Revenue (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 4032

DATED 8° Oct: 97

[Despatch Abstract.]

Referring to the Board of Rev & the L.G. commanding the force, certain questions connected with the issue of liquor from ~~[illegible]~~ canteens.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
[illegible]	[illegible] 2505	[illegible]					

in G.O. Nº 3524 d/ 10/7/97
ak
10/9/97

[illegible] C. Nº 8773
[illegible] ak
13/10/97

C 1896 R
11-10-97

Nº 146 B

O. M. to the Board of Reve (Sep: Reve

With reference to para 7 of B.P. No 181 d/ 10.5.97 the undersigned has the honour to request that information may be furnished on the following points.

(i) It is observed that under Article 811 and 813 of the Army Regulations, Vol IV the issue of spirits to Native troops is sanctioned only where from climatic or other causes the supply is considered really necessary by regimental medical officers whose recommendation must receive the concurrence of Deputy Surgeon-General. The Board merely states that two Native regimental canteens have been opened at Saint Thomas Mount. It should now be reported whether the conditions laid down in the above quoted articles of the Army Regulations have been satisfied in these cases.

(ii) The Military authorities do not appear to hold any licenses for the issue of liquor to troops. It should be reported why no licenses are required in their case.

(iii) In regard to regimental can it is understood that rum is is issued in bulk on requisition at 5° u.p at Rs 2 per gallon with an ditional charge of 9 annas on account f excise duty. ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ It is ot understood why 9 annas are aken as excise duty while the roper duty is Rs 4½, nor who gets his 9 annas. Again, the rum is issued o soldiers at 2 annas per dram or Rs 6 er gallon *plus* excise duty. It should e reported as to ~~how~~ what is done with the difference etween the amount paid for by the oldiers and that paid for by the anteen ~~is debited~~ and as to how ~~the~~ 9 annas ~~are distributed between~~ can be paid on 48 drams.

R. 16/7/97.

Bp
16/7/97

15/7/97 Ootacamund
16th July 1897

17/7/97

3

Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 2874.

Order

From
The Secretary to the Commissioner of Salt, Abkari and Separate Revenue, Madras
his No. 1220

Dated 23rd March 1898
Received 15 April
Registered 15 "
Enclosures 8.
Spare copies

15 APR 98

SUBJECT.

Reporting to Government on certain questions connected with the issue of liquor to troops and the opening of Canteens in native regiments

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Regimental Institutions
Canteens

Ootacamund,
10th February 1898.

No:A/N.T.2296

From

The Deputy Adjutant General, Madras Command.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Revenue Department.

In continuation of my Memo. No:A/N.T.18654 of 24th November 1897.

MEMORANDUM.

A copy of this office Circular No:N.A 942 dated 26th May 1895, which is the authority for the establishment of —Regimental Canteens in this command, is herewith forwarded, together with a schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments furnishing further particulars.

2. The report from the Commandant 13th Madras Infantry will follow when received.

(Signed) G. Simpson
Brigadier-General,
Deputy Adjutant General.

/True Copy/

Rudlemley

Acting Assistant Secretary.

Exd
RS
2/4/98

Regimental Institutions
Canteens.

5

Ootacamund,
26th May 1893.

N.A.
No. 948

Thro' G. O. C. ______ Dt.

To

The Officer Commanding

Regiment N.I.

Circular Memorandum

The question of the establishment within the lines of Native Regiments of some place in which, under Regimental arrangements, good and sound liquor can be sold to Native soldiers, having been considered by the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant General is desired to remark as follows:-

2. In view of the very deleterious liquor sold in Native bazaars and of the undesirable nature of the surroundings of the shops where such is sold, the Provisional Commander-in Chief considers that the establishment of a canteen where good liquor could be obtained, would be in the interests of Native soldiers, and he has no objection to such being established provided that no extra expense is thereby incurred by the state.

3. It will be necessary that these canteens which are entirely optional, should be conducted on some fixed principle and with this view Commanding officers should draw up and submit to General officers Commanding Districts for their approval such orders as they may deem called for, to ensure that order is maintained and that the institution is not abused.

4. Such rules will doubtless differ in minor points in different stations, according to local conditions, but the Provisional Commander-in Chief considers that the following points call for attention in all cases in which canteens in Native Regiments are established.

A

Arrangements must be made by the Officer Commanding with the

Local Civil

8

2874

Local Civil Authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary.

B

The canteen should on no account be established in the centre of the lines where any ~~notice~~ noise or disturbance can take place without the knowledge or observation of the British officers, and where soldiers might meet for gambling.

If no existing building is available a shed should be erected on the outskirts of the lines and not far from the Bells of arms, Barrack and Quarter guard.

C

Commanding officers must be most careful in satisfying themselves that the liquor supplied is of good quality.

D

Fixed hours of issue should be appointed and during these hours a thoroughly trustworthy and reliable Non-Commissioned officer is to be present who will be held responsible that order is maintained.

E

The Orderly officer should visit the canteen daily and the British officer of the week frequently at uncertain hours.

F

Commanding officers should make it a point to exercise the strictest personal supervision over the Institution which is opened to abuse if British officers be careless or apathetic.

G

General officers commanding Districts should from time to time, when convenient, visit these canteens to satisfy themselves that their establishment is really beneficial to the men.

5. Messrs Leishman & Co, Nilgiri Brewery Company are prepared to supply wholesome beer of light gravity at the following rates:- To all stations in the Madras Command except Burmah, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 40 per hogshead.-- To Rangoon, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 42 per hogshead.

6. These prices are quoted merely for the information of ~~the~~ Commanding officers who are, of course, at liberty to obtain the liquor they require from any firm they may choose to select.

7

7. In cases in which canteens are established, Commanding officers will be good enough to submit, through District authorities, a report to this office on their working after a period of six months has elapsed. General officers Commanding ~~[illegible]~~ in forwarding these reports will express their opinion on the experiment.

(By Order)

(Signed) H.W. Rawson
Brigr General
Adjutant General.

(True Copy)

As. Assistant Secretary.

Schedules of replies from officers Commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens.

Corps	Hours open daily	Liquor Supplied	Price malt Liquor – Rum	Open to all Comers	Average daily number of Customers	Profits how spent	Remarks.
1st Madras Lancers	-	No Canteen	Kept up	-	-	-	
2nd Do	-	Do	-	-	-	-	
3rd Do (a)	-	Do	-	-	-	-	(a) Establishment in Secunderabad against terms of agreement between British Government and His Highness the Nizam's Government
Q.O. Madras Sap and Mins	5.30 A.M to 9 P.M	Beer and Stout	Both Rs 1-1-4 per quart	No	cannot be stated as they vary with Strength at Head Quarters but very nearly every man uses the Canteen	Benefit of the men Maintenance and supply of buildings. Sums given for festivals provide free coffee and hoppers for men on field Days &c	
1st Madras Pioneers	—	No Canteen	Kept up	—			
2nd Madras Infantry	—	— Do	—	—			
3rd Madras Light Infantry	—	No Canteen	Kept up (a)	—			
4th Madras Pioneers	6 P.M to 8 P.M During the day if Specially ordered on any feast day	Beer and rum (when procurable)	Beer 3 as 4 pies per quart Rum 2 as per dram	No	3/4ths of the Regiment or 625 men	Benefit of the men Such as free food on the march &c	
5th Madras Infantry	—	No Canteen	Kept up				
6th Madras Infantry	—	No Canteen	Kept up				
7th Madras Infantry	11 A.M to 12 Noon 5.30 P.M to 9 P.M	Beer and rum	Beer 4 annas per quart Rum 3 as per dram	No.	183	Benefit of the men Free ammunition for rool shooting cricket foot-ball &c.	
8th Madras Infantry	4 P.M to 9 P.M (10 A.M to 1 P.M on Sundays and Thursdays as well as in the evening	Beer and rum	Beer 4 as 8 pies per quart Rum 2 as per dram	No	- 75 -	Prizes for Sports among the men	
9th Madras Infantry	—	No Canteen	Kept up				
10th Burma Rifles		do		—			
11th Madras Infantry	—	No Canteen	Kept up (a)	—			
12th Burma Madras Infantry	—	do	—	—			
13th Madras Infantry							
14th Madras Infantry	10 A.M to 12 noon and 4 P.M to 9 P.M	Beer only	4 as a quart	No.	260	Benefit of the men men's necessaries prizes for Sports donations to men discharged without pension and prizes for Shooting	Report not yet received
15th Madras Infantry	Between 3.30 and 7.30 P.M	Beer and porter	4 as 6 ps a quart	No	250	Benefit of the men Regimental Sports &c	

8

3
28/4

From

Lieut Col A. Lawson
Comdt 13th M. I.

To

The Deputy Adjutant General
Madras Command
Ootacamund
29 – 1 – 98

Sir, with reference to your Memorandum No. A / N.T. 18840 dated Ootacamund 26th November 1897 I have the honor to furnish information as follows:–

(1) (a) The Regimental Canteen is open daily
(b) Between the hours 10 and 11 A. M. and 4 and 8 P.M.
(c) Sepoys and Regimental Followers only are allowed to frequent the Canteen.

(2) Beer, Rum, and Mineral waters are sold –

(3) The Beer is obtained from Messrs Leishman and Co. Ootacamund.

The Rum from Messrs E. Dyer and Co. Mandalay during the stay of the Regiment at Thayetmyo.

(4) Beer is sold at 2 annas per pint and Rum 2½ annas per dram.–

(5) The profits are expended for the good of the men of the Regiment

(6) The Canteen was opened on the 1st October 1894 Vide my No. 327 of 2nd July 1894 to the A. A. G. Southern Dist in accordance with Adjutant General's Circular No. $\frac{A.A}{962}$ dated 25th May 1893 and my report No. 145 B. submitted to you on the 10th April 1895

(7) The average number of men frequenting the Canteen is about 200 daily

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your obedient servant
(Signed) H. Lawson Lt Col
Comdt 13 M.I.

Endorsement No 3063

Forwarded in Continuation of my memo No A/27 296 dated 10th February 1898.

(Signed) G. Simpson
Brig. General

(True Copy)

Ag. Assistant Secretary

Exd
LS
2/4/98

No.1217.

Office of the Commissary General,
Madras Command,
Ootacamund 9th October 1897.

From

The Offg.Commissary-General,
Madras Command.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Revenue Department.

Rum- the only liquor obtained by this Department for issue on payment to troops-is procured by contract((the last supply was obtained in 1894-95 from Messrs Morison and Co.Arcot) and is issued in bulk at 25 U.P. to British Regimental Canteens at Rs.2 per gallon when requisitioned for with an additional charge of 6 annas per gallon on account of excise duty,which latter is credited to Government separately from the sale proceeds of the rum,in accordance with -- the Government of India Military Department letter No.408-D, dated 23rd January 1897(copy enclosed)

2. The rum is then retailed to the soldier by the Regimental Canteens at 2 annas per dram plus the excise duty or altogether at Rs.5-6-0 per imperial gallon(40 drams)and the difference between this rate and the rate paid by the Canteens viz.Rs.3 per gallon is,I understand,credited to Refreshment rooms or other Regimental funds.This is ,however,a purely Regimental arrangement with which this Department has no concern.

3. As regards the issue of rum to Native troops,they -- are entitled to it from this Department only when specially authorised in accordance with paras 811-814,Army Regulations India,Volume V,Commissariat,and in that case,the rum is paid for by the troops at Rs.2-3-0 per gallon as laid down in para 813 ibid plus the excise duty.This Department has no concern with the further distribution of the spirit after its original issue in bulk,nor has it any connection whatever with the Native Regimental Canteens where such may exist.

Copy herewith.

4. The circumstances under ~~xxxxxx~~ which 9 annas per gallon of rum at 25° U.P. are charged as excise duty, are explained in the accompanying copy of the Government of India Military Department letter No.407-D, dated 25th January 1897.

@ Equivalent of twelve annas per gallon of proof rum.

5. So far as I am aware the question of a license in this connection being considered necessary for this Department has never been raised previously, and I can only imagine that this is because issues so made are made under the orders of Government and for Government purposes.

6. The question in its relation to Regimental Canteens is one which I am not in a position to deal with and I can only suggest the matter being referred to the Deputy ~~Commissioner~~ Adjutant-General of the Command.

(Signed) G.H. Eliot

Lieut Colonel,
Offg. Commissary General, Madras Command.

(True copy)

R M Murley

Ag. Assistant Secretary.

Exd
13/4/98

14

Office of the Commissary-General, Madras Command.

Copy of letter No.407-D, dated 25th January 1897, from the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to the Adjutant General in India.

The question of the expediency of continuing the present practice under which rum supplied to troops on payment is issued at a price which does not include the Customs or Excise duty levied on rum consumed by the public, has recently been under the consideration of the Government of India, and the conclusion arrived at is that the practice is opposed to the principles which underlie the policy, long accepted and carried into effect in India as in other countries, of imposing customs and excise duties on spirits, and that it is inexpedient to allow soldiers to buy spirits at a cheaper rate than their fellow countrymen in India. The Government of India have accordingly decided that the issue of duty-free rum to soldiers, whether British or Native, shall be discontinued as soon as this can conveniently be arranged.

2. In view, however, of the length of time during which the exemption from duty of rum issued to the troops has been in force, and of the reasons which led to the grant of such exemption, it is considered desirable that the change in system should be effected gradually. The rate of duty to be ultimately imposed should in the opinion of Government of India

be the rate of excise duty in force in the province in which the troops purchasing the rum are located. In Madras, Bombay and Burma, rum manufactured in India is already excised at the full rate of duty leviable on spirits imported from Europe, namely Rs.6 a gallon of proof strength: In Bengal the excise duty is Rs.2 a gallon, and in the Punjab and North-Western Provinces Rs.4; but these rates are liable to be raised so as to equal the full import duty on foreign liquor. To raise the price of the rum supplied to troops in all parts of India by an amount which would correspond approximately to 12 annas a gallon (or 12.5 per cent of the full duty leviable), will therefore be a moderate and tentative advance in the direction desired. This will be equivalent to an increase of 2 annas in the price of a bottle of the size of a reputed quart, which is believed to be the size of the bottles in which rum is sold, and this increase has been decided on as the first instalment of the imposition of the duty.

3. I am, therefore, to request that, under the orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, instructions may be issued to enhance the price of a reputed quart bottle of rum by two annas, with effect from the 1st April 1897, and to say that the Government of India would be glad to be favoured with a report on the effects of the measure not later than 31st December 1897, to admit of the feasibility of further raising the duty with effect from 1st April 1898, being duly considered.

Copy of a letter No.408-D, dated 23rd January 1897, from the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to the Commissary General-in-Chief.

I am directed to forward, for your information, the accompanying copy of Military Department letter No.407-D, dated 23rd January 1897, sanctioning the imposition of duty on rum supplied on payment by the Commissariat Transport Department to British and Native troops, and directing that the rate of recovery should be enhanced by 2 annas a reputed quart from the 1st April 1897, so as to include the duty.

2. I am to add, for your information, that it is intended not to make any change in the existing practice under which the Commissariat Department obtains its supply of rum without payment of any duty. All that is required is that the part of the receipts which represents the newly imposed duty should be shown by the Commissariat and Military Departments accounts separately from the part which represents the recovery of the cost of the rum; the latter will continue to be shown in the accounts as "Receipts by Military Department—Grant IV, Proceeds of sale of Rum", and the former will be shown as revenue receipts under the head V, Excise.

3. I am further to request that the bill forms which are affected by the above procedure may be revised.

Copies of paras 311-312, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat.

311. The issue of spirits to Native troops is only authorised when from climate or other causes it is considered

considered really necessary. The indent (Commissariat form 66) must clearly show the grounds on which the issue is recommended, and should be countersigned by the General Officer commanding the District.

Ibid. 812. Even under such circumstances, rum is not claimable from the Commissariat as a right, and will not be granted for more than one month at a time, unless, at the expiration of the period, the Medical authorities consider further issue absolutely necessary.

813.
S.C.O.R.14
and 293 of 1876
A.R.D.vii,184.
~~A.R.D.vii,184.~~

The quantity of rum to be thus issued is restricted to one dram per man (for the number recommended) and then rum is to be issued at 25 per cent under proof and paid for at Rs.2-8-0 per gallon, the amount being credited to Government in the pay list as "General State" of the regiment. This order does not affect certain regiments peculiarly situated which receive rum under special Government sanction-See para. 815.

814. The sanction here given must be exercised as sparingly as possible. Tea may sometimes prove an efficient substitute for spirits and in such instances the issue may be made on payment under the above medical restrictions.

815. Rum may be issued at Port Blair on the recommendation of the Medical Officer. One Hogshead of rum per mensem on indent is allowed to Sikhs and Christians of the second regiment, Central India Horse. Rum is also allowed on indent to the 39th (the Garhwal Rifle) regiment of Bengal Infantry and all the Goorkha regiments, on the understanding that the State is put to no expense, and that it gives the man no right to claim it in the field; also on indent to the Deputy Commissioner of the Chittagong hill tracts for the use of the Police.

Govt. of India
3182 of 1874.
Govt. of Bombay
9th April 1876.
Govt. of India,
2046 of 1875 &
3182 & 1121 of
1874, 1088 of
1874 & 477 S.D
& 1131 S.D. of
1882. Cir. C.O.D
67 & 90 of 1882.

(True copies)

(Signed) Lissenburg

Chief Clerk.
to the Commissary General, Madras Command.

(True copy)

R.M. Thurley

Acting Assistant Secretary.

11-4-28

MADRAS.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Separate Revenue),

Dated 23rd March 1898.

Mis No. 1220

Read again Government Official Memorandum No. 146 Revenue dated 16th July 1897 requesting certain information regarding the supply of spirits to troops

Read also Endorsement Mis No. 899 Revenue dated 21st Feb 98 transferring to the Board of Revenue, in continuation of Endorsement No. 2237* dated 4th December 1897 a copy of the office Circular from the Deputy Adjutant-General Madras Command showing the authority for the establishment of Regimental Canteens in his Command &c.

* Copy attached

Read also endorsement Mis No. 1105 Revenue dated 4th March 1898 transferring to the Board of Revenue, in continuation of Endorsement No. 899 dated 21st February 1898, letter submitted by the Deputy

2974

Deputy Adjutant General, Madras Command
No. A/NT 3063 dated 24th February 1898 + Copy attached

Resolution

The Board begs to submit the following reply to the Official Memorandum from Government No. 146 dated 16th July 1897.

(1) The native regimental Canteens referred to are reported to have been instituted under the authority of Circular No. NA/942, dated 26th May 1893 of the Provisional Commander-in-chief Copy of which is enclosed. The Circular would appear to overlook the provisions of the Army Regulations quoted by Government. The Board would therefore request that the ~~Provisional~~ Lt General Commander ~~in chief~~ may be addressed as to the authority for its issue.

(2) As will be observed the Commanding officers are directed in the Circular above quoted to make arrangements with local civil authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary, but no applications have been received for

for any licenses nor have any been issued. According to the strict letter of the law licenses would appear to be necessary both in the case of Canteens and in that of Sales by the Commissariat Department

(3) As regards the rate of duty levied upon liquor issued to soldiers it appears that up to the year 1897 such liquor was issued duty-free. In that year it was decided to impose a duty, but in order not to enhance the price of liquor too suddenly the duty is only being imposed by degrees. For the present it is being levied at the rate of twelve annas per proof gallon or nine annas per gallon of 25° Under Proof. This duty has been ordered to be credited to the head of V Excise but the order does not appear to be enforced in this Presidency. Copies of letters Nos. 407 D dated 23rd January 189 and 408 D of the same date from the Secretary to Government of India Military Department which contain full information

information on these points are enclosed. As regards the difference between the price paid by the Canteens for the liquor and the price realized for the same it is stated that these sums are credited to Refreshment rooms or other regimental funds according to the arrangements in force in the regiments in question. It may be added - as reported by the Commissary General - that rum - the only liquor obtained by his department for issue on payment to troops - is procured on Contract and their last supply was obtained in 1894-95 from Messrs Morrison and Company North Arcot.

(True Extract)

Ag. Assistant Secretary

To

The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
(with 3 enclosures)

Exd
21
2/4/98

$\frac{G}{18}$ 4,000—19-7-97.

Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 4830

From
The Dy Adjutant Genl.
Madras Command,
Ootacamund.

Order

No. a
B.T. 10942

Dated 7 July
Received 8 "
Registered 9 "
Enclosures 1
Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Enclosing a list of the localities in the Madras Presy where Canteens, both British and Native are kept up.

11/792

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

List of localities in the Madras Presidency where Canteens, both European and Native, are kept up.

Station	Locality.
Bangalore	British Cavalry Barracks Royal Artillery — " — British Infantry — " — Q.O. Madras Sappers & Miners Lines
Wellington	Depot Barracks British Infantry — " —
Ootacamund	4th Madras Pioneers Lines
Fort Saint George	Royal Artillery Barracks British Infantry — " —
Saint Thomas' Mount	Royal Artillery — " — 14th Madras Infantry Lines
Pallavaram	E. A. V. Company Barracks.
Poonamallee	Depot Barracks.
Trichinopoly	27th Madras Infantry Lines
Bellary	Royal Artillery Barracks British Infantry — " —
Cannanore	British Infantry — " —
Calicut	Do.
Malappuram	Do.

Ootacamund
7th July 1898.

Brigr. General,
Dy. Adjutant General.

1898
REVENUE DEPARTMENT
Enclosures No. 1
Current No. 2830

This heading and No. to be quoted in reply. Regimental Institution

No. 12

B.T.

Ootacamund, 7th July 1898.

From

The DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL, MADRAS COMMAND,

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Revenue Department.

~~(Through~~ ~~District.)~~

REFERENCE, YOUR ~~MY~~ ~~LETTER~~ MEMO. ~~ENDORSEMENT~~ No. 2874 of 2d. July 1898.

MEMORANDUM.

A list of the localities in the Madras Presidency where Canteens, both British and Native, are kept up, is enclosed.

G. Simpson
Brigr. General,
Dy. Adjutant General.

R. 1200
I-B. 14-3-98.

O/18 2,000—30 98.

Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 5918.

From

The Dy Adjutant-General,
Madras Command.
Ootacamund.

Order

No. A / M. 13656

Dated 23 Augt.

Received 23 "

Registered 24 "

Enclosures /.

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Submitting a schedule of replies from the Officers commanding the Madras Regiment re: maintaining of Canteens an as to how excise duty is paid o liquid purchased.

11/24-8-98

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
O. M.		44 28.7.98	

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

under C no 2874 (page 1)

No. 164

O. M. for approval

With reference to his letter No. A/N.7 2296 dated 10-2-98, the D. A. G. is requested to be good enough to state whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer) supplied to the Canteens of Native ~~regts~~ regiments, and if so, whether it is purchased duty paid or whether duty is paid on ~~the~~ its issue from the distilleries ~~and~~ or breweries.

^ by the Military authorities

22/7/8

To the D. A. G. Madras Command.

KO
22/7/98

Issd
22/7/98

Ootacamund
22nd July 1898

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise d
is paid on liquor (rum and beer &c.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments &c

Regiment	Station	Reply of Officer Commanding	Remarks.
"2d" Sappers & Miners	Bangalore	Excise duty is paid at Ootacamund by Nilgiri Brewery Company for ale and stout purchased for which permits are obtained from the Collector of the Nilgiris prior to despatch of consignment to to Bangalore.	
4th Madras Pioneers	Ootacamund	Full duty paid for rum supplied after receipt from Commissariat Department, that is to say the Commissariat Department include the duty in the bill. Full duty is paid for beer by private dealers and added to the cost of beer supplied to the canteen.	
7th Madras Infantry	Kamptee	Full excise duty is paid by firms from whom liquor is purchased.	
8th Madras Infantry	Barrackpore	Liquor purchased duty paid.	
13th Madras Infy.	Raipur C.P.	Full excise duty paid on liquor by firms from whom purchased.	
14th Madras Infy.	St Saint Thomas' Mt Madras	No duty paid by regiment on beer supplied presumes distillery does.	
15th -do-	Rangoon	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.	
16th -do-	-do-	-do-	
20th Madras Infy.	Miranshah	No report received.	
21st Madras Pioneers	Belgaum	Beer supplied is purchased from a local merchant and price paid by the regiment includes duty paid by the vendor.	

Ootacamund
23rd August 1898

F. J. [illegible]
Colonel
for Deputy Adjutant General

This heading and No. to be quoted in reply.

Regimental Institution
Canteens

No. 4
I. T.-2656.

Ootacamund,
23rd August 1898.

From

The **DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL, MADRAS COMMAND,**

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Revenue Department.

~~Through~~ ~~District.~~

REFERENCE, YOUR ~~MY~~ ~~LETTER~~ MEMO. ~~ENDORSEMENT~~ No. 164 of 22nd July 1898.

MEMORANDUM.

Herewith a schedule of replies from the Officers Commanding those Madras Regiments which maintain canteens, showing how excise duty is paid on liquor (rum, beer &c) purchased.

2. The reply from the Officer Commanding 20th Madras Infantry, will follow when received.

F. J. [illegible] Colonel,
for Dy. Adjutant General.

R. 1006.
I-E. 7-7-98.

1898
REVENUE DEPT.
1
5918

IV 31

The number and date of this communication may be quoted in reply.

No. C..2117

Office of the Commissary-General, Madras Command,
Ootacamund, 2nd July 1897.

From
The offg. COMMISSARY-GENERAL,
MADRAS COMMAND,

SECY. GOVT. MADRAS
JUL 97
REV. DEPT.

Diary No. A/1912
Recd. 2 Jul. 1897
B.T.

To
The DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL,
MADRAS COMMAND,
OOTACAMUND.

This department obtains its supply of rum (country manufactured) by contract. and the last supply was obtained in 1894-95 from Messrs Morrison & Co: Arcot at Rs:1-1-3 per I. Gallon 5° O.P or at Rs: 0-12-4 per I. Gallon 25° U.P.

2. The rum at 25° U.P is issued in bulk to Regimental canteens on requisitions at Rs 2/ per gallon with an additional charge of annas 9/ on account of excise duty. This rum is retailed to troops at annas 2/. per dram plus excise duty. So far as is known in the

this office the military authorities do not hold any licenses for the issue of liquor.

3. Rum is not supplied by this department to native troops under ordinary circumstances, but only when specially authorised - vide para: 811 A.R.I. Vol: V Const: the issue is made as laid down in para: 813 ibid and paid for by the troops at Rs: 2-8-0 per gallon.

Lt. Colonel,
Offg: Commissary-General, Madras Command.

P.D.

II

a/B.T. 10249

To, The Secretary to the Govt: of Madras, Revenue Department.

Ootacamund,
2d July 1897.

URGENT.

Forwarded with reference to your telephone message of the 24th ultimo.

Br. Genl,

A

C.M. no 104 dated 22-7-98)
Letter from the D.A.G. Madras Command no A/N.T. 13,656 dated 23-8-98 (C.No 5918)

Rev Dept

Read O.M. No. 146 d. 16-7-97.
— B.P. No. 1220 d. 23-3-98 (C.No. 2874 of 98)
— Letter from the D.A.G. Madras Command no a/B.T. 10942 d. 7-7-98 (C.No. 4830 of 98)

G.O. mis. No. 4032 d/8th Octr. 1898.

The B.P. read above will be ~~referred~~ forwarded to the Lieut. General commanding the Forces for the favour of remarks on the points raised in paras 1 and and 2.

2. With reference to the statement in para 3, that the duty on liquor sold at Regimental canteens is not credited to 'Excise', the Board of Revenue is requested to ~~move the Accountant General~~ to address the Controller of Military Accounts on the subject thro the A.G. if necessary.

3. With reference to the list of canteens received from the D.A.G. and forwarded

Herewith the Board of Revenue is requested to call upon the collectors concerned to report whether liquor is issued from the canteens to anyone except soldiers.

8/10/98

KO
19/10/98
?

To the Board S.R. with list under c no 4830
– D.A.G. Madras Command with B.P. 1220 / 23-3-98

Desp 14-10-98

m. Genl.

---

x. under G.O. No 3424 d/10.7.97

"see para 7. Do regimental canteens (native or other) sell spirits and if so where do they get them from what duty do they pay and under what licenses do they sell".

Rev Dept

NOTE FOR THE SECRETARY.

Complete information is not available in the office to enable us to reply to the H. M's remarks. The following telephone message may be sent to the Commissariat General:—

Whence does the Commissariat get its supply of rum for the troops. What rate does it pay for the rum & what rate does it charge the troops supplied.

AR
23/6/97

23/6/97

Please also state whether the military authorities hold any licence for the issue of liquor.

The Hon. Sir Henry Bliss K.C.I.E.

Please see reply from the Dy. Adjutant General [illegible]
AK

× Note. Excise duty on country made spirits supplied to the military dept is ~~[illegible]~~, ~~[illegible]~~ refunded under the G. I. Resolution in G.O. No 280 of 16th May /95. stitched with G.O. No 531 of 27th Jany /97. How does it come about that 9 annas are taken as excise duty. The proper duty would be Rs 4½ — whereof ~~this~~ 9 annas? The troops apparently pay (48×2) Rs 6 per gallon + the above 9 annas — whereof is the difference & how can 9 annas be paid on 48 drams?

Note with reference to the following remarks of the H. M. on C. No 4709 of 97.

"Do regimental Canteens (native or otherwise) sell spirits and if so where do they get them from, what duty do they pay and under what licenses do they sell"

---

1. Regimental canteens sell spirits.

2. The Commissariat Department obtains its supply of rum (country manufactured) by contract and the last supply is reported to have been obtained in 1894-95 from Messrs Morrison and Sons Ltd at Rs 1-1-3 per gallon of 5° O.P. or at 0-12-4 per gallon 25° U.P.

3. The rum at 25° U.P. is issued in bulk to Regimental canteens on requisitions at Rs 2 per gallon with an additional charge of annas 9 on account of excise duty. This rum is retailed to troops at annas 2 per dram plus excise duty.

4. In the case of Native Troops

the issue of spirits is sanctioned only when poor climatic or other causes the supply is considered really necessary by regimental medical officers whose recommendation must receive the concurrence of Deputies Surgeon-General. The liquor is issued at 25° U.P. and paid for at Rs 2-8-0 per gallon. ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~.

6. The military authorities do not hold any licenses for the issue of liquor. It will be seen from B.P. No 1478 d/ 31.6.86 ~~[illegible]~~ that, on the opinion of the then Ag Advocate General (Mr Shephard) it was ruled that clubs which supply liquor to its members need not take out licenses. On this analogy no licenses are taken out in the case of canteens (Please see abstract of B.P. No 3727 d/ 2.9.95).

J.
6/7/97

AR
5/7/97

But this is apparently not the case in this instance. The Bd. says that native canteens have been opened — is quite a different matter. I suspect the Bd. is wrong — better enquire. 8 HS

Art. 811 & 813 of Army Regulations, Vol. I

Please ask the Bd. precisely about this — It wd. not be worth while raising the question of canteens supplied to the soldiers, but I suspect that they supply a good many more —

HS
8/7/97

Dept. Do.

10/7/97

It appears from the "Schedule of replies . . ." perhaps that a great many more than two native canteens are kept up. We have no concern with canteens in Burmah at pp 2-4 of the current A

at pp 16-18 of do E

and their stations outside this Presy. But as regards stations in this Presy please make out from the Army List which canteens (Cantonments) are kept up & then call for report from the Colrs whether Lics are appointed therefrom to any one but soldiers — It may be right enough to let soldiers get cheap liquor, ~~[illegible]~~ though are to that be below; but why should regimental followers, who are not, I take it, enlisted men, do so?

HS

27/4/98

B.P. No 1220 Misc d/ 23.3.84 (C. No 2874)

To Secy:-

Please see the H. M.'s remarks on pp 4 and 5 of this file, the replies to which are furnished by the Board of Revenue in the above current. The remarks and the replies are copied below for easy reference.

2. Page 5: "The Board says that two native "canteens have been opened x x x better "enquire": The Canteens at Saint Thomas Mount were instituted under the authority of Circular No $\frac{A.A.}{942}$ d/ 26.5.93 of the ~~[illegible]~~ Provincial Commander in Chief. ~~which~~ The circular does not refer to the provisions of Articles 811 and 813 of the Army Regulations, Vol. II, restricting the issue of spirits to native troops to cases when poor climatic or other causes the supply is considered really necessary by regimental medical officers. The reason assigned by the Circular is that the liquor sold in native bazzars is deleterious

deleterious and that it is therefore necessary to supply good liquor to native soldiers. Orders are requested whether as suggested by the Board of Revenue the Military dep^t. may be addressed.

3. Page 5. "Please ask the Board for "information about this (non "application for a license) It "would not be worthwhile raising "the question of Canteens supplied "only the soldiers, but I suspect "that they supply a good many "more". Attention is invited to the Circular quoted above in which it is stated "Arrangements "must be made by the Officer "Commanding with the local "Civil authorities regarding "licenses, should such be necessary" The Board reports that no applications were received for any licenses nor were any issued, and points out that according to the strict letter of the law licenses would appear to be necessary both in the case of Canteens and in

577(97)

Para 1(1) of the B. P at p 20 of the Current

C

pp 2–4 of the Current

A

Para 1(2) of the B. P at pp 20 & 21 of the C

C

p. 10 of the current marked in red pencil

G

Better first ask the Dy Adj. Genl whether licenses have been taken out hitherto

Govt. of India letter No 407 D/23.1.97 filed with the Current p 14

D

in that of sales by the Commissariat Department. The H. M. observed that it would not be worth-while raising the question, if the Canteens supplied only the soldiers. It appears from the Deputy Adjutant-General's letter that sepoys and regimental followers only are allowed to frequent the Canteen. For orders whether a license should be ordered to be taken out.

