

Public (1896) Department.

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G.O., No. 521-22

DATED 8th May 1896

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S BODY GUARD.

Acquiescing in the scheme suggested by the Government of India for the reduction in the strength and the re-constitution of---, subject to the modification that a second European officer shall be permanently retained for the Body Guard; and addressing the Government of India on the subject.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	2056		1896				
	2410		1896				

No. 521, PUBLIC, 6TH MAY 1896.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

G.O., No. 7911, Military, dated 31st December 1894.

ABSTRACT.—Replying to the proposal of the Government of India to reduce the strength of the Madras Body Guard to that of the Body Guard of the Governor of Bombay.

From Major the Hon'ble R. T. LAWLEY, Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Government House, Guindy, 2nd December 1895, No. 365.

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter received from the Officer Commanding the Body Guard, and to request that it may receive the consideration of Government.

1. Having had experience of the Body Guard for nearly five years, I can thoroughly endorse the remarks made by Captain Arbuthnot as to the deterioration that must set in among the men if kept, as they are at present, in Madras all the year round.

2. The question of building lines for the men is one that has been brought forward again and again and has always been thrown out owing to the impossibility of securing a suitable site, and until the men are accommodated in lines the corps must suffer in efficiency and discipline.

3. It is believed that, should the scheme of keeping the Body Guard at Bangalore during the summer months be favourably entertained, there would be no difficulty in securing a suitable site; and if there is no Government ground available, the cost of a site would probably be far less than in Madras.

4. The Madras Body Guard is, under present circumstances, placed under very disadvantageous conditions in comparison to the Body Guards of His Excellency the Viceroy and of His Excellency the Governor of Bombay; the former is trained every year some hundreds of miles to Dehra Dun, and the latter passes nearly the whole year at Poona.

5. It may be urged that were the Body Guard removed for six months to Bangalore, Madras would be left without cavalry, but in that case this city would be no worse off than Calcutta—a very much larger town and with the nearest cavalry regiment much further off than Bangalore is from Madras.

6. The advantage this arrangement would be to the efficiency of the corps is obvious:—the men, instead of existing in a climate where all effort is an exertion such as the Madras climate is in April, May, June and September, would be in a climate where they would groom their horses thoroughly and well; the horses themselves would be in far better condition than they possibly could in Madras; the men would have advantages in the matter of drill and musketry that they never get here, and above all they would be in permanent lines; till this latter improvement is effected the discipline of the corps can never be on a proper footing.

7. I do not think I quite agree with Captain Arbuthnot as to the advisability of railing; this would add largely to the expense, and I consider the march would in many ways be highly beneficial and tend to improve the value of the men as practical soldiers.

ENCLOSURE.

From Captain G. H. ARBUTHNOT, Commandant, His Excellency the Governor's Body Guard, to the Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor, dated Madras, 30th November 1895, No. 276.

With reference to our conversation on a suggestion that the question of the removal of the Body Guard to Bangalore during the absence of the Governor from Madras might be favourably considered at the same time as its reconstitution, I have the honour to submit the following notes for His Excellency's consideration.

2. The climate of Madras is during no month of the year such that a mounted soldier can carry out his duties effectively without feeling the effects of it. And as the men of the corps are becoming less and less natives of the place, and many of them are drawn from parts of India with a cold weather of varying degree, the effect of the climate on them, as soldiers, seems to me to be more or less deteriorating.

3. To groom a horse properly in Madras, a man requires to have the upper part of his body at least naked. I have discontinued the use of any kind of uniform at stables and substituted a sleeveless short coat and trousers of white cotton, but after couple of days' work in them, it is difficult to distinguish a man, as regards his clothing, from a cooly. For the same reasons the work of cleaning and burnishing his saddlery and keeping his uniform fit for duty is very discouraging to a man of ordinary perseverance.

4. The absence of any lines of any sort is detrimental to the maintenance of discipline and proper supervision. It is as annoying to me to recognise men passing up the Mount Road—the main thoroughfare of Madras—dressed in the clothes I have described above, as it must be to the men themselves, who can hardly be expected to make a third change out of their stable kit merely to proceed home. In short, it is almost impossible for a mounted soldier to keep himself clean and smart in the Madras climate.

