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Regd
16-8-81

P. H. C. No 4520
Govt. of 1881 Madras.
Prop August
MILITARY.

To
THE QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated June, 10th.

Issued

Recd. 9th Aug. 81

G.O., 10th June 1881, No. 3123.

S.L.C.

JUNE.
Nos. 180-182.

Deciding that the Bangalore Lines, now occupied by the 15th Native Infantry, shall be retained as Government property, the men being charged rent for them, and submitting to Government of India the question of provision of lines for Native troops at the expense of the State.

Satd. in Receipt Regr.
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1- copy to Qdty - 18-8-81

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

10th June 1881, No. 3123.

Military Buildings
~~Cantonments~~—Native Lines.

Read the following papers:—

No. 180. From Brigadier-General H. O'CONNELL, Quartermaster-General, to Colonel E. L. HANKIN, Acting Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Fort St. George, 1st February 1881, No. 858.

I have the honor, by order, to submit, for the consideration of Government, the subject of lines for the Native troops of the Madras Army. It is one that has been noticed already but without any defined change in rules, which in the opinion of the Commander-in-Chief are not in accordance with the existing necessities of the time.

2. The rules, as they stand at present, are, that the Native soldier finds his own quarters, Government assisting him by the grant of a small allowance of hutting money, on enlistment and on every change of station. This allowance—which is Rs. 2 for a sepoy, with an increase for the higher ranks, a Subadar receiving Rs. 24—is quite inadequate to meet the expenditure necessary, or to be even a fair proportion of such expenditure.

3. In former years, sepoys were allowed to live in any description of hut, but gradually an improved system has been found indispensable. For the sake of discipline, the men have been required to live together in regularly laid-out lines. For sanitary purposes, these lines have to be properly raised and drained, good roads made and houses built that shall, in some degree at all events, be safe from destruction by fire, keep out damp and meet the requirements of sanitation. The huts required to be tiled, and to support a tiled roof the rafters have to be of suitable timber and the walls of the huts of durable material. All these requirements cannot be met upon the old system. The cost of a sepoy's hut so constructed varies at different stations according to prices of material and labor, but from Rs. 40 to Rs. 80 may be considered a fair estimate. This does not include the cost of roads, drains and latrines.

4. From his pay and with the assistance of only 2 rupees hutting money, a sepoy cannot afford to build a hut such as that above described. Government have in consequence given additional assistance of late years in providing lines for the Native Army, on representation of each case. At Perambore in Madras, Government in 1852 constructed lines for a regiment, have retained them as Government property and charge the men with rent as per margin, which rent is ex-

		Per Mensem.		
		RS.	A.	P.
Subadars	...	1	8	0
Jemadars	...	0	12	0
Havildars, Drum and Fife Majors	...	0	6	0
Naigues, Drummers and Fifers	...	0	5	0
Privates and Puckallies	...	0	4	0

pending in keeping the lines in repair. At other places, Government have advanced the whole amount required to build new lines, the lines have become the property of the men, who pay to Government the amount they are allowed to charge to a relieving regiment. This amount per hut is given in the margin. The balance of outlay, therefore, becomes a free grant by Government to a regiment for the

	RS.
Subadar-Major	106
Subadar	94
Jemadar	62
Havildar, Drum and Fife Major ...	34
Naigue, Drummer and Fifer ...	23
Privates and Puckallies	18

construction of lines. The total amount usually advanced varies from Rs. 80,000 to Rs. 40,000 per regiment, and the sum recovered from the men is about Rs. 15,000. The result of this system is, that when lines are new, the sepoy gets a hut costing from Rs. 40 to Rs. 80 for Rs. 18. The hut becomes his own property, but with the condition that he cannot receive more than Rs. 18 for it, and under the implied condition that he keeps it in repair. As, however, the hut will still be worth this sum, though it may fall into some disrepair, the man often fails to expend what he should do in repairs and the hut gradually deteriorates to the value of the amount he is allowed to charge his successor. This system is therefore not favorable for the maintenance of huts in good order.

5. His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief has called for opinions on this subject from selected Commandants of Native regiments and other experienced officers and now submits, for the consideration of Government, that in future when new lines are required at a station, they be substantially built by Government, retained as public property, and the occupants charged rent sufficient to keep the lines in repair.

