

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To The Hon. Treasurer,

Stanley.

I am directed by the Acting Governor to inform you that the Crown Agents have been authorised by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to pay to the Admiralty from Falkland Islands funds the sum of £1. 15. 10 being the cost of certain Admiralty books supplied to the Government.

2. I am to add that the amount in question should be brought to account as a charge against Head XVI. MILITARY, 10. Upkeep of six-inch guns.

McH

Acting Colonial Secretary.

84
DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From Secretary of State for the Colonies,

To H. E. The Governor, Falkland Islands.

Despatched : 28th May, 19 34. Time : 1835.

Received : 29th May, 19 34. Time : 1100.

No. 24. Secret. My secret despatch April 6th Falkland Islands Defences. After general review of the whole of the position Overseas Defence Committee consider immediate aim is the provision and installation of only such items of defence as will enable peacetime practice to be carried out with both six inch guns and suggest following items should be taken in hand at once (a) Sapper's Hill provision of observation and control position carry out repairs to gun

* (b) Canopus Hut provision of gun pit and installation of gun. (c)

(c) Provision of observation and control position at a suitable central position.

Provision of minimum arrangements necessary for storage of cordite as indicated in my despatch under reference. It is not considered necessary to provide communication or ammunition trench at gun sites or to enclose area round guns

/ by

DECODE.

- 2 -
TELEGRAM.

From

To

Despatched :

19

Time :

Received :

19

Time :

by unclimbable fence unless in your opinion this latter measure is essential.

As regards labour costs it is hoped to reduce these by using as far as possible Naval personnel during visit of His Majesty's Ship Exeter probably in November next.

In order that as much work as possible, and especially mounting of gun at Canopus Hut position may be undertaken during this visit, it will be necessary for excavations for gun pit and concrete foundations for gun platform timbers to be completed before that date.

Please inform me by telegram

- (One) Whether you agree to above suggestions if so
- (two) Amount and nature of material required to be sent out from England
- (three) Amount and nature of material available locally

(Four) /

DECODE.

- 3 -
TELEGRAM.

From

To

Despatched : 19 *Time :*

Received : 19 *Time :*

(Four) What portion of expenses the Colony is prepared to bear.

A second set of Control Instruments will be supplied and repairs to Sapper Hill range finder will both be carried out as charge to Navy vote.

Arrangements for providing outfit of cordite will be taken in hand when suitable magazine accommodation available.

Secretary of State.



FALKLAND ISLANDS.

SECRET.

Downing Street,

6 April, 1934.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to Sir James O'Grady's Secret despatch of the 16th of April, 1933, and Mr. Craigie-Malkett's Secret despatch of the 16th of December, 1933, regarding the siting of two six-inch guns at Stanley.

2. The earlier of these despatches was considered by the Oversea Defence Committee at their meeting held on the 3rd of August, 1933, which was attended by you, and the conclusions reached by the Committee were:-

(a) that the Admiralty should take up with the Naval Commander-in-Chief the question of the removal of the six-inch gun, recently moved to Sapper Hill, to the neighbourhood of Canopus Hut;

(b) that, in existing circumstances, the six-inch guns at Port Stanley constituted a reasonable scale of defence, and a sufficiently effective deterrent to attack;

(c) that the major portion of the works proposed to be carried out in connection with the emplacement of the six-inch guns, need not be carried out at present but, in accordance with Oversea Defence Committee Memorandum No. 623-M, might be reserved until hostilities appeared imminent;

(d) that the provision of funds for what may be agreed upon as necessary works, should be discussed

between

THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
FALKLAND ISLANDS.

between the Colonial Office and the Colonial Secretary, Falkland Islands, with reference, as necessary, to the Service Departments;

(c) that having in mind the previously expressed willingness of the Colony to shoulder its own defence responsibilities, and in view of the fact that, in the Committee's opinion, the costs submitted could be substantially reduced, no sufficient case has been made out for the suggestion that the defence of Port Stanley should now become an Imperial responsibility.

3. The War Office have since advised on the question of the minimum arrangements necessary for the storage of ammunition, etc., and it is considered that peace time requirements will be met if the following conditions are observed:-

- (i) One cartridge store will be required for the storage of cartridges only (Group III).
- (ii) Area required for 500 full charge cartridges to include 50% working space - 108 square feet.
- (iii) Fuzes and tubes can be stored on shelves in the existing shell store.
- (iv) Position. Site chosen should be remote from residences and population as well as from property of value. The minimum distance from any public building should be 600 yards and 200 feet from any other explosive store.
- (v) Construction. The "cartridge store" may be of as light a form of construction as is compatible with

*Colonial
Magazine*

with sufficient strength for stability, resistance to weather, and unlawful entry. The material used must not be of an inflammable character. Height from ground level to eaves should be about 8 feet.

(vi) Traversing. The "cartridge store" should be traversed all round. No traverse should be less than 2 feet thick at its narrowest part.

(vii) Splinter-proof roofs. As a precaution against damage from outside all ammunition, except plugged shell and S.A.A., should, as far as possible, be stored in splinter-proof sheds. Three layers of sandbags may be considered splinter-proof.

4. The cost of these works will fall to be borne upon the funds of the Colony.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

(Sgd.) P. CUNLIFFE-LISTER.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From H.E. The Governor, Stanley.

To The Secretary of State for the Colonies,

Despatched : 6th June, 1934 19 Time : 1530.

Received : 19 Time :

No.29. Secret. Your No.24. submit that in light of original understanding on which six inch guns are being taken over it is not equitable that this Government should be expected to bear any portion of cost of installation i.e. any expenditure of a capital nature. Otherwise I agree generally in suggestions made except that (c) provision of observation and control position at a suitable central position appears to require detailed examination which might await next visit of one of His Majesty's Ships. Consider that (a) Sapper's Hill provision of observation and control position carry out repairs to gun and (b) Canopus Hut provision of gun pit and installation of gun should be undertaken in the first place and am prepared to recommend that in the case of these two items this Government might give free services by way of supervision and might meet half the cost of local labour employed. Materials required for above works are all available locally and consist principally of (1) Cement 75 casks of 400 lbs each (2) timber for sheeting concrete (3) explosives for blasting rock and (4) tools including drills.

GOVERNOR.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From.....The Secretary of State.....

To.....H.E. the Governor. Stanley.....

Despatched: 18th June, 19 34 Time: 1100

Received: 19th June, 19 34 Time: 1100

No 29 Secret. Your telegram 29 I presume (c) should refer provision for storage of Cordite at Central position and not to observation and control position. Please confirm Urgent.

Secretary of State.

DECODE.

90

TELEGRAM.

From H.E. The Governor. Stanley.

To The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Despatched : 20th June, 19 34. Time : 1150.

Received : 19 Time :

No.32. Secret. Your telegram No.29 I regret there has been some confusion in regard to (c) due to an error in decoding. Please add under (b) in my telegram No.29 provision of observation and control position. Further materials required therefor are available locally and comprise 25 casks of cement as well as various timber ironwork tools etc. I consider provision of storage for outfit cordite also to be of capital nature. In any case it has become necessary to construct out of Colonial Funds new and separate magazine in replacement of existing one, in order to accommodate inter alia reserve of .303 ammunition and practice cordite.

Governor.

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DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

To His Excellency the Governor.

Despatched: 9th July, 19 34 *Time:* 09.15.

Received: 11th July, 19 34 *Time:* 11.00

No.35. Secret. Your telegram No. 32. As it is desirable that all possible preparatory work on Canopus Hut gun position should be completed before the arrival of H.M.S. "Exeter" in November please inform me by telegram total estimated cost of labour and materials required for (a) provision of observation and control position at Sappers Hill (b) provision of observation and control position and mounting at Canopus Hut (c) provision for storage of cordite at suitable central position. Estimate should exclude cost of any work that might reasonably be undertaken by personnel of H.M's. Ship. Full details of work considered to come within this category should however be stated. Estimates for (a) (b) and (c) should also indicate amount in each case which Colony is prepared to meet.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

M.P. S/4/32.

SUMMARY OF ESTIMATES.

(98)

	<u>TOTAL.</u> £ ₂	<u>LABOUR.</u> £.	<u>STORES.</u> £
<u>SAPPER HILL GUN POSITION.</u>			
(i). Observation and control position, Sapper Hill.	200.	147.	53.
(ia). Repairs to gun platform (as mentioned in telegram (red 84 in M.P. S/4/32).	30.	12.	18.
	<u>£230.</u>	<u>£159.</u>	<u>£71.</u>

CANOPUS.