5. A removal of the Body Guard to Bangalore during the absence of the Governor would seem very desirable for the converse of the reasons above given. The cool climate would renew their energy and allow of more work being got out of them when in Madras. During the months in which they are merely existing or perhaps deteriorating in Madras, they could be advantageously employed in keeping their horsemanship and shooting up to the mark in a genial climate.

6. It would be desirable to build lines for them in Bangalore, where they could have their families; while as bachelors, doubtless space for a bachelor's block could be found in the present Body Guard lines. As regards their removal to Bangalore and back to Madras, it would, of course, with a due consideration for the seasons of the year at which the moves would be made, viz., April and October, be advisable that they should be railed, as in the case of His Excellency the Viceroy's Body Guard.

Endorsement, No. 5.

Forwarded to the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces for favour of opinion and with the request that the reply may be transmitted through the Controller of Military Accounts for report on the expenditure involved by the proposal.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
6th January 1896.

(Signed) J. P. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

From His Excellency Lieutenant-General C. M. CLARKE, Commanding the Forces, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Ootacamund, 12th March 1896, No. 498-M.W.

Your No. 5, dated 6th January 1896. I understood from His Excellency the Governor, when I was in Madras a few days ago, that the Body Guard will probably be reconstituted. Under these circumstances it will be as well if the question of removal to Bangalore stands over, in any case until it has been settled what form this reconstitution will take.

2. The proposal will involve considerable expense, as lines would have to be built on land which in all probability will have to be acquired from the Mysore Government, as the Civil and Military station is already overcrowded and there is no site in it which I could recommend should be so utilized.

3. The cost of moving to and fro both by route march and rail is considerable and there is also the question of proposed separation from their families, which will probably not be acceptable to the men.

4. The question, I think, had better await orders of Government of India on the subject of reconstitution and the arrival of His Excellency's successor.

From Colonel P. J. MATTLAND, Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Fort William, the 12th March 1896, No. 793-B.

I am desired to acknowledge the receipt of letter, No. 7911, dated the 31st December 1894, from the Government of Madras in their late Military Department, in which reply is made to the proposal of the Government of India that the strength of the Madras Body Guard should be reduced to that of the Body Guard of the Governor of Bombay, that is to say, to a total of 70 of all Native ranks.

2. The Government of Madras, while strongly deprecating a reduction in the present strength of the Governor's Body Guard in troopers and horses, are of opinion that some reduction in the establishments, and in the amount of staff allowances, can be effected without greatly impairing the efficiency of the corps. The saving resulting from the proposed measures, if adopted, would amount to Rs. 8,827 per annum.

3. In reply I am directed to observe that an arrangement under which 125 of the men of the three Madras cavalry regiments are permanently absent must be detrimental to the efficiency of those regiments and to the men individually, as they have to live in the bazaars of Madras, while during seven months of the year there are no duties for the Body Guard to perform.

4. Having given the matter their very careful consideration, the Governor-General in Council is strongly disposed to believe that, with a view to securing both efficiency and economy, it is desirable that the establishments of the three Madras cavalry regiments should be permanently reduced by a total of 70 men, and that a separate Body Guard of this strength should be created. If this were carried out, a half squadron of Madras cavalry could be sent to the presidency to assist the Body Guard for the five months of the year during which His Excellency the Governor is there, and at any other time if required. The adoption of this measure would, His Excellency in Council considers, adequately provide both for the duties for which a Body Guard is primarily intended, and for any others which may now devolve upon it; while financially it would result in a decrease of expenditure of Rs. 22,560 per annum, as shown in the estimate attached. Deducting Rs. 1,335, which is estimated to be the average cost of sending half a squadron of cavalry to Madras to do duty during the winter months, the net saving would amount to Rs. 21,225 per annum.