4. Page 4 "How does it come about "that nine annas are taken "as excise duty" (on rum supplied to the Canteens). Up to 1^st April 97 liquor was supplied to troops duty-free. It was decided to discontinue this system with effect from that date and gradually to enhance the price of liquor until it paid the excise duty in force in the Province in which the troops were located. For the year 1897-98 a duty of 12 annas per proof gallon or 9 annas per gallon of 25° U. P. was fixed tentatively

Page

5. Page 4 "Who gets the nine annas": It is to be credited to Revenue receipts under "V Excise". The Board reports that the order does not appear to be enforced in this Presidency. It is submitted that the Board may be requested to move the Accountant General to address the Military department on the subject.

6. Page 4 "The troops apparently pay "(48 × 2 as) or Rs 6 per gallon + "the above" 9 annas": The troops pay Rs 5-9- a gallon (a gallon being = 40 drams).

7. Page 4 "Who gets the difference": It is credited to Refreshment rooms or other Regimental funds.

KD
23/4/98

24/4/98

When we have all the info. it will be necessary to go to G. of I. first about this matter. If the Mil. Dept. likes to let soldiers have cheap liquor by all means let it do so, but it must pay Govt. the full excise duty. Moreover in such cases, that other Canteens at ... appear, would ... must materially affect the selling value of the licensed shops, compensation for loss thus caused should be given to Govt.

HJ
25/4/98

Para 2 of the G. O.'s letter No 4688 d/ 23.6.97 filed with the current p. 16 E

Para 2 of the Commissary-General's letter at p. 12 of Current I

Ibid

Rev Dept

From the Dy A. G. Madras Command
No $\frac{A}{N\text{-}7.13,656}$ dated 23-3-98 (C. no 5918)

To Say

Obs $\frac{164}{22\text{-}7\text{-}98}$ (O)

[redacted] The Dy A. G. was requested to state whether full duty was paid on liquor supplied to Canteens of Native Regiments. The current read above is the reply.

2. Confining attention to Canteens in this Presidency, it will be seen that at Ootacamund, Berhampore, and Madras fully duty is paid on the liquor. Apparently this is the case at St. Thomas Mount & Trichinopoly also, though the information furnished is not clear. In regard to these places it is stated: ——

St. Thomas Mount — "No duty paid by regiment "on beer supplied – presumes distillery does."

Trichinopoly — "Beer supplied to the Canteen "delivered free of all charges – no duty being "paid by the regiment."

3. If a canteen ~~contract~~ does not take out a license and pay a fee therefor, it can afford to sell liquor for a lower price than ~~that~~ a licensed vendor, who has purchased the right to sell at a shop at an auction sale. ~~But~~ Soldiers and sepoys may get cheap liquor; but there is no reason why the Government should do so (vide ... H.W.S.

remark at the bottom of page 6 of the note). But the information on this point requires verification before the Army authorities can be addressed. For this reason, and in order to ge[redacted] points, it is

3. Submi[redacted] already :—

(i) Why Canteens have been established for Native regiments, apparently in opposition to Articles 811 & 813 of the Army Regulations?;

Secy's remarks on page 7 of Office note

(ii) Why licenses have not been taken out for the Canteens?

Do & H.M's remarks .. 8 "

(iii) Why the duty levied has not been credited to Excise?

Do " 9 "

4. There is no means of finding out in this Office whether the Board's statement that the duty is not credited to Excise is correct.

KO
5/9/98

KO
5/9/98

Commissary-General's letter para 1, page 12 of the current no 2874

Circular para 6 on page 3 do

The troops seem to get their liquor from two sources (a) thro' the Commissariat Dept. in the case of the ~~[illegible]~~ canteens of British regiments (b) by the commanding officers directly from the distillery or manufacturer in the case of the canteens for Native regiments estabd. under the C in C's circular of 1893.

With supplies under the former class ~~we appear~~ there appears to be nothing further to do, as under the orders of the G. of I. excise duty is being collected — not as yet the full duty but a portion of it, the full duty to be worked up to in time. This duty is credited in the ~~Excise~~ Commissariat & military Accounts under "Excise"

H.M.S 7

Govt. of India No 407 E dated 23-1-97 (page 14 ibid)

Govt. of India No 408 E dated 23-1-97 (page 16 ibid)

para 2

± 13

(b) In the case of the canteens of native regts. under the Circular of 1893, full duty is already paid, as the liquor is bought duty paid: I don't quite see how it can be purchased otherwise: but there is no harm in making sure by the reference proposed

Issue the draft

8/10/98

Government of Madras.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Recd. } 1914. Enclosure

Regd. } Spare copies

G.O. No. 4032, 8th October 1898.

Referring to the Board of Revenue and the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces certain questions connected with the issue of liquor from the canteens.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers :—

I

Official Memorandum—from the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.
To—the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue).
No.—146.
Dated—the 16th July 1897.

With reference to paragraph 7 of Board's Proceedings No. 181, dated 10th May 1897, the undersigned has the honour to request that information may be furnished on the following points :—

(i) It is observed that under articles 811 and 813 of the Army Regulations, Volume V, the issue of spirits to Native troops is sanctioned only when from climatic or other causes the supply is considered really necessary by regimental medical officers whose recommendation must receive the concurrence of Deputies Surgeon-General. The Board merely states that two native regimental canteens have been opened at St. Thomas Mount. It should now be reported whether the conditions laid down in the above quoted articles of the Army Regulations have been satisfied in these cases.

(ii) The military authorities do not appear to hold any licenses for the issue of liquor to troops. It should be reported why no licenses are required in their case.

(iii) In regard to regimental canteens it is understood that rum is issued in bulk on requisition at 25° under proof at Rs. 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. It is not understood why As. 9 are taken as excise duty while the proper duty is Rs. 4½, nor who gets this As. 9. Again the rum is issued to soldiers at As. 2 per dram or Rs. 6 per gallon *plus* excise duty. It should be reported as to what is done with the difference between the amount paid for by the soldiers and that paid for by the canteen and as to how As. 9 can be paid on 48 drams.

II

Copies of paragraphs 811—815, *Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat.*

811. The issue of spirits to Native troops is only authorised when from climate or other causes it is considered really necessary. The indent (Commissariat form 65) must clearly show the grounds on which the issue is recommended, and should be countersigned by the General Officer Commanding the district.

812. Even under such circumstances, rum is not claimable from the Commissariat as a right, and will not be granted for more than one month at a time, unless, at the expiration of the period, the medical authorities consider further issue absolotely necessary.

813. The quantity of rum to be thus issued is restricted to one dram per man (for the number recommended) per diem and is to be issued at 25 per cent. under proof and paid for at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon, the amount being credited to Government in the pay list and "General State" of the regiment. This order does not affect certain regiments peculiarly situated which receive rum under special Government sanction—see paragraph 815.

S.G.O.B. 14 and 298 of 1876 A R.B. vii, 184.

814. The sanction here given must be exercised as sparingly as possible. Tea may sometimes prove an efficient substitute for spirits and in such instances the issue may be made on payment under the above medical restrictions.

815. Rum may be issued at Port Blair on the recommendation of the Medical Officer. One hogshead of rum per mensem on indent is allowed to Sikhs and Christians of the second regiment, Central India horse. Rum is also allowed on indent to the 39th (the Garhwal Rifle) regiment of Bengal Infantry and the Goorkha regiments, on the understanding that the State is put to no expense, and that it gives the men no right to claim it in the field; also on indent to the Deputy Commissioner of the Chittagong hill tracts for the use of the Police.

Government of Madras, 3182 of 1874. Government of Bombay, dated 9th April 1896 Government of India, Nos. 2046 of 1873 and 3182 and 1121 of 1874, 1085 of 1875 and 477 S.D. and 1131 S.D. of 1882, Cir. C.G. B. 67 and 90 of 1882.

III

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 10th February 1898.
No.—A/N.T. 2296.

In continuation of my Memorandum, No. A/N.T. 18654 of 24th November 1897.

A copy of this office Circular No. N.A. 942, dated 26th May 1893, which is the authority for the establishment of Regimental Canteens in this command, is herewith forwarded together with a schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments furnishing further particulars.

2. The report from the Commandant 13th Madras Infantry will follow when received.

Enclosures.

(i)

Circular Memorandum—from Brigadier-General H. W. Pearson, Adjutant-General, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.
To—the Officer Commanding Regiment, Madras Infantry (through General Officer Commanding district).
Dated—Ootacamund, the 26th May 1893.
No.—N.A.-942.

The question of the establishment within the lines of Native Regiments of some place in which, under regimental arrangements good and sound liquor can be sold to Native soldiers, having been considered by the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant-General is desired to remark as follows.

2. In view of the very deleterious liquor sold in Native bazaars and of the undesirable nature of the surroundings of the shops where such is sold, the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the *establishment* of a canteen where good liquor could be obtained, would be in the interests of Native soldiers, and he has no objection to such *being established provided that* no extra expense is hereby incurred by the state.

3. It will be necessary that these canteens which are entirely optional, should be conducted on some fixed principle and with this view *Commanding Officers* should draw up and submit to General Officers Commanding Districts for their approval such orders as they may deem called for, to ensure that *order* is *maintained* and that the institution is not abused.

4. Such rules will doubtless differ *in minor points* in different stations, according to local conditions but the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the following points call for attention in all *cases in* which canteens in Native Regiments are established :—

A

Arrangements must be made the Officer Commanding with the Local Civil Authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary.

B

The canteen should on no account be established *in the centre of the lines* where any noise or disturbance can take place without the knowledge or observation of the British officers, and where soldiers *might meet for gambling.*

If no existing building is available, a shed should be erected *on the outskirts* of the *lines and not far from the Bells of arms,* Barracks and Quarter guard.

C

Commanding officers must be most careful in satisfying themselves that the liquor supplied is of good quality.

D

Fixed hours of issue should be appointed *and during* these hours a thoroughly trustworthy and reliable Non-Commissioned officer is to be present who will be held responsible that order is maintained.

E

The orderly officer should visit the *canteen daily* and the British officer of the week frequently at uncertain hours.

F

Commanding officers should make it a point to exercise the strictest personal supervision over the Institution which is open to abuse *if British officers* be careless or apathetic.

G

General officers commanding *districts should from* time to time, when convenient visit these canteens to satisfy themselves that their establishment is really beneficial to the men.

5. *Messrs.* Leishman & Co., Nilgiri Brewery Company are prepared to supply wholesome beer of light gravity at the following *rates :—To all stations in* the Madras Command except *Burmah,* Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 40 per hogshead—to Rangoon, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 42 *per hogshead.*

6. These prices are quoted merely for the information *of Commanding* officers who are, of course, at liberty to obtain the liquor they require from any firm they may choose to select.

7. In cases in which canteens are established, Commanding *Officers* will be good enough *to submit,* through *District* authorities, a report to this office on their working after a period of six months has elapsed, General *Officers Commanding* in forwarding these reports will express their opinion on the experiment.

(ii)

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens.

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
1st Madras Lancers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
3rd Do. (*a*)	....	Do.		..	....	....	(*a*) Establishment in Secunderabad against terms of agreement between British Government and His Highness the Nizam's Government.
" Queen's Own Madras Sappers and Miners.	5-30 A.M. to 9 P.M. ..	Beer and *stout* ..	*Both* Rs. 1-1-4 per quart.	No	Cannot be stated as they vary with strength at Head-quarters but very nearly every man uses the canteen.	Benefit of the men, maintenance and supply of buildings, *sums given for festivals,* provide free coffee and hoppers for men on Field Days, etc.	
1st Madras Pioneers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Madras Infantry	....	Do. (*a*)		..	....	....	
3rd Madras Light Infantry ..	....	Do.		..	....	....	
4th Madras Pioneers	6 P.M. to 8 P.M. (During the day if specially ordered on any feast day.)	Beer and *rum* (when procurable).	Beer As. 3-4 per quart. Rum As. 2 *per dram.*	No	Three-fourths of the Regiment or 625 men.	Benefit of the men such as free food on the march, etc.	
5th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
6th Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
7th Do.	11 A.M. to 12 Noon, 5-30 P.M. to 8 P.M.	Beer and rum.. ..	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum As. 3 per dram.	No	183	Benefit of the men, free ammunition for pool shooting, cricket, foot-ball, etc.	
8th Do.	4. P.M. to 9 P.M. (10 A.M. to 1 P.M. on Sundays and Thursdays as well as in the evening).	*Do.*	Beer As. 4-8 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No	75	Prizes for sports among the men.	
9th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
10th Burma Rifles	....	Do.		..	....	....	
11th Madras Infantry ..	....	Do. (*a*)		..	....	....	
12th Burma-Madras Infantry ..	....	Do.		..	....	....	
13th Madras Infantry ..	....	....	....	..	....	....	
14th Do.	10 A.M. to 12 Noon and 4 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 a quart ..	No	260	*Benefit* of the men, men's necessaries, prizes for sports, donations to men discharged without pension and prizes for shooting.	Report not yet received.

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens—*cont.*

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
15th Madras Infantry	Between 3-30 and 7-30 P.M.	Beer and porter	As. 4-6 a quart	No	250	Benefit of the men, regimental sports, etc.	
16th Do.	Do.	Beer and stout	Do.	No	200	Benefit of the men, purchase of barrack room, boxes, etc.	
17th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
18th Do. (a)	....	Do.		..	....	....	
20th Do.	5 to 7 P.M.	Beer and rum	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum 3 oz. As. 1-6.	No	Nearly 400	No profit at present owing to expenses paid on journey from Vizianagaram to Meerut.	
21st Madras Pioneers	....	....	....	..	....	....	
22nd Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up	....	..	....	....	On Field service depot, unable to report as no canteen exists.
23rd Madras Light Infantry	2 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer Whisky Brandy Arrack	As. 3 per quart As. 5-4 per dram As. 4-6 " As. 1-8 "	No	170	Benefit of men, prizes at Regimental sports, paying carriage of certain Regimental necessaries, etc.	
24th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
25th Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
26th Do.	6 P.M. to 8-30 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 per quart	No	150	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, advancing money to obtain practice ammunition at cheap rates.	
27th Do.	4-30 P.M. to 7-30 P.M.	Do.	As. 5 per quart	No	500	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, etc., replacing foot-ball and cricket gear, paying for ammunition to improve shooting.	
28th Do.	....	No canteen kept up	....	..	....	....	
29th Burma-Madras Infantry	9-30 A.M. to 12 Noon and 2 P.M. to 7 P.M.	Rum only	As. 1-4 per 4 ozs.	No	850	Benefit of the men, Regimental sports, etc.	
30th Do.	....	No canteen kept up	....	..	....	....	
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	10 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 6 to 8-30 P.M.	Beer and porter only.	As. 3 per quart	No	70	To the Regimental coffee shop to supply the men with sugar, tea, etc.	
32nd Burma-Madras Infantry	5 to 6-30 P.M.	Rum*	6 pies per dram	No	Sikhs 426, Christians 32, Followers 24.	No profits, the sum charged being actual cost.	* No Regimental canteen establishment but rum supplied three times a week one dram per man to be drunk on the spot.
33rd Do.	5 to 6 P.M. (Twice weekly)	Beer and rum	As. 5 per quart. Anna 1 per dram.	No	450	Benefit of the men, sports, etc.	

IV

Letter—from the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.
To—the Adjutant-General in India.
Dated—the 23rd January 1897.
No.—407-D.

The question of the expediency of continuing the present practice under which rum supplied to troops on payment is issued at a price which does not include the customs or excise duty levied on rum consumed by the public, has recently been under the consideration of the Government of India, and the conclusion arrived at is that the practice is opposed to the principles which underlie the policy, long accepted and carried into effect in India as in other countries, of imposing customs and excise duties on spirits, and that it is inexpedient to allow soldiers to buy spirits at a cheaper rate than their fellow countrymen in India. The Government of India have accordingly decided that the issue of duty-free rum to soldiers, whether British or Native, shall be discontinued as soon as this can conveniently be arranged.

2. In view, however, of the length of time during which the exemption from duty of rum issued to the troops has been in force, and of the reasons which led to the grant of such exemption, it is considered desirable that the change in system should be effected gradually. The rate of duty to be ultimately imposed should in the opinion of Government of India be the rate of excise duty in force in the province in which the troops purchasing the rum are located. In Madras, Bombay and Burma, rum manufactured in India is already excised at the full rate of duty leviable on spirits imported from Europe, namely, Rs. 6 a gallon of proof strength. In Bengal the excise duty is Rs. 5 a gallon, and in the Punjab and North-Western Provinces Rs. 4; but these rates are liable to be raised so as to equal the full import duty on foreign liquor. To raise the price of the rum supplied to troops in all parts of India by an amount which shall correspond approximately to As. 12 a gallon (or 12·5 per cent. of the full duty leviable), will therefore be a moderate and tentative advance in the direction desired. This will be equivalent to an increase of As. 2 in the price of a bottle of the size of a reputed quart, which is believed to be the size of the bottles in which rum is sold; and this increase has been decided on as the first instalment of the imposition of duty.

3. I am, therefore, to request that, under the orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, instructions may be issued to enhance the price of a reputed quart bottle of rum by As. 2, with effect from the 1st April 1897, and to say that the Government of India would be glad to be favoured with a report on the effects of the measure not later than 31st December 1897, to admit of the feasibility of further raising the duty with effect from 1st April 1898, being duly considered.

V

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. L. ELIOT, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 2nd July 1897.
No.—C. 2117.

This department obtains its supply of rum (country manufactured) by contract and the last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs. Morrison & Co., Arcot, at Rs. 1-1-3 per 1 gallon 50° proof or at As. 12-4 per 1 gallon 25° under proof.

2. The rum at 25° under proof is issued in bulk to regimental canteens on requisitions at Rs 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. This rum is retailed to troops at As. 2 per dram plus excise duty. So far as is known in this office the military authorities do not hold any licenses for the issue of liquor.

3. Rum is not supplied by this department to Native troops under ordinary circumstances, but only when specially authorised—*vide* paragraph 811, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat: the issue is made as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* and paid for by the troops at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon.

No. A./B.T. 10249, *dated 2nd July* 1897.

Forwarded with reference to your telephone message of the 24th ultimo.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General, Deputy Adjutant-General.

To the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

VI

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. H. Eliot, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 9th October 1897.
No.—5217.

Rum—the only liquor obtained by this department for issue on payment to troops—is procured by contract (the last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs. Morison & Co., Arcot) and is issued in bulk at 25° under proof to British regimental canteens at Rs. 2 per gallon when requisitioned for with an additional charge of As. 9 per gallon on account of excise duty, which latter is credited to Government separately from the sale-proceeds of the rum, in accordance with the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 408-D, dated 23rd January 1897 (copy enclosed).

2. The rum is then retailed to the soldier by the regimental canteens at As. 2 per dram plus the excise duty or altogether at Rs. 5–9–0 per imperial gallon (40 drams) and the difference between this rate and the rate paid by the canteens, viz., Rs. 3 per gallon is, I understand, credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds. This is, however, a purely regimental arrangement with which this department has no concern.

3. As regards the issue of rum to Native troops, they are entitled to it from this department only when specially authorized in accordance with paragraphs * 811–815, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat, and in that case, the rum is paid for by the troops at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* plus the excise duty. This department has no concern with the further distribution of the spirit after its original issue in bulk, nor has it any connection whatever with the Native regimental canteens where such may exist.

* Copy herewith.

4. The circumstances under which As. 9 per gallon of rum at 25° under proof are charged as excise duty, are explained in the accompanying copy of the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 407-D, dated 23rd January 1897.

Equivalent of As. 12 per gallon of proof rum.

5. So far as I am aware the question of a license in this connection being considered necessary, for this department has never been raised previously, and I can only imagine that this is because issues so made are made under the orders of Government and for Government purposes.

6. The question in its relation to regimental canteens is one which I am not in a position to deal with and I can only suggest the matter being referred to the Deputy Adjutant-General of the Command.

VII

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. H. Lawson, Commandent, 13th Madras Infantry.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—the 29th January 1898.

With reference to your Memorandum No. A./N.T. 18840, dated Ootacamund, 26th November 1897, I have the honour to furnish information as follows :—

(1) (*a*) The regimental canteen is open daily.
(*b*) Between the hours 10 and 11 a.m. and 4 and 8 p.m.
(*c*) Sepoys and regimental followers only are allowed to frequent the canteen.

(2) Beer, rum, and mineral waters are sold.

(3) The beer is obtained from Messrs. Leeshman & Co., Ootacamund.

The rum from Messrs. E. Dyer & Co., Mandalay, during the stay of the regiment at Thayetangi.

(4) Beer is sold at As. 2 per pint and rum As. 2–6 pies per dram.

(5) The profits are expended for the good of the men of the regiment.

(6) The canteen was opened on the 1st October 1894, *vide* my No. 327 of 2nd July 1894 to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Southern district, in accordance with Adjutant-General's Circular No. A.A. 962, dated 25th May 1893, and my report No. 145 B submitted to you on the 10th April 1895.

(7) The average number of men frequenting the canteen is about 200 daily.

Endorsement No. 3063.

Forwarded in continuation of my Memorandum No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General.

VIII

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue), Mis. No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Read—the following papers :—

(i)

Official Memorandum No. 146, *Revenue, dated* 16*th July* 1897.

Abstract.—Requesting certain information regarding the supply of spirits to troops.

(ii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 899, *Revenue, dated* 21*st February* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 2237, dated 4th December 1897, a copy of the office circular from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, showing the authority for the establishment of regimental canteens in his command, etc.

(iii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 1105, *Revenue, dated* 4*th March* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 899, dated 21st February 1898, letter submitted by the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, No. A.N.T. 3063, dated 24th February 1898.

Resolution—Mis. No. 1220, *dated* 23*rd March* 1898.

The Board begs to submit the following reply to the Official Memorandum from Government No. 146, dated 16th July 1897 :—

(1) The Native regimental canteens referred to are reported to have been instituted under the authority of Circular No. NA/942, dated 26th May 1893, of the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, copy of which is enclosed. The circular would appear to overlook the provisions of the Army Regulations quoted by Government. The Board would therefore request that the Lieutenant-General Commanding may be addressed as to the authority for its issue.

(2) As will be observed the Commanding officers are directed in the circular above quoted to make arrangements with local civil authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary, but no applications have been received for any licenses nor have any been issued. According to the strict letter of the law licenses would appear to be necessary both in the case of canteens and in that of sales by the Commissariat Department.

(3) As regards the rate of duty levied upon liquor issued to soldiers it appears that up to the year 1897 such liquor was issued duty-free. In that year it was decided to impose a duty, but in order not to enhance the price of liquor too suddenly the duty is only being imposed by degrees. For the present it is being levied at the rate of As. 12 per proof gallon or As. 9 per gallon of 25° under proof. This duty has been ordered to be credited to the head of V. Excise, but the order does not appear to be enforced in this Presidency. Copies of letters Nos. 407 D, dated 23rd January 1897, and 408 D of the same date from the Secretaty to Government of India, Military Department, which contain full information on these points are enclosed. As regards the difference between the price paid by the canteens for the liquor and the price realized for the same it is stated that these sums are credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds according to the arrangements in force in the regiments in question. It may be added—as reported by the Commissary General—that rum—the only liquor obtained by his department for issue on payment to troops—is procured on contract and their last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs Morrison & Co., North Arcot.

(True Extract.)

R. M. Thurley,
Ag. Assistant Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with three enclosures.

IX

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 7th July 1898.
No.—A/B. T. 10942.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum for currunt No. 2874 of 2nd July 1898.]

A list of the localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both British and Native, are kept up, is enclosed.

Enclosure.

List of localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both European and Native, are kept up.

Station.	Locality.
Bangalore	British Cavalry Barracks.
	Royal Artillery do.
	British Infantry do.
	"Q.O." Madras Sappers and Miners Lines.
Wellington	Depot Barracks.
	British Infantry Barracks.
Ootacamund	Fourth Madras Pioneers Lines.
Fort St. George	Royal Artillery Barracks.
	British Infantry do.
St. Thomas' Mount	Royal Artillery do.
	Fourteenth Madras Infantry Lines.
Pallavaram	E.A.V. Company Barracks.
Poonamallee	Depôt Barracks.
Trichinopoly	27th Madras Infantry Lines.
Bellary	Royal Artillery Barracks.
	British Infantry do.
Cannanore	Do. do.
Calicut	Do. do.
Malappuram	Do. do.

X

Official Memorandum No. 164, Revenue, dated 22nd July 1898.

With reference to his letter No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898, the Deputy Adjutant-General is requested to be good enough to state whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.), supplied to canteens of Native regiments and if so, whether it is purchased duty paid or whether duty is paid by the military authorities on its issue from the distillery or brewery.

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.

XI

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command,
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 23rd August 1898.
No.—A./N.T. 13656.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum No. 164 of 22nd July 1898.]

Herewith a schedule of replies from the Officers Commanding those Madras Regiments which maintain canteens showing how excise duty is paid on liquor (rum, beer, etc.), purchased.

2. The reply from the Officer Commanding 20th Madras Infantry, will follow when received.

Enclosure.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc.

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
"Q.O." Sappers and Miners.	Bangalore	Excise duty is paid at Ootacamund by Nilgiri Brewery Company for ale and stout purchased for which permits are obtained from the Collector of the Nilgiris prior to despatch of consignments to Bangalore.
4th Madras Pioneers ..	Ootacamund	Full duty paid for rum supplied after receipt for Commissariat Department, that is to say, the Commissariat Department include the duty in the bill. Full duty is paid for beer by private dealers and added to the cost of beer supplied to the canteen.
7th Madras Infantry ...	Kamptee	Full excise duty is paid by firms from whom liquor is purchased.
8th Madras Infantry ...	Barrackpore	Liquor purchasad duty paid.
13th Madras Infantry.	Raipur, Central Provinces.	Full excise duty paid on liquor by firms from whom purchased.
14th Madras Infantry. .	St. Thomas' Mount, Madras.	No duty paid by regiment on beer supplied—presumes distillery does.
15th Madras Infantry.	Rangoon	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
16th Madras Infantry.	Do.	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
20th Madras Infantry.	Miranshah	No report received.
21st Madras Pioneers.	Belgaum	Beer supplied is purchased from a local merchant and price paid by the regiment includes duty paid by the vendor.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc—*cont.*

Regiment.	Station.	*Reply of Officers Commanding.*
22nd Madras Infantry.	Berhampur	Reports that under sanction of the Collector of Ganjām some rum was issued to the canteen from the Aska distillery at Rs. 1-12-0 per gallon duty, afterwards this sanction was withdrawn and the duty of Rs. 6 per gallon demanded, a rate which makes it impossible for the men to buy.
26th Madras Infantry.	Belgaum	Full excise duty is paid by vendors before the beer leaves the brewery.
27th Madras Infantry.	Trichinopoly	Beer supplied to the canteen delivered free of all charges, no duty being paid by the regiment.
28th Madras Infantry.	Madras	Beer purchased from Messrs Leighton & Co , Madras, for the regimental canteen is duty paid.
29th Burma Madras Infantry.	Fort Stedman, Burma.	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	Meiktila, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
32nd Madras Infantry.	Mandalay, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
33rd Madras Infantry.	Keng-Tung	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.

Order—No. 4032, Revenue, dated 8th October 1898.

Miscellaneous.

The Board's Proceedings read above will be forwarded to the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces for the favour of remarks on the points raised in paragraphs 1 and 2.

2. With reference to the statement in paragraph 3, that the duty on liquor sold at Regimental canteens is not credited to " Excise ", the Board of Revenue is requested to address the Controller of Military Accounts on the subject through the Adjutant-General if necessary.

3. With reference to the list of canteens received from the Deputy Adjutant-General and forwarded herewith, the Board of Revenue is requested to call upon the Collectors concerned to report whether liquor is issued from the canteens to anyone except soldiers.

(True Extract.)

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, Separate Revenue, with list.
,, Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command,
with Board's Proceedings No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

When given for copying ________
When copied ________
When examined ________ 189 .
When signed ________

Read again G.O., No. dated
189 .

Current No.

Enclosures to C. No.

Order of Government ... ... A A A A A A A

Letter of Government.

Statem[illegible]th ditto.

Papers not filed up, being meant for despatch in original.

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

10·11·48

1-9-14

Government of Madras.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Recd. } 1914. *Enclosures*

Regd. } *Spare copies*

G.O. No. 4032, 8th October 1898.

Referring to the Board of Revenue and the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces certain questions connected with the issue of liquor from the canteens.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers :—

I

Official Memorandum—from the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.
To—the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue).
No.—146.
Dated—the 16th July 1897.

With reference to paragraph 7 of Board's Proceedings No. 181, dated 10th May 1897, the undersigned has the honour to request that information may be furnished on the following points :—

(i) It is observed that under articles 811 and 813 of the Army Regulations, Volume V, the issue of spirits to Native troops is sanctioned only when from climatic or other causes the supply is considered really necessary by regimental medical officers whose recommendation must receive the concurrence of Deputies Surgeon-General. The Board merely states that two native regimental canteens have been opened at St. Thomas Mount. It should now be reported whether the conditions laid down in the above quoted articles of the Army Regulations have been satisfied in these cases.

(ii) The military authorities *do* not appear to hold any licenses for the issue of liquor to troops. It should be reported why no licenses are required in their case.

(iii) In regard to regimental canteens it is understood that rum is issued in bulk on requisition at 25° under proof at Rs. 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. It is not understood why As. 9 are taken as excise duty while the proper duty is Rs. 4½, nor who gets this As. 9. Again the rum is issued to soldiers at As. 2 per dram or Rs. 6 per gallon *plus* excise duty. It should be reported as to what is done with the difference between the amount paid for by the soldiers and that paid for by the canteen and as to how As. 9 can be paid on 48 drams.

II

Copies of paragraphs 811—815, *Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat.*

811. The issue of spirits to Native troops is only authorised when from climate or other causes it is considered really necessary. The indent (Commissariat form 65) must clearly show the grounds on which the issue is recommended, and should be countersigned by the General Officer Commanding the district.

812. Even under such circumstances, rum is not claimable from the Commissariat as a right, and will not be granted for more than one month at a time, unless, at the expiration of the period, the medical authorities consider further issue absolotely necessary.

813. The quantity of rum to be thus issued is restricted to one dram per man (for the number recommended) per diem and is to be issued at 25 per cent. under proof and paid for at Rs. 2–8–0 per gallon, the amount being credited to Government in the pay list and "General State" of the regiment. This order does not affect certain regiments peculiarly situated which receive rum under special Government sanction—see paragraph 815.

S.G.O.B. 14 and 298 of 1876 A R.B. vii, 184.

814. The sanction here given must be exercised as sparingly as possible. Tea may sometimes prove an efficient substitute for spirits and in such instances the issue may be made on payment under the above medical restrictions.

815. Rum may be issued at Port Blair on the recommendation of the Medical Officer. One hogshead of rum per mensem on indent is allowed to Sikhs and Christians of the second regiment, Central India horse. Rum is also allowed on indent to the 39th (the Garhwal Rifle) regiment of Bengal Infantry and the Goorkha regiments, on the understanding that the State is put to no expense, and that it gives the men no right to claim it in the field; also on indent to the Deputy Commissioner of the Chittagong hill tracts for the use of the Police.

Government of Madras, 3182 of 1874. Government of Bombay, dated 9th April 1896. Government of India, Nos. 2046 of 1873 and 3182 and 1121 of 1874, 1085 of 1875 and 477 S.D. and 1131 S.D. of 1882, Cir. C.G. B. 67 and 90 of 1882.

III

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 10th February 1898.
No.—A/N.T. 2296.

In continuation of my Memorandum, No. A/N.T. 18654 of 24th November 1897.

A copy of this office Circular No. N.A. 942, dated 26th May 1893, which is the authority for the establishment of Regimental Canteens in this command, is herewith forwarded together with a schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments furnishing further particulars.

2. The report from the Commandant 13th Madras Infantry will follow when received.

Enclosures.

(i)

Circular Memorandum—from Brigadier-General H. W. Pearson, Adjutant-General, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.
To—the Officer Commanding Regiment, Madras Infantry (through General Officer Commanding district).
Dated—Ootacamund, the 26th May 1893.
No.—N.A.-942.

The question of the establishment within the lines of Native Regiments of some place in which, under regimental arrangements good and sound liquor can be sold to Native soldiers, having been considered by the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant-General is desired to remark as follows.

2. In view of the very deleterious liquor sold in Native bazaars and of the undesirable nature of the surroundings of the shops where such is sold, the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the establishment of a canteen where good liquor could be obtained, would be in the interests of Native soldiers, and he has no objection to such being established provided that no extra expense is hereby incurred by the state.

3. It will be necessary that these canteens which are entirely optional, should be conducted on some fixed principle and with this view Commanding Officers should draw up and submit to General Officers Commanding Districts for their approval such orders as they may deem called for, to ensure that order is maintained and that the institution is not abused.

4. Such rules will doubtless differ in minor points in different stations, according to local conditions but the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the following points call for attention in all cases in which canteens in Native Regiments are established:—

A

Arrangements must be made the Officer Commanding with the Local Civil Authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary.

