

VOLUNTEERS.

DEF/FID/1#46

1920.

C.S.

(Arms & Ammunition)

No.

822/20

Secretary of State.

SUBJECT.

1920

1st November.

Previous Paper.

957/19.

Offer to issue free of charge rifles, guns, and ammunition.

MINUTES.

Telegram from the S. of S. of the 1st November, 1920.

*Encl*

Considered at an informal meeting of the Executive Council on the 4th November, 1920.

*E. Co. on 6. 11. 20.*

*W. H. S. 11. 20.*

(5)

Extract from minutes of the meeting of the Ex: Co: 8/11/20.

"The Council advised that in accepting the offer of the Army Council and the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, the requirements of the Force should be stated at 150 rifles and four Lewis guns, with the corresponding supply of ammunition and accessories offered, and that the Colonial Office be at the same time asked to recoup cost (or part thereof) of the consignment of rifles lately received and which it was now proposed to return."

*C. H. Brown*  
*Clerk Executive Council.*  
*8th Nov 1920*

Subsequent Paper.

*Telegram to S of S. 8th November 1920*

*Encl*

*Claim form received from Agents - machine guns.*

*Encl*

H.E. the Governor,

Submitted.

2. I await Your Excellency's instructions.

*B. A. Thompson*  
A. C. S. 11/7/21.

*H.E.S.*

*Cases should be deposited in accounts of Defence Ma  
+ Certificate of receipt that they are in intact & in good order*

*11 Aug 1921*

Colonial Engineer,

Will you kindly report when the goods have been landed, or are to be landed, at the Dockyard Jetty. Please note & return this paper.

*B. A. Thompson*  
A. C. S. 16/8/21.

The Hon. Col. Secy.,

Noted.

2. The cases do not appear to have been shipped by the "Ortega". There is no B/L to hand.

*R. A. Barclay*  
Colonial Engineer.  
22/8/21.

*H.E. the Governor*

*Submitted for information*

*B. A. Thompson*  
A. C. S. 22/8/21

*22.*  
*23 Aug 1921*

Hon:Col:Sec;

I beg to report that in the Crown Agents A/c a sum amounting to £174. 17. 2d in connection with four Lewis Guns &c have been wrongly abstracted as a charge against the Head VI B Port & Marine (14) "Afterglow", as from verbal enquiries made it was understood that this was the case.

2. Adjustment Vouchers submitted herewith for approval please.

*B. A. Thompson*  
Colonial Treasurer.

15th September 1922.

*Adjustment may be made by*

CC  
for M  
all

Yr.  
The L.W. is submitted but it is somewhat unsatisfactory that there should be uncertainty as to the allocation of the charge. The Over Agents Vouchers in support of payments go to the Colonial Audit Department, and are not returned. It appears that the particulars given were not sufficient. As the Treasury have not been able to find any other charge for the sum referred to in this ltr., it is necessary to ensure that the charge now made is correct and the Adjustment Voucher will be signed when the L.W. is approved.

Yr. tttll 25/10/22  
28 SEP 1922

Hon. Treasurer.

S. No. 51 and signed  
Adjustment Vouchers herewith

W. Barlas

Per. C. S. 11.10.22.

Hon: Col: Sec.

S. No. 51 for £165.12.2 withdrawn.

adj. Vn. No 7 withdrawn and copy  
filed herein.

K. Thompson  
Treasurer

13.10.22

Harbour Master

On note

Htttll 14/10/22

The Hon. Col. Secretary

Noted and returned herewith.

Col. E. Locally

Harbour Master

27/10/22



Secretary of State to Governor.

Dated and received 1st November, 1920.

November 1st, Have had under consideration with Army Council and Lords Commissioners of the Treasury importance of re-arming local Military and Police Forces in Colonies and Protectorates with short Lee Enfield rifles sighted fire mark VII ammunition. In many cases arms now in possession of these Forces of obsolete pattern are worn out. Nothing more likely to adverse effect on recruiting for Volunteer Forces. Moreover it will shortly be impossible to obtain spare parts and ammunition any other rifle but short Lee Enfield rifle firing mark VII ammunition. In view of importance of encouraging voluntary military effort and placing overseas local defence on thoroughly sound basis, Lords Commissioners of Treasury have agreed to following offer:- Issue free of charge except cost of repairs, of a limited number of part worn up to date rifles firing mark VII ammunition. In addition to free issue 500 rounds mark VII ammunition per rifle so issued. Cost of repairs of rifle present rate estimated at 25/- in addition to 5/- for sword bayonet and about 2/- for scabbard which must be borne by Colony or Protectorate. All packing and transit charges must also be paid for by local Government. Further, Lords Commissioners of Treasury agree on following conditions, replace existing machine guns by part worn Lewis or Vicker guns and give free issue of ten million rounds mark VII ammunition for each gun replaced. Colony or Protectorate to pay cost of repairs and cost of certain parts which missing and must be manufactured and also cost of packing and transit. Cost of repairs replacement of missing parts estimated at present prices. Vickers £52 Lewis £15. Need hardly point out extremely advantageous nature of offer. Apart from small sum payable for repairs the free issue of mark VII ammunition for both rifles and machine guns is handsome offer. Manufacture of this ammunition at the present time costs £8 per 1000 rounds. Despatch follows; but Army Council desire information at earliest possible

possible moment. Must accordingly ask you to telegraph if you wish to accept offer, what rifles and machine guns required. Number of arms and quantity of ammunition limited. Demands therefore should be based on strength at which forces likely to be maintained in future, and not strength during the war. If any of your requirements for rearming post war local forces have already been put forward quote number and date of letter. Information required as under certain conditions above offer retrospective in connection with issues since April 1st last

Milner.

Governor to Secretary of State,

Sent 8th November, 1920.

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November 8th, with reference to your telegram of 1st November, offer gratefully accepted. Local requirements are as follows: 150 rifles with ammunition etc. Existing machine guns number two only which would be glad to have replaced by two Lewis guns with ammunition. Consider requirements to be four machine guns. Should be glad to know if two additional Lewis guns could be supplied and at what cost. With reference to my despatch of 8th January No. 7 may 100 rifles with accessories referred to be returned to Crown Agents and refund made to Colony in respect of charge of £540 made by War Office.

Martin.

Colonial Secretary Department.

Date...22nd September...1922

To

THE HONOURABLE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

I have the honour to apply for a Special Warrant for £.155...12. 2  
on Head...XIII..... Subhead...3.....

The present state of the Vote is as follows :-

	£
Amount provided in Estimates .....	10
Special Warrant already issued No. ....	-
" " " " " " .....	5 15/-
Actual Expenditure to date .....	174. 17. 2
Outstanding Liabilities incurred.....	9. 5. 0
Balance remaining on vote .....	175, 12. 2
Estimated Expenditure to 31st December ...	

  
.....  
Head of Department.  
Colonial Secretary

Comments of }  
Treasurer.

EXPLANATIONS.

(If general authority has been given for the Expenditure the number of the Minute Paper and the Secretary of State's despatch, if any, should be quoted).



## SUB-HEAD 3. Arms and Ammunition.

*You are hereby authorised to make the following adjustment*

To charge against the above Head and Sub-head the cost of Lewis Guns, Short L.E. Rifles, &c supplied to the F.I. Defence Force, viz. £174: 17s: 2d: and to credit this sum to Head VI.B. 14. "Afterglow", to which Head and Sub-head this expenditure was charged in the Crown Agents Accounts for January, February, and March, 1922.

£ 174: 17s: 2d.

C.S. 822/20.

By Command,

Humilis et humilis

*Colonial Secretary.*

Date.....September,....19 22.