

C. S.

SECRET

1944

No.

S/6/44

Secretary of State.

SUBJECT.

19 43.

3rd September.

IMPERIAL TROOPS.

WITHDRAWAL OF GARRISON.

Previous Paper.

S/20/41.

MINUTES.

1. S. of S. Most Secret telegram No. 80 of 3/9/43.
2. Memo. by O/C. Troops on red (1).
3. Most Secret telegram to S. of S. No. 177 of 7/9/43.
4. W/O. Most Secret telegram to O/C. Troops of 11/9/43.
5. O/C. Troops Most Secret telegram to W/O. of 9/9/43.
6. Most Secret telegram to S. of S. No. 190 of 21/9/43.
7. S. of S. Most Secret telegram No. 98 of 18/10/43.
8. W/O. telegram to O/C. Troops of 27/10/43.
9. W/O. telegram to O/C. Troops of 6/11/43.
10. S. of S. Most Secret telegram No. 104 of 8/11/43.
11. Most Secret telegram to S. of S. No. 229 of 10/11/43.
12. Most Secret telegram to S. of S. No. 230 of 10/11/43.
13. Admiralty telegram to N.O. i/c. of 8/12/43.
14. S. of S. Most Secret telegram No. 113 of 7/12/43.
15. Most Secret telegram to S. of S. No. 245 of 8/12/43.
16. Admiralty telegram to N.O. i/c. of 29/12/43.
17. Telegram from S. of S. No. 50 of 27/2/45.
18. Telegram to S. of S. No. 60 of 1/3/45.
19. Minute from H.C.S. to H.E. the Governor 2/3/45.
20. Memo. from Staff Captain, F. I. F. of 5/3/45.

Subsequent Paper.

H. C. P.

(21)

Before taking action I think we should  
await reply to (20 (b)) which incidentally  
ought to be filed before (a). As soon as  
O.C. 7.1.7. returns please B.V.

*[Signature]* 9/iii/45

(22)

G.F.

O.C. 7.1.7. has now returned.

K.B.

12.3.45

- Minute to O/C, F.I.D.F., of 12.3.45. 23.
- Secret telegram, No. 73 to S. of S. of 12.3.45. 24.
- Note to M.C.S. from O/C, Troops, 16/3/45. 25.
- Copy of telegram from " to Troopers of 16/3/45. 26.
- Top Secret Telegram, No. 85 from S. of S. of 24.3.45. 27.
- Copy of Telegram from Troopers of 26.3.45. 28.

(29)

G.F.

to see (27) & (28). (27) requires an answer.

2. Spars. I have discussed with B.C. Troops. Apart  
from Tea, but 2 spars upon, petrol & possibly  
oil I doubt if we can have very much. It  
be can concentrate the spars on each approach  
2 watchmen (day & night shifts) at W.O. expense  
to have care of them. This means, of course,  
that a good deal of fueling will remain on TIC  
land.

3. Ship. The next ship is bringing passengers from M.2. It has  
agreed to pick up some naval ratings from here &  
M.O.C. thinks it will then be full. Do you wish to  
try to arrange some accommodation for civilian  
passengers, or to hope for the best when the  
ship sets here? I think the latter is the  
best course - none of our people have any real  
grounds for priority.

K.B.

27.3.45

(30)

A.C.S.

My telegram ( ) answers (27) for the moment.

Barbed wire with help out the case-taking problem. Pl. see O.C. 7.7 there amount & b.u for promised telegram to S. of S.

As regards panaya, I agree with you "hope for the best"; in any case panaya are the concern of the SS agents.

*[Signature]* 29/iii/45

31. Top. Secret Telegram, no. 88 to S. of S. of 29/3/45.
32. Minute to O/C, F.I.F., of 4. 4. 45. B.V.  
10/5/45
33. Memo from O/C, F.I.F. of 23/4/45.
34. Minute to O/C, P.W.D., of 25/4/45.
35. " from " " " of 26/4/45.
36. Minute to O.I.C., P.W.D., of 27. 4. 45.
37. Minute from Magistrate of 3. 5. 45.
38. " to O.I.C., P.W.D. of 5. 5. 45.
39. " from " " " " 5. 5. 45.
40. Telegram No. 139 from S. of S. of 11/5/45.
41. Telegram No. 137 to S. of S. of 25/45.
42. Minute from O/C, Force 132 of 10/5/45.
43. Minute from O.I.C., P.W.D., of 12. 5. 45.
44. Minute to O/C, Force 132 of 15. 5. 45.
45. Minute from O/C, Force 132 of 16. 5. 45.
- 46.

See 54/43.

See 54/43.

letter from O/c, F.I.F., of 17. 6. 45.

47

letter from A.G. Barton, Esq., of 29. 5. 45.

48

49

} See 54/43.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

No. 341. From Secretary of State for the Colonies.

To His Excellency the Governor.

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Despatched: 3rd September, '43 19 Time: 0200

Received: 4th September, 19 43 Time: 1030

No. 80. MOST SECRET.

It was recently decided that in view of reduced threat of attack to the Falkland Islands the garrison should be reduced to one Company. It was also agreed that the removal of 1,400 men, who will not be required further for service in the Falkland Islands, should be deferred until normal date of relief in February, 1944.

2. War Office are now exploring the possibility of withdrawing all the United Kingdom Troops and leaving the defence of the Falkland Islands to the Local Defence Force.

3. Please telegraph, after consulting the Officer Commanding Troops, whether (a) you have on political grounds any objection to the withdrawal of the United Kingdom Troops (b) Local Defence Force would be in your view capable of manning the Coastal and Anti-Aircraft Artillery.

IN AND OUT CODE.

X

202

Memorandum on Colonial Secretary's Cable No. 341 dated 3 Sep. 1943

The question raised in the Cable is the possible effect of the withdrawal of the Falkland Islands Force and the question whether the Local Defence Force could deal with and man the minimum necessary Defences.

A. If Imperial Troops withdrawn.

- (a) F.I.D.F. can man the Coast Defence Btys. LESS one 3pdr. A/M.T.B. bty. covering the Narrows and also the R.D.F. Station.
- (b) F.I.D.F. cannot man the Anti-Aircraft Artillery.
- (c) F.I.D.F. cannot find guards for the W/T Station, Naval Magazine any Ordnance or Supply dumps left or on any hutted camps left vacant. ( These guards could only be found by F.I.D.F. if they ceased to man some of the Btys. )
- (d) Maintenance of hutted camps could not be undertaken by local Government Public Works.
- (e) War Office Policy reference Stores and hutted camps is not known.
  - (1) Ordnance Stores - Presumably these stores would be moved home or to another theatre.
  - (2) Supplies - Might be moved but perhaps could be disposed of locally.
  - (3) Accommodation Stores → Most would be moved or disposed of locally.
  - (4) Hutted Camps - Would have to be left standing.

(f) Political Point of View.

In the event of the withdrawal of Imperial Troops owing to reduced threat of attack, there would most likely be strong feeling locally in favour of demobilising the mustered F.I.D.F. i.e. C.D. Arty. especially as there is a shortage of labour in the Colony.

*Effect on prestige in South America.*  
Disadvantages from Imperial Point of View.

1. Port Stanley would lose much of its value as a defended port for the Royal Navy.
2. Large quantities of hutting and presumably also of supplies would have to be written off if no party left for maintenance and care-taking.

2a

B. If Coastal Defence and Anti Aircraft Artillery continue to be manned the following bodies of Imperial Troops will be required.

