

Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 3271 W

DATED 28 Nov 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Correspondence, Pro, Public Dept Comrs: Govt
of India endorsement forwarding extract from
a despatch from the Secretary of State suggesting
that officers in India should be cautioned
against communicating in their official
capacities with private companies inventors
or manufacturers, Comd to Officers of
the P.W.D.

Public works (1011)

Current No: 11306

Government {1897} of Madras.
PUBLIC.

[illegible]

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Recd. 13. 11. } 1897. Enclosures
Regd. 13. 11. } Spare copies

Enclosures -

Spare copies 40.

G.O., No. 1423, 29th October 1897.

OCTOBER.

Committed to
Officers of the S. W.
Sept. 1864.

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Correspondence.

Communicating to the departments of the Secretariat and to all heads of departments under the Chief Secretary endorsement of the Government of India forwarding extract from a despatch of the Secretary of State, together with copy of letter from the War office to the India office, suggesting that officers in India should be cautioned against communicating in their official capacities with private companies, inventors or manufacturers.

C. H. Young ✓
 S. W. C. H. Young ✓
 Sam Young ✓
 Des.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

Proceedings of the Government of India, Military Department, dated Simla, the 11th August 1897, No. 1475-C.

Read—the following papers:—

Extract, paragraph 5, of a Military letter from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India (No. 42, dated the 27th May 1897).

5. I forward herewith, for your information, a copy of a letter from the War Office, pointing out the inconvenience and embarrassment caused by the application of the Chief Instructor of Musketry, M.-3433.

Pachmarhi, to the Normal Powder Syndicate, Limited, and suggesting that officers in India should be cautioned against communicating in their official capacities with private companies, inventors, or manufacturers.

I request that the necessary instructions may be issued by your Government to officers of departments, and by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief to officers under his command.

[With reference to paragraph 8 of your Military despatch, No. 25, dated 17th February 1897.]

Copy of the above and enclosure forwarded to the Adjutant-General in India, with a request that, under the orders of the Commander-in-Chief, the necessary instructions may be issued to all officers under His Excellency's orders.

The Director-General, Indian Medical Service, &c., &c., with a request that the necessary instructions may be issued to the officers serving under his orders.

(By order.)

(Signed) I. PHILIPPS,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Copy of the foregoing and of enclosure forwarded to the Home Department for information and necessary action.

(By order.)

(Signed) E. F. MARRIOTT,
for Offg. Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

From Sir R. H. KNOX, K.C.B., Assistant Financial Secretary and Accountant-General, War Office, to the Under Secretary of State for India, dated London, S.W., the 7th April 1897, No. 82-N—107.

I am directed, by the Secretary of State for War, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th ultimo (M.-2358), forwarding extract from a despatch from the Government of India, with enclosure, regarding an application addressed by the Chief Instructor, School of Musketry, Pachmarhi, to the Normal Powder Syndicate, Limited.

I am to request that you will be good enough to call the attention of the Secretary of State for India in Council to the circumstance that the application made to the Normal Powder Syndicate by Captain Mayhew, in his official capacity, was seized upon by the syndicate as offering an occasion for them to endeavour to show that the musketry authorities in India were not satisfied with cordite, to obtain quasi-official trials of their normal powder in that country, and to press this department, after repeated refusals, to enter upon trials of that powder.

In pursuance of their object they made representations which are not borne out by the reports received, viz., that "several of the Schools of Musketry in India" had written to them asking for cartridges loaded "with" normal "powder to try it in comparison with cordite," and there is little doubt but that they would use the matter generally in the way of advertisement.

From this it is evident that communications from officers holding official positions, such as that made by Captain Mayhew to the syndicate mentioned, are liable to cause inconvenience and embarrassment to this department, and to afford grounds for erroneous representations as to material issued to the army.

Lord Lansdowne would submit, therefore, for Lord George Hamilton's consideration, whether it would not be desirable that the attention of the Government of India be called to the circumstances, with a view to officers being cautioned as to communicating in their official capacities with private companies, inventors, or manufacturers. Any information they may require can always be supplied to them by this department through the Secretary of State for India.

No. 2216.

Copy forwarded to all Local Governments and Administrations, and all Heads of Departments (except the Director-General, Indian Medical Service) for information.

(By order.)

HOME DEPARTMENT (PUBLIC),
SIMLA, 19th October 1897.
To the Government of Madras.

L. M. THORNTON,
Depy. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

ORDER—No. 1423, Public, dated 29th October 1897.

Communicated to the departments of the Secretariat and to all heads of departments under the Chief Secretary.

(True Extract.)

McConchman

for Chief Secretary.

To the departments of the Secretariat. (P.W.D.)
„ all heads of departments under the Chief Secretary.

Exd. C. M. Thumbarwamy.