B

The canteen should on no account be established in the centre of the lines where any noise or disturbance can take place without the knowledge or observation of the British officers, and where soldiers might meet for gambling.

If no existing building is available, a shed should be erected on the outskirts of the lines and not far from the Bells of arms, Barracks and Quarter guard.

C

Commanding officers must be most careful in satisfying themselves that the liquor supplied is of good quality.

D

Fixed hours of issue should be appointed and during these hours a thoroughly trustworthy and reliable Non-Commissioned officer is to be present who will be held responsible that order is maintained.

E

The orderly officer should visit the canteen daily and the British officer of the week frequently at uncertain hours.

F

Commanding officers should make it a point to exercise the strictest personal supervision over the Institution which is open to abuse if British officers be careless or apathetic.

G

General officers commanding districts should from time to time, when convenient visit these canteens to satisfy themselves that their establishment is really beneficial to the men.

5. Messrs. Leishman & Co., Nilgiri Brewery Company are prepared to supply wholesome beer of light gravity at the following rates:—To all stations in the Madras Command except Burmah, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 40 per hogshead—to Rangoon, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 42 per hogshead.

6. These prices are quoted merely for the information of Commanding officers who are, of course, at liberty to obtain the liquor they require from any firm they may choose to select.

7. In cases in which canteens are established, Commanding Officers will be good enough to submit, through District authorities, a report to this office on their working after a period of six months has elapsed, General Officers Commanding in forwarding these reports will express their opinion on the experiment.

(ii)

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens.

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
1st Madras Lancers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
3rd Do. (a)	....	Do.		..	....	....	(a) Establishment in Secunderabad against terms of agreement between British Government and His Highness the Nizam's Government.
"Queen's Own Madras Sappers and Miners.	5-30 A.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer and stout	Both Rs. 1-1-4 per quart.	No	Cannot be stated as they vary with strength at Head-quarters but very nearly every man uses the canteen.	Benefit of the men, maintenance and supply of buildings, sums given for festivals, provide free coffee and hoppers for men on Field Days, etc.	
1st Madras Pioneers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Madras Infantry	....	Do. (a)		..	....	....	
3rd Madras Light Infantry	....	Do.		..	....	....	
4th Madras Pioneers	6 P.M. to 8 P.M. (During the day if specially ordered on any feast day.)	Beer and rum (when procurable).	Beer As. 3-4 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No	Three-fourths of the Regiment or 625 men.	Benefit of the men such as free food on the march, etc.	
5th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
6th Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
7th Do.	11 A.M. to 12 Noon, 5-30 P.M. to 8 P.M.	Beer and rum	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum As. 3 per dram.	No	185	Benefit of the men, free ammunition for pool shooting, cricket, foot-ball, etc.	
8th Do.	4 P.M. to 9 P.M. (10 A.M. to 1 P.M. on Sundays and Thursdays as well as in the evening).	Do.	Beer As. 4-8 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No	75	Prizes for sports among the men.	
9th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
10th Burma Rifles	....	Do.		..	....	....	
11th Madras Infantry	....	Do. (a)		..	....	....	
12th Burma-Madras Infantry	....	Do.		..	....	....	
13th Madras Infantry	....	....	....	..	....	....	
14th Do.	10 A.M. to 12 Noon and 4 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 a quart	No	260	Benefit of the men, men's necessaries, prizes for sports, donations to men discharged without pension and prizes for shooting.	Report not yet received.

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens—*cont.*

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
15th Madras Infantry	Between 3-30 and 7-30 P.M.	Beer and porter ..	As. 4-6 a quart ..	No ..	250	Benefit of the men, regimental sports, etc.	
16th Do.	Do.	Beer and stout ..	Do.	No ..	200	Benefit of the men, purchase of barrack room, boxes, etc.	
17th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
18th Do. (a)	....	Do.		..	....	....	
20th Do.	5 to 7 P.M.	Beer and rum ..	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum 3 oz. As. 1-6.	No ..	Nearly 400	No profit at present owing to expenses paid on journey from Vizianagaram to Meerut.	
21st Madras Pioneers	....	....	....	..	....	....	On Field service depot, unable to report as no canteen exists.
22nd Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up ..	....	..	....	....	
23rd Madras Light Infantry ..	2 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer .. .. .. Whisky .. .. Brandy .. .. Arrack	As. 3 per quart .. As. 5-4 per dram .. As. 4-6 „ As. 1-8 „	No ..	170	Benefit of men, prizes at Regimental sports, paying carriage of certain Regimental necessaries, etc.	
24th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
25th Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
26th Do.	5 P.M. to 8-30 P.M. ..	Beer only	As. 4 per quart ..	No ..	150	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, advancing money to obtain practice ammunition at cheap rates.	
27th Do.	4-30 P.M. to 7-30 P.M. ..	Do.	As. 5 per quart ..	No ..	500	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, etc., replacing foot-ball and cricket gear, paying for ammunition to improve shooting.	
28th Do.	....	No canteen kept up ..	....	..	....	....	
29th Burma-Madras Infantry ..	9-30 A.M. to 12 Noon and 2 P.M. to 7 P.M.	Rum only	As. 1-4 per 4 ozs. ..	No ..	850	Benefit of the men, Regimental sports, etc.	
30th Do.	....	No canteen kept up ..	....	..	....	....	
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	10 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 6 to 8-30 P.M.	Beer and porter only.	As. 3 per quart ..	No ..	70	To the Regimental coffee shop to supply the men with sugar, tea, etc.	
32nd Burma-Madras Infantry ..	5 to 6-30 P.M.	Rum*	6 pies per dram ..	No ..	* Sikhs 426, Christians 32, Followers 24.	No profits, the sum charged being actual cost.	* No Regimental canteen establishment but rum supplied three times a week one dram per man to be drunk on the spot.
33rd Do.	5 to 6 P.M. (Twice weekly)	Beer and rum ..	As. 5 per quart. Anna 1 per dram.	No ..	450	Benefit of the men, sports, etc.	

IV

Letter—from the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.
To—the Adjutant-General in India.
Dated—the 23rd January 1897.
No.—407-D.

The question of the expediency of continuing the present practice under which rum supplied to troops on payment is issued at a price which does not include the customs or excise duty levied on rum consumed by the public, has recently been under the consideration of the Government of India, and the conclusion arrived at is that the practice is opposed to the principles which underlie the policy, long accepted and carried into effect in India as in other countries, of imposing customs and excise duties on spirits, and that it is inexpedient to allow soldiers to buy spirits at a cheaper rate than their fellow countrymen in India. The Government of India have accordingly decided that the issue of duty-free rum to soldiers, whether British or Native, shall be discontinued as soon as this can conveniently be arranged.

2. In view, however, of the length of time during which the exemption from duty of rum issued to the troops has been in force, and of the reasons which led to the grant of such exemption, it is considered desirable that the change in system should be effected gradually. The rate of duty to be ultimately imposed should in the opinion of Government of India be the rate of excise duty in force in the province in which the troops purchasing the rum are located. In Madras, Bombay and Burma, rum manufactured in India is already excised at the full rate of duty leviable on spirits imported from Europe, namely, Rs. 6 a gallon of proof strength. In Bengal the excise duty is Rs. 5 a gallon, and in the Punjab and North-Western Provinces Rs. 4; but these rates are liable to be raised so as to equal the full import duty on foreign liquor. To raise the price of the rum supplied to troops in all parts of India by an amount which shall correspond approximately to As. 12 a gallon (or 12·5 per cent. of the full duty leviable), will therefore be a moderate and tentative advance in the direction desired. This will be equivalent to an increase of As. 2 in the price of a bottle of the size of a reputed quart, which is believed to be the size of the bottles in which rum is sold; and this increase has been decided on as the first instalment of the imposition of duty.

3. I am, therefore, to request that, under the orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, instructions may be issued to enhance the price of a reputed quart bottle of rum by As. 2, with effect from the 1st April 1897, and to say that the Government of India would be glad to be favoured with a report on the effects of the measure not later than 31st December 1897, to admit of the feasibility of further raising the duty with effect from 1st April 1898, being duly considered.

V

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. L. Eliot, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 2nd July 1897.
No.—C. 2117.

This department obtains its supply of rum (country manufactured) by contract and the last supply was obtained in 1894-95 from Messrs. Morrison & Co., Arcot, at Rs. 1-1-3 per 1 gallon 50° proof or at As. 12-4 per 1 gallon 25° under proof.

2. The rum at 25° under proof is issued in bulk to regimental canteens on requisitions at Rs. 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. This rum is retailed to troops at As. 2 per dram plus excise duty. So far as is known in this office the military authorities do not hold any licenses for the issue of liquor.

3. Rum is not supplied by this department to Native troops under ordinary circumstances, but only when specially authorised—*vide* paragraph 811, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat: the issue is made as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* and paid for by the troops at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon.

No. A./B.T. 10249, *dated 2nd July* 1897.

Forwarded with reference to your telephone message of the 24th ultimo.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General, Deputy Adjutant-General.

To the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

VI

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. H. Eliot, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 9th October 1897.
No.—5217.

Rum—the only liquor obtained by this department for issue on payment to troops—is procured by contract (the last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs. Morison & Co., Arcot) and is issued in bulk at 25° under proof to British regimental canteens at Rs. 2 per gallon when requisitioned for with an additional charge of As. 9 per gallon on account of excise duty, which latter is credited to Government separately from the sale-proceeds of the rum, in accordance with the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 408-D, dated 23rd January 1897 (copy enclosed).

2. The rum is then retailed to the soldier by the regimental canteens at As. 2 per dram plus the excise duty or altogether at Rs. 5–9–0 per imperial gallon (40 drams) and the difference between this rate and the rate paid by the canteens, viz., Rs. 3 per gallon is, I understand, credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds. This is, however, a purely regimental arrangement with which this department has no concern.

3. As regards the issue of rum to Native troops, they are entitled to it from this department only when specially authorized in accordance with paragraphs * 811–815, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat, and in that case, the rum is paid for by the troops at Rs. 2–8–0 per gallon as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* plus the excise duty. This department has no concern with the further distribution of the spirit after its original issue in bulk, nor has it any connection whatever with the Native regimental canteens where such may exist.

* Copy herewith.

4. The circumstances under which As. 9 per gallon of rum at 25° under proof are charged as excise duty, are explained in the accompanying copy of the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 407-D, dated 23rd January 1897.

Equivalent of As. 12 per gallon of proof rum.

5. So far as I am aware the question of a license in this connection being considered necessary, for this department has never been raised previously, and I can only imagine that this is because issues so made are made under the orders of Government and for Government purposes.

6. The question in its relation to regimental canteens is one which I am not in a position to deal with and I can only suggest the matter being referred to the Deputy Adjutant-General of the Command.

VII

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. H. Lawson, Commandent, 13th Madras Infantry.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—the 29th January 1898.

With reference to your Memorandum No. A./N.T. 18840, dated Ootacamund, 26th November 1897, I have the honour to furnish information as follows :—

(1) (*a*) The regimental canteen is open daily.
(*b*) Between the hours 10 and 11 A.M. and 4 and 8 P.M.
(*c*) Sepoys and regimental followers only are allowed to frequent the canteen.

(2) Beer, rum, and mineral waters are sold.

(3) The beer is obtained from Messrs. Leeshman & Co., Ootacamund.

The rum from Messrs. E. Dyer & Co., Mandalay, during the stay of the regiment at Thayetangi.

(4) Beer is sold at As. 2 per pint and rum As. 2–6 pies per dram.

(5) The profits are expended for the good of the men of the regiment.

(6) The canteen was opened on the 1st October 1894, *vide* my No. 327 of 2nd July 1894 to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Southern district, in accordance with Adjutant-General's Circular No. A.A. 962, dated 25th May 1893, and my report No. 145 B submitted to you on the 10th April 1895.

(7) The average number of men frequenting the canteen is about 200 daily.

Endorsement No. 3063.

Forwarded in continuation of my Memorandum No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General.

VIII

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue), Mis. No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Read—the following papers :—

(i)

Official Memorandum No. 146, *Revenue, dated* 16*th July* 1897.

Abstract.—Requesting certain information regarding the supply of spirits to troops.

(ii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 899, *Revenue, dated* 21*st February* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 2237, dated 4th December 1897, a copy of the office circular from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, showing the authority for the establishment of regimental canteens in his command, etc.

(iii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 1105, *Revenue, dated 4th March* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 899, dated 21st February 1898, letter submitted by the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, No. A.N.T. 3063, dated 24th February 1898.

Resolution—Mis. No. 1220, *dated* 23*rd March* 1898.

The Board begs to submit the following reply to the Official Memorandum from Government No. 146, dated 16th July 1897 :—

(1) The Native regimental canteens referred to are reported to have been instituted under the authority of Circular No. NA/942, dated 26th May 1893, of the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, copy of which is enclosed. The circular would appear to overlook the provisions of the Army Regulations quoted by Government. The Board would therefore request that the Lieutenant-General Commanding may be addressed as to the authority for its issue.

(2) As will be observed the Commanding officers are directed in the circular above quoted to make arrangements with local civil authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary, but no applications have been received for any licenses nor have any been issued. According to the strict letter of the law licenses would appear to be necessary both in the case of canteens and in that of sales by the Commissariat Department.

(3) As regards the rate of duty levied upon liquor issued to soldiers it appears that up to the year 1897 such liquor was issued duty-free. In that year it was decided to impose a duty, but in order not to enhance the price of liquor too suddenly the duty is only being imposed by degrees. For the present it is being levied at the rate of As. 12 per proof gallon or As. 9 per gallon of 25° under proof. This duty has been ordered to be credited to the head of V. Excise, but the order does not appear to be enforced in this Presidency. Copies of letters Nos. 407 D, dated 23rd January 1897, and 408 D of the same date from the Secretaty to Government of India, Military Department, which contain full information on these points are enclosed. As regards the difference between the price paid by the canteens for the liquor and the price realized for the same it is stated that these sums are credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds according to the arrangements in force in the regiments in question. It may be added—as reported by the Commissary General—that rum—the only liquor obtained by his department for issue on payment to troops—is procured on contract and their last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs Morrison & Co., North Arcot.

(True Extract.)

R. M. Thurley,
Ag. Assistant Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with three enclosures.

IX

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 7th July 1898.
No.—A/B. T. 10942.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum for current No. 2874 of 2nd July 1898.]

A list of the localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both British and Native, are kept up, is enclosed.

Enclosure.

List of localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both European and Native, are kept up.

Station.	Locality.
Bangalore	British Cavalry Barracks.
	Royal Artillery do.
	British Infantry do.
	"Q.O." Madras Sappers and Miners Lines.
Wellington	Depot Barracks.
	British Infantry Barracks.
Ootacamund	Fourth Madras Pioneers Lines.
Fort St. George	Royal Artillery Barracks.
	British Infantry do.
St. Thomas' Mount	Royal Artillery do.
	Fourteenth Madras Infantry Lines.
Pallavaram	E A.V. Company Barracks.
Poonamallee	Depôt Barracks.
Trichinopoly	27th Madras Infantry Lines.
Bellary	Royal Artillery Barracks.
	British Infantry do.
Cannanore	Do. do.
Calicut	Do. do.
Malappuram	Do. do.

X

Official Memorandum No. 164, Revenue, dated 22nd July 1898.

With reference to his letter No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898, the Deputy Adjutant-General is requested to be good enough to state whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.), supplied to canteens of Native regiments and if so, whether it is purchased duty paid or whether duty is paid by the military authorities on its issue from the distillery or brewery.

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.

XI

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 23rd August 1898.
No.—A./N.T. 13656.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum No. 164 of 22nd July 1898.]

Herewith a schedule of replies from the Officers Commanding those Madras Regiments which maintain canteens showing how excise duty is paid on liquor (rum, beer, etc.), purchased.

2. The reply from the Officer Commanding 20th Madras Infantry, will follow when received.

Enclosure.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc.

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
"Q.O." Sappers and Miners.	Bangalore	Excise duty is paid at Ootacamund by Nilgiri Brewery Company for ale and stout purchased for which permits are obtained from the Collector of the Nilgiris prior to despatch of consignments to Bangalore.
4th Madras Pioneers	Ootacamund	Full duty paid for rum supplied after receipt for Commissariat Department, that is to say, the Commissariat Department include the duty in the bill. Full duty is paid for beer by private dealers and added to the cost of beer supplied to the canteen.
7th Madras Infantry	Kamptee	Full excise duty is paid by firms from whom liquor is purchased.
8th Madras Infantry	Barrackpore	Liquor purchasad duty paid.
13th Madras Infantry.	Raipur, Central Provinces.	Full excise duty paid on liquor by firms from whom purchased.
14th Madras Infantry.	St. Thomas' Mount, Madras.	No duty paid by regiment on beer supplied—presumes distillery does.
15th Madras Infantry.	Rangoon	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
16th Madras Infantry.	Do.	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
20th Madras Infantry.	Miranshah	No report received.
21st Madras Pioneers.	Belgaum	Beer supplied is purchased from a local merchant and price paid by the regiment includes duty paid by the vendor.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc—*cont.*

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
22nd Madras Infantry.	Berhampur	Reports that under sanction of the Collector of Ganjām *some rum* was issued to the canteen from the Aska distillery at Rs. 1-12-0 per gallon duty, afterwards this sanction was withdrawn and the duty of Rs. 6 per gallon demanded, a rate which makes it impossible for the men to buy.
26th Madras Infantry.	Belgaum	Full excise duty is paid by vendors before the beer leaves the brewery.
27th Madras Infantry.	Trichinopoly	Beer supplied to the canteen delivered free of all charges, no duty being paid by the regiment.
28th Madras Infantry.	Madras	Beer purchased from Messrs Leighton & Co, Madras, for the regimental canteen is duty paid.
29th Burma Madras Infantry.	Fort Stedman, Burma.	*Liquor* is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	Meiktila, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
32nd Madras Infantry.	Mandalay, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
33rd Madras Infantry.	Keng-Tung	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.

Order—No. 4032, Revenue, dated 8th October 1898.

Miscellaneous.

The Board's Proceedings read above will be forwarded to the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces for the favour of remarks on the points raised in paragraphs 1 and 2.

2. With reference to the statement in paragraph 3, that the duty on liquor sold at Regimental canteens is not credited to "Excise", the Board of Revenue is requested to address the Controller of Military Accounts on the subject through the Adjutant-General if necessary.

3. With reference to the list of *canteens received* from the Deputy Adjutant-General and forwarded herewith, the Board of Revenue is requested to call upon the Collectors concerned to report whether liquor is issued from the canteens to anyone except soldiers.

(True Extract.)

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, Separate Revenue, with list.
,, Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command,
with Board's Proceedings No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Government of Madras.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Recd. } 1914. *Enclosures*
Regd. *Spare copies*

G.O. No. 4032, 8th October 1898.

Referring to the Board of Revenue and the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces certain questions connected with the issue of liquor from the canteens.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers:—

I

Official Memorandum—from the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.
To—the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue).
No.—146.
Dated—the 16th July 1897.

With reference to paragraph 7 of Board's Proceedings No. 181, dated 10th May 1897, the undersigned has the honour to request that information may be furnished on the following points:—

(i) It is observed that under articles 811 and 813 of the Army Regulations, Volume V, the issue of spirits to Native troops is sanctioned only when from climatic or other causes the supply is considered really necessary by regimental medical officers whose recommendation must receive the concurrence of Deputies Surgeon-General. The Board merely states that two native regimental canteens have been opened at St. Thomas Mount. It should now be reported whether the conditions laid down in the above quoted articles of the Army Regulations have been satisfied in these cases.

(ii) The military authorities do not appear to hold any licenses for the issue of liquor to troops. It should be reported why no licenses are required in their case.

(iii) In regard to regimental canteens it is understood that rum is issued in bulk on requisition at 25° under proof at Rs. 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. It is not understood why As. 9 are taken as excise duty while the proper duty is Rs. 4½, nor who gets this As. 9. Again the rum is issued to soldiers at As. 2 per dram or Rs. 6 per gallon *plus* excise duty. It should be reported as to what is done with the difference between the amount paid for by the soldiers and that paid for by the canteen and as to how As. 9 can be paid on 48 drams.

II

Copies of paragraphs 811--815, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat.

811. The issue of spirits to Native troops is only authorised when from climate or other causes it is considered really necessary. The indent (Commissariat form 65) must clearly show the grounds on which the issue is recommended, and should be countersigned by the General Officer Commanding the district.

812. Even under such circumstances, rum is not claimable from the Commissariat as a right, and will not be granted for more than one month at a time, unless, at the expiration of the period, the medical authorities consider further issue absolotely necessary.

813. The quantity of rum to be thus issued is restricted to one dram per man (for the number recommended) per diem and is to be issued at 25 per cent. under proof and paid for at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon, the amount being credited to Government in the pay list and "General State" of the regiment. This order does not affect certain regiments peculiarly situated which receive rum under special Government sanction--see paragraph 815.

S.G.O.B. 14 and 298 of 1876 A R.B. vii, 184.

814. The sanction here given must be exercised as sparingly as possible. Tea may sometimes prove an efficient substitute for spirits and in such instances the issue may be made on payment under the above medical restrictions.

815. Rum may be issued at Port Blair on the recommendation of the Medical Officer. One hogshead of rum per mensem on indent is allowed to Sikhs and Christians of the second regiment, Central India horse. Rum is also allowed on indent to the 39th (the Garhwal Rifle) regiment of Bengal Infantry and the Goorkha regiments, on the understanding that the State is put to no expense, and that it gives the men no right to claim it in the field; also on indent to the Deputy Commissioner of the Chittagong hill tracts for the use of the Police.

Government of Madras, 3182 of 1874. Government of Bombay, dated 9th April 1896 Government of India, Nos. 2046 of 1873 and 3182 and 1121 of 1874, 1085 of 1875 and 477 S.D. and 1131 S.D. of 1882, Cir. C.G. B. 67 and 90 of 1882.

III

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 10th February 1898.
No.—A/N.T. 2296.

In continuation of my Memorandum, No. A/N.T. 18654 of 24th November 1897.

A copy of this office Circular No. N.A. 942, dated 26th May 1893, which is the authority for the establishment of Regimental Canteens in this command, is herewith forwarded together with a schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments furnishing further particulars.

2. The report from the Commandant 13th Madras Infantry will follow when received.

ENCLOSURES.

(i)

Circular Memorandum—from Brigadier-General H. W. PEARSON, Adjutant-General, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.
To—the Officer Commanding Regiment, Madras Infantry (through General Officer Commanding district).
Dated—Ootacamund, the 26th May 1893.
No.—N.A.-942.

The question of the establishment within the lines of Native Regiments of some place in which, under regimental arrangements good and sound liquor can be sold to Native soldiers, having been considered by the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant-General is desired to remark as follows.

2. In view of the very deleterious liquor sold in Native bazaars and of the undesirable nature of the surroundings of the shops where such is sold, the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the establishment of a canteen where good liquor could be obtained, would be in the interests of Native soldiers, and he has no objection to such being established provided that no extra expense is hereby incurred by the state.

3. It will be necessary that these canteens which are entirely optional, should be conducted on some fixed principle and with this view Commanding Officers should draw up and submit to General Officers Commanding Districts for their approval such orders as they may deem called for, to ensure that order is maintained and that the institution is not abused.

4. Such rules will doubtless differ in minor points in different stations, according to local conditions but the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the following points call for attention in all cases in which canteens in Native Regiments are established :—

A

Arrangements must be made [illegible] the Officer Commanding with the Local Civil Authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary.

B

The canteen should on no account be established in the centre of the lines where any noise or disturbance can take place without the knowledge or observation of the British officers, and where soldiers might meet for gambling.

If no existing building is available, a shed should be erected on the outskirts of the lines and not far from the Bells of arms, Barracks and Quarter guard.

C

Commanding officers must be most careful in satisfying themselves that the liquor supplied is of good quality.

D

Fixed hours of issue should be appointed and during these hours a thoroughly trustworthy and reliable Non-Commissioned officer is to be present who will be held responsible that order is maintained.

E

The orderly officer should visit the canteen daily and the British officer of the week frequently at uncertain hours.

F

Commanding officers should make it a point to exercise the strictest personal supervision over the Institution which is open to abuse if British officers be careless or apathetic.

G

General officers commanding districts should from time to time, when convenient visit these canteens to satisfy themselves that their establishment is really beneficial to the men.

5. Messrs. Leishman & Co., Nilgiri Brewery Company are prepared to supply wholesome beer of light gravity at the following rates :—To all stations in the Madras Command except Burmah, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 40 per hogshead—to Rangoon, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 42 per hogshead.

6. These prices are quoted merely for the information of Commanding officers who are, of course, at liberty to obtain the liquor they require from any firm they may choose to select.

7. In cases in which canteens are established, Commanding Officers will be good enough to submit, through District authorities, a report to this office on their working after a period of six months has elapsed, General Officers Commanding in forwarding these reports will express their opinion on the experiment.

(ii)

SCHEDULE of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens.

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
1st Madras Lancers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
3rd Do. (a)	....	Do.		..	....	....	(a) Establishment in Secunderabad against terms of agreement between British Government and His Highness the Nizam's Government.
" Queen's Own Madras Sappers and Miners.	5-30 A.M. to 9 P.M. ..	Beer and stout ..	Both Rs. 1-1-4 per quart.	No ..	Cannot be stated as they vary with strength at Head-quarters but very nearly every man uses the canteen.	Benefit of the men, maintenance and supply of buildings, sums given for festivals, provide free coffee and hoppers for men on Field Days, etc.	
1st Madras Pioneers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Madras Infantry	....	Do. (a)		..	....	....	
3rd Madras Light Infantry ..	....	Do.		..	....	....	
4th Madras Pioneers	6 P.M. to 8 P.M. (During the day if specially ordered on any feast day.)	Beer and rum (when procurable).	Beer As. 3-4 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No ..	Three-fourths of the Regiment or 625 men.	Benefit of the men such as free food on the march, etc.	
5th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
6th Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
7th Do.	11 A.M. to 12 Noon, 5-30 P.M. to 8 P.M.	Beer and rum.. ..	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum As. 3 per dram.	No .	183	Benefit of the men, free ammunition for pool shooting, cricket, foot-ball, etc.	
8th Do.	4. P.M. to 9 P.M. (10 A.M. to 1 P.M. on Sundays and Thursdays as well as in the evening).	Do.	Beer As. 4-8 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No ..	75	Prizes for sports among the men.	
9th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
10th Burma Rifles	....	Do.		..	....	....	
11th Madras Infantry	....	Do. (a)		..	....	....	
12th Burma-Madras Infantry ..	....	Do.		..	....	....	
13th Madras Infantry	....	....	....	..	....	....	Report not yet received.
14th Do.	10 A.M. to 12 Noon and 4 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 a quart	No .	260	Benefit of the men, men's necessaries, prizes for sports, donations to men discharged without pension and prizes for shooting.	

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding *Canteens—cont.*

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
16th Madras Infantry	Between 3-30 and 7-30 P.M.	Beer and porter	As. 4-6 a quart	No	250	Benefit of the men, regimental sports, etc.	
18th Do.	Do.	Beer and stout	Do.	No	200	Benefit of the men, purchase of barrack room, boxes, etc.	
17th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
19th Do. (a)	....	Do.		..	....	....	
20th Do.	5 to 7 P.M.	Beer and rum	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum 3 oz. As. 1-6.	No	Nearly 400	No profit at present owing to expenses paid on journey from Vizianagaram to Meerut.	
21st Madras Pioneers	....	....	....	..	....	....	On Field service depot, unable to report as no canteen exists.
22nd Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up	....	..	....	....	
23rd Madras Light Infantry	2 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer Whisky Brandy Arrack	As. 3 per quart As. 5-4 per dram As. 4-6 " As. 1-8 "	No	170	Benefit of men, prizes at Regimental sports, paying carriage of certain Regimental necessaries, etc.	
24th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
25th Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
26th Do.	5 P.M. to 8-30 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 per quart	No	150	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, advancing money to obtain practice ammunition at cheap rates.	
27th Do.	4-30 P.M. to 7-30 P.M.	Do.	As. 5 per quart	No	500	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, etc., replacing foot-ball and cricket gear, paying for ammunition to improve shooting.	
28th Do.	....	No canteen kept up	....	..	....	....	
29th Burma-Madras Infantry	9-30 A.M. to 12 Noon and 2 P.M. to 7 P.M.	Rum only	As. 1-4 per 4 ozs.	No	850	Benefit of the men, Regimental sports, etc.	
30th Do.	....	No canteen kept up	....	..	....	....	
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	10 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 6 to 8-30 P.M.	Beer and porter only.	As. 3 per quart	No	70	To the Regimental coffee shop to supply the men with sugar, tea, etc.	
32nd Burma-Madras Infantry	5 to 6-30 P.M.	Rum*	6 pies per dram	No	Sikhs 426, Christians 32, Followers 24.	No profits, the sum charged being actual cost.	* No Regimental canteen establishment but rum supplied three times a week one dram per man to be drank on the spot.
33rd Do.	5 to 6 P.M. (Twice weekly)	Beer and rum	As. 5 per quart. Anna 1 per dram.	No	450	Benefit of the men, sports, etc.	

IV

Letter—from the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.
To—the Adjutant-General in India.
Dated—the 23rd January 1897.
No.—407-D.

The question of the expediency of continuing the present practice under which rum supplied to troops on payment is issued at a price which does not include the customs or excise duty levied on rum consumed by the public, has recently been under the consideration of the Government of India, and the conclusion arrived at is that the practice is opposed to the principles which underlie the policy, long accepted and carried into effect in India as in other countries, of imposing customs and excise duties on spirits, and that it is inexpedient to allow soldiers to buy spirits at a cheaper rate than their fellow countrymen in India. The Government of India have accordingly decided that the issue of duty-free rum to soldiers, whether British or Native, shall be discontinued as soon as this can conveniently be arranged.

2. In view, however, of the length of time during which the exemption from duty of rum issued to the troops has been in force, and of the reasons which led to the grant of such exemption, it is considered desirable that the change in system should be effected gradually. The rate of duty to be ultimately imposed should in the opinion of Government of India be the rate of excise duty in force in the province in which the troops purchasing the rum are located. In Madras, Bombay and Burma, rum manufactured in India is already excised at the full rate of duty leviable on spirits imported from Europe, namely, Rs. 6 a gallon of proof strength. In Bengal the excise duty is Rs. 5 a gallon, and in the Punjab and North-Western Provinces Rs. 4; but these rates are liable to be raised so as to equal the full import duty on foreign liquor. To raise the price of the rum supplied to troops in all parts of India by an amount which shall correspond approximately to As. 12 a gallon (or 12·5 per cent. of the full duty leviable), will therefore be a moderate and tentative advance in the direction desired. This will be equivalent to an increase of As. 2 in the price of a bottle of the size of a reputed quart, which is believed to be the size of the bottles in which rum is sold; and this increase has been decided on as the first instalment of the imposition of duty.

3. I am, therefore, to request that, under the orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, instructions may be issued to enhance the price of a reputed quart bottle of rum by As. 2, with effect from the 1st April 1897, and to say that the Government of India would be glad to be favoured with a report on the effects of the measure not later than 31st December 1897, to admit of the feasibility of further raising the duty with effect from 1st April 1898, being duly considered.

V

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. L. **Eliot**, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 2nd July 1897.
No.—C. 2117.

This department obtains its supply of rum (country manufactured) by contract and the last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs. Morrison & Co., Arcot, at Rs. 1-1-3 per 1 gallon 50° proof or at As. 12-4 per 1 gallon 25° under proof.

2. The rum at 25° under proof is issued in bulk to regimental canteens on requisitions at Rs. 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. This rum is retailed to troops at As. 2 per dram plus excise duty. So far as is known in this office the military authorities do not hold any licenses for the issue of liquor.

3. Rum is not supplied by this department to Native troops under ordinary circumstances, but only when specially authorised—*vide* paragraph 811, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat: the issue is made as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* and paid for by the troops at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon.

No. A./B.T. 10249, *dated 2nd July* 1897.

Forwarded with reference to your telephone message of the 24th ultimo.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General, Deputy Adjutant-General.

To the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

VI

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. H. Eliot, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 9th October 1897.
No.—5217.

Rum—the only liquor obtained by this department for issue on payment to troops—is procured by contract (the last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs. Morison & Co., Arcot) and is issued in bulk at 25° under proof to British regimental canteens at Rs. 2 per gallon when requisitioned for with an additional charge of As. 9 per gallon on account of excise duty; which latter is credited to Government separately from the sale-proceeds of the rum, in accordance with the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 408-D, dated 23rd January 1897 (copy enclosed).

2. The rum is then retailed to the soldier by the regimental canteens at As. 2 per dram plus the excise duty or altogether at Rs. 5–9–0 per imperial gallon (40 drams) and the difference between this rate and the rate paid by the canteens, viz., Rs. 3 per gallon is, I understand, credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds. This is, however, a purely regimental arrangement with which this department has no concern.

3. As regards the issue of rum to Native troops, they are entitled to it from this department only when specially authorized in accordance with paragraphs * 811–815, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat, and in that case, the rum is paid for by the troops at Rs. 2–8–0 per gallon as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* plus the excise duty. This department has no concern with the further distribution of the spirit after its original issue in bulk, nor has it any connection whatever with the Native regimental canteens where such may exist.

* Copy herewith.

