

C.S.

MISCELLANEOUS

(Fire Brigade)

UTI/FIR/1#8

1924.

No. 299/24

Superintendent
Fire Brigade

SUBJECT.

192 4

14th April

Submits report on call to Fire
at "The Quarters"

Previous Paper.

MINUTES.

*Minute from Subt. of Fire Brigade
of 14th April 1924*

Encl ①

*I am obliged for this full report
from the Superintendent: the actual time
it took to get to the scene and get water
going should be given.*

*I am not disposed to believe that the
burning was malicious. The comparatively
isolated place, the fact that it is in a
known police patrol, (the police had I
am informed passed a few minutes earlier ^{and noticed nothing})
the senselessness of arson attempting arson
at so wet a season, the comparatively great
difficulty in lifting force was all tend to
support a theory of the Chief Constable that
live cinders or. earlier in the week had blown
over from the ash bin and that smouldering had*

Subsequent Paper.

been going on for some days. It might
quickly spread when once started if there
had been previous smouldering. I sincerely
trust that this is the correct explanation.

It would be as well to obtain a written
report from the Chief Constable

~~TTTTT~~ 14 April 24

Minute from Lt. Governor 14 April 1924

(2)

Notice posted on boards

(3)

Harbour Master & Superintendent Fire Brigade.

To wit. Will you please refer
to query in first paragraph in His Excellency's
minute above.

gml:z
oic:pcu
13 April 1924

Hon. Col. Secretary.

I was informed by Telephone of fire just prior
to 1.50^{am}.

Engine was at vicinity of fire at about 2.10^{am}:
and water was being thrown on to fire at about 2.30^{am}.

Colin E. Hovelly.
Harbour Master
S.S.V.S.B.
15. 4. 24.

Chief Constable

Will you please furnish report asked
for by His Excellency.

gml:z
oic:pcu
14 April 1924

Von Col Secretary
 Sir,

On the morning of the 13th inst at 1.50 a.m. a fire was reported by Telephone from the Quarters occupied by W. Hall Col. Dentist.

I was not in bed myself at the time I at once gave the alarm, the Gun was fired & bell rung, I proceeded to the scene of the fire, arriving there about 1.57 a.m. I found that the Gorse at the South of the Quarters & west of the ash bin was badly on fire in one place only.

I got minimas from Gov House also brought from Police Station, these were put in action at once. The fire was in the centre of the Gorse and spread very rapidly towards the North. The fire Engine arrived about 10 minutes later, the hose was laid South side of building where the fire started & fire was quickly got under control. A hose was afterwards lead the West side of building. Two hoses in action. fire was extinguished at about 3.40 a.m.

The Quarters was patrolled late that night at about 12.45, & all was correct. It was also seen again about 1.00 a.m. & all was correct.

I am of the opinion after discussing the matter carefully with the Police, that these Gorse bushes were not maliciously fired, but that it was caused by a spark from the ash bin close by, and may have been smouldering for some time, owing to the rainfalls on several days previous.

In conclusion I cannot agree that three bushes were fired in 3 separate places as there was only one place on fire visible when I arrived at 1.57 a.m.

22-4-24

J. Sullivan
 Ch Constable

V.G. Submitted

9/11/03

Di/Sec

23 April 1903

~~To Mr. ...~~

The Supt. of the Brigade might

see the Chief Constables minute

ttttt

23 April 1903

Superintendent Gair Brigade,

To see

9/11/03

Di/Sec

23 April 1903

Gen. Secy.

Noted.

Colin E. Hooley.

Supt. S.V. B.

28.4.03



MINUTE PAPER.

Departmental Number.

From Superintendent
Stanley Volunteer Fire Brigade.

Date. 14 April 1924.

To Hon. Col. Secretary.

Reference
Numbers.

I beg to report on the call to the Volunteer Fire Brigade on the morning of the 13th inst at 1.50 a.m.

The Fire Alarm was very promptly answered and the Engine was throwing water in a very quick time, though previous calls to the Brigade, to attend gorse bushes afire, have inclined members of this Volunteer Force not to attend a Brigade call at night, being of the opinion that these are wilful acts apparently caused for amusement to others rather than to those who have to turn out.

The Gorse bushes on the West side of the Government house, known as 'The Quarters', were afire.

The wind being W.S.W. the building was in peril and very dense smoke, for a while, hindered the actual work of locating the seat of the fire.

Fire was found to have broken out in 3 separate places. on the South end, in the Centre and on the North end of the Gorse bank that lies on the summit of a bank on the West end of the houses. Out houses & Peat Shed lying between the House & the bank.

The centres of these 3 separate outbreaks being well apart would seem to point to this conflagration having been caused wilfully.

The wind during the day & the night of the 12th inst

was between South & W.S.W., being South at 9^{am}, S.W. at Noon
and W.S.W. at time of Brigade Call.

The Horse bushes were damp & ground saturated, the
rainfall recently has been:

7 April.	0.29 inch
8. "	0.03 "
9. "	0.10 "
10. "	0.14 "
11. "	0.17 "
12. "	0.04 "

Total. 7th to 12th: 0.77 inches

No damage would appear to have been done to
the buildings - slight damage was done to wire fences -
and small damage may have been occasioned through
the necessity of procuring water from supply within
the house and also the necessity of causing the house
to be used as a passageway from the front to the rear
and vice versa.

The Engine was hosed & made ready by 4^{am} on the
13th - and in the forenoon of that day fire was discovered
smouldering on the South of the Horse bank - this was
extinguished - The Police were informed and visits were
made by myself and members of the Brigade at times
during the day.

Hoses etc were finally removed to store on the
morning of the 14th inst.

Colin E. Hooley.

Superintendent.
Stanley Volunteer Fire Brigade.



From His Excellency the Acting Governor

to The Officer-in-Charge of the Secretariat.

Please ask the Superintendent of the Fire Brigade to make a report on the fire which took place in the vicinity of the Quarters on Saturday night. It is desirable that reports be made on all fires attended by the Brigade with special reference to the time taken (a) to arrive at the scene of the fire and (b) to commence operations.

I would like the following notice published

" The Acting Governor wishes to ~~thank~~ record his ~~gratitude~~ ~~to~~ congratulate and thank ~~the~~ ~~members~~ ~~of~~ the Fire Brigade, ^{the police,} and the members of the public, who took an active part in putting out the fire, which ^{occurred} took place on the early morning of the 13th instant. Their action undoubtedly saved the Quarters from destruction."

[Signature] 14 April '24

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Stanley, Falkland Islands.
15th April, 1924.

The Acting Governor wishes to congratulate and thank the Fire Brigade, the Police, and the members of the public, who took an active part in putting out the fire, which occurred on the early morning of the 15th instant. Their action undoubtedly saved The Quarters from destruction.

By Command,

G. R. L. Brown,
for Colonial Secretary.

M.P. 299/24.