

447
Govt. of {1896} Madras.

23-1-11
4.10.12

Marine (1896) Department.

G.O., No. 363 Marine

DATED 21st May 1896.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Madras Harbour Steam Launch. Letter
from the Chairman, H. I. Board on the
subject of the use of the — for artillery
practice, Comd^d to the Lt General
Commanding the Forces for information.

93-130 1896 712

From W. AUSTIN, Esq., I.C.S., Chairman, Harbour Trust Board, Madras, to the Joint Secretary to Government, Marine Department, dated 11th May 1896, No. 577.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your endorsement No. 229 E., dated 24th April 1896, forwarding for remarks letter No. 804/R.A. (herewith returned) from the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces, Madras, complaining of the delay in supplying the steam launch for towing a moving target for the annual practice of the Royal Artillery, Fort St. George, and to enclose copy of a resolution passed by the Board at its meeting of the 8th instant.

The Board regrets that inconvenience should have been experienced through the launch having been under repairs on the different occasions when her services were required, and also that it cannot guarantee that the launch shall be available at any time as the purposes for which she is maintained must take precedence of any outside requirements.

I would point out that the boat being built of thin steel is not suitable for any rough work, and that she was not constructed to carry heavy materials, nor many persons in addition to her crew, and also that she suffered damage on the last occasion of her being used by the Military authorities through improper usage, and I would request that on future occasions the target, &c., should be placed on a cargo boat when being taken into position and not on the launch.

The cost of making good the damage referred to in the previous paragraph should be borne by the Military Department and a bill for the amount will be forwarded to the General Officer Commanding Madras District in due course.

I beg also to forward a copy of letter from the Board's Engineer and to invite the attention of Government to the suggestion made by that officer that some arrangement be made in case of accident to any of the crew to provide for their families.

ENCLOSURES.

From A. LEE-POGSON, Esq., Engineer, Harbour Trust Board, Madras, to the Chairman, Harbour Trust Board, dated 30th April 1896, No. 82.

In reply to your letter No. 66 E., dated 27th April 1896, I have the honour to say that the launch crew were somewhat diffident about towing the target, but on being ordered to sea, they of course obeyed. I think some arrangement should be made, in case of accident, to provide for their families. The launch boiler was only received back repaired from the Railway Workshops on the 11th March, and the decking and engines were replaced and the boat launched in working order on the 27th March, which was sharp work.

The Artillery practice commenced on the 31st March, and to date the launch has been so employed on six days.

I have to report that one of the iron stanchions has been broken off, which will necessitate a portion of the decking being removed, am I to charge for the repairs; in any case I would ask that the Military authorities be informed that a delicate steel launch should not be treated as a barge for carrying out to sea, launching and hauling on board again the heavy timber targets, which has done the above damage, and which might go through the thin sheet iron decking.

The launch had also ten men on board, besides her crew and targets, &c., and with so much weight so high above water-level, which the vessel is not intended to carry, a very small sea might capsize her.

A cargo boat should be hired for this purpose, and the launch only used for towing.

EXTRACT of Proceedings of the Trustees of the Harbour of Madras, at a meeting held at the offices of the Board on Friday the 8th May 1896.

5. Read endorsement No. 229 E., dated 24th April 1896, from the Joint Secretary to Government, Marine Department, referring, for remarks, letter No. 804/R.A., dated 18th April 1896, from the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces, Madras, bringing to notice the delay on the part of the Harbour authorities in supplying the steam launch required for the annual target practice.

Read also letter No. 82, dated 30th April 1896, from the Board's Engineer reporting on the above.

Read minute by a Trustee.

Resolved that the Chairman be invited to address Government in the terms of the Trustee's minute.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) S. HUTCHENCE,
Ag. Secy., Harbour Trust Board.

ORDER—No. 363, Marine, dated 21st May 1896.

The letter from the Chairman, Harbour Trust Board, with its enclosures, will be communicated to the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces for information.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. McNEIL CAMPBELL, Colonel, R.E.,
Joint Secretary to Government.

To the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces.
„ Chairman, Harbour Trust Board.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

Spare Copies

GOVT. of {1896} Madras.
MARINE.