4. The circumstances under which As. 9 per gallon of rum at 25° under proof are charged as excise duty, are explained in the accompanying copy of the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 407-D, dated 23rd January 1897.

Equivalent of As. 12 per gallon of proof rum.

5. So far as I am aware the question of a license in this connection being considered necessary, for this department has never been raised previously, and I can only imagine that this is because issues so made are made under the orders of Government and for Government purposes.

6. The question in its relation to regimental canteens is one which I am not in a position to deal with and I can only suggest the matter being referred to the Deputy Adjutant-General of the Command.

VII

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. H. Lawson, Commandent, 13th Madras Infantry.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—the 29th January 1898.

With reference to your Memorandum No. A./N.T. 18840, dated Ootacamund, 26th November 1897, I have the honour to furnish information as follows :—

(1) (*a*) The regimental canteen is open daily.
    (*b*) Between the hours 10 and 11 a.m. and 4 and 8 p.m.
    (*c*) Sepoys and regimental followers only are allowed to frequent the canteen.

(2) Beer, rum, and mineral waters are sold.

(3) The beer is obtained from Messrs. Leeshman & Co., Ootacamund.

The rum from Messrs. E. Dyer & Co., Mandalay, during the stay of the regiment at Thayetangi.

(4) Beer is sold at As. 2 per pint and rum As. 2–6 pies per dram.

(5) The profits are expended for the good of the men of the regiment.

(6) The canteen was opened on the 1st October 1894, *vide* my No. 327 of 2nd July 1894 to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Southern district, in accordance with Adjutant-General's Circular No. A.A. 962, dated 25th May 1893, and my report No. 145 B submitted to you on the 10th April 1895.

(7) The average number of men frequenting the canteen is about 200 daily.

Endorsement No. 3063.

Forwarded in continuation of my Memorandum No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General.

VIII

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue), Mis. No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Read—the following papers :—

(i)

Official Memorandum No. 146, *Revenue, dated* 16*th July* 1897.

Abstract.—Requesting certain information regarding the supply of spirits to troops.

(ii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 899, *Revenue, dated* 21*st February* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 2237, dated 4th December 1897, a copy of the office circular from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, showing the authority for the establishment of regimental canteens in his command, etc.

(iii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 1105, *Revenue, dated* 4*th March* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 899, dated 21st February 1898, letter submitted by the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, No. A.N.T. 3063, dated 24th February 1898.

Resolution—Mis. No. 1220, *dated* 23*rd March* 1898.

The Board begs to submit the following reply to the Official Memorandum from Government No. 146, dated 16th July 1897 :—

(1) The Native regimental canteens referred to are reported to have been instituted under the authority of Circular No. NA/942, dated 26th May 1893, of the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, copy of which is enclosed. The circular would appear to overlook the provisions of the Army Regulations quoted by Government. The Board would therefore request that the Lieutenant-General Commanding may be addressed as to the authority for its issue.

(2) As will be observed the Commanding officers are directed in the circular above quoted to make arrangements with local civil authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary, but no applications have been received for any licenses nor have any been issued. According to the strict letter of the law licenses would appear to be necessary both in the case of canteens and in that of sales by the Commissariat Department.

(3) As regards the rate of duty levied upon liquor issued to soldiers it appears that up to the year 1897 such liquor was issued duty-free. In that year it was decided to impose a duty, but in order not to enhance the price of liquor too suddenly the duty is only being imposed by degrees. For the present it is being levied at the rate of As. 12 per proof gallon or As. 9 per gallon of 25° under proof. This duty has been ordered to be credited to the head of V. Excise, but the order does not appear to be enforced in this Presidency. Copies of letters Nos. 407 D, dated 23rd January 1897, and 408 D of the same date from the Secretaty to Government of India, Military Department, which contain full information on these points are enclosed. As regards the difference between the price paid by the canteens for the liquor and the price realized for the same it is stated that these sums are credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds according to the arrangements in force in the regiments in question. It may be added—as reported by the Commissary General—that rum—the only liquor obtained by his department for issue on payment to troops—is procured on contract and their last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs Morrison & Co., North Arcot.

(True Extract.)

R. M. Thurley,
Ag. Assistant Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with three enclosures.

IX

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 7th July 1898.
No.—A/B. T. 10942.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum for currunt No. 2874 of 2nd July 1898.]

A list of the localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both British and Native, are kept up, is enclosed.

Enclosure.

List of localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both European and Native, are kept up.

Station.	Locality.
Bangalore	British Cavalry Barracks. Royal Artillery do. British Infantry do. " Q.O " Madras Sappers and Miners Lines.
Wellington	Depot Barracks. British Infantry Barracks.
Ootacamund	Fourth Madras Pioneers Lines.
Fort St. George	Royal Artillery Barracks. British Infantry do.
St. Thomas' Mount	Royal Artillery do. Fourteenth Madras Infantry Lines.
Pallavaram	E.A.V. Company Barracks.
Poonamallee	Depôt Barracks.
Trichinopoly	27th Madras Infantry Lines.
Bellary	Royal Artillery Barracks. British Infantry do.
Cannanore	Do. do.
Calicut	Do. do.
Malappuram	Do. do.

X

Official Memorandum No. 164, Revenue, dated 22nd July 1898.

With reference to his letter No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898, the Deputy Adjutant-General is requested to be good enough to state whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.), supplied to canteens of Native regiments and if so, whether it is purchased duty paid or whether duty is paid by the military authorities on its issue from the distillery or brewery.

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.

XI

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 23rd August 1898.
No.—A./N.T. 13656.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum No. 164 of 22nd July 1898.]

Herewith a schedule of replies from the Officers Commanding those Madras Regiments which maintain canteens showing how excise duty is paid on liquor (rum, beer, etc.), purchased.

2. The reply from the Officer Commanding 20th Madras Infantry, will follow when received.

Enclosure.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc.

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
" Q.O. " Sappers and Miners.	Bangalore	Excise duty is paid at Ootacamund by Nilgiri Brewery Company for ale and stout purchased for which permits are obtained from the Collector of the Nilgiris prior to despatch of consignments to Bangalore.
4th Madras Pioneers ...	Ootacamund	Full duty paid for rum supplied after receipt for Commissariat Department, that is to say, the Commissariat Department include the duty in the bill. Full duty is paid for beer by private dealers and added to the cost of beer supplied to the canteen.
7th Madras Infantry ...	Kamptee	Full excise duty is paid by firms from whom liquor is purchased.
8th Madras Infantry ...	Barrackpore	Liquor purchasad duty paid.
13th Madras Infantry.	Raipur, Central Provinces.	Full excise duty paid on liquor by firms from whom purchased.
14th Madras Infantry.	St. Thomas' Mount, Madras.	No duty paid by regiment on beer supplied—presumes distillery does.
15th Madras Infantry.	Rangoon	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
16th Madras Infantry.	Do.	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
20th Madras Infantry.	Miranshah	No report received.
21st Madras Pioneers.	Belgaum	Beer supplied is purchased from a local merchant and price paid by the regiment includes duty paid by the vendor.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc—*cont.*

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
22nd Madras Infantry.	Berhampur	Reports that under sanction of the Collector of Ganjām some rum was issued to the canteen from the Aska distillery at Rs. 1-12-0 per gallon duty, afterwards this sanction was withdrawn and the duty of Rs. 6 per gallon demanded, a rate which makes it impossible for the men to buy.
26th Madras Infantry.	Belgaum	Full excise duty is paid by vendors before the beer leaves the brewery.
27th Madras Infantry.	Trichinopoly	Beer supplied to the canteen delivered free of all charges, no duty being paid by the regiment.
28th Madras Infantry.	Madras	Beer purchased from Messrs Leighton & Co , Madras, for the regimental canteen is duty paid.
29th Burma Madras Infantry.	Fort Stedman, Burma.	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	Meiktila, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
32nd Madras Infantry.	Mandalay, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
33rd Madras Infantry.	Keng-Tung	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.

Order—No. 4032, Revenue, dated 8th October 1898.

Miscellaneous.

The Board's Proceedings read above will be forwarded to the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces for the favour of remarks on the points raised in paragraphs 1 and 2.

2. With reference to the statement in paragraph 3, that the duty on liquor sold at Regimental canteens is not credited to " Excise ", the Board of Revenue is requested to address the Controller of Military Accounts on the subject through the Adjutant-General if necessary.

3. With reference to the list of canteens received from the Deputy Adjutant-General and forwarded herewith, the Board of Revenue is requested to call upon the Collectors concerned to report whether liquor is issued from the canteens to anyone except soldiers.

(True Extract.)

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, Separate Revenue, with list.
,, Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command,
with Board's Proceedings No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Government of Madras.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Recd. } 1914. *Enclosures*
Regd. } *Spare copies*

G.O. No. 4032, 8th October 1898.

Referring to the Board of Revenue and the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces certain questions connected with the issue of liquor from the canteens.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers :—

I

Official Memorandum—from the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.
To—the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue).
No.—146.
Dated—the 16th July 1897.

With reference to paragraph 7 of Board's Proceedings No. 181, dated 10th May 1897, the undersigned has the honour to request that information may be furnished on the following points :—

(i) It is observed that under articles 811 and 813 of the Army Regulations, Volume V, the issue of spirits to Native troops is sanctioned only when from climatic or other causes the supply is considered really necessary by regimental medical officers whose recommendation must receive the concurrence of Deputies Surgeon-General. The Board merely states that two native regimental canteens have been opened at St. Thomas Mount. It should now be reported whether the conditions laid down in the above quoted articles of the Army Regulations have been satisfied in these cases.

(ii) The military authorities do not appear to hold any licenses for the issue of liquor to troops. It should be reported why no licenses are required in their case.

(iii) In regard to regimental canteens it is understood that rum is issued in bulk on requisition at 25° under proof at Rs. 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. It is not understood why As. 9 are taken as excise duty while the proper duty is Rs. 4½, nor who gets this As. 9. Again the rum is issued to soldiers at As. 2 per dram or Rs. 6 per gallon *plus* excise duty. It should be reported as to what is done with the difference between the amount paid for by the soldiers and that paid for by the canteen and as to how As. 9 can be paid on 48 drams.

II

Copies of paragraphs 811—815, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat.

811. The issue of spirits to Native troops is only authorised when from climate or other causes it is considered really necessary. The indent (Commissariat form 65) must clearly show the grounds on which the issue is recommended, and should be countersigned by the General Officer Commanding the district.

812. Even under such circumstances, rum is not claimable from the Commissariat as a right, and will not be granted for more than one month at a time, unless, at the expiration of the period, the medical authorities consider further issue absolotely necessary.

813. The quantity of rum to be thus issued is restricted to one dram per man (for the number recommended) per diem and is to be issued at 25 per cent. under proof and paid for at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon, the amount being credited to Government in the pay list and "General State" of the regiment. This order does not affect certain regiments peculiarly situated which receive rum under special Government sanction—see paragraph 815.

S.G.O.B. 14 and 298 of 1876 A.R.B. vii, 184.

814. The sanction here given must be exercised as sparingly as possible. Tea may sometimes prove an efficient substitute for spirits and in such instances the issue may be made on payment under the above medical restrictions.

815. Rum may be issued at Port Blair on the recommendation of the Medical Officer. One hogshead of rum per mensem on indent is allowed to Sikhs and Christians of the second regiment, Central India horse. Rum is also allowed on indent to the 39th (the Garhwal Rifle) regiment of Bengal Infantry and the Goorkha regiments, on the understanding that the State is put to no expense, and that it gives the men no right to claim it in the field; also on indent to the Deputy Commissioner of the Chittagong hill tracts for the use of the Police.

Government of Madras, 3182 of 1874. Government of Bombay, dated 9th April 1896 Government of India, Nos. 2046 of 1873 and 3182 and 1121 of 1874, 1085 of 1875 and 477 S.D. and 1131 S.D. of 1882, Cir. C.G. B. 67 and 90 of 1882.

III

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 10th February 1898.
No.—A/N.T. 2296.

In continuation of my Memorandum, No. A/N.T. 18654 of 24th November 1897.

A copy of this office Circular No. N.A. 942, dated 26th May 1893, which is the authority for the establishment of Regimental Canteens in this command, is herewith forwarded together with a schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments furnishing further particulars.

2. The report from the Commandant 13th Madras Infantry will follow when received.

Enclosures.

(i)

Circular Memorandum—from Brigadier-General H. W. Pearson, Adjutant-General, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.
To—the Officer Commanding Regiment, Madras Infantry (through General Officer Commanding district).
Dated—Ootacamund, the 26th May 1893.
No.—N.A.-942.

The question of the establishment within the lines of Native Regiments of some place in which, under regimental arrangements good and sound liquor can be sold to Native soldiers, having been considered by the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant-General is desired to remark as follows.

2. In view of the very deleterious liquor sold in Native bazaars and of the undesirable nature of the surroundings of the shops where such is sold, the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the establishment of a canteen where good liquor could be obtained, would be in the interests of Native soldiers, and he has no objection to such being established provided that no extra expense is hereby incurred by the state.

3. It will be necessary that these canteens which are entirely optional, should be conducted on some fixed principle and with this view Commanding Officers should draw up and submit to General Officers Commanding Districts for their approval such orders as they may deem called for, to ensure that order is maintained and that the institution is not abused.

4. Such rules will doubtless differ in minor points in different stations, according to local conditions but the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the following points call for attention in all cases in which canteens in Native Regiments are established:—

A

Arrangements must be made the Officer Commanding with the Local Civil Authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary.

B

The canteen should on no account be established in the centre of the lines where any noise or disturbance can take place without the knowledge or observation of the British officers, and where soldiers might meet for gambling.

If no existing building is available, a shed should be erected on the outskirts of the lines and not far from the Bells of arms, Barracks and Quarter guard.

C

Commanding officers must be most careful in satisfying themselves that the liquor supplied is of good quality.

D

Fixed hours of issue should be appointed and during these hours a thoroughly trustworthy and reliable Non-Commissioned officer is to be present who will be held responsible that order is maintained.

E

The orderly officer should visit the canteen daily and the British officer of the week frequently at uncertain hours.

F

Commanding officers should make it a point to exercise the strictest personal supervision over the Institution which is open to abuse if British officers be careless or apathetic.

G

General officers commanding districts should from time to time, when convenient visit these canteens to satisfy themselves that their establishment is really beneficial to the men.

5. Messrs. Leishman & Co., Nilgiri Brewery Company are prepared to supply wholesome beer of light gravity at the following rates:—To all stations in the Madras Command except Burmah, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 40 per hogshead—to Rangoon, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 42 per hogshead.

6. These prices are quoted merely for the information of Commanding officers who are, of course, at liberty to obtain the liquor they require from any firm they may choose to select.

7. In cases in which canteens are established, Commanding Officers will be good enough to submit, through District authorities, a report to this office on their working after a period of six months has elapsed, General Officers Commanding in forwarding these reports will express their opinion on the experiment.

(ii)

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens.

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
1st Madras Lancers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
3rd Do. (a)	....	Do.		..	....	....	(a) Establishment in Secunderabad against terms of agreement between British Government and His Highness the Nizam's Government.
"Queen's Own Madras Sappers and Miners.	5-30 A.M. to 9 P.M. ..	Beer and stout ..	Both Rs. 1-1-4 per quart.	No .	Cannot be stated as they vary with strength at Head-quarters but very nearly every man uses the canteen.	Benefit of the men, maintenance and supply of buildings, sums given for festivals, provide free coffee and hoppers for men on Field Days, etc.	
1st Madras Pioneers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Madras Infantry	....	Do. (a)		..	....	....	
3rd Madras Light Infantry ..	....	Do.		..	....	....	
4th Madras Pioneers	6 P.M. to 8 P.M. (During the day if specially ordered on any feast day.)	Beer and rum (when procurable).	Beer As. 3-4 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No .	Three-fourths of the Regiment or 625 men.	Benefit of the men such as free food on the march, etc.	
5th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
6th Do.	..	Do.		..	....	....	
7th Do.	11 A.M. to 12 Noon, 5-30 P.M. to 8 P.M.	Beer and rum.. ..	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum As. 3 per dram.	No .	183	Benefit of the men, free ammunition for pool shooting, cricket, foot-ball, etc.	
8th Do.	4. P.M. to 9 P.M. (10 A.M. to 1 P.M. on Sundays and Thursdays as well as in the evening).	Do.	Beer As. 4-8 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No ..	75	Prizes for sports among the men.	
9th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
10th Burma Rifles	....	Do.		.	....	....	
11th Madras Infantry	....	Do. (a)		..	....	....	
12th Burma-Madras Infantry ..	....	Do.		..	....	....	
13th Madras Infantry	....	....	....	..	....	....	Report not yet received.
14th Do.	10 A.M. to 12 Noon and 4 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 a quart . ..	No .	260	Benefit of the men, men's necessaries, prizes for sports, donations to men discharged without pension and prizes for shooting.	

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens—*cont.*

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
15th Madras Infantry	Between 3-30 and 7-30 P.M.	Beer and porter	As. 4-6 a quart	No	250	Benefit of the men, regimental sports, etc.	
16th Do.	Do.	Beer and stout	Do.	No	200	Benefit of the men, purchase of barrack room, boxes, etc.	
17th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.			....	....	
19th Do. (*a*)	....	Do.			....	....	
20th Do.	5 to 7 P.M.	Beer and rum	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum 3 oz. As. 1-6.	No	Nearly 400	No profit at present owing to expenses paid on journey from Vizianagaram to Meerut.	
21st Madras Pioneers	....	....	....		....	....	On Field service depot, unable to report as no canteen exists.
22nd Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up	....		....	....	
23rd Madras Light Infantry	2 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer Whisky Brandy Arrack	As. 3 per quart As. 5-4 per dram As. 4-6 " As. 1-8 "	No	170	Benefit of men, prizes at Regimental sports, paying carriage of certain Regimental necessaries, etc.	
24th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.			....	....	
25th Do.	....	Do.			....	....	
26th Do.	5 P.M. to 8-30 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 per quart	No	150	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, advancing money to obtain practice ammunition at cheap rates.	
27th Do.	4-30 P.M. to 7-30 P.M.	Do.	As. 5 per quart	No	500	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, etc., replacing foot-ball and cricket gear, paying for ammunition to improve shooting.	
28th Do.	....	No canteen kept up	....		....	....	
29th Burma-Madras Infantry	9-30 A.M. to 12 Noon and 2 P.M. to 7 P.M.	Rum only	As. 1-4 per 4 ozs.	No	850	Benefit of the men, Regimental sports, etc.	
30th Do.	....	No canteen kept up	....		....	....	
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	10 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 6 to 8-30 P.M.	Beer and porter only.	As. 3 per quart	No	70	To the Regimental coffee shop to supply the men with sugar, tea, etc.	
32nd Burma-Madras Infantry	5 to 6-30 P.M.	Rum*	6 pies per dram	No	Sikhs 426, Christians 32, Followers 24.	No profits, the sum charged being actual cost.	* No Regimental canteen establishment but rum supplied three times a week one dram per man to be drunk on the spot.
33rd Do.	5 to 6 P.M. (Twice weekly)	Beer and rum	As. 5 per quart. Anna 1 per dram.	No	450	Benefit of the men, sports, etc.	

IV

Letter—from the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.
To—the Adjutant-General in India.
Dated—the 23rd January 1897.
No.—407-D.

The question of the expediency of continuing the present practice under which rum supplied to troops on payment is issued at a price which does not include the customs or excise duty levied on rum consumed by the public, has recently been under the consideration of the Government of India, and the conclusion arrived at is that the practice is opposed to the principles which underlie the policy, long accepted and carried into effect in India as in other countries, of imposing customs and excise duties on spirits, and that it is inexpedient to allow soldiers to buy spirits at a cheaper rate than their fellow countrymen in India. The Government of India have accordingly decided that the issue of duty-free rum to soldiers, whether British or Native, shall be discontinued as soon as this can conveniently be arranged.

2. In view, however, of the length of time during which the exemption from duty of rum issued to the troops has been in force, and of the reasons which led to the grant of such exemption, it is considered desirable that the change in system should be effected gradually. The rate of duty to be ultimately imposed should in the opinion of Government of India be the rate of excise duty in force in the province in which the troops purchasing the rum are located. In Madras, Bombay and Burma, rum manufactured in India is already excised at the full rate of duty leviable on spirits imported from Europe, namely, Rs. 6 a gallon of proof strength. In Bengal the excise duty is Rs. 5 a gallon, and in the Punjab and North-Western Provinces Rs. 4; but these rates are liable to be raised so as to equal the full import duty on foreign liquor. To raise the price of the rum supplied to troops in all parts of India by an amount which shall correspond approximately to As. 12 a gallon (or 12·5 per cent. of the full duty leviable), will therefore be a moderate and tentative advance in the direction desired. This will be equivalent to an increase of As. 2 in the price of a bottle of the size of a reputed quart, which is believed to be the size of the bottles in which rum is sold; and this increase has been decided on as the first instalment of the imposition of duty.

3. I am, therefore, to request that, under the orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, instructions may be issued to enhance the price of a reputed quart bottle of rum by As. 2, with effect from the 1st April 1897, and to say that the Government of India would be glad to be favoured with a report on the effects of the measure not later than 31st December 1897, to admit of the feasibility of further raising the duty with effect from 1st April 1898, being duly considered.

V

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. L. Eliot, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 2nd July 1897.
No.—C. 2117.

This department obtains its supply of rum (country manufactured) by contract and the last supply was obtained in 1894-95 from Messrs. Morrison & Co., Arcot, at Rs. 1-1-3 per 1 gallon 50° proof or at As. 12-4 per 1 gallon 25° under proof.

2. The rum at 25° under proof is issued in bulk to regimental canteens on requisitions at Rs 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. This rum is retailed to troops at As. 2 per dram plus excise duty. So far as is known in this office the military authorities do not hold any licenses for the issue of liquor.

3. Rum is not supplied by this department to Native troops under ordinary circumstances, but only when specially authorised—*vide* paragraph 811, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat: the issue is made as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* and paid for by the troops at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon.

No. A./B.T. 10249, *dated 2nd July* 1897.

Forwarded with reference to your telephone message of the 24th ultimo.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General, Deputy Adjutant-General.

To the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

VI

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. H. Eliot, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 9th October 1897.
No.—5217.

Rum—the only liquor obtained by this department for issue on payment to troops—is procured by contract (the last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs. Morison & Co., Arcot) and is issued in bulk at 25° under proof to British regimental canteens at Rs. 2 per gallon when requisitioned for with an additional charge of As. 9 per gallon on account of excise duty, which latter is credited to Government separately from the sale-proceeds of the rum, in accordance with the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 408-D, dated 23rd January 1897 (copy enclosed).

2. The rum is then retailed to the soldier by the regimental canteens at As. 2 per dram plus the excise duty or altogether at Rs. 5–9–0 per imperial gallon (40 drams) and the difference between this rate and the rate paid by the canteens, viz., Rs. 3 per gallon is, I understand, credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds. This is, however, a purely regimental arrangement with which this department has no concern.

3. As regards the issue of rum to Native troops, they are entitled to it from this department only when specially authorized in accordance with paragraphs * 811–815, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat, and in that case, the rum is paid for by the troops at Rs. 2–8–0 per gallon as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* plus the excise duty. This department has no concern with the further distribution of the spirit after its original issue in bulk, nor has it any connection whatever with the Native regimental canteens where such may exist.

* Copy herewith.

4. The circumstances under which As. 9 per gallon of rum at 25° under proof are charged as excise duty, are explained in the accompanying copy of the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 407-D, dated 23rd January 1897.

Equivalent of As. 12 per gallon of proof rum.

5. So far as I am aware the question of a license in this connection being considered necessary, for this department has never been raised previously, and I can only imagine that this is because issues so made are made under the orders of Government and for Government purposes.

6. The question in its relation to regimental canteens is one which I am not in a position to deal with and I can only suggest the matter being referred to the Deputy Adjutant-General of the Command.

VII

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. H. Lawson, Commandent, 13th Madras Infantry.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—the 29th January 1898.

With reference to your Memorandum No. A./N.T. 18840, dated Ootacamund, 26th November 1897, I have the honour to furnish information as follows :—

(1) (*a*) The regimental canteen is open daily.
(*b*) Between the hours 10 and 11 A.M. and 4 and 8 P.M.
(*c*) Sepoys and regimental followers only are allowed to frequent the canteen.

(2) Beer, rum, and mineral waters are sold.

(3) The beer is obtained from Messrs. Leeshman & Co., Ootacamund.

The rum from Messrs. E. Dyer & Co., Mandalay, during the stay of the regiment at Thayetangi.

(4) Beer is sold at As. 2 per pint and rum As. 2–6 pies per dram.

(5) The profits are expended for the good of the men of the regiment.

(6) The canteen was opened on the 1st October 1894, *vide* my No. 327 of 2nd July 1894 to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Southern district, in accordance with Adjutant-General's Circular No. A.A. 962, dated 25th May 1893, and my report No. 145 B submitted to you on the 10th April 1895.

(7) The average number of men frequenting the canteen is about 200 daily.

Endorsement No. 3063.

Forwarded in continuation of my Memorandum No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General.

VIII

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue), Mis. No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Read—the following papers :—

(i)

Official Memorandum No. 146, *Revenue, dated 16th July* 1897.

Abstract.—Requesting certain information regarding the supply of spirits to troops.

(ii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 899, *Revenue, dated 21st February* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 2237, dated 4th December 1897, a copy of the office circular from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, showing the authority for the establishment of regimental canteens in his command, etc.

(iii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 1105, *Revenue, dated 4th March* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 899, dated 21st February 1898, letter submitted by the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, No. A.N.T. 3063, dated 24th February 1898.

Resolution—Mis. No. 1220, *dated 23rd March* 1898.

The Board begs to submit the following reply to the Official Memorandum from Government No. 146, dated 16th July 1897 :—

(1) The Native regimental canteens referred to are reported to have been instituted under the authority of Circular No. NA/942, dated 26th May 1893, of the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, copy of which is enclosed. The circular would appear to overlook the provisions of the Army Regulations quoted by Government. The Board would therefore request that the Lieutenant-General Commanding may be addressed as to the authority for its issue.

(2) As will be observed the Commanding officers are directed in the circular above quoted to make arrangements with local civil authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary, but no applications have been received for any licenses nor have any been issued. According to the strict letter of the law licenses would appear to be necessary both in the case of canteens and in that of sales by the Commissariat Department.

(3) As regards the rate of duty levied upon liquor issued to soldiers it appears that up to the year 1897 such liquor was issued duty-free. In that year it was decided to impose a duty, but in order not to enhance the price of liquor too suddenly the duty is only being imposed by degrees. For the present it is being levied at the rate of As. 12 per proof gallon or As. 9 per gallon of 25° under proof. This duty has been ordered to be credited to the head of V. Excise, but the order does not appear to be enforced in this Presidency. Copies of letters Nos. 407 D, dated 23rd January 1897, and 408 D of the same date from the Secretaty to Government of India, Military Department, which contain full information on these points are enclosed. As regards the difference between the price paid by the canteens for the liquor and the price realized for the same it is stated that these sums are credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds according to the arrangements in force in the regiments in question. It may be added—as reported by the Commissary General—that rum—the only liquor obtained by his department for issue on payment to troops—is procured on contract and their last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs Morrison & Co., North Arcot.

(True Extract.)

R. M. Thurley,
Ag. Assistant Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with three enclosures.

IX

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 7th July 1898.
No.—A/B. T. 10942.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum for currunt No. 2874 of 2nd July 1898.]

A list of the localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both British and Native, are kept up, is enclosed.

Enclosure.

List of localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both European and Native, are kept up.

Station.	Locality.
Bangalore	British Cavalry Barracks. Royal Artillery do. British Infantry do. "Q.O" Madras Sappers and Miners Lines.
Wellington	Depot Barracks. British Infantry Barracks.
Ootacamund	Fourth Madras Pioneers Lines.
Fort St. George	Royal Artillery Barracks. British Infantry do.
St. Thomas' Mount	Royal Artillery do. Fourteenth Madras Infantry Lines.
Pallavaram	E.A.V. Company Barracks.
Poonamallee	Depôt Barracks.
Trichinopoly	27th Madras Infantry Lines.
Bellary	Royal Artillery Barracks. British Infantry do.
Cannanore	Do. do.
Calicut	Do. do.
Malappuram	Do. do.

X

Official Memorandum No. 164, Revenue, dated 22nd July 1898.

With reference to his letter No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898, the Deputy Adjutant-General is requested to be good enough to state whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.), supplied to canteens of Native regiments and if so, whether it is purchased duty paid or whether duty is paid by the military authorities on its issue from the distillery or brewery.

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.

XI

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 23rd August 1898.
No.—A./N.T. 13656.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum No. 164 of 22nd July 1898.]

Herewith a schedule of replies from the Officers Commanding those Madras Regiments which maintain canteens showing how excise duty is paid on liquor (rum, beer, etc.), purchased.

2. The reply from the Officer Commanding 20th Madras Infantry, will follow when received.

Enclosure.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc.

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
"Q.O." Sappers and Miners.	Bangalore	Excise duty is paid at Ootacamund by Nilgiri Brewery Company for ale and stout purchased for which permits are obtained from the Collector of the Nilgiris prior to despatch of consignments to Bangalore.
4th Madras Pioneers ...	Ootacamund	Full duty paid for rum supplied after receipt for Commissariat Department, that is to say, the Commissariat Department include the duty in the bill. Full duty is paid for beer by private dealers and added to the cost of beer supplied to the canteen.
7th Madras Infantry ...	Kamptee	Full excise duty is paid by firms from whom liquor is purchased.
8th Madras Infantry ...	Barrackpore	Liquor purchasad duty paid.
13th Madras Infantry.	Raipur, Central Provinces.	Full excise duty paid on liquor by firms from whom purchased.
14th Madras Infantry.	St. Thomas' Mount, Madras.	No duty paid by regiment on beer supplied—presumes distillery does.
15th Madras Infantry.	Rangoon	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
16th Madras Infantry.	Do.	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
20th Madras Infantry.	Miranshah	No report received.
21st Madras Pioneers.	Belgaum	Beer supplied is purchased from a local merchant and price paid by the regiment includes duty paid by the vendor.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc—*cont.*

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
22nd Madras Infantry.	Berhampur	Reports that under sanction of the Collector of Ganjām some rum was issued to the canteen from the Aska distillery at Rs. 1-12-0 per gallon duty, afterwards this sanction was withdrawn and the duty of Rs. 6 per gallon demanded, a rate which makes it impossible for the men to buy.
26th Madras Infantry.	Belgaum	Full excise duty is paid by vendors before the beer leaves the brewery.
27th Madras Infantry.	Trichinopoly	Beer supplied to the canteen delivered free of all charges, no duty being paid by the regiment.
28th Madras Infantry.	Madras	Beer purchased from Messrs Leighton & Co , Madras, for the regimental canteen is duty paid.
29th Burma Madras Infantry.	Fort Stedman, Burma.	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	Meiktila, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
32nd Madras Infantry.	Mandalay, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
33rd Madras Infantry.	Keng-Tung	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.

Order—No. 4032, Revenue, dated 8th October 1898.

Miscellaneous.

The Board's Proceedings read above will be forwarded to the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces for the favour of remarks on the points raised in paragraphs 1 and 2.

2. With reference to the statement in paragraph 3, that the duty on liquor sold at Regimental canteens is not credited to "Excise", the Board of Revenue is requested to address the Controller of Military Accounts on the subject through the Adjutant-General if necessary.

3. With reference to the list of canteens received from the Deputy Adjutant-General and forwarded herewith, the Board of Revenue is requested to call upon the Collectors concerned to report whether liquor is issued from the canteens to anyone except soldiers.

(True Extract.)

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, Separate Revenue, with list.
" Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command,
with Board's Proceedings No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Government of Madras.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Recd. } 1914. *Enclosures*
Regd. } *Spare copies*

G.O. No. 4032, 8th October 1898.

Referring to the Board of Revenue and the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces certain questions connected with the issue of liquor from the canteens.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers :—

I

Official Memorandum—from the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.
To—the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue).
No.—146.
Dated—the 16th July 1897.

With reference to paragraph 7 of Board's Proceedings No. 181, dated 10th May 1897, the undersigned has the honour to request that information may be furnished on the following points :—

(i) It is observed that under articles 811 and 813 of the Army Regulations, Volume V, the issue of spirits to Native troops is sanctioned only when from climatic or other causes the supply is considered really necessary by regimental medical officers whose recommendation must receive the concurrence of Deputies Surgeon-General. The Board merely states that two native regimental canteens have been opened at St. Thomas Mount. It should now be reported whether the conditions laid down in the above quoted articles of the Army Regulations have been satisfied in these cases.

(ii) The military authorities do not appear to hold any licenses for the issue of liquor to troops. It should be reported why no licenses are required in their case.

(iii) In regard to regimental canteens it is understood that rum is issued in bulk on requisition at 25° under proof at Rs. 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. It is not understood why As. 9 are taken as excise duty while the proper duty is Rs. 4½, nor who gets this As. 9. Again the rum is issued to soldiers at As. 2 per dram or Rs. 6 per gallon *plus* excise duty. It should be reported as to what is done with the difference between the amount paid for by the soldiers and that paid for by the canteen and as to how As. 9 can be paid on 48 drams.

II

Copies of paragraphs 811—815, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat.