(ii). Gun pit and drainage from pit.	940.	720.	220.
(iii). Observation and control position.	270.	190.	80.
(iiia). Timbers etc. required for piling, sheeting and strutting etc.	150.	-	150.
(iiib). Living hut and cookhouse for 16 men near site.	190.	75.	115.
	<u>£1,550.</u>	<u>985.</u>	<u>565.</u>
(iv). Cordite store in central position.	<u>£170.</u>	<u>86.</u>	<u>84</u>
 TOTAL FOR SAPPER HILL, CANOPUS AND CORDITE STORE.	 <u>£1,950.</u>	 <u>£1,230.</u>	 <u>£720.</u>

23rd July, 1934.

ESTIMATE (1).OBSERVATION AND CONTROL POSITION AT SAPPER HILL.

	<u>ESTIMATE.</u>			<u>LABOUR.</u>			<u>STORES</u>		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
40 cub.yds. Blasting in solid rock @ 38/-	76.	0.	0.	66.	0.	0.	10.	0.	0.
12 cub.yds. Sheeting and concret- ing walls, floor and roof @ £5.	60.	0.	0.	30.	0.	0.	30.	0.	0.
1 No. Strong door & frame.	5.	0.	0.	2.	0.	0.	3.	0.	0.
Shutters for closing aperture when not in use.	3.	0.	0.	2.	0.	0.	1.	0.	0.
9½ cub.yds. Rock filling around walls for drainage. @ 3/6d.	1.	13.	3.	1.	13.	3.	-		
Drainage from hut to low level.	7.	10.	0.	5.	10.	0.	2.	0.	0.
40 cub.yds. Breastwork for upper part of hut and rangefinder @ 8/6d.	17.	0.	0.	17.	0.	0.	-		
81 sup.yds. Turfing & camouflage @ 1/-	4.	0.	0.	4.	1.	0.	-		
2 cub.yds. Blasting in solid rock for base of range- finder @ 38/-	3.	16.	0.	3.	1.	0.	15.	0.	
Levelling up base with concrete & bolting down.	2.	0.	0.	1.	5.	0.	15.	0.	
Setting instruments on completion.	2.	10.	0.	2.	10.	0.	-		
Removal of shells from existing dug-out at Sapper Hill during blasting operations storing elsewhere and returning when work is complete.	10.	0.	0.	6.	0.	0.	4.	0.	0.
	<u>£194.10.3.</u>								
Contingencies.	5.	9.	9.	3.	19.	9.	1.	10.	0.
	<u>£200. 0. 0.</u>			<u>£147. 0. 0.</u>			<u>£53. 0. 0.</u>		

REPAIRS TO GUN PLATFORM.

To be repaired with concrete at an estimated cost of	£30. 0. 0.	£12. 0. 0.	£18. 0. 0.
	<u>£30. 0. 0.</u>	<u>£12. 0. 0.</u>	<u>£18. 0. 0.</u>

(96)

ESTIMATE (ii).

GUN PIT AT CANOPUS POSITION INCLUDING DRAINAGE
TO LOW LEVEL.

	<u>ESTIMATE.</u>			<u>LABOUR.</u>			<u>STORES.</u>		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
1350 cub.yds. Excavating peat from gun pit and trans- porting to dump including timbering. @ 3/-	202.	10.	0.	172.	10.	0.	30.	0.	0.
77 cub.yds. Forming breastwork of rock to support peat face above gun foundations @ £1.	77.	0.	0.	73.	0.	0.	4.	0.	0.
50 cub.yds. Concrete found- ations for gun pit. @ £4.	200.	0.	0.	114.	0.	0.	86.	0.	0.
550 cub.yds. Rock filling between concrete piers and around sides. @ 7/6d.	206.	5.	0.	156.	5.	0.	40.	0.	0.
300 cub.yds. Earth filling between rock & peat. @ 3/-	45.	0.	0.	45.	0.	0.	-		
220 supyds. Turfing around site on completion. @ 1/3d.	13.	15.	0.	13.	15.	0.	-		
Shelter on site for workmen and for tool shed and storing materials. (Removal and re-erection of existing Canopus Hut with repairs to same.)	10.	0.	0.	8.	0.	0.	2.	0.	0.
750 cubic yards Excavating peat to solid for drainage trench for 70 yds to low level including timbering. Average depth 10 ft. @ 3/-	112.	10.	0.	90.	10.	0.	22.	0.	0.
70 yds run. 6" drain from pit @ 7/6d.	26.	5.	0.	8.	5.	0.	18.	0.	0.
	893.	5.	0.	691.	5.	0.	202.	0.	0.
Contingencies.	46.	15.	0.	28.	15.	0.	18.	0.	0.
	£940.	0.	0.	£720.	0.	0.	£220.	0.	0.

(Note. Fixing of gun timbers for bed and moving gun
into position at Colonial estimate of £150
to be done by H.M.S. "Exeter" during visit
in November 1934).

ESTIMATE (iii).

OBSERVATION AND CONTROL POSITION AT CANOPUS.

		<u>ESTIMATE.</u>		<u>LABOUR.</u>		<u>STORES.</u>	
		£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.
350 cub.yds	Excavating peat for position and transporting to dump, including timbering @ 3/-	52.	10. 0.	42.	10. 0.	10.	0. 0
175 c.yds.	Excavating for drainage from control position to connect to drainage from gun pit, including timbering, 18 yds long @ 3/-	26.	5. 0.	21.	5. 0.	5.	0. 0
18 yds run	6" drain. @ 7/6d.	6.	15. 0.	1.	15. 0.	5.	0. 0
25 cub.yds.	Concrete for walls, floor and roof @ £4.	100.	0. 0.	58.	0. 0.	42.	0. 0
	Re-inforcement for above.	7.	0. 0.	4.	0. 0.	3.	0. 0
	Strong door and frame.	5.	0. 0.	2.	0. 0.	3.	0. 0
	Shutters for closing aperture when not in use.	3.	0. 0.	2.	0. 0.	1.	0. 0
150 cub.yds.	Rock filling around walls and for base from hard bottom. @ 7/6d.	56.	5. 0.	46.	5. 0.	10.	0. 0
		£256.	15. 0.	177.	15. 0.	79.	0. 0
Contingencies.		13.	5. 0.	12.	5. 0.	1.	0. 0
		£270.	0. 0.	£190.	0. 0.	£80.	0. 0

(94)

ESTIMATE(IIIa).

TIMBERS REQUIRED FOR WORK AT CANOPUS SITE, AND
OTHER MATERIALS.

60 lengths	Sandy Point timbers 2" x 8" x 12 fts (for platform & walings)	@ 6/3d.	18.	15.	0.
I60	" Sandy Point timbers 3" x 9" x 12 fts (for piling).	@ 9/3d.	74.	0.	0.
I10	" Sandy Point timbers 3" x 4" x 12 fts (for stays etc).	@ 4/-	22.	0.	0.
96 sheets	Corrugated iron 7 fts. (for sheeting behind timbers)	@ 4/6d.	21.	12.	0.
I cwt.	Nails.	@ 2d.1b	18.	8.	
5 pairs.	Rubber thigh boots.	@ 30/-	7.	10.	0.
5	" Rubber knee boots	@ 15/-	3.	15.	0.
			<hr/> £148. 10. 8. <hr/>		

SAY.... £150.

Note. The necessary timbers required for piling sheeting and strutting the control position excavations, drainage trench from control position to gun pit and the drainage trench from gun pit to low level to be utilised from the above timbers required for gun pit excavations.

(93)

ESTIMATE (iii(b)).

LIVING HUT FOR 16 men NEAR SITE. AT CANOPUS.

CONVERSION AND EXTENSION OF A HUT AT THE WIRELESS
STATION FOR THE PURPOSE.

