

SEALING

(Armed Guard)

1922

No.

529/22

Harbour Master

SUBJECT.

1922

JASON ISLAND GUARD

19th July.

Report on Inspection of:

Previous Paper.

MINUTES.

Report from Harbour Master of 19th July 1922 — Encl ①

Harbour Master,

Your proposals with reference to the matters needing attention are approved generally. The Governor has I think been informed verbally of the conditions but there will not be time before you sail to go into the matter in any detail: this report will be submitted to H.E. in its return.

2. It is necessary that you should impress on Oswald who has been selected for the post of guard in charge the necessity for keeping strict control over the use of provisions. The ~~shortage~~ excessive consumption has probably been caused as much by waste as by the open air life

Subsequent Paper.

Wtltt 24 July 22

The Hon. Col. Secretary.

Instructions have been given to Gleadell concerning Provisions and attention drawn to the authorised Scale of Provisions. It is anticipated that the rate will be greatly reduced.

Colin Estocley
Harbour Master

24/7/22

Yr.

Submitted

It will probably be found that the only way to keep the expense for victualling within reasonable limits will be to charge the guard with any excess over the cost of the authorised scale

ttttt 20/7/22

H.C.S.

a very good suggestion: the ^{authorised} scale is, I believe, for names.
H.M. to report in 3 months on consumption of provisions.

By

28 July 1922

Harbour Master

Accordingly

ttttt 29 July '22

The Hon. Col. Secretary.

Noted accordingly.

2. A Report will be submitted on the return of the Patrol Vessel from the Elephant Jason Island.

Colin Estocley
Harbour Master

20/7/22 ?

20/8/22



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REPORT ON THE INSPECTION OF THE ELEPHANT JASON GUARD %
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- The Guard. Reported in good health. The three members comprising the Guard are desirous of continuing to form the post.
- Guard House. The Guard House and Outhouses appeared to be well kept, clean, sanitary and in good order. House utensils clean and well kept. Severe has been experienced since the establishment of the Guard heavy whoolly's from the North side of the central ridge of the Island, descending on the back of the house, caused a portion of the roof to become detached, the house to sway and water shutes to be blown away and broken.
- The Guard House is built on piles facing North. The house has been temporarily shored up on the North front with scantlings. It would appear desirable that the house be stayed, back and front at the East and West ends, by wire stays.
- Firewood. Upon the establishment of the Guard, a great quantity of wreckage and driftwood was available on the beaches of the East side of the Island, but recent gales have cleared the beaches. It will, therefore, be necessary that firewood be collected from around the beaches of Stanley for use on the Jason's.
- Armament Lewis Gun, Rifles and Revolvers appeared to be well kept. Practice in these weapons is carried out and efficiency is reported. The 12 pdr. Field gun, was tested with a blank charge. One misfire occurred, a new tube was inserted, gun fired. I would suggest that this was owing to the age of the Vent Sealing tubes. The gun is well kept.
- Fuel. Coal is at the present supplied. Tussac peat will be cut and should be available by November/ December, which should enable a great amount of coal to be dispensed with.
- Provisions. Provisions supplied to the guard were to be issued in accordance with the scale of Provisions authorised by His Excellency the Governor. This Scale has however been greatly exceeded. It is possible that the excess over the estimated rate has been caused by a greater consumption of victuals owing to the open air life led by the Guard. The rate for the period, fr x+

from the Establishment of the Guard to the 12th July has been $3/5\frac{3}{4}$ per man per day, an excess of $8\frac{3}{4}$ d per man per day, over the amount of $2/9$ as estimated in 1921.

Report by the Guard.

Fires were lighted by the Guard, by day and by night, and the Morse lamp was also used in an endeavour to attract attention of those at West Point Island, but no attention was taken.

I have spoken to Mr A. E. Felton concerning this and he states that it is impracticable for those at West Point to sight such signals from the settlement, without going to the crest of a small ridge that obstructs the view of the Elephant Jason Island from the settlement.

Conclusion.

I would respectfully suggest that the H.M.C.S. "Afterglow" proceed from Stanley as soon as is possible for the Jason Islands.

- 1 The urgent necessity of making the Guard House as secure as is possible against weather conditions.
- 2 The provision of rain water shute
- 3 Provisions
- 4 Firewood
- 5 Patrol of the Jason Group of Islands.

The Engineer of the "Afterglow" reports that owing to necessary work on the boiler that steam will not be available before Monday the 24th July.

Colin Estrovelly

Harbour Master

19/7/22

Am.
Refused for favour of report
ttttt 21/10/22

The Hon. Col. Secretary.

Submitted.

From the report furnished verbally by the late Guard in charge of the Elephant Jason Is, I beg to report that the rate per man would appear to be 3/6 per diem, as between the 27th February and the end of October 1922.

The consumption returns as between the 8th August and the end of October appear to indicate that a more strict economy has been enforced, though allowing sufficient.

It would appear that any waste has not been intentional but rather caused through inexperience of cooking and in catering.

Up to the present time the cost of tinned milk, tinned butter, principally, has raised the anticipated rate.

The rate as estimated in 1921 appears to have been underestimated.

Local prices of most food stuffs have fallen very considerably during the past two or three months and further reductions are anticipated.

Colin E. Locky
 Harbour Master

2/2/23

G.S.
Submitted

ttttt 5/1/23

H.P.S.

Mr Arthur Allen has kindly undertaken
to arrange through a cow to be sent to
Stephens Tasa. I hope it may be possible
to effect some reduction in expenditure on
milk. I have written on the subject on
another paper & also about sending a
parcel.

Yr

5 January 1923

M.P. 4/23/23