5. I am therefore to recommend this measure for the favourable and early consideration of the Madras Government. As the permanent Body Guard, if formed, would not require an Adjutant, I am to request that no appointment may be made in succession to Lieutenant Humphrey, the present Adjutant, pending a final decision as to the future of the Body Guard.

Copy forwarded to—

The Finance Department, for information.

The Adjutant-General in India, for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

The Controller of Military Accounts, Madras Command, for information, with reference to his letter, No. 803-G, dated the 30th October 1895.

The Accountant-General, Military Department, for information.

Gobt. of {1896} Madras.
PUBLIC.

No. 522, PUBLIC, 8TH MAY 1896.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

LETTER—from

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF
FORT ST. GEORGE,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 793-B, Organization, dated 12th March 1896, regarding the reduction in the strength and the reconstitution of the Madras Body Guard. His Excellency the Governor-General in Council is of opinion that the present arrangement under which 125 of the men of the three Madras cavalry regiments are permanently absent must be detrimental to the efficiency of the corps to which they belong, and to the men individually; and, after a careful consideration of the matter, has come to the conclusion that, with a view to securing both efficiency and economy, it is desirable that the regiments referred to above should be permanently reduced by a total of seventy men, and that a separate Body Guard of this strength should be created. Such a Body Guard would not, it is observed, require an Adjutant. In the event of this proposal being carried out, the Government of India expresses its willingness that a half squadron of Madras Cavalry should be sent to the Presidency to assist the Body Guard for the period during which His Excellency the Governor is in residence there, and at any other time if required.

2. In reply, I am directed to state that, in view of the strongly-expressed opinion of the Government of India and the undoubted gain in efficiency of the three Madras cavalry regiments, which would result from the proposal in your letter being carried out, His Excellency the Governor in Council has resolved to acquiesce in the scheme suggested by the Government of India, subject, however, to the modification that a second European officer shall be permanently retained for the Body Guard. I am to say that His Excellency in Council attaches very great importance to this condition, for the reason that one officer cannot in any case properly supervise seventy men and horses, and that when allowance is made for sickness and absence, such supervision becomes still more impossible.

3. I am further to state that in accepting this modified proposal this Government lays much stress on the condition that half a squadron of Madras cavalry should be sent to the Presidency for the period during which His Excellency the Governor is in residence there, and at any other time if required; as in the absence of such an arrangement it would, in circumstances which frequently arise, be impossible to arrange for the ceremonial and other duties now performed by the Body Guard during the stay of the Governor at Madras.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

OOTACAMUND,
8th May 1896.

Encl. Shaik Karim.

Issued.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., No. 521, 8th May 1896.

MAY.

His Excellency the Governor's
Body Guard.

Acquiescing in the scheme suggested by the Government of India for the reduction in the strength and the reconstitution of —, subject to the modification that a second European officer shall be permanently retained for the Body Guard; and addressing the Government of India on the subject.

1896.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

From the Government of
Fort St. George.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

Letter, No. 522, 8th May 1896.

MAY.

His Excellency the Governor's
Body Guard.

Acquiescing in the scheme suggested by the Government of India for the reduction in the strength and the reconstitution of —, subject to the modification that a second European officer shall be permanently retained for the Body Guard.

Major McNeill R. J. Lawby
Military Secretary to the
Right Honble the Governor.

The Chief Secretary
to Government
Fort Saint George.

Dated 2nd

Received 3rd

Regd 4th

December 1895

UNDER SECRETARY
3 DEC 95
PUBLIC DEPARTMENT

No 365

Enclosure 1.

Forwards for consideration of Govern-
ment a letter from the Officer Commanding
Body Guard relative to the removal
of the Body Guard to Bangalore
during the absence of H. E. the Governor
and Madras.

OTF

OTF. In 2683 } 31 July 86.
3586 } 6 Dec 87.
8143 } 25 Aug 89.
7911 } 31 Dec 94.
1623 } 19 Aug 95

End No 5

Forwarded to the
Lieutenant General
Commanding the Forces
for favour of opinion and
with the request that the reply
may be transmitted through
the Controller of Military
Accounts for report on the
Expenditure involved
by the proposal

Hedemilshice
Chief Secretary

7513.
6.1.96.

