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(2) Date of repair 2.8.10

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	3111	Press
		Mis.
Dated	2.8.10	1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
28th October 1864.*

No. 564. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military
Department:—

Requesting the preparation of a plan and estimate for a new } (Here enter 22nd October 1864, No. 3,764.)
Rifle Butt at Bellary.

No. 565. ORDER THEREON, 28th October 1864, No. 3,111.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division, with a request that the plan
and estimate called for may be submitted at an early date.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

• To the Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division.

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MILITARY DEPARTMENT.
PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers:—

Memorandum from the Officiating Deputy Quarter Master General, Fort Saint George, 15th July 1864, No 6680; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department.

Forwarded by desire of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief for the sanction of Government, for the erection of new Butts.

From the Officer Commanding Ceded Districts, Head Quarters, Bellary, 30th June 1864, No. 61; to the Quarter Master General, Fort Saint George.

I have the honor to forward copies of letters, &c., as per margin, regarding the Rifle Range at this Station for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, and would respectfully suggest that application be made to Government for the necessary grant of funds to construct the same for the different reasons pointed out in Captain Claridge's Report. The estimated cost of construction is Rupees 2,440, but if the services of Sepoys were made use of for the construction of the earth-work, the cost would be considerably less.

One copy of letter from Captain Claridge, Inspector of Musketry 2nd District, to the Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General, Ceded Districts, No. 7 of the 19th November 1863, with a Sketch.
One copy of letter from A. Wedderburn, Esq., Acting Collector of Bellary, to Major General E. Armstrong, Commanding Ceded Districts, No. 247, of 16th December 1863, with a Sketch.
One copy of a report from Captain Claridge, shewing the proposed new Rifle Range at Bellary, dated 9th February 1864.

From Captain H. CLARIDGE, Inspector of Musketry, 2nd District, Bellary, 19th November 1863, No. 7; to the Assistant Quarter Master General, Ceded Districts.

I have the honor to request you will be so good as to bring to the notice of the General Commanding Ceded Districts, the following Report on the Range attached to Her Majesty's 74th Highlanders at this Station.

1. The position of the Range is objectionable, inasmuch as the practice of the Artillery interferes with that of the European Infantry Regiment, and it would in consequence be very difficult to complete the annual course of an entire Regiment within the prescribed period; besides the distance is not convenient from the men's Barracks.

2. The direction of the Range is bad, being to the West, the firing in the evening cannot be well carried out; and in a climate like Bellary, it is very necessary that the Range be so constructed to allow the Target practice being performed both morning and evening, as during a portion of the year, with large Companies, it might be found impracticable, without exposing the men, to complete two distances in one morning.

3. The Range is incorrectly laid out. The Markers' Butts are at too great a distance from the Target Platforms, and in consequence the markers experience difficulty in seeing the hits. The Target Platforms, for safety, should be in the same line, and the distances marked by pegs or stones at right-angles to the several Platforms.

The raised Platforms in the 1st Class Range are unnecessarily high; all firing Stations should not be less than 8 x 6 yards to admit a section of 10 files carrying out the order of firing laid down in the Musketry Regulations.

II. I have selected another piece of ground and beg to forward a plan of the same for the consideration of the General Commanding, which may give some idea of the spot. The position is good, about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile from the Barracks, direction N. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ E, which will permit the firing both morning and evening. The ground is so slightly undulating, that very moderately raised Platforms, if any, will be required, and the expense attending its construction would be inconsiderable.

From A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Acting Collector of Bellary, Hurpunchully, 16th December 1863, No 247; to the Officer Commanding Ceded Districts.

In reply to your letter of 27th ultimo, No. 101, with enclosure, returned, I have the honor to state that there does not appear to be any objection to the alteration proposed on the line of fire, but that if a slight deflection were made, as in the enclosed Sketch, the line of fire would cross the Kollagul bandy track at a more distant point.

PROPOSED NEW RIFLE RANGE AT BELLARY IN PAIRS.

Direction North.

1. Butts behind the Targets. These to be constructed of dark earth, with a good base about 25 feet high.

2. Target. The Target Platform woods to be 20 feet by 9 inches.

Platforms. In laying these down, the cotton soil must be removed and the space filled up with hard soil, otherwise in wet weather the would sink and become uneven.

The ground for Platforms to be raised about 1½ foot above the present level, and in front to be made gradually to slope towards the firing Stations.

3. Raised Platforms for the firing parties will not be necessary at any distance.

3. Markers and Ricochet Butts. The Markers and Ricochet marking Butts to be constructed above the level of the ground.

Markers' Butts. {Length 15 feet, } Two epaulements of 3 feet, same height.
 {Height 6 feet, }

Ricochet. {Length 7 feet, } Two epaulements of 2 feet, same height.
 {Height 6 feet, }

These Butts to be made of a stone-wall of the above dimensions, and an earth-work behind of 3 feet, with a slope of 6 feet.

The Butts to have a division (a foot-wall) to separate the markers of the different Targets, the wall to be continued about 4 feet above the Butt.

The only fitment required for the Butts is a wooden seat.

Firing Stations

1. The firing Stations to be at yards 100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 400, 500, 550, 600, 650, 700, 800 and 900 yards, 8 yards by 6, formed and levelled at the distances from 100 to 900 yards inclusive, the soil being black cotton; the Stations must be constructed of a hard firm soil and laid with gravel.

