

Public (1896) Department. 1-16

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 418-19

Dated 27 Mar 1896.

INDEXED

[Despatch Abstract.]

RANGE FOR THE VOLUNTEERS AT COIMBATORE.

Informing the Government of India that it has been arranged between the military authorities and the Inspector-General of Prisons & that the Volunteers at Coimbatore shall continue to have the use, on certain conditions, of the rifle range situated within the precincts of the Coimbatore Jail, and that in consequence there is now no necessity for further action with the view of providing a separate range outside the jail premises.

BACK PAGE

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

FURTHER PA

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

செப்பன்குபவத் பெயர்
செப்பன்குவதற்காக எடுத்த
கொள்ளப்பட்ட நாள் 1996
செப்பன்கு யுத்த நாள் 1996
சுறிபார்க்கும் ஆராய்ச்சி
மு. பா. வ. உதவியாளர்
கையொப்பம் கையொப்பம்

[1/2]
2,000-2-1-55

2231

Public DEPARTMENT.

From

The Govt of India,
Mily Dept.

No.

Date 9/6

Received 15th

Reg. 16th

Enclosures

July 1895

SUBJECT.

Requesting an early reply
to the 3034 B 251-1-96 re
the proposed construction of
a rifle range at Coimbatore
for the use of the Volga
Volunteers

Encl. 20 July 1895, No 1689

Forwarded to the
Commanding the Forces
with reference to the
General's letter No 301
of 18.12.95 for favor
of early reply

2

41819
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[1/2]
7,501-2-105.

Put case 2231 of 95 into the 100
Mily case 11800 of 95
Memo no 547 830-1-05
G.O. No. 7059 2/14-11-94

Current No. Public DEPARTMENT.

Telephone

From L. G. C. C. C. C.

418-9
3

No.
Received
Enclosures

SUBJECT.

Submitting that the Report regarding
new rifle range for Volunteer at
Cumbria will be received and
forwarded within next few days

W. W. W.

Registered in Public No. 579
 Name Class. **INDIAN TELEGRAPHS** *418-9* **CURRENT NO.** *135*
 Month Number.

To (Office)				From (Office)	
Words.	Day.	Hour.	Minute.	Official Instructions.	
	3	11	10		

To (Person)	From (Person)
<i>Chief of Police</i>	<i>W. C. Smith</i>

32 Word Form.

NL 1595 to 22 Sept 1875
 Your letter NL 1587 of 20th ult. re report regarding
 new high camp for volunteers at Combsville not received
 as yet. G. O. C. Southern District reports on 30th ult. that
 delay due to non-receipt of papers from collector of
 district. It will probably be received and forwarded to you
 within next few days.

Recd. from	I.N.	Sent to	I.N.
At	Per.	At	Per.

Telegraph Master.

4-18-19
5

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Public Current 2878

O.M. No. 2597

2731-10-95

The attention of
^{Manufactured Goods}
H.E. West. Genl. is invited
to his telephone message
No. 1595 of 3d. Sept 95. He
is requested to be so
good as to state when
the report promised
therein may be expected.

c.w.
27.10.95

27.10.95

2597
24/10/95

To the Hon. Secy. of the
A.E. L. Genl. Comptrolr

Recd
3/11

Volunteer Ranges

No. 14 M. V.

Colacavind.

8th November 1895.

418-19
x

6

From

The Lieutenant-General COMMANDING the FORCES, Madras.

To

The Chief Secretary to the Government
of Madras.

CHIEF SECRETARY
10 NOV 1895
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

ENCLOSURES.

With reference to your Memo.
Public Department, No. 2091 of 31st. Oct. 1895, I
have the honor to inform you that the report regarding
new rifle range for the Coimbatore Company of the
Madras Volunteer Rifles has been received; but
as both the Commandant of the Corps and the
President of the Board which assembled to select
the new site are strongly in favor of the continuance
of the present range within the Jail premises, the case
is now being held over pending a personal interview
on the subject with the Inspector General of Prisons
who is absent on leave, but expected in Calcutta
shortly.