- (a) One Anti Aircraft Bty. R.A., at present strength if Light A.A. is maintained.
- (b) Detachment of 12 Operators Fire Control R.A. for R.D.F. Station.
- (c) Maintenance Party R.E. at present strength.
- (d) Detachment of Signallers to operate and maintain Fortress Communications (this detachment could be made part of the A.A. Bty. or Fortress Headquarters.)
- (e) Services on a reduced scale.
- (f) One Company of Infantry on Special Establishment to find guards, man 3pdr. Bty at present manned by Inf. Bn. and to find working parties for maintenance duties. It is suggested that Pioneer Corps personnel would be best suited for this Unit.
- (g) A small Headquarters to consist of A Lieut Colonel as O.C. Troops and two clerks. A Garrison Adjutant could be found from within one of the other units.

From the Imperial Strategy point of view it is strongly recommended that the Imperial Troops are not completely withdrawn. The Defended Port has been established at much trouble and expense and it is urged that this opportunity of maintaining Port Stanley permanently

as a Defended Port should not be missed. *Falkland Is. of great strategic importance at beginning of each "Great War" has been most prominent in this connection. Complete chain reaching from Singapore to New Zealand. Admirably placed as Naval Base to defend our South American trade.*

~~Recommended Reply~~

Recommended Reply to Cable.

- (a) Object to withdrawal Imperial troops on Political grounds withdrawal likely to lead to demand for releasing F.I.D.F. owing to labour shortage in Colony and obvious reduced threat of attack also urge maintenance of Stanley as Defended Port. *Effect on Prestige in South America*
- (b) F.I.D.F. NOT capable manning C.D. and A.A. Arty. can only at present man C.D. less one bty. Extra personnel would be required for one C.D. Bty. R.D.F. Station A.A. Bty. guards at V.Ps. and maintenance duties in connection with hutted camps and Ordnance and Supply Depots.

*W.S.H.*

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

To THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

Despatched: 7th September, 19 43 Time:

Received: 19 Time:

No. 177. MOST SECRET.

(Your telegram Most Secret 80 para 3). Replying first to (b). Local Defence Force unable repeat unable to man (i) 3-pdr. A/M.T.B. Battery, (ii) R.D.F. Station, (iii) Anti-Aircraft Artillery nor (iv) to find guards for Wireless Station, Naval Magazine, any Ordnance, Supply Dumps or Hutted Camps left behind by Imperial Troops.

2. Reference (a) para quoted. If Imperial Troops are withdrawn owing to reduced threat of attack and this could not be concealed since it is an obvious deduction, there will most certainly be a strong local feeling in favour of complete demobilisation of the M.I.D.F. both from within the Force and without, the latter on account of shortage of labour. The smallness of the Force and the fact that it is in reality completely on a basis willingly and patriotically subscribed to would make it almost impossible to hold it together. It is true that technically conscription is the law, but actually the Force is volunteers. Most of the men have been on watch or guard since the outbreak of war: they have been keyed up to a high pitch of alertness and the arrival of the Imperial Troops gave them a fresh stimulus to continue. Their withdrawal complete or to any large extent especially on the grounds of lessened danger to the Colony must cause inevitably a serious relaxation in their keenness and so lower morale to an unknown extent. I should I fear be faced with a very delicate problem, but its handling will be my responsibility.

3. There is the question of the effect on South American opinion which especially might have some reflection in Argentine Circles, but this point must I know be fully appreciated by you.

4. A telegram follows dealing with some minor aspects of the proposed withdrawal not directly concerned with your question.

5. I have consulted no one except the O.C. Troops.

IN AND OUT CODE.



MOST SECRET (.)

Falkland Islands from War Office No. 68500 (r) 68500 M.O. 11th  
September .

Part One.

New Defence Plan and scale of attack for Falkland Islands  
has been approved by Chiefs of Staff on 27th April (?) 1943. Details  
follow.

Part Two.

Falkland Islands Defence Plan C.O.S. (43) 102.

Para 1. Denial of the use of the Falkland Islands to the enemy is  
of importance to seaborne trade.

Para 2. Port Stanley may be required as a fueling base. It contains  
the most vital points. (a) oil storage and Naval stores . (b) W/T  
Station East Falkland Islands.

Para 3. Plan based on following scales of attack :-

(a) Sea. Attack by one or more armed merchant cruisers and  
attacks by submarines.

(b) Air and Land. NIL.

Para 4. Local Defences. Port Stanley.

Early Warning surface cover (?) one -- (word left out)  
Anti- Aircraft guns Nil. Present holdings to remain ( Unmanned).  
Naval Defences - Dummy Boom, Two hydrophones ( improvised).  
Coast Artillery - Two 6 inch - two 4 inch- two 12 pdr.

Para 5 Land. Ordnance Workshop . One Infantry Company and Services .

Total 160 approximately. Small Local Defence Force.

Part Three.

Para 1. Owing to Shipping situation reduction of garrison ( i.e.  
relief of garrison by 160 personnel ) is deferred until  
February 1944. New Defence Plan will operate from that date.  
Possibility of earlier relief should shipping situation  
improve is under constant review but can hold out very  
little hope.

Para 2 In addition we are examining the possibility of the withdrawal

of all W.K. Troops ( Cipher Telegram No. 80 3rd September from  
Colonial Office refers ) but in view of recent approval by the  
C.O.S. of new Defence Plan this is unlikely.

J.H.B.

42

x

5 (e)

MOST SECRET (.) Reference to War Office Letter M.O.3.C./ 5129 ( Troopers from General Falkland Islands F.1046 9th Sep. T.O.O.2230 hrs ) dated the 9th May 1943 and Secretary Of State's Cable to Governor of Falkland Islands No.341 dated the 3rd Sept.and cable Governor to Secretary of State No 177 dated 7th Sept instructions awaited curtailing further purchases of supplies from South America (.) After next shipment due here 15th September 12 months supplies will be held for Force (.) Indication also requested regarding disposal of Ordnance stores and future policy reference standing camps already erected.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

To THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

Despatched : 21st September, 19 43. Time :

Received : 19 Time :

No. 190. MOST SECRET.

With reference to your telegram Most Secret 80 and para 4 of my Most Secret telegram 177 the following are points I should like to raise for your consideration:-

- Red U*
- (A) 1944 Estimates: I am engaged on preparing these and subject to your approval am basing revenue on assumption of complete withdrawal and expenditure on assumption of garrison remaining, thus budgeting for a deficit but explaining to my Legislative Council that this is a cautious method of approach to the finances.
  - (B) Agriculture: Owing to season working ploughing and sowing have begun and this can neither be stopped nor postponed. The surplus crop is guaranteed sale to the garrison through the Agricultural Department and the removal of troops will mean financial loss as well as unconsumable produce. Impossible for security reasons to suggest curtailing planting.
  - (C) Command: If maintenance and guard company is sent Commanding Officer should have at least rank of Lieutenant-Colonel otherwise he would be junior to O.C. Local Forces who holds that rank.
  - (D) Medical Situation: For present working situation please see my telegrams 19 and 33 to which you replied in telegrams 29 and 43 particularly para 4 of the last. It has been impossible to obtain Medical Officer from South America and if the Medical Officer loaned by the War Office is withdrawn with the troops we shall be in a very difficult position. I should be grateful therefore if the War Office were approached with a view to releasing one of their Medical Officers here should he volunteer to remain unless of course you can find one in the usual manner. Please treat this point as an urgent matter.