All the distances to be marked with Pegs or Stones.

2. The 900 yards or 1st Class Range should, if the ground will admit of it, be on the left of the ground, so that the other Range will be accessible while the men of 1st Class are firing.

3. A path-way for each Range, with which the firing Stations should be connected. These need not extend further than the Station at 400 yards from the Targets where the soil is hard.

4. The distance between the Ranges should be 50 yards from corner of Platform to Platform.

(Signed) H. CLARIDGE, Captain,

Inspector of Musketry 2nd District

SECCUNDERABAD, 9th February 1864.

N. B.—Paragraphs 5 and 6 of orders for the senior Officer at firing point, are to be strictly attended to on Ranges situated in pairs.

With Report from the Acting Controller of Military Accounts, 31st August 1864, G.

ORDER, No. 3266, 16th September 1864.

Before passing final orders on the subject of a new Rifle Butt at Bellary, the Governor in Council desires that the opinion of the Officer Commanding the Division and the Regiment, as to the actual necessity for the provision, may be obtained.

2. The papers submitted to Government do not contain any direct expression of the opinion of the Military Authorities on this point.

(True Extract.)

M. M. M. M. M.
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Quarter Master General.

„ Controller of Military Accounts.

„ Adjutant General, for information.

Ed. T. Stubbs.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Memo. from the Offg. Dy. Qr. Mr. Genl., 15th July 1864, No. 6680. Recorded in Pro. of Govt., No. 3266, dated 16th September 1864. From the Acting Controller of Military Accounts, 31st August 1864, G. Read again the papers noted in the margin

Read also the following papers :—

Memorandum from the Deputy Quarter Master General, Fort Saint George, 7th October 1864, No. 9208; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department.

Forwarded to Government, with reference to Order of Government, No. 3266, dated 16th September 1864.

From the Officer Commanding Ceded Districts, Head Quarters, Bellary, 3rd October 1864, No. 122; to the Quarter Master General, Fort Saint George.

With reference to your Memorandum as per margin, which was accompanied by the Orders of Government, No. 3266, of the 16th ultimo, relative to the new

Rifle Butts at this Station, I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from the Officer Commanding the 2nd Battalion 21st Fusiliers, embracing his opinion on the point.

2. From what is stated by the Inspector of Musketry and Colonel Robertson in his letter, it certainly appears to me desirable that the proposal to erect a new Butt should be carried out. Though Soldiers should be taught so as to be able to fire in any position or situation when in the Field, still, as Rifle Practice has become an Institution in which Regiments vie with each other for points of merit and position in the General List, it would be prejudicial to the interests of a Regiment, if it were deprived of any of the advantages, as regards ground, line of fire, &c., possessed by other Regiments.

From the Officer Commanding 2nd Battalion 21st Fusiliers, Bellary, 29th September 1864; to the Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General, Ceded Districts.

With reference to enclosed correspondence, I have the honor to state that I consider that the erection of new Rifle Butts, according to the plan proposed by Captain Claridge, Deputy Inspector of Musketry, would be of great benefit to the Battalion under my Command.

The proposed site is much nearer Barracks, the position as regards the sun, such as to allow firing both morning and evening, in the present range the direction being to the west, the firing in the evening cannot be well carried out.

The Target Practice of the Battalion is also frequently interfered with, by the practice of the Royal Artillery, and consequently it would be difficult to complete the annual courses within the prescribed period; this would not be the case with the proposed new range.

From Major J. G. Touch, conducting the duties of the Controller of Military Accounts, Fort Saint George, 12th October 1864, D; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.

I have the honor, with reference to the Order of Government, No. 3266, dated 16th September 1864, to forward a letter from the Officer Commanding the Ceded Districts, with enclosure, under the Deputy Quarter Master General's docket, of the

7th October 1864, No. 9208.

2. From the opinions of the Officers Commanding the Division and 2nd Battalion, 21st Fusiliers, it is to be inferred that the proposed new Rifle Range will be of great benefit to the Regiment, and facilitate the course of instruction, but that there is no actual necessity for it.

ORDER, No. 3764, 22nd October 1864.

Resolved that the foregoing proceedings and papers be communicated to the Department of Public Works, in view to the submission of a Plan and Estimate for a new Rifle Butt at Bellary.

(True Extract.)

Almullins
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Quarter Master General

„ Controller of Military Accounts.

„ Public Works Dept, with Pro of Govt,
No. 3266 of 1864.

„ Adjutant General, for information.

200 fine Copies

no 3111 72
Communicated to the
Superintending Engineer 3^d Division,
with a request that the plan
and estimate called for may be
submitted at an early date.

Chepauk
28th Octr/64

W.B.

To The Sup^r Eng^r 3^d Divⁿ
21st October

X⁸²

To W 18th Dept

Pro. of Govt. of Phil.

Feb 20

Pro. of Govt. in
the Phil. Dept

Of 22 }
Recd. 25 } Oct 64

Bl. No 764

Requesting the
preparation of a Plan & Estimate
for a new Rifle Butt at Beller

No. 564. 568

2111-28th Oct 64.

With an order