

Govt. of (1884) Madras.

MILITARY.

To THE QUARTER MASTER GENERAL,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated March, 3rd.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 3rd March 1884, No. 1040.

N. 649 N dy 10th March 1884.

MARCH.

Nos. 43-45.

Military Buildings—Demolition.

Fort St. George.—Abandonment of further experiments on a small scale of demolishing the outworks of —, directed, the whole question of demolition being held in abeyance until funds can be allotted and the work systematically undertaken.

N. 649 N dy 10th March 1884.

Communicated
to the Suptg. Engr. V circle,
for information and guidance

, Insubstant,

, H. J. S. S.

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The Suptg. Engr: V circle.

With order

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

3rd March 1884, No. 1040.

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- No. 43. *Extract of a memorandum from Lieutenant-Colonel A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Officiating Secretary to Government, Military Department, to the Quarter Master General; dated Fort St. George, 19th January 1884, No. 308.*

Para. 1. It having come to the notice of Government that the demolition of a portion of the outworks of Fort St. George has been recently attempted, under the orders of the Brigadier-General Commanding Eastern District, the Secretary to Government, Military Department, is directed to request that information may be afforded as to the circumstances under which Brigadier-General Stewart has undertaken this work.

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- No. 44. *Memorandum from Brigadier-General R. C. STEWART, Quarter Master General, to Lieutenant-Colonel A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Officiating Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Bombay, 12th February 1884, No. 54-1051.*

In reply to his memorandum, No. 308, dated 19th January 1884, the Quarter Master General is desired by the Commander-in-Chief to inform the Secretary to Government, Military Department, that the Government of Madras having in their G.O., No. 4034, dated 23rd July 1883, accepted the principle of a general demolition of the outworks of Fort Saint George, and the Government of India having sanctioned the measure, G.O., No. 5464, dated 9th October 1883, the Commander-in-Chief directed the Officer Commanding the Eastern District to take advantage of some funds at his disposal to commence the work of demolition on the north-east counter-guard, which, for various reasons, was the most suitable outwork for the purpose.

The object in thus commencing the work of demolition was twofold—
1st.—It was anticipated that it would give a fair estimate of what the demolition of the other works would cost.
2nd.—It was an interesting experiment as to the extent dynamite might be utilized in the work of destruction.

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief would propose to continue the operations in anticipation of the allotment of funds in the Public Works Department, the expenditure thereon being limited to the amount that may be at the disposal of the Officer Commanding the Eastern District.

There are certain outworks, such as the four ravelins which cover the entrances to the gateways which, in the opinion of the Commander-in-Chief, it may be desirable not to include in the work of demolition, but this is a question which His Excellency will do himself the honor of referring to Government at a later date.

Meanwhile Sir Frederick Roberts considers it very desirable that the demolition of the remaining outworks should be carried out without delay, as they are a weakness to the defences—in fact, some of them interfere with the line of fire of some of the guns on the *enceinte*.

No. 45. ORDER THEREON, 3rd March 1884, No. 1040.

Action seems to have been taken in regard to this matter somewhat prematurely.

2. The question of the demolition of the outworks of Fort St. George was, in the opinion of the Government, suspended, pending a report that funds were available in the Public Works Department.

3. The experiments, as far as they have gone, have proved that the demolition of even a small portion of the outworks will be a far more difficult and costly operation than was anticipated, while they have rendered the appearance of the part of the fort upon which they were directed most unsightly.

4. His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor in Council considers that further experiments on a small scale should be abandoned, and the whole question of the demolition held in abeyance until funds can be allotted in the usual course, and the work systematically undertaken.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Lt.-Col.,
Offg. Secretary to Government.

To the Quarter Master General.
„ Public Works Department.
„ Adjutant-General, for information.

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For Current No.

189

Department.

When taken out

Initials.

No 649 of 10th March 84

Communicated to the
Suptg Engrs & Circle for
information and guidance

W. S. S.
5/3/84

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No. 649 W of 10th March/84
B

Communicated to
the Supply & Exp^{ts} V circle,
for information & guidance
C.

Cu 4.3.84

W
5.3.84

g.s.c.
5.s.c.

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S.E. V circle
Desd^{ed} 10/3/84
11/3/84
20/3/84

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Offg. Secretary to Government.

To the Quarter Master General.

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Exd. P. L. Pereira.