

C.S.

BOARD OF TRADE.
(Cape Pembroke Lighthouse.)

SHI/CAP/1 # 25

19 40.

No. 148/40.

Principal Keeper.

SUBJECT.

19 40.

26th August.

DEFENCE OF CAPE PEMBROKE LIGHTHOUSE

Previous Paper.

MINUTES.

Letter from Principal Keeper of 26. 8. 40.

O.C. Def 7.

Your remarks, pl. *[Signature]* 30/11/40

Honourable Colonial Secretary.

I think the proposal excellent. The question of lighthouses being non-combatant hardly arises in this war & in any case it is now officially P.W.S.S. & as such should be armed, with a better weapons than rifles which they now have.

[Signature] H.C. D.F.
30. VIII. 40.

H.C. Def 7.

Please see H.C. about this in your next weekly interview - & submit note to.

[Signature] 21/11/40

Recalled 3/9/40

2-3

Minutes from O/C, F.I.D.F., of 2/9/40.

N.O. 1/2

Please see *[Signature]* 4/11/40

Subsequent Paper.

4

H.C.S. I agree absolutely. Have sent it enclosed request asking for approval.

[Signature] 5.9.40.

O.C.D. F.

to see

C. J. J.
6/9/40

Honorable Colonial Secretary

Dear Sir, Thank you.

C.W. 9. ix. 40.

Y/E

File for Your Excellency's perusal before
interviewing O.C. Defence Force.

C. J. J.
10/9/40

Seen

I concur in the view as to the
value of the proposals they will
have to be carried out whether
H.M.G. or we bear the cost

~~12/9/40~~ 12/9/40

O.C. Defence Force.

No note

C. J. J.
12/9/40

Honorable Colonial Secretary

Dear Sir, Thank you. I
understand the Excellency
wishes the Mess' letter ①
forwarded to B of T.

C.W. 16. X. 40

C O P Y.

①

The Accountant General,
Ministry of Shipping.

Cape Pembroke Lighthouse,
26th August, 1940.

Sir,

In view of the life and death struggle in which our Country is now involved, I trust you will not only give this your sympathetic reading and consideration, but also understand the spirit and sentiment which induces me to request to be supplied with arms and ammunition, for defensive purposes, in spite of International Law relating to Lighthouses.

I fully understand that according to International Law, these Establishments are not to be armed. Yet when I hear of the ruthless attacks by Nazi airmen on defenceless Lightships and Tenders, and even Lighthouses, I fully realize that International Law will not save us from attack, if such should come this way; and being situated in a most vital position on these Islands, and the Port War Signal Station, nothing would please me better, than to have the necessary weapons to hit back effectively, and so play a part in the defence of the Colony. For I would much prefer to die fighting, than I would surrender, because of having nothing to defend myself with.

It is said "they also serve, who only stand and wait", but that is a policy I hope I am not called upon to adopt. I wish to do my bit, I wish to be prepared, to serve my Country in the best possible manner, even if it be out here and I know you will agree Sir, that spirit and determination are poor weapons against steel, but are most essential with it.

I went through the last war, and my men have had years experience in the local Defence Force, so are quite capable of using fire-arms. It is on these grounds I respectively request to be supplied with 3 Bren Guns, and a supply of ammunition; one Bren Gun to be supplied with the necessary equipment for anti-aircraft use.

Trusting this will receive your favourable consideration.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) William J. Lewis,

Principal Keeper.

- 5. Excerpt from Minutes from Executive Engineer of 13/9/40.
- 6. Letter to Accountant General B.O.T. of 17/9/40.
- 7. Signal from C.C.S.A.D to N.O.i/c. Psg. 14502/19/9.

H.C.S.

For your information

11-11.
Fw N.O.i/c. 27-1X-40.

O.C. Def 7.

To see AD 27/1X/40

Honourable Colonial Secretary.

Dear Sir, Thank you. With concurrence N.O.i/c am getting these men temporarily in the first case pending final decision as to P.W.S.S. at Goldsworthy

Chs O.C. D.F. 30. x. 40

O.C. Def 7.

Suggest you show this & discuss with H.E. at your weekly interview. AD 1/1X/40

Honourable Colonial Secretary.

Spoke with His Excellency on this & he concurs in proposed appointment. I am accordingly finding suitable men.

2. x. 40. Chs O.C. D.F.

H.C.S.

