

Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 50M

DATED 10-1-98

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Bubonic Plague

Recording letter from the Govt of Bombay forwarding for information Copies of certain resolutions on the subject of the deputation of military officers on plague duty and the allowances payable to them.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Local & Munl. (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 4382 *M*

From *The Secretary to Govt.
General Deptt.
Bombay*

This Order No. 50000 of 10-1-98.

Recorded

*V.R.
5/1/98*

W. I. S.

No. *6980*
4905-P

Dated *15-12-1897*

Received *20-12-1897*

Registered *20-12-1897*

Enclosures *2*

Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

*Forwarding for information
copies of ^{order} Resolutions No.
5509-3547-P. Dated 11th
October 1897 and 6374-4219-P.
dated 17th November 1897
on the subject of the deputation of
military officers on plague duty
and the allowances payable to them*

Copied to the Financial Department.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Bubonic Plague.

Pay and allowances.

Military Officers and Troops on
Plague duty.

General Department.

No. ⁵⁵⁰⁹
3547-r.

Bombay Castle,

11th October 1897.

Letter to the Government of India, No. ^{M.}_{211 P.}, dated 20th April 1897 :—

"I am directed to request the confirmation of the Government of India to an undertaking given by the Government of Bombay that Regimental Military officers transferred to plague duty shall receive allowances at the rates specified in Article 101, Civil Service Regulations.

"2. In dealing with the plague, rapidity of action has been of the first importance; demi-official letters, personal conversations and telegrams have to a very large extent taken the place of formal official correspondence; and formal sanction to expenditure has frequently been anticipated. All this is particularly true of the proceedings preceding the establishment of Plague Committees in Bombay and Poona, and especially so in the latter case, as owing to the supineness of the Poona Municipality not only were no really effective steps taken to combat the plague until Government intervened, but also for a considerable period Government were left in the dark as to the hold the epidemic had obtained in Poona.

"3. The proximity to the city of Poona of one of the largest cantonments in India, whilst it emphasized the urgent need of measures to limit and prevent the spread of the epidemic, at the same time provided the most effective means attainable. A system of house-to-house visitation, removal of those suffering from plague to hospitals, of those persons living in the same dwellings with the people attacked to segregation camps, and of disinfecting and lime-washing infected houses, was organized and is now carried into effect entirely by European and Native soldiers supervised by regimental officers. The officers and men so employed are camped out near the city, and the most stringent precautions are taken to prevent any one of them contracting the plague. So far not one case amongst these troops has been reported. Nevertheless their duties are such that neither officers nor men are entirely free from danger, and they are required to perform monotonous, arduous and disagreeable duties.

"4. The General Officer Commanding the Poona District who lent the services of the officers and men required certain allowances for them. Those for the non-commissioned officers and men and native officers were within the power of this Government to sanction. The allowances for regimental officers agreed to were on the scale laid down in Article 101, Civil Service Regulations.

"5. His Excellency the Governor in Council, I am to say, is aware that in anticipating the sanction of the Government of India he acted in an unusual way; but the circumstances with which he had to deal were of an entirely unprecedented kind; the responsibilities were such as he could not transfer; and the urgency of the matter was very great; moreover the Government of India had already decided that the allowances admissible to Indian Medical Service officers under Article 101, Civil Service Regulations, for famine duty should be drawn by them for plague duty (Government of India's No. 7 Sanitary 641 of 20th February 1897), and the application, by analogy, of the same terms to regimental officers employed on plague duty was easy. His Excellency the Governor in Council does not doubt therefore that His Excellency the Governor General in Council will approve his action and sanction the allowances which have been promised and which are being drawn.

"6. I am to add that the determination of the portion of the plague expenditure to be ultimately borne by the Poona Municipal Funds and the Poona Cantonment Fund is a matter for the future. For the present the greater part of the expenditure falls upon Government, as the Poona City Municipality's balance is now insufficient to meet even its ordinary expenditure."

Letter from the Chairman, Poona Plague Committee, No. 1308, dated 27th May 1897 :—

"I have the honour to submit that the time has come when the rates of plague allowance to be paid to officers and men engaged on plague duty may fairly be reconsidered.

"2. The following are the rates at present paid at Poona to the troops employed :—

British officers.—The rates mentioned in Article 101, Civil Service Regulations.

British non-commissioned officers.—Rs. 1½ per diem, and 6 annas per diem ration money.

British privates.—Re. 1 per diem + 6 annas per diem ration money.

Subhedárs.—Rs. 1½ per diem.

Jamádárs.—Re. 1 per diem.

Native non-commissioned officers.—12 annas per diem.

Native privates and followers.—8 annas per diem.

"3. When these rates were fixed it was generally believed that men who volunteered for plague duty ran a great risk of catching the disease. It has been proved by experience, however, that, provided ordinary precautions are taken, the risk of infection to troops employed on plague operations is but slight. There have been no cases of plague among the troops so employed at Poona. As it is now generally known that troops engaged on plague duty are not placed in a position of exceptional danger, it might be possible to obtain satisfactory volunteers for plague duty at considerably lower rates than are paid at present. I would suggest the following scale for the consideration of Government:—

British officers.—Rs. 5 per diem.

British non-commissioned officers.—Re. 1 per diem.

British privates.—12 annas per diem.

Subhedárs.—Re. 1 per diem.

Jamádárs.—12 annas per diem.

Native non-commissioned officers.—6 annas per diem.

Native privates and followers.—4 annas per diem.