IN AND OUT CODE.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

No. 30. *From* THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

*To* HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

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*Despatched* : 18th October, 19 43 *Time* : 0116

*Received* : 18th October, 19 43 *Time* : 1030

No. 98. MOST SECRET.

With reference to your telegram No. 190. It has now been decided that the present garrison will be replaced by 1 Infantry Company (approximately 160 all ranks including services). It is likely relief of the present garrison will have to be postponed beyond February, 1944, owing to lack of available shipping. You will no doubt budget accordingly.

2. I regret withdrawal will mean financial loss on Agriculture scheme but this should not exceed the year's outlay of £500 and is in any case unavoidable.

3. I shall telegraph further about the points raised in (C) and (D) of your telegram referred to above.

IN AND OUT CODE.

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N<sup>o</sup> 8

War Office to Falkland Islands Telegram No 83367 Q (ops ) 2 dated 27th Oct. T.O.O.  
1845 hrs in reply to Falkland Islands telegram No 1046 dated 9th Sept.

SUPPLIES

Present purchasing activity in Montevideo to be suspended forthwith and restored later as required on the basis of the needs of the reduced Force.

Sufficient supplies to be earmarked for consumption of the Force to date of departure not later than May 1944 D.I.D. to represent 180 days G.S. reserve and has been worked margin for reduced garrison.

Surplus supplies should be offered to local Civil Authorities at following rates;-

Supplies ex S.R.D. at rate in priced list store plus 4 1/2 % D.E. plus 12 1/2 % sea freight plus local handling charges.

Supplies ex South America at actual F.O.B. cost plus 4 1/2 % D.E. plus sea freight plus local handling charges.

If actual sea freight unknown 6 1/2 % on F.O.B. value can be used. If actual F.O.B. rate not known rate can be assessed on basis that supplies were issued from S.R.D.

Do you require shipment stores requested in your F 839 of 17th June.

ORDNANCE STORES.

Request you forward lists of all important items surplus after deducting maintenance requirements of reduced garrison and local defence force.

STANLEY CAMP

To be offered to Civil Government choice following provisos:-

- (a) Sale to be at a fair valuation i.e. cost less depreciation or replacement value whichever higher.
- (b) Camp will again be placed at disposal of services if required later on settlement to be subject to prior War Office approval.

(c) Request before <sup>you</sup> they report on price obtainable unerected huts and building stores. *Other*

X  
9 (9)

IMMEDIATE MOST SECRET TELEGRAM

From War Office to O.C. Troops Falkland Islands No 86512 S.D. 2 November 6th.

Subject to final consideration on receipt of your views in consultation with Governor following is organisation tentative proposal for relief Force :-

- (a) Force Headquarters :- 1 Staff Officer A.M.S. Command and remaining Staff to be found by Infantry Company see (e) below.
- (b) Artillery :- Instructor Coast Artillery 1. Detachment of 12 O.Rs. for RADAR equipment.
- (c) Engineers :- Detachment of 5 O.Rs. ( building tradesmen) for maintenance of huts and services.
- (d) Signals:- Propose cutting following from existing establishment - Section H.Q., mobile column wireless detachment, L/Sgt in charge Signal Office and Signal Office personnel.

Require your proposal on line. First. Is exchange to be manned by R. Sigs. or infantry ?. If former suggest 4 O.Rs. Second central charging - reference my proposal C.C.M.S. to command all Signals and Workshop Detachment reduced to Instrument Mechanic 1 (one) Electrician Signals 2 (two) Third. How many wireless detachments required and strength. Fourth. Is maintenance detachment for civil wireless stations required. Fifth. Line detachment - presume line maintenance still necessary. What strength should this be. Sixth. Any other points.

- (e) Infantry:- Infantry Company One comprising :-

Headquarters ( based on W.E. v/823/1). Major ( Local Lieut - Col ) one  
Captain ( 2nd L/c ) 1 . C.S.M. 1 . Sergeant ( Wireless Instructor ) 1.  
Clerks ( includes corporal pay and L/cpl ) 3. Driver Mechanic 1.

Motor Cyclists 2 Batmen 1 . General Duties 1. Pioneers ( Carpenter and Joiner ) 1. Equipment repairer 1. L/cpl ( M.O's orderly ) 1. A.C.C. Cooks attached 5.

Two Platoons (W.E. v/ 824/1) each :- Subalterns 1. Platoon Sergeant 1.  
Corporals 2. L/cpls 3. Privates ( includes 1 batman and appropriate driver personnel ) 34.

Total strength Infantry Company including attached - Officers 4. warrant officers 1. Staff Sergeants and Sgts. 4. Rank and File 94.

- (f) Supply and Transport :- Detachment of 2 Officers and 6 O.Rs. ( Supplies. Clerks 2. Butchers 1. Bakers ( supervisory) 1. Issuer 1. Barrack Clerks, 1.)

(9a)

All transport and driver personnel for Force purposes will be included in W.E. of Infantry Company. O.C. R.A.S.C. service co-ordinating use as Officer i/c Transport.

(g) Medical :- Nil. ( M.O's Orderly included in (e) above )

(h) Ordnance :- 5 O.Rs.

R.E.M.E. :- O.R. armament artificer ( field ) 1. Radio Mechanics 1.

Armourers 1. Vehicle Mechanics 2. electricians 1. Welders ( electric ) 1. Instrument Mechanics 1. Turners 1. Total 9.

(k) A.E.C. :- N.C.Os. 1.

(1) Total Force excluding Signal Detachment :- Officers 7. O.Rs. 138.

2. Consider Medical Category of above personnel can be down to and including "C.1.". C.1. is sub-division category C(upper) consisting of men who in opinion of M.Os. are capable of serving abroad within the limits of their medical and physical capabilities i.e. those placed in Category C. on account of marked defects of locomotion, poor vision or hearing but whose constitution is first or second grade. Men arriving this Category on account of added skin diseases ear or nose condition who can only serve overseas under climatic conditions favourable to their disabilities may also be included.

3. G.1098 equipment less vehicles will be brought by Company in (a) of 1, above but G.1098 equipment for remainder will be found as far as possible from items held by present garrison. R.E.M.E. G.1098 equipment retained should include complete kit hand tools for each tradesman. General Tools as required at discretion of C.C. Expendible stores. Radar Test Equipment. Battery Charging Board. Generating Set 9k.v. Lathe. Bench Drill. Drill. Electric Welding Plant with associated stores.

Subject to above present garrison will on relief bring away G.1098 equipment. All vehicles ( less carriers ) and A.A. Guns including connected stores will remain. A.A. carriers will be withdrawn with Infantry Battalion.

4. Reference 3. above. Infantry Company to be equipped to G.1098-1000 scales plus personnel weapons and Bren Guns 3- 2" Mortars 1 per platoon.

5. Transport Requirements Force in 1. above assessed Lorries 3 ton -2. Trucks 15 cwt -3. Plus possible ambulance. All held by Infantry Company which provides driver personnel ( ref (e) &(f) of above) All (r) all remaining vehicles less carriers to be placed in pool on care and maintenance basis on Ordnance Charge.



9th

6. Disposal of controlled Ordnance Stores and ammunition with dealt with in separate cable. For un-controlled Ordnance stores see 4th our 83367 q. (ops) 2 27th October. Request reply our 83367 q (ops) 2 27th October paras 3rd. 5th and 6th expanded in 8th.

