~~Public Works~~ Marine (1898) Department.

G.O., No. 623. 4 Marine

DATED 18th July 98

23/7/98

2/8

[Despatch Abstract.]

Enclosures: Approving the Amendment,
proposed by the Inspector Gl of Ordnance, in
the rules to regulate the transport & importation
of — in the port of Madras, so as to allow the
landing & shipment, inside the harbour, in any
quantity, of Small Arm Safety Cartridges &
Ordering that a notification be published accordingly
in the Fort St. George Gazette & the Sanction of the
Govt of India applied for, for the Alteration.

Enclosures: Requesting the Sanction of the Govt of India
for an amendment, proposed by the Inspector Gl of Ordnance
in the rules to regulate the transport & importation of — in
the port of Madras, forwarded with letter No. 541 Marine 27th June 98, so
as to allow the landing & shipment inside the harbour
in any quantity, of Small Arm Safety Cartridges.

21/7/98 JR

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	540-41	Mar:	27-6-98				

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
K296|99							
	790	Mar:	13-9-98				

Government (1898) of Madras.

MARINE.

Recd. } 1898.
Regd.

Enclosures

Spare copies

Letter, No. 624, 18th July 1898.

JULY.

Explosives

Requesting the sanction of the Government of India for an amendment proposed by the Inspector-General of Ordnance in the rules to regulate the transport and importation of — in the port of Madras forwarded with letter No. 541, Marine, dated 27th June 1898, so as to allow the landing and shipment, inside the harbour, in any quantity, of small arm safety cartridges.

No. 624, Marine, 18th July 1898.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

Letter—from

W. B. deWINTON, Esq.,
Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Marine Department,

To

The SECRETARY to the GOVERNMENT of INDIA,
Home Department.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No. 541, Marine, dated 27th June 1898, and with reference to section 5 (1) of Act IV of 1884 (The Indian Explosives Act), I am directed to forward, for the sanction of the Government of India, the draft of an amendment proposed in the rules to regulate the transport and importation of explosives in the port of Madras which accompanied my letter referred to above.

2. This amendment is proposed on the motion of the Inspector-General of Ordnance, who represents that serious inconvenience is likely to be caused by the existing rule which limits the amount of Government safety small arm cartridges which can be landed and shipped inside the Madras Harbour to 100 lb. in weight. It is believed that there is little or no risk of explosion with cartridges of this character, and there thus seems no reason why the quantity should be restricted in the manner contemplated by the rule now in force.

3. The correspondence on the subject is recorded with G.O., No. 623, Marine, dated 18th July 1898, a copy of which I am to attach for the information of the Government of India.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Secretary to Government.

Ootacamund,
18th July 1898.

Exd. W. D'Moss.

Government {1898} of Madras.
MARINE.

Recd. } 1898. Enclosures

Regd. } Spare copies

G.O., No. 623, 18th July 1898.

JULY.

Explosives

Approving the amendment proposed by the Inspector-General of Ordnance in the rules to regulate the transport and importation of — in the port of Madras so as to allow the landing and shipment, inside the harbour, in any quantity, of small arm safety cartridges; and ordering that a notification be published accordingly in the *Fort St. George Gazette* and the sanction of the Government of India applied for for the alteration.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers :—

From Colonel F. J. MORTIMER, R.A., Inspector-General of Ordnance, Madras Command, to the Secretary to Government, Marine Department, dated Ootacamund, 29th June 1898, No. 4524–A.

I have the honour to forward, for perusal, copies of correspondence, as per margin, that has taken place between the Madras Harbour Trust Board and myself on the subject of landing and shipping Government safety cartridges, loaded with cordite, inside the Madras Harbour.

No. A.—3378, dated 8th June 1898, to the Secretary, Harbour Trust Board, Madras.
No. 1335, dated 13th June 1898, from the Secretary, Harbour Trust Board, Madras.

2. It will be seen that, in accordance with draft notification attached and marked "N", the alterations proposed for rule (*c*) that every vessel entering the port of Madras having on board explosives of class 6—"Ammunition class" charged with explosives of classes 2, 3, 4 or 5 in excess of 100 lb. in weight shall proceed to a distance of not less than 1 mile north of the north arm and half a mile off shore outside the harbour, and shall not be permitted to enter the harbour until all such explosives have been discharged.

3. "Cordite" belongs to class 3, division 2, and with it all safety small arms cartridges for the use of British troops are charged; and 20 small arms ammunition boxes of such cartridges would contain the 100 lb. of cordite prohibited from being brought inside the harbour by the draft notification, rule (*c*).

