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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2294	Press Mis.
710-11	
Dated 30. 7. 1867.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
30th July 1867.*

No. 710. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Military Department:—

Communicating Despatch from the Secretary of
State, giving cover to a copy of a revised
programme for effecting the relief of troops
in India by the new Steam Transports during
the approaching season. (Here enter 22nd July 1867, No. 2,672.)

No. 711. ORDER THEREON, 30th July 1867, No. 2,294.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 71.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. M. SHAW STEWRAT, Major, R. E.,
Under Secretary to Government.

stim.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.
PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers:—

Military Despatch from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, India Office, London, 14th June 1867, No. 60; to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, Fort Saint George.

I forward herewith, for your information, copy of a Despatch and of its enclosures, No. 169, dated 14th June, which I have addressed to the Government of India, on the subject of the revised programme for effecting the relief of troops in India by the new Steam Transports.

From the Secretary of State for India, India Office, London, 14th June 1867, No. 169; to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council.

Paragraph 1. Referring to my Despatch, No. 87, dated the 26th March 1867, and to your Excellency's telegrams of the 3rd and 29th ultimo, I now forward for your Excellency's information a copy of a revised programme, according to which it has been determined that the movement of the several Steam Transports shall be regulated during the approaching season, and the manner in which the troops leaving this country shall be distributed among them. I also forward copies of the several papers relating to the subject, as shown in the margin.*

* From the Horse Guards...	26th Jan. 1867,
	M. b. 186.
To " " "	21st Feb. 1867,
	H. H.
From the Admiralty...	30th April.
Director of Transports	24th May.
	27th May.

2. Your Excellency will observe that the programme now forwarded is specially arranged for this season, and that it is therein laid down that two of the transports will each make one voyage to Calcutta.

3. Of these, one will proceed direct to Calcutta *via* the Cape, and will take no troops; the other will convey the 2nd Battalion, 60th Regiment, from Suez to Calcutta. Both of these vessels will return from Calcutta to Suez, conveying such troops as you may have in readiness to embark, one of these sailing from the Hooghly on the 21st of September, the other on the 11th of November.

4. It will be seen from the programme, that of the several Corps and Batteries proceeding this year to India, two will proceed to Calcutta, *viz.*, the 2nd Battalion, 25th Regiment, from Ceylon, and the 2nd Battalion, 60th Regiment, from England, *via* Suez, and that the remaining Corps will be conveyed to Bombay.

5. The time of arrival of the 2nd Battalion, 25th Foot, in Calcutta, will depend upon the arrangements made by the Admiralty for its relief in Ceylon. It is expected to be about the end of September. The 2nd Battalion, 60th Regiment, is expected to reach Calcutta on or about the 1st of October, and the remaining Regiments and Batteries of Artillery will reach Bombay on the dates shown in the programme. It will rest with your Government as to the Government of Bombay regarding the further movements of these several Corps.

As to the troops coming Home, I have to inform your Excellency's Government, in consideration of the time that must elapse before they can be provided at Suez, that the whole of the invalids must be brought to the place of embarkation in time to be sent Home in the usual manner.

7. With regard to the Regiments and Batteries, and Time-expired men intended to return to England during the approaching season, it is hoped that your Government will be enabled to turn to good account the two Steam Transports which it is proposed to send direct to Calcutta, and that those two vessels will be found to accommodate all, or nearly all, the troops destined for England, which may be stationed at Fort William, or upon the line of rail within easy reach of Calcutta.

8. The Regiments to be relieved, stationed in the North-West Provinces or the Punjab, will, of course, proceed for embarkation to Bombay. The departure of the first vessel of the season from that port is fixed for the 11th October, and she might be filled or nearly filled by the Artillery and Time-expired men, and those selected from the invalids, and although some difficulty may be experienced in finding men to fill the vessel leaving Bombay on the 29th November, it may be hoped that, under instructions from your Government, the movement of troops from the North-West Provinces and the Punjab may be so arranged without detriment or risk to their health, as to reach Bombay in time to embark upon the remaining four vessels of the season, which are appointed to leave Bombay on the 6th January, 14th January, 21st February, and 29th February. I learn, moreover, from the Horse Guards, that a discretionary power has been given to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India to depart, if necessary, from the roster on this occasion, should it appear desirable or necessary. It may be found under the special circumstances of the approaching season necessary to do so, and to send Home one or two of the Regiments serving in the Bombay Presidency, moving those now first on the roster, but at remote stations, down to that Presidency during the next cold season for embarkation during the season of 1868-69.

9. I forward, for the information of your Government, copy of a report by the Director of Transports, with a statement showing the estimated cost of passage of the several classes between the different ports, with a view to regulating the charge to be made against the Imperial Government on account of any individuals entitled to passage at the public expense who may be granted passage on board one of these steamers, but whose passage may not be chargeable to the revenues of India. This statement is subject to revision hereafter, but in the meantime I have expressed my approval of the rates which it is proposed to charge the Imperial Government under such circumstances.

10. You will observe from the letter dated the 27th May last, from the Director of Transports, that about 650 tons of coal for each of the vessels proceeding to Calcutta will be required, to be held in readiness at that port, on or before the 20th August for the *Jumna*, and for the *Euphrates* on or before the 29th October.

ORDER, No. 2672, 22nd July 1867.

Communicated to the Commander-in-Chief and Departments concerned, in continuation of Proceedings of Government, 2nd July 1867, No. 2473.

(True Extract.)

Marshak Major General,
Secretary to Government.

To the Quarter Master General.

- .. Adjutant General.
- .. Superintendent of Marine.
- .. Controller of Military Accounts.
- .. Commissary General.
- .. Clothing Department.
- .. Inspector General British Medical Service.
- .. Inspector General of Ordnance.
- .. Public Works Department, for information.

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Dec 22nd } July 67
Dec 29th

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Coming Receipt
from the Secy of
State giving cover
to the ^{app} received pro-
-gras for effecting

First St George
30th July 1867