The case will be submitted as soon as possible.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Yours obedient servant

Calcutta 10/11/95

Respectfully

By: Lieutenant General
in the Forces

3816
Public

From

The Lieut General Commanding
the Forces

No. 1986 M.W.

British 80
Receiving 10
Regt. 11

- 11-95

Subject

Informing that the reports
regarding new rifle range for
the Coimbatore Volunteer Rifle
Company of the Nilgiri Volunteer
Rifles has been received and
that the matter is being held over
pending a personal interview on
Thursday with the Inspector
General of Prisons.

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2 Reminders d/21st Jan^y 95
d/ 9th July 95

Pub. Cur. 3816

2
The Secy to the Govt of India
No. 1337 d/18 Nov 95
d/19/11/95

Sir,

with reference to ^{Colonel} ~~the~~
Maikland's letter No 3034
B. d/1st November '94, and
subsequent reminders, I
am directed to ^{inform you} state that
the report regarding the
new rifle range for the
Coimbatore Company of
the Nilgiri Volunteer Rifle
has been received by the
Lt Genl commanding
the Forces after some
considerable delay, due
to the late receipt by the
G.O.C. Southern District
of certain papers. ^{has}
2. The Lt Genl ^{has} ~~replied~~
^{intimated} ~~has~~ that as both the
Commandant of the Coy
& the President of the Board
which assembled to select
the ^{new} ~~new~~ site ^{for a Range} are ~~strong~~

in favour of the continuance
of the present range within
the Jail premises, he has
held over the case pending
a personal interview with
the S. G. of Prisons who is ^{at present}
about on tour but expected
shortly in Coimbatore.
3. ^{a further report}
on the subject will be forwarded
as soon as possible.

Rifle Range at Coimbatore

Public DEPARTMENT
ROUTINE SERIES
No. 1337
18 Nov 1905

Further on 21 of 96
9730/96

Dist. No. 530
18 Nov 1905

Public

4-18-1905

G.P. No. 1337 Pub. 25.12.11-95
Encl. No. 16892 20.7.95 Pub
Daily Current No. 1180 of 95
Daily Reminder No. 547230-1-95
No. 7059 21.11.94
5901-2 25.24.94
10712 25.2.94
475 25.1.94 6/94

From
The Lt. General
Commanding the force
Coimbatore

Recd. No. 119
Forwarded to the
Inspector General of
Prisons for favour of
early remarks.

No. 2262 M.W.

Believe me
Chief Secretary

Date. 30.12.95
Recd. 8.1.96
Reg. 6.1.96

7013
9.1.96.

Thro' the Indl. Dept.

Subject
Making Certain Suggestions
regarding the site for
long range firing.

For L. S. George
17 January 1906

Forwarded

From

By Under Secretary

15/1/96.

1-23-20

3. The Commandant Nilgiri Volunteer Rifles is prepared to accept any terms the Inspector General is pleased to impose, and to remove the objection to Volunteers passing through jail premises as at present. I would propose that an opening be made in eastern outer enclosure wall near the dog yard (vide sketch) and Volunteers allowed to use that entrance, which of course should be entirely under the control of the jail authorities only.

4. There are 59 adult members and 32 cadets in the Company, some few of former are warblers & connected with the jail.

5. The foregoing suggestions seem to me the most practical and inexpensive way of meeting the difficulty and do not advocate any increase of the range or alteration of the inner jail enclosure, as has been suggested.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your obedient servant

W. M. R. G. G. G.
Commanding the Forces,
Madras.

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10

10

Copy of a Letter No. 4402 dated 29th September 1892 to the Quarter Master General, Bangalore.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter No. 1709 M. G. dated 22nd September 1892, forwarding certain correspondence (herewith returned) regarding the firing range used by the Combaratore Company of the Nilgiri Volunteer Rifles at Combaratore.