4. In rules under the Explosives Act, 1884, published under Judicial Department Notification No. 290, dated 5th August 1897, under class 6—Ammunition class, the expression "safety cartridges" is correctly and clearly defined, and the small arm cartridges, cordite, are among those defined in italics as what may be accepted as "safety."

5. To prevent the very serious inconvenience which might be caused to the State by the refusal of the Harbour Trust Board to permit a vessel having Government small arm cartridges in excess of 20 boxes charged with cordite on board from entering the Madras Harbour, or refusing to permit such safety cartridges to be loaded in a vessel in the harbour, I venture to urge the necessity for the issue of such instructions as may prevent such a possibility.

6. I would add that it is unusual for a consignment of Government small arms ammunition not to greatly exceed 20 boxes.

7. The prohibition that is proposed by the draft notification (marked "N") to impose on Government safety cartridges loaded with cordite appears to me quite unnecessary with any regard for public safety.

Enclosures.

From the Inspector-General of Ordnance, Madras Command, to the Secretary, Harbour Trust Board, dated Ootacamund, 8th June 1898, No. A.—3378.

With reference to your No. 1018, dated 3rd instant, I have the honour to inquire if rule (*c*) of the draft notification includes Government safety small arm cartridges loaded with cordite when packed, as is usual in a tin case hermetically closed and having an outer wooden casing, and each box containing 5 lb. of cordite, when the total number of boxes exceeds 20.

From the Secretary, Harbour Trust Board, to the Inspector-General of Ordnance, Madras Command, dated Madras, 13th June 1898, No. 1335.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 8th June, and to inform you, in reply, that the draft notification (copy enclosed) submitted to Government with the Board's resolution No. 6, dated 27th May, regarding the landing and shipping of gunpowder at this port, has not in any way altered the rules for the landing and shipment of ammunition.

2. You will observe that the proposed alterations (printed in italics) in rule (*c*) refer only to gunpowder; that portion of the rule relating to ammunition is unchanged, and explosives of "class 6—Ammunition class" can be landed and shipped inside the harbour in any quantity, if not charged with explosives of classes 2, 3, or 4 or 5, or division I, of class 7 (as defined under the rules made by the Governor-General in Council under section 5 of the Indian Explosives Act, 1884). For these rules, see page 762, part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 26th June 1894.

3. Cordite is not mentioned amongst any of these classes: and if you are in any uncertainty as to its exemption from the operation of rule (*c*), I am directed to suggest that you should refer the matter to Government, who could alter rule (*c*), as now submitted by the Board, for approval in such a way as to prevent ammunition charged with cordite being excluded from the harbour; and I am to add that no question has ever been raised regarding the admission of ammunition, and that no objection would be taken to the amendment of rule (*c*) to the effect that ammunition, the property of Government, may be landed and shipped inside the harbour in any quantity, no matter what explosive it may be charged with.

DRAFT NOTIFICATION.

In exercise of the power conferred by section 5 of the Indian Explosives Act, IV of 1884, the Governor of Madras in Council is pleased, with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council, to make the following alterations in the rules to regulate the transport and importation of explosives in the port of Madras, which were promulgated for guidance, in the *Fort St. George Gazette* of the 26th June 1894 and 10th September 1895.

For Rule (*c*), substitute the following :—

Rule (*c*).—Every vessel entering the port of Madras having on board explosives of classes 2, 3, 4 or 5, or division I of class 7 (as defined under the rules made by the Governor-General in Council under section 5 of the Indian Explosives Act, 1884), or having on board explosives of "class 6—Ammunition class" charged with or containing explosives of classes 2, 3, 4 or 5 in excess of 100 lb. in weight *or having on board, to be discharged, explosives of class* 1—*Gunpowder class—in excess of* 560 *lb. in weight*, shall, on arrival at the port, proceed to a distance of not less than one mile north of the north arm and half a mile off shore outside the harbour and shall not be permitted to enter the harbour until all such explosives have been discharged; after which, provided the requirements of rule (*e*) as regards the security of explosives remaining on board have been met, the vessel may be permitted to enter the harbour and to discharge or ship therein *explosives of class* 1—*Gunpowder class—not exceeding* 560 *lb. in weight*, or other explosives not being of classes 2, 3, 4 or 5, or ammunition containing, or charged with, explosives of classes 2, 3, 4 and 5, or fireworks composition, class 7, division I. Whilst any explosives shall remain on board, such vessel shall have a red flag kept flying at the foremast head between sunrise and sunset and one red light at the ensign staff or peak, in addition to the usual anchor light between sunset and sunrise, and the master or chief officer shall remain on board of her until the explosives intended for the port of Madras shall have been discharged.