In order that we may take advantage of shipping opportunities for effecting relief request you forward by 10th November your remarks after consultation with Governor and recommendations as to ranks of personnel under 1, above.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

(10)

No. 80.

*From* THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

*To* HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

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*Despatched* : 8th November, 19 43 *Time* : 2330

*Received* : 9th November, 19 43 *Time* : 1030

No. 104. MOST SECRET.

With reference to my telegram No. 98, para 3, War Office have agreed to grant new Officer Commanding Troops local rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. Since local rank carries no repeat no pay and the holder of the post will be responsible for advising you on Military matters as well as for Commanding Troops, suggest it would be appropriate for small personal allowance to be granted him from Falkland Islands Funds. If you agree, consider five shillings per diem would be suitable.

2. Particular attention is being paid by the War Office to ensure selection of suitable Officers for the Relief Force.

IN AND OUT CODE.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

*From* HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR

*To* THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

*Despatched* : 10th November, 19 43. *Time* :

*Received* : 19 *Time* :

No. 229. MOST SECRET.

Y our telegram 104 Most Secret I agree to your suggestion.

G.T.C.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR

To THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

Despatched: 10th November, 19 43 Time:

Received: 19 Time:

N o. 230. MOST SECRET.

With reference to my telegram 190 Most Secret para (D) Medical I understand War Office proposes to remove all repeat all Medical Officers when garrison reduced, relying on civilian doctors. Position then will be one doctor Fox Bay none at Darwin, two in Stanley. Of the last one is acting as Dentist and cannot be sent out of Stanley except in extreme urgency; second is S.M.O. and his surgical qualifications tie him to the hospital.

2. If a dentist can be sent out Darwin could be staffed, but I should not take that solution unless absolutely unavoidable for the following reasons:-

- (a) The S.M.O. has his wife in hospital desperately ill with cancer and other complications. If the worst occurs he is unlikely in my opinion to be able to carry on and will have to take some leave;
- (b) Doctor stationed at Fox Bay was seen by me on Sunday last. He is decidedly "bushed" and talked of resignation rather than remain in isolation. Persuaded him his duty was to carry on but although he has agreed to do this the influence of his wife out at Fox Bay and his own distaste for loneliness and lack of scope in his work may in my opinion at any time cause him to throw his hand in.

3. The I am faced with the very real possibility of losing two Medical Officers. On paper this does seem too impossible but one must remember that it is not here a question of population but rather of distance and almost complete lack of communication that controls the distribution of Medical Officers.

4. The proposed Military reduction is to approximately 150 all ranks. The absence of any Military Medical Officer will also throw back upon the civilian Medical Officers about 120 Naval personnel. Thus the Medical Officer in Stanley will have increased work but more important the dentist will.

5. My final conclusion therefore is to ask you to do your best to send as quickly as possible one Medical Officer and one Dentist. I would then release the acting dentist for Darwin, relieve the "bushed" man at Fox Bay, calling him in to assist S.M.O. in Stanley and the hospital.

IN AND OUT CODE.

Write across

40/257.

~~TOP SECRET~~

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To FOC W-A (R) NOX FI, FOC GIB, (INC) MED, (INC) SA,  
(DR. 11th FLEET.

FROM ADMIRALTY

REQUIREMENT HAS ARISEN TO BRING TO UK APPROXIMATELY 1630

TROOPS FROM FAULKLAND IS ON RELIEF BY APPROXIMATELY 170 FROM UK.

(ii) IT IS INTENDED THAT SS "HIGHLAND MARCH" SHOULD PART OUT

THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMME

ARRIVE.	PORT.	SAIL.	REMARKS.
—	U.K.	14/12/43	IN KNIF 37
21/12/43	GIBRALTAR	24/12/43	IN R/S CONVOY BREAKING UP UNESCORTED FROM VICINITY OF CAPE VERDE
8/1/44	MONTVIDEO	16/1/44	LOADING MEAT
19/1/44	FAULKLAND IS.	23/1/44	DISEMBARK 170 AND EMBARK 1630 TROOPS
7/2/44	FREETOWN	11/2/44	IN SR CONVOY TO GIBRALTAR THENCE IN KNIF TO UK

(iii) REQUEST CONFIRMATION THAT YOU CAN PROVIDE A/S ESCORT  
FROM VICINITY OF ASCENSION TO FREETOWN.

UNLESS LOCAL U-BOAT SITUATION DETERIORATES IT IS  
APPROVED FOR SHIP TO PROCEED UNESCORTED AS FAR  
AS ASCENSION.

02/1/45 A

36335.C

AS

1000 h.

7/12.

(1A)

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

No. 103. *From* THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

*To* HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

*Despatched* : 7th December, 19 43 *Time* : 1540

*Received* : 8th December, 19 43 *Time* : 1000

No. 113. MOST SECRET.

*Ans (12)*

With reference to your telegram No. 230 Medical. Regret it is quite impossible to find civilian Medical Officer at present but the War Office have agreed to send out a Dental Officer with the Relief Force and I hope this solution will ease your difficulties.

2. War Office suggest to avoid unnecessary detailed accounting there should be a mutual waiver of charges between Military authorities and the Colony in respect of services performed by the civil Doctor for the troops and by the Dental Officer for the civil population. This arrangement would not affect the collection of fees from civilians in respect of Dental treatment where applicable and the Dental Officer would require to be informed of the appropriate fee charged which would be handed to the Colonial Treasurer.

3. Above mentioned proposed waiver should also cover service of civil Medical Officer in respect of Naval personnel referred to in para 4 of your telegram under reference.

4. It is assumed travelling expenses of Dental Officer for attendance on the civil population if any will be paid by the Colony.

5. Please confirm by telegram and whether arrangements are acceptable.

IN AND OUT CODE.

DECODE.

(15)

TELEGRAM.

*From* HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR

*To* THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

*Despatched* : 8th December, 19 43 *Time* :

*Received* : 19 *Time* :

N o. 245. MOST SECRET.

*hew (14)*

With reference to your telegram 113 Most Secret arrangements acceptable. Thanks; but hope you will remember our need for a Medical Officer if one becomes available.

IN AND OUT CODE.

For use in  
Cypher or  
Coding Office  
only.

Originators Instructions :  
(Indication of Priority,  
AIDAC, NOTWI  
For Exercise).

IMPORTANT

INTERCEPT GROUP.

TO: NOES N.I.

FROM:

E.O.C.W.A.F.

Request you will adhere to sailing date given in Admy's 301735 Dec. for

(? Escort)

HIGHLAND MOUNTAIN. Commissioner will not be available before Feb. 14th.

Admy's 071715 Dec. Para 3 refers.

25149z

Book or Table to be used for

Cyphering or Coding.

Recyphering or Recoding.

Initials of Cypherer  
or Coder.

Time of Receipt in  
Cypher or Coding  
Office.

Date.



DECODE.

17

TELEGRAM.

No. 11.

From The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

To His Excellency the Governor.

Despatched : 27th February, 19 45 Time : 1605

Received : 27th February 19 45 Time :

WITHOUT PRIORITY. No. 50. TOP SECRET. For your information  
Chiefs of Staff have decided that the whole British Garrison shall  
be withdrawn from the Falkland Islands on or before July 1945  
whenever suitable shipping is available. This is part of the  
policy to increase the fighting strength of the services by the  
withdrawal of garrisons wherever local Defence considerations  
allow. Please acknowledge indicating whether you have any  
observations.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

IN & OUT CODE.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

*From* His Excellency the Governor.