2. The use of the Butte, which was situated within the Jail outer wall, by the Volunteers was first permitted in 1886 by Col. Rickman who was both Superintendent of the Jail and Commandant of the Corps. This permission was given without reference to the Inspector General of Jails, and in 1888 the then Inspector General, Mr. Guinness having received information regarding the Volunteers' use of the range, prohibited it. But after words at the instance of the District Magistrate, referred the matter to Government, proposing to sanction the continuance of the use of the range by the Volunteers on certain conditions. This the Government approved.

3. The conditions proposed by Mr. Guinness and approved generally by Government included the following:

- (1) that the Butte should not be used without the permission of the Superintendent of the Jail.
- (2) that during the Volunteers' annual course they should be used three days and at other times two days a week from sunrise to 7 am or from 5 pm to sunset, Sundays excepted.

These conditions were referred by Mr. Guinness to the District Magistrate and Commandant of the Corps, and were accepted by them as suitable. This was in August 1888.

4. It is now stated that Col. Rickman in his joint capacity of Superintendent and Commandant did not during his tenure of office enforce the conditions prescribed and agreed on in 1888, and it is proposed they should be altogether rescinded and that the Vol.

would, in future, be allowed to use the range daily from early morning till 9 am. and after 4 pm, provided that if ground is required for Tail purposes, the Volunteers would abstain from shooting on due notice being given them by the Tail authorities.

5. Since the receipt of your Letter in due reply, I have been in communication with Capt. Aspinall, Adjutant Nilgiri Volunteer Rifles, on the subject of this correspondence, and I am of opinion, in which I believe he concurs, that it would be to the interests both of the Volunteers and of the Tail Department that a fresh range should be obtained for the former.

6. As regards the proposal to allow hunters the use of the Tail range every morning up to 9 am. and every afternoon after 4 pm, I am quite unable to approve of it, and I could not recommend to Government any permanent relaxation of the conditions agreed to in 1888 without undue sacrifice of Tail interests.

7. But I consider, as did Mr. Guinness in 1888 and Col. Smith in 1891, that the use of the Tail range by Volunteers at all is undesirable. The range extends right across the land included within the outer wall of the Tail. As of the pieces of enclosed jail garden lies beyond it and amidst the orchards where firing is going on. The whole of the Tail land is it ought to be under cultivation and the existence of the range renders this impossible, while it places considerable difficulties in the way of the cultivation of a large portion of the available area. These are other objections to admitting volunteers to have free access to jail premises.

8. When Government in 1888 permitted the use of the Tail range by the Volunteers, it was after a statement had been made by the District Magistrate that a range could possibly be constructed and that if the Tail range was retained the Volunteers of Cumbay would

11
A15-14
must be disbanded. It now appears, however, that it is possible to extend the Police range so as to render it suitable for the Volunteers.

9. The range in the Tail grounds, which was originally constructed many years ago for the use of the Police who then guarded the Tail, is not a good one for rifle practice, as it only extends to 600 yards. On the other hand the Police range can be extended to 1000 yards, and is stated in para VI of the Letter of the Commanding Officer Nilgiri Volunteer Rifles N° 448, dated 21st June 1892 to be conveniently situated and the site to be a good one. On this range the Volunteers would be able to fire at whatever hours they like for there would be no difficulty in arranging with the Police to have the entire use of the range 3 or 4 days a week &c. Rifle practice being conducted at fixed hours and under definite orders would not require to be spread over as many days as that of Volunteers.

10. The initial cost of acquiring the land necessary for the extension of the Police range would not, it appears, be very heavy. As regards the expense of constructing a fresh stop-butt, I should be prepared to ask the sanction of Government to allow this work if it does not prove to be very formidable to be carried out by volunteer labour in consideration of the outlay said to have been incurred by the Volunteers on the Tail Range and in view of the advantages to the Tail Department of having the use of the range by Volunteers put on a basis. The upkeep of the range when constructed would be shared with the Police, and there would thus probably be some saving to the Corps in the respect.