14 lgths	S.P. timbers, 3" x 4" x 12 fts. @ 3/6d.	2.	9.	0.
4 "	" " 2" x 4" x 15 fts @ 3/6d.		14.	0.
36 "	" " 2" x 4" x 12 fts @ 2/5d.	4.	7.	0.
72 ft run.	2" x 3" deal. @ 2 1/2d		15.	0.
108 "	1 1/2" x 3" " @ 2d.		18.	0.
432 "	1" x 9" " @ 3 3/4d.	6.	15.	0.
342 "	1" x 3" " @ 1 1/4d.	1.	15.	8.
250 "	Flooring. @ 3d.	3.	2.	6.
530 "	Matching. @ 1 1/2d	3.	6.	3.
79 sheets.	Corrgt iron 8 fts. @ 6/-	23.	14.	0.
2 "	Flat iron. @ 3/2.		6.	4.
8 rolls	Roofing felt. @ 18/6d.	7.	8.	0.
34 shts.	SX boarding @ 9/2d.	15.	11.	8.
18 No.	Bolts, 7" x 1 1/2" @ 1 1/2d		2.	3.
18 No.	" 6" x 1 1/2" @ 1 1/4d.		1.	11.
1 No.	No. 9 "Stanley" range	17.	10.	0.
1 No.	Slow combustion stove.	2.	12.	0.
40 ft run.	Timber 9" x 1 1/4" @ 5d.		16.	8.
	Nails, hinges, screws etc.	2.	0.	0.
	Piles for building and laying.	18.	0.	0.
	Floor covering etc.	5.	0.	0.
	Cooking utensils etc.	5.	0.	0.
	Earth closet.	5.	0.	0.
	Transport.	12.	14.	9.

£190. 0. 0.

Estimated labour.....£75.

Estimated stores..... £115.

ESTIMATE (iv).

CORDITE STORE FOR STORING 300 FULL CHARGES, TO BE
ERECTED IN CENTRAL POSITION.

		<u>ESTIMATE.</u>	<u>LABOUR.</u>	<u>STORES.</u>
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
300 2300	530 No. Concrete blocks, 2' x 9" x 4½" @ 1/6d.	39.15. 0.	-	39.15.0
646	10 cub.yds. Concrete for roof. @ 24.	40. 0. 0.	22. 0. 0.	18. 0.0
545	4 casks Cement. } 4 cub.yds. Sand. } for jointing.	@ 19/- 3.16. 0	-	3.16.0
515		@ 5/- 1. 0. 0.	10. 0.	10.0
545	8 No. Ventilators.	@ 2/- 16. 0.	-	16.0
9000	170 ft. run Timber 3" x 4".	@ 5d. 3.10.10.	-	3.10.10
8000	150 " " " 2" x 9"	@ 7d. 4. 7. 6.	-	4. 7.6
5100	96 " " " 1" x 9"	@ 5d. 2. 0. 0.	-	2. 0.0
3000	Double door and frame.	10. 0. 0.	5.15. 4.	4. 4.8
1000	Labour for complete erection.	35. 0. 0.	35. 0. 0	-
1000	Transport.	10. 0. 0.	6. 0. 0.	4. 0.0
2000	30 yds run. Forming traverse @ 7/6d.	11. 5. 0.	10. 5. 0.	1. 0.0
		£161.10. 4.		
Contingencies.		8. 9. 8.	6. 9. 8.	2. 0.0
		£170. 0. 0.	£86.	£84.

DECODE.

99

TELEGRAM.

From H.E. The Acting Governor.

To Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Despatched: 24th July. 19 34. *Time:* 1430.

Received: 19 *Time:*

No.35. Secret. Your telegram 9th July No.35 following are respectively in each case (1) total estimated cost of labour and materials and (2) amount which Colony is prepared to meet (a) provision of observation and control position at Sappers Hill (1) £200 and (2) £75 (b) provision of observation and control position and excavations for gun pit and preparation of concrete foundations for gun platform timbers at Canopus Hut (1) £1550 and (2) £500 (c) central cordite store (1) £170 and (2) £40. Consider only works which can be reasonably undertaken by personnel of H.M.S. Exeter to be (a) repairs to gun and gun platform at Sappers Hill and (b) fixing of gun platform timbers and mounting of gun at Canopus Hut.

Governor.

SECRET.

(100)

No.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted.)

MINUTE.

13th August, 1934

From Director of Public Works,

To

Stanley.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

M.P. S/4/32.

Six-inch gun positions.

With reference to proposed works on gun positions, and to telegram to the Secretary of State dated 24th July, 1934, submitted as to the advisability of sending a telegraphic 'hastener' if it is desired that the work at Canopus Hut site should be completed by the time of the visit of H.M.S. "Exeter" in November, 1934.

Unless work is soon started this will not be possible.

L.B. White

for Director of Public Works.

DECODE.

101

TELEGRAM.

From H. E. The Governor. Stanley.

To Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Despatched : 18th September. 19 34. Time : 1600.

Received : 19 Time :

Red 99. No.53. Secret. My telegram 24th July No.35 I understand from private source that H.M.S. Exeter has been instructed to mount gun at Canopus Hut when she arrives on November 19th. Beg to point out that unless preparatory work is started without delay it will not be possible to complete it by that date.

Governor.

DECODE.

102

TELEGRAM.

From The Secretary of State.

To His Excellency the Governor.

Despatched: 4th October, 19 34. *Time:* 8.30.

Received: 5th October, 19 34. *Time:* 11.00.

No. 62. Secret. Your Secret telegrams 35 and 53.

Financial arrangements suggested have been approved.
You should proceed with the preparatory work as rapidly as possible.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

DECODE.

102

TELEGRAM.

From Commodore H.M.S. "Exeter."

To H.E. The Governor. Stanley.

Despatched: 6th October, 19 34 *Time:* 10.00

Received: 8th " 19 " *Time:* 11.00

H.M.S. Exeter will be ready to assist with the mounting of the gun during the forthcoming visit.

COMMODORE

H.M.S. "Exeter!"

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From His Excellency the Governor.

To The Commodore, H.M.S. "Exeter".

Despatched: 10th October, 1934 *Time:* 1620

Received: ... 19 *Time:*

Your telegram 6th October authority to commence work only recently received and gun position cannot now be completed until about the middle of December

GOVERNOR

DECODE.

105

TELEGRAM.

From H. M. S. 'Exeter.'

To H. E. The Governor. Stanley.

Despatched: 14th October, 19 34 *Time:* 20.02

Received: 15th October, 19 34 *Time:* 11.00.

With reference to your telegram of the 10th October
Urgently request that work be expedited in order that
H. M. S. Exeter may mount gun before her departure on
1st December.

H.M.S.EXETER.

No.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted).

MINUTE.

20th November, 19 34

From Director of Public Works,

Stanley.

To

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

Six-inch Gun Positions.

I beg to report that whilst on board H.M.S. "Exeter" to-day I discussed the question of a magazine site for the 6 inch guns.

2. It has been suggested by the Overseas Defence Committee, in M.P. dealing with 6" guns, that this should be situated somewhere between Canopus site and Sapper Hill for the requirements of both guns. I have recently endeavoured to select sites on this route with a view to preparing concrete proposals which could be placed before the Commadore on his arrival. I have been unsuccessful for the following reasons:-

- (a). The exposed positions anywhere where it is possible to take transport.
- (b). The distance from Sapper Hill by road to a central position is approximately 4 miles; half of this route would be open to shell fire from the South and South East.
- (c). The most likely positions on the route are surrounded with diddle-dee and peat bogs from 4 to 8 feet deep from which the town is getting its peat supply.

3. It was suggested on board that a magazine at each gun would be the best working solution. I have, however, arranged with the Commander to visit the sites today.

4. I would suggest for His Excellency's consideration that a Local Defence Committee meeting be called prior to the departure of H.M.S. "Exeter" so that this question

may be discussed.

Er. Roberts.

Director of Public Works.

H.M.S. "EXETER"

at Port Stanley.

28th November, 1934.

No. 310/924

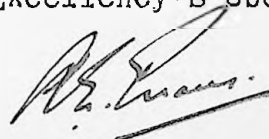
Your Excellency,

I have the honour to forward herewith a draft of a report which, with your concurrence, I propose to forward to the Admiralty through the Commander-in-Chief, America & West Indies Station.

In view of the recommendations contained therein, I beg to suggest that no work be carried out on the proposed magazine at the central position pending further consideration by the Overseas Defence Committee.

I have the honour to be,

Your Excellency's obedient servant


Commodore.

His Excellency
The Acting Governor,
Port Stanley,
Falkland Islands.

(107)

DRAFT.

With regard to the decision reached by the Overseas Defence Committee that the immediate aim as regards the fixed defences of the Falkland Islands should be to provide only sufficient for peacetime practices, it is desired to point out some aspects of the case which have not previously been considered.