These rates might be treated as inclusive of ration money and compensation for clothing. It would be equitable to give notice to the troops engaged on plague duty of any reduction in allowances that might be decided on, to enable those volunteers to return to military duty who do not care to do plague work at reduced rates. I would further suggest that the Military authorities be consulted before it is finally decided to reduce the rates."

Letter to the Deputy Adjutant General, Bombay Command, No. M—600-P., dated 1st June 1897.

Memorandum from the Commissioner in Sind, No. 2852, dated 1st June 1897.

Letter from the Deputy Adjutant General, Bombay Command, No. 133—1116-M., dated 2nd June 1897:—

"In reply to your letter No. M—600-P. of the 1st instant, I am directed by the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces, Bombay, to state, for the information of the Government of Bombay, that His Excellency sees no objection to the proposed reduction in the rates of pay to be given to officers and men employed on plague duty at Poona."

Telegram to the Government of India, Home Department No. ^{M.}_{634 P.}, dated 3rd June 1897.

Letter from the Chairman, Bombay Plague Committee, No. ³⁷⁷⁰_{P.} of 7th June 1897:—

"As owing to the decrease in plague seizures, the constant work entailed on soldiers and sepoys employed on plague duty has somewhat lessened, I have the honour to propose the following rates for adoption from any fixed convenient date in supersession of those now existing:—

	Rs.	a.
British officers	5	0 per diem.
" non-commissioned officers	1	0 "
" privates	0	12 "
Subedárs	1	0 "
Jamádárs	0	12 "
Non-commissioned officers	0	6 "
Sepoys	0	4 "

"As clothing has already been provided, there will be no compensation necessary on this account, and none need be allowed.

"No ration money should be granted, nor compensation for wear and tear of boots given.

"2. Due notice should be given to the military employed on plague duty of the proposed reduction in rates."

Memorandum from the Commissioner in Sind, No. 2981, dated 9th June 1897.—Submits, for early orders, the following letter No. 2888, dated 4th idem, addressed to him by the Collector of Hyderabad:—

"I have the honour to invite attention to paragraph 2 of your No. 1992 of the 16th April last, and to enquire whether sanction has yet been accorded to the grant of allowances to the Military officers employed on plague duty. I would point out that by their deputation on special duty they are deprived of their regimental allowances, and it is therefore very desirable that they should be recouped by the grant of a special allowance."

Letter to the Chairman, Poona Plague Committee, No. M—694-P., dated 10th June 1897:—

"With reference to your letter No. 1308, dated 27th May 1897, on the subject of a reduction of allowances to Military officers and men employed on plague duty, I am to say that (1) if you require fresh volunteers, you should announce that the allowances will be at the reduced rates, and (2) you should immediately give notice that from the 15th instant the allowances of those non-commissioned officers and privates and native officers who are retained will be reduced, and that if they are unwilling to serve on those terms they may return to their ordinary duties."

Letter to the Commissioner in Sind, No. ^{M.}_{699-P.}, dated 11th June 1897:—

"I am directed to request that Government may be favoured with information as to the extra allowances that have been given to British and Native officers, non-commissioned officers and private soldiers engaged on plague duty in Sind."

Telegram to the Chairman, Bombay Plague Committee, dated 11th June 1897:—

"Your letter No. ³⁷⁷⁰_{P.}, dated 7th June. Issue notice of reduction of rates from fifteenth instant."

Telegram from the Government of India, Home Department, No. 613—Medical, dated 17th June 1897.

Memorandum from the Commissioner in Sind, No. 3143, dated 18th June 1897.—Submits copy of the following memorandum from the President, Karáchi Plague Committee, No. 744, dated 16th June 1897, with copy of the Bombay rates of pay and allowances to the non-commissioned officers and men employed on plague duty in Bombay, for favour of sanction of similar payment being made in Sind; and states as follows:—

"The work has been severe and prolonged, and has been done thoroughly and cheerfully and throughout with consideration for the suffering people. The Acting Commissioner would therefore venture to express a hope that in addition to the extra pay liberal compensation may be awarded for clothing which, including helmets, got damaged from the nature of the duty. Properly speaking working suits should have been provided. The General Officer Commanding has not suggested any sum per man, but doubtless Government in the Military Department could decide the amount.

"2. Three non-commissioned officers and 27 men were sent from Hyderabad to Sukkur. For these the Acting Commissioner would recommend an extra allowance of 8 annas per non-commissioned officer and of 4 annas per man in addition to the Re. 1 and 12 annas of the Bombay rates. The heat at Sukkur is intense, and the men have had an exceptionally hard time.

"3. Reply to Government letter No. M—639-P., dated 11th instant, is being called for, but as far as the Acting Commissioner is aware, no pay or allowances have yet been disbursed anywhere in Sind.

"4. Attention is respectfully invited to the Collector of Hyderabad's No. 2888, dated 4th June 1897, submitted to Government under this office No. 2981, dated 9th June 1897, pointing out that officers wholly struck off Military duty lose their allowances. This seems likely to fall heavily on one or two officers at Hyderabad, and their case may perhaps receive special consideration.

"5. Early orders are respectfully requested."

Memorandum from the President, Plague Committee, Karáchi, to the Commissioner in Sind, No. 744, dated 16th June 1897:—

"I have the honour to forward, for your information, a copy of the rates of plague pay and other allowances for the non-commissioned officers and soldiers employed on plague duty in Bombay, and request that Government sanction be obtained for similar allowances being sanctioned for the Military employed on like duties in the Sind District.