* * * * *

From J. N. ATKINSON, Esq., I.C.S., Chairman, Harbour Trust Board, to the Inspector-General of Ordnance, Madras Command, dated Madras, 27th June 1898, No. 1359.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 23rd June, No. A.—4205, regarding rule (*c*) of the draft notification embodying alterations in the quantity of gunpowder which may be landed or shipped inside the harbour, and to refer you to the Secretary's letter No. 1335, dated 13th June, despatched 25th idem.

2. It was impossible to send you a reply sooner as the matter had to be referred to the Trustees, and was only disposed of at the meeting of the Board held on the 24th June.

3. You will observe from the Secretary's reply that no question has ever been raised regarding the landing or shipping of ammunition, and that if the rule as it stands excludes cordite, respecting which the Trustees have no information, no objection would be taken to the amendment of rule (*c*) to the effect that ammunition, the property of Government, may be landed and shipped inside the harbour in any quantity, no matter what explosive it may be charged with.

No. 623, MARINE, 18TH JULY 1898.

From Colonel F. J. MORTIMER, Esq., R.A., Inspector-General of Ordnance, Madras Command, to the Secretary to Government, Marine Department, dated Ootacamund, 30th June 1898, No. 4595-A.

I have the honour to forward copy of a letter* received from the Chairman, Harbour Trust Board, Madras, received since the despatch of my No. 4524-A., dated 29th June 1898, and to state that, if rule (*c*) of the draft notification is amended in the terms of paragraph 3 of the Chairman's letter, it will meet the case of all Government safety cartridges.

* No. 1359, dated 27th June 1898.

ORDER—No. 623, Marine, dated 18th July 1898.

The amendment proposed by the Inspector-General of Ordnance is approved, and the sanction of the Government of India will, with reference to section 5 (1) of Act IV of 1884 (The Indian Explosives Act), be requested to the requisite alteration of rule (*c*) as notified in the *Fort St. George Gazette* of the 26th July 1898, Part 1, pages 722, 723.

2. Ordered that the following notification be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* :—

NOTIFICATION.

In accordance with section 18 (1) and (3) of Act IV, 1884 (The Indian Explosives Act), the following proposed amendment in the rules to regulate the transport and importation of explosives in the port of Madras, notified in the *Fort St. George Gazette* of the 26th July 1898, is published for the information of persons likely to be affected thereby, and notice is hereby given that the amendment will be taken into consideration on or after the first day of September 1898.

For Rule (*c*), substitute the following :—

Rule (*c*).—Every vessel entering the port of Madras having on board explosives of classes 2, 3, 4 or 5, or division I of class 7 (as defined under the rules made by the Governor-General in Council under section 5 of the Indian Explosives Act, 1884), or having on board explosives of "class 6—Ammunition class" charged with or containing explosives of classes 2, 3, 4 or 5 in excess of 100 lb. in weight, or having on board, to be discharged, explosives of class 1—Gunpowder class in excess of 560 lb. in weight, shall, on arrival at the port, proceed to a distance of not less than one mile north of the north arm and half a mile off shore outside the harbour and shall not be permitted to enter the harbour until all such explosives have been discharged; after which, provided the requirements of rule (*e*) as regards the security of explosives remaining on board have been met, the vessel may be permitted to enter the harbour and to discharge or ship therein explosives of class 1—Gunpowder class, not exceeding 560 lb. in weight or other explosives not being of classes 2, 3, 4 or 5, or ammunition containing, or charged with, explosives of classes 2, 3, 4 and 5 or fireworks composition, class 7, division I: [provided that nothing in this rule shall prevent the landing and shipment, inside the harbour, in any quantity, of small arm safety cartridges, when properly packed in tin cases hermetically closed.] Whilst any explosives shall remain on board, such vessel shall have a red flag kept flying at the foremast head between sunrise and sunset and one red light at the ensign staff or peak, in addition to the usual anchor light between sunset and sunrise, and the master or chief officer shall remain on board of her until the explosives intended for the port of Madras shall have been discharged.

[Here enter No. 624, Marine, dated 18th July 1898.]

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. B. DEWINTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Presidency Port Officer.
" the Chairman, Harbour Trust Board.
" the Chairman, Chamber of Commerce.
" the Chairman, Madras Trades Association.
" the Judicial Department.
" Messrs. Arbuthnot & Co.
" " Binny & Co.
" " Parry & Co.
" " Best & Co.
" " Wilson & Co.
Gazette.
To the Government of Bombay, with C.L.