2.- The Overseas Defence Committee considered that the necessary work for this purpose would be

- (1) To mount the six-inch gun at the Canopus Hut site.
- (2) The provision of a control position at Canopus Hut and at Sapper Hill.
- (3) The position of a Magazine in some suitable control position between the two guns.

3.- Of these proposals, for which financial approval has now been received, 1 & 2 are concurred in. Proposal 3 is not concurred in and it is considered should receive further consideration for the reasons set out below.

4.- The only site suitable for the erection of a magazine between the two guns is situated 3½ miles from the Canopus Hut site and 4 miles from the slopes of Sapper Hill. Transport of ammunition to either gun would have to be carried out by lorry or east. Transport to the Canopus hut site is over a track which runs for the last half mile across a peat bog passable for wheeled transport only in dry weather. In wet weather ammunition would have to be carried by hand for some 900 yards to the gun position.

Transport to the Sapper Hill site is feasible for wheeled traffic to the slopes of the hill only, from where ammunition would again have to be manhandled over a distance of 800 yards with a rise of 560 feet.

5.- Suitable positions for Magazines adjacent to both gun sites and under cover from fire from seaward can be found. In the case of the Sapper Hill site the Magazine would be situated 70 yards from the gun and in that of the Canopus Hut site 100 yards from the gun. In both cases a covered approach could be provided by digging a communication trench on the outbreak of hostilities.

6.- Even though detailed plans for magazines at each site be drawn up in peace time, it is considered unlikely ~~xxxx~~ by the Authorities of the Falkland Islands that the construction of the magazines would be commenced within a reasonable time on hostilities becoming imminent. Owing to shortage of labour locally and to more pressing requirements of work such as construction of Signal Station at Goldsworthy Rock, drilling and instruction of Defence Force, patrols, look-outs, etc., it is considered that at least three months must elapse before either magazine could be completed.

7.- One Magazine at a gun position would serve equally well for peace time practices as the centrally situated magazine. The difficulties of transport from one gun to another are little greater than from the Central Magazine to either gun. The Central Magazine would not be of use in time of war.

8.- No provision.....

8.- No provision has been made for storage of shell at the Canopus Hut site and the difficulties of transport of shell to this position would be greater than in the case of cordite. //

9.- As regards the financial aspect, the estimate for the construction of a magazine at a central position is £170; that for each Magazine at a gun position £240. It is considered that the additional expenditure of £70 in constructing a magazine at one of the gun positions which would be of value in time of war is more justified than the expenditure of £170 on a magazine which would be of no use.

10.- The gun at Sapper Hill commands the sea area to the Southward and would therefore provide some protection for the wireless station, oil tanks, and town. A storage for shell near the gun is already provided. It is therefore recommended that a magazine be constructed on Sapper Hill and in addition a magazine and shell room at Canopus Hut. If the financial position will not admit of all this work being undertaken now, the Sapper Hill magazine should be the first commitment.

In view of Para.6 the provision of a magazine and shell room at the Canopus Hut site should not be delayed unduly.

Early.

Hon. Col. Sec.

Kindly pass to
Hon. Director of
Public Works for
his observations.
mcH

Hon. D. P. W.

Passed to you
accordingly.

2. S. S.
for es.
28/11/24

Hon. Col. Sec.

I entirely agree with
the draft it makes
the position quite clear.

I would suggest that
we retain the duplicate
copy for our records

CWB

28-11-34.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

STANLEY.

29th November, 1934.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

S E C R E T.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 23th November, 1934, forwarding a draft of a report which you propose to forward to the Admiralty through the Commander-in-Chief, America and West Indies Station.

2. I have to inform you that I fully concur with the draft which I consider sets out the position quite clearly.

3. I further concur with your suggestion that no work be carried out on the proposed magazine at the central position pending further consideration by the Overseas Defence Committee.

4. I have retained a copy of the draft and return the original herewith.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

M. CRAIGIE-HALKETT.

Commodore A. E. Evans, O.B.E., R.N.,
H.M.S. "Exeter",
at STANLEY.

No.
(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted).

MINUTE.

29th November, 19 34

From Director of Public Works,
Stanley.

To
THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Stanley, Falkland Islands.

SIX INCH GUN POSITIONS.

I beg to report that after the Local Defence Committee meeting held on Tuesday the 27th November, 1934, the Gunnery Officer of H.M.S. "Exeter" and myself inspected the gun platform at Sapper Hill, and in accordance with His Excellency's suggestion at the meeting it was decided that this Government could carry out the repairs.

2. The inspection revealed that if repaired with timber the life of the platform would be approximately 3 years whereas with concrete it would possibly last 10 years. It is proposed to do the work in conjunction with and from estimated savings on the Sapper Hill control position work.

3. Subject to His Excellency's approval the work will be put in hand in 10 day's time.

E. Roberts.
Director of Public Works.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From His Excellency the Governor.

To The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Despatched: 17th December, 19 34 *Time:* 1630

Received: 19 *Time:*

X
No. 70. Secret. Your secret telegram No. 62 owing to difficulty of work due to extraordinary depth of peat it was not possible to complete gun pit and foundations during recent visit of H.M.S. "Exeter". Work cannot be completed at the earliest until the end of year. At meeting of Local Defence Committee at which Commodore Evans was present it was agreed after examination of position by naval authorities that owing to difficulties of transport central magazine would be little value and it was recommended that a magazine should be constructed at each gun position. Estimated cost of one magazine at one gun instead of central position £240 or £70 more. Cost of two magazines £480. It was also considered necessary and recommended that a shell room be provided at the Canopus Hut position estimated cost £238. Commodore has reported matter to Admiralty.

GOVERNOR.

(115)

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
STANLEY.

2nd January, 1935.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

S E C R E T.

Sir,

With reference to my Secret telegram, No. 70 of the 17th of December, 1934, I have the honour to enclose, for your information, a copy of the correspondence exchanged between Commodore A. E. Evans, O.B.E., R.N., and myself during the recent visit of H.M.S. "Exeter" regarding the fixed defences of the Falkland Islands.

In duplicate.

Reas 108/1104.112.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient
humble servant,

M. CRAIGIE-HALKETT.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
SIR PHILIP CUNLIFFE-LISTER,
G.B.E., P.C., M.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

121

No.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted).

MINUTE.

18th January, 19 35

From Director of Public Works,

Stanley.

To

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

M.P. S/4/32.
SIX INCH GUN POSITIONS - SAPPER HILL
AND CANOPUS.

I beg to attach statements of expenditure during 1934 on the work at Capper Hill and Canopus gun positions.

? £1920
2. The total approved estimate for the work is £1,920, of which the Imperial Government's share is £1,305, and this Government's £615. This was based on the Imperial Government paying for all materials and half the labour charges, and the Falkland Islands Government contributing the other half of the labour charges.

3. The total expenditure during 1934 was £1,055. 12. 9 - the Imperial Government's share being £716. 15. 4., and the Falkland Islands Government's share £338. 17. 5.

4. An adjustment will be required in 1934 crediting Advance Warrant No. 9 of 1934, and charging a new item under "Military" or "Public Works" with the sum of £338. 17. 5.

G. Roberts.

Director of Public Works.

SIX INCH GUN POSITIONS.

120

EXPENDITURE DURING 1934.

Sapper Hill - Observation and Control Position.

Total Estimate £200. 0. 0.

Imperial Government's share -- £125.

Falkland Islands Government's share -- £ 75.

Expenditure in 1934.

	£.	s.	d.
Labour. W.E. 24/10/34.	6.	3.	0.
Labour. W.E. 31/10/34.	14.	11.	4.
Stores (31/10/34). Concrete blocks (5/1/8) Pick handles (6/-) stone(10/6). Lorry stores(26/8). Timber(17/10).	8.	2.	8.
Labour. W.E. 7/11/34.	21.	9.	3.
Stores (10/11/34). Lorry stores(13/2) Cement (3/5/3) Stone(10/11) concrete blocks(10/2) drain pipes(13/-) timber(1/0/11) pipes(7/5) rope(17/3) iron(1/18/8) pipes(17/7) lorry stores(1/6/8).	12.	1.	0.
Labour. W.E. 14/11/34.	20.	19.	8.
Stores (17/11/34). concrete blocks(1/19/8) timber(13/4) cement(2/3/10) stone(1/0/11) lorry stores(20/6).	6.	18.	3.
Labour. W.E. 21/11/34.	19.	11.	11.
Stores (24/11/34). Padlock(2/2) hinges(2/10) iron(6/2) lorry stores(5/6).	-	16.	8.
Labour. W.E. 28/11/34).	-	13.	8.
Labour. W.E. 28/12/34.	20.	17.	4.
Stores (31/12/34). Broken stone, cement, concrete blocks &c	13.	7.	6.
	<u>145.</u>	<u>12.</u>	<u>3.</u>

1934.