"I would point out that no extra ration money has been drawn here, neither have the British or Native Troops received any extra clothing allowance for the wear and tear of boots, &c.

"I would suggest that compensation be given to all ranks for the wear and tear of clothing or that they may be supplied with new kháki uniform and helmets, puggris, &c., in lieu of those worn when on plague duties.

"I conclude the officers employed on plague duty, and who have been struck off military duty in consequence, receive Rs. 200 per mensem, *vide* the ruling contained in Civil Service Regulations, Article 101.

"Favour of return of annexures requested."

Memorandum from the Commissioner in Sind, No. 3203, dated 23rd June 1897:—

"With reference to the concluding sentence of the Government of India telegram No. 1381, dated 27th April (copy appended), the Acting Commissioner has the honour to request that the question of the allowances to be drawn by Lieutenants Baily and Hislop, the officers who were deputed to Sukkur and Rohri, may kindly be settled.

"2. Copies of this office telegram No. 512, and of the Government of India telegram No. 306, dated 17th April, were forwarded to Government with this office memorandum No. 2066, dated 20th idem."

Letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, No. 673, dated Simla, the 26th June 1897 :—

"In continuation of this Department telegram No. 613, dated the 17th instant, I am directed to state that the question of the allowances to be paid to combatant commissioned officers, non-commissioned officers and men when employed on duty in connection with the plague has been considered by the Government of India, and I am now to communicate their orders on the subject for the information and guidance of the Government of Bombay.

"2. The duties performed by the troops in connection with plague appear to be of two kinds—

(1) Searching, disinfecting, superintending, scavenging, &c. This may be called Sanitary duty.

(2) Guard duty.

The Guard duty is an ordinary military duty which any body of troops may be called upon to carry out, and the Governor General in Council is therefore of opinion that no allowances are admissible for its performance.

"The Sanitary duty, on the other hand, is an unusual one, and it is disagreeable and dangerous. His Excellency in Council considers that the officers and men who have been called upon to execute it should receive adequate remuneration. His Excellency in Council recognizes that the same troops may be occupied on both sorts of duties at the same time, and in this case it must be left to the discretion of the Local Government to decide, on the merits of the case, whether or not the allowances should be granted.

"3. The following are the allowances sanctioned by the Governor General in Council for the performance of Sanitary duties—

(1) Combatant British officers.—The same rate as that admissible to officers employed on famine duty under Article 101 of the Civil Service Regulations, namely, Rs. 300 a month for officers of over five years' service, and Rs. 200 a month for officers of under five years' service.

(2) British non-commissioned officers.—Re. 1 a day.

(3) British privates.—12 annas a day and 6 annas a day extra ration money.

(4) Native officers.—Re. 1-8 a day.

(5) Native non-commissioned officers.—12 annas a day.

(6) Sepoys.—8 annas a day.

"4. From the date of issue of the orders allowances at the above rates should be substituted for the allowances which are at present being paid under the orders of the Government of Bombay. In cases where no allowances have hitherto been paid, the present orders may be applied retrospectively, with effect from the date on which the troops were employed on Sanitary duty.

"5. It is understood that the two officers of the Indian Staff Corps who were deputed to Sind on special plague duty and who have been employed in supervising the disinfection of large villages (*vide* the Resolution of the Government of Bombay, No. ²³⁹²_{1897-P.}, dated the 3rd May 1897,) have hitherto been paid detention allowance at the rate of Rs. 5 a day. The Government of India consider that the rates sanctioned in paragraph 3 above should be applied retrospectively in the case of these two officers who have been employed on important executive work. They should also be granted the travelling allowances of a Military officer in Civil employ, namely, those admissible to a member of the Indian Civil Service.

"6. In conveying sanction to the grant of the allowances which have hitherto been paid to troops employed on plague duty, I am to say, with reference to your letter No. M.—211-P., dated the 20th April 1897, that whilst the Governor General in Council fully recognizes the importance of prompt action to which your letter alludes, His Excellency in Council is of opinion that it would have been better and would have saved some difficulty and embarrassment if, when it was decided to employ troops on plague duty and to grant them special allowances for the work, the question of the allowances had been immediately referred to the Government of India."

Letter from the Deputy Adjutant General, Bombay Command, No. 382—4846, dated 29th June 1897.

Memorandum No. ^{P.}_{869-P.}, dated 2nd July 1897, to the Chairman, Bombay Plague Committee, Chairman, Poona Plague Committee, and the Commissioner in Sind.—Forwarding copy of the above letter from the Government of India No. 673, dated the 26th June 1897, for report as to the effect of those orders with reference to the payments already made or to be made to the Military.

Letter from the Chairman, Poona Plague Committee, No. 1742, dated 12th July 1897 :—

"On Government memorandum No. ^{P.}_{869-P.}, dated 2nd instant, I have the honour to request a reference to my predecessor's No. 1308, dated 27th May 1897, to your address.

"2. In that letter are shown the rates up to then paid to troops employed on plague operations in Poona; and also the rates thenceforward proposed. The Native Infantry refused the reduced terms, and returned to Military duty; the Royal Irish Rifles and 2nd Bombay Lancers accepted them from 15th June.

"3. Neither of these sets of rates is in exact accordance with the scale prescribed by the Government of India.

"4. It does not appear to me, however, that the orders of the Government of India can have any effect with reference to the payments already made. I do not understand that the orders are to be enforced retrospectively in cases where allowances have been paid and done with.