Exd. W. D'Moss.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

+/ Proposal to admit Govt. Safety Small arm cartridges inside the Madras Harbour

Issue and lie over till the 1st Sept. 1898

8 P

Papers to be read in Proceedings :—

Again G.O., dated 189 , No.
Again G.O., dated 189 , No.
Current No. 860 of 1898, dated 1st July , from the Inspr. Genl. of Ord., Madras Command.
" " 864 " 1898 , " 2nd July , " -DO-
~~" " ----- " 1898 , " 9th July , " No. 369 E.~~
~~D/O C.No. 11 , 1898, 11th July , Col. F.J. Mortimer R.A.~~

ORDER. 623 Mar 8 18th July 1898

The Hon Sir Henry Bliss, KCIE

W S
16/7/98

+ To be filled in hereafter. Papers at Madras.

The amendment proposed by the Inspector General of Ordnance ~~[illegible]~~ is approved, and the sanction of the --- Government of India will, with reference to Section 5(1) of Act IV of 1884 (The Indian Explosives Act), be requested to the requisite alteration of Rule (c) as notified in the Fort St. George Gazette of the ×26th July 1898, Part I, pages 722-23.

2. Ordered that the following notification be published in the Fort. St. George Gazette.

Notification.

In accordance with Section 18 (1) and (3) of Act IV 1884 (The Indian Explosive's Act), the following -- proposed amendment in the rules to regulate the transport and importation of explosives in the port of Madras notified in the Fort St. George

[P. W. 4. / 500—24-3-98.]

H.M. 15.7.98 R 18.7.98

George Gazette of the 26 July 1898, is published for the information of persons likely to be affected thereby, and notice is hereby given that the amendment will be taken into consideration on or after the first day of September 1898:

For Rule (c) substitute the following:-

Rule (c).---Every vessel entering the port of Madras having on board explosives of classes 2,3,4 or 5, or division I of class 7 (as defined under the rules made by the Governor-General in Council under section 5 of the Indian Explosives Act, 1884), or having on board explosives of "class 6-Ammunition class" charged with or containing explosives of classes 2,3,4 or 5 in excess of 100 lb. in weight or having on board, to be discharged, explosives of class 1-Gunpowder class-in excess of 560 lb. in weight, shall, on arrival at the port, proceed to a distance of not less than one mile north of the north arm and half a mile off shore outside the harbour and shall not be permitted to enter the harbour until all such explosives have been discharged; after which, provided the requirements of rule (e) as regards the security of explosives remaining on board

Subject to approval.

For present rule see Flag N.

9p

board have been met, the vessel may be permitted to enter the harbour and to discharge or ship therein explosives of class I-Gunpowder class-not exceeding 560 lb. in weight or other explosives not being of classes 2,3,4 or 5, or ammunition containing, or charged with, explosives of classes 2,3,4 and 5, or fireworks composition, class 7, division I: provided that nothing in this rule shall prevent the landing and shipment, inside the harbour, in any quantity of small arm safety cartridges, ~~the property of Government~~ when properly packed in tin cases hermetically closed.

Whilst any explosives shall remain on board, such vessel shall have a red flag kept flying at the foremast head between sunrise and sunset and one red light at the ensign staff or peak, in addition to the usual anchor light between sunset and sunrise, and the master or chief officer shall remain on board of her until the explosives intended for the port of Madras shall have been discharged.

The sentence underlined the proposed amendment.

The Presidency Port Officer. ✓
,, Chairman, Harbour Trust Board. ✓
,, -DO- Chamber of Commerce. ✓
,, -DO- Madras Trades Association. ✓
,, Judicial Department. ✓
Messrs. Arbuthnot & Co. ✓
,, Binny & Co. ✓
,, Parry & Co. ✓
,, Best & Co. ✓
,, Wilson & Co. ✓
Gazette. ✓
The Govt. of Bombay with G. 5/8/98

5/8/98

(H.E.No. 624 Mar.d/ 18 July 98).

To

The Secretary to the
Government of India,
Home Department.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No.541 Marine dated 27th June 1898, and with reference to section 5(1) of of Act IV of 1884 (The Indian Explosives Act), I am directed to forward for the sanction of the Government of India the draft of an -- amendment proposed in the rules to regulate the transport and importation of explosives in the port of Madras which accompanied my -- letter referred to above.

2. This amendment is proposed on the motion of the Inspector General of Ordnance who represents that serious inconvenience is likely to be caused by the existing rule which limits the amount of Government safety small arm cartridges which can be landed and shipped inside the Madras Harbour to 100 lbs. in weight. It is believed that there is little or no risk of explosion with cartridges of this character, and there thus seems no reason why the ~~amount~~ quantity should be restricted in the manner contemplated by the rule now in force.

3. The correspondence on the subject is recorded with G.O. 623 Marine dated 18' July '98 a copy of which I am to attach for the information of the Government of India.

I have etc.,

15.7.98

M.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

C. Nos: 860 and 864 of 1898.

No.