811. The issue of spirits to Native troops is only authorised when from climate or other causes it is considered really necessary. The indent (Commissariat form 65) must clearly show the grounds on which the issue is recommended, and should be countersigned by the General Officer Commanding the district.

812. Even under such circumstances, rum is not claimable from the Commissariat as a right, and will not be granted for more than one month at a time, unless, at the expiration of the period, the medical authorities consider further issue absolotely necessary.

813. The quantity of rum to be thus issued is restricted to one dram per man (for the number recommended) per diem and is to be issued at 25 per cent. under proof and paid for at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon, the amount being credited to Government in the pay list and "General State" of the regiment. This order does not affect certain regiments peculiarly situated which receive rum under special Government sanction—see paragraph 815.

S.G.O.B. 14 and 298 of 1876 A R.B. vii, 184.

814. The sanction here given must be exercised as sparingly as possible. Tea may sometimes prove an efficient substitute for spirits and in such instances the issue may be made on payment under the above medical restrictions.

815. Rum may be issued at Port Blair on the recommendation of the Medical Officer. One hogshead of rum per mensem on indent is allowed to Sikhs and Christians of the second regiment, Central India horse. Rum is also allowed on indent to the 39th (the Garhwal Rifle) regiment of Bengal Infantry and the Goorkha regiments, on the understanding that the State is put to no expense, and that it gives the men no right to claim it in the field; also on indent to the Deputy Commissioner of the Chittagong hill tracts for the use of the Police.

Government of Madras, 3182 of 1874. Government of Bombay, dated 9th April 1896 Government of India, Nos. 2046 of 1873 and 3182 and 1121 of 1874, 1085 of 1875 and 477 S.D. and 1131 S.D. of 1882, Cir. C.G. B. 67 and 90 of 1882.

III

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, ~~Madras~~ Command, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 10th February 1898.
No.—A/N.T. 2296.

In continuation of my Memorandum, No. A/N.T. 18654 of 24th November 1897.

A copy of this office Circular No. N.A. 942, dated 26th May 1893, which is the authority for the establishment of Regimental Canteens in this command, is herewith forwarded together with a schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments furnishing further particulars.

2. The report from the Commandant 13th Madras Infantry will follow when received.

Enclosures.

(i)

Circular Memorandum—from Brigadier-General H. W. Pearson, Adjutant-General, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.
To—the Officer Commanding Regiment, Madras Infantry (through General Officer Commanding district).
Dated—Ootacamund, the 26th May 1893.
No.—N.A.-942.

The question of the establishment within the lines of Native Regiments of some place in which, under regimental arrangements good and sound liquor can be sold to Native soldiers, having been considered by the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant-General is desired to remark as follows.

2. In view of the very deleterious liquor sold in Native bazaars and of the undesirable nature of the surroundings of the shops where such is sold, the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the establishment of a canteen where good liquor could be obtained, would be in the interests of Native soldiers, and he has no objection to such being established provided that no extra expense is hereby incurred by the state.

3. It will be necessary that these canteens which are entirely optional, should be conducted on some fixed principle and with this view Commanding Officers should draw up and submit to General Officers Commanding Districts for their approval such orders as they may deem called for, to ensure that order is maintained and that the institution is not abused.

4. Such rules will doubtless differ in minor points in different stations, according to local conditions but the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the following points call for attention in all cases in which canteens in Native Regiments are established:—

A

Arrangements must be made the Officer Commanding with the Local Civil Authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary.

B

The canteen should on no account be established in the centre of the lines where any noise or disturbance can take place without the knowledge or observation of the British officers, and where soldiers might meet for gambling.

If no existing building is available, a shed should be erected on the outskirts of the lines and not far from the Bells of arms, Barracks and Quarter guard.

C

Commanding officers must be most careful in satisfying themselves that the liquor supplied is of good quality.

D

Fixed hours of issue should be appointed and during these hours a thoroughly trustworthy and reliable Non-Commissioned officer is to be present who will be held responsible that order is maintained.

E

The orderly officer should visit the canteen daily and the British officer of the week frequently at uncertain hours.

F

Commanding officers should make it a point to exercise the strictest personal supervision over the Institution which is open to abuse if British officers be careless or apathetic.

G

General officers commanding districts should from time to time, when convenient visit these canteens to satisfy themselves that their establishment is really beneficial to the men.

5. Messrs. Leishman & Co., Nilgiri Brewery Company are prepared to supply wholesome beer of light gravity at the following rates:—To all stations in the Madras Command except Burmah, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 40 per hogshead—to Rangoon, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 42 per hogshead.

6. These prices are quoted merely for the information of Commanding officers who are, of course, at liberty to obtain the liquor they require from any firm they may choose to select.

7. In cases in which canteens are established, Commanding Officers will be good enough to submit, through District authorities, a report to this office on their working after a period of six months has elapsed. General Officers Commanding in forwarding these reports will express their opinion on the experiment.

(ii)

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens.

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
1st Madras Lancers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
3rd Do. (a)	....	Do.		..	....	....	(a) Establishment in Secunderabad against terms of agreement between British Government and His Highness the Nizam's Government.
"Queen's Own Madras Sappers and Miners.	5-30 A.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer and stout	Both Rs. 1-1-4 per quart.	No	Cannot be stated as they vary with strength at Head-quarters but very nearly every man uses the canteen.	Benefit of the men, maintenance and supply of buildings, sums given for festivals, provide free coffee and hoppers for men on Field Days, etc.	
1st Madras Pioneers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Madras Infantry	....	Do. (a)		..	....	....	
3rd Madras Light Infantry	....	Do.		..	....	....	
4th Madras Pioneers	6 P.M. to 8 P.M. (During the day if specially ordered on any feast day.)	Beer and rum (when procurable).	Beer As. 3-4 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No	Three-fourths of the Regiment or 625 men.	Benefit of the men such as free food on the march, etc.	
5th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
6th Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
7th Do.	11 A.M. to 12 Noon, 5-30 P.M. to 8 P.M.	Beer and rum	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum As. 3 per dram.	No	183	Benefit of the men, free ammunition for pool shooting, cricket, foot-ball, etc.	
8th Do.	4 P.M. to 9 P.M. (10 A.M. to 1 P.M. on Sundays and Thursdays as well as in the evening).	Do.	Beer As. 4-8 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No	75	Prizes for sports among the men.	
9th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
10th Burma Rifles	....	Do.		..	....	....	
11th Madras Infantry	....	Do. (a)		..	....	....	
12th Burma-Madras Infantry	....	Do.		..	....	....	
13th Madras Infantry	....	....	....	..	....	....	
14th Do.	10 A.M. to 12 Noon and 4 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 a quart	No	260	Benefit of the men, men's necessaries, prizes for sports, donations to men discharged without pension and prizes for shooting.	Report not yet received.

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens—*cont.*

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
15th Madras Infantry	Between 3-30 and 7-30 P.M.	Beer and porter	As. 4-6 a quart	No	250	Benefit of the men, regimental sports, etc.	
16th Do.	Do.	Beer and stout	Do.	No	200	Benefit of the men, purchase of barrack room, boxes, etc.	
17th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
19th Do. (*a*)	....	Do.		..	....	....	
20th Do.	5 to 7 P.M.	Beer and rum	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum 3 oz. As. 1-6.	No	Nearly 400	No profit at present owing to expenses paid on journey from Vizianagaram to Meerut.	
21st Madras Pioneers	....	....	....	..	....	....	
22nd Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up	....	..	....	....	On Field service depot, unable to report as no canteen exists.
23rd Madras Light Infantry	2 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer Whisky Brandy Arrack	As. 3 per quart As. 5-4 per dram As. 4-6 ,, As. 1-8 ,,	No	170	Benefit of men, prizes at Regimental sports, paying carriage of certain Regimental necessaries, etc.	
24th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
25th Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
26th Do.	5 P.M. to 8-30 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 per quart	No	150	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, advancing money to obtain practice ammunition at cheap rates.	
27th Do.	4-30 P.M. to 7-30 P.M.	Do.	As. 6 per quart	No	500	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, etc., replacing foot-ball and cricket gear, paying for ammunition to improve shooting.	
28th Do.	....	No canteen kept up	....	..	....	....	
29th Burma-Madras Infantry	9-30 A.M. to 12 Noon and 2 P.M. to 7 P.M.	Rum only	As. 1-4 per 4 ozs.	No	850	Benefit of the men, Regimental sports, etc.	
30th Do.	....	No canteen kept up	....	..	....	....	
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	10 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 6 to 8-30 P.M.	Beer and porter only.	As. 3 per quart	No	70	To the Regimental coffee shop to supply the men with sugar, tea, etc.	
32nd Burma-Madras Infantry	5 to 6-30 P.M.	Rum*	6 pies per dram	No	Sikhs 426, Christians 32, Followers 24.	No profits, the sum charged being actual cost.	* No Regimental canteen establishment but rum supplied three times a week one dram per man to be drunk on the spot.
33rd Do.	5 to 6 P.M. (Twice weekly)	Beer and rum	As. 5 per quart. Anna 1 per dram.	No	450	Benefit of the men, sports, etc.	

IV

Letter—from the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.
To—the Adjutant-General in India.
Dated—the 23rd January 1897.
No.—407-D.

The question of the expediency of continuing the present practice under which rum supplied to troops on payment is issued at a price which does not include the customs or excise duty levied on rum consumed by the public, has recently been under the consideration of the Government of India, and the conclusion arrived at is that the practice is opposed to the principles which underlie the policy, long accepted and carried into effect in India as in other countries, of imposing customs and excise duties on spirits, and that it is inexpedient to allow soldiers to buy spirits at a cheaper rate than their fellow countrymen in India. The Government of India have accordingly decided that the issue of duty-free rum to soldiers, whether British or Native, shall be discontinued as soon as this can conveniently be arranged.

2. In view, however, of the length of time during which the exemption from duty of rum issued to the troops has been in force, and of the reasons which led to the grant of such exemption, it is considered desirable that the change in system should be effected gradually. The rate of duty to be ultimately imposed should in the opinion of Government of India be the rate of excise duty in force in the province in which the troops purchasing the rum are located. In Madras, Bombay and Burma, rum manufactured in India is already excised at the full rate of duty leviable on spirits imported from Europe, namely, Rs. 6 a gallon of proof strength. In Bengal the excise duty is Rs. 5 a gallon, and in the Punjab and North-Western Provinces Rs. 4; but these rates are liable to be raised so as to equal the full import duty on foreign liquor. To raise the price of the rum supplied to troops in all parts of India by an amount which shall correspond approximately to As. 12 a gallon (or 12·5 per cent. of the full duty leviable), will therefore be a moderate and tentative advance in the direction desired. This will be equivalent to an increase of As. 2 in the price of a bottle of the size of a reputed quart, which is believed to be the size of the bottles in which rum is sold; and this increase has been decided on as the first instalment of the imposition of duty.

3. I am, therefore, to request that, under the orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, instructions may be issued to enhance the price of a reputed quart bottle of rum by As. 2, with effect from the 1st April 1897, and to say that the Government of India would be glad to be favoured with a report on the effects of the measure not later than 31st December 1897, to admit of the feasibility of further raising the duty with effect from 1st April 1898, being duly considered.

V

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. L. Eliot, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 2nd July 1897.
No.—C. 2117.

This department obtains its supply of rum (country manufactured) by contract and the last supply was obtained in 1894-95 from Messrs. Morrison & Co., Arcot, at Rs. 1-1-3 per 1 gallon 50° proof or at As. 12-4 per 1 gallon 25° under proof.

2. The rum at 25° under proof is issued in bulk to regimental canteens on requisitions at Rs 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. This rum is retailed to troops at As. 2 per dram plus excise duty. So far as is known in this office the military authorities do not hold any licenses for the issue of liquor.

3. Rum is not supplied by this department to Native troops under ordinary circumstances, but only when specially authorised—*vide* paragraph 811, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat: the issue is made as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* and paid for by the troops at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon.

No. A./B.T. 10249, *dated 2nd July* 1897.

Forwarded with reference to your telephone message of the 24th ultimo.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General, Deputy Adjutant-General.

To the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

VI

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. H. Elliot, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 9th October 1897.
No.—5217.

Rum—the only liquor obtained by this department for issue on payment to troops—is procured by contract (the last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs. Morison & Co., Arcot) and is issued in bulk at 25° under proof to British regimental canteens at Rs. 2 per gallon when requisitioned for with an additional charge of As. 9 per gallon on account of excise duty, which latter is credited to Government separately from the sale-proceeds of the rum, in accordance with the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 408-D, dated 23rd January 1897 (copy enclosed).

2. The rum is then retailed to the soldier by the regimental canteens at As. 2 per dram plus the excise duty or altogether at Rs. 5–9–0 per imperial gallon (40 drams) and the difference between this rate and the rate paid by the canteens, viz., Rs. 3 per gallon is, I understand, credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds. This is, however, a purely regimental arrangement with which this department has no concern.

3. As regards the issue of rum to Native troops, they are entitled to it from this department only when specially authorized in accordance with paragraphs * 811–815, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat, and in that case, the rum is paid for by the troops at Rs. 2–8–0 per gallon as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* plus the excise duty. This department has no concern with the further distribution of the spirit after its original issue in bulk, nor has it any connection whatever with the Native regimental canteens where such may exist.

* Copy herewith.

4. The circumstances under which As. 9 per gallon of rum at 25° under proof are charged as excise duty, are explained in the accompanying copy of the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 407-D, dated 23rd January 1897.

Equivalent of As. 12 per gallon of proof rum.

5. So far as I am aware the question of a license in this connection being considered necessary, for this department has never been raised previously, and I can only imagine that this is because issues so made are made under the orders of Government and for Government purposes.

6. The question in its relation to regimental canteens is one which I am not in a position to deal with and I can only suggest the matter being referred to the Deputy Adjutant-General of the Command.

VII

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. H. Lawson, Commandent, 13th Madras Infantry.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—the 29th January 1898.

With reference to your Memorandum No. A./N.T. 18840, dated Ootacamund, 26th November 1897, I have the honour to furnish information as follows :—

(1) (*a*) The regimental canteen is open daily.
(*b*) Between the hours 10 and 11 a.m. and 4 and 8 p.m.
(*c*) Sepoys and regimental followers only are allowed to frequent the canteen.

(2) Beer, rum, and mineral waters are sold.

(3) The beer is obtained from Messrs. Leeshman & Co., Ootacamund.

The rum from Messrs. E. Dyer & Co., Mandalay, during the stay of the regiment at Thayetangi.

(4) Beer is sold at As. 2 per pint and rum As. 2–6 pies per dram.

(5) The profits are expended for the good of the men of the regiment.

(6) The canteen was opened on the 1st October 1894, *vide* my No. 327 of 2nd July 1894 to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Southern district, in accordance with Adjutant-General's Circular No. A.A. 962, dated 25th May 1893, and my report No. 145 B submitted to you on the 10th April 1895.

(7) The average number of men frequenting the canteen is about 200 daily.

Endorsement No. 3063.

Forwarded in continuation of my Memorandum No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General.

VIII

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue), Mis. No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Read—the following papers :—

(i)

Official Memorandum No. 146, *Revenue, dated* 16*th July* 1897.

Abstract.—Requesting certain information regarding the supply of spirits to troops.

(ii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 899, *Revenue, dated* 21*st February* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 2237, dated 4th December 1897, a copy of the office circular from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, showing the authority for the establishment of regimental canteens in his command, etc.

(iii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 1105, *Revenue, dated* 4*th March* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 899, dated 21st February 1898, letter submitted by the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, No. A.N.T. 3063, dated 24th February 1898.

Resolution—Mis. No. 1220, *dated* 23*rd March* 1898.

The Board begs to submit the following reply to the Official Memorandum from Government No. 146, dated 16th July 1897 :—

(1) The Native regimental canteens referred to are reported to have been instituted under the authority of Circular No. NA/942, dated 26th May 1893, of the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, copy of which is enclosed. The circular would appear to overlook the provisions of the Army Regulations quoted by Government. The Board would therefore request that the Lieutenant-General Commanding may be addressed as to the authority for its issue.

(2) As will be observed the Commanding officers are directed in the circular above quoted to make arrangements with local civil authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary, but no applications have been received for any licenses nor have any been issued. According to the strict letter of the law licenses would appear to be necessary both in the case of canteens and in that of sales by the Commissariat Department.

(3) As regards the rate of duty levied upon liquor issued to soldiers it appears that up to the year 1897 such liquor was issued duty-free. In that year it was decided to impose a duty, but in order not to enhance the price of liquor too suddenly the duty is only being imposed by degrees. For the present it is being levied at the rate of As. 12 per proof gallon or As. 9 per gallon of 25° under proof. This duty has been ordered to be credited to the head of V. Excise, but the order does not appear to be enforced in this Presidency. Copies of letters Nos. 407 D, dated 23rd January 1897, and 408 D of the same date from the Secretaty to Government of India, Military Department, which contain full information on these points are enclosed. As regards the difference between the price paid by the canteens for the liquor and the price realized for the same it is stated that these sums are credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds according to the arrangements in force in the regiments in question. It may be added—as reported by the Commissary General—that rum—the only liquor obtained by his department for issue on payment to troops—is procured on contract and their last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs Morrison & Co., North Arcot.

(True Extract.)

R. M. THURLEY,
Ag. Assistant Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with three enclosures.

IX

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 7th July 1898.
No.—A/B. T. 10942.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum for current No. 2874 of 2nd July 1898.]

A list of the localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both British and Native, are kept up, is enclosed.

ENCLOSURE.

LIST of localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both European and Native, are kept up.

Station.	Locality.
Bangalore	British Cavalry Barracks. Royal Artillery do. British Infantry do. "Q.O." Madras Sappers and Miners Lines.
Wellington	Depot Barracks. British Infantry Barracks.
Ootacamund	Fourth Madras Pioneers Lines.
Fort St. George	Royal Artillery Barracks. British Infantry do.
St. Thomas' Mount	Royal Artillery do. Fourteenth Madras Infantry Lines.
Pallavaram	E A.V. Company Barracks.
Poonamallee	Depôt Barracks.
Trichinopoly	27th Madras Infantry Lines.
Bellary	Royal Artillery Barracks. British Infantry do.
Cannanore	Do. do.
Calicut	Do. do.
Malappuram	Do. do.

X

Official Memorandum No. 164, Revenue, dated 22nd July 1898.

With reference to his letter No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898, the Deputy Adjutant-General is requested to be good enough to state whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.), supplied to canteens of Native regiments and if so, whether it is purchased duty paid or whether duty is paid by the military authorities on its issue from the distillery or brewery.

G. S. FORBES,
Secretary to Government.

To the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.

XI

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 23rd August 1898.
No.—A./N.T. 13656.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum No. 164 of 22nd July 1898.]

Herewith a schedule of replies from the Officers Commanding those Madras Regiments which maintain canteens showing how excise duty is paid on liquor (rum, beer, etc.), purchased.

2. The reply from the Officer Commanding 20th Madras Infantry, will follow when received.

ENCLOSURE.

SCHEDULE of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc.

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
"Q.O." Sappers and Miners.	Bangalore	Excise duty is paid at Ootacamund by Nilgiri Brewery Company for ale and stout purchased for which permits are obtained from the Collector of the Nilgiris prior to despatch of consignments to Bangalore.
4th Madras Pioneers ...	Ootacamund	Full duty paid for rum supplied after receipt for Commissariat Department, that is to say, the Commissariat Department include the duty in the bill. Full duty is paid for beer by private dealers and added to the cost of beer supplied to the canteen.
7th Madras Infantry ...	Kamptee	Full excise duty is paid by firms from whom liquor is purchased.
8th Madras Infantry ...	Barrackpore	Liquor purchasad duty paid.
13th Madras Infantry.	Raipur, Central Provinces.	Full excise duty paid on liquor by firms from whom purchased.
14th Madras Infantry.	St. Thomas' Mount, Madras.	No duty paid by regiment on beer supplied—presumes distillery does.
15th Madras Infantry.	Rangoon	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
16th Madras Infantry.	Do.	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
20th Madras Infantry.	Miranshah	No report received.
21st Madras Pioneers.	Belgaum	Beer supplied is purchased from a local merchant and price paid by the regiment includes duty paid by the vendor.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc—*cont.*

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
22nd Madras Infantry.	Berhampur	Reports that under sanction of the Collector of Ganjām some rum was issued to the canteen from the Aska distillery at Rs. 1-12-0 per gallon duty, afterwards this sanction was withdrawn and the duty of Rs. 6 per gallon demanded, a rate which makes it impossible for the men to buy.
26th Madras Infantry.	Belgaum	Full excise duty is paid by vendors before the beer leaves the brewery.
27th Madras Infantry.	Trichinopoly	Beer supplied to the canteen delivered free of all charges, no duty being paid by the regiment.
28th Madras Infantry.	Madras	Beer purchased from Messrs Leighton & Co , Madras, for the regimental canteen is duty paid.
29th Burma Madras Infantry.	Fort Stedman, Burma.	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	Meiktila, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
32nd Madras Infantry.	Mandalay, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
33rd Madras Infantry.	Keng-Tung	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.

Order—No. 4032, Revenue, dated 8th October 1898.

Miscellaneous.

The Board's Proceedings read above will be forwarded to the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces for the favour of remarks on the points raised in paragraphs 1 and 2.

2. With reference to the statement in paragraph 3, that the duty on liquor sold at Regimental canteens is not credited to "Excise", the Board of Revenue is requested to address the Controller of Military Accounts on the subject through the Adjutant-General if necessary.

3. With reference to the list of canteens received from the Deputy Adjutant-General and forwarded herewith, the Board of Revenue is requested to call upon the Collectors concerned to report whether liquor is issued from the canteens to anyone except soldiers.

(True Extract.)

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, Separate Revenue, with list.
,, Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command,
with Board's Proceedings No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Government of Madras.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Recd. } 1914. *Enclosures*
Regd. *Spare copies*

G.O. No. 4032, 8th October 1898.

Referring to the Board of Revenue and the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces certain questions connected with the issue of liquor from the canteens.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers :—

I

Official Memorandum—from the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.
To—the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue).
No.—146.
Dated—the 16th July 1897.

With reference to paragraph 7 of Board's Proceedings No. 181, dated 10th May 1897, the undersigned has the honour to request that information may be furnished on the following points :—

(i) It is observed that under articles 811 and 813 of the Army Regulations, Volume V, the issue of spirits to Native troops is sanctioned only when from climatic or other causes the supply is considered really necessary by regimental medical officers whose recommendation must receive the concurrence of Deputies Surgeon-General. The Board merely states that two native regimental canteens have been opened at St. Thomas Mount. It should now be reported whether the conditions laid down in the above quoted articles of the Army Regulations have been satisfied in these cases.

(ii) The military authorities do not appear to hold any licenses for the issue of liquor to troops. It should be reported why no licenses are required in their case.

(iii) In regard to regimental canteens it is understood that rum is issued in bulk on requisition at 25° under proof at Rs. 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. It is not understood why As. 9 are taken as excise duty while the proper duty is Rs. 4½, nor who gets this As. 9. Again the rum is issued to soldiers at As. 2 per dram or Rs. 6 per gallon *plus* excise duty. It should be reported as to what is done with the difference between the amount paid for by the soldiers and that paid for by the canteen and as to how As. 9 can be paid on 48 drams.

II

Copies of paragraphs 811—815, *Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat.*

811. The issue of spirits to Native troops is only authorised when from climate or other causes it is considered really necessary. The indent (Commissariat form 65) must clearly show the grounds on which the issue is recommended, and should be countersigned by the General Officer Commanding the district.

812. Even under such circumstances, rum is not claimable from the Commissariat as a right, and will not be granted for more than one month at a time, unless, at the expiration of the period, the medical authorities consider further issue absolotely necessary.

813. The quantity of rum to be thus issued is restricted to one dram per man (for the number recommended) per diem and is to be issued at 25 per cent. under proof and paid for at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon, the amount being credited to Government in the pay list and "General State" of the regiment. This order does not affect certain regiments peculiarly situated which receive rum under special Government sanction—see paragraph 815.

S.G.O.B. 14 and 298 of 1876 A R.B. vii, 184.

814. The sanction here given must be exercised as sparingly as possible. Tea may sometimes prove an efficient substitute for spirits and in such instances the issue may be made on payment under the above medical restrictions.

815. Rum may be issued at Port Blair on the recommendation of the Medical Officer. One hogshead of rum per mensem on indent is allowed to Sikhs and Christians of the second regiment, Central India horse. Rum is also allowed on indent to the 39th (the Garhwal Rifle) regiment of Bengal Infantry and the Goorkha regiments, on the understanding that the State is put to no expense, and that it gives the men no right to claim it in the field; also on indent to the Deputy Commissioner of the Chittagong hill tracts for the use of the Police.

Government of Madras, 3182 of 1874. Government of Bombay, dated 9th April 1896 Government of India, Nos. 2046 of 1873 and 3182 and 1121 of 1874, 1085 of 1875 and 477 S.D. and 1131 S.D. of 1882, Cir. C.G. B. 67 and 90 of 1882.

III

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 10th February 1898.
No.—A/N.T. 2296.

In continuation of my Memorandum, No. A/N.T. 18654 of 24th November 1897.

A copy of this office Circular No. N.A. 942, dated 26th May 1893, which is the authority for the establishment of Regimental Canteens in this command, is herewith forwarded together with a schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments furnishing further particulars.

2. The report from the Commandant 13th Madras Infantry will follow when received.

Enclosures.

(i)

Circular Memorandum—from Brigadier-General H. W. Pearson, Adjutant-General, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.
To—the Officer Commanding Regiment, Madras Infantry (through General Officer Commanding district).
Dated—Ootacamund, the 26th May 1893.
No.—N.A.-942.

The question of the establishment within the lines of Native Regiments of some place in which, under regimental arrangements good and sound liquor can be sold to Native soldiers, having been considered by the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant-General is desired to remark as follows.

2. In view of the very deleterious liquor sold in Native bazaars and of the undesirable nature of the surroundings of the shops where such is sold, the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the establishment of a canteen where good liquor could be obtained, would be in the interests of Native soldiers, and he has no objection to such being established provided that no extra expense is hereby incurred by the state.

3. It will be necessary that these canteens which are entirely optional, should be conducted on some fixed principle and with this view Commanding Officers should draw up and submit to General Officers Commanding Districts for their approval such orders as they may deem called for, to ensure that order is maintained and that the institution is not abused.

4. Such rules will doubtless differ in minor points in different stations, according to local conditions but the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the following points call for attention in all cases in which canteens in Native Regiments are established :—

A

Arrangements must be made [illegible] the Officer Commanding with the Local Civil Authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary.

B

The canteen should on no account be established in the centre of the lines where any noise or disturbance can take place without the knowledge or observation of the British officers, and where soldiers might meet for gambling.

If no existing building is available, a shed should be erected on the outskirts of the lines and not far from the Bells of arms, Barracks and Quarter guard.

C

Commanding officers must be most careful in satisfying themselves that the liquor supplied is of good quality.

D

Fixed hours of issue should be appointed and during these hours a thoroughly trustworthy and reliable Non-Commissioned officer is to be present who will be held responsible that order is maintained.

E

The orderly officer should visit the canteen daily and the British officer of the week frequently at uncertain hours.

F

Commanding officers should make it a point to exercise the strictest personal supervision over the Institution which is open to abuse if British officers be careless or apathetic.

G

General officers commanding districts should from time to time, when convenient visit these canteens to satisfy themselves that their establishment is really beneficial to the men.

5. Messrs. Leishman & Co., Nilgiri Brewery Company are prepared to supply wholesome beer of light gravity at the following rates:—To all stations in the Madras Command except Burmah, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 40 per hogshead—to Rangoon, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 42 per hogshead.

6. These prices are quoted merely for the information of Commanding officers who are, of course, at liberty to obtain the liquor they require from any firm they may choose to select.

7. In cases in which canteens are established, Commanding Officers will be good enough to submit, through District authorities, a report to this office on their working after a period of six months has elapsed, General Officers Commanding in forwarding these reports will express their opinion on the experiment.

(ii)

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens.

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
1st Madras Lancers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
3rd Do. (a)	....	Do.		..	....	....	(a) Establishment in Secunderabad against terms of agreement between British Government and His Highness the Nizam's Government.
"Queen's Own Madras Sappers and Miners.	5–30 A.M. to 9 P.M. ..	Beer and stout ..	Both Rs. 1-1-4 per quart.	No ..	Cannot be stated as they vary with strength at Head-quarters but very nearly every man uses the canteen.	Benefit of the men, maintenance and supply of buildings, sums given for festivals, provide free coffee and hoppers for men on Field Days, etc.	
1st Madras Pioneers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Madras Infantry	....	Do. (a)		..	....	....	
3rd Madras Light Infantry ..	....	Do.		..	....	....	
4th Madras Pioneers	6 P.M. to 8 P.M. (During the day if specially ordered on any feast day.)	Beer and rum (when procurable).	Beer As. 3-4 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No ..	Three-fourths of the Regiment or 625 men.	Benefit of the men such as free food on the march, etc.	
5th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
6th Do.	..	Do.		..	....	....	
7th Do.	11 A.M. to 12 Noon, 5–30 P.M. to 8 P.M.	Beer and rum.. ..	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No ..	183	Benefit of the men, free ammunition for pool shooting, cricket, foot-ball, etc.	
8th Do.	4. P.M. to 9 P.M. (10 A.M. to 1 P.M. on Sundays and Thursdays as well as in the evening).	Do.	Beer As. 4-8 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No ..	75	Prizes for sports among the men.	
9th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
10th Burma Rifles	....	Do.		..	....	....	
11th Madras Infantry	....	Do. (a)		..	....	....	
12th Burma-Madras Infantry ..	....	Do.		..	....	....	
13th Madras Infantry	....	....	....	..	....	....	
14th Do.	10 A.M. to 12 Noon and 4 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 a quart ..	No ..	260	Benefit of the men, men's necessaries, prizes for sports, donations to men discharged without pension and prizes for shooting.	Report not yet received.

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens—*cont.*

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
15th Madras Infantry	Between 3-30 and 7-30 P.M.	Beer and porter	As. 4-6 a quart	No	250	Benefit of the men, regimental sports, etc.	
16th Do.	Do.	Beer and stout	Do.	No	200	Benefit of the men, purchase of barrack room, boxes, etc.	
17th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
19th Do. (*a*)	....	Do.		..	....	....	
20th Do.	5 to 7 P.M.	Beer and rum	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum 3 oz. As. 1-6.	No	Nearly 400	No profit at present owing to expenses paid on journey from Vizianagaram to Meerut.	
21st Madras Pioneers	....	....	....	..	....	....	On Field service depot, unable to report as no canteen exists.
22nd Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up	....	..	....	....	
23rd Madras Light Infantry	2 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer Whisky Brandy Arrack	As. 3 per quart As. 5-4 per dram As. 4-6 " As. 1-8 "	No	170	Benefit of men, prizes at Regimental sports, paying carriage of certain Regimental necessaries, etc.	
24th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
25th Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
26th Do.	5 P.M. to 8-30 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 per quart	No	150	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, advancing money to obtain practice ammunition at cheap rates.	
27th Do.	4-30 P.M. to 7-30 P.M.	Do.	As. 5 per quart	No	500	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, etc., replacing foot-ball and cricket gear, paying for ammunition to improve shooting.	
28th Do.	....	No canteen kept up	....	..	....	....	
29th Burma-Madras Infantry	9-30 A.M. to 12 Noon and 2 P.M. to 7 P.M.	Rum only	As. 1-4 per 4 ozs.	No	850	Benefit of the men, Regimental sports, etc.	
30th Do.	....	No canteen kept up	....	..	....	....	
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	10 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 6 to 8-30 P.M.	Beer and porter only.	As. 3 per quart	No	70	To the Regimental coffee shop to supply the men with sugar, tea, etc.	
32nd Burma-Madras Infantry	5 to 6-30 P.M.	Rum*	6 pies per dram	No	Sikhs 426, Christians 32, Followers 24.	No profits, the sum charged being actual cost.	* No Regimental canteen establishment but rum supplied three times a week one dram per man to be drunk on the spot.
33rd Do.	5 to 6 P.M. (Twice weekly)	Beer and rum	As. 5 per quart. Anna 1 per dram.	No	450	Benefit of the men, sports, etc.	

IV

Letter—from the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.
To—the Adjutant-General in India.
Dated—the 23rd January 1897.
No.—407-D.

The question of the expediency of continuing the present practice under which rum supplied to troops on payment is issued at a price which does not include the customs or excise duty levied on rum consumed by the public, has recently been under the consideration of the Government of India, and the conclusion arrived at is that the practice is opposed to the principles which underlie the policy, long accepted and carried into effect in India as in other countries, of imposing customs and excise duties on spirits, and that it is inexpedient to allow soldiers to buy spirits at a cheaper rate than their fellow countrymen in India. The Government of India have accordingly decided that the issue of duty-free rum to soldiers, whether British or Native, shall be discontinued as soon as this can conveniently be arranged.