*To* The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

*Despatched:* 1st March, 19 44 *Time:* 12.00

*Received:* ... .. 19 ... *Time:* ...

*Red 17.*

WITHOUT PRIORITY. No. 60. TOP SECRET. With reference to your telegram No. 50 TOP SECRET I have no (R) no observations as I entirely agree but I shall telegraph shortly some minor details which proposals raise.

GOVERNOR.

IN & OUT CODE.

DRAFT NOTICE.

(19<sup>a</sup>)

It has been decided that Force 132 will leave the Colony before the end of the year.

Before the Garrison goes it is planned to remove all the hutting in Falkland Camp and as the other Camps will have been stripped of all fittings, stoves, etc., it will not be possible for the troops to be quartered there while the huts, which they are now using in Falkland Camp, are being pulled down. In these circumstances it will be necessary for the Garrison to be moved into Stanley for a few weeks just before its departure.

The welcome given to the Garrison, the gratitude felt by everyone for the <sup>Sanding</sup> ~~stationing~~ <sup>a</sup> of the Garrison here to defend the Colony, and the many friendships which have been formed with the men all give rise to the hope that the people of Stanley will be glad of the opportunity which will arise to offer <sup>voluntary</sup> ~~hospitality~~ <sup>and</sup> to their friends in the ~~Garrison~~ <sup>Force</sup> .

It is, unfortunately, impossible as yet either to give any dates or to say for how long accommodation will be required, but in order to enable matters to be arranged with the least possible inconvenience for <sup>everyone</sup> ~~anyone~~, it <sup>will</sup> ~~would~~ be very helpful if people will now inform the Military Authorities of the names of any Officers, N.C.O's or other ranks whom they would like to have as guests when the time comes. The information should be given to <sup>the Staff Captains</sup> .....

x It is proposed that for every guest the Military Authorities shall pay at the rate of 2/6 per day, the host to provide accommodation, breakfast, supper and <sup>Tea once a day.</sup> ~~occasional teas~~. If on any occasion the Military Authorities requests the provision of a mid-day dinner in addition, an extra 1/4 will be paid.

In view of the large number of applications for guests likely to be made in answer to this appeal, it is hoped that householders will advise the Military Authorities of their wishes as soon as possible.

-----

Y.E.

I had an informal discussion today with Messrs. Briggs, L. Sedgwick, J. Barnes, R. Rees & Mr. Williams & they all agreed that an appeal to the Housepeople to invite their friends in the Force today will probably be account for half or more than half the Force. They suggested that hosts should give the men breakfast & supper & be paid an allowance in addition to the 2/- per night collecting allowance - on the grounds that they will, out of hospitality, feed them anyway & ought to be paid something rather than nothing for doing so. The Army is asked to pay 2/6 p. day for this + 1/4d if even lunch is ~~not~~ required (by the authorities) as well.

2. They also thought that the best procedure will be simply to make the appeal in the first instance & then to decide in the light of the response whether the balance of the men can be housed in the Drill-hall or whether some compulsory collecting must be resorted to. They thought that compulsory collecting should be avoided if ~~or~~ unless absolutely <sup>essential</sup> ~~unavoidable~~.

3. I submit a draft ~~message~~ notice which could be elaborated for a President by yourself.

R.B.

2/3/45

Ref. 132/CR/Z/514/3.

TOP SECRET & PERSONAL.



5th March, 1945.  
-----

Headquarters  
Falkland Islands Force,  
STANLEY.  
-----

To:- His Excellency, The Governor.  
GOVERNMENT HOUSE.  
-----

Sir,

I am directed to send the attached copies of cables and  
correspondence to show you the latest position regarding the withdrawal of  
Force 132.

I have the honour to be Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

  
Staff Captain.  
Falkland Islands Force.

COPY.

C.071.

20A

To:- TROOPERS. LONDON.

From:- General Falkland Islands  
Force.

-----  
IMPORTANT.

SECRET. F.1900 4th MAR 45 F.I's. Reference your 72500 Q (M) 9a 28th FEB.  
Para 1. Personnel. Fitzroy can carry 35 persons maximum but Colonial Government has prior claim to passages. No increase possible. First voyage suitable for moving personnel scheduled for end APRIL. Subsequent voyages at rate of approximately one per month would clear Garrison to MONTEVIDEO by end of SEPTEMBER if no (R) no other passengers carried. If troops depart thus future shipment of stores will suffer from lack of labour. Para 2. Stores. Request you refer to my letters addressed G.S.O.1. M.O.2. references 132/8/14 1st MAR 44 132/CR/Z/55/1 31st MAY 44 for appreciation ships normal routine. Same conditions apply this season. Wool can not (R) not be shut out for Army Stores without prior reference to Ministry of Shipping and Colonial Office. Alteration of schedule would seriously disorganize sole local industry wool production. Will have A.B.& C. priorities your para 3. ready shipment soon and will load on vessel mentioned your para 4. if she arrives. Colonial Government will not (R) not take over any further surplus stores. Have sold them all their requirements already. Para 3. Request you advise me policy for disposal A.A. guns and equipment A.&B. Vehicles and other heavy lifts unsuitable for Fitzroy in any event.

-----

COPY.

A.026. 200

To:- F.I's.

From:- TROOPERS.

-----

TOP SECRET. 72500 Q (M) 9a FEB 28th. Ref second of my 71341 M.O. 2. 24th FEB plans as follows. Para 1. Personnel will leave for U.K. by successive detachments in s.s. FITZROY to MONTEVIDEO where they will stay pending on shipment as available. Understand FITZROY'S total capacity is 35. Can this be increased. If so to what extent. When could she lift 1st detachment. Para 2. Stores. Packing will continue as quickly as possible till departure final detachment. Priorities as in my 66751 Q ops 3 FEB 8th. Stores which cannot be packed before departure final detachment should be offered to COLONIAL GOVT. Report what you are able to arrange. Para 3. Shipping priority. A. Ordnance stores in para 2 my 66751 Q ops 3 8th FEB approx 95 shipping tons. B. Supplies as in your F.1824 28th DEC approx 500 shipping tons. C. N.A.A.F.I. liquors and miscellaneous 58 shipping tons. D. Ordnance stores in para 3 my 66751 8th FEB approx 1230 shipping tons. E. Such remaining Ordnance stores as will be packed. Para 4. Stores in the above priorities should be shipped in S.S. FITZROY and also in ship which we are trying to allocate to load Naval Ammunition and Army stores but latter allocation uncertain. Will inform you immediately ship is available. Stores will be consigned to Movement Control port of ~~discharge and~~ charge and full details included in sailing cable. Para 5. Agree with M.W.T.

-----

ACK: Cable F.1900 4th MAR 45.

200

MOST SECRET.

132/8/14.

Extract from - Report by O.C. F.I. Force.

To:- G.S.O.1.  
War Office (M.O.2.)  
M.3.

1st MAR 44.

" Para 2 S.S. "FITZROY."

Appendices "A" and "B" herewith, give details of surplus stores and supplies which cannot be sold locally.

S.S.Fitzroy only ship available to move these stores and supplies during her normal runs.

Her loading capacity is 500 tons average.

There are some 3,000 tons of Wool awaiting shipment.

Instructions (which will require reference to Ministry of Shipping) required as to priority, Army Stores or Wool Clip, also instructions whether in view of transport cost to U.K., dumping and "write off" of Army Surplus Stores would not eventually be preferable."