Imperial Government's share	£93.	9.	2.
Falkland Islands	£52.	3.	1.
	<u>145.</u>	<u>12.</u>	<u>3.</u> ✓

SIX INCH GUN POSITIONS.

119

EXPENDITURE DURING 1934.

Cordite Store.

Total Estimate £170.

Imperial Government's share -- £130.

Falkland Islands Government's share -- £ 40.

Expenditure in 1934.

----- N I L -----

Canopus - Observation and Control Position.

Total Estimate

£270. 0. 0.

Imperial Government's share -- £170.

Falkland Islands " " -- £100.

Expenditure in 1934.

----- N I L -----

118

SIX INCH GUN POSITION.

EXPENDITURE DURING 1934.

Canopus - Living Hut and Cookhouse.

Total Estimate

£190. 0. 0.

Imperial Government's share £150.

Falkland Islands Government's share £ 40.

Expenditure in 1934.

	£.	s.	d.
Labour. W.E.10/10/34. Transport & framing	7.	18.	2.
Stores (13/10/34). Nails(5/1) bolts(4/5) flooring(31/8) Deals(1/13/7) 1 earth closet(6/17/8) 8 rolls felt(6/1/7) 49 shts corrgt. iron(9/18/10) lead headed nails(11/11) round nails(6/4) sash cord(2/5) deal(2/4) flat iron(6/2) 30 shts corrgt iron(4/10/-) 36 lengths S.P.timber(5/14/8) 37 lengths Brazilian pine(5/2/3).	43.	8.	11.
Labour. W.E.17/10/34. Excavating, erecting & building extension &c.	55.	16.	10.
Labour. W.E.24/10/34. -do- -do- -do-	20.	8.	9.
Stores (20/10/34). Flooring(14/-) SX board(14/2/3) nails(24/3) glass(6/11) timber(39/-) lino(4/18/4) garden forks(8/8) timber deals(7/8/8) hooks(6d) posts(3/6) muntz metal(4/1) 1 Range(10/3/6) iron(36/-) bricks(10/-) iron(9/3) stove(1/12/10) firebricks(5/7) timber lining(3/8/9) plastine(2/4) <i>Hinges (1/-)</i> glass(4/2) deals(27/-) paraffin(9/6) flannel(1/10) S.brush(2/4) broom(4/7) handle(7d) soap(11d) soda(9d) buckets(18/4) lorry stores(15/2).	54.	4.	7.
Labour. W.E.31/10/34.	4.	7.	6.
Stores (31/10/34). Kitchen utensils	2.	14.	2.
Stores.(17/11/34). Canvas.	-	12.	0.
Labour. W.E. 26/11/34.	-	9.	0.
	<u>189.</u>	<u>19.</u>	<u>11.</u>

1934.

Imperial Government's share	£150. 0. 0.
Falkland Islands " "	<u>£ 39. 19. 11.</u>
	<u>£189. 19. 11.</u>

117

SIX INCH GUN POSITIONS.

EXPENDITURE DURING 1934.

Canopus - Gun Pit & Drainage from Pit.
including timbers for piling, sheeting &c.

Total Estimate

£1,090. 0. 0.

Imperial Government's share -- £730.

Falkland Islands Government's share - £360.

Expenditure in 1934.

£. s. d.

Labour. W.E. 10/10/34. Drainage.

13. 1. 4.

Stores (13/10/34). 5 prs knee boots(4/6/3) 5 prs thigh boots(6/17/6) 2 spades(7/10) 2 files(1/8) 90 - 6" drain pipes(12/7/6) 149 lengths Sandy Point timbers(44/14/-) 106 lengths Brazilian pine(49/9/-) 58 shts corrgt. iron(14/11/3).

132. 15. 0.

Labour. W.E. 24/10/34. Drainage pit.

28. 14. 9.

Stores (20/10/34). 3 forks(1/6/-) 6 lengths timber(16/-) 7 lengths 1" x 8" x 12' (19/7) Hinges(13/8) deal(4/8) nails(1/3) posts(10/6) wire(9/3) timbers(24/6) staples(5d) timber(2/15/10) wheelbarrow(1/16/4) spade(3/11) 1 bar iron 1" x 1/4" (1/10) grease(1/3) 44 lbs rope(1/11/5) 4 prs knee boots(3/0/6)

15. 16. 11.

Labour. W.E. 31/10/34.

51. 17. 0.

Stores (31/10/34) Timber(2/18/-) iron(2/-/-) nails(8/8) timber(4/16/11) hammer(3/4) lorry stores(20/-) ironmongery(19/8).

12. 6. 7.

Labour. W.E. 7/11/34.

52. 10. 10.

Stores(10/11/34) Lorry stores(1/16/11) forks(17/1) pipes(8/3) timber(1/14/6) iron, nails, pick handle &c(11/4).

5. 8. 1.

Labour. W.E. 14/11/34.

73. 16. 6.

Stores (17/11/34) 28 casks cement(30/9/-) spanners(7/11) lorry stores(2/19/6) petrol(1/1/8) coal, files, grease &c(1/13/7).

36. 11. 8.

Labour. W.E. 21/11/34.

78. 10. 11.

Stores (24/11/34). Iron(5/11) bolts(4/1) spikes(5/10) timber(6/13/-) lorry stores(1/8/4).

8. 17. 2.

Labour W.E. 28/11/34.

47. 1. 10.

Labour W.E. 5/12/34.

45. 18. 2.

Labour.W.E.12/12/34.

39. 11. 8.

Stores (7/12/34) Kerosene(9/6) lorry stores(6/6) deal(8/1)

1. 4. 1.

Carried Forward£644. 2. 6.

Canopus - Gun Pit & Drainage from Pit (contd).

	£.	s.	d.
Brought Forward.....	644.	2.	6.
Stores (15/12/34) lorry stores.	-	3.	2.
Labour. W.E. 19/12/34.	45.	8.	2.
Stores (22/12/34). Soap.	-	-	11.
Labour. W.E. 28/12/34.	16.	17.	8.
Stores (31/12/34). Drain pipes, petrol, cement, rope &c.	13.	8.	2.
	<u>£ 720.</u>	<u>0.</u>	<u>7.</u>

1934.

Imperial Government's share	£473.	6.	2.
Falkland Islands Government's share	<u>£246.</u>	<u>14.</u>	<u>5.</u>
	<u>£ 720.</u>	<u>0.</u>	<u>7.</u>



125

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

DOWNING STREET,

SECRET.

7 December, 1934.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your telegram No. 35, Secret, of the 28th of July, regarding the installation of defences at Port Stanley, and, in confirmation of my telegram No. 62, Secret, of the 4th of October, to inform you that the financial arrangements suggested have been approved.

2. Of the total estimated cost of £1,920 for the service, the Army Council are prepared to meet from Army funds a sum not exceeding £1,305, subject to the following conditions:-

- (a) The Government of the Falkland Islands will contribute £615 towards the cost of the service.
- (b) The claim for the sum due from Army funds will be rendered in time for payment during the current financial year, 1934-35.
- (c) The payment by Army funds in respect of this service will be regarded as a final and complete discharge of all liability for expenditure of any kind incurred on defences in the Falkland Islands, either now or in future, or on the local defence force.
- (d) As it is not possible for an Army officer to visit the Island, the responsibility for the

execu

THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING

THE GOVERNMENT OF

THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.

Red 99
Red 102

execution of the work must rest with the Admiralty and the local Government.

3. In framing the above conditions the Army Council have assumed that the work will be undertaken only if it can be completed by naval personnel from H.M.S. "Exeter".

4. As regards (c) above, this condition is not intended to affect discussion of the classification of Port Stanley as a Category port.

Should it be so classified at some future date, such a decision would not of itself divest the Colony of all responsibility for meeting the cost of defensive measures, but the question of their incidence of cost as between the Colony and the United Kingdom would have to be considered, the general principle being that a Colony should contribute, within its means, to the cost of its defence as part of the Empire.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

(Sgd.) P. CUNLIFFE-LISTER.