"5. In the case of allowances billed but not paid and of work done before 26th June 1897, the payment is due under the orders in force up to that date and will be made in accordance with them.

"6. From the date of the issue of the orders * allowances on the Government of India's scale will, it seems, have to be paid. To do this will affect the expenditure of this Committee, for the date of the issue of the orders is 26th June 1897, and on and after that date this Committee has had no soldiers on plague duty proper (search parties, disinfecting, &c.), but some on ordinary sanitary duty and on guard duty. Those on guard duty will be debarred from any allowance. Those on sanitary duty will be entitled to the scale laid down by the Government of India, which is a good deal higher than the existing scale. The contrast may be shown thus :—

Allowances for 1 week :—

		Present Scale.	Government of India's Scale.
2 British non-commissioned officers...	Sanitary	{ 14 0 0	14 0 0
12 British privates ...	duty.	{ 63 0 0	94 8 0
		77 0 0	108 8 0
1 Native officer ...	Guard duty.	{ 5 4 0	} Not admissible.
2 Native non-commissioned officers ...		{ 5 4 0	
18 Native sowars ...		{ 31 8 0	
		42 0 0	...
Total ...		119 0 0	108 8 0

The orders of the Government of India appear to be imperative; nor does the Government memorandum under reply appear to contemplate divergence from those orders. I have the honour, however, to represent that the soldiers employed on sanitary work are not exposed to any danger whatever of plague infection, there being no plague in Poona City; that they are serving willingly on the smaller allowances offered in accordance with your No. ^{M.}_{694-P.}, dated 10th June 1897, and accepted by them; and that it would therefore be a mere waste of public money to pay them the allowances stated by the Government of India. I would further represent that in the case of sowars it is impolitic and inequitable to withdraw, without any previous intimation, the allowances tendered in accordance with your letter above quoted and accepted by them, and under these circumstances, request that allowances to them may be passed until they shall have received intimation. This I am now forwarding to their Commanding Officer."

Memorandum from the Commissioner in Sind, No. 3485, dated 12th July 1897 :—

"The Acting Commissioner in Sind presents compliments and, in reply to Mr. Secretary Atkins's letter No. M. 699—P., dated 11th June last, has the honour to state that no extra allowances have been given to British and Native non-commissioned officers and private soldiers engaged on plague duty in Sind, except in Sukkur, where British private soldiers (not non-commissioned officers) were paid an allowance of 8 annas a day out of Municipal Funds."

Letter to the Chairman, Bombay Plague Committee, No. ^{P.}_{973-P.}, dated 15th July 1897.

Telegram to the Commissioner in Sind, No. ^{P.}_{973-P.}, dated 15th July 1897.

Letter from the Chairman, Bombay Plague Committee, No. 4691, dated 19th July 1897 :—

"In reply to your No. ^{P.}_{869-P.}, dated the 2nd instant, I have the honour to report as follows.

"From the date the Parel Plague Hospital was opened till the 14th June inclusive, the rates of plague allowances were regulated as under, irrespective of the duties performed :—

	Rs.	a.	p.	
British non-commissioned officers	...	1	0	0 per day
Extra ration money ...	...	0	6	0 "
British rank and file	...	0	12	0 "
Extra ration money	...	0	6	0 "
Subedars	...	1	8	0 "
Jamadars	...	1	0	0 "
Native non-commissioned officers	...	0	12	0 "
Sepoys ...	...	0	8	0 "

"2. They were also given two blue suits and one cot each, plus Re. 1 per head per month for wear and tear of boots.

"3. The only difference between the rates sanctioned by Government and those allowed by this office up to the 14th ultimo, is—

- (a) Extra ration of annas 6 paid to the British non-commissioned officers.
(b) Jamadars allowed by this office Re. 1 only instead of Rs. 1-8 per diem as sanctioned by Government.

"4. Thus the British non-commissioned officers have been allowed Rs. 69-12-0 more, and the Jamadars Rs. 103 less* than they would have received according to Government scale. In addition to this, Re. 1 per month per head has been allowed for wear and tear of boots.

* On the whole expenditure.

"5. Owing to the decline of the plague, the following reduction in the allowances was made by the Committee, to have effect from the 15th ultimo—

- (a) British non-commissioned officers to get Re. 1 per day only, and no ration allowance.
(b) British privates, who were getting As. 12 a day, and As. 6 ration allowance, to get As. 12 per day without ration allowance.
(c) Native ranks as under :—

	Former scale.	Present scale.	Government scale.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Subedars	... 1 8 0	1 0 0	1 8 0
Jamadars	... 1 0 0	0 12 0	1 8 0
Non-commissioned officers	... 0 12 0	0 6 0	0 12 0
Privates	... 0 8 0	0 4 0	0 8 0

and no compensation for wear and tear of boots.

"6. Owing to this reduction, the amount paid since the passing of the new order is Rs. 440-10 less than it would have been if the men had been paid according to Government scale—

	Rs.	a.	p.
Native officers	...	22	8 0
Non-commissioned officers	...	68	10 0
Privates	...	349	8 0
Total	...	410	10 0

"7. The whole of the sanitary and guard duties, with the exception of one or two men, are now performed by Civilians.

"8. Officers in charge of detachments on plague duty were allowed Rs. 100 per mensem inclusive of all expenses for *garry* hire.