Fort St. George
6 January 1896

effected the discipline of the Corps can never
a proper footing.

28
3. I do not think I quite agree with Capt Arbutnot
as to the advisability of sailing; this would add
largely to the expense, and I consider the march
would in many ways be highly beneficial and
tend to improve the value of the men as practical
soldiers.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obdt servant,

P. J. Lawley Esq
Military Secretary

Note

The Commandant
of His Excellency the
Governor's Body Guard -
submits for the consideration
of Government a proposal
to remove the Body Guard
to Bangalore during the
absence of the Governor from
Madras during the summer
season.

2 The reasons assigned
for the transfer are as
follows:-

- (1) That the climate
of Madras is not
conducive
~~congenial~~ to the duties
of a mounted soldier
being effectively discharged.
- (2) That to groom
a horse properly in
Madras a man
requires

[Faint, illegible handwritten notes]

PG No 2683 251st July 1866.

Printed in O. G. No
26838 31st July 1866.

4. The question of the desirability of having the Body Guard at Madras has been considered on previous occasions.

(1) In 1866, a reduction in the strength of the Body Guard was proposed by the Govt of India with a view to reduce military expenditure. When considering the proposal, Lord Dalhousie in his minute, dated 17th July 1866, on the subject, ^{wrote} ~~observed~~ that "the Body Guard is a familiar figure in all Indian

Madras life such a con-
genial one. The English
like it, the native population
like it and respect it,
the Native Army regards
it with attachment."

With regard to
its presence at Madras
His Lordship notes "I
submit that the pre-
sence of a small but
efficient body of regular
Cavalry with a sufficient
staff of European Officers
in this city is extremely
desirable in the interests
of public security. Madras
is a quick place and
the neighbouring country
does not give any
cause for uneasiness; never-
theless there are, in the
opinion of the best in-
formed persons, some
elements

P. 3586 & 6 Dec 70

Printed in P. 3586 & 6 Dec 70

elements of possible disturbance
amongst the Mussulmen, both
of the city and the provinces
adjoining."

(11) A similar proposal
was made by the Supreme
Government in 1870. On this
connection also Sir Lord
St. John in his minute dated
18th November 1870 remarked
about the Body Guard
as follows:-

"It must be
remembered that the
Madras Mounted Police
has been abolished, that of
the four Cavalry Regiments
belonging to the Madras
Army, three are stationed
out of the Presidency, and
that there is not a single
Cavalry soldier except the
troopers of the Body Guard
for sudden emergency duty
in the whole Command."

On this, Sir Lord St.
John remarks, "The Madras Comd. is
chiefly

Chief of the Madras Army, in
his minute dated 22 Nov
1870. "whereby -

"If the Body Guard
were reduced, the men would
revert to their Regiments.
In case of disturbances in
the Canals or in any districts
to the South a small de-
tachment of Native Cavalry
would be a useful auxiliary
to even European Artillery
& Infantry."

(iii) The question of the
reduction of the Body Guard
again came under the
consideration of the Govt
in 1889. On this occasion
this Govt represented that
the Body Guard at
its present strength has
been detailed as a unit
in the scheme for the defence
of Madras in the event of
an attack by an enemy
landing

Landing

Pg No 3143 & 25 Nov 89.

Pg No 7911 & 31 Dec 74.

landing on the coast. In
such an emergency the pre-
sence of the Body Guard
at Madras would be of
great service and its location
at Bangalore would be
obviously inconvenient.

(iii) Lastly in a resolution
1894 the Govt of India
suggested that the strength
of the Body Guard be reduced
to 70 men on financial con-
siderations. Even on this occasion
this Govt opposed the measure
and represented to the
supreme Govt that the
presence of a strong body
of mounted troops is absolutely
essential in a large city
such as Madras with its
inhabitants so that in the
event of any serious riot
its services may be readily
available to observe the
rioters & duty which the
few mounted Police Constables
maintained

maintained could not
possibly be expected to
perform effectively.