-----

Extract from - Report by O.C. F.I. Force.

132/GR/E/55/1.

To:- G.S.O.1.  
War Office (M.O.2.)

31st May, 1944.

-----



Encl not from - Report by O.C. F.I. Force.

MOST SECRET.  
132/GR/2/55/1.

200

To:- G.S.O. 1. (H.O.2.)  
H.3.

31st May, 44.

-----  
" W.O. Cable 28817 Q (Ops) 3. of 15 May, refers.

- (1). Wool shipments are in arrears but W.D. may be allotted one complete voyage before end of 1944 which would dispose of approx. 600 measurement tons surplus Ordnance stores.
- (2). Medical stores shut out from H.M.T. "Highland Monarch" last January will be shipped early June.
- (3). Present arrears of wool shipments and next summer's woolclip will be given precedence over W.D. stores unless War Office and Ministry of Supply arrange otherwise.

(4). Appendix A herewith shows R.E. stores not included in my 132/8/14 Of 1st Mar.44.

As stated some of them may be saleable locally and to Central Uruguayan Railway.

I shall keep you informed.

(5). Ref. para 7 of my 132/8/14 of 1st Mar.44.

I regret I did not emphasise that only the smallest ships can enter Stanley owing to shallow water.

Should diversion at a distant date of a ship large enough to take all surplus stores be considered it should be borne in mind that ship would have to remain in outer harbour and loading done from lighters.

With shortage of transport and manpower and lack of cranes for loading into lighters experience shows that not more than 100 measurement tons could be handled per day. "

-----

No. 1751

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

MINUTE.

23

12th March,

1945.

To

The Officer Commanding,

Falkland Islands Defence Force,

Stanley.

From The Colonial Secretary

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

(11) refers

I am directed by His Excellency to request you to pay to Lieutenant Colonel Member a personal allowance at the rate of 2/- per day from the date of his arrival in the Colony, i.e. the 27th January, 1945, until the date of his departure inclusive. Arrears should be paid forthwith to the 30th February, 1945, and future payments be made monthly. This allowance should be charged to Head XXI, subhead 2. Pay and Allowances and this minute quoted as your authority.

K. G. BRADLEY  
Colonial Secretary.

t.-Col. Member } for inf.  
Treasury

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From His Excellency the Governor,

To Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Despatched: 12th March, 19 45. Time: ...

Received: ... .. 19 ... Time: ...

No. 73.

IMPORTANT. Top Secret. With reference to my telegram, No. 60 Top Secret. War Office plans for withdrawal of garrison are set out in War Office telegram Top Secret 72500 Q (M)9a February 28th addressed to Officer Commanding, Falkland Islands, who replied in telegram Important Secret F 1900 of 4th March, 1945.

Red 18  
Red 20B  
Red 20A

2. The proposals are quite impracticable unless some drastic action such as burning the whole wool clip is undertaken. There is no possible storage space for the wool. Moreover the withdrawal of the garrison's manpower would make it impossible to move or load the War Office stores.

3. Officer Commanding Falkland Islands makes this clear in above quoted telegram. I wish to emphasize these main difficulties.

4. I am afraid that failing to obtain a steamer before the personnel is removed there is no real solution except to destroy stores unless War Office would keep them here until shipping situation is easier. This leaves the question of labour for moving and loading and means that the vessel would be tied here for very considerable time (months).

5. Is it practicable for the whole to be offered to the Uruguayan Government on the assumption that they would collect and shift on board their own vessel? They would have to bring their labour and possibly the Falkland Islands Co. would arrange lighters and other lesser aid.

GOVERNOR.

IN & OUT CODE.

Dear Bradley

(25)

Herewith copy of N.A.'s (Montevideo) reply to a cable I sent him asking how long our 30 bodies from each Fitzroy might have to wait in Montevideo.

The information I am keeping entirely to myself (to the brass!) at the War House I don't thought H.E. might be interested.

"Average number of passages available from River Plate about 20 per month.

Now over 300 waiting passage including large number priority passengers.

30 men by each Fitzroy would be considerably delayed here for long period."

Last sentence appears to me a perfect understatement if the 2 preceding ones are correct.

Yrs. alt

16 Mar 45

## NAVAL MESSAGE.

Revised  
December, 1935.

S. 1320b.

For use in  
Signal  
Department  
only

26

Originators Instructions:  
(Indication of Priority,  
Intercept Group, etc.)IMPORTANT.

Codress/Plaindress

No. of  
Groups:

TO: TROOPERS, LONDON.

FROM: Falkland  
Islands Force.

Write Across	SECRET.	F. 1922	15 Mar 45	P.I.'s	0	5
Reference	your		75605	2 (Ops) 3	11th March	10
Para 1.	Further		discussion	with	Colonial	15
Government	and		Falkland	Islands	Company	20
confirms	Governors		telegram	No. 73	12th March	25
to	Secretary		of	State	for	30
Colonies	must		be	accepted	as	35
final	0		Essential	you	see	40
it	earliest		0	Packing	continues	45
but	Governors		telegram	should	be	50
System	P/L Code or Cypher	Time of Receipt   Despatch		Operator	P.O.O.W. / Sheet 2.	Date

## NAVAL MESSAGE.

Revised  
December, 1935.

S. 1320b.

For use in  
Signal  
Department  
only

26

Originators Instructions:  
(Indication of Priority,  
Intercept Group, etc.)

Codress/Plaindress

No. of  
Groups:

TO:

Sheet 2.

FROM:

Write  
Across

amplified	by	fact	that	no (R) no	5
storage	other	than	W.D. Nutting	exists	10
for	more	than	a	fraction	15
of	stores	@	Para 2.	No (R) no	20
space	available	FITZROY	until	October	25
next	year	with	no (R) no	guarantee	30
then	@	Ship	is	sole	35
means	of	communication	within	Colony	40
and	with	Dependencies	as	well	45
as	South America	and	may	at	50

System

P/L Code or Cypher

Time of

Receipt

Despatch

Operator

P.O.O.W.

Date

/ Sheet 3.

# NAVAL MESSAGE.

S. 1320b.

26b

For use in  
Signal  
Department  
only

Originators Instructions:  
(Indication of Priority,  
Intercept Group, etc.)

Codress/Plaindress

No. of  
Groups:

TO:

/ Sheet 3.

FROM:

Write Across	any	time	be	needed	by	
						5
	Colonial	Government	for	special	duty	10
	0					15
						20
						25
	18. 3. 45.			Staff Captain. Falkland Islands Force.		30
						35
	<u>(Copy to - Colonial Secretary).</u>					40
						45
						50

System

P/L Code or Cypher

Time of	
Receipt	Despatch

Operator

P.O.O.W.

Date

27

● ECODE.

TELEGRAM.

No. 103. From Secretary of State for the Colonies, M.P. No. S/6/44.

To His Excellency the Governor.

Despatched: 24th March, 1945. Time: 1715.

Received: 25th March, 1945. Time: 1030.

*red 24.*

IMPORTANT. No. 85. TOP SECRET. Your telegram, No. 73 Top Secret.

War Office are informing O.C. Troops by telegram of modified plan withdrawal of garrison from which you will see proposal to use s.s. "Fitzroy" for transporting stores has been abandoned. This will mean stores must be left behind until other arrangements can be made for their disposal. War Office are investigating suggestion made in paragraph 5 of your telegram. In the meantime grateful if you would consider whether

- (a) any of these stores could be taken over by Government for civil purposes;
- (b) whether local arrangements could be made either by Government or by commercial firms for taking over care of stores until final decision on their disposal can be reached.

