

Public (1895) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 270.

DATED 9 April 1895.

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

VOLUNTEERS -- ORGANISATION.

Recording Proceedings, Military Department, communicating to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief the decision of the Government of India to try on a small scale the experiment of arranging for the training of Infantry Volunteers in gun drill at a limited number of places.

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BACK PAPERS.

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FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Gobt. of {1895} Madras. MILITARY.

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

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Order d/ 9th Apr: 95 No. 270

Recorded.

35B.
for C.I.
8.4.95.

Dated March, 28th.

Issued

Recd. 4.4.95 Encl. 55c
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G.O., 28th March 1895, No. 1940.

MARCH.
Nos. 304-305.

Volunteers—Organization.

Training of Infantry Volunteers in gun-drill.—
Decision of the Government of India to try on a small scale the experiment of arranging for the — at a limited number of places, communicated for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

Volunteers—Organization.

Read the following paper :—

No. 304. *From Major-General Sir E. H. H. COLLEN, K.C.I.E., Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to the Adjutant-General in India; dated Fort William, the 15th March 1895, No. 972-B.*

Volunteers—Organization.

I am directed to invite attention to the correspondence ending with Military Department letter No. 2662-B., dated the 18th August 1893, on the subject of the desirability of increasing the number of artillery volunteers in India. In the beginning of 1893 the Government of India addressed local Governments and Administrations, stating that, after a consideration of the requirements of India in the matter of garrison artillery for coast and inland defences, it had been found that certain deficiencies in *personnel* existed; and that, as no further increase to the regular garrison artillery of India could be made at present, the Government of India were of opinion that it was desirable to raise the strength of the artillery volunteers in India as much as possible. Local Governments were accordingly asked to make every endeavour to increase the strength of artillery volunteer corps in their respective provinces, and to raise new companies or detachments at certain stations where none existed.

2. The direct result of this appeal was that an additional company of the Cossipore Artillery Volunteers was raised from among the residents of Calcutta, and a second company of volunteer artillery was raised at Rangoon. Elsewhere the difficulties in the way of raising additional artillery volunteers, owing to the paucity of European residents and other causes, prevented the formation of new companies, but it was suggested that the object of the Government of India might be met by training infantry volunteers in the use of guns.

3. The opinions of local Governments and Administrations on this subject have been carefully considered by the Government of India, and I am now to state, for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, that the Government of India have decided to try on a small scale the experiment of arranging for the training of infantry volunteers in gun-drill at a limited number of places. As the stations where artillerymen will be chiefly required are the places where there are forts, with armaments, from which, however, it might be necessary to withdraw Royal Artillery to man the coast defences in case of emergency, the Government of India have decided that the experiment referred to should be tried first at such stations. It has been ascertained that a certain number of volunteers at Allahabad and Agra are willing to receive instruction and a commencement will accordingly be made at those places. In order to make it convenient for the volunteers at these two stations to learn gun-drill without going to any distance from their headquarters, the Government of India have sanctioned the supply of a gun with stores complete, for each, also the appointment of instructors for the drill season, at the same time suggesting that the volunteers should be also trained, whenever practicable, with the guns mounted in the forts, which are those they would be required to use in case of emergency.

4. I am further to state that, in order to encourage infantry volunteers to learn the handling of artillery, the Government of India are pleased to sanction the grant of an extra capitation allowance of Rs. 10 per man per annum for each infantry volunteer at Allahabad and Agra, who makes himself efficient in gun-drill in addition to his infantry training.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT, 28TH MARCH 1895, No. 1940.

No. 972-B.

Copy forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Military Department, with reference to his letter No. 8478, dated the 22nd December 1893.

(By order.)

FORT WILLIAM,
15th March 1895.

(Signed) A. E. JONES,
Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 305. ORDER THEREON, 28th March 1895, No. 1940.
Communicated for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

(True Extract.)

[Signature]

Colonel,
Offg. Secretary to Government.

To the Adjutant-General.
" Controller of Military Accounts.
" Public Department, for information.

When given for copying _____
When copied _____ } 189
When examined _____
When signed _____

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
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DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

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LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.