"9. In March and April last, when special house-to-house visitation duty was performed, the men on duty were given the special allowances as shown below—

British non-commissioned officers	Re. 1-0-0 per day.
" rank and file	" 0-8-0 "
Native officers	" 1-0-0 "
" non-commissioned officers	" 0-8-0 "
" privates	" 0-4-0 "

"10. I would point out that a great saving was effected to Government, or the Bubonic Grant, as the case might be, by the issue of working clothing instead of the allowance for working dress worn out regimentally.

"11. As the saving effected is to the advantage of the Bubonic Grant, and the clerical labour involved in making out fresh pay abstracts, to restore the difference in the 2 scales to the soldier, would be great, I recommend the scale already given should be adhered to and no alterations made."

Memorandum from the Commissioner in Sind, No. 3635, dated 21st July 1897—Submits a letter No. 903, dated 3rd July 1897, from the Chairman, Karachi Plague Committee and recommends that it may be notified that the Plague Committee, Karachi, which was constituted under Government Resolution No. ¹⁶⁵⁰/_{1112-F.}, dated 4th March 1897, will cease to act after the 31st July 1897.

Telegram to the Commissioner in Sind, No. P.—1062-P., dated 26th July 1897 :—

"Your 3635 of 21st. What arrangements do you propose for settling accounts and writing report if Committee is dissolved?"

Telegram to the Commissioner in Sind, No. ^{P.}/_{1065-P.}, dated 27th July 1897.

Memorandum from the Commissioner in Sind, No. 3735, dated 28th July 1897 :—

"The Acting Commissioner in Sind presents compliments and, with reference to Mr. Secretary Atkins's endorsement No. P.—869-P., dated 2nd instant, forwarding a copy of letter No. 673, dated 26th June last, from the Government of India, according sanction to the grant of certain allowances to combatant British officers, non-commissioned officers and men and officers and men of the Native Army for the performance of sanitary duties only during the plague (*i.e.* searching, disinfecting, superintending, scavenging, &c.), and inquiring the effect of these orders with reference to the payments already made or to be made to the Military, has the honour to state that no payments have yet been made for the performance of any of these duties in Karachi, Hyderabad or Sukkur with the exception of an allowance of 8 annas a day paid to British private soldiers (not non-commissioned officers) in Sukkur out of Municipal Funds (*vide* this office No. 3485, dated 12th instant)."

"2. The accompanying extract from a letter from the General Officer Commanding Sind District, and President, Plague Committee, Karachi, No. 1007, dated 20th July 1897, shows how the orders of the Government of India will affect the non-commissioned officers and men of the 30th Bombay Infantry (3rd Baluch Battalion) who were employed on guard duties, and British non-commissioned officers who will actually receive less than privates. The Acting Commissioner concurs in the remarks, and he would be glad to see all men on guard duties which exposed the men to risk of plague (not simply cordon) given the allowance and British non-commissioned officers given the same allowance for extra ration money as privates.

"3. In Sukkur the men performed both sanitary and guard duties and in Hyderabad probably the same, although the President, Plague Committee, has not specifically said so. At any rate if guard duties were done, it was in addition to sanitary duties, and the Acting Commissioner thinks the full allowances should be paid to the men.

"4. The Acting Commissioner may mention that assuming all men on *guard* (not cordon) duty will receive the allowance and British non-commissioned officers Rs. 1-6-0 instead of Re. 1 only as sanctioned, the following abstract shows approximately the amounts due in Karachi and Hyderabad :—

Karachi.

	Rs.	a.	p.
53rd Field Battery, R. A.	...	1,898	0 9
No. II Company, Western Division, R. A.	...	2,725	8 2
1st Battalion, Wiltshire Regiment	...	15,559	7 4
30th Bombay Infantry, 3rd Baluch Battalion	...	11,230	3 3
Certain Military officers appointed Plague Authorities	...	665	0 0
at Rs. 5 a day allowance	...	...	...
Total	...	32,078	3 6

Hyderabad.

Officers	...	5,416	4 6
Non-commissioned officers and men	...	1,270	2 0
Total	...	6,686	6 6

"The figures for Sukkur will be communicated as soon as received."

Extract paras. 2 to 7 of No. 1007, dated 20th July 1897, from the President, Plague Committee, Karachi, to the address of the Commissioner in Sind :—

"I have the honour to state and respectfully point out, with reference to extract 2, para. 2, 'Guard Duty,' of the Secretary to the Government of India's letter to the Secretary of the Government of Bombay, that although 'guard duty is an ordinary military duty which any body of troops may be called upon to carry out,' still I maintain that the duties which the 30th Bombay Infantry were called upon to perform were 'exceptional,' and under the circumstances a grave injustice will be done to these men if they are to be debarred from remuneration which sepoy employed on 'sanitary' duties are allowed by the Government of India's ruling.

"1 Native officer, 37 non-commissioned officers and 233 men of the 30th Bombay Infantry were employed on plague duties.

"The whole of the Plague Hospitals and Camps in the Tyns-Lyari Division (where plague was raging) were guarded by Baluchis; these non-commissioned officers and men were located for months in this quarter and carried out their duties in such an exemplary manner that they obtained the highest commendation.

"These sepoys were living day and night in an infected area, in many cases guarding their own countrymen in close proximity to 'Plague cases' and, being natives, ran more risk of catching the disease than the soldiers employed in the search parties.

"Under these circumstances, it is urged by the Committee that they should receive remuneration at the rate assigned for Native Troops, and that the duties performed by them should not come under the heading of ordinary 'guard duties.' The men engaged on cordon duty to prevent infected persons coming into Karachi from the north-east direction, and who were not actually in an infected area, may come under the heading 'employed on guard duties' and receive no remuneration, these being quite distinct duties to those performed by the men guarding the hospitals and camps.