123

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

SECRET.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

STANLEY,

28th January, 1935.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Secret despatch of the 7th of December, 1934, and note the conditions on which the Army Council are prepared to meet from Army funds a sum not exceeding £1,505 of the total estimated cost of £1,980 for the installation of defences at Stanley.

In triplicate.

2. In order that the claim for the sum due from Army funds may be paid during the current financial year 1934-35, I enclose a statement shewing how the amount of £1,505 is made up and I should be grateful if arrangements could be made for this sum to be recovered from the Army Council and paid to the Crown Agents for the credit of this Government.

3. It is anticipated that the work of the defences will be completed by the 31st of March, 1935, and full details in connection with the expenditure of the amount of £1,505 may then be furnished if so desired by the Army Council.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,
humble servant,

M. CRAIGIE-HALKETT.

RIGHT HONOURABLE
MR PHILIP CUNLIFFE-LISTER,
G.B.E., P.C., M.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

Claim on the Imperial Government (Army Funds)
for work in connection with the installation
of defences at Port Stanley, vide Secretary
of State's Secret despatch of the 7th December, 1934.

	<u>AMOUNT.</u>		
	£.	s.	d.
<u>SAPPER HILL - 6 INCH GUN POSITION.</u>			
(1). Observation and Control Position....	125.	0.	0
<u>CANOPUS - 6 INCH GUN POSITION.</u>			
(2). Gun pit and drainage from pit including timbering for piling, sheeting and strutting etc.	730.	0.	0.
(3). Observation and Control Position....	170.	0.	0.
(4). Living Hut and Cookhouse for men on site.	150.	0.	0.
(5). Cordite Store.	130.	0.	0.
<hr/>			
TOTAL.	1,305.	0.	0.
<hr/>			

--- ONE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED AND FIVE POUNDS ---

Ch. Roberts.

Director of Public Works.
25th January, 1935.

Port Stanley,
Falkland Islands.

DECODE.

126

TELEGRAM.

From The Secretary of State.

To His Excellency the Governor.

Despatched: 8th February, 1935. Time: 10.35.

Received: 9th February, 1935. Time: 11.00.

Red 114.
No. 20. Secret. Your telegram of 17th December No. 70 Secret work of establishing defences within financial limit of £1920 already agreed upon including temporary magazine at site to be chosen by Colonial Government should be proceeded with. Items involving extra expenditure as suggested in your telegram are to be considered at a later date. In the meantime please telegraph estimated expenditure up to March 31st and proportion thereof accepted by Colony.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

*See enclosure
125*

No.
(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted).

MINUTE.

9th February, 19 35

From Director of Public Works,
Stanley.

To
THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.
Stanley, Falkland Islands.

CANOPUS - SIX-INCH GUN SITE.

1 beg to report that good progress has been made with the work at the Canopus gun site. The concrete base for the gun is completed, the saucer forming the platform is well advanced and work on the observation and control position is in hand.

2. Mr. G.L. Challen, the foreman of works, has returned to Stanley, and I propose, as from Wednesday next the 13th February, that the men discontinue living at the site. They will travel to and fro by lorry, be paid the ordinary rate of pay plus 1/- per day for carrying food in lieu of the 1/6d per hour which included subsistence.

G. Roberts.
Director of Public Works.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

128

From The Governor.

To The Secretary of State.

Despatched : 14th February, 19 35. Time : 17.00.

Received : . . . 19 Time :

No. 16. Secret. Your telegram 8th February, No. 20 Secret whole work of establishing defences will be completed before March 31st at approved cost of £1,920. See my Secret despatch of January 28th.

GOVERNOR.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

SECRET.



Downing Street,

~~March~~, 1935.

1 APR 1935

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Craigie-Halkett's Secret despatch of the 28th of January, regarding expenditure in connection with the installation of defences at Port Stanley, and to inform you that the sum of £1,305 has been paid from Army funds to the Crown Agents for the Colonies for the credit of the Falkland Islands Government.

2. I request that I may be furnished with full details in connection with the expenditure of the above amount following the completion of the defence works by the 31st of March.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient

humble servant,

(Sgd.) P. CUNLIFFE-LISTER.

GOVERNOR,

H. HENNIKER-HEATON, ESQ., C.M.G.,

etc., etc., etc.

Red 125

120

No. S/4/32.

MINUTE.

14th May, 19 35.

From

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To The Director of Public Works,

STANLEY.

I am directed to request that you will furnish me with a detailed statement of the expenditure amounting to £1305. in connection with the preparations for the installation of defences at Port Stanley.

met

Colonial Secretary.

137

No.

MINUTE.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted.)

10th May, 1933

From Director of Public Works,

To

Stanley.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

M.P. S/4/32.

SIX INCH GUN POSITIONS.

With reference to your minute of the 14th May, 1933, I beg to attach statements of the expenditure, in triplicate, of the cost of the installation of defences at Stanley.

G. Roberts.
Director of Public Works.

FALKLAND ISLANDS - SIX-INCH GUN POSITIONS.

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE.

<u>Work.</u>	<u>Estimate.</u> £.	<u>Total</u> <u>Expenditure.</u> £. s. d.	<u>Imperial</u> <u>Government's share.</u> £. s. d.	<u>Colonial</u> <u>Government's</u> £. s. d.
(1). <u>SAPPER HILL - 6 inch Gun Position.</u> Observation and Control Position, and repairs to gun platform.	200.	200. 0. 0.	125. 0. 0.	75. 0. 0.
<u>CANOPUS. - 6 inch Gun Position.</u>				
(2). Living Hut and Cookhouse.	190.	189. 19. 11.	150. 0. 0.	39. 19. 11.
(3). Gun pit and drainage from pit including timbering for piling, sheeting, strutting, etc.	1,090.	1,089. 12. 8.	730. 0. 0.	359. 12. 8.
(4). Observation and control position. -----	270.	268. 13. 0.	170. 0. 0.	38. 13. 0.
(5). Cordite Store in central position to the two guns.	170.	217. 9. 4.	130. 0. 0.	87. 9. 4.
	<u>1,920.</u>	<u>1,905. 14. 11.</u>	<u>1,305. 0. 0.</u>	<u>600. 14. 11.</u>
Add amount reserved for assisting the Navy with transport etc, when the gun parts at Canopus are assembled and moved into position. (To be met from Colonial Government's share).	-	14. 5. 1.	--	14. 5. 1.
	<u>1,920.</u>	<u>1,920. 0. 0.</u>	<u>1,305. 0. 0.</u>	<u>615. 0. 0.</u>

G. Roberts.

Director of Public Works.

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SIX-INCH GUN POSITIONS.SAPPER HILL - OBSERVATION AND CONTROL POSITION.EXPENDITURE ON WORK.

	£.	s.	d.
Blasting in solid rock.	64.	0.	0
Sheeting and concreting walls, floor and roof.	60.	9.	9.
Strong door and frame.	5.	0.	0
Shutters for closing aperture when not in use.	3.	0.	0
Rock filling around walls and drainage from position to low level.	8.	13.	3
Breastwork for upper part of hut and rangefinder, and turfing and camouflage.	26.	1.	0
Blasting in solid rock for base of rangefinder, levelling up base with concrete, bolting down and setting up instrument.	8.	6.	0.
Removal of shells from existing shell store at Sapper Hill during blasting operations, storing, and returning to shell store on completion of work.	10.	10.	0.
Repairs to six-inch gun platform.	14.	0.	0.

£200. 0. 0.

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT'S SHARE (Army Funds)....	£125.	0.	0
FALKLAND ISLANDS GOVERNMENT'S SHARE.....	£75.	0.	0.

(Note. Repairs to the six-inch gun platform at Sapper Hill were carried out in concrete under this head).

SIX-INCH GUN POSITIONS.CANOPUS - LIVING HUT AND COOKHOUSE FOR MEN ON SITE.
-----EXPENDITURE ON WORK.

Labour including transport and framing,	£.	s.	d
excavating for, erection, etc.	89.	0.	3

Materials including all timbers, felt,			
corrugated iron, piles, etc. etc.	100.	19.	8.