5. From the above it
will be seen that the Govt
has repeatedly urged that
the presence of the Body
Guard at Madras is
absolutely necessary
both for the purpose of
maintaining the dignity of
the State as well as for
completing the defence of
the city. It seems there-

fore inexpedient that
the Government should
now support a proposal
for the removal of the
Body Guard from Madras
even as a temporary measure.
Further, the arguments
advanced by the Com-
mandant do not appear
to be weighty ones. The
climate of Madras is
not so bad as that
of either Bellary or
Secunderabad where also
Cavalry Regts are located.

It is better to maintain
the Body Guard at Madras
than to remove it to Bellary
or Secunderabad.

6. If however Govt
is desirous to consider the
Commandant's present proposal
favorably, it is submitted
that the Lieut Govt Comd
the Forces should first
be consulted on the subject
the Controver of which
being also asked about
the financial aspect of
the proposed move.

7. The Body Guard
is attached to His Highness's
Personal Staff
and as the tenure of
appointment of the present
Governor will expire very soon
it is a matter for decision
whether the consideration of
this subject should not be
held in abeyance until
the arrival of the new
Governor.

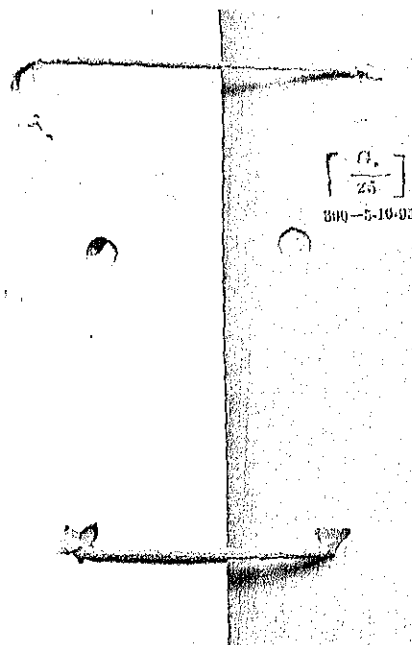

7/12.

It is submitted that
neither has sufficient time
elapsed nor have sufficient
reasons been adduced for the
Govt to depart from its recent

expressed opinion - There is always something to be said in favour of any scheme. Bangalore is a long way off and is not British territory. It would seem incongruous for the Body Guard to be located in a Native State! Why should not the Body Guard be in - camped at Guindy, or on some of the open country in the vicinity during the hot weather? The lines could be cultivated under trees and the men accommodated in temporary huts. There would be room for extended drills. The lines in Madras would then have a chance of becoming fresh & sweet. A small detachment wd. always be kept in Madras. There may be strong objections to this proposal which do not strike a non-military man.

J.B.L.
9.12.98.

In all deference to what may have been said before, I submit that the presence of the Body Guard during the hot weather has nothing whatever to do with the maintenance of the Deputy (whatever the meaning) of the absent Government and that the fact that every section or sections of the inhabitants of the town may like the presence of the Body Guard is no reason for keeping it here during the time that the Governor is



[25]
300-5-10-03

DEPARTMENT.

C. No.

FOR ORDERS.

Abolish the Cavalry.

As for the retention of a force of Cavalry in Madras on the very remote contingency of their services being needed to maintain order in case of riot the Body Guard has been in existence for over 100 years and I doubt if it was ever called out to assist in preventing or putting down riots. It certainly has not in the 33 years that I have known Madras. There is quite a sufficient force of infantry and police in Madras to deal with any riot that may ever take place. The people of Madras are not like the people of Calcutta and Bombay ^{where} it is not necessary to retain Cavalry in order to keep order. As regards their being included in the scheme for the defence of Madras

I believe that all the elaborate plans
formerly drawn up have been virtually
abandoned but even if it was
not so it is presumed that war
would not be declared with any
power capable of sending a force
to attack Madras without some
preliminary warnings in the
shape of squabbling and that
the authorities at home would not
leave there in India without
a word of caution as regards preparation
for attack if war was impending.
There would be ample time for to
get the Body Guard down if it was
well liked that it would be required
to look on depending Madras.