6. In connection with this subject, the following suggestions are made:—

I.—The houses of the Native officer to be separate from those of the men and at a little distance from them. At present, Native officers live surrounded by the men. The circumstances are not favorable for the maintenance of that distinction between Native commissioned officers and men that is desirable.

II.—All the non-commissioned officers and three-fourths of the privates to be furnished with a house each. For the remaining one-fourth of the privates of each company, barracks to be built where the men without families could live together. Some of the young soldiers are not married, and it is desirable to discourage their marrying until they have been some little time in the service and can afford to support a family. The present system of giving every man a separate house tends to the bringing in of relatives to the lines to occupy quarters which are not required for the men. These relatives become hangers-on of the regiment, supported by the sepoys out of their pay, which is barely sufficient for the proper support of themselves, their wives and children.

III.—*The Amount of Rent to be charged.*—His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief considers that, for houses built as they should be, the rent charged for the Berhampore Lines is too low, especially for the higher grades. The following rates are suggested:—

	Per Mensem.		
	RS.	A.	P.
Subadars	4	0	0
Jemadars	1	8	0
Havildars, Drum and Fife Majors ...	0	10	0
Naigues, Drummers and Fifers ...	0	8	0
Privates and Puckallies	0	5	0

7. Most of the officers whose opinion was asked considered the above rates fair, but some thought them high and preferred the rates charged at Perambore.—See margin of para. 4.

8. Commandants of regiments were directed to consult their Native officers, and the latter have almost unanimously advocated the construction of lines by Government, and the charge of rent as above recommended.

9. Whatever may be the decision of Government on the general question now submitted and the future action to be taken, immediate orders are necessary with regard to the lines at Bangalore now occupied by the 15th Regiment, Native Infantry. Reference to Proceedings of Government, No. 7795, dated 13th December 1880, will shew that these lines, built at the expense of Government, became the property of the men of the 15th Regiment before they left for Afghanistan in October 1879. On the regiment proceeding on service, Government, according to custom, paid the men for the lines. The regiment has returned and re-occupied the lines; and the question to be decided is, whether the lines are again to become the property of the regiment on payment, or whether Government will retain the lines and charge the regiment rent for them. This should be decided at once, in order that the men should know in what position they stand. The Commander-in-Chief thinks that the regiment should have the option of re-purchasing the huts, after they have been thoroughly repaired, at the maximum rates allowed to be charged to the men, or of paying rent at the rates suggested in para. 6, Clause III.

From Major J. EWING, Deputy Quartermaster-General, to the Pay Examiner; dated Fort St. George, 16th February 1881, No. 1290.

With reference to your letter, No. 234-N.T.M., of the 7th instant, I have the honor to forward herewith a list showing the stations at which Native lines have been constructed since the year 1852, with the probable year of their construction, and for what corps. The list includes huts constructed for a portion of a regiment, to supplement the then existing accommodation, and also for families, besides the temporary lines.

2. I have to state that this office has no information concerning the actual dates of construction of the lines under reference. They can be easily obtained from the accounts rendered by the General Officer Commanding concerned, in adjustment of the advances taken up by them for their erection. These accounts are, it is presumed, now with the Finance Department.

List showing the Stations at which Native Lines were constructed since the Year 1852.

Regiment.	Stations at which Lines were constructed.	Probable Year of Construction.	Remarks.
1st Regiment, Native Infantry ...	Perambore (in Madras).	1852.	
52nd Regiment, Native Infantry ...	Cuddapah ...	1853.	
21st Regiment, Native Infantry ...	Trichinopoly ...	1857.	
25th Regiment, Native Infantry ...	Do. ...	1857.	
1st Regiment, Native Infantry (Families).	Kamptee ...	1858.	Temporary lines. 365 additional huts constructed.
Gun Lascars and Drivers of No. 1 Horse Field Battery.			
6th Light Cavalry	Do. ...	1858.	
1 Troop, 7th Cavalry	Do. ...	1858.	
20th Regiment, Native Infantry ...	Bangalore ...	1858.	
50th Regiment, Native Infantry (Families).	Do. ...	1858.	
51st Regiment, Native Infantry ...	Mangalore ...	1860.	
13th Regiment, Native Infantry ...	Trichinopoly ...	1860.	
E and F Troops, Horse Artillery ...	Bangalore ...	1860.	
17th Regiment, Native Infantry ...	Palamcottah ...	1860.	200 additional huts constructed.
47th Regiment, Native Infantry ...	Secunderabad ...	1860.	100 additional huts constructed.
38th Regiment, Native Infantry ...	Vizagapatam ...	1861.	