If proposal in paragraph 5 of your telegram proves impracticable War Office would like to defer final decision about disposal of stores until possibilities securing ship and necessary labour can be estimated more clearly. Would you see any objection stores remaining in present accommodation after garrison has left possibly for considerable period.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

"E" - 53501 1 T.



28

For use in  
Cypher or  
Coding Office  
only.

COPY.

This message must NOT be distributed outside of British Government offices or departments, or retransmitted, even in cipher, without being paraphrased.

Originators Instructions:  
(Indication of Priority,  
AIDAC, NOTWT  
For Exercise).

URGENT.

INTERCEPT GROUP.

TO: General Falkland Islands.

FROM:  
Troopers.

SECRET. 79454 Q ops 3. Your F. 1919 17th March and F. 1920 13th March and

Governor's telegram 73 12th March to S. of S. Colonies.

para 1. appreciate impossibility of using S.S. FEREROY for stores also that stores cannot be loaded without labour.

para 2. provision of collier in near future being considered to lift admiralty ammunition - this only opportunity for shipping army stores before garrison leave.

probable that vessel will stay only long enough to load priority A given in my 72500 Q(M)

9 A/217 dated 28th Feb. if further time and space available stores should be loaded according to remaining priorities.

para 3. the whole of garrison will be withdrawn in meat ship arriving FALKLAND ISLANDS

Book or Table to be used for

Cyphering or Coding.

Recyphering or Recoding.

Initials of Cypherer or Coder.

Time of Receipt in Cypher or Coding Office.

Date

28<sup>a</sup>

For use in  
Cypher or  
Coding Office  
only.

Originators Instructions:  
(Indication of Priority,  
AIDAC, NOTWT  
For Exercise).

INTERCEPT GROUP.

TO:

FROM:

probably late May. there will be NO(NO) room for stores. ship probably only stay

FALKLAND ISLANDS one or two days.

para 4. possibility of disposing of stores in SOUTH AMERICA is being investigated here.

in any case stores will have to be left where they are till final arrangements for their disposal or abandonment has been made.

para 5. COLONIAL OFFICE are replying separately to GOVERNOR'S telegram 75 12th March.

Book or Table to be used for		Initials of Cypherer or Coder.	Time of Receipt in Cypher or Coding Office.	Date
Writing or Coding.	Recyphering or Recoding.			

DECODE.

(31)

TELEGRAM.

From His Excellency the Governor,.....

To Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Despatched : 29th March, 19 45. Time : ...

Received : ... .. 19 ... Time : ...

*Red 27.*

IMPORTANT. TOP SECRET. No. 88. With reference to your telegram, No. 85 Top Secret. War Office telegram 79454 Q ops 3 to O.C. Falklands dated 24th March. Final sentence paragraph 4 reads "in any case stores will have to be left where they are till final arrangements for their disposal or abandonment have been made".

2. This will give time for consideration and action on your suggestion (a) in above quoted telegram. I of course shall do my best to save loss in cash to the Imperial Government.

3. Care-taking is essential and a problem that has to be solved. I shall telegraph later on this point.

GOVERNOR.

IN & OUT CODE.

No. S/6/1111

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

MINUTE.

32

4th April, 19 45.

To The Officer Commanding,

Falkland Islands Force,

STANLEY.

From The Colonial Secretary,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

TOP SECRET.

I forward herewith for your private information a copy of a Top Secret telegram which has been sent by His Excellency to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

2. I suggest that all the stores and equipment to be left behind should be concentrated in two areas in the Falkland and Stanley Camps, each area being surrounded by impenetrable barbed wire entanglements provided with one gate in each case. If you can do this the Government will then endeavour to engage four watchmen, two for day and two for night duty. These watchmen would have to be paid by the week at the normal rates, i.e., £3. 5s. Od. per week including Cost of Living Bonus.

*at is. 0. 0. 0. 0.*

3. If these arrangements can be carried out Government would do its best to safeguard the stores though no financial liability can of course be accepted. One point occurs to me: There are various Government stores in Stanley Camp which are liable to be stolen. I suggest that these should be concentrated within the barbed wire entanglement.

4. If you agree to the above proposals I will speak to the O.I.C., P.W.D., about this.

K. G. BRADLEY

Colonial Secretary.

*Red 31.*

132/CR/15-13

23 Apr 45.

The Colonial Secretary,  
PORT STANLEY.  
-----

*See 32*

Your minute S/6/44 of 4 Apr 45 agreed except that since time does not now permit for barbed wire surrounds to be constructed by my troops the work is to be carried out by the P.W.D. as a charge against the War Office.

*A. J. Mombey*

Lt/Col., R.A.,  
O.C., Falkland Islands Force.

Stanley Camp,  
FALKLAND ISLANDS.

ATMEM/AJ.  
-----

No. 17/4/45.

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

From The Colonial Secretary.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

MINUTE.

25th April, 1945.

To The Officer-in-Charge,  
Public Works Department,  
STANLEY.

\*\*\*\*\*

In confirmation of recent discussions I should be grateful if you would engage 4 watchmen to guard the store huts in Stanley and Falkland camps, with effect from the day of the departure of the Garrison. Two of these men will be on duty during the day time and two at night. They will be paid £5. 5s. per week each including cost of living bonus.

2. In addition please arrange for the area of the store huts to be surrounded by impenetrable barbed wire entanglements with one gate in each case. All expenditure in the transport and erection of this wire and the watchmen's wages should be charged to Advances War Office and a refund will be claimed through the Crown Agents. The entanglements should be erected with as little delay as possible.

K. G BRADLEY

Colonial Secretary.

Copy to G/C., F.A.F. for inf.  
" " O.I.C., Treasury for inf.

34

No.

MINUTE.

35

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

26th April, 1945.

From Officer in Charge,  
Public Works Dept.,  
Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To The Honourable,  
The Colonial Secretary,  
Stanley.

Recd 34

In reply to your minute of the 25th inst No. S/6/44. I would like to inform you there is some difficulty in the change over of the watchmen. As two men take on day watch for a week then change over to night watch for the second week, it seems that these men must be on watch for 24 hours at the end of each week. This can be overcome by putting two watchmen from P.W.D. on Mondays only from 7. 30 a.m. to 4. 30 p.m. I enclose a table which I hope will be explanatory, M.D meaning Monday day watch and M.N. Monday night watch etc.

*Olus.*

Officer in Charge P.W.D.

A	B
M.D.	M.N.
T.D.	T.N.
W.D.	W.N.
T.D.	T.N.
F.D.	F.N.
S.D.	S.S.
S.D.	S.N.

to change over. Two men from Public Works keep watch on Monday till 4. 30 p.m. and A goes on from then for night watch for the rest of the week. B comes off night watch Monday morning and goes on day watch Tuesday thus necessitating two men on Mondays for day watch from P.W.D.



No. 2/6/44.

MINUTE.

36

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

27th April, 1945.

To The Officer-in-Charge,  
Public Works Department,  
STANLEY.

From The Colonial Secretary,  
Stanley, Falkland Islands.

*Red 35*

With reference to your Minute of 26th April, it is clear that reliable watchmen must be employed one day a week in order to facilitate the change over of the regular watchmen between day and night duty. The extra cost of 26/6 per week should be charged to "Advances, War Office". The officer Commanding, Falkland Islands Force, has agreed.