"I would also point out that the non-commissioned officers (British) are allowed Re. 1 per diem and the soldiers 12 annas plus six annas for extra rations, thus receiving better pay than the non-commissioned ranks. I have therefore, in submitting the pay bills for plague duties, added 6 annas to the pay of the non-commissioned officers."

Memorandum to the Commissioner in Sind, No. ^P_{1187-P.} dated 3rd August 1897.

Memorandum from the Commissioner in Sind, No. 3836, dated 4th August 1897.

Telegram from the Commissioner in Sind, No. 1104, dated 6th August 1897.

"Plague Committee wish to dissolve on fourteenth August, by which date all claims will have been settled. Please issue notification accordingly."

Telegram to the Commissioner in Sind, No. ^P_{1176-P.} dated 7th August 1897:—

"Your telegram of 6th instant. You say all claims will be settled. Does this include claims of soldiers and have you funds to pay soldiers?"

Telegram from the Commissioner in Sind, No. 1112, dated 9th August 1897:—

"Your P—1176-P., dated eighth. Plague Committee report only small balance of Rs. 30,000 last advanced will be available and that allowances due to officers and soldiers in Karachi amount to about Rs. 33,000. See my No. 3735 of 28th ultimo, which amount will therefore have to be provided by Government."

Memorandum from the Commissioner in Sind, No. 3940, dated 11th August 1897:—

"The Acting Commissioner in Sind presents compliments and in continuation of his No. 3775, dated 28th July 1897, has the honour to state that the amount of allowances due to Military officers and men employed in Karachi comes to Rs. 32,687-14-3 instead of Rs. 32,078-3-6 owing to the omission in the latter figures of an allowance to Major Bayly, District Staff Officer, of Rs. 609-10-9."

Memorandum from the Commissioner in Sind, No. 4066, dated 20th August 1897:—

"The Acting Commissioner in Sind presents compliments and, in continuation of this office No. 3940, dated 11th instant, has the honour to state that he has received further lists of allowances due to Military officers and men employed on plague duty at Karachi up to the 14th idem, amounting to Rs. 3,301-5-10, so that the total amount required in Karachi comes to Rs. 35,989-4-1.

"2. The information as to the amount to be paid for duties performed in the Shikarpur District is still awaited."

Memorandum from the Commissioner in Sind, No. 4131, dated 27th August 1897:—

"The Acting Commissioner in Sind presents compliments and in continuation of this office No. 4066, dated 20th instant, has the honour to state that the amount of allowances payable to the Military officer and men belonging to the detachment of the Wiltshire Regiment employed on plague duty in the Shikarpur District amounts to Rs. 3,283-0-0. It may be added, however, that Rs. 1,128-0-0 have, as already reported, been paid to private soldiers by the Sukkur Municipality at the rate of 8 annas each a day, and if this payment is deducted a balance of Rs. 2,158-0-0 still remains to be paid. The Collector also reports that in addition to the above

allowances an expenditure of Rs. 839-13-3 as per statement attached has been incurred by the Sukkur Municipality for servants, conveyances, milk and punkha-pullers for the entire party. The extra ration money at 6 annas a day for 74 days claimed for the non-commissioned officers and men amounts to Rs. 832-8-0."

	Rs.	a.	p.
Lieutenant A. E. Beadon for 74 days at Rs. 300 per mensem	730	0	0
1 Sergeant for 74 days at Rs. 1-6-0 per diem ...	64	4	0
1 Corporal for 74 days at Rs. 1-6-0 per diem ...	64	4	0
1 Lance Corporal for 74 days at Rs. 1-6-0 per diem ...	64	4	0
27 Privates at Rs. 1-2-0 per diem	2,360	4	0
	3,233	0	0

RESOLUTION.—In April last the Government of India were requested to sanction the grant of certain allowances to Military officers employed on plague duty in the city of Poona. The Government of India in their letter No. 673, dated 26th June 1897, sanctioned a scale of allowances for both officers and soldiers employed on "Sanitary duty" in connection with plague, and directed that allowances at the sanctioned rates should be substituted for the allowances then being paid under the orders of this Government. The grant of such allowances as had previously been paid to the troops was sanctioned in paragraph 6 of the Government of India's letter.

2. The orders of the Government of India, which apply generally, were communicated on the 2nd July 1897 under endorsement No. P.—869-P., to the Chairman, Bombay Plague Committee, the Chairman, Poona Plague Committee, and the Commissioner in Sind, who were asked to report as to the effect of the orders with reference to the payments already made or to be made to the Military. The replies of these officers have been carefully considered, and His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to pass the following orders regarding the payment of allowances to the troops employed in Bombay, Poona and Sind.

Bombay.

3. The scale of allowances originally agreed upon and granted up to the 14th June 1897 to the officers and men employed on plague duty differs slightly from the Government of India's scale, the result being that the total payments made were less than those admissible under the Government of India's scale. From the 15th June the rates were reduced and were considerably less than those admissible under the Government of India's scale. The Governor in Council, however, concurs with General Gatacre that it is unnecessary to pay allowances at the higher rates permissible under the orders of the Government of India. It is understood that, all payments were made previously to the communication of the orders of the Government of India on the subject, and that therefore no question arises as to whether the duties were "guard" or "sanitary" duties. The orders of the Government of India in this respect must, however, be carefully borne in mind with regard to any payments that may be made hereafter.