Dated May, 21st.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O. No. 363, 21st May 1896.

MAY.

Madras Harbour Steam Launch

Letter from the Chairman, Harbour Trust Board, on the subject of the use of the — for Artillery practice, communicated to the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces for information.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
(Marine)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following

From the Lt. General Commanding the Forces, Madras, No. R.A./804, dated
18th April 1896.

From the Chairman, Harbour Trust Board, Madras, No. 577, dated 11th May 96.

No 363 dated 21st May 1896.

The letter from the Chairman,
Harbour Trust Board, with its enclo-
sures, will be communicated to the
Lt. General Commanding the Forces —
for information.

*A.H.
21.5.96*

16/5/96

*Copy
18.5.96*

The Lt. General Commanding the
Forces.

Ch H. J. Board
(40—4,000—14-3-95.)

L.S.

*The use of the Madras
Harbour Steam Launches
for Artillery practice*

MARINE C. No. 546

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

*Recd 15.5.96
Enc 3*

FROM

THE CHAIRMAN,
HARBOUR TRUST BOARD,
MADRAS.

TO

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
Marine Department.

DATED 11th May 96

DESPATCHED 12th May 96

RECEIVED

ENCLOSURE 3 Three

No. 577

6.4.95. 104
9.5.95. 127.8
3.7.95. 196.
24.4.96. 229.5.

SUBJECT.

*Replying to current
No. 1388 on letter from the
Lieut. General Commanding
The Forces, Madras complain-
ing of the delay in supplying
the Board Steam launch
required for the annual
target practice*

SCOTTISH PRESS.

H.E. 186

ROYAL ARTILLERY.
Inspections

CURRENT No. 1388

HEAD QUARTERS,

Ootacamund,

No. R.A.
804

18th April 1896.

From

The Lieutenant-General COMMANDING the FORCES, Madras,

To

The Chief Secretary
to the Government of Madras,
Ootacamund

Sir,

I have the honor to communicate for the information of the Government of Madras the following extracts from the remarks of the Brigadier General, Royal Artillery, Madras Command, and General Officer Commanding Madras District in the Annual Inspection Report of No 4 Company, Eastern Division, R.A., dated 31st January last.

By the Brigadier General, R.A., Madras Command — " x x A moving target is absolutely necessary for their efficiency and the practice this year has not yet been commenced from the Sea Forts in the hopes

that

that one will eventually be procured."

By the G. O. C. Madras District — "x x The Harbour authorities have undertaken to supply a steam launch to tow a target when required, but I have never been able to obtain one from them as yet. Their answer has always been that one launch is in use and the other under repair. Their promises on the subject have not been kept. This is unsatisfactory and regretful."

2. With reference thereto, I would observe that, in the correspondence ending with Government of India, Military Department, letter, No 539, dated 17th June last, to your address, that Government undertook the full responsibility should any accident happen to the steam launch whilst employed by the Military authorities and it is regretted that the Harbour authorities

are

are apparently still reluctant to supply the launch notwithstanding the acceptance of the above conditions.

3. I would add that, in consequence of the delay in supplying the launch, the annual practice of the Royal Artillery, Fort Saint George, is not yet completed for the year ending 31st ultimus.

* Report just received that the practice was completed on the 14th instant.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Ans. M. J. M. R. S. Lieut. Genl,

Commanding the Forces, Madras.

Public Dept
CURRENT No. 1388

From

L. B. C. F.

to RA 804

D 18
R 20
Ry 20 } Apr. 96



Bringing to notice the delay on the part of the Harbour authorities in supplying the steam launch required for the annual target practice of No. 4 Coy. East Div. R.A.

Transferred

Encl. MARINE G. No. 546/96
Transferred to the Marine Department.

Woodhills
Ag. Asstt Secretary

CHAIRMAN
MADRAS 27 APR. 96
HARBOUR TRUST

No. 229 E of 24 April 1896

Referred to the Chairman Harbour Trust Board for remarks with reference to the correspondence ending with L.O. 196. Marine, dated 3rd July 1895.

Thos. Campbell Colonel R.E.
W. Secty. to Govt.
Marine

Copy
24.4.96.
To The Chairman Harbour Trust Board to be returned.