	£189.	19.	11
--	-------	-----	----

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT'S SHARE (Army Funds).....	£150.	0.	0.
---	-------	----	----

EATKLAND ISLANDS GOVERNMENT'S share.	£39.	19.	11.
---	------	-----	-----

Note..... This hut has been left on site where erected near 'Canopus', and is in an admirable position for quarters for a gun's crew.

SIX-INCH GUN POSITIONS.

CANOPUS - GUN PIT AND DRAINAGE FROM PIT INCLUDING
TIMBERING FOR PILING, SHEETING, STRUTTING, etc

EXPENDITURE ON WORK.

	L.	S.	d
Sandy Point and Brazilian Pine timbers 2" x 8" x 12 fts (for platform and walings) 3" x 9" (for piling) 3" x 4" (for stays, etc). Corrugated iron (for sheeting behind timbers), rubber boots for men working in peat.	148.	11.	11
Excavating peat to solid for drainage trench from pit for 70 yards at average depth of 10 ft to low level, including timbering and laying stoneware drain.	164.	15.	0.
Excavating peat from gun pit for an average depth of 16 feet, and transporting to dump, including timbering.	302.	10.	0
Forming breastwork of rock to support peat face above gun foundations.	77.	0.	0.
Concrete foundations for gun pit.	100.	0.	0.
Rock filling between concrete piers and around sides, earth filling between rock and peat, and turfing around site.	285.	15.	0
Shelter at site and for tools and storing materials. (Old 'Canopus' hut repaired and improved).	11.	0.	9.
	<hr/> 11,089.	12.	8.

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT'S SHARE (Army Funds).....£730. 0. 0.
FALKLAND ISLANDS GOVERNMENT'S SHARE.....£359. 12. 8.

SIX-INCH GUN POSITIONS.CANOPUS - OBSERVATION AND CONTROL POSITION.
-----EXPENDITURE ON WORK.

	£.	s.	d
Excavating peat for position and transporting to dump, including timbering, also drainage from control position to connect to drainage from gun pit.	79.	10.	0.
Concrete for walls, floor and roof with re-inforcement, strong door and frame, shutters for aperture, etc.	94.	1.	0.
Rock filling around walls and for base.	55.	2.	0
	<hr/>		
	£208.	13.	0.
	<hr/>		
IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT'S SHARE (Army Funds)...	£170.	0.	0.
FALKLAND ISLANDS GOVERNMENT'S SHARE.....	£38.	13.	0.

Note.... This work was carried out at less than the estimated cost (£270), but the Cordite store, estimated at £170, has cost more.

SIX-INCH GUN POSITIONS.

CORDITE STORE FOR STORING 300 FULL CHARGES,
ERECTED IN CENTRAL POSITION TO THE
TWO GUNS.

EXPENDITURE ON WORK.

Cordite Store built of double concrete block work with cavity walls, re-inforced concrete roof, ventilators, ironed double doors and frames, with traverse and embankment around for protection and camouflage, the whole being fenced in and the store built well into the ground and drained.

Labour for the complete erection.	£	s.	d
	140.	2.	6
Materials.	77.	6.	10.
	<hr/>		
	£217.	9.	4.
	<hr/>		
IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT'S SHARE (Army Funds).....	£130.	0.	0
FALKLAND ISLANDS GOVERNMENT'S SHARE.....	£87.	9.	4.
	<hr/>		

NOTE... There is a balance available from the total estimate of £1920, of £14. 5. 1. This is reserved for assisting the Navy with transport when gun parts at Canopus are assembled and moved into position, and will be met from the Colonial Government's share for the installation.

No.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted).

MINUTE.

16th May, 19 35

From Director of Public Works,

Stanley.

To

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

M.P. S/4/32.SIX-INCH GUN POSITIONS - SAPPER HILL AND CANOPUS.

1. I beg to report that the work on the installation of the six-inch gun positions at Sapper Hill and Canopus is now complete, with the exception of the assembling and mounting of the gun at Canopus, which is to be done by naval personnel when a ship visits the port.

2. The total expenditure to date is £1,905. 14. 11. This leaves a balance on the total estimate of £14. 5. 1., which is reserved for assisting the Navy with transport when the gun at Canopus is moved into position. A statement of the expenditure has been submitted separately.

3. A claim of £1,305 for the Imperial Government's share has already been made, and a special warrant for £115, being this Government's share towards the cost of the installation, is submitted herewith for approval. A draft adjustment voucher crediting the Imperial Government with this Government's share to date, is also attached.

C. Roberts.

Director of Public Works.

ALKLAND ISLANDS.
SECRET.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
STANLEY,
17th May, 1935.

Sir,

With reference to your Secret despatch dated the 1st of April, 1935, regarding expenditure in connection with the installation of defences at Port Stanley, I have the honour to transmit in conformity with your request the accompanying statement shewing full details of the expenditure of £1,305, charged to Army funds for the installation of the defences in question.

In duplicate.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,
humble servant,

(Sd/-) H. HENNIKER-HEATON

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
SIR PHILIP CUNLIFFE-LISTER,
G.B.E., P.C., M.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

140.

17th March, 1936.

The Colonial Secretary,

Sir,

2. While at Canopus Hut I observed that the wooden breech block of the 6" Gun had been broken, with the result that the oil for preserving the breech had dried hard and rust had set in. I am of the opinion that this gun is not in a serviceable condition at present.

3. It also appears to me that the hut provided for storing shells at Sapper Hill is much too small, as it does not allow sufficient room for packing the shells on end with sufficient space for ventilation. The hut seems very damp and I doubt if this ammunition would prove to be serviceable.

4. I suggest that the gun at Canopus Hut and the hut at Sapper Hill should both be inspected by the local Defence Committee and that Captain Allan, who took over the ammunition, should attend. You may also wish to consider the desirability of asking Captain Hutchison, R.N., (ret'd.) to express an opinion.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

O.C., F.I.D.F.

No. S/4/32.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted.)

MINUTE.

20th March, 1936. 144

To The Clerk to the

Defence Committee,

STANLEY.

From

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

Will you kindly arrange for the Members of the local Defence Committee to meet me at this Office at 10.30 a.m. on Monday the 23rd instant for the purpose of inspecting the Magazine at Sapper Hill and the 6" gun at Canopus Hut.

2. Perhaps you will be good enough to arrange with the Public Works Department for the necessary transport.

mch
Colonial Secretary.

No.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted.)

MINUTE.

4th April

19

36

142

From The Adjutant

Falkland Islands Defence Force

Stanley.

To

The Officer Commanding

~~THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,~~

Falkland Islands Defence Force
Stanley, Falkland Islands.

As instructed I carried out and completed the removing and cleaning of the 6" gun shells in the magazine on Sapper Hill. 200 of the live shells are now stored in the Control Tower, the remainder, and the 50 practice shells are stored in the magazine. All the shells are now in a serviceable condition. A minor accident happened to one of the men employed. He had the misfortune to overturn one of the shells which fell on his foot bruising the big toe. I sent him to hospital for attention. He reported the next day for work.

Wm. Allen Captain.
Adjutant. F.I. Defence Force.

SECRET.

143

No.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted.)

MINUTE.

16th April 1936

From The Adjutant

To The Officer Commanding

Falkland Islands Defence Force
Stanley

Falkland Islands Defence Force
Stanley

M.P. Secret 4/32

CANOPUS HUT - 6" GUN

I beg to report, that, in accordance with the instructions of the Colonial Secretary, I proceeded yesterday afternoon to the 6" Gun position at Canopus hut. I have cleaned out and removed all superficial rust from the Breech opening and from the interruptions in the Breech opening.

For this purpose I used Shell oil and a screw-driver. The Breech opening was then well greased with heavy mineral jelly, and sealed up.

To preserve the sealing of both breech and muzzle of the gun, I lashed on a canvas covering which I treated to a heavy coat of grey paint.

A. M. Allan

Captain.
Adjutant. F.I. Defence Force.

Hon. C.S.

Forwarded. This completes the work which we arranged should be carried out.

W. J. H. H. H. H.

*OC. 3 - 3. D. F.
16/4/36.*

DECODE.

(144)

TELEGRAM.

From The Commodore, America & West Indies Station.

To His Excellency the Governor.

Despatched : 14th September, 19 37 *Time :* 22.15

Received : 15th September, 19 37 *Time :* 11.00

Governor Falkland Islands from Commodore South American America and West Indies.