Poona.

4. The rates for troops prior to the 15th June were in excess of the Government of India's rates, but the reduced rates that came into force from that date were lower than the Government of India's scale. His Excellency the Governor in Council agrees with Mr. Lamb that higher rates than those offered and accepted need not be paid. It is understood that, with a few exceptions, all payments were made previously to the communication of the orders of the Government of India, and that therefore, under paragraph 6 of the Government of India's letter, no question arises as to whether the duties were "sanitary" or "guard" duties. The exceptions are (1) the cases of a few sowars who were employed on the latter duty only and were promised certain allowances prior to the receipt of the Government of India's orders; and (2) the cases of men who had been discharged from plague duty prior to the receipt of the Government of India's orders, and whose bills, though submitted, had not been actually paid. As regards the latter, the Governor in Council concurs with Mr. Lamb in thinking that their cases should be treated similarly to the cases of men who had previously been paid, and that the sums promised should be paid to them, no question being raised as to whether their duties were "guard" or "sanitary" duties or a combination of the two. The orders of the Government of India will, however, be taken on this point. As regards the former, inasmuch as these men are not entitled to any remuneration for guard duty, no allowances can be paid from the date following that on which notice of the withdrawal of the allowance was given to those concerned.

Sind.

5. In Sind, where no allowances had been paid previous to the issue of the orders of the Government of India, the allowances admissible under those orders should now be paid. The duties of the 30th Bombay Native Infantry at the Plague Hospitals and Camps in a highly infected area should be regarded as a

combination of sanitary and guard duties, for which the plague allowance sanctioned by the Government of India is admissible. The British troops employed at Sukkur should be paid the difference between the Government of India's rates and the allowance of 8 annas a day already paid to them out of municipal funds. The Commissioner in Sind recommends that the party consisting of 3 non-commissioned officers and 27 men who were sent to Sukkur should be given an allowance of 8 annas per non-commissioned officer and 4 annas per man, in addition to the prescribed rates, on account of the intense heat at Sukkur and the exceptionally hard time the men had. This recommendation will be submitted to the Government of India for favourable consideration.

6. The question of compensation for clothing, boots, &c., referred to in these papers has been considered separately, and the necessary orders have been issued as regards Poona in Government Resolution No. ⁴⁷⁰⁵_{3135-F} dated 31st August 1897. As regards Bombay, it is understood that no question arises in as much as working clothes were provided from municipal funds, and payment of compensation for boots was made before the issue of the orders of the Government of India. As regards Sind, it is clearly impossible now to take action such as was taken in Bombay, but if the Commissioner considers that orders similar to those issued for Poona should be issued, he should submit a detailed report on the subject without delay.

7. Troops employed in future on plague duty should be paid according to the rates and on the conditions laid down by the Government of India.

8. In reporting these proceedings to the Government of India the attention of that Government will be invited to the fact that under the sanctioned scale of allowances a British non-commissioned officer receives an allowance of only Re. 1 a day, while a British private gets 12 annas a day plus 6 annas a day extra ration money, and enquiry will be made whether the omission to sanction a ration money allowance for non-commissioned officers was intentional.

J. DEC. ATKINS,
Secretary to Government.

To

The Chairman, Bombay Plague Committee,
The Chairman, Poona Plague Committee,
The Commissioner in Sind,
The Commissioner, N. D.,
The Commissioner, C. D.,
The Commissioner, S. D.,
The Surgeon-General with the Government of Bombay,
The Sanitary Commissioner for the Government of Bombay,
The Accountant General,
The Deputy Adjutant General, Bombay Command,
The Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay,
The Financial Department of the Secretariat,
The Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor,
The Controller of Military Accounts, Bombay Command,
The Collector of Poona,
The Government of India, Home Department (by letter).

No. OF 1897.

Copy forwarded for information and guidance to

Bubonic Plague.—

Deputation of Military officers on
plague duty.

General Department.

No. 6374
4219-P.

Bombay Castle,
17th November 1897.

Telegram from the Government of India, Home Department, No. 1305, Medical, dated the 23rd October 1897:—

"Owing to difficulty experienced in supplying enough Medical officers for duty connected with prevention and suppression of plague it has been suggested that Staff Corps and British Service officers having knowledge of vernacular should be employed. Government of India think that after short preliminary training Military officers assisted by Medical subordinates would be of considerable use. It has been ascertained that about 20 such officers can be made available if Government of Bombay accept suggestion. Please state number of officers required, and endeavours will be made to meet requirements. Such officers will be granted special allowance sanctioned in my letter 673 of 26th June."

Telegram to the Government of India, No. 3868-P., dated the 26th October 1897:—

"Your 1305, 23rd. Government gladly accept services of any number of officers up to 20. Please wire names and stations of officers selected so that Government may inform them where to go. Very great need of Medical subordinates. Most desirable that Government of India should procure at least one to come with each officer."

Telegram from the Deputy Adjutant General, Bombay Command, No. 9433, dated the 2nd November 1897:—

"Reference from A. G. India about 14 officers required for plague duty. Please wire where officers detailed should proceed."

Telegram from the Government of India, Home Department, No. 1357-L., Medical, dated the 3rd November 1897:—

"Your telegram 3868, dated 26th October 1897. Government of India regret that it is not possible at present to provide more than 15 Military officers for plague duty in Bombay Presidency. Arrangements are being made to wire names and present stations of officers selected. Government of India regret no Medical subordinates can be spared at present owing to demands on Frontier."