K G BRADLEY  
Colonial Secretary.

Copy to C.C., F.I.F., for inf.  
" " Treasury for inf.

No. \_\_\_\_\_

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



MINUTE.

(37)

3rd May, 19 45.

From The Magistrate,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To The Honourable

The Colonial Secretary,

I think these should cover all possibilities.

1. Larceny Act 1861. (24 & 25 Vict. cap 96)

Any person may arrest without warrant a person found committing any offence against this Act.

2. Malicious Damage Act 1861. 24 & 25 Vict. cap 97.

Persons found committing any offence against this Act may be immediately apprehended, without warrant, by any peace officer, or the servant, or any person authorised by him, and forthwith taken before some neighbouring justice of the peace.....

*John Hamilton*  
Magistrate.

No. 2/6/44.

MINUTE.

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

Copy to Chief Constable  
for information.

5th May, 19 45.

From

The Colonial Secretary,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To The Officer-in-Charge,

Public Works Department,

STANLEY.

With reference to my Minute of 27th April, regarding the Watchmen at Military Camps, they should, on appointment, be given precise instructions as to their powers in the event of persons attempting to enter, steal or do damage at the Camps.

2. Should any person try to enter the area the Watchman should inform him that this is Crown property and a Protected Area and request him to go. If he should refuse to do so the Watchman should summon the police immediately by telephone, if possible. If this is not possible he should watch the man's movements until he has left the area and should then report to the police at the next opportunity. The police will on receiving such report either arrest or summons the offender as the case may be and prosecute under the Defence Regulations.

3. The Watchman himself may arrest any person breaking a fence or entering a hut or stealing property or attempting any of these things. Similarly he can arrest any person committing any damage or attempting to do so. In either case he should report immediately to the police who should collect the prisoner and take him before the Magistrate without delay.

4. It is important for the Watchman to remember that for mere trespass in the Protected Area they have no powers to arrest but must put the matter in the hands of the police as in paragraph 2 above.

K. G. BRADLEY

Colonial Secretary.

Red 36

38

39a

4th May,

45.

THE OFFICER COMMANDING,  
OFFICER IN CHARGE P.W.D.  
FALKLAND ISLAND FORCE,  
STANLEY.

Before taking over the Stores and Equipment you will be leaving at Falkland Camp I would like an assurance that everything left inside the barbwire barrier will be the property of the War Office and that anything that has been disposed of to private individuals will be outside the barrier and so does not concern this Department. In effect no one can obtain stores or materials from inside the barrier after the departure of the Garrison. Every car will be taken of Stores and Material left in the camp but this Department cannot accept liability for unavoidable loss or damage.

I have been informed there will not be any fuel available after the departure of the Garrison. The men on watch must have fuel for the hut allotted to them and I suggest that 3 cwt weekly be allowed for this purpose.

*D. Lees*

OFFICER IN CHARGE.

No. \_\_\_\_\_

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

MINUTE.

5th May, \_\_\_\_\_

19 45.

39.

From THE OFFICER IN CHARGE P.W.D.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To THE HONOURABLE, \_\_\_\_\_

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

STANLEY.

Copy of a minute I have addressed to the Officer Commanding the Falkland Island Force is submitted for your information please.

*D. Lees*

OFFICER IN CHARGE.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

HO

From The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

To His Excellency the Governor.

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Despatched : 11th May, 19 45. Time : 1230.

Received : 12th May, 19 45. Time : 1030.

Recd 31

IMPORTANT. No. 139. TOP SECRET. With reference to your  
Telegram No. 88, paragraph 3.

Please telegraph what arrangements have been made for care  
taking of these stores.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

IN & OUT CODE.

DECODE.

41

TELEGRAM.

From His Excellency the Governor.

To Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Despatched : 12th May, 19 45. Time : .....

Received : ..... 19 ... Time : .....

Recd 40.

IMPORTANT. No. 137. TOP SECRET. Your Top Secret telegram  
No. 139. Garrison Stores.

2. Stores have been concentrated in huts in two areas  
which will be wired off and guarded by day and night watchmen  
engaged by military.

GOVERNOR.

IN & OUT CODE.

No. S/6/44.

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

MINUTE.

12th May, 1945. (43)

From OFFICER IN CHARGE P.W.D.

To THE HONOURABLE,

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

STANLEY.

S E C R E T.

With reference to your minute No. S/6/44 of the 25th April, 1945, I would inform you that the watchmen engaged have asked for reconsideration of the wages attached to this work.

In support of their application they quote the wages of the watchmen engaged by the Naval Authorities for the Magazine i.e. £4 per week against their £3. 5. 0. Furthermore these watchmen do not commence duty until 3.30.p.m. each day and are off again at 8 a.m. the following morning. This is repeated from Monday to Friday. During this period each man has to be on duty two consecutive nights with the third night stand off. All three are on duty from 3.30.p.m. Friday to 8.a.m. Monday and on Public Holidays.

I would suggest that the men engaged should be permitted to report for duty at the camp at least two days prior to the departure of the Garrison in order to become conversant with their duty.

*D. Lees*

OFFICER IN CHARGE.



No. 5/6/44.

MINUTE.

44

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

15th May, 1945.

To Officer Commanding,

Force 132,

STANLEY.

From The Colonial Secretary.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

SECRET.

Red 34.

With reference to my minute of the 25th April to the Officer-in-Charge, a copy of which was sent to you, I have to confirm our telephone conversation of this morning in which it was agreed that the watchmen's wages should be \$4 per week including Cost of living Bonus. As I explained this is the wage being paid by the Navy for watchmen and it is not possible to recruit men for less.

2. We also arranged that the watchmen at Falkland Camp should be authorised to draw up to 3 cwt. of coal per week from the dump which you are vouchering over to the Navy. I should be grateful if you could arrange this. An additional 1 cwt. a week will be required at Stanley Camp, Government will supply this and debit the War Office.

3. Three electric torches will have to be purchased for the watchmen and a supply of batteries. These charges will also be debited.

K. G BRADLEY

Colonial Secretary.

py to C.I.C., F.W.D., for inf.  
" C.I.C. Treasury " "

45

132/CR/14/2.

Subject:- Disposal of Army Huts.

16 May 45.

The Colonial Secretary,  
PORT STANLEY.  
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The 2 Nissen Huts on Mr. J.J. Davis's land, due South of the old Mess building, R.A. Camp, STANLEY, occupied by Mr. Smith have been sold to Mr. J.J. Davis who will dispose of them at his own convenience.

*Can see [unclear] [unclear]*

*[Signature]*

Lt/Col., R.A.,  
O.C., Falkland Islands Force.

Stanley.  
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Copy to: Mr. J.J. Davis,  
Viking House, Ross Road East, STANLEY.

47  
~~1945~~

132/CR/

17 May 45.

Subject:- Caretakers.

The Colonial Secretary,  
PORT STANLEY.  
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Previous correspondence on the subject may be considered cancelled.

I now agree to:-

<u>Main Camp</u>	4 Watchmen @ £4 a week each	=	£16 a week.
<u>Stanley Camp</u>	1 Night Watchman at £4 a week )	=	£6 "
	1 Day " " £2 " )		

Total of Caretakers' wages chargeable to the War Department will therefore be £22 a week.

Stanley.

Lt/Col., R.A.,  
O.C., Falkland Islands Force.

AT/EM/AJ.  
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