11. I would therefore suggest that before further steps are taken, the Adjutant of the Nilgiri Volunteer Rifles should be instructed to ascertain definite facts from the Superintendent of Police Cumbay, on how many days weekly the Police range is not required.

Police and can be altogether available for the Volunteers
and at what hours on other days it would be so available.
A cost of upkeep could then be ratably divided between
Masters and Police. If a satisfactory arrangement can be
made on this point, the Government might be asked to
assist the acquisition of the land, and the necessary steps
could then be taken regarding the erection of the shop building.

(True Copy)

Self-Content
Inspector-General of Prisons

W. H.

No. 557

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS, MADRAS

Dated October 12, 1896

From

A. G. CARDEW, Esq., M.A.,

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS,

MADRAS,

To

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. F. PRICE

CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

SIR,

Enclosures.

I have the honour to return the paper received
under your Endorsement No. 119 dated 9th January 1896 with
report as follows:-

2. The conditions under which the use by the
Volunteers of the ranges in the enclosure of the Coimbatore Canton
Tail is at present permitted are contained in para 7 of
Mr. Guinness' Letter No. 283 dated 3rd July 1888 which is
recorded in G.P. 14th July 1888 No. 1505. These conditions were
considered suitable by Government and were accepted
by the Collector and Commandant of the Coimbatore
Volunteer Corps.

3. In 1891 Mr. Goodrich, then Superintendent
of the Tail, reports that his predecessor Col. Pickens who was
also Commandant of the Volunteer Corps had not enforced
the prescribed conditions but had allowed the Volunteers
to fire at other hours. Col. Pickens was an enthusiastic
Volunteer and Mr. Goodrich's Letter suggests that he has
sacrificed the interests of the Tail to those of the Volunteer
Corps. This view was accepted by Col. Macdonald Esq.

in a Proceedings dated 13th June 1891 ordered that the
conditions of 1888 should be strictly enforced

4. In 1892 the Quarter Master General
addressed me, proposing that the conditions of 1888 should
be altogether rescinded and that the Volunteers should
in future be allowed to shoot up to 9 am and after 4 pm
then I replied that I could not recommend any relaxation
of the conditions of 1888, and that, as I was informed by the
military authorities that the Police Range could be extended
so as to provide a better range outside Tail premises, I
suggested that enquiries regarding that range should be
made, as I concurred with Mr. Grinnes in 1888 and Col. Smith
in 1891 that the use of the Tail range by the Volunteers at
the time was undesirable.

5. Since 1892 the Military authorities
have been engaged in examining the Police Range and
a possible range and have now come apparently to the
conclusion that no range other than the Tail Range is
available.

It will thus be observed that the
Military authorities have been examining the Police
Range and a possible range and have now come apparently to the
conclusion that no range other than the Tail Range is
available. I was asked in 1892 to rescind the conditions
of 1888, and in replying my inability to do this, I stated
that both my immediate predecessors had disapproved of
the use of the Tail Range by Volunteers and that I agreed with
them, and I suggested that both the Tail Department
and the Volunteers would gain by another range being
found.

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7. It is certainly a pity that the use of the
Range by the Volunteers was ever allowed to commence, but
as it has been sanctioned and as the Military authorities
have now apparently ascertained definitely that no other
range can be found, I am not prepared to recommend
that the sanction conveyed in G.O. No. 1005 dated 12th July 1891
should be withdrawn.

8. The construction of a fresh entrance in the
outer wall, as proposed by His Excellency Lieutenant General
Mansfield Clarke is unnecessary. It would be very in-
convenient for Volunteers being at the end of the compound
farthest from the Town, and it would be very objectionable
from a Tail point of view as it would make a fresh point
to be guarded. The Main Gate is the most convenient
entry both for the purposes of the Tail Department and
the Volunteer Corps.