There is no doubt that a stay at Bangalore
during the summer months
would do up worse and there is
regard condition and health and
would trust as there are other Cavalry
regiments with which they could
be drilled to ^{Body Guard} becoming better
trained soldiers than they are.
The one objection is expense. There
seems no reason why if the Body
Guard went to Bangalore it
should not be maintained at
any rate one way. But even

FOR ORDERS.

H. E. THE GOVERNOR.

THE HON'BLE MR. H. W. BLISS, C.I.E.

THE HON'BLE MR. J. GROSE.

FOR ORDERS.

It has been for a long time a constant
complaint that the Body Guard at
Madras have had no regular lines, &
there is no doubt that this subject
will have to be seriously considered, soon.
The present proposal emanates I believe
from the fact that recent enquiries
as to a possible site for suitable lines
have revealed to many difficulties, that
it became necessary to consider alternative
schemes. For myself I must say that
this proposal has much to commend it.
No doubt it will involve expense - as
would the provision of proper lines -
and it will be for the Govt. to determine
when they know the cost, what should
be done. I am on the eve of departure -
and I would rather not at this moment
make any formal pronouncement - but
I can see no objection to the detail being
being considered, and the Controller
of M. A. as to the cost.
I spoke to Sir H. Brackenbury on this

This would cost a good deal and Principal
would I presume have to pay for
it.

The G. of I. would probably object to increase
in this direction but there are the precedents
of the Mysore Body Guard and of that
of the Governor of Bombay.

JS

13/12/95

subjected the other day, & he approved
most highly of the proposal - as he con-
demned most strongly the present
system of boarding out the men.
I understand that if this scheme were
carried out, the men's families would
live in Bangalore, and the men would
live as bachelors in the present lines
in Madras, all together.

With full information, wh. should now
be obtained, my successor will be able
to decide what ought to be done.

JS

23/12/95

20/12/95 16 Dec

Proposed removal of the Body Guard to Bangalore

[G.
25]
1,000-5-11-95

FOR ORDERS.

H. E. THE GOVERNOR.
THE HON'BLE MR. H. W. BLISS, C.I.E.
THE HON'BLE MR. J. GROSE.

258

6.4.96

To move a third (say) of the Body Guard to the Hills every year with the force would be, I should say, detrimental to the military efficiency of the men. Military efficiency always comes to grief when troops are split up into very small detachments.

As to the expense of the move, it would have to amount to the cost of the move. I do not know how this would bear it.

The Royal Warrant is so far away from the main duties that I don't think they could be made for the Body Guard troops.

The present arrangements have lasted for generations & the best thing would be to maintain them unaltered.

MS
7/4/96

FOR ORDERS.

1. The Govt. of India propose the reduction of the Body Guard to a total of 70 and its reorganization as a separate body of the Native Regts. for the following reasons:

(1) That the Governor should not have a separate Body Guard, as he has as his usual, from the Viceroy.

(2) That it is necessary that every possible economy should be effected in the necessarily reduced condition of the Government.

(3) That the present arrangement whereby 125 men of the three Madras Cavalry Regts. are permanently attached to the Government is detrimental to the efficiency of the Regts.

2. The main objections to this proposal are given in letter No. 7911 of the 31st Dec. 1895 from the Govt. of Madras, and I think disposed

Public DEPARTMENT

C. Nos. 4065 & 963

The reply of the Lt. Genl. Amos the Govt. to the reference made to him marked with red tape & submitted for perusal. It will be seen that he proposes awaiting orders on the reconstitution of the Body Guard and the arrival of 1898 the present Governor. Attention is invited to the letter telegraphed to C. No. 1481 of 1895 which is a year old.

MS
18/3/96

Attention is invited to the paper in GO M. 208 dated 19th Dec and to C. No. 1047 - a letter from the Govt. of India containing proposals for the reorganization of 1898 the Governor's Body Guard. It involves a reduction from 125 to 70 and the abolition of the app of Deputy.

MS
20/3

disposed of in the Indian Military Dept. of India, No. 793. B, of the 12th March last. I would therefore, with one modification, acquiesce in the scheme therein proposed. The modification which should, I consider, be made and strongly pressed, is the retention of a second European Officer.

I should say that one Officer could not, in any case, properly supervise 70 men and 40 horses. But, when allowance is made for sickness and absence, this becomes still more impracticable. In accepting the proposal, I would strongly insist on the offer to send a half squadron of Madras Cavalry for the first month of the year during which the Governor is in Madras, and at any other time, if required; for without this concession some of our best objections to the scheme would fall.

3. If two Officers are maintained, and we must insist on that, the saving will be reduced to Rs. 15,000. The economy effected is small, and by itself would hardly repay the trouble that will arise from the dislocation of existing arrangements. But, the gain in efficiency of the Madras Cavalry Regiment cannot be disputed, and in this I consider, lies the best reason for the change. In circumstances that the Gov. of Madras has a Body Guard than the Viceroy, appears to

FOR ORDERS.

H. E. THE GOVERNOR. (1)

THE HON'BLE MR. H. W. BLISS, C.I.E. (2)

THE HON'BLE MR. J. GROSE. (3)

I fear, if the Body Guard is separately recruited, that the same stamp given will not light for it as at present. This consideration must however, I suppose, be kept in view of the greater efficiency of the Cavalry Regt. from which the men are now drawn.

As to the strength of the Body Guard, as the amt. of ground it has to work over is much greater here than in Calcutta, more men are naturally required than in the Viceroy's Body Guard.

If H.E. is satisfied with the proposed arrangements, however, with the modifications he would make in them, it is not for me to object to them.

H.S.
7/4/96

I have no reason to object to the arrangements proposed
H.E.

8/4/96

A.S.H.

4.5.96
July 10 1896-2
Recd. 9.8.5.96

Public Dept:

C. No. 4065.963 of 1897.

ORDER No. 521. d/ 8th May 1896
AS

In its letter No. 3383 B-
Mily., dated 25th August 1894, the Govt. of India suggested for the consideration of this Govt. that the strength of the Madras Body Guard should be reduced to that of Bombay- viz. to a total of 70 of all native ranks - on the grounds of (1) that it is the strongest of the Body Guards of the three Presidencies, the strength being in excess of ~~that of~~ the Body Guard of I. E. the Viceroy, and (2) that it was absolutely necessary that every possible economy should be effected in the severely strained condition of the finances.

I.E. the Governor in Council deprecated strongly, for various reasons which were set forth in letter No. 7011 Mily., d/ 31st Decr: 1894, any reduction in the strength of the troopers and horses of the Body Guard, but was of opinion that some measures of economy both in regard to the establishment and in the amounts of allowances could be effected without impairing, to any great extent, the efficiency of the corps. It was pointed out to the Govt. of India that any reduction in the

strength of the troopers and horses of the Body Guard could only be effected at the cost of moving a detachment of Madras Cavalry from Bangalore to Madras for ^{five} months in the year, a measure which ^{would} not only involve some expense but would be undesirable as detrimental to the efficiency of the regiment required to supply the detachment.

2. After giving the matter a very careful consideration, the Govt. of India has ^{come to the conclusion} ~~stated its~~ opinion that the present arrangement under which 125 men of the 3 Madras Cavalry Regiments are permanently absent ^{from their corps} must be detrimental to the efficiency of ~~these~~ ^{the} regiments and to the men individually, and considers it desirable that the establishments of the 3 Madras Cavalry Regiments should be permanently reduced by a total of 70 men, and that a separate Body Guard of this strength should be created. The Govt. of India is willing that a half squadron of Madras Cavalry should be sent to the Presy. to assist the Body Guard for the period during which I.E. the Governor is in residence there, and at any other time if required.

3. ~~The Governor in Council~~ in view of the strongly expressed opinion of ^{the Govt. of India} ~~the Govt. of India~~ and of the undoubted gain in efficiency of the Cavalry Regiments which would ^{be the result of} ~~be the result of~~ this proposal being carried

as H.C. in Council under that aspect from the question of sickness or absence a single officer cannot properly supervise several men and horses. H.C. attaches very great importance to this point, and

the Lt. Genl. commd the Force in India
- only 5 reg. to H.C. the Governor

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carried out, resolves to acquiesce in the scheme proposed by the Govt. of India subject to the modification that a second European officer ^{shall} be permanently retained for the Body Guard.

4. The letter from the Hily: Secy: to I.E. the Governor read above contains the proposal to move the Body Guard to Bangalore during the absence of I.E. from Madras. The Govt. is of opinion that this proposal is open to various objections and is not disposed to sanction it.

5. The question of providing lines for the Body Guard should be reconsidered in the light of the final arrangements effected on the re-constitution of the Force.

6. The following letter will be addressed to the Govt. of India.
(from orders)

LETTER No 522

To
The Secy: to the Govt. of India,
Hily: dept:

78
H. 24
4.5.96
Sir,
I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 753-3-Organization - dated 12-3-96, regarding the reduction in strength and the reconstitution of the Madras Body Guard. I.E. the G.O. in India is of opinion that the present arrangement under which

5 of the men of the three Madras Caval-
ry Regiments are permanently absent
must be detrimental to the efficiency
of ^{the corps which they belong,} ~~these regiments~~ and to the men indi-
vidually, and, after a careful considera-
tion of the matter, has come to the
conclusion that, with a view to securing
both efficiency and economy, it is de-
sirable that ^{the three} ~~the three Madras Cavalry~~
^{regiments} ~~regiments~~ should be permanently reduced
by a total of 70 men and that a sepa-
rate Body Guard of this strength should
be created. Such a Body Guard would not,
it is pointed out, require an Adjutant.
In the event of this proposal being
carried out, the Govt. of India ~~is~~
^{expresses its willingness that} ~~agrees~~ to a half squadron of Madras
Cavalry ^{should be} ~~being~~ sent to the Presy: to assist
the Body Guard for the period during
which I.E. the Governor is in residence
there, and at any other time if required.
3. In reply, I am directed to
state that in view of the strongly ex-
pressed opinion of the Govt. of India
and the undoubted gain in efficiency
of the three Madras Cavalry regiments
which would ensue ^{as a result of the} ~~as a result of the~~
proposal in your letter, ^{being carried out,} I.E. the Governor
in Council has resolved to acquiesce in
^{suggested by the Govt. of India} the scheme/subject, however, to the modi-
fication that a second European officer
^{shall} should be permanently retained for the
Body Guard. I am to say that I.E. in C.
attaches very great importance to this
condition ^{for the reason that} as one officer cannot in any
case properly supervise seventy men and

+ would be inconvenient
which frequently arise, he - 7

88
horses, ^{and that} when allowance is made for
sickness and absence, such supervision
becomes still more impossible.
3. In accepting this modified
proposal, I am ^{to} state that ^{the} Govt
lays ^{much} ~~great~~ stress on the condition
that half a squadron of Madras Cavalry
should be sent to the Presy: for the
period during which I.E. the Governor
is in residence there, and at any other
time if required; ^{as} ~~for~~ in the absence
of such an arrangement, it ^{is} ~~would be~~
impossible to arrange for the ceremonial
and other duties now performed by the
Body Guard, ^{during the stay of the Govt at}
Madras.

1/4/96

I.E. the Governor's Body Guard

First copy sent to Press.

Returned for signature.

Despatched in print.

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189.

工人受累

(P R O H O R D E R S).

0.3

[illegible]

Yes 22/5

Not for cash

Now there is ~~nothing~~ ^{nothing} to be
for me. [✓]

418

No 14 has been left
 unattended
 R
 6/15

E. A.

May the same ever?

THE

ENCLOSURE TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITEO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DISPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

MR.—

A == Print in full.
B == Not to be printed.
P == Print abstract only.
Q == Print heading only.