Make the necessary arrangements for extra transport to & from Penitence to H.O. has made and changed to Admiralty. I would like to see the proposed contract before signature.

It is assumed that in view of Red (5) this will hold only until arrival of base signal staff.

RBH 17. x. 40.

O.C. Def 7.

F.n.v.u.a. AD 18/1X/40

Honourable Colonial Secretary.

I had already discussed this with the N.O.C. & I understood it quite clearly that they would make the necessary arrangements, ~~I am~~ in fact I made it quite plain that I was too busy to act as their legal drafting department. I cannot therefore quite understand their appeal to you without further reference to me.

I cannot see the need for a new Contract, Hutchinson who holds the Board of Trade Contract for stores to the lighthouse would be quite prepared to do the additional work at pro rata price - i.e. £18 per man per year. - if he was asked. I feel sure.

C.W.S. 18. x. 40.
O.C.D.F.

N.O.C.

Please see above

[Signature] 23/40

H.C.S. It would appear that there has been a slight misunderstanding as regards these arrangements. I understood from O.C.D.F. that if the necessary horses could be obtained to work between Pembroke & Ho and Canopus he could arrange the transport between these & Port Stanley by lorry, hence my minute to you to put the matter on an official footing, as I assumed there would have to be some charge from the Govt for use of their lorry over & above any arrangement as to horses. As the original contract had been made by O.C.D.F. I had erroneously imagined he would do the same again. Propose to make my own arrangements. ph

R.M. 22. x. 40.

Telegram No. 29 from S. of S. of 26/2/41.

8.

O.C.D.F. force.

For your recommendations please on

Red 8.

[Signature] 28/2/41

Honourable Colonial Secretary

In view of conference with L.A.S.A.D on Monday & recommendations put up I think the case would be met if reference was made to that telegram with a note that "all MGs are under control & at disposal of D.C.D.F. & (2) while protection of L.H. is covered by original 12 asked for an additional two would be welcome.

It is obvious S. of S. does not realise the impossibility of doing any rapid movement of guns & stores between L.H. & other ports.

W.S. v.c.o.f.
6. III. 41.

Y.E.

Draft telegram submitted for despatch in I.D.

O. J. J. J.
7/3/41

Draft attached

W.S. 7/3/41

9. Telegram 170.34. to S of S of 7/3/41.

P.H.

Major Woodgate

The correspondence dealing with the taking over of the P.W.S.S. by the Staff is filed herein.

O. J. J. J.
12/9/41

P.H.

10. Letter to Gen. Keeper, C.P.W. of 3/1/42.

P.H.

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



MINUTE.

2nd September, 19 40.

From The Officer Commanding,
Falkland Islands
Defence Force,
Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To The Honourable _____
Colonial Secretary,
Stanley.

The normal staff at Cape Pembroke Lighthouse ^{is} ~~is~~ the Principal Keeper and two assistants: At the outbreak of war an additional man was drafted there by the acting N.O. i/c and your predecessor ruled that he was to be paid from the Military Vote, Pay and Allowances. Since then the Lighthouse has become Port War Signal Station officially and the N.O. i/c agrees that any additional cost should be in his opinion against Admiralty Advances. The Lighthouse is a most valuable outpost in addition to its Naval uses and again N.O.i/c fully agrees that it is most desirable for the efficiency of the defence of the Colony that a continuous watch be kept there. This is impossible with present staff and an additional 3 men are wanted, as the leave arrangements are a month on duty and a fortnight off.

R. A. S. A. D. is proposing that the P.W.S.S. be formed at Goldsworthy Rock as in the original Defence Scheme and personnel are being asked for for this purpose I believe, but there will be some time before this materialises and also Cape Pembroke will still be of the greatest value and in addition, the arrival of the E.L.D.S. for installation there, will mean more staff in any case.

Submitted that -

- (1) The N.O.i/c be asked to confirm formally
 - (a) The cost of the three extra men and the present additional hand be paid by the Admiralty.
 - (b) His agreement that continuous watch is essential.

(- 2 -)

and subject to satisfactory reply,

- (2) I be authorised to post three additional men at usual rates.

Rush Woodgat

Executive Engineer.

R. W. F.

NAVAL MESSAGE.

Revised
December, 1935.

1320b.