Government of Madras.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE
GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY,
GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

189

SIR,

In compliance with the request contained in your letter No. 6930, dated 1 December 1897, I am directed to forward herewith, for the information of Government of Bombay and communication to the Chambers of Commerce of t Presidency, 10 copies of the undermentioned Proceedings of this Government relat to shipping and trade.

G.O. No. 623, Marine, dated 18 July 18

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

AcK

8/8/98

8-8-98

DW

I have etc.,

ment C.S.

Securi

M.

15.7.98

[A/..]

Marine DEPARTMENT.

C. Nos: 860 and 864 of 1898.

~~HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.~~

THE HON'BLE SIR HENRY BLISS, K.C.I.E.

~~THE HON'BLE MR. GROSE, C.I.E.~~

SUBJECT.

Proposal to admit into the Madras Harbour Govt. ammunition charged with cordite, in excess of 100 lbs.

FOR ORDERS.

In the correspondence quoted above, the Inspector General of Ordnance proposes that Rule (c) of the regulations under the Explosives Act shall be altered so as to allow the landing and shipment, inside the Madras Harbour of any quantity of safety cartridges loaded with cordite. The Inspector General writes as if the prohibition in regard to cartridges is the result of the amendment of the rules recently sanctioned. This, however, is an error. The prohibition is contained in the rules published under G.O. 193 Marine dated 2nd July 1895. The rule as then framed, and as now existing, states that explosives

Vide G.O. 193 Marine of 2nd July 1895
Flag - S

Draft notification. Flag - N
G.O. Sanctioning the amendment sent to Madras to print + issue.

~~G.O.~~ Flag S

H.M. 4.7.98 R 7.7.98

Supported by a reference

of "Class 6. Ammunition class" charged with certain dangerous explosives, of which cordite is one, shall not be admitted into the harbour in quantities in excess of 100 lbs in weight. The Inspector General wishes this prohibition to be withdrawn, and the rule amended so as to admit of the landing and shipment, in any quantity, of Small Arms Ammunition charged with cordite. He states that 20 small arms ammunition boxes of such cartridges would contain the 100 lbs of cordite which would bring the consignment under the prohibition.

i. e. Safety Cartridges
RS

2. The Chairman Harbour Trust Board says that the Board will raise no objection to the Inspector General's proposal, so far as the property of Government is concerned, i.e. that Government ammunition may be landed and shipped inside the harbour in any quantity, no matter what explosive it may be charged with.

Sec. D.

M.

3. Orders are solicited as to whether the Harbour Trust Board may be authorised to propose an amendment of the rules accordingly. The amendment will require the sanction of the Government of India.

RS

M

Flag. ~~Q~~ A

The original rules under the Act, published in G.O. 232 Marine of 16 June 1884 permitted the introduction in any quantities of explosives under Class 6 Ammunition Class. vide Rule (c) & (h) pages 7 & 8. The amendments to the rules published in G.O. No 193 Mar. of 2 July 85

Flag S.

prohibited the introduction of explosives of Class 6 containing explosives of Classes 2, 3, 4 or 5 in excess of 100 lb in weight. & so the rule now stands. The amendments were apparently suggested by a reference fro the Govt. of India (vide above GO page 1) pointing out that as they stood, the Madras rules permitted the introduction of dynamite & other explosives used for blasting purposes, which when made up into cartridges were included under Division I Class 6 ammunition Class – & proposing that these shd. be excluded – The Madras Govt. however, went a step further & prohibited the introduction not only of blasting cartridges but of small arms do. if containing explosives of Classes 2, 3, 4 or 5.

a mistake apparently
[initials]

The I.G. of Ordnance now wants this prohibition removed so far as Govt. consignments of safety small arm cartridges cordite are concerned – He does not refer to shell charged with cordite, & it would be well to find out first what his wishes are in this respect. It has also to be considered whether such ammunition consigned to private firms was to be admitted also

4.7.98

I don't think he means this – all he wants is to put in small arms ammunition in "safety" cartridges – I think this may be allowed generally – Such cartridges are really quite safe. If the I.G. may be asked d.o. whether this is all he wants, to make sure.

6/7/98

Marine (1898) Department.

D/o CURRENT No. 11

Order

From
Col: J. J. Mortimer R.A.
I.G. of Ordnance, M.C.
Ootacamund

No. -

Dated 11-7-98
Received 12-7-98
Enclosures -
Spare copies -

SUBJECT.

Safety Small arms ammunition Cartridges

Stating that all he wants is that Government should be allowed landing and Shipment inside Madras Harbour in any quantities

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.
No. 3699	d/ 9 7 1898.
& papers	marked on
No 860	/98

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

Index

12-7-98

Cr. 860

Flag N

Office of Inspr. Genl. of Ordce., M.C.
Ootacamund,
11. 7 1898.