9. Unless and until the Military authorities
can find another range, I therefore propose to allow the
arrangement which the Government sanctioned in 1888
to remain in force. No relaxation of the conditions then
laid down is advisable or is now asked for. I enclose
a copy of my Letter No. 4408 dated 29th September 1891
the terms of which seem to have been lost sight of
in the course of correspondence in the Military Department.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your Most Obedient Servant

My Lord

Inspector General of Police

M. A.

JUDICIAL.
JAIL (1896) DEPARTMENT.

Papers marked on the back
of no 21 of 1896 & no 1505
14-7-88

From

THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS,
Madras,

To

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

Encl No 295
Forwarded to the
Lieutenant Governor
the Forces for favour
of early decision in
the matter in view
to its being reported
to the Govt of India.

Admission
Chief Secretary

3513
6/2/96.

John H. George
1st February 1896

Dated

Despatched

Received

February 1896.

No. 557

Enclosures one and 6/10/96

Subject

514-19
14

at 517 M. M.

Oct 1896

14/11/96

The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras

I am quite satisfied with the
proposal in para 9 of the Inspector-General of Prisons
letter of 559 of 3rd March 1896, that the Volunteer
Volunteers should be permitted to use the Govt range as
it now stands under the arrangements sanctioned by
Government in 1888, and I believe this to be the most
satisfactory way of dealing with the question.

John H. George

Chief Secretary

Representing the Forces, Madras

918-19
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Public Department.

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Read again

G.O. No. 1505, Jnl., dated 14-7-88
" 474-75, Hly., " 24-1-94
" 1512 " " 2-3-94
" 5901-2 " " 24-9-94
" 7059 " " 14-11-94

Read also

G.Nos. 2231 (with L.G.), 2875, 2816
Letter No. 1537, dated 18-11-93
and G.Nos. 21 & 477 of 1896.

ORDER No 418 d/27 March 96

The Inspector General of Prisons has no objection to the company of the Nilgiri Volunteer Rifles stationed at Coimbatore continuing to use the rifle range which lies within the precincts of the Coimbatore Jail on the conditions settled in 1888; viz: that the range shall not be used without the permission of the Superintendent of the Jail and that during their annual course the Volunteers shall have the use of the Range three days, and at other times two days - a week from sunrise to 7 a.m. or from 5 p.m. to sunset, Sundays excepted. His Excellency Lieutenant General Mansfield Clarke approves this solution of the question of the provision of a range for the Volunteers at Coimbatore as the most satisfactory way of dealing with the matter in view of the ^{and if not according to the} ~~disturbance~~ ^{the way of} ~~the way of~~ and the expense of constructing a range elsewhere, ordered accordingly.

om

L.G. C. 7.

15 MAR 96

No 517. H.V.

dis 14 }
Dec 16 } 3. 96.

al. C. No. 21 with 9 subms
and C. No. 477 returns.

Saluted

According to the proposal of L.G. Prisons that the Coimbatore Volunteers should be permitted to use the rifle range as it now stands.

2. The Govt. of India will be addressed.

*Range for the Volunteers
at Coimbatore*

To
The Lt. Genl. Commanding the Forces
With 9 miles.
Inspector General of Prisons
thru' the S.D.

2/3/96

LETTER No. 419 d/27 March 96

To
The Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Military Department.

SIR,

2/3/96

In continuation of my letter No.

1827, Public, dated 18th November 1895,

I am directed to inform you that it has

been arranged between the Military and

Prison authorities that the Volunteers

at Coimbatore shall continue to have

the use, on certain conditions, of the

range situated within the Coimbatore

Jail, and that there will, therefore,

be no necessity to take further action

with the view of providing them with a

separate range outside the Jail pre-

vious arrangements only be affected

and no consideration being given to

the same.

H. E. the Governor

*Indl. dept for favour
of counter initials*

2/3/96