List showing the Stations at which Native Lines were constructed, &c.—(Continued).

Regiment.	Stations at which Lines were constructed.	Probable Year of Construction.	Remarks.
23rd Regiment, Light Infantry ...	Trichinopoly ...	1863.	40 additional huts constructed
14th Regiment, Native Infantry ...	Mangalore ...	1865.	
13th Regiment, Native Infantry ...	Cannanore ...	1865.	
19th Regiment, Native Infantry ...	Samulcottah ...	1865.	
3rd Regiment, Light Infantry ...	Ráyapuram (Madras).	1867.	
2nd Regiment, Light Cavalry ...	Arcot ...	1867.	
1st Native Infantry, Left Wing ...	Kamptee ...	1867.	
32nd Regiment, Native Infantry, Left Wing.	Hooshungabad...	1867.	
12th Regiment, Native Infantry ...	Jubbulpore ...	1868.	
31st Regiment, Light Infantry, Left Wing.	Sumbulpore ...	1869.	
3rd Madras Light Cavalry Detachment.	Jubbulpore ...	1869.	
21st Regiment, Native Infantry ...	Do. ...	1869.	300 additional huts built.
8th Regiment, Native Infantry, Left Wing.	Mercara ...	1869-1870 1871 & 1872.	
2nd Regiment, Native Infantry ...	Waltair ...	1870.	
13th Regiment, Native Infantry (Families).	Vellore ...	1871.	
29th Regiment, Native Infantry ...	Secunderabad ...	1871.	
6th Regiment, Native Infantry ...	Nagode ...	1871 & 1872.	
36th Regiment, Native Infantry ...	Bangalore ...	1873-1874 1875 & 1876.	
28th Native Infantry, two Companies	Vellore ...	1873.	
2nd Native Infantry, Wing ...	Sumbulpore ...	1873.	16 additional huts constructed.
16th Regiment, Native Infantry ...	Jubbulpore ...	1873.	Additional huts built.
28th Regiment, Native Infantry, Left Wing.	Mercara ...	1877.	
22nd Native Infantry, 2nd Light Cavalry.	Kamptee ...	1877.	
E/20th and G/20th Royal Artillery (Followers.)			
7th Regiment, Native Infantry ...	Vizagapatam ...	1877.	Additional huts built.
2nd Light Cavalry ...	Kamptee ...	1877.	
22nd Regiment, Native Infantry, Wing.	Hoshungabad ...	1878.	
29th Regiment, Native Infantry ...	Vizagapatam ...	1880.	Temporary thatched lines for 489 men constructed.
30th and 21st Regiments, Native Infantry.	Trichinopoly ...	1881.	In course of construction.
34th Regiment, Light Infantry, Wing.	Cannanore ...	1881.	Do.
33rd Regiment, Native Infantry, Wing.	Mangalore ...	1881.	Do.
26th Regiment, Native Infantry, Head-quarters and six Companies.	Palamcottah ...	1881.	Do.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
16th February 1881.

(Signed)

J. EWING, Major,
Dy. Quartermaster-General.

No. 181.

With report from the Controller of Mily. Accounts, 8th April 1881, A.

No. 182.

ORDER THEREON, 10th June 1881, No. 3123.

With reference to para. 9 of the Quartermaster-General's letter, dated 1st February 1881, above recorded, the Honorable the Governor in Council is pleased to decide that the Bangalore Lines, now occupied by the 15th Regiment, Native Infantry, shall be retained as Government property, the men being charged the following rates for occupancy, to have effect from the date of promulgation of this order to the regiment:—

	Per Mensem.		
	RS.	A.	P.
Subadars ...	1	8	0
Jemadars ...	0	12	0
Havildars, one Drum and one Fife Major	0	6	0
Naigues, Drummers and Fifers...	0	5	0
Privates and Puckallies ...	0	4	0

2. All needful repairs will be undertaken by Government.

3. This correspondence will be communicated to the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

J. P. Davis
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Quartermaster-General.

„ Controller of Military Accounts.

„ Public Works Department: with 5 copies

Exd. A. Raiff.