Dear Sir

Yours of 9th Inst.

All I want in my letter No 4524-A. d/ 29th June 98 is that Government (Safety) Small Arms Ammunition Cartridges be allowed landing and shipment inside Madras Harbour in any quantities

Yours truly

Fmostwell

Marine (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 864

Order

From
The Inspector General of Ord.
Madras Command,
Ootacamund.

No. 4595- A.

Dated 30th June 1898.
Received 2-7-98
Enclosures one
Spare copies -,

SUBJECT.

Informs if Rule (C) of Draft Notification re: landing & Shipment of Gunpowder is amended in terms of para 3 of Chairman Harbour Trust Board's letter (which is forwarded) it will meet the case of all Govt. Safety Cartridges.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

---

5 S.P

F. No. 35.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

Copy of ~~Extract from~~ a Letter from ~~the~~ J. N. Atkinson Esq I C S. Chairman Harbour Trust Board Madras to the Inspector General of Ordnance M. C

No. 1359, dated, ~~Ootacamund~~ Madras. 27th June 1898.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 23rd June No. A/4205 regarding rule (c) of the draft notification embodying alterations in the quantity of gunpowder which may be landed or shipped inside this Harbour, and to refer you to the Secretary's letter No. 1335 dated 13th June, despatched 25th idem.

Enclosure No 3 to C No 860

2. It was impossible to send you a reply sooner as the matter had to be referred to the Trustees, and was only disposed of at the meeting of the Board held on the 24th June.

3 You will observe from the Secretary's reply that no question has ever been raised regarding the landing or shipping of ammunition, and that if the rule as it stands excludes cordite respecting which the Trustees have no information - no objection would be taken to the amendment of rule (c) to the effect that ammunition, the property of Goverment may be landed and shipped inside the Harbour in any quantity, no matter what explosive it may be charged with.

True Copy

B. E. Smith Chief Clerk

Reg Office of Inspector General of Ordnance M.C.

Mar Genl 864/98

P. No. 61—A.

68

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

No. 4595-A.

From
The INSPECTOR GENERAL of ORDNANCE,
MADRAS COMMAND.

To
The Secretary to the
Government of Madras,
P.W. & Marine Depts.,
with H.E. the Governor,
Stonehouse Hill, Ootacamund.

Ootacamund, ~~30th June~~ 1st July 1898

Sir,

I have the honor to forward copy of a letter received from the Chairman Harbour Trust Board, Madras, received since the despatch of my No.4524-A.[x], dated 30th June 1898, and to state that if rule (c) of the Draft Notification is amended in the terms of para 3 of the Chairman's letter, it will meet the case of all Government Safety Cartridges.

x c.k. 860

No 1359 dated 27th June 1898

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
Colonel, R.A.,
Inspector General of Ordnance, M.C.

Reg 1/8

3

78

Marine Department.

Current No.860.
No. 369 E., dated 9th July 1898
D/O

Dear Sir,

In your letter No.4524-A dated 29th June 1898, you propose that -- Rule (c) of the regulations under the Explosives Act be altered so as to allow the landing and shipment, inside the Madras Harbour, of any -- quantity of Government Safety Small Arms Cartridges loaded with cordite. Whether you intend also that shell charged with cordite be so allowed is not clear. Probably all you want is to get in Small Arms Ammunition in "Safety" cartridges. Please say if this is so.

Yours faithfully,

R.S.

with fav[illegible]

9.7.98

Col. F.J.Mortimer.R.A. D/o 9/7/98

urgent

Marine (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 86

Order

From
The Inspector General of Or
Madras Com.d
Ootacamu

No. 4524-A

Dated 29/30th June 1898.
Received 1-7-98
Enclosures 3
Spare copies -

SUBJECT.

Forwards Correspondence on the subject of landing and shipping Govt. "Safety" Cartridges loaded with Cordite in the Madras Harbour.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
G.O	397.	P	17.v.1898
	& papers		

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
7 D/o 4.4.98			

N S. P

3

DRAFT NOTIFICATION.

In exercise of the power conferred by section 5 of the Indian Explosives Act, IV of 1884, the Governor of Madras in Council is pleased, with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council, to make the following alterations in the rules to regulate the transport and importation of explosives in the port of Madras, which were promulgated for guidance, in the *Fort St. George Gazette* of the 26th June 1894 and 10th September 1895.