R.A.

Confidential

No. 82

From

The Engineer
Harbour Trust Board
Madras.

To

The Chairman.
Harbour Trust Board
Madras.

Madras 30th April 1896.

Sir

In reply to your letter No. 666 dated 24th April 1896 I have the honor to say that the Launch crew were somewhat diffident about towing the target, but on being ordered to sea they of course obeyed. I think some arrangement should be made, in case of accident, to provide for their families. The Launch Boiler was only received back repaired, from the Railway Workshops on the 11th March, and the decking and Engines were replaced and the boat launched in working order on the 27th March, which was sharp work.

The Artillery practice commenced on the 31st March and to date the launch has been so employed, on six days.

I have to report that one of the iron stanchions has been broken off, which will necessitate a portion of the decking being removed, and I to charge for the repairs, in any case I would ask that the Military Authorities be informed that a delicate steel launch should not be treated as a barge for carrying out to sea, launching and

hauling on board again, the heavy timber targets, which has done the above damage, and which might go through the thin sheet iron decking.

The launch had also 10 men on board, besides her crew and targets &c. and with so much weight so high above water level, which the vessel is not intended to carry, a very small sea might capsize her. A cargo boat should be hired for this purpose, and the launch only used for towing.

I have &c

Sd/- A. Leeson
Engineer Harbour Trust Board.

(True Copy)

HARBOUR TRUST
MADRAS 12 MAY 96
SECRETARY'S OFFICE

W. H. Mitchell
Ag. Secretary
Harbour Trust Board

Recd
5/6/96

2.5

35.0

EXTRACT of Proceedings of the TRUSTEES OF THE HARBOUR

OF MADRAS, at a Meeting held at the Offices of the Board on Friday the 8th day of May 1896.

5 Read Endorsement No 2298, dated 24th April 1896, from the joint Secretary to Government, Marine Department, referring for remarks, letter No. R. A. dated 18th April 1896, from the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces, Madras, bringing to notice the delay on the part of the Harbour authorities in supplying the steam launch required for the annual target practice.

Read also letter No. 82 dated 30th April 1896, from the Board's Engineer, reporting on the above.

5 S.P. Read minute by a Trustee Resolved that the Chairman be invited to address Government in the terms of the Trustee's minute.

True Extract

HARBOUR TRUST
MADRAS 12 MAY 96
SECRETARY'S OFFICE

2.5

W. H. Mitchell
Ag. Secretary
Harbour Trust Board

Harbour Trust Office,

MADRAS, 11th May 1896.

No. 577

8P

FROM

Ware Austin Esqr ICS

CHAIRMAN, HARBOUR TRUST BOARD,

MADRAS.

TO

The Hon. Col. D. M. Neil Campbell
R.E.

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

Marine Department.

Sir

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your endorsement N^o 2295 dated 24th April 1896, forwarding, for remarks, letter RA (herewith returned) 804 from the Lieut. General Commanding the Forces, Madras, complaining of the delay in supplying the steam launch for towing a moving target for the annual practice of the Royal Artillery Fort St George, and to enclose copy of a resolution passed by the Board at its meeting of the 8th instant.

The Board regrets that inconvenience should have been experienced through the launch having been under repairs on the different occasions when her services were required, and also that it cannot guarantee

that the launch shall be available at any time as the purposes for which she is maintained must take precedence of any outside requirements.

I would point out that the boat being built of thin steel is not suitable for any rough work, and that she was not constructed to carry heavy materials nor many persons in addition to her crew, and also that she suffered damage on the last occasion of her being used by the Military authorities through improper usage, and I would request that on future occasions the target be should be placed on a cargo boat when being taken into position and not on the launch.

The cost of making good the damage referred to in the previous para should be borne by the Military Department and a bill for the amount will be forwarded to the General Officer Commanding, Madras District in due course.

I beg also to forward a copy of letter from the Board's Engineer and to invite the attention of Government to the suggestion made by that Officer that some arrangement be made in case of accident to

to any of the crew to provide for their families. 98

I have the honour to be
Sir

Your obedient servant

Wm. L. L.
Chairman

Harbour Trust Board

~~W. L. L.~~
as Sec

J. L.