Telegram to the Deputy Adjutant General, Bombay Command, No. M.—1946-P., dated the 5th November 1897:—

"Your 9433. Please send four officers Sholapur and two Surat and report names of officers sent. Instructions about other nine will follow."

Telegram to the Deputy Adjutant General, Bombay Command, No. M.—1958-P., dated the 6th November 1897:—

"Continuation my M.—1946-P. of 5th. Please send one officer Pálanpur, reporting name."

Telegram to the Deputy Adjutant General, Bombay Command, No. M.—1969-P., dated the 7th November 1897:—

"Continuation my M.—1958-P. of yesterday. Please send one officer Manmád, two to Karád, who should be prepared for camping, one to Pálanpur in addition to one asked for yesterday. Also please arrange despatch from Deesa to Pálanpur three Native officers, 30 sepoy, plague duty. Report names officers."

Telegram to the Government of India, Home Department, No. M.—1999-P., dated the 12th November 1897:—

"Your 1357-L., Medical. Government will be glad to have more Military officers when possible and will take men who have not passed higher standard."

Telegram from the Deputy Adjutant General, Bombay Command, No. 9705, dated the 10th November 1897:—

"Your M.—1946, 1958 and 1969-P. Following officers ordered proceed at once for plague duty and report themselves to Chief Civil Officer respective stations. Lieutenants Bruce, 23rd Bombay Rifles, and Wake, Middlesex Regiment, Sholapur. Lieutenants Bickford,

1
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4th Bombay Rifles, and Alexander, 3rd Bombay Cavalry, Pálanpur. Lieutenants Fellows, 8th Bombay Infantry, and Carey, R.A., Surat. Captain Kellie, 2nd Madras Infantry, Mamád. Orders also issued for despatch three Native officers and 30 sepoys from Deesa to Pálanpur for plague duty. Further report will follow."

RESOLUTION.—A notification should be issued appointing the officers named in the Deputy Adjutant General's telegram No. 9705, dated 10th November 1897, on plague duty. The Chief Civil Officers of the various stations should report direct to the Accountant General the dates on which the Military officers referred to reported themselves for plague duty.

2. These officers will be entitled to the allowances for plague duty sanctioned in the Government of India's letter* No. 673, dated 26th June 1897.

* Quoted in the preamble of Government Resolution No. 5509—3547-P., dated 11th October 1897.

A. C. LOGAN,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To

The Commissioner, C. D.,
The Commissioner, N. D.,
The Collector of Sholápur,
The Collector of Surat,
The Collector of Násik,
The Political Superintendent of Pálanpur,
The Accountant General,
The Surgeon General with the Government of Bombay,
The Financial Department of the Secretariat,
The Political Department of the Secretariat,
The Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor,
The Plague Commissioner, Bombay Presidency,
The Deputy Adjutant General, Bombay Command,
The Controller of Military Accounts, Bombay Command,
The Government of India (by docket).



Bubonic Plague.

Deputation of Lieutenant H. V. Firth, I.S.C., 27th Madras Infantry, on plague duty at Bhusával.

DEPT.

Bombay Castle,

15th December 1897.

General Department (Plague).

No. 6980
4905-P.

Memorandum from the Government of India, Home Department (Medical), No. 1460, dated the 27th November 1897—

Forwards for information, in continuation of Home Department telegram No. 1432, dated the 23rd November 1897, copy of the following Notification No. 1459 of the 27th idem:—

"The services of Lieutenant H. V. Firth, 27th Madras Infantry, are placed temporarily at the disposal of the Government of Bombay for employment on plague duty with effect from the date on which he assumes charge of his duties."

Memorandum to the Accountant General, No. 4426-P., dated the 27th November 1897.

Telegram from the Plague Commissioner, Bombay Presidency, dated the 6th December 1897:—

"Collector, Khándesh, requests one Staff Corps Officer look after Bhusával. Please send one, report himself to Cumine at Jalgaon."

Memorandum to Lieutenant H. V. Firth, I.S.C., 27th Madras Infantry, No. 4702-P., dated the 8th December 1897.

Telegram from Lieutenant H. V. Firth, I.S.C., 27th Madras Infantry, dated the 11th December 1897.

Memorandum to the Accountant General, No. 4874-P., dated the 14th December 1897.

RESOLUTION.—A notification should be issued appointing Lieutenant H. V. Firth on plague duty from the date when he reported his arrival in Bombay.

2. Lieutenant Firth will be entitled to the allowances for plague duty sanctioned in the Government of India's letter* No. 673, dated 26th June 1897.

* Quoted in the preamble of Government Resolution No. 5509—3547-P., dated 11th October 1897.

A. WINGATE,
Secretary to Government.

To

The Commissioner, C. D.,
The Collector of Khándesh,
The Accountant General,
The Surgeon General with the Government of Bombay,
The Financial Department of the Secretariat,
The Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor,
The Deputy Adjutant General, Bombay Command,
The Controller of Military Accounts, Bombay Command,
The Deputy Adjutant General, Madras Command,
The Controller of Military Accounts, Madras Command.

With copies of Government Resolutions Nos. 6374—4219-P., dated 17th November 1897, and 5509—3547-P., dated 11th October 1897.

No. 6980
4905-P.

Forwarded to the Government of Madras (with copies of Government Resolutions Nos. 5509—3547-P., dated 11th October 1897, and 6374—4219-P., dated 17th November 1897) for information.

for Secretary to Government.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras.

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