

SECRET.

No. *5/14/39.*

C.S.

1939

S. of S. Telegram No. 38.

SUBJECT.

1939.

27th June.

Previous Paper.

PROVISION OF 12 PDR. GUN TO BE SITED AT MOUNT LOW TO PREVENT ENTRY OF HOSTILE VESSELS INTO BERKELEY SOUND.

MINUTES.

5/10/38 ?

Extract from analysis of the Exercise carried out by H.M. Ships "Exeter" and "Ajax" and the F.Is. Defence Force, on 9th and 10th November, 1938.

.....

51. Sheltered waters and landing places in the vicinity of Berkeley Sound should be rendered unsafe for hostile ships by the placing of a suitable gun in a position to command these places.

63. Entry into Berkeley Sound is not however guarded against, and a gun is required there to prevent a raider from hoisting out boats or recovering aircraft.

.....

- 1. *Telegram from S. of S. No. 38 of 27/6/39*
- 2. *" to " " 44 " 28/6/39.*

Subsequent Paper.

K. Submitted.
mch
es.
S. J. 59. *Mild 3/6/3*

Letter despatch from S. of S.
of 28. 8. 39. and enclosures. 3-6

Submitted. From red to
there would appear to be
two 12 Pdr Q. F. guns here.

met
9. x. 39.

Yes. To O.C. D. F. A gun
emplacement at Charles P. skull
now be prepared

It will be noted that the gun
is firm to cover the waters of
Berkeley Sound. A 12 pr. will
not do this

~~met~~ 11/1/39

O.C. Defence Force.

To note and for favour
of action necessary.

met
12. x. 39.

Wm. Col. Secular.

Note - The necessary action for getting
the gun in position has been taken.

W.S.
O.C. P.I. D.F., 16. x. 39.

C.S.O. No. S/14/39.

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 2

7. Letter to Manager, F.I.C., of 18.10.39.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

To His Excellency the Governor.

Despatched : 27th June, 19 39. *Time* : 18.21.

Received : 28th June, 19 39. *Time* : 11.00

No. 38. Secret. Reference to telegram 2150/12 November 13th 1938 from Commodore addressed to Commander-in-Chief, America and West Indies Station, Oversea Defence Committee have recommended provision of 12 Pdr. gun as free gift on the understanding that Colony will purchase ammunition required.

Subject to Treasury approval of transfer of gun and mounting, Admiralty recommend purchase outfit of ammunition, comprising 200 rounds of H.E. D.A. ammunition fuzes, No. 45 P, plus 50 bounds of practice ammunition, which could be supplied by Admiralty at approximate cost of £743 exclusive of transport charges and freight. Do you concur ?

GOVERNOR.

DECODE.

5/14/39.

(2)

TELEGRAM.

From His Excellency the Governor.....

To The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Despatched : 28th June, 19 39. *Time* : 15.00

Received : 19 *Time* :

Red ①

No. 44. Secret. Your telegram 27th June, No. 38 gratefully
accept the offer of the gun and concur in the recommendations
of the Admiralty.

GOVERNOR.

COPY.

ADMIRALTY, S.W.1.

16th August, 1939.

M.07412/38.

SECRET.

Sir,

With reference to your letter 6214/5A/39, dated 4th July, 1939, regarding the free gift of a 12 pounder 12 cwt. gun for the Falkland Islands, I am commanded by My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to forward herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, a copy of a letter addressed to the Commander-in-Chief, America and West Indies and the Commodore, South America, with reference to the provision of the gun and ammunition.

I am, etc.

(Sgd.) S.H. Phillips.

The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office,
S.W.1.

COPY.

4

16th August, 1939.

M.07412/38.

SECRET.

The Commander-in-Chief,
America and West Indies.

Copy to:- The Commodore, South America.

With reference to signal from the Commodore, South America, dated 2130/12/11/38, I am to inform you that the Treasury have approved of the grant of a 12 pounder 12 cwt. gun on a P.1* mounting to the Government of the Falkland Islands as a free gift for installation to cover the waters of Berkeley Sound. There are two Q.F. 12 pounder 12 cwt. guns and P.1* mountings at Port Stanley and one of these should be allocated for this purpose.

2. It is recommended that an outfit of ammunition consisting of 200 rounds of H.E. shell with No.45 P fuzes and 50 rounds of practice ammunition together with the necessary fuzes etc. should be supplied at an approximate cost of £743 inclusive of 12% Departmental Expenses, but exclusive of 5% surcharge, transport and freight charges. The Colonial Office and the Governor of the Falkland Islands have concurred in this recommendation.

BY COMMAND OF THEIR LORDSHIPS

(Sgd.) S.H. PHILLIPS.

Reg.
hs.804
Wt. Same.

6214/5A/39.

August, 1939

23 AUG 1939

SECRET.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary MacDonald to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. M. 07412/38 of the 16th of August forwarding a copy of a letter addressed to the Commander-in-Chief, America and West Indies and the Commodore, South America regarding the free gift of a 12 pounder 12 cwt. gun to the Falkland Islands Government.

2. Mr. MacDonald presumes that arrangements will now be made for the provision of the outfit of ammunition comprising 200 rounds of H.E. D.A. ammunition fuzed No. 45 P, and 50 rounds of practice ammunition.

I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

THE SECRETARY,
ADMIRALTY.

S/14/39.

18th October, 39.

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that the Admiralty has agreed to hand over to this Government for defence purposes one of the 12 pounder 12 cwt. gun's at present stored at the Admiralty Oil Fuel Depot.

2. I am to request therefore that you will cause the gun to be handed over to the Military Authorities here, together with mounting and all parts and spares belonging to the gun.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. H. H.

Colonial Secretary.

The Manager,
The Falkland Islands Co., Ltd.,
STANLEY.

The Falkland Islands Company, Limited.

(INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1851.)

REGISTERED 1902.

Stanley

AGENT FOR LLOYDS.

AGENTS FOR
THE PACIFIC STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

TELEGRAMS: FLEETWING PORT STANLEY VIA RADIO.

19th October, 1939.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. S/14/39 dated 18th October, 1939 I beg to advise you that one of the 12 pounder 12 cwt. guns together with mounting, parts and spares, at present stored at the Admiralty Naval Fuel Depot, will be handed over to the Military Authorities as requested.

I am,

Sir,

your obedient servant,

J. G. Creech
for Manager.

The Honourable

The Colonial Secretary,

Stanley.