2. In view, however, of the length of time during which the exemption from duty of rum issued to the troops has been in force, and of the reasons which led to the grant of such exemption, it is considered desirable that the change in system should be effected gradually. The rate of duty to be ultimately imposed should in the opinion of Government of India be the rate of excise duty in force in the province in which the troops purchasing the rum are located. In Madras, Bombay and Burma, rum manufactured in India is already excised at the full rate of duty leviable on spirits imported from Europe, namely, Rs. 6 a gallon of proof strength. In Bengal the excise duty is Rs. 5 a gallon, and in the Punjab and North-Western Provinces Rs. 4; but these rates are liable to be raised so as to equal the full import duty on foreign liquor. To raise the price of the rum supplied to troops in all parts of India by an amount which shall correspond approximately to As. 12 a gallon (or 12·5 per cent. of the full duty leviable), will therefore be a moderate and tentative advance in the direction desired. This will be equivalent to an increase of As. 2 in the price of a bottle of the size of a reputed quart, which is believed to be the size of the bottles in which rum is sold; and this increase has been decided on as the first instalment of the imposition of duty.

3. I am, therefore, to request that, under the orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, instructions may be issued to enhance the price of a reputed quart bottle of rum by As. 2, with effect from the 1st April 1897, and to say that the Government of India would be glad to be favoured with a report on the effects of the measure not later than 31st December 1897, to admit of the feasibility of further raising the duty with effect from 1st April 1898, being duly considered.

V

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. L. Eliot, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 2nd July 1897.
No.—C. 2117.

This department obtains its supply of rum (country manufactured) by contract and the last supply was obtained in 1894-95 from Messrs. Morrison & Co., Arcot, at Rs. 1-1-3 per 1 gallon 50° proof or at As. 12-4 per 1 gallon 25° under proof.

2. The rum at 25° under proof is issued in bulk to regimental canteens on requisitions at Rs. 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. This rum is retailed to troops at As. 2 per dram plus excise duty. So far as is known in this office the military authorities do not hold any licenses for the issue of liquor.

3. Rum is not supplied by this department to Native troops under ordinary circumstances, but only when specially authorised—*vide* paragraph 811, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat: the issue is made as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* and paid for by the troops at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon.

No. A./B.T. 10249, *dated 2nd July* 1897.

Forwarded with reference to your telephone message of the 24th ultimo.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General, Deputy Adjutant-General.

To the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

VI

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. H. Eliot, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 9th October 1897.
No.—5217.

Rum—the only liquor obtained by this department for issue on payment to troops—is procured by contract (the last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs. Morison & Co., Arcot) and is issued in bulk at 25° under proof to British regimental canteens at Rs. 2 per gallon when requisitioned for with an additional charge of As. 9 per gallon on account of excise duty, which latter is credited to Government separately from the sale-proceeds of the rum, in accordance with the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 408-D, dated 23rd January 1897 (copy enclosed).

2. The rum is then retailed to the soldier by the regimental canteens at As. 2 per dram plus the excise duty or altogether at Rs. 5–9–0 per imperial gallon (40 drams) and the difference between this rate and the rate paid by the canteens, viz., Rs. 3 per gallon is, I understand, credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds. This is, however, a purely regimental arrangement with which this department has no concern.

3. As regards the issue of rum to Native troops, they are entitled to it from this department only when specially authorized in accordance with paragraphs * 811–815, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat, and in that case, the rum is paid for by the troops at Rs. 2–8–0 per gallon as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* plus the excise duty. This department has no concern with the further distribution of the spirit after its original issue in bulk, nor has it any connection whatever with the Native regimental canteens where such may exist.

* Copy herewith.

4. The circumstances under which As. 9 per gallon of rum at 25° under proof are charged as excise duty, are explained in the accompanying copy of the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 407-D, dated 23rd January 1897.

Equivalent of As. 12 per gallon of proof rum.

5. So far as I am aware the question of a license in this connection being considered necessary, for this department has never been raised previously, and I can only imagine that this is because issues so made are made under the orders of Government and for Government purposes.

6. The question in its relation to regimental canteens is one which I am not in a position to deal with and I can only suggest the matter being referred to the Deputy Adjutant-General of the Command.

VII

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. H. Lawson, Commandent, 13th Madras Infantry.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—the 29th January 1898.

With reference to your Memorandum No. A./N.T. 18840, dated Ootacamund, 26th November 1897, I have the honour to furnish information as follows :—

(1) (*a*) The regimental canteen is open daily.
(*b*) Between the hours 10 and 11 A.M. and 4 and 8 P.M.
(*c*) Sepoys and regimental followers only are allowed to frequent the canteen.

(2) Beer, rum, and mineral waters are sold.

(3) The beer is obtained from Messrs. Leeshman & Co., Ootacamund.

The rum from Messrs. E. Dyer & Co., Mandalay, during the stay of the regiment at Thayetangi.

(4) Beer is sold at As. 2 per pint and rum As. 2–6 pies per dram.

(5) The profits are expended for the good of the men of the regiment.

(6) The canteen was opened on the 1st October 1894, *vide* my No. 327 of 2nd July 1894 to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Southern district, in accordance with Adjutant-General's Circular No. A.A. 962, dated 25th May 1893, and my report No. 145 *B* submitted to you on the 10th April 1895.

(7) The average number of men frequenting the canteen is about 200 daily.

Endorsement No. 3063.

Forwarded in continuation of my Memorandum No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General.

VIII

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue), Mis. No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Read—the following papers :—

(i)

Official Memorandum No. 146, *Revenue, dated 16th July* 1897.

Abstract.—Requesting certain information regarding the supply of spirits to troops.

(ii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 899, *Revenue, dated 21st February* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 2237, dated 4th December 1897, a copy of the office circular from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, showing the authority for the establishment of regimental canteens in his command, etc.

(iii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 1105, *Revenue, dated 4th March* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 899, dated 21st February 1898, letter submitted by the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, No. A.N.T. 3063, dated 24th February 1898.

Resolution—Mis. No. 1220, *dated 23rd March* 1898.

The Board begs to submit the following reply to the Official Memorandum from Government No. 146, dated 16th July 1897 :—

(1) The Native regimental canteens referred to are reported to have been instituted under the authority of Circular No. NA/942, dated 26th May 1893, of the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, copy of which is enclosed. The circular would appear to overlook the provisions of the Army Regulations quoted by Government. The Board would therefore request that the Lieutenant-General Commanding may be addressed as to the authority for its issue.

(2) As will be observed the Commanding officers are directed in the circular above quoted to make arrangements with local civil authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary, but no applications have been received for any licenses nor have any been issued. According to the strict letter of the law licenses would appear to be necessary both in the case of canteens and in that of sales by the Commissariat Department.

(3) As regards the rate of duty levied upon liquor issued to soldiers it appears that up to the year 1897 such liquor was issued duty-free. In that year it was decided to impose a duty, but in order not to enhance the price of liquor too suddenly the duty is only being imposed by degrees. For the present it is being levied at the rate of As. 12 per proof gallon or As. 9 per gallon of 25° under proof. This duty has been ordered to be credited to the head of V. Excise, but the order does not appear to be enforced in this Presidency. Copies of letters Nos. 407 D, dated 23rd January 1897, and 408 D of the same date from the Secretaty to Government of India, Military Department, which contain full information on these points are enclosed. As regards the difference between the price paid by the canteens for the liquor and the price realized for the same it is stated that these sums are credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds according to the arrangements in force in the regiments in question. It may be added—as reported by the Commissary General—that rum—the only liquor obtained by his department for issue on payment to troops—is procured on contract and their last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs Morrison & Co., North Arcot.

(True Extract.)

R. M. Thurley,
Ag. Assistant Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with three enclosures.

IX

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 7th July 1898.
No.—A/B. T. 10942.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum for current No. 2874 of 2nd July 1898.]

A list of the localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both British and Native, are kept up, is enclosed.

Enclosure.

List of localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both European and Native, are kept up.

Station.	Locality.
Bangalore	British Cavalry Barracks.
	Royal Artillery do.
	British Infantry do.
	"Q.O." Madras Sappers and Miners Lines.
Wellington	Depot Barracks.
	British Infantry Barracks.
Ootacamund	Fourth Madras Pioneers Lines.
Fort St. George	Royal Artillery Barracks.
	British Infantry do.
St. Thomas' Mount	Royal Artillery do.
	Fourteenth Madras Infantry Lines.
Pallavaram	E A.V. Company Barracks.
Poonamallee	Depôt Barracks.
Trichinopoly	27th Madras Infantry Lines.
Bellary	Royal Artillery Barracks.
	British Infantry do.
Cannanore	Do. do.
Calicut	Do. do.
Malappuram	Do. do.

X

Official Memorandum No. 164, Revenue, dated 22nd July 1898.

With reference to his letter No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898, the Deputy Adjutant-General is requested to be good enough to state whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.), supplied to canteens of Native regiments and if so, whether it is purchased duty paid or whether duty is paid by the military authorities on its issue from the distillery or brewery.

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.

XI

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 23rd August 1898.
No.—A./N.T. 13656.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum No. 164 of 22nd July 1898.]

Herewith a schedule of replies from the Officers Commanding those Madras Regiments which maintain canteens showing how excise duty is paid on liquor (rum, beer, etc.), purchased.

2. The reply from the Officer Commanding 20th Madras Infantry, will follow when received.

Enclosure.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc.

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
"Q.O." Sappers and Miners.	Bangalore	Excise duty is paid at Ootacamund by Nilgiri Brewery Company for ale and stout purchased for which permits are obtained from the Collector of the Nilgiris prior to despatch of consignments to Bangalore.
4th Madras Pioneers ...	Ootacamund	Full duty paid for rum supplied after receipt for Commissariat Department, that is to say, the Commissariat Department include the duty in the bill. Full duty is paid for beer by private dealers and added to the cost of beer supplied to the canteen.
7th Madras Infantry ...	Kamptee	Full excise duty is paid by firms from whom liquor is purchased.
8th Madras Infantry ...	Barrackpore	Liquor purchasad duty paid.
13th Madras Infantry.	Raipur, Central Provinces.	Full excise duty paid on liquor by firms from whom purchased.
14th Madras Infantry.	St. Thomas' Mount, Madras.	No duty paid by regiment on beer supplied—presumes distillery does.
15th Madras Infantry.	Rangoon	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
16th Madras Infantry.	Do.	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
20th Madras Infantry.	Miranshah	No report received.
21st Madras Pioneers.	Belgaum	Beer supplied is purchased from a local merchant and price paid by the regiment includes duty paid by the vendor.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc—*cont.*

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
22nd Madras Infantry.	Berhampur	Reports that under sanction of the Collector of Ganjām some rum was issued to the canteen from the Aska distillery at Rs. 1-12-0 per gallon duty, afterwards this sanction was withdrawn and the duty of Rs. 6 per gallon demanded, a rate which makes it impossible for the men to buy.
26th Madras Infantry.	Belgaum	Full excise duty is paid by vendors before the beer leaves the brewery.
27th Madras Infantry.	Trichinopoly	Beer supplied to the canteen delivered free of all charges, no duty being paid by the regiment.
28th Madras Infantry.	Madras	Beer purchased from Messrs Leighton & Co, Madras, for the regimental canteen is duty paid.
29th Burma Madras Infantry.	Fort Stedman, Burma.	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	Meiktila, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
32nd Madras Infantry.	Mandalay, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
33rd Madras Infantry.	Keng-Tung	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.

Order—No. 4032, Revenue, dated 8th October 1898.

Miscellaneous.

The Board's Proceedings read above will be forwarded to the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces for the favour of remarks on the points raised in paragraphs 1 and 2.

2. With reference to the statement in paragraph 3, that the duty on liquor sold at Regimental canteens is not credited to "Excise", the Board of Revenue is requested to address the Controller of Military Accounts on the subject through the Adjutant-General if necessary.

3. With reference to the list of canteens received from the Deputy Adjutant-General and forwarded herewith, the Board of Revenue is requested to call upon the Collectors concerned to report whether liquor is issued from the canteens to anyone except soldiers.

(True Extract.)

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, Separate Revenue, with list.
" Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command,
with Board's Proceedings No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Government of Madras.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Recd. } 1914. *Enclosures*
Regd. *Spare copies*

G.O. No. 4032, 8th October 1898.

Referring to the Board of Revenue and the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces certain questions connected with the issue of liquor from the canteens.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers :—

I

Official Memorandum—from the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.
To—the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue).
No.—146.
Dated—the 16th July 1897.

With reference to paragraph 7 of Board's Proceedings No. 181, dated 10th May 1897, the undersigned has the honour to request that information may be furnished on the following points :—

(i) It is observed that under articles 811 and 813 of the Army Regulations, Volume V, the issue of spirits to Native troops is sanctioned only when from climatic or other causes the supply is considered really necessary by regimental medical officers whose recommendation must receive the concurrence of Deputies Surgeon-General. The Board merely states that two native regimental canteens have been opened at St. Thomas Mount. It should now be reported whether the conditions laid down in the above quoted articles of the Army Regulations have been satisfied in these cases.

(ii) The military authorities do not appear to hold any licenses for the issue of liquor to troops. It should be reported why no licenses are required in their case.

(iii) In regard to regimental canteens it is understood that rum is issued in bulk on requisition at 25° under proof at Rs. 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. It is not understood why As. 9 are taken as excise duty while the proper duty is Rs. 4½, nor who gets this As. 9. Again the rum is issued to soldiers at As. 2 per dram or Rs. 6 per gallon *plus* excise duty. It should be reported as to what is done with the difference between the amount paid for by the soldiers and that paid for by the canteen and as to how As. 9 can be paid on 48 drams.

II

Copies of paragraphs 811—815, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat.

811. The issue of spirits to Native troops is only authorised when from climate or other causes it is considered really necessary. The indent (Commissariat form 65) must clearly show the grounds on which the issue is recommended, and should be countersigned by the General Officer Commanding the district.

812. Even under such circumstances, rum is not claimable from the Commissariat as a right, and will not be granted for more than one month at a time, unless, at the expiration of the period, the medical authorities consider further issue absolotely necessary.

S.G.O.B. 14 and 298 of 1876 A R.B. vii, 184.

813. The quantity of rum to be thus issued is restricted to one dram per man (for the number recommended) per diem and is to be issued at 25 per cent. under proof and paid for at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon, the amount being credited to Government in the pay list and " General State " of the regiment. This order does not affect certain regiments peculiarly situated which receive rum under special Government sanction—see paragraph 815.

814. The sanction here given must be exercised as sparingly as possible. Tea may sometimes prove an efficient substitute for spirits and in such instances the issue may be made on payment under the above medical restrictions.

Government of Madras, 3182 of 1874. Government of Bombay, dated 9th April 1896 Government of India, Nos. 2046 of 1873 and 3182 and 1121 of 1874, 1085 of 1875 and 477 S.D. and 1131 S.D. of 1882, Cir. C.G. B. 67 and 90 of 1882.

815. Rum may be issued at Port Blair on the recommendation of the Medical Officer. One hogshead of rum per mensem on indent is allowed to Sikhs and Christians of the second regiment, Central India horse. Rum is also allowed on indent to the 39th (the Garhwal Rifle) regiment of Bengal Infantry and the Goorkha regiments, on the understanding that the State is put to no expense, and that it gives the men no right to claim it in the field; also on indent to the Deputy Commissioner of the Chittagong hill tracts for the use of the Police.

III

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 10th February 1898.
No.—A/N.T. 2296.

In continuation of my Memorandum, No. A/N.T. 18654 of 24th November 1897.

A copy of this office Circular No. N.A. 942, dated 26th May 1893, which is the authority for the establishment of Regimental Canteens in this command, is herewith forwarded together with a schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments furnishing further particulars.

2. The report from the Commandant 13th Madras Infantry will follow when received.

Enclosures.

(i)

Circular Memorandum—from Brigadier-General H. W. Pearson, Adjutant-General, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.
To—the Officer Commanding Regiment, Madras Infantry (through General Officer Commanding district).
Dated—Ootacamund, the 26th May 1893.
No.—N.A.-942.

The question of the establishment within the lines of Native Regiments of some place in which, under regimental arrangements good and sound liquor can be sold to Native soldiers, having been considered by the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant-General is desired to remark as follows.

2. In view of the very deleterious liquor sold in Native bazaars and of the undesirable nature of the surroundings of the shops where such is sold, the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the establishment of a canteen where good liquor could be obtained, would be in the interests of Native soldiers, and he has no objection to such being established provided that no extra expense is hereby incurred by the state.

3. It will be necessary that these canteens which are entirely optional, should be conducted on some fixed principle and with this view Commanding Officers should draw up and submit to General Officers Commanding Districts for their approval such orders as they may deem called for, to ensure that order is maintained and that the institution is not abused.

4. Such rules will doubtless differ in minor points in different stations, according to local conditions but the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the following points call for attention in all cases in which canteens in Native Regiments are established :—

A

Arrangements must be made by the Officer Commanding with the Local Civil Authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary.

B

The canteen should on no account be established in the centre of the lines where any noise or disturbance can take place without the knowledge or observation of the British officers, and where soldiers might meet for gambling.

If no existing building is available, a shed should be erected on the outskirts of the lines and not far from the Bells of arms, Barracks and Quarter guard.

C

Commanding officers must be most careful in satisfying themselves that the liquor supplied is of good quality.

D

Fixed hours of issue should be appointed and during these hours a thoroughly trustworthy and reliable Non-Commissioned officer is to be present who will be held responsible that order is maintained.

E

The orderly officer should visit the canteen daily and the British officer of the week frequently at uncertain hours.

F

Commanding officers should make it a point to exercise the strictest personal supervision over the Institution which is open to abuse if British officers be careless or apathetic.

G

General officers commanding districts should from time to time, when convenient visit these canteens to satisfy themselves that their establishment is really beneficial to the men.

5. Messrs. Leishman & Co., Nilgiri Brewery Company are prepared to supply wholesome beer of light gravity at the following rates :—To all stations in the Madras Command except Burmah, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 40 per hogshead—to Rangoon, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 42 per hogshead.

6. These prices are quoted merely for the information of Commanding officers who are, of course, at liberty to obtain the liquor they require from any firm they may choose to select.

7. In cases in which canteens are established, Commanding Officers will be good enough to submit, through District authorities, a report to this office on their working after a period of six months has elapsed, General Officers Commanding in forwarding these reports will express their opinion on the experiment.

(ii)

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens.

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
1st Madras Lancers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
3rd Do. (a)	....	Do.		..	....	....	(a) Establishment in Secunderabad against terms of agreement between British Government and His Highness the Nizam's Government.
"Queen's Own Madras Sappers and Miners.	5-30 A.M. to 9 P.M. ..	Beer and stout ..	Both Rs. 1-1-4 per quart.	No ..	Cannot be stated as they vary with strength at Head-quarters but very nearly every man uses the canteen.	Benefit of the men, maintenance and supply of buildings, sums given for festivals, provide free coffee and hoppers for men on Field Days, etc.	
1st Madras Pioneers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Madras Infantry	....	Do. (a)		..	....	....	
3rd Madras Light Infantry ..	....	Do.		..	....	....	
4th Madras Pioneers	6 P.M. to 8 P.M. (During the day if specially ordered on any feast day.)	Beer and rum (when procurable).	Beer As. 3-4 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No ..	Three-fourths of the Regiment or 625 men.	Benefit of the men such as free food on the march, etc.	
5th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
6th Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
7th Do.	11 A.M. to 12 Noon, 5-30 P.M. to 8 P.M.	Beer and rum.. ..	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No ..	183	Benefit of the men, free ammunition for pool shooting, cricket, foot-ball, etc.	
8th Do.	4 P.M. to 9 P.M. (10 A.M. to 1 P.M. on Sundays and Thursdays as well as in the evening).	Do.	Beer As. 4-8 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No ..	75	Prizes for sports among the men.	
9th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
10th Burma Rifles	....	Do.		..	....	....	
11th Madras Infantry	....	Do. (a)		..	....	....	
12th Burma-Madras Infantry ..	....	Do.		..	....	....	
13th Madras Infantry	10 A.M. to 12 Noon and 4 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 a quart	No ..	260	Benefit of the men, men's necessaries, prizes for sports, donations to men discharged without pension and prizes for shooting.	
14th Do.	....	....	....	..	....	....	Report not yet received.

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens—*cont.*

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
15th Madras Infantry	Between 3-30 and 7-30 P.M.	Beer and porter	As. 4-6 a quart	No	250	Benefit of the men, regimental sports, etc.	
16th Do.	Do.	Beer and stout	Do.	No	200	Benefit of the men, purchase of barrack room, boxes, etc.	
17th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.			....	....	
19th Do. (a)	....	Do.			....	....	
20th Do.	5 to 7 P.M.	Beer and rum	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum 3 oz. As. 1-6.	No	Nearly 400	No profit at present owing to expenses paid on journey from Vizianagaram to Meerut.	
21st Madras Pioneers	....	....	....		....	....	On Field service depot, unable to report as no canteen exists.
22nd Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up	....		....	....	
23rd Madras Light Infantry	2 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer Whisky Brandy Arrack	As. 3 per quart As. 5-4 per dram As. 4-6 " As. 1-8 "	No	170	Benefit of men, prizes at Regimental sports, paying carriage of certain Regimental necessaries, etc.	
24th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.			....	....	
25th Do.	....	Do.			....	....	
26th Do.	5 P.M. to 8-30 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 per quart	No	150	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, advancing money to obtain practice ammunition at cheap rates.	
27th Do.	4-30 P.M. to 7-30 P.M.	Do.	As. 5 per quart	No	500	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, etc., replacing foot-ball and cricket gear, paying for ammunition to improve shooting.	
28th Do.	....	No canteen kept up	....		....	....	
29th Burma-Madras Infantry	9-30 A.M. to 12 Noon and 2 P.M. to 7 P.M.	Rum only	As. 1-4 per 4 ozs.	No	850	Benefit of the men, Regimental sports, etc.	
30th Do.	....	No canteen kept up	....		....	....	
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	10 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 6 to 8-30 P.M.	Beer and porter only.	As. 3 per quart	No	70	To the Regimental coffee shop to supply the men with sugar, tea, etc.	
32nd Burma-Madras Infantry	5 to 6-30 P.M.	Rum*	6 pies per dram	No	Sikhs 426, Christians 32, Followers 24.	No profits, the sum charged being actual cost.	* No Regimental canteen establishment but rum supplied three times a week one dram per man to be drank on the spot.
33rd Do.	5 to 6 P.M. (Twice weekly)	Beer and rum	As. 5 per quart. Anna 1 per dram.	No	450	Benefit of the men, sports, etc.	

IV

Letter—from the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.
To—the Adjutant-General in India.
Dated—the 23rd January 1897.
No.—407-D.

The question of the expediency of continuing the present practice under which rum supplied to troops on payment is issued at a price which does not include the customs or excise duty levied on rum consumed by the public, has recently been under the consideration of the Government of India, and the conclusion arrived at is that the practice is opposed to the principles which underlie the policy, long accepted and carried into effect in India as in other countries, of imposing customs and excise duties on spirits, and that it is inexpedient to allow soldiers to buy spirits at a cheaper rate than their fellow countrymen in India. The Government of India have accordingly decided that the issue of duty-free rum to soldiers, whether British or Native, shall be discontinued as soon as this can conveniently be arranged.

2. In view, however, of the length of time during which the exemption from duty of rum issued to the troops has been in force, and of the reasons which led to the grant of such exemption, it is considered desirable that the change in system should be effected gradually. The rate of duty to be ultimately imposed should in the opinion of Government of India be the rate of excise duty in force in the province in which the troops purchasing the rum are located. In Madras, Bombay and Burma, rum manufactured in India is already excised at the full rate of duty leviable on spirits imported from Europe, namely, Rs. 6 a gallon of proof strength. In Bengal the excise duty is Rs. 5 a gallon, and in the Punjab and North-Western Provinces Rs. 4; but these rates are liable to be raised so as to equal the full import duty on foreign liquor. To raise the price of the rum supplied to troops in all parts of India by an amount which shall correspond approximately to As. 12 a gallon (or 12·5 per cent. of the full duty leviable), will therefore be a moderate and tentative advance in the direction desired. This will be equivalent to an increase of As. 2 in the price of a bottle of the size of a reputed quart, which is believed to be the size of the bottles in which rum is sold; and this increase has been decided on as the first instalment of the imposition of duty.

3. I am, therefore, to request that, under the orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, instructions may be issued to enhance the price of a reputed quart bottle of rum by As. 2, with effect from the 1st April 1897, and to say that the Government of India would be glad to be favoured with a report on the effects of the measure not later than 31st December 1897, to admit of the feasibility of further raising the duty with effect from 1st April 1898, being duly considered.

V

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. L. Eliot, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 2nd July 1897.
No.—C. 2117.

This department obtains its supply of rum (country manufactured) by contract and the last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs. Morrison & Co., Arcot, at Rs. 1-1-3 per 1 gallon 50° proof or at As. 12-4 per 1 gallon 25° under proof.

2. The rum at 25° under proof is issued in bulk to regimental canteens on requisitions at Rs. 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. This rum is retailed to troops at As. 2 per dram plus excise duty. So far as is known in this office the military authorities do not hold any licenses for the issue of liquor.

3. Rum is not supplied by this department to Native troops under ordinary circumstances, but only when specially authorised—*vide* paragraph 811, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat: the issue is made as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* and paid for by the troops at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon.

No. A./B.T. 10249, *dated 2nd July* 1897.

Forwarded with reference to your telephone message of the 24th ultimo.

G. SIMPSON,
Brigadier-General, Deputy Adjutant-General.

To the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

VI

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. H. ELIOT, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 9th October 1897.
No.—5217.

Rum—the only liquor obtained by this department for issue on payment to troops—is procured by contract (the last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs. Morison & Co., Arcot) and is issued in bulk at 25° under proof to British regimental canteens at Rs. 2 per gallon when requisitioned for with an additional charge of As. 9 per gallon on account of excise duty, which latter is credited to Government separately from the sale-proceeds of the rum, in accordance with the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 408-D, dated 23rd January 1897 (copy enclosed).

2. The rum is then retailed to the soldier by the regimental canteens at As. 2 per dram plus the excise duty or altogether at Rs. 5–9–0 per imperial gallon (40 drams) and the difference between this rate and the rate paid by the canteens, viz., Rs. 3 per gallon is, I understand, credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds. This is, however, a purely regimental arrangement with which this department has no concern.

3. As regards the issue of rum to Native troops, they are entitled to it from this department only when specially authorized in accordance with paragraphs * 811–815, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat, and in that case, the rum is paid for by the troops at Rs. 2–8–0 per gallon as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* plus the excise duty. This department has no concern with the further distribution of the spirit after its original issue in bulk, nor has it any connection whatever with the Native regimental canteens where such may exist.

* Copy herewith.

4. The circumstances under which As. 9 per gallon of rum at 25° under proof are charged as excise duty, are explained in the accompanying copy of the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 407-D, dated 23rd January 1897.

Equivalent of As. 12 per gallon of proof rum.

5. So far as I am aware the question of a license in this connection being considered necessary, for this department has never been raised previously, and I can only imagine that this is because issues so made are made under the orders of Government and for Government purposes.

6. The question in its relation to regimental canteens is one which I am not in a position to deal with and I can only suggest the matter being referred to the Deputy Adjutant-General of the Command.

VII

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. H. LAWSON, Commandent, 13th Madras Infantry.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—the 29th January 1898.

With reference to your Memorandum No. A./N.T. 18840, dated Ootacamund, 26th November 1897, I have the honour to furnish information as follows :—

(1) (*a*) The regimental canteen is open daily.
(*b*) Between the hours 10 and 11 A.M. and 4 and 8 P.M.
(*c*) Sepoys and regimental followers only are allowed to frequent the canteen.

(2) Beer, rum, and mineral waters are sold.

(3) The beer is obtained from Messrs. Leeshman & Co., Ootacamund.

The rum from Messrs. E. Dyer & Co., Mandalay, during the stay of the regiment at Thayetangi.

(4) Beer is sold at As. 2 per pint and rum As. 2–6 pies per dram.

(5) The profits are expended for the good of the men of the regiment.

(6) The canteen was opened on the 1st October 1894, *vide* my No. 327 of 2nd July 1894 to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Southern district, in accordance with Adjutant-General's Circular No. A.A. 962, dated 25th May 1893, and my report No. 145 B submitted to you on the 10th April 1895.

(7) The average number of men frequenting the canteen is about 200 daily.

Endorsement No. 3063.

Forwarded in continuation of my Memorandum No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898.

G. SIMPSON,
Brigadier-General.

VIII

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue), Mis. No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Read—the following papers :—

(i)

Official Memorandum No. 146, *Revenue, dated* 16*th July* 1897.

ABSTRACT.—Requesting certain information regarding the supply of spirits to troops.

(ii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 899, *Revenue, dated* 21*st February* 1898.

ABSTRACT.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 2237, dated 4th December 1897, a copy of the office circular from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, showing the authority for the establishment of regimental canteens in his command, etc.

(iii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 1105, *Revenue, dated* 4*th March* 1898.

ABSTRACT.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 899, dated 21st February 1898, letter submitted by the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, No. A.N.T. 3063, dated 24th February 1898.

Resolution—Mis. No. 1220, *dated* 23*rd March* 1898.

The Board begs to submit the following reply to the Official Memorandum from Government No. 146, dated 16th July 1897 :—

(1) The Native regimental canteens referred to are reported to have been instituted under the authority of Circular No. NA/942, dated 26th May 1893, of the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, copy of which is enclosed. The circular would appear to overlook the provisions of the Army Regulations quoted by Government. The Board would therefore request that the Lieutenant-General Commanding may be addressed as to the authority for its issue.

(2) As will be observed the Commanding officers are directed in the circular above quoted to make arrangements with local civil authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary, but no applications have been received for any licenses nor have any been issued. According to the strict letter of the law licenses would appear to be necessary both in the case of canteens and in that of sales by the Commissariat Department.

(3) As regards the rate of duty levied upon liquor issued to soldiers it appears that up to the year 1897 such liquor was issued duty-free. In that year it was decided to impose a duty, but in order not to enhance the price of liquor too suddenly the duty is only being imposed by degrees. For the present it is being levied at the rate of As. 12 per proof gallon or As. 9 per gallon of 25° under proof. This duty has been ordered to be credited to the head of V. Excise, but the order does not appear to be enforced in this Presidency. Copies of letters Nos. 407 D, dated 23rd January 1897, and 408 D of the same date from the Secretaty to Government of India, Military Department, which contain full information on these points are enclosed. As regards the difference between the price paid by the canteens for the liquor and the price realized for the same it is stated that these sums are credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds according to the arrangements in force in the regiments in question. It may be added—as reported by the Commissary General—that rum—the only liquor obtained by his department for issue on payment to troops—is procured on contract and their last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs Morrison & Co., North Arcot.

(True Extract.)

R. M. Thurley,
Ag. Assistant Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with three enclosures.

IX

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 7th July 1898.
No.—A/B. T. 10942.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum for currunt No. 2874 of 2nd July 1898.]

A list of the localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both British and Native, are kept up, is enclosed.

Enclosure.

List of localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both European and Native, are kept up.

Station.	Locality.
Bangalore	British Cavalry Barracks. Royal Artillery do. British Infantry do. "Q.O." Madras Sappers and Miners Lines.
Wellington	Depot Barracks. British Infantry Barracks.
Ootacamund	Fourth Madras Pioneers Lines.
Fort St. George	Royal Artillery Barracks. British Infantry do.
St. Thomas' Mount	Royal Artillery do. Fourteenth Madras Infantry Lines.
Pallavaram	E A.V. Company Barracks.
Poonamallee	Depôt Barracks.
Trichinopoly	27th Madras Infantry Lines.
Bellary	Royal Artillery Barracks. British Infantry do.
Cannanore	Do. do.
Calicut	Do. do.
Malappuram	Do. do.

X

Official Memorandum No. 164, Revenue, dated 22nd July 1898.

With reference to his letter No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898, the Deputy Adjutant-General is requested to be good enough to state whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.), supplied to canteens of Native regiments and if so, whether it is purchased duty paid or whether duty is paid by the military authorities on its issue from the distillery or brewery.

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.

XI

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 23rd August 1898.
No.—A./N.T. 13656.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum No. 164 of 22nd July 1898.]

Herewith a schedule of replies from the Officers Commanding those Madras Regiments which maintain canteens showing how excise duty is paid on liquor (rum, beer, etc.), purchased.

2. The reply from the Officer Commanding 20th Madras Infantry, will follow when received.

Enclosure.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc.

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
"Q.O." Sappers and Miners.	Bangalore	Excise duty is paid at Ootacamund by Nilgiri Brewery Company for ale and stout purchased for which permits are obtained from the Collector of the Nilgiris prior to despatch of consignments to Bangalore.
4th Madras Pioneers ...	Ootacamund	Full duty paid for rum supplied after receipt for Commissariat Department, that is to say, the Commissariat Department include the duty in the bill. Full duty is paid for beer by private dealers and added to the cost of beer supplied to the canteen.
7th Madras Infantry ...	Kamptee	Full excise duty is paid by firms from whom liquor is purchased.
8th Madras Infantry ...	Barrackpore	Liquor purchasad duty paid.
13th Madras Infantry.	Raipur, Central Provinces.	Full excise duty paid on liquor by firms from whom purchased.
14th Madras Infantry.	St. Thomas' Mount, Madras.	No duty paid by regiment on beer supplied—presumes distillery does.
15th Madras Infantry.	Rangoon	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
16th Madras Infantry.	Do.	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
20th Madras Infantry.	Miranshah	No report received.
21st Madras Pioneers.	Belgaum	Beer supplied is purchased from a local merchant and price paid by the regiment includes duty paid by the vendor.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc—*cont.*

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
22nd Madras Infantry.	Berhampur	Reports that under sanction of the Collector of Ganjām some rum was issued to the canteen from the Aska distillery at Rs. 1-12-0 per gallon duty, afterwards this sanction was withdrawn and the duty of Rs. 6 per gallon demanded, a rate which makes it impossible for the men to buy.
26th Madras Infantry.	Belgaum	Full excise duty is paid by vendors before the beer leaves the brewery.
27th Madras Infantry.	Trichinopoly	Beer supplied to the canteen delivered free of all charges, no duty being paid by the regiment.
28th Madras Infantry.	Madras	Beer purchased from Messrs Leighton & Co , Madras, for the regimental canteen is duty paid.
29th Burma Madras Infantry.	Fort Stedman, Burma.	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	Meiktila, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
32nd Madras Infantry.	Mandalay, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
33rd Madras Infantry.	Keng-Tung	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.