For Rule (*c*) substitute the following :—

Rule (*c*).—Every vessel entering the port of Madras having on board explosives of classes 2, 3, 4 or 5, or division I of class 7 (as defined under the rules made by the Governor-General in Council under section 5 of the Indian Explosives Act, 1884), or having on board explosives of "class 6—Ammunition class" charged with or containing explosives of classes 2, 3, 4 or 5 in excess of 100 lb. in weight *or having on board, to be discharged, explosives of class* 1—*Gunpowder class—in excess of* 560 *lb. in weight*, shall, on arrival at the port, proceed to a distance of not less than one mile north of the north arm and half a mile off shore outside the harbour and shall not be permitted to enter the harbour until all such explosives have been discharged; after which, provided the requirements of rule (*e*) as regards the security of explosives remaining on board have been met, the vessel may be permitted to enter the harbour and to discharge or ship therein *explosives of class I—Gunpowder class—not exceeding* 560 *lb. in weight*, or other explosives not being of classes 2, 3, 4 or 5, or ammunition containing, or charged with, explosives of classes 2, 3, 4 and 5, or fireworks composition, class 7, division I. Whilst any explosives shall remain on board, such vessel shall have a red flag kept flying at the foremast head between sunrise and sunset and one red light at the ensign staff or peak, in addition to the usual anchor light between sunset and sunrise, and the master or chief officer shall remain on board of her until the explosives intended for the port of Madras shall have been discharged.

For Rule (*f*) substitute the following :—

Rule (*f*).—"Barges, lighters and boats in the port of Madras having on board any explosives shall be kept scrupulously clean and free from loose explosives and shall not, when at anchor, lie closer than *1 cable's length or 200 yards* from any of the shipping in the port or from any public landing place, and all cases of explosives in any such barges, lighters or boats shall be securely covered with tarpaulins. Whilst any such explosives shall remain on board, there shall be kept a red flag flying on every such barge, lighter or boat between sunrise and sunset and a red light in an elevated position shall be shown from any such barge, lighter or boat between sunset and sunrise. No fires, smoking or matches, shall be allowed on board any such barge, lighter or boat, nor any light of any kind *except the red light mentioned above and except in the case of* properly decked barges on the deck of which may be allowed one lantern of good pattern. *Kerosine or other explosive oil is not to be used for the above-mentioned lights.* The tindal and at least half of the crew of every such barge, lighter or boat shall remain on board thereof until all the explosives are discharged therefrom.

For Rule (*g*) substitute the following :—

Rule (*g*).—All barges, lighters and boats having any explosives on board *to be landed outside of the harbour*, shall remain off shore until orders are received from the officer directing the landing to approach the beach. Not more than two such barges, lighters or boats shall be permitted to unload at a time, and such unloading shall take place either at the bay in the revetment at Cassimode or at the north end of the revetment according to the state of wind and current.

For Rule (*h*) substitute the following :—

Rule (*h*).—With the sanction of the Chairman of the Harbour Trust Board, which will be accorded only on production of the required special permit from the Collector of Sea Customs, explosives not prohibited under rule (*c*) if properly packed as required by rule 2 of the rules issued by the Governor-General in Council under section 5 of the Indian Explosives Act, 1884, may be shipped on board, or landed from a vessel lying at the ordinary moorings within the harbour. Shipment of any such explosives shall be effected under the precautions and conditions mentioned and contained in these rules, and such explosives must be taken on board the vessel for which they are intended, immediately after the boat by which such explosives are taken off to such vessel has come alongside the same, and no cargo boat or other vessel having fire on board shall be allowed to lie *nearer than 1 cable's lengthor 200 yards of* such vessel during the time that any explosives are being shipped on board the same.

For Rule (*k*) substitute the following :—

Rule (*k*).—No magazine on board any vessel containing explosives other than safety fuzes, cartridges and caps shall be opened while such ship is inside the Madras harbour without the permission of the Chairman of the Harbour Trust Board *or other person he may depute to act for him*, except in cases of emergency, and in case, in the opinion of the Chairman of the Harbour Trust Board, the emergency was not such as to justify the master of such vessel in opening or allowing to be opened such magazine, he shall be deemed to have contravened this rule.

Genl
Mar 880/98

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ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

Copy of ~~Extract from~~ a Letter from the Secretary Harbour Trust Board Madras to the Inspector General of Ordnance Madras Com. Ootacamund

No. 1335, dated, 13th/25th June 1898.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 8th June and to inform you in reply that the draft notification (copy enclosed) submitted to Government with the Board's resolution No. 6 dated 27th May regarding the landing and shipping of gunpowder at this port, has not in any way altred the rules for the landing and shipment of ammunition.