(4)

For use in
Signal
Department
only

| | | |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| Originators Instructions (Indication of Priority, Intercept Group, etc.) | Codress/Plaindress | No. of Groups : |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| TO: R.A.S.A.D. C.in.C. S.A. | FROM: |
|--------------------------------|-------|

| | | |
|----------------|--|----|
| Write cross | R.A.S.A.D. repeated C.in.C. S.A. from W.C.i/c Psy. | 5 |
| | The normal staff at Cape Pembroke is Principal Keeper and | 10 |
| | two assistants one extra man was placed there on outbreak of | 15 |
| | war. It is considered that this complement is not sufficient | 20 |
| | to maintain constant and efficient lookout and that three additional | 25 |
| | men to allow for leave arrangements are necessary. These can be | 30 |
| | supplied by defence force. If you approve of this propose cost of | 35 |
| | all four extra men be borne by Admiralty. This is in addition to | 40 |
| | Port War Signal Station which it is proposed to set up at | 45 |
| | Goldsworthy Rock. | 50 |

~~RECEIVED~~
~~1400Z/5.~~

1400Z/5. 9/40

| | | | | | | |
|--------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|----------|------|
| System | P/L Code or Cypher | Time of Receipt | Time of Despatch | Operator | P.O.O.W. | Date |
|--------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|----------|------|

EXCERPT FROM MINUTE FROM EXECUTIVE ENGINEER OF
13th September, 1940. Original filed in 147/40.

.....

Cane Pembroke. Allowance to be made in estimates for
installation of D.E.L.S. and all possible preliminary
work to be done before their arrival.

.....

148/40.

17th September, 40.

S E C R E T.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the attached letter which has been received from the Principal Keeper, Cape Pembroke Lighthouse, on the subject of the supply of 3 Bren Guns and ammunition for defence purposes.

2. Both the Naval Officer-in-Charge and the Officer Commanding the Defence Force concur in the proposals put forward by Mr. Lewis.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Colonial Secretary.

The Accountant General,
Ministry of Shipping (A.G.1.k.),
Grand Hotel,
Blackpool,
Lancs.
ENGLAND.

NAVAL MESSAGE

7

ice

rs Instructions:
on of Priority,
, NOTWT
(ercise).

INTERCEPT GROUP.

N.O.I/C Port Stanley R C.in.C.S.A.

FROM: C.S.A.D.

Your 1400Z/5th Sept.

Approved as temporary measure pending arrival of base

signal staff vide Admiralty Message 1717/6th May.

1450Z/17

BRITISH NAVAL
BASE
27 SEP 1940
FALKLANDS

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.

②

TELEGRAM.

From Secretary of State for the Colonies,

To His Excellency the Governor.

Despatched : 26th February, 19 44. *Time* : 2250.

Received : 27th February, 19 44. *Time* : 1030.

No. 29. Secret. With reference to your telegram No. 19 Machine Guns. My attention has been drawn to the request by the Lighthouse Keeper at Cape Pembroke for arms and ammunition. Understand Naval Officer-in-Charge and Officer Commanding Defence Force support the application.

I consider all guns in the Colony should be at the disposal of the Officer Commanding the Defence Force for allocation where he thinks most necessary. One or more guns might be sited so as to afford protection to the Lighthouse. Officer Commanding the Defence Force may consider on defence grounds one of the existing eight guns should be so sited with temporary mounting for A.A. purposes.

Presume proposed allocation of the twelve guns on order covers protection of the Lighthouse. Please confirm.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

I.D.

Red (39) h.f.
4/3 21.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From His Excellency the Governor.

To Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Despatched : 7th March, 1941. Time : ...

Received : 19... Time : ...

Rec. S

No. 34. Your telegram 29 Secret if my telegram 33 Secret agreed to yes. If not agreed to Allderidge will advise as soon after arrival as possible.

GOVERNOR.

G.T.C.

3rd January,

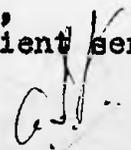
41.

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that it is understood that you are in some doubt as to your present position at Cape Pembroke Lighthouse in regard to Naval and civil duties.

2. I am to make it clear that you and the two Assistant Keepers come directly under the orders of the Naval Officer in Charge in so far only as this affects your duties at the Port War Signal Station. Questions appertaining to administration and the civil side should as heretofore be referred to the Colonial Secretary.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,



for Colonial Secretary.

Mr. W. J. Lewis,
Principal Keeper,
Cape Pembroke Lighthouse,