Order—No. 4032, Revenue, dated 8th October 1898.

Miscellaneous.

The Board's Proceedings read above will be forwarded to the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces for the favour of remarks on the points raised in paragraphs 1 and 2.

2. With reference to the statement in paragraph 3, that the duty on liquor sold at Regimental canteens is not credited to " Excise ", the Board of Revenue is requested to address the Controller of Military Accounts on the subject through the Adjutant-General if necessary.

3. With reference to the list of canteens received from the Deputy Adjutant-General and forwarded herewith, the Board of Revenue is requested to call upon the Collectors concerned to report whether liquor is issued from the canteens to anyone except soldiers.

(True Extract.)

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, Separate Revenue, with list.
" Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command,
with Board's Proceedings No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Government of Madras.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Recd. } 1914. *Enclosures*
Regd. } *Spare copies*

G.O. No. 4032, 8th October 1898.

Referring to the Board of Revenue and the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces certain questions connected with the issue of liquor from the canteens.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers :—

I

Official Memorandum—from the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

To—the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue).

No.—146.

Dated—the 16th July 1897.

With reference to paragraph 7 of Board's Proceedings No. 181, dated 10th May 1897, the undersigned has the honour to request that information may be furnished on the following points :—

(i) It is observed that under articles 811 and 813 of the Army Regulations, Volume V, the issue of spirits to Native troops is sanctioned only when from climatic or other causes the supply is considered really necessary by regimental medical officers whose recommendation must receive the concurrence of Deputies Surgeon-General. The Board merely states that two native regimental canteens have been opened at St. Thomas Mount. It should now be reported whether the conditions laid down in the above quoted articles of the Army Regulations have been satisfied in these cases.

(ii) The military authorities do not appear to hold any licenses for the issue of liquor to troops. It should be reported why no licenses are required in their case.

(iii) In regard to regimental canteens it is understood that rum is issued in bulk on requisition at 25° under proof at Rs. 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. It is not understood why As. 9 are taken as excise duty while the proper duty is Rs. 4½, nor who gets this As. 9. Again the rum is issued to soldiers at As. 2 per dram or Rs. 6 per gallon *plus* excise duty. It should be reported as to what is done with the difference between the amount paid for by the soldiers and that paid for by the canteen and as to how As. 9 can be paid on 48 drams.

II

Copies of paragraphs 811—815, *Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat.*

811. The issue of spirits to Native troops is only authorised when from climate or other causes it is considered really necessary. The indent (Commissariat form 65) must clearly show the grounds on which the issue is recommended, and should be countersigned by the General Officer Commanding the district.

812. Even under such circumstances, rum is not claimable from the Commissariat as a right, and will not be granted for more than one month at a time, unless, at the expiration of the period, the medical authorities consider further issue absolotely necessary.

S.G.O.B. 14 and 298 of 1876 A R.B. vii, 184.

813. The quantity of rum to be thus issued is restricted to one dram per man (for the number recommended) per diem and is to be issued at 25 per cent. under proof and paid for at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon, the amount being credited to Government in the pay list and "General State" of the regiment. This order does not affect certain regiments peculiarly situated which receive rum under special Government sanction—see paragraph 815.

814. The sanction here given must be exercised as sparingly as possible. Tea may sometimes prove an efficient substitute for spirits and in such instances the issue may be made on payment under the above medical restrictions.

Government of Madras, 3182 of 1874. Government of Bombay, dated 9th April 1896. Government of India, Nos. 2046 of 1873 and 3182 and 1121 of 1874, 1085 of 1875 and 477 S.D. and 1131 S.D. of 1882, Cir. C.G. B. 67 and 90 of 1882.

815. Rum may be issued at Port Blair on the recommendation of the Medical Officer. One hogshead of rum per mensem on indent is allowed to Sikhs and Christians of the second regiment, Central India horse. Rum is also allowed on indent to the 39th (the Garhwal Rifle) regiment of Bengal Infantry and the Goorkha regiments, on the understanding that the State is put to no expense, and that it gives the men no right to claim it in the field; also on indent to the Deputy Commissioner of the Chittagong hill tracts for the use of the Police.

III

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.

To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Dated—Ootacamund, the 10th February 1898.

No.—A/N.T. 2296.

In continuation of my Memorandum, No. A/N.T. 18654 of 24th November 1897.

A copy of this office Circular No. N.A. 942, dated 26th May 1893, which is the authority for the establishment of Regimental Canteens in this command, is herewith forwarded together with a schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments furnishing further particulars.

2. The report from the Commandant 13th Madras Infantry will follow when received.

Enclosures.

(i)

Circular Memorandum—from Brigadier-General H. W. Pearson, Adjutant-General, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.

To—the Officer Commanding Regiment, Madras Infantry (through General Officer Commanding district).

Dated—Ootacamund, the 26th May 1893.

No.—N.A.-942.

The question of the establishment within the lines of Native Regiments of some place in which, under regimental arrangements good and sound liquor can be sold to Native soldiers, having been considered by the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant-General is desired to remark as follows.

2. In view of the very deleterious liquor sold in Native bazaars and of the undesirable nature of the surroundings of the shops where such is sold, the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the establishment of a canteen where good liquor could be obtained, would be in the interests of Native soldiers, and he has no objection to such being established provided that no extra expense is hereby incurred by the state.

3. It will be necessary that these canteens which are entirely optional, should be conducted on some fixed principle and with this view Commanding Officers should draw up and submit to General Officers Commanding Districts for their approval such orders as they may deem called for, to ensure that order is maintained and that the institution is not abused.

4. Such rules will doubtless differ in minor points in different stations, according to local conditions but the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the following points call for attention in all cases in which canteens in Native Regiments are established :—

A

Arrangements must be made the Officer Commanding with the Local Civil Authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary.

B

The canteen should on no account be established in the centre of the lines where any noise or disturbance can take place without the knowledge or observation of the British officers, and where soldiers might meet for gambling.

If no existing building is available, a shed should be erected on the outskirts of the lines and not far from the Bells of arms, Barracks and Quarter guard.

C

Commanding officers must be most careful in satisfying themselves that the liquor supplied is of good quality.

D

Fixed hours of issue should be appointed and during these hours a thoroughly trustworthy and reliable Non-Commissioned officer is to be present who will be held responsible that order is maintained.

E

The orderly officer should visit the canteen daily and the British officer of the week frequently at uncertain hours.

F

Commanding officers should make it a point to exercise the strictest personal supervision over the Institution which is open to abuse if British officers be careless or apathetic.

G

General officers commanding districts should from time to time, when convenient visit these canteens to satisfy themselves that their establishment is really beneficial to the men.

5. Messrs. Leishman & Co., Nilgiri Brewery Company are prepared to supply wholesome beer of light gravity at the following rates :—To all stations in the Madras Command except Burmah, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 40 per hogshead—to Rangoon, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 42 per hogshead.

6. These prices are quoted merely for the information of Commanding officers who are, of course, at liberty to obtain the liquor they require from any firm they may choose to select.

7. In cases in which canteens are established, Commanding Officers will be good enough to submit, through District authorities, a report to this office on their working after a period of six months has elapsed, General Officers Commanding in forwarding these reports will express their opinion on the experiment.

(ii)

SCHEDULE of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens.

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
1st Madras Lancers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
3rd Do. (a)	....	Do.		..	....	....	(a) Establishment in Secunderabad against terms of agreement between British Government and His Highness the Nizam's Government.
"Queen's Own Madras Sappers and Miners.	5-30 A.M. to 9 P.M. ..	Beer and stout ..	Both Rs. 1-1-4 per quart.	No	Cannot be stated as they vary with strength at Head-quarters but very nearly every man uses the canteen.	Benefit of the men, maintenance and supply of buildings, sums given for festivals, provide free coffee and hoppers for men on Field Days, etc.	
1st Madras Pioneers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Madras Infantry	....	Do. (a)		..	....	....	
3rd Madras Light Infantry ..	....	Do.		..	....	....	
4th Madras Pioneers	6 P.M. to 8 P.M. (During the day if specially ordered on any feast day.)	Beer and rum (when procurable).	Beer As. 3-4 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No	Three-fourths of the Regiment or 625 men.	Benefit of the men such as free food on the march, etc.	
5th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	..	
6th Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
7th Do.	11 A.M. to 12 Noon, 5-30 P.M. to 8 P.M.	Beer and rum.. ..	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum As. 3 per dram.	No	185	Benefit of the men, free ammunition for pool shooting, cricket, foot-ball, etc.	
8th Do.	4 P.M. to 9 P.M. (10 A.M. to 1 P.M. on Sundays and Thursdays as well as in the evening).	Do.	Beer As. 4-8 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No ..	75	Prizes for sports among the men.	
9th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
10th Burma Rifles	....	Do.		..	....	....	
11th Madras Infantry	....	Do. (a)		..	....	....	
12th Burma-Madras Infantry ..	....	Do.		..	....	....	
13th Madras Infantry	....	....	....	..	....	....	Report not yet received.
14th Do.	10 A.M. to 12 Noon and 4 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 a quart ..	No	260	Benefit of the men, men's necessaries, prizes for sports, donations to men discharged without pension and prizes for shooting.	

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens—*cont.*

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
15th Madras Infantry	Between 3-30 and 7-30 P.M.	Beer and porter	As. 4-6 a quart	No	250	Benefit of the men, regimental sports, etc.	
16th Do.	Do.	Beer and stout	Do.	No	200	Benefit of the men, purchase of barrack room, boxes, etc.	
17th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.			....	....	
19th Do. (*a*)	....	Do.			....	....	
20th Do.	5 to 7 P.M.	Beer and rum	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum 3 oz. As. 1-6.	No	Nearly 400	No profit at present owing to expenses paid on journey from Vizianagaram to Meerut.	
21st Madras Pioneers	....	....	....		....	....	
22nd Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up	....		....	....	On Field service depot, unable to report as no canteen exists.
23rd Madras Light Infantry	2 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer Whisky Brandy Arrack	As. 3 per quart As. 5-4 per dram As. 4-6 " As. 1-8 "	No	170	Benefit of men, prizes at Regimental sports, paying carriage of certain Regimental necessaries, etc.	
24th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.			....	....	
25th Do.	....	Do.			....	....	
26th Do.	5 P.M. to 8-30 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 per quart	No	150	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, advancing money to obtain practice ammunition at cheap rates.	
27th Do.	4-30 P.M. to 7-30 P.M.	Do.	As. 6 per quart	No	500	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, etc., replacing foot-ball and cricket gear, paying for ammunition to improve shooting.	
28th Do.	....	No canteen kept up	....		....	....	
29th Burma-Madras Infantry	9-30 A.M. to 12 Noon and 2 P.M. to 7 P.M.	Rum only	As. 1-4 per 4 ozs.	No	850	Benefit of the men, Regimental sports, etc.	
30th Do.	....	No canteen kept up	....		....	....	
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	10 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 6 to 8-30 P.M.	Beer and porter only.	As. 3 per quart	No	70	To the Regimental coffee shop to supply the men with sugar, tea, etc.	
32nd Burma-Madras Infantry	5 to 6-30 P.M.	Rum*	6 pies per dram	No	Sikhs 426, Christians 32, Followers 24.	No profits, the sum charged being actual cost.	* No Regimental canteen establishment but rum supplied three times a week one dram per man to be drunk on the spot.
33rd Do.	5 to 6 P.M. (Twice weekly)	Beer and rum	As. 5 per quart. Anna 1 per dram.	No	450	Benefit of the men, sports, etc.	

IV

Letter—from the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.
To—the Adjutant-General in India.
Dated—the 23rd January 1897.
No.—407-D.

The question of the expediency of continuing the present practice under which rum supplied to troops on payment is issued at a price which does not include the customs or excise duty levied on rum consumed by the public, has recently been under the consideration of the Government of India, and the conclusion arrived at is that the practice is opposed to the principles which underlie the policy, long accepted and carried into effect in India as in other countries, of imposing customs and excise duties on spirits, and that it is inexpedient to allow soldiers to buy spirits at a cheaper rate than their fellow countrymen in India. The Government of India have accordingly decided that the issue of duty-free rum to soldiers, whether British or Native, shall be discontinued as soon as this can conveniently be arranged.

2. In view, however, of the length of time during which the exemption from duty of rum issued to the troops has been in force, and of the reasons which led to the grant of such exemption, it is considered desirable that the change in system should be effected gradually. The rate of duty to be ultimately imposed should in the opinion of Government of India be the rate of excise duty in force in the province in which the troops purchasing the rum are located. In Madras, Bombay and Burma, rum manufactured in India is already excised at the full rate of duty leviable on spirits imported from Europe, namely, Rs. 6 a gallon of proof strength. In Bengal the excise duty is Rs. 5 a gallon, and in the Punjab and North-Western Provinces Rs. 4; but these rates are liable to be raised so as to equal the full import duty on foreign liquor. To raise the price of the rum supplied to troops in all parts of India by an amount which shall correspond approximately to As. 12 a gallon (or 12·5 per cent. of the full duty leviable), will therefore be a moderate and tentative advance in the direction desired. This will be equivalent to an increase of As. 2 in the price of a bottle of the size of a reputed quart, which is believed to be the size of the bottles in which rum is sold; and this increase has been decided on as the first instalment of the imposition of duty.

3. I am, therefore, to request that, under the orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, instructions may be issued to enhance the price of a reputed quart bottle of rum by As. 2, with effect from the 1st April 1897, and to say that the Government of India would be glad to be favoured with a report on the effects of the measure not later than 31st December 1897, to admit of the feasibility of further raising the duty with effect from 1st April 1898, being duly considered.

V

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. L. Eliot, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 2nd July 1897.
No.—C. 2117.

This department obtains its supply of rum (country manufactured) by contract and the last supply was obtained in 1894-95 from Messrs. Morrison & Co., Arcot, at Rs. 1-1-3 per 1 gallon 50° proof or at As. 12-4 per 1 gallon 25° under proof.

2. The rum at 25° under proof is issued in bulk to regimental canteens on requisitions at Rs 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. This rum is retailed to troops at As. 2 per dram plus excise duty. So far as is known in this office the military authorities do not hold any licenses for the issue of liquor.

3. Rum is not supplied by this department to Native troops under ordinary circumstances, but only when specially authorised—*vide* paragraph 811, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat: the issue is made as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* and paid for by the troops at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon.

No. A./B.T. 10249, *dated 2nd July* 1897.

Forwarded with reference to your telephone message of the 24th ultimo.

G. SIMPSON,
Brigadier-General, Deputy Adjutant-General.

To the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

VI

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. H. ELIOT, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 9th October 1897.
No.—5217.

Rum—the only liquor obtained by this department for issue on payment to troops—is procured by contract (the last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs. Morison & Co., Arcot) and is issued in bulk at 25° under proof to British regimental canteens at Rs. 2 per gallon when requisitioned for with an additional charge of As. 9 per gallon on account of excise duty, which latter is credited to Government separately from the sale-proceeds of the rum, in accordance with the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 408-D, dated 23rd January 1897 (copy enclosed).

2. The rum is then retailed to the soldier by the regimental canteens at As. 2 per dram plus the excise duty or altogether at Rs. 5–9–0 per imperial gallon (40 drams) and the difference between this rate and the rate paid by the canteens, viz., Rs. 3 per gallon is, I understand, credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds. This is, however, a purely regimental arrangement with which this department has no concern.

3. As regards the issue of rum to Native troops, they are entitled to it from this department only when specially authorized in accordance with paragraphs * 811–815, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat, and in that case, the rum is paid for by the troops at Rs. 2–8–0 per gallon as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* plus the excise duty. This department has no concern with the further distribution of the spirit after its original issue in bulk, nor has it any connection whatever with the Native regimental canteens where such may exist.

* Copy herewith.

4. The circumstances under which As. 9 per gallon of rum at 25° under proof are charged as excise duty, are explained in the accompanying copy of the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 407-D, dated 23rd January 1897.

Equivalent of As. 12 per gallon of proof rum.

5. So far as I am aware the question of a license in this connection being considered necessary, for this department has never been raised previously, and I can only imagine that this is because issues so made are made under the orders of Government and for Government purposes.

6. The question in its relation to regimental canteens is one which I am not in a position to deal with and I can only suggest the matter being referred to the Deputy Adjutant-General of the Command.

VII

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. H. LAWSON, Commandent, 13th Madras Infantry.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—the 29th January 1898.

With reference to your Memorandum No. A./N.T. 18840, dated Ootacamund, 26th November 1897, I have the honour to furnish information as follows :—

(1) (*a*) The regimental canteen is open daily.
(*b*) Between the hours 10 and 11 A.M. and 4 and 8 P.M.
(*c*) Sepoys and regimental followers only are allowed to frequent the canteen.

(2) Beer, rum, and mineral waters are sold.

(3) The beer is obtained from Messrs. Leeshman & Co., Ootacamund.

The rum from Messrs. E. Dyer & Co., Mandalay, during the stay of the regiment at Thayetangi.

(4) Beer is sold at As. 2 per pint and rum As. 2–6 pies per dram.

(5) The profits are expended for the good of the men of the regiment.

(6) The canteen was opened on the 1st October 1894, *vide* my No. 327 of 2nd July 1894 to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Southern district, in accordance with Adjutant-General's Circular No. A.A. 962, dated 25th May 1893, and my report No. 145 B submitted to you on the 10th April 1895.

(7) The average number of men frequenting the canteen is about 200 daily.

Endorsement No. 3063.

Forwarded in continuation of my Memorandum No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898.

G. SIMPSON,
Brigadier-General.

VIII

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue), Mis. No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Read—the following papers :—

(i)

Official Memorandum No. 146, *Revenue, dated* 16*th July* 1897.

ABSTRACT.—Requesting certain information regarding the supply of spirits to troops.

(ii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 899, *Revenue, dated* 21*st February* 1898.

ABSTRACT.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 2237, dated 4th December 1897, a copy of the office circular from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, showing the authority for the establishment of regimental canteens in his command, etc.

(iii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 1105, *Revenue, dated 4th March* 1898.

ABSTRACT.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 899, dated 21st February 1898, letter submitted by the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, No. A.N.T. 3063, dated 24th February 1898.

Resolution—Mis. No. 1220, *dated 23rd March* 1898.

The Board begs to submit the following reply to the Official Memorandum from Government No. 146, dated 16th July 1897 :—

(1) The Native regimental canteens referred to are reported to have been instituted under the authority of Circular No. NA/942, dated 26th May 1893, of the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, copy of which is enclosed. The circular would appear to overlook the provisions of the Army Regulations quoted by Government. The Board would therefore request that the Lieutenant-General Commanding may be addressed as to the authority for its issue.

(2) As will be observed the Commanding officers are directed in the circular above quoted to make arrangements with local civil authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary, but no applications have been received for any licenses nor have any been issued. According to the strict letter of the law licenses would appear to be necessary both in the case of canteens and in that of sales by the Commissariat Department.

(3) As regards the rate of duty levied upon liquor issued to soldiers it appears that up to the year 1897 such liquor was issued duty-free. In that year it was decided to impose a duty, but in order not to enhance the price of liquor too suddenly the duty is only being imposed by degrees. For the present it is being levied at the rate of As. 12 per proof gallon or As. 9 per gallon of 25° under proof. This duty has been ordered to be credited to the head of V. Excise, but the order does not appear to be enforced in this Presidency. Copies of letters Nos. 407 D, dated 23rd January 1897, and 408 D of the same date from the Secretaty to Government of India, Military Department, which contain full information on these points are enclosed. As regards the difference between the price paid by the canteens for the liquor and the price realized for the same it is stated that these sums are credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds according to the arrangements in force in the regiments in question. It may be added—as reported by the Commissary General—that rum—the only liquor obtained by his department for issue on payment to troops—is procured on contract and their last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs Morrison & Co., North Arcot.

(True Extract.)

R. M. Thurley,
Ag. Assistant Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with three enclosures.

IX

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 7th July 1898.
No.—A/B. T. 10942.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum for current No. 2874 of 2nd July 1898.]

A list of the localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both British and Native, are kept up, is enclosed.

Enclosure.

List of localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both European and Native, are kept up.

Station.	Locality.
Bangalore	British Cavalry Barracks. Royal Artillery do. British Infantry do. "Q.O." Madras Sappers and Miners Lines.
Wellington	Depot Barracks. British Infantry Barracks.
Ootacamund	Fourth Madras Pioneers Lines.
Fort St. George	Royal Artillery Barracks. British Infantry do.
St. Thomas' Mount	Royal Artillery do. Fourteenth Madras Infantry Lines.
Pallavaram	E A.V. Company Barracks.
Poonamallee	Depôt Barracks.
Trichinopoly	27th Madras Infantry Lines.
Bellary	Royal Artillery Barracks. British Infantry do.
Cannanore	Do. do.
Calicut	Do. do.
Malappuram	Do. do.

X

Official Memorandum No. 164, Revenue, dated 22nd July 1898.

With reference to his letter No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898, the Deputy Adjutant-General is requested to be good enough to state whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.), supplied to canteens of Native regiments and if so, whether it is purchased duty paid or whether duty is paid by the military authorities on its issue from the distillery or brewery.

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.

XI

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 23rd August 1898.
No.—A./N.T. 13656.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum No. 164 of 22nd July 1898.]

Herewith a schedule of replies from the Officers Commanding those Madras Regiments which maintain canteens showing how excise duty is paid on liquor (rum, beer, etc.), purchased.

2. The reply from the Officer Commanding 20th Madras Infantry, will follow when received.

Enclosure.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc.

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
"Q.O." Sappers and Miners.	Bangalore	Excise duty is paid at Ootacamund by Nilgiri Brewery Company for ale and stout purchased for which permits are obtained from the Collector of the Nilgiris prior to despatch of consignments to Bangalore.
4th Madras Pioneers ...	Ootacamund	Full duty paid for rum supplied after receipt for Commissariat Department, that is to say, the Commissariat Department include the duty in the bill. Full duty is paid for beer by private dealers and added to the cost of beer supplied to the canteen.
7th Madras Infantry ...	Kamptee	Full excise duty is paid by firms from whom liquor is purchased.
8th Madras Infantry ...	Barrackpore	Liquor purchasad duty paid.
13th Madras Infantry.	Raipur, Central Provinces.	Full excise duty paid on liquor by firms from whom purchased.
14th Madras Infantry.	St. Thomas' Mount, Madras.	No duty paid by regiment on beer supplied—presumes distillery does.
15th Madras Infantry.	Rangoon	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
16th Madras Infantry.	Do.	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
20th Madras Infantry.	Miranshah	No report received.
21st Madras Pioneers.	Belgaum	Beer supplied is purchased from a local merchant and price paid by the regiment includes duty paid by the vendor.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc—*cont.*

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
22nd Madras Infantry.	Berhampur	Reports that under sanction of the Collector of Ganjam some rum was issued to the canteen from the Aska distillery at Rs. 1-12-0 per gallon duty, afterwards this sanction was withdrawn and the duty of Rs. 6 per gallon demanded, a rate which makes it impossible for the men to buy.
26th Madras Infantry.	Belgaum	Full excise duty is paid by vendors before the beer leaves the brewery.
27th Madras Infantry.	Trichinopoly	Beer supplied to the canteen delivered free of all charges, no duty being paid by the regiment.
28th Madras Infantry.	Madras	Beer purchased from Messrs Leighton & Co., Madras, for the regimental canteen is duty paid.
29th Burma Madras Infantry.	Fort Stedman, Burma.	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	Meiktila, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
32nd Madras Infantry.	Mandalay, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
33rd Madras Infantry.	Keng-Tung	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.

Order—No. 4032, Revenue, dated 8th October 1898.

Miscellaneous.

The Board's Proceedings read above will be forwarded to the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces for the favour of remarks on the points raised in paragraphs 1 and 2.

2. With reference to the statement in paragraph 3, that the duty on liquor sold at Regimental canteens is not credited to "Excise", the Board of Revenue is requested to address the Controller of Military Accounts on the subject through the Adjutant-General if necessary.

3. With reference to the list of canteens received from the Deputy Adjutant-General and forwarded herewith, the Board of Revenue is requested to call upon the Collectors concerned to report whether liquor is issued from the canteens to anyone except soldiers.

(True Extract.)

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, Separate Revenue, with list.
,, Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command,
with Board's Proceedings No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Government of Madras.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Recd. } 1914. *Enclosures*
Regd. *Spare copies*

G.O. No. 4032, 8th October 1898.

Referring to the Board of Revenue and the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces certain questions connected with the issue of liquor from the canteens.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers :—

I

Official Memorandum—from the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.
To—the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue).
No.—146.
Dated—the 16th July 1897.

With reference to paragraph 7 of Board's Proceedings No. 181, dated 10th May 1897, the undersigned has the honour to request that information may be furnished on the following points :—

(i) It is observed that under articles 811 and 813 of the Army Regulations, Volume V, the issue of spirits to Native troops is sanctioned only when from climatic or other causes the supply is considered really necessary by regimental medical officers whose recommendation must receive the concurrence of Deputies Surgeon-General. The Board merely states that two native regimental canteens have been opened at St. Thomas Mount. It should now be reported whether the conditions laid down in the above quoted articles of the Army Regulations have been satisfied in these cases.

(ii) The military authorities do not appear to hold any licenses for the issue of liquor to troops. It should be reported why no licenses are required in their case.

(iii) In regard to regimental canteens it is understood that rum is issued in bulk on requisition at 25° under proof at Rs. 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. It is not understood why As. 9 are taken as excise duty while the proper duty is Rs. 4½, nor who gets this As. 9. Again the rum is issued to soldiers at As. 2 per dram or Rs. 6 per gallon *plus* excise duty. It should be reported as to what is done with the difference between the amount paid for by the soldiers and that paid for by the canteen and as to how As. 9 can be paid on 48 drams.

II

Copies of paragraphs 811—815, *Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat.*

811. The issue of spirits to Native troops is only authorised when from climate or other causes it is considered really necessary. The indent (Commissariat form 65) must clearly show the grounds on which the issue is recommended, and should be countersigned by the General Officer Commanding the district.

812. Even under such circumstances, rum is not claimable from the Commissariat as a right, and will not be granted for more than one month at a time, unless, at the expiration of the period, the medical authorities consider further issue absolutely necessary.

S.G.O.B. 14 and 298 of 1876 A R.B. vii, 184.

813. The quantity of rum to be thus issued is restricted to one dram per man (for the number recommended) per diem and is to be issued at 25 per cent. under proof and paid for at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon, the amount being credited to Government in the pay list and "General State" of the regiment. This order does not affect certain regiments peculiarly situated which receive rum under special Government sanction—see paragraph 815.

814. The sanction here given must be exercised as sparingly as possible. Tea may sometimes prove an efficient substitute for spirits and in such instances the issue may be made on payment under the above medical restrictions.

Government of Madras, 3182 of 1874. Government of Bombay, dated 9th April 1896. Government of India, Nos. 2046 of 1873 and 3182 and 1121 of 1874, 1085 of 1875 and 477 S.D. and 1131 S.D. of 1882, Cir. C.G. B. 67 and 90 of 1882.

815. Rum may be issued at *Port Blair* on the recommendation of the Medical Officer. One *hogshead* of rum per mensem on indent is allowed to Sikhs and Christians of the second regiment, Central India horse. Rum is also allowed on indent to the 39th (the Garhwal Rifle) regiment of Bengal Infantry and the Goorkha regiments, on the understanding that the State is put to no expense, and that it gives the men no right to claim it in the field; also on indent to the Deputy Commissioner of the Chittagong hill tracts for the use of the Police.

III

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 10th February 1898.
No.—A/N.T. 2296.

In continuation of my Memorandum, No. A/N.T. 18654 of 24th November 1897.

A copy of this office Circular No. N.A. 942, dated 26th May 1893, which is the authority for the establishment of Regimental Canteens in this command, is herewith forwarded together with a schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments furnishing further particulars.

2. The report from the Commandant 13th Madras Infantry will follow when received.

Enclosures.

(i)

Circular Memorandum—from Brigadier-General H. W. Pearson, Adjutant-General, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.
To—the Officer Commanding Regiment, Madras Infantry (through General Officer Commanding district).
Dated—Ootacamund, the 26th May 1893.
No.—N.A.-942.

The question of the establishment within the lines of Native Regiments of some place in which, under regimental arrangements good and sound liquor can be sold to Native soldiers, having been considered by the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant-General is desired to remark as follows.

2. In view of the very deleterious liquor sold in Native bazaars and of the undesirable nature of the surroundings of the shops where such is sold, the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the establishment of a canteen where good liquor could be obtained, would be in the interests of Native soldiers, and he has no objection to such being established provided that no extra expense is hereby incurred by the state.

3. It will be necessary that these canteens which are entirely optional, should be conducted on some fixed principle and with this view Commanding Officers should draw up and submit to General Officers Commanding Districts for their approval such orders as they may deem called for, to ensure that order is maintained and that the institution is not abused.

4. Such rules will doubtless differ in minor points in different stations, according to local conditions but the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the following points call for attention in all cases in which canteens in Native Regiments are established :—

A

Arrangements must be made [illegible] the Officer Commanding with the Local Civil Authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary.

B

The canteen should on no account be established in the centre of the lines where any noise or disturbance can take place without the knowledge or observation of the British officers, and where soldiers might meet for gambling.

If no existing building is available, a shed should be erected on the outskirts of the lines and not far from the Bells of arms, Barracks and Quarter guard.

C

Commanding officers must be most careful in satisfying themselves that the liquor supplied is of good quality.

D

Fixed hours of issue should be appointed and during these hours a thoroughly trustworthy and reliable Non-Commissioned officer is to be present who will be held responsible that order is maintained.

E

The orderly officer should visit the canteen daily and the British officer of the week frequently at uncertain hours.

F

Commanding officers should make it a point to exercise the strictest personal supervision over the Institution which is open to abuse if British officers be careless or apathetic.

G

General officers commanding districts should from time to time, when convenient visit these canteens to satisfy themselves that their establishment is really beneficial to the men.

5. Messrs. Leishman & Co., Nilgiri Brewery Company are prepared to supply wholesome beer of light gravity at the following rates:—To all stations in the Madras Command except Burmah, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 40 per hogshead—to Rangoon, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 42 per hogshead.

6. These prices are quoted merely for the information of Commanding officers who are, of course, at liberty to obtain the liquor they require from any firm they may choose to select.

7. In cases in which canteens are established, Commanding Officers will be good enough to submit, through District authorities, a report to this office on their working after a period of six months has elapsed, General Officers Commanding in forwarding these reports will express their opinion on the experiment.

(ii)

SCHEDULE of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens.

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
1st Madras Lancers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
3rd Do. (a)	....	Do.		..	....	....	(a) Establishment in Secunderabad against terms of agreement between British Government and His Highness the Nizam's Government.
"Queen's Own Madras Sappers and Miners.	5-30 A.M. to 9 P.M. ..	Beer and stout ..	Both Rs. 1-1-4 per quart.	No ..	Cannot be stated as they vary with strength at Head-quarters but very nearly every man uses the canteen.	Benefit of the men, maintenance and supply of buildings, sums given for festivals, provide free coffee and hoppers for men on Field Days, etc.	
1st Madras Pioneers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Madras Infantry	....	Do. (a)		..	....	....	
3rd Madras Light Infantry ..	....	Do.		..	....	....	
4th Madras Pioneers	6 P.M. to 8 P.M. (During the day if specially ordered on any feast day.)	Beer and rum (when procurable).	Beer As. 3-4 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No	Three-fourths of the Regiment or 625 men.	Benefit of the men such as free food on the march, etc.	
5th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
6th Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
7th Do.	11 A.M. to 12 Noon, 5-30 P.M. to 8 P.M.	Beer and rum.. ..	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum As. 3 per dram.	No .	183	Benefit of the men, free ammunition for pool shooting, cricket, foot-ball, etc.	
8th Do.	4 P.M. to 9 P.M. (10 A.M. to 1 P.M. on Sundays and Thursdays as well as in the evening).	Do.	Beer As. 4-8 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No ..	75	Prizes for sports among the men.	
9th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
10th Burma Rifles	....	Do.		..	....	....	
11th Madras Infantry	....	Do. (a)		..	....	....	
12th Burma-Madras Infantry ..	....	Do.		..	....	....	
13th Madras Infantry	....	....	....	..	....	....	
14th Do.	10 A.M. to 12 Noon and 4 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 a quart ..	No .	260	Benefit of the men, men's necessaries, prizes for sports, donations to men discharged without pension and prizes for shooting.	Report not yet received.