G.o. 540 Mar
27-6-98
Sent to Madras for print & issue

2. You will observe that the proposed alterations (printed in italics) in rule (c) refer only to gunpowder, that portion of the rule relating to ammunition is unchanged, and explosives of "class 6 - ammunition class" can be landed and shipped inside the Harbour in any quantity, if not charged with explosives of classes 2.3.4. or 5 or division I of class 7 (as defined under the rules made by the Governor General in Council under Section 5 of the Indian Explosives Act 1884). For these rules see page 762 part I of the Fort St. George Gazette dated 26th June 1894; also G.o. 269 Mady 3d Sept. 95 (7 Sep. 95)

3. Cordite is not mentioned amongst any of these classes: and if you are in any uncertainty as to its exemption from the operation of rule (c) I am directed to suggest that you should refer the matter to Government, who could alter rule (c) as now submitted by the Board, for approval, in such a way as to prevent ammunition charged with cordite being excluded from the Harbour; and I am to add that no question

has ever been raised regarding the admission of ammunition, and that no objection would be taken to the amendment of rule (c) to the effect that ammunition the property of Government may be landed and shipped inside the Harbour in any quantity no matter what explosive it may be charged with.

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True Copy

B. E. Smith Chief Clerk
Office of the Inspr Genl. of Ord
Madras Command

Enc 3
mar. 860/98

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Ordnance Department.

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Copy of a letter from Inspector General of Ordnance Madras Command, Ootacamund, to the Secretary, Harbour Trust Board, Madras. No.A-3378. dated 8th JUNE 1898.

With reference to your No.1018 dated 3rd instant I have the honor to inquire if rule (C) of the draft notification includes Government safety Small Arm Cartridges loaded with Cordite when packed as is usual in a Tin Case hermetically closed and having an outer wooden Casing, and each box containing 5 lbs of Cordite, when the total number of Boxes exceeds 20.

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TRUE COPY.

B. E. Smith Chief Clerk,
Office Of Inspector General of Ordnance,
Madras Command.

Mar Genl 866/98

P. No. 61—A.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

No. 4524-A.

1P

FROM

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF ORDNANCE,
MADRAS COMMAND.

To

THE Secretary to the
Government of Madras,
Public Works & Marine Depts.
with H.E. the Governor,
Stonehouse Hill, OOTACAMUND.

OOTACAMUND, 29/30th June 1898.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward for perusal copies of of correspondence, as per margin, that has taken place between the Madras Harbour Trust Board and myself on the subject of landing and shipping Government safety Cartridges, loaded with Cordite, inside the Madras Harbour.

No. 3378-A., dated 8th June 98, to the
Secretary Harbour Trust Board, Madras.
No. 1335, dated 25th June 1898, from
the Secretary Harbour Trust Board,
Madras.

2. It will be seen that in accordance with draft notification attached and marked "N", the alterations x proposed for Rule (c) that every vessel entering the Port of Madras having on board explosives of Class 6 "Ammunition Class" charged with explosives of Classes 2, 3, 4 or 5 in excess of 100 pounds in weight shall proceed to a distance of not less than one mile North of the North Arm, and half a mile off shore outside the Harbour, and shall not be permitted to enter the Harbour until all such explosives have been discharged.

x No alteration is proposed in regard to the Ammunition class. R.S.

3. "Cordite" belongs to Class 3, Division x 2, and with it all safety Small Arms Cartridges for the use of British Troops are charged; and 20 Small Arms Ammunition Boxes of such Cartridges would contain the 100 pounds of Cordite prohibited from being brought inside the Harbour by the draft Notification, Rule (c).

x not mentioned in [illegible] Amn. from vide G.O. 232 Mar 16 June 94 Flag-G

4. In Rules under the Explosives Act 1884, published under

under Judicial Department Notification No.290 dated 5th August, 1897, under Class 6 Ammunition Class, the expression "Safety Cartridges" is correctly and clearly defined, and the Small Arm Cartridges Cordite are among those defined in italics as what may be accepted as "Safety".

x Flag - L

5. To prevent the very serious inconvenience which might be caused to the State by the refusal of the Harbour Trust Board to permit a vessel having Government Small Arm Cartridges in excess of 20 boxes charged with Cordite on board, from entering the Madras Harbour, or refusing to permit such safety Cartridges to be loaded in a vessel in the Harbour, I venture to urge the necessity for the issue of such instructions as may prevent such a possibility.

6. I would add that it is unusual for a consignment of Government Small Arms Ammunition not to greatly exceed 20 boxes.

7. The prohibition that is proposed by the Draft Notification (marked "M") to impose on Government Safety Cartridges loaded with Cordite appears to me quite unnecessary with any regard for public safety.

This is no new prohibition. The rule in respect of Ammunition has not been changed.
2 Feb 20

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Colonel, R.A.,
Inspector General of Ordnance, M.C.

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