

Public (1896) Department.

ORDINARY PRINTED.

G.O., No. 706

DATED 4 July 1896

[Despatch Abstract.]

VOLUNTEERS.

Communicating to the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, letter from the Government of India approving, with remarks, the draft India Army Circular describing a proposed mess dress for Infantry Volunteer Corps.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Govt. of {1896} Madras.
PUBLIC.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., No. 706, 4th July 1896.

JULY.

Volunteers.

Communicating to the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, letter from the Government of India approving, with remarks, the draft India Army Circular describing a proposed new dress for Infantry Volunteer Corps.

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No. 706, PUBLIC, 4TH JULY 1896.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

From Colonel M. J. KING-HARMAN, Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to the Adjutant-General in India, dated Simla, the 19th June 1896, No. 1604-B.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 1008:D, dated the 23rd May 1895, submitting, for the consideration of the Government of India, a draft India Army Circular, describing a proposed mess dress for Infantry Volunteer Corps which do not elect for a scarlet full dress as laid down in paragraph 337, section XIII, Army Regulations, India, Volume IX, Provisional Issue, 1896, and suggesting that the concurrence of Local Governments in the proposals be invited. The draft India Army Circular provides for the case of an officer transferred from a corps dressed in scarlet; in all other cases the Commander-in-Chief is of opinion that strict uniformity with the prescribed dress should be insisted upon, but corps having a different mess dress to that laid down will be allowed to wear it out before adopting the new dress. The India Army Circular further lays down a white summer mess dress for all Volunteer Corps.

2. In reply, I am to state that Local Governments and Administrations were consulted as desired, and they concur generally in the proposals. The Government of India therefore approve the draft India Army Circular, but consider that an addition should be made to it to provide for the following points :—

- (a) It will not be compulsory on Volunteer Corps to keep up a mess dress, but should they do so, the dress prescribed must be followed.
- (b) Corps having a different mess dress to that laid down may wear out their present dress, but should adopt the new pattern by 1st January 1898 at latest.
- (c) Corps situated in localities that have no real cold weather might wear white mess dress instead of drab.
- (d) Corps, like the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Volunteers, that have been permitted to retain a special full-dress uniform, might continue to wear their present mess dress.

3. I am to state that an addition on the above lines will be made to the draft India Army Circular, and it will then be published.

Copy, with copy of the India Army Circular as altered, forwarded to the Government of Madras, Public Department.

(Signed) P. A. BUCKLAND, Major,
Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

ENCLOSURE.

India Army Circular.

VOLUNTEERS—CLOTHING.

Mess dress for Volunteer Infantry Corps.

The mess dress described below is approved for Volunteer Infantry Corps, mounted and dismounted, dressed in khaki (drill or serge) who do not keep up a red full-dress uniform as laid down in paragraph 337, Section XIII, Army Regulations, India, Volume IX, Provisional Issue.

Its adoption is purely optional, but should a corps desire to keep up such a dress, the pattern herein laid down must be adhered to.

The patterns of mess dress at present in use may be continued in wear until the 1st January 1898, by which date the new pattern should be adopted by all corps who may decide to keep up a mess dress.

This India Army Circular does not apply to corps, like the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Volunteers, which have been permitted to retain a special full-dress uniform; such corps may continue to wear their present mess dress.

Corps situated in localities that have no real cold weather might wear white mess dress, instead of drab.

Officers transferred from a corps dressed in red will be allowed to wear out their red mess dress.

Officers.

Mess Jacket.—Drab cloth or serge, British Infantry pattern. Collar and cuffs of scarlet facing cloth. Silver braid edging all round, including top and bottom of the collar. A loop of silver braid at bottom of collar to fasten across the neck. A row of silver studs and hooks and eyes down the front. Drab silk lining. Shoulder straps of twisted round silver cord, universal pattern, lined with drab. A small button of corps pattern at the top. Badges of rank in gold. An Austrian knot on the sleeve in silver braid according to rank.

Mess Waistcoat.—Scarlet cloth of British Infantry pattern; silver braid edging round the top, down the front, and along the bottom to the side seams. The pockets edged with silver braid, forming crows' feet and eyes at top and bottom and at the ends. A row of silver studs and hooks and eyes down the front.

Mess Trousers.—Drab cloth or serge (as worn on parade).

Non-Commissioned Officers and Volunteers.

Mess Jacket.—The same as for officers, except that wherever silver braid is used, drab braid will be substituted. Shoulder straps of double round drab cord.

Mess Waistcoat.—As for officers, substituting drab braid for the silver braid.

Mess Trousers.—As for officers.

Summer Mess Dress.

The hot-weather mess dress for all Volunteer Corps will be of the pattern laid down on page 7, Army Regulations, India, Volume VII, "Dress."

Kamarband, Artillery and Infantry	..	..	..	..	..	Red.
Light Horse and Engineers	..	..	..	..	..	White.
Badges of rank in silver.						

ORDER—No. 706, Public, dated 4th July 1896.

Communicated to the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Deputy Adjutant-General.

Exd. A. Raitt.

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4,000—28-1-96.

Public DEPARTMENT.

From the Govt. of India

Mily. Dept.

No. 1604 - 03.

Dated 19

Received 29

Registered 30

Enclosures — one and 1000 of the e.
and 2000 of the e.

SUBJECT.

Approving the draft
India Army Circular
describing a proposed mess
dress for Infantry Volunteer
corps.

Pub. for no 56789-7-95

Cl.

Order No. 706. D. 4 July 1896.

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Communicated
to the Deputy Adjutant
General, Madras Com-
mand.

C.S.
2.7.96
C.W.
1.7.96
4/7/96

2. The Adj. Gen. Secy.
Dated 18/7/96

Ref. add copy to the
Volunteer File.

Applicable to the four
Commands.

ARMY CIRCULAR. INDIA.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
MILITARY DEPARTMENT;
Simla, the June 1896

The following regulations are promulgated by direction of
the Most Hon'ble the Governor-General in Council.

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