At liberty you signal (one) W.O. number of six inch range tables held in the Falkland Islands: (two) following particulars of six inch range dials (a) M.V. (b) weight and charge and size of cordite (c) range tables from which graduated (three) following particulars six inch deflection dials d (a) M.V. (b) Graduation range.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From His Excellency The Governor

To Commodore America & West Indies Squadron

Despatched : 17th September 19 37 Time : 5.30 pm

Received : 19 Time :

With Reference to your telegram of 14th September (one) W.O. 40 - 8745 (A.1.), 8438 (A.1.) 7851 and 7885 (two) both guns (a) 2575 (b) 20 lbs mark one 23 lbs M.D. (c) unknown. One gun has fired a shotted round with full charge (adjusted to 24 lbs 12 ozs - cordite M.C. size 19) under supervision Of H.M.S. "Durban" on 12th February, 1933. (three) both guns (a) 2575 f.s. (b) 5000.

S/4/32.

24th September, 37.

Sir,

At the 16th meeting of the Local Defence Committee held at the Secretariat, Stanley, on Wednesday the 20th January, 1937, it was agreed that the pedestal for the range finder at the Canopus Hut gun position should be erected immediately.

2. I should be glad to know when this work will be carried out.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

[Signature]
Acting Colonial Secretary.

The Director of Public Works,
STANLEY.

Public Works Dept.

Stanley.

25th September, 1937.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. S/4/32 of the 24th September, I beg to inform you that the work of erecting the pedestal for the range finder at the Canopus Hut gun position has been commenced today.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

R. H. Munnaw.
Director of Public Works.

The Honourable,
Colonial Secretary.

Stanley.

Public Works Dept,
Stanley.

28th September, 1937.

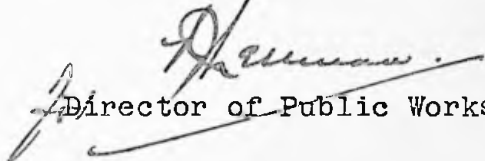
Sir,

With reference to your letter No. S/4/32 of the 24th September, I beg to inform you that the work of erecting the pedestal for the range finder at the Canopus Hut gun position was completed today.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.


Director of Public Works.

The Honourable,
Colonial Secretary.

Stanley.

SECRET

(64)

H.M.S "EXETER"

at Valparaiso.

28th September 1937

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to inform you that H.M.S. "EXETER" has on board 43 cases (about 160 cubic feet in all) containing 600 cordite 11 1/2 lb charges for the Falkland Islands Government. The dimensions of each case are length 11.27 inches, width 20.37 inches, depth 28.35 inches.

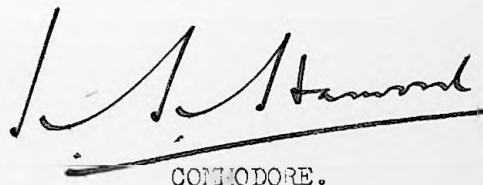
2. I request that arrangements may be made to take delivery of this ammunition as convenient after the arrival of H.M.S "EXETER" at Port Stanley.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

His Excellency,
The Governor of the-
Falkland Islands.


COMMODORE.

158

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From Commodore, H.M.S. "Exeter",

To His Excellency the Governor.

Despatched : 16th October, 1937. Time : 9.40.

Received : 17th October, 1937. Time : 1030.

Governor, Falkland Islands from Commodore, Commanding South American Division America and West Indies Squadron. Very much regret as I have to be at Buenos Aires by the 1st of December for the unveiling of the Caning Memorial I must leave Falkland Islands on November 27th. Reference to my letter number 0312B of the 29th September I will cut out H.M.S. "Exeter's" bombardings so that final discussion suggested for December 2nd can take place November 26th remainder of programme unaltered.

COMMODORE.

5/4/37 }

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From His Excellency the Governor,.....

To Commodore, H.M.S. "Exeter".

Despatched : 19th October, 19 37. Time : ...

Received : ... 19 ... Time : ...

With reference to paragraph 3 of your letter No. 310 of the 29th September, I suggest 11 a.m.

GOVERNOR.

No. S/4/32.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted.)

MINUTE.

1st November, 1937. (161)

From The Colonial Secretary,

To The Director of Public Works,

STANLEY.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

SECRET.

I am directed by the Acting Governor to inform you that 43 cases of cordite will arrive on H.M.S. "Exeter" and will be accommodated in the Surf Bay Magazine.

2. I am to ask you to be good enough to ensure that this Magazine is cleared of any other stores by the 12th of November, 1937.


ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY.

No.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted).

MINUTE.

2nd November 1937.

From *Director of Public Works.*

To *Hon Col Sec.*

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

With reference to your minute 8/4/32 dated the 1st Nov 1937. regarding the removal of stock from Magazine. Will you please give me instructions as to where I may store with safety the 640 lbs of gelignite and 364 coils of safety fuse, now contained in the magazine at Surf Bay.

As O.C. Defence Force you will remember recommending its removal to the Surf Bay Magazine.

I offer the suggestion that it may be returned to Mag Valley.

Lt. Roberts 2/11/37.

163

No. **S/ 4/32.**

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted.)

MINUTE.

S
4th November, 19 37.

From **The Colonial Secretary,**

To **The Director of Public Works,**

STANLEY.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

S E C R E T.

With reference to your minute of the 2nd of November, I am directed by the Acting Governor to request that you will be good enough to furnish an estimate of the cost for building a small store suitable for storing gelignite or any other explosives maintained by your Department.

2. I am to add that pending a decision on the question of a new store the Shell Store at Sapper Hill can be made available for the purpose of storing the gelignite referred to.

S
ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY

9th November 1937.

To:- The Honourable the
Colonial Secretary

From:- The Director of Public
Works.

With reference to your minute of the 1st November 1937, my reply thereto dated the 2nd November and your minute dated the 8th November 1937 No.S/4/32, in which I am instructed to store 640 lb of gelignite and 364 coils of fuse in the Shell Store at Sapper Hill, I beg to point out that the store allotted is not a fit and proper place in which to store explosives of this nature. The lined dug-out is not a magazine; it is only a makeshift as a shell store, and is not considered fit for this purpose, orders having recently been given for the removal of all the shells there and their storage elsewhere. And yet gelignite is more dangerous than shells when stored in the damp.

2. The Shell Store is constructed of old timber and is below the ground; consequently it is damp. It was formed at a time when funds were not available for the construction of a proper building.

3. It is well known to those having a knowledge of explosives containing nitro-glycerine that to store them in a damp place is highly dangerous; and in consequence I have to submit that His Excellency the Acting Governor may relieve me of all responsibility regarding the safety or deterioration of this material if it is removed to the shell store at Sapper Hill.

4. I suggest that His Excellency will be well advised to give instructions for the materials to be stored in the Magazine at Magazine Valley until such time as a separate magazine can be erected. There is ample room in this building, there having been stored there for the last twenty-five years much more than the present supply, including one ton of black powder which has since been dumped.

5. In addition to the above gelignite and fuses there are in the Cordite Store at Rookery Bay a quantity of Maroons and fuses belonging to the Stanley Fire Brigade. These articles have been deposited with the Government for safe storage. They were removed from the Magazine at Magazine Valley at the same time as the order was given for the removal of the gelignite. May I receive instructions, please, as to

whether/

Quercus b. extracta
No 6. 8. 230737.

Quercus b. extracta
No 6. 8. 230737.

Quercus b. extracta
No 6. 8. 230737.

Quercus b. extracta
No 6. 8. 230737.

Quercus b. extracta
No 6. 8. 230737.

Director of Public Works.

No. S/4/32.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted.)

MINUTE.

9th November, 19 37.

From The Colonial Secretary,

To The Director of Public Works,

STANLEY.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

With reference to your minute of the 9th of November, I am directed by the Acting Governor to inform you that the accommodation previously allocated for the storage of ^{the} explosives of your department will be made available.

2. In order that this arrangement may be carried out I am to ask that you will detail motor transport to report to Captain A. I. Fleuret at the Secretariat as near 2 p.m. today as possible to remove Defence Force requirements to other accommodation.

3. With this arrangement the keys of the Magazine in Magazine Valley will be handed over to you when you will undertake the sole responsibility of this Magazine until the new accommodation is available but in any case the Magazine in Magazine Valley will be required by the Defence Force for the safe keeping of ammunition arriving on the 'Reina del Pacifico' in February, 1938.


ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY.