Public Works (1898) Department.

G.O., No: 48 W

DATED 10 January 1898

11/1/98

[Despatch Abstract.]

India Army Regulations; Communicating to officers of the P.W.D. extract paras from the — Volume II, "Discipline" relative to the grant of 'Shooting' passes to British soldiers.

250/18

Jr
10.1.98

Issued 10/1

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

GENERAL.
ESTABLISHMENT.

Government {1898} of Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

Recd. } 1898. *Enclosures*
Regd. } *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 48 W., 10th January 1898.

JANUARY.

India Army Regulations

Communicating to officers of the Public Works Department extract paragraphs from the —, volume II, "Discipline," relative to the grant of shooting passes to British soldiers.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

General.
Establishment.

READ—the following papers:—

From Captain W. M. ELLIS, R.E., Executive Engineer, Kistna Northern Division, to the Superintending Engineer, II Circle, dated 24th November 1897, No. 546 S.E.

With reference to your endorsement No. 511 G.L., dated 12th November 1897, on G.O., No. 3011 W., dated 27th October 1897, I have the honour to state that, as Army Regulations, India, volume II, "Discipline," are not supplied to my office, the references made to it in this Government Order cannot be understood.

No. 2551 K.N.

Forwarded to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, with reference to G.O., No. 3011 W., dated 27th October 1897, for favour of supplying this office either with a copy of Army Regulations for use of the Military officers of the Department serving in this circle or an extract from the Army Regulations, India, relating to shooting parties. For want of these, the terms of the draft general order are not clear.

10th December 1897.

(Signed) W. M. ELLIS,
for Suptg. Engr., II Circle.

ORDER—No. 48 W., dated 10th January 1898.

Extracts from the India Army Regulations, volume II, "Discipline," paragraphs 749, 1525, 1685 and 1685 A, will be communicated to officers of the Public Works Department, in continuation of G.O., No. 3011 W., dated 27th October 1897.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. B. DEWINTON,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
„ the Consulting Engineer for Railways.
„ Superintending Engineers.
„ the Consulting Architect to Government.
„ the Superintendent of Works, Lighthouse Division.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

Annexure to G.O., No. 48 W., dated 10th January 1898.

ARMY REGULATIONS, INDIA, VOLUME II, "DISCIPLINE."

749. The following rules relating to the grant of shooting passes to British soldiers will be strictly observed and a copy of this paragraph will be hung up in a conspicuous place in every regimental institute and barrack room. Twice a year (in April and October, on dates considered most suitable by the Officer Commanding) clauses (1) to (9), (16) (17) 21 (sub-clause 2), (22) and (25), as well as the rule given in the margin, which is at present entered on the shooting pass, will be read on parade at the head of all British batteries, squadrons and companies wherever, they may at the time be (including convalescent depôts and standing camps).

Soldiers are warned that they must not load in the vicinity of quarters and must invariably unload before returning to camp or lines as well as before arriving at any place where they may intend to pass the night.

The same rules are also to be read to all British troops arriving in India at the Deolali or other depôt, as soon as possible after disembarkation, and prior to their proceeding to their respective destinations.

(1) Passes for shooting purposes are only to be granted to steady, well-conducted men, who are known to be competent to handle a gun.

(2) Not less than three men should go out shooting together.

(3) At least one of the party should have sufficient acquaintance with the language to be able to converse with the inhabitants.

(4) Men out shooting are to keep together as much as possible, and not to separate into parties of less than three.

(5) On no account is any member of a shooting party to address or enter into conversation with native women.

(6) Soldiers are prohibited from entering any village, house, temple, mosque or enclosure, or from shooting within 500 yards of them.

(7) They are forbidden to trespass upon, or shoot over, crops, to molest dogs, or any of the animals and birds referred to in paragraphs 11 and 12.

(8) Shooting under any circumstances at night is forbidden.

(9) Shooting with ball is strictly prohibited except in forests or rakhs or in thinly-populated tracts at a distance from cantonments.

(10) Officers commanding stations and officers commanding troops about to march will communicate with the civil authorities, in order to ascertain in what tracts of country shooting should be forbidden, either on account of the sacredness of the localities or for other reasons.

(11) The civil authorities should also be asked to give a list of such animals and birds as are looked upon as sacred by the inhabitants.

(12) A list should then be hung up in each barrack room, giving the names of the localities where shooting is forbidden, and of the birds and animals whose slaughter is prohibited.

(13) When shooting passes extending over three days are granted to non-commissioned officers or men, the Commanding Officer will send to the Magistrate of the district, or in the case of soldiers obtaining passes to districts other than that in which the regiment they belong to is quartered for the time being, then to the Magistrate of the district to which the men are about to proceed, a notice stating the rank and names of the party, and as nearly as possible the part of the district to which they are going.

(14) Care should be taken that passes are only given for localities where shooting can properly be pursued.

(15) Paragraphs 1 to 9 will be read to every man to whom a shooting pass is granted, and it will be ascertained that he is aware of the localities that he is prohibited from visiting, and of the animals and birds whose killing is forbidden.

(16) Any non-commissioned officer or soldier found shooting without a pass or disobeying these rules will be severely punished and deprived of the privilege of shooting during the remainder of his Indian service. In the event of an affray with natives arising from disregard of the rules or of injury to person or property being caused by the reckless or inadvertent use of firearms by soldiers, all shooting passes will, if the actual offenders cannot be identified, be prohibited for one year in the corps, or, at the discretion of the General Officer Commanding, in the district to which they belong. The prohibition with a short statement of the circumstances will in each case be published in district orders and reported for the information of the Commander-in-Chief and the Government of India.

(17) Shooting passes to non-commissioned officers and men are not to be given for more than fourteen days at a time.

(18) They may be given by officers commanding the corps to which the men belong, or, in the case of the men having proceeded out of the district, by the officer commanding the corps to which they may be attached for the time being (*vide* paragraph 1685/A, Army Regulations, India, volume II).

(19) Officers granting shooting passes will take care that all rules in force regarding the close season of the district concerned are explained to the men, who must be cautioned not to infringe them.

(20) Before granting passes to shoot at out-stations, commanding officers will ascertain that there is no local objection and no unusual sickness in the district.

(21) In the case of passes for shooting in Native States the same rules will apply, except that application will be made to the Political Agent or equivalent officer, where existent, for the information required under clauses 10, 11 and 19. Soldiers marching through Native States will not be permitted to shoot beyond a radius of 10 miles from their camp.

As regards Native States in the Punjab, the Local Government have arranged with the Durbars that shooting shall be permitted in a strip of country ten miles wide along each side of the grand trunk road and of other main roads used by troops. The Local Government will also supply commanding officers with detailed information as to what particular localities should be avoided by shooting parties, and what animals or birds should not be shot.

(22) In the Punjab, troops in quarters are not permitted to shoot in the territory of a Native State, without special sanction obtained through the Political or Civil authority.

(23) Officers commanding corps will be held responsible that these orders have been read, and explained to non-commissioned officers and men before they are allowed passes to shoot.

(24) A form of shooting pass, with an extract from these rules clearly printed on the back, will be kept in every British corps, and no other will be issued.

(25) Non-commissioned officers and men will always be in personal possession of these passes when out shooting, and will give them up on their return to barracks.

(26) All the above rules apply generally to warrant and non-commissioned officers of departments, with the exceptions noted in sub-clauses, I, II and III below :—

I. (Clause 2). A warrant or non-commissioned officer of a department may be granted a pass to go out shooting alone, provided the officer issuing the pass is satisfied that his knowledge of the language is sufficient to meet the requirement of clause 3.

II. The punitive measures prescribed in clause 16 in a case, where the offender cannot be identified, shall be confined to the departmental warrant and non-commissioned officers at the station.

III. (Clause 17). Standing passes for a maximum period of six months at a time may be granted to subordinates of the Military Works Department who are not employed in cantonments. Such passes will be returned (clause 25), for renewal or cancellation, to the officer who issued them on the expiry of the period for which granted. When the holder of a standing pass is transferred to another district, he will return it before giving over charge of his duties.

IV. Shooting passes (on the form referred to in clause 24) to warrant and non-commissioned officers of departments shall be granted by local departmental senior commissioned officers on the spot who will be held responsible that the rules are fully understood by all concerned.

V. They are also required to do all that the rules demand shall be done by an officer commanding a corps or a station in respect of British soldiers serving regimentally.

VI. They will, further, at all times be in possession of the latest information referred to in clauses 10, 11, 19, 20 and 21 ; and will take steps to comply with the spirit of the order contained in clause 12.

VII. (*Paragraph* 1525 *of these Regulations*).—No Government arms, or ammunition shall be issued to a departmental warrant or non-commissioned officer for sporting purposes, unless the officer issuing the shooting pass endorses his permission thereon that this may be done.

1525. The following regulations in regard to guns or rifles, the private property of soldiers, and Government smooth-bare arms, authorised for sporting purposes, will be observed :—

(1) No soldier, unless of very good character and generally of trustworthy habits, is to be allowed to possess a gun under any condition.

(2) All guns and rifles, whether private property or issued by Government for sporting purposes, are to be kept, in regiments of cavalry and infantry, in the troop or company store chest, in charge of the troop Sergeant-Majors and Color-Sergeants, and when a shooting pass has been granted, and the arms are required for use, they will be issued to the soldier by the above-named non-commissioned officers, and immediately returned to them on the expiration of the pass.

(3) In batteries of artillery the custody of these arms will be with the Quartermaster-Sergeant, who will, in like manner, issue them when required, and on no account is any gun or rifle, the private property of a soldier, to be issued to any one except the man to whom it belongs, without the written consent of the officer commanding the troop or company, and such consent will be endorsed on the shooting pass.

(4) Ammunition for sporting purposes, the private property of soldiers, is to be kept in the regimental or battery magazine.

1685. Officers commanding stations are authorised to grant furlough in India to British soldiers of good character, but during the drill season furlough should not be granted except for very emergent reasons.

1685 A. Furlough under the preceding paragraph, when for the purpose of shooting, will be granted only to military stations at which the men can be attached for rations and quarters to a corps or detachment stationed there.

Public Works (1897) Department.

Note for Press

Print the extracts as an annexure to the G.O. (Show proof)

CURRENT No. 12355

A

No. 48 W of 10-1-98
97

From The Superintending Engr.
~~[illegible]~~ Circle

Order

Extracts from the India Army Regulations, Vol II "Discipline", paras 749, 1528, 1685 & 1685A, will be communicated to officers of the P. W. Dept. in continuation of G.O. No 3011 W of 27th Octr 1897.

No. 2551 K.N.

Dated 10 December 1897

Received
Registered 13-12-97

Enclosures

Spare copies

Cy

31.

Ch. Engr for Irrigation
Cons. [illegible]
Supdt Engrs
Ch. to Govt.
Supr. of W. Sec. Ch. Dn

D 24/1/98

SUBJECT.

Army regulations or extracts from the Army Regulations relating to Shooting parties Requesting to supply either. for use of the military officers serving in the circle

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

18

Letter from Captain W. M. Elli
R.E., Executive Engineer, Kistna Northern
Division, to the Superintending Engineer,
II Circle. No. 546 S.E., dated 24-11-97

With reference to your en-dorsement No. 511 G.L. / 12-11-97, on G.O. No. 3011 W / 27-10-97 I have the honour to state that as Army Regulations, India, Volume II, "Discipline" are not supplied to my office, the references made to it in this G.O. cannot be understood.

No. 2551 K.N / 10.12.97

Forwarded to the Chief
Engineer, P. W. Department with
reference to G.O. No. 3011 W dt 27-10-97
for favour of supplying this
office either with a copy of Army
Regulations for use of the Mili-
-tary officers of the department
serving in this Circle or an extract
from the Army Regulations, India,
relati

Copy
not available

relating to shooting parties. For want of these, the terms of the draft General order, are not clear.

Wm. [illegible]
Executive Engr
for Superintending Engr
~~to~~ Circle.

Dd 7/12/97 7/12/97

Para 749, Army Regulations, India
volume II. "Discipline" —

749. The following rules relating to the grant of Shooting passes to British Soldiers will be Strictly observed (✓):

(1) Passes for Shooting purposes are only to be granted to Steady, well-Conducted men, who are known to be Competent to handle a gun.

(2). Not less than three men should go out Shooting together.

(3) At least one of the party should have sufficient acquaintance with the language to be able to converse with the inhabitants

(4) Men out Shooting are to keep together as much as possible and not to separate into parties of less than three.

(5) On ~~on~~ no account is any member of a shooting party to address or enter into conversation with native women.

(6). Soldiers are prohibited from entering any village, house, temple, mosque, or enclosure, or from

Shooting

(✓) And a copy of this paragraph will be hung up in a Conspicuous place in every regimental institute and barrack room. Twice a year (in April and October, on dates considered most suitable by the Officer Commanding) Clauses (1) to (9); (16); (17) 21 (sub-clause 2); (22); and (25); as well as the rule given in the margin, which is at present entered on the Shooting pass, will be read on parade at the head of all British Batteries, Squadrons, and Companies wherever they may at the time be (including Convalescent Depots and Standing Camps). The same rules are also to be read to all British Troops arriving in India at the Deolali or other Depot, as soon as possible after disembarkation, and prior to their proceeding to their respective destinations.

Soldiers are warned that they must not load in the vicinity of quarters and must invariably unload before returning to camp or lines as well as before arriving at any place where they may [illegible] pass the night.

Shooting within 500 yards of them.

(7) They are forbidden to trespass upon, or shoot over, crops, to molest dogs, or any of the animals and birds referred to in paragraphs 11 and 12.

(8). Shooting under any circumstances at night is forbidden.

(9) Shooting with ball is strictly prohibited except in forests or rakhs or in thinly populated tracts at a distance from Cantonments.

(10). Officers commanding stations and officers commanding troops about to march will communicate with the civil authorities, in order to ascertain in what tracts of country shooting should be forbidden, either on account of the sacredness of the localities or for other reasons.

(11) The civil authorities should also be asked to give a list of such animals and birds as are looked upon as sacred by the inhabitants.

(12). A list should then be hung up in each barrack room, giving the localities where shooting is

is forbidden, and of the birds animals whose slaughter is prohibited.

(13) When shooting passes extending over three days are granted to non-commissioned officers or men, the Commanding officer will send to the Magistrate of the District or in the case of soldiers obtaining passes to districts other than that in which the regiment they belong to is quartered for the time being, then to the Magistrate of the district to which the men are about to proceed, a notice stating the rank and names of the party and as nearly as possible the part of the district to which they are going.

(14). Care should be taken that passes are only given for localities where shooting can properly be pursued.

(15) Paragraphs 1 to 9 will be read to every man to whom a

a shooting pass is granted, and it will be ascertained that he is aware of the localities that he is prohibited from visiting, and of the animals and birds whose killing is forbidden.

(16) Any non commissioned officer or Soldier found shooting without a pass or disobeying these rules will be severely punished and deprived of the privilege of shooting during the remainder of his Indian Service. In the event of an affray with natives arising from disregard of the rules or of injury to person or property being caused by the reckless or inadvertent use of firearms by Soldiers, all shooting passes will, if the actual offenders cannot be identified, be prohibited for one year in the Corps, or, at the discretion of the General Officer Commanding, in the district to which they belong. The prohibition with a short statement of the [illegible] will in each Case be published in District Orders and reported for the information of the Commander-in-chief and the Government of India.

(17). Shooting passes to non-Commissioned officers and men are not to be given for more than fourteen days at a time.

(18) They may be given by Officers Commanding the Corps to which the men belong, or, in the case of the men having proceeded out of the district, by the Officer Commanding the Corps to which they may be attached for the time (x) being (Vide paragraph 1685 A. Army Regulations, India, Volume II)

(19) Officers granting shooting passes will take care that all rules in force regarding the close season of the district concerned are explained to the men, who must be cautioned [illegible] to who

(x) Involving [illegible] under the preceding. & ~~See the slip attached~~

not to infringe them.

(20). Before granting passes to shoot at out stations, Commanding officers will ascertain that there is no local objection and no unusual sickness in the district.

(21). In the case of passes for shooting in Native States the same rules will apply, except that application will be made to the Political Agent or equivalent officer, where existent, for the information required under clauses 10, 11 and 19.

Soldiers marching through the Native States will not be permitted to shoot beyond a radius of 10 miles from the Camp.

As regards Native ~~States~~ States in the Punjab, the local Government have arranged with the Durbars that shooting shall be permitted in a strip of country ten miles wide along each side of the Grand Trunk Road and of other main roads used by Troops. The local Government will also supply the Commanding officers with detailed information as to what particular localities should be avoided by shooting parties, and what animals or birds should not be shot.

(22) In the Punjab, troops in quarters are not permitted to shoot in the territory of a Native State, without special sanction obtained through the Political or Civil authority.

(23) Officers Commanding Corps will be held responsible that these orders have been read, and explained, to Non-commissioned officers and men before they are allowed passes to shoot.

(24) A form of shooting pass, with ~~these~~ an extract from these rules ~~rules clearly printed~~ clearly printed on the back, will be kept in every British Corps, and no other will be issued.

(25) Non-commissioned officers and men will always be in personal possession of these passes when out shooting, and who

And will give them up on their return to barracks.

Library

List No. 131.

Corrections t' Army Regulations, India, Volume II, Discipline.

G. O. 74 of 1897.

The following corrections are made in Army Regulations, India, Volume II, " Discipline ":—

G. O. 74 of 1897.
M. D. 2010 C.,
dated 1st Nov.
1897.

Para. 749.—Add the following clause :—

26. All the above rules apply generally to warrant and non-commissioned officers of departments, with the exceptions noted in sub-clauses I, II, and III below :—

I.—(Clause 2). A warrant or non-commissioned officer of a department may be granted a pass to go out shooting alone, provided the officer issuing the pass is satisfied that his knowledge of the language is sufficient to meet the requirement of clause 3.

II.—The puntive measures prescribed in clause 16 in a case, where the offender cannot be identified, shall be confined to the departmental warrant and non-commissioned officers at the station.

III.—(Clause 17). Standing passes for a maximum period of six months at a time may be granted to subordinates of the Military Works Department who are not employed in cantonments. Such passes will be returned (clause 25), for renewal or cancellation, to the officer who issued them on the expiry of the period for which granted. When the holder of a standing pass is transferred to another district, he will return it before giving over charge of his duties.

IV.—Shooting passes (on the form referred to in clause 24) to warrant and non-commissioned officers of departments shall be granted by local departmental senior commissioned officers on the spot who will be held responsible that the rules are fully understood by all concerned.

V.—They are also required to do all that the rules demand shall be done by an officer commanding a corps or a station in respect of British soldiers serving regimentally.

VI.—They will, further, at all times be in possession of the latest information referred to in clauses 10, 11, 19, 20 and 21 ; and will take steps to comply with the spirit of the order contained in clause 12.

VII.—(Para. 1525 of these Regulations). No Government arms, or ammunition, shall be issued to a departmental warrant or non-commissioned officer for sporting purposes, unless the officer issuing the shooting pass endorses his permission thereon that this may be done.

G. O. 74 of 1897. M. D. 2602 A., dated 1st Nov. 1897.

Para. 1093.—For the figures "266," in line 4, substitute "270," and add the following after the word "also" in the same line, "in the case of officers who have not elected for continuous service in India.

G. O. 74 of 1897. M. D. 1898 C., dated 14th Oct. 1897.

Para. 1305 is amended to read as follows :—

"They may compete for admission in India, or when on furlough in England. In either case, their applications for permission to appear at the examination will be submitted through their commanding officers, and by the latter to the general officer commanding the district for transmission to the War Officer through the Lieutenant-General of the Command. The General Officer Commanding the District should satisfy himself that the certificates comply with the Queen's Regulations, except that the medical certificate may be furnished by the India Office Medical Board after the receipt of the other papers from India. Moreover, officers may be attached to the Staff of a General Officer in England."

G. O. 74 of 1897. M. D. 1898 C., dated 14th Oct. 1897.

Add the following para. :—

"**1305 A.** Applications for admission to the Staff College by special nomination, from both officers of the British Service on the Indian Establishment and officers of the Staff Corps, whether in India at the time or not, will be submitted so as to reach Army Head-Quarters, through the prescribed channel, not later than the 1st August of each year. These applications should be accompanied by certified statements of service performed in the field, or of service as Adjutant with the regular forces."

G. I. C. P. O.—No. 218 M. D.—21-12-97.—3,650—H. R.

8418

Para 1525.

1525. The following regulations in regard to guns or rifles, the private property of soldiers, and government smooth-bore arms, authorised for sporting purposes, will be observed:—

(1) No soldier, unless of very good character and generally of trustworthy habits, is to be allowed to possess a gun under any condition.

(2) All guns and rifles, whether private property or issued by government for sporting purposes, are to be kept, in regiments of Cavalry and infantry, in the troop or Company store chest, in charge of the troop sergeant-majors and color-sergeants, and when a shooting pass has been granted, and the arms are required for use, they will be issued to the soldier by the above named non-commissioned officers, and immediately returned to them on the expiration of the pass.

(III). In batteries of artillery the custody of these arms will be with the quartermaster-sergeant who

who will, in like manner, issue them when required, and on no account is any gun or rifle, the private property of a soldier, to be issued to any one except the man to whom it belongs, without the written consent of the officer Commanding the troop or Company, and such consent will be endorsed on the Shooting pass.

IV Ammunition for sporting purposes, the private property of soldiers, is to be kept in the regimental or battery magazine.

Para. ~~1685 Army Regulations, India, "Discipline"~~

1685. ~~General~~ Officers ~~Commanding~~ ~~Districts, and Colonels on the Staff~~ Commanding Stations are authorised to grant furlough in India to British soldiers of good character, but during the drill season furlough should not be granted except for very emergent reasons.

1685 A. Furlough under the preceding paragraph when for the purpose of Shooting will be granted only to military stations at which the men can be attached for rations and quarters to a corps or detachment stationed there