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens—*cont.*

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
15th Madras Infantry	Between 3-30 and 7-30 P.M.	Beer and porter	As. 4-6 a quart	No	250	Benefit of the men, regimental sports, etc.	
16th Do.	Do.	Beer and stout	Do.	No	200	Benefit of the men, purchase of barrack room, boxes, etc.	
17th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.			....	....	
19th Do. (*a*)	....	Do.			....	....	
20th Do.	5 to 7 P.M.	Beer and rum	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum 3 oz. As. 1-6.	No	Nearly 400	No profit at present owing to expenses paid on journey from Vizianagaram to Meerut.	
21st Madras Pioneers	....	....	....		....	....	On Field service depot, unable to report as no canteen exists.
22nd Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up	....		....	....	
23rd Madras Light Infantry	2 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer Whisky Brandy Arrack	As. 3 per quart As. 5-4 per dram As. 4-6 ,, As. 1-8 ,,	No	170	Benefit of men, prizes at Regimental sports, paying carriage of certain Regimental necessaries, etc.	
24th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.			....	....	
25th Do.	....	Do.			....	....	
26th Do.	5 P.M. to 8-30 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 per quart	No	150	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, advancing money to obtain practice ammunition at cheap rates.	
27th Do.	4-30 P.M. to 7-30 P.M.	Do.	As. 5 per quart	No	500	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, etc., replacing foot-ball and cricket gear, paying for ammunition to improve shooting.	
28th Do.	....	No canteen kept up	....		....	....	
29th Burma-Madras Infantry	9-30 A.M. to 12 Noon and 2 P.M. to 7 P.M.	Rum only	As. 1-4 per 4 ozs.	No	850	Benefit of the men, Regimental sports, etc.	
30th Do.	....	No canteen kept up	....		....	....	
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	10 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 6 to 8-30 P.M.	Beer and porter only.	As. 3 per quart	No	70	To the Regimental coffee shop to supply the men with sugar, tea, etc.	
32nd Burma-Madras Infantry	5 to 6-30 P.M.	Rum*	6 pies per dram	No	Sikhs 426, Christians 32, Followers 24.	No profits, the sum charged being actual cost.	* No Regimental canteen establishment but rum supplied three times a week one dram per man to be drunk on the spot.
33rd Do.	5 to 6 P.M. (Twice weekly)	Beer and rum	As. 5 per quart. Anna 1 per dram.	No	450	Benefit of the men, sports, etc.	

IV

Letter—from the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.
To—the Adjutant-General in India.
Dated—the 23rd January 1897.
No.—407-D.

The question of the expediency of continuing the present practice under which rum supplied to troops on payment is issued at a price which does not include the customs or excise duty levied on rum consumed by the public, has recently been under the consideration of the Government of India, and the conclusion arrived at is that the practice is opposed to the principles which underlie the policy, long accepted and carried into effect in India as in other countries, of imposing customs and excise duties on spirits, and that it is inexpedient to allow soldiers to buy spirits at a cheaper rate than their fellow countrymen in India. The Government of India have accordingly decided that the issue of duty-free rum to soldiers, whether British or Native, shall be discontinued as soon as this can conveniently be arranged.

2. In view, however, of the length of time during which the exemption from duty of rum issued to the troops has been in force, and of the reasons which led to the grant of such exemption, it is considered desirable that the change in system should be effected gradually. The rate of duty to be ultimately imposed should in the opinion of Government of India be the rate of excise duty in force in the province in which the troops purchasing the rum are located. In Madras, Bombay and Burma, rum manufactured in India is already excised at the full rate of duty leviable on spirits imported from Europe, namely, Rs. 6 a gallon of proof strength. In Bengal the excise duty is Rs. 5 a gallon, and in the Punjab and North-Western Provinces Rs. 4; but these rates are liable to be raised so as to equal the full import duty on foreign liquor. To raise the price of the rum supplied to troops in all parts of India by an amount which shall correspond approximately to As. 12 a gallon (or 12·5 per cent. of the full duty leviable), will therefore be a moderate and tentative advance in the direction desired. This will be equivalent to an increase of As. 2 in the price of a bottle of the size of a reputed quart, which is believed to be the size of the bottles in which rum is sold; and this increase has been decided on as the first instalment of the imposition of duty.

3. I am, therefore, to request that, under the orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, instructions may be issued to enhance the price of a reputed quart bottle of rum by As. 2, with effect from the 1st April 1897, and to say that the Government of India would be glad to be favoured with a report on the effects of the measure not later than 31st December 1897, to admit of the feasibility of further raising the duty with effect from 1st April 1898, being duly considered.

V

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. L. ELIOT, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 2nd July 1897.
No.—C. 2117.

This department obtains its supply of rum (country manufactured) by contract and the last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs. Morrison & Co., Arcot, at Rs. 1-1-3 per 1 gallon 50° proof or at As. 12-4 per 1 gallon 25° under proof.

2. The rum at 25° under proof is issued in bulk to regimental canteens on requisitions at Rs 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. This rum is retailed to troops at As. 2 per dram plus excise duty. So far as is known in this office the military authorities do not hold any licenses for the issue of liquor.

3. Rum is not supplied by this department to Native troops under ordinary circumstances, but only when specially authorised—*vide* paragraph 811, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat: the issue is made as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* and paid for by the troops at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon.

No. A./B.T. 10249, *dated 2nd July* 1897.

Forwarded with reference to your telephone message of the 24th ultimo.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General, Deputy Adjutant-General.

To the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

VI

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. H. Eliot, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 9th October 1897.
No.—5217.

Rum—the only liquor obtained by this department for issue on payment to troops—is procured by contract (the last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs. Morison & Co., Arcot) and is issued in bulk at 25° under proof to British regimental canteens at Rs. 2 per gallon when requisitioned for with an additional charge of As. 9 per gallon on account of excise duty, which latter is credited to Government separately from the sale-proceeds of the rum, in accordance with the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 408-D, dated 23rd January 1897 (copy enclosed).

2. The rum is then retailed to the soldier by the regimental canteens at As. 2 per dram plus the excise duty or altogether at Rs. 5–0–0 per imperial gallon (40 drams) and the difference between this rate and the rate paid by the canteens, viz., Rs. 3 per gallon is, I understand, credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds. This is, however, a purely regimental arrangement with which this department has no concern.

3. As regards the issue of rum to Native troops, they are entitled to it from this department only when specially authorized in accordance with paragraphs * 811–815, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat, and in that case, the rum is paid for by the troops at Rs. 2–8–0 per gallon as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibd* plus the excise duty. This department has no concern with the further distribution of the spirit after its original issue in bulk, nor has it any connection whatever with the Native regimental canteens where such may exist.

* Copy herewith.

4. The circumstances under which As. 9 per gallon of rum at 25° under proof are charged as excise duty, are explained in the accompanying copy of the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 407-D, dated 23rd January 1897.

Equivalent of As. 12 per gallon of proof rum.

5. So far as I am aware the question of a license in this connection being considered necessary, for this department has never been raised previously, and I can only imagine that this is because issues so made are made under the orders of Government and for Government purposes.

6. The question in its relation to regimental canteens is one which I am not in a position to deal with and I can only suggest the matter being referred to the Deputy Adjutant-General of the Command.

VII

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. H. Lawson, Commandent, 13th Madras Infantry.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—the 29th January 1898.

With reference to your Memorandum No. A./N.T. 18840, dated Ootacamund, 26th November 1897, I have the honour to furnish information as follows :—

(1) (*a*) The regimental canteen is open daily.
(*b*) Between the hours 10 and 11 a.m. and 4 and 8 p.m.
(*c*) Sepoys and regimental followers only are allowed to frequent the canteen.

(2) Beer, rum, and mineral waters are sold.

(3) The beer is obtained from Messrs. Leeshman & Co., Ootacamund.

The rum from Messrs. E. Dyer & Co., Mandalay, during the stay of the regiment at Thayetangi.

(4) Beer is sold at As. 2 per pint and rum As. 2–6 pies per dram.

(5) The profits are expended for the good of the men of the regiment.

(6) The canteen was opened on the 1st October 1894, *vide* my No. 327 of 2nd July 1894 to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Southern district, in accordance with Adjutant-General's Circular No. A.A. 962, dated 25th May 1893, and my report No. 145 B submitted to you on the 10th April 1895.

(7) The average number of men frequenting the canteen is about 200 daily.

Endorsement No. 3063.

Forwarded in continuation of my Memorandum No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General.

VIII

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue), Mis. No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Read—the following papers :—

(i)

Official Memorandum No. 146, *Revenue, dated* 16*th July* 1897.

Abstract.—Requesting certain information regarding the supply of spirits to troops.

(ii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 899, *Revenue, dated* 21*st February* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 2237, dated 4th December 1897, a copy of the office circular from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, showing the authority for the establishment of regimental canteens in his command, etc.

(iii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 1105, *Revenue, dated* 4*th March* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 899, dated 21st February 1898, letter submitted by the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, No. A.N.T. 3063, dated 24th February 1898.

Resolution—Mis. No. 1220, *dated* 23*rd March* 1898.

The Board begs to submit the following reply to the Official Memorandum from Government No. 146, dated 16th July 1897 :—

(1) The Native regimental canteens referred to are reported to have been instituted under the authority of Circular No. NA/942, dated 26th May 1893, of the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, copy of which is enclosed. The circular would appear to overlook the provisions of the Army Regulations quoted by Government. The Board would therefore request that the Lieutenant-General Commanding may be addressed as to the authority for its issue.

(2) As will be observed the Commanding officers are directed in the circular above quoted to make arrangements with local civil authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary, but no applications have been received for any licenses nor have any been issued. According to the strict letter of the law licenses would appear to be necessary both in the case of canteens and in that of sales by the Commissariat Department.

(3) As regards the rate of duty levied upon liquor issued to soldiers it appears that up to the year 1897 such liquor was issued duty-free. In that year it was decided to impose a duty, but in order not to enhance the price of liquor too suddenly the duty is only being imposed by degrees. For the present it is being levied at the rate of As. 12 per proof gallon or As. 9 per gallon of 25° under proof. This duty has been ordered to be credited to the head of V. Excise, but the order does not appear to be enforced in this Presidency. Copies of letters Nos. 407 D, dated 23rd January 1897, and 408 D of the same date from the Secretaty to Government of India, Military Department, which contain full information on these points are enclosed. As regards the difference between the price paid by the canteens for the liquor and the price realized for the same it is stated that these sums are credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds according to the arrangements in force in the regiments in question. It may be added—as reported by the Commissary General—that rum—the only liquor obtained by his department for issue on payment to troops—is procured on contract and their last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs Morrison & Co., North Arcot.

(True Extract.)

R. M. Thurley,
Ag. Assistant Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with three enclosures.

IX

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 7th July 1898.
No.—A/B. T. 10942.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum for currunt No. 2874 of 2nd July 1898.]

A list of the localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both British and Native, are kept up, is enclosed.

Enclosure.

List of localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both European and Native, are kept up.

Station.	Locality.
Bangalore	British Cavalry Barracks. Royal Artillery do. British Infantry do. "Q.O." Madras Sappers and Miners Lines.
Wellington	Depot Barracks. British Infantry Barracks.
Ootacamund	Fourth Madras Pioneers Lines.
Fort St. George	Royal Artillery Barracks. British Infantry do.
St. Thomas' Mount	Royal Artillery do. Fourteenth Madras Infantry Lines.
Pallavaram	E A.V. Company Barracks.
Poonamallee	Depôt Barracks.
Trichinopoly	27th Madras Infantry Lines.
Bellary	Royal Artillery Barracks. British Infantry do.
Cannanore	Do. do.
Calicut	Do. do.
Malappuram	Do. do.

X

Official Memorandum No. 164, Revenue, dated 22nd July 1898.

With reference to his letter No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898, the Deputy Adjutant-General is requested to be good enough to state whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.), supplied to canteens of Native regiments and if so, whether it is purchased duty paid or whether duty is paid by the military authorities on its issue from the distillery or brewery.

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.

XI

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 23rd August 1898.
No.—A./N.T. 13656.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum No. 164 of 22nd July 1898.]

Herewith a schedule of replies from the Officers Commanding those Madras Regiments which maintain canteens showing how excise duty is paid on liquor (rum, beer, etc.), purchased.

2. The reply from the Officer Commanding 20th Madras Infantry, will follow when received.

Enclosure.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc.

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
"Q.O." Sappers and Miners.	Bangalore	Excise duty is paid at Ootacamund by Nilgiri Brewery Company for ale and stout purchased for which permits are obtained from the Collector of the Nilgiris prior to despatch of consignments to Bangalore.
4th Madras Pioneers ...	Ootacamund	Full duty paid for rum supplied after receipt for Commissariat Department, that is to say, the Commissariat Department include the duty in the bill. Full duty is paid for beer by private dealers and added to the cost of beer supplied to the canteen.
7th Madras Infantry ...	Kamptee	Full excise duty is paid by firms from whom liquor is purchased.
8th Madras Infantry ...	Barrackpore	Liquor purchasad duty paid.
13th Madras Infantry.	Raipur, Central Provinces.	Full excise duty paid on liquor by firms from whom purchased.
14th Madras Infantry.	St. Thomas' Mount, Madras.	No duty paid by regiment on beer supplied—presumes distillery does.
15th Madras Infantry.	Rangoon	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
16th Madras Infantry.	Do.	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
20th Madras Infantry.	Miranshah	No report received.
21st Madras Pioneers.	Belgaum	Beer supplied is purchased from a local merchant and price paid by the regiment includes duty paid by the vendor.

Schedule of *replies* from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, *etc.*) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc—*cont.*

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
22nd Madras Infantry.	*Berhampur*	Reports that under sanction of the Collector of Ganjām *some rum* was issued to the canteen from the Aska distillery at Rs. 1-12-0 per gallon duty, afterwards this sanction was withdrawn and the duty of Rs. 6 per gallon demanded, a rate which makes it *impossible* for the men to buy.
26th Madras Infantry.	Belgaum	Full *excise* duty is paid by vendors before the beer leaves the brewery.
27th Madras Infantry.	Trichinopoly	Beer supplied to the canteen delivered free of all charges, no duty *being* paid by the regiment.
28th Madras Infantry.	Madras	Beer *purchased* from Messrs Leighton & Co , Madras, for the regimental canteen is duty paid.
29th Burma Madras Infantry.	Fort Stedman, Burma.	Liquor is purchased from *private* firms whose price includes full duty.
31st Burma-Madras Light *Infantry.*	Meiktila, Burma ...	Liquor *is purchased* from private firms whose price includes full duty.
32nd Madras Infantry.	Mandalay, *Burma* ...	*Liquor* is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
33rd Madras Infantry.	*Keng-Tung*	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price *includes* full duty.

Order—No. 4032, Revenue, dated 8th October 1898.

Miscellaneous.

The Board's Proceedings read above will be forwarded to the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces for the favour of remarks on the points raised *in* paragraphs 1 and 2.

2. With reference to the statement in paragraph 3, that the duty on liquor sold at Regimental canteens is not credited to " Excise ", the Board of Revenue is requested to address the Controller of Military Accounts on the subject through the Adjutant-General if necessary.

3. With reference to the list of canteens received *from* the Deputy Adjutant-General and forwarded herewith, the Board of Revenue is requested to call *upon* the Collectors concerned to *report* whether liquor is issued from the canteens to anyone except soldiers.

(True Extract.)

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, Separate Revenue, with list.
,, Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command,
with Board's Proceedings No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Government of Madras.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Recd. } 1914. *Enclosures.*
Regd. } *Spare copies.*

G.O. No. 4032, 8th October 1898.

Referring to the Board of Revenue and the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces certain questions connected with the issue of liquor from the canteens.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers :—

I

Official Memorandum—from the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

To—the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue).

No.—146.

Dated—the 16th July 1897.

With reference to paragraph 7 of Board's Proceedings No. 181, dated 10th May 1897, the undersigned has the honour to request that information may be furnished on the following points :—

(i) It is observed that under articles 811 and 813 of the Army Regulations, Volume V, the issue of spirits to Native troops is sanctioned only when from climatic or other causes the supply is considered really necessary by regimental medical officers whose recommendation must receive the concurrence of Deputies Surgeon-General. The Board merely states that two native regimental canteens have been opened at St. Thomas Mount. It should now be reported whether the conditions laid down in the above quoted articles of the Army Regulations have been satisfied in these cases.

(ii) The military authorities do not appear to hold any licenses for the issue of liquor to troops. It should be reported why no licenses are required in their case.

(iii) In regard to regimental canteens it is understood that rum is issued in bulk on requisition at 25° under proof at Rs. 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. It is not understood why As. 9 are taken as excise duty while the proper duty is Rs. $4\frac{1}{2}$, nor who gets this As. 9. Again the rum is issued to soldiers at As. 2 per dram or Rs. 6 per gallon *plus* excise duty. It should be reported as to what is done with the difference between the amount paid for by the soldiers and that paid for by the canteen and as to how As. 9 can be paid on 48 drams.

II

Copies of paragraphs 811—815, *Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat.*

811. The issue of spirits to Native troops is only authorised when from climate or other causes it is considered really necessary. The indent (Commissariat form 65) must clearly show the grounds on which the issue is recommended, and should be countersigned by the General Officer Commanding the district.

812. Even under such circumstances, rum is not claimable from the Commissariat as a right, and will not be granted for more than one month at a time, unless, at the expiration of the period, the medical authorities consider further issue absolotely necessary.

813. The quantity of rum to be thus issued is restricted to one dram per man (for the number recommended) per diem and is to be issued at 25 per cent. under proof and paid for at Rs. 2–8–0 per gallon, the amount being credited to Government in the pay list and "General State" of the regiment. This order does not affect certain regiments peculiarly situated which receive rum under special Government sanction—see paragraph 815.

S.G.O.B. 14 and 298 of 1876 A R.B. vii, 184.

814. The sanction here given must be exercised as sparingly as possible. Tea may sometimes prove an efficient substitute for spirits and in such instances the issue may be made on payment under the above medical restrictions.

815. Rum may be issued at Port Blair on the recommendation of the Medical Officer. One hogshead of rum per mensem on indent is allowed to Sikhs and Christians of the second regiment, Central India horse. Rum is also allowed on indent to the 39th (the Garhwal Rifle) regiment of Bengal Infantry and the Goorkha regiments, on the understanding that the State is put to no expense, and that it gives the men no right to claim it in the field; also on indent to the Deputy Commissioner of the Chittagong hill tracts for the use of the Police.

Government of Madras, 3182 of 1874. Government of Bombay, dated 9th April 1896. Government of India, Nos. 2046 of 1873 and 3182 and 1121 of 1874, 1085 of 1875 and 477 S.D. and 1131 S.D. of 1882, Cir. C.G. B. 67 and 90 of 1882.

III

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.

To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Dated—Ootacamund, the 10th February 1898.

No.—A/N.T. 2296.

In continuation of my Memorandum, No. A/N.T. 18654 of 24th November 1897.

A copy of this office Circular No. N.A. 942, dated 26th May 1893, which is the authority for the establishment of Regimental Canteens in this command, is herewith forwarded together with a schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments furnishing further particulars.

2. The report from the Commandant 13th Madras Infantry will follow when received.

Enclosures.

(i)

Circular Memorandum—from Brigadier-General H. W. Pearson, Adjutant-General, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.

To—the Officer Commanding Regiment, Madras Infantry (through General Officer Commanding district).

Dated—Ootacamund, the 26th May 1893.

No.—N.A.-942.

The question of the establishment within the lines of Native Regiments of some place in which, under regimental arrangements good and sound liquor can be sold to Native soldiers, having been considered by the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant-General is desired to remark as follows.

2. In view of the very deleterious liquor sold in Native bazaars and of the undesirable nature of the *surroundings* of the *shops* where such is sold, the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the establishment of a canteen where good *liquor* could be obtained, would be in the interests of Native soldiers, and he has no objection to such being established provided that no extra expense is hereby *incurred* by the state.

3. It will be necessary that these canteens *which* are entirely optional, should be conducted on some fixed principle and with this view Commanding Officers should *draw up* and submit to *General Officers Commanding* Districts for their approval such orders as they may deem called for, to ensure that order is maintained and that the *institution* is not abused.

4. Such rules will doubtless differ in minor points in different *stations*, according to local *conditions* but the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the following points call for attention in all cases in which canteens in *Native* Regiments are established :—

A

Arrangements must be made the Officer Commanding with the Local Civil Authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary.

B

The canteen should on no account be established in the centre of the lines where any noise or *disturbance* can take place without the knowledge or observation of the British officers, and where soldiers might meet for gambling.

If no existing building is available, a shed should be erected on the *outskirts* of the lines and not far *from the Bells of arms*, Barracks and Quarter guard.

C

Commanding officers must be most careful in satisfying themselves that the liquor supplied is of good quality.

D

Fixed hours of issue should be appointed and during *these hours* a thoroughly trustworthy and reliable Non-Commissioned officer is to be present who will be held responsible that order is maintained.

E

The orderly officer should visit the canteen *daily and the* British officer of the week *frequently* at *uncertain* hours.

F

Commanding officers should make it a point to exercise the strictest personal supervision over the Institution which is open to abuse if *British officers* be careless or apathetic.

G

General officers commanding districts *should from* time to time, when convenient visit these canteens to satisfy themselves that their establishment is really beneficial to *the men*.

5. Messrs. *Leishman* & Co., Nilgiri Brewery Company are prepared to supply wholesome beer of light gravity at the following rates:—To *all stations* in the Madras Command except Burmah, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 40 per hogshead—to Rangoon, *Belgaum and* Secunderabad at Rs. 42 *per hogshead*.

6. These prices are quoted merely for the *information* of Commanding officers who are, of course, at liberty to obtain the liquor they require from any firm they may choose to select.

7. In cases in which canteens are established, Commanding *Officers* will be good enough *to submit*, through *District* authorities, a report to this office on their working after a *period* of six months has elapsed, *General Officers Commanding* in forwarding these reports will express their opinion on the experiment.

(ii)

SCHEDULE of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments *regarding* Canteens.

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	*Profits how spent.*	Remarks.
1st Madras Lancers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
3rd Do. (*a*)	....	Do.		..	....	....	(*a*) Establishment in Secunderabad against terms of agreement between British Government and His Highness the Nizam's Government.
"Queen's Own Madras Sappers and Miners.	5-30 A.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer and stout	Both Rs. 1-1-4 per quart.	No	Cannot be stated as they vary with strength at Head-quarters but very nearly every man uses *the canteen*.	Benefit of the men, *maintenance* and supply of buildings, sums given for festivals, provide free coffee and hoppers for men on Field Days, etc.	
1st Madras Pioneers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Madras Infantry	....	Do. (*a*)		..	....	....	
3rd Madras Light Infantry	....	Do.		..	....	....	
4th Madras Pioneers	6 P.M. to 8 P.M. (During the day if specially ordered on any feast day.)	Beer and rum (when procurable).	Beer As. 3-4 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No	Three-fourths of the Regiment or 625 men.	Benefit of the men *such as* free food on the march, etc.	
5th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
6th Do.	..	Do.		..	....	....	
7th Do.	11 A.M. to 12 Noon, 5-30 P.M. to 8 P.M.	Beer and rum	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum As. 3 per dram.	No	183	Benefit of the men, free ammunition for pool shooting, cricket, foot-ball, etc.	
8th Do.	4 P.M. to 9 P.M. (10 A.M. to 1 P.M. on Sundays and Thursdays as well as in the evening).	Do.	Beer As. 4-8 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No	75	Prizes for sports among the men.	
9th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
10th Burma Rifles	....	Do.		..	....	....	
11th Madras Infantry	....	Do. (*a*)		..	....	....	
12th Burma-Madras Infantry	....	Do.		..	....	....	
13th Madras Infantry	....	....	....	..	....	....	
14th Do.	10 A.M. to 12 Noon and 4 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 a quart	No	260	Benefit of the men, men's necessaries, prizes for sports, donations to men discharged without pension and prizes for shooting.	Report not yet received.

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens—*cont.*

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
15th Madras Infantry	Between 3-30 and 7-30 P.M.	Beer and porter ..	As. 4-6 a quart ..	No ..	250	Benefit of the men, regimental sports, etc.	
16th Do.	Do.	Beer and stout ..	Do.	No ..	200	Benefit of the men, purchase of barrack room, boxes, etc.	
17th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.			....	....	
19th Do. (a)	....	Do.		..	....	....	
20th Do.	5 to 7 P.M.	Beer and rum ..	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum 3 oz. As. 1-6.	No ..	Nearly 400	No profit at present owing to expenses paid on journey from Vizianagaram to Meerut.	
21st Madras Pioneers	....	....	....	..	....	....	On Field service depot, unable to report as no canteen exists.
22nd Madras Infantry ..	....	No canteen kept up ..	....	..	....	....	
23rd Madras Light Infantry ..	2 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer .. .. .. Whisky .. .. Brandy .. .. Arrack	.... As. 3 per quart .. As. 5-4 per dram .. As. 4-6 „ As. 1-8 „	No ..	170	Benefit of men, prizes at Regimental sports, paying carriage of certain Regimental necessaries, etc.	
24th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
25th Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
26th Do.	5 P.M. to 8-30 P.M. ..	Beer only	As. 4 per quart ..	No ..	150	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, advancing money to obtain practice ammunition at cheap rates.	
27th Do.	4-30 P.M. to 7-30 P.M. ..	Do.	As. 5 per quart ..	No ..	500	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, etc., replacing foot-ball and cricket gear, paying for ammunition to improve shooting.	
28th Do.	....	No canteen kept up ..	....	..	....	....	
29th Burma-Madras Infantry ..	9-30 A.M. to 12 Noon and 2 P.M. to 7 P.M.	Rum only	As. 1-4 per 4 ozs. ..	No ..	850	Benefit of the men, Regimental sports, etc.	
30th Do.	....	No canteen kept up ..	....	..	....	....	
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	10 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 6 to 8-30 P.M.	Beer and porter only.	As. 3 per quart ..	No ..	70	To the Regimental coffee shop to supply the men with sugar, tea, etc.	
32nd Burma-Madras Infantry ..	5 to 6-30 P.M.	Rum*	6 pies per dram ..	No ..	Sikhs 426, Christians 32, Followers 24.	No profits, the sum charged being actual cost.	* No Regimental canteen establishment but rum supplied three times a week one dram per man to be drunk on the spot.
33rd Do.	5 to 6 P.M. (Twice weekly)	Beer and rum ..	As. 5 per quart. Anna 1 per dram.	No ..	450	Benefit of the men, sports, etc.	

IV

Letter—from the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.
To—the Adjutant-General in India.
Dated—the 23rd January 1897.
No.—407-D.

The question of the expediency of continuing the present practice under which rum supplied to troops on payment is issued at a price which does not include the customs or excise duty levied on rum consumed by the public, has recently been under the consideration of the Government of India, and the conclusion arrived at is that the practice is opposed to the principles which underlie the policy, long accepted and carried into effect in India as in other countries, of imposing customs and excise duties on spirits, and that it is inexpedient to allow soldiers to buy spirits at a cheaper rate than their fellow countrymen in India. The Government of India have accordingly decided that the issue of duty-free rum to soldiers, whether British or Native, shall be discontinued as soon as this can conveniently be arranged.

2. In view, however, of the length of time during which the exemption from duty of rum issued to the troops has been in force, and of the reasons which led to the grant of such exemption, it is considered desirable that the change in system should be effected gradually. The rate of duty to be ultimately imposed should in the opinion of Government of India be the rate of excise duty in force in the province in which the troops purchasing the rum are located. In Madras, Bombay and Burma, rum manufactured in India is already excised at the full rate of duty leviable on spirits imported from Europe, namely, Rs. 6 a gallon of proof strength. In Bengal the excise duty is Rs. 5 a gallon, and in the Punjab and North-Western Provinces Rs. 4; but these rates are liable to be raised so as to equal the full import duty on foreign liquor. To raise the price of the rum supplied to troops in all parts of India by an amount which shall correspond approximately to As. 12 a gallon (or 12·5 per cent. of the full duty leviable), will therefore be a moderate and tentative advance in the direction desired. This will be equivalent to an increase of As. 2 in the price of a bottle of the size of a reputed quart, which is believed to be the size of the bottles in which rum is sold; and this increase has been decided on as the first instalment of the imposition of duty.

3. I am, therefore, to request that, under the orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, instructions may be issued to enhance the price of a reputed quart bottle of rum by As. 2, with effect from the 1st April 1897, and to say that the Government of India would be glad to be favoured with a report on the effects of the measure not later than 31st December 1897, to admit of the feasibility of further raising the duty with effect from 1st April 1898, being duly considered.

V

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. L. Eliot, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 2nd July 1897.
No.—C. 2117.

This department obtains its supply of rum (country manufactured) by contract and the last supply was obtained in 1894-95 from Messrs. Morrison & Co., Arcot, at Rs. 1-1-3 per 1 gallon 50° proof or at As. 12-4 per 1 gallon 25° under proof.

2. The rum at 25° under proof is issued in bulk to regimental canteens on requisitions at Rs 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. This rum is retailed to troops at As. 2 per dram plus excise duty. So far as is known in this office the military authorities do not hold any licenses for the issue of liquor.

3. Rum is not supplied by this department to Native troops under ordinary circumstances, but only when specially authorised—*vide* paragraph 811, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat: the issue is made as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* and paid for by the troops at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon.

No. A./B.T. 10249, *dated 2nd July* 1897.

Forwarded with reference to your telephone message of the 24th ultimo.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General, Deputy Adjutant-General.

To the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

VI

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. H. Eliot, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 9th October 1897.
No.—5217.

Rum—the only liquor obtained by this department for issue on payment to troops—is procured by contract (the last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs. Morison & Co., Arcot) and is issued in bulk at 25° under proof to British regimental canteens at Rs. 2 per gallon when requisitioned for with an additional charge of As. 9 per gallon on account of excise duty, which latter is credited to Government separately from the sale-proceeds of the rum, in accordance with the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 408-D, dated 23rd January 1897 (copy enclosed).

2. The rum is then retailed to the soldier by the regimental canteens at As. 2 per dram plus the excise duty or altogether at Rs. 5–9–0 per imperial gallon (40 drams) and the difference between this rate and the rate paid by the canteens, viz., Rs. 3 per gallon is, I understand, credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds. This is, however, a purely regimental arrangement with which this department has no concern.

3. As regards the issue of rum to Native troops, they are entitled to it from this department only when specially authorized in accordance with paragraphs * 811–815, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat, and in that case, the rum is paid for by the troops at Rs. 2–8–0 per gallon as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* plus the excise duty. This department has no concern with the further distribution of the spirit after its original issue in bulk, nor has it any connection whatever with the Native regimental canteens where such may exist.

* Copy herewith.

4. The circumstances under which As. 9 per gallon of rum at 25° under proof are charged as excise duty, are explained in the accompanying copy of the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 407-D, dated 23rd January 1897.

Equivalent of As. 12 per gallon of proof rum.

5. So far as I am aware the question of a license in this connection being *considered necessary, for this department* has never been raised previously, and I can only imagine that this is because issues so made are made under the orders of Government and for Government purposes.

6. The question in its relation to regimental canteens is one which I am not in a position to deal with and I can only suggest the matter being referred to the Deputy Adjutant-General of the Command.

VII

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. H. Lawson, Commandent, 13th Madras Infantry.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—the 29th January 1898.

With reference to your Memorandum No. A./N.T. 18840, dated Ootacamund, 26th November 1897, I have the honour to furnish information as follows :—

(1) (*a*) The regimental canteen is open daily.
(*b*) Between the hours 10 and 11 A.M. and 4 and 8 P.M.
(*c*) Sepoys and regimental followers only are allowed to frequent the canteen.

(2) Beer, rum, and mineral waters are sold.

(3) The beer is obtained from Messrs. Leeshman & Co., Ootacamund.

The rum from Messrs. E. Dyer & Co., Mandalay, during the stay of the regiment at Thayetangi.

(4) Beer is sold at As. 2 per pint and rum As. 2–6 pies per dram.

(5) The profits are expended for the good of the men of the regiment.

(6) The canteen was opened on the 1st October 1894, *vide* my No. 327 of 2nd July 1894 to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Southern district, in accordance with Adjutant-General's Circular No. A.A. 962, dated 25th May 1893, and my report No. 145 B submitted to you on the 10th April 1895.

(7) The average number of men frequenting the canteen is about 200 daily.

Endorsement No. 3063.

Forwarded in continuation of my Memorandum No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General.

VIII

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue), Mis. No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Read—the following papers :—

(i)

Official Memorandum No. 146, *Revenue, dated* 16*th July* 1897.

Abstract.—Requesting certain information regarding the supply of spirits to troops.

(ii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 899, *Revenue, dated* 21*st February* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 2237, dated 4th December 1897, a copy of the office circular from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, showing the authority for the establishment of regimental canteens in his command, etc.

(iii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 1105, *Revenue, dated* 4*th March* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 899, dated 21st February 1898, letter submitted by the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, No. A.N.T. 3063, dated 24th February 1898.

Resolution—Mis. No. 1220, *dated* 23*rd March* 1898.

The Board begs to submit the following reply to the Official Memorandum from Government No. 146, dated 16th July 1897 :—

(1) The Native regimental canteens referred to are reported to have been instituted under the authority of Circular No. NA/942, dated 26th May 1893, of the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, copy of which is enclosed. The circular would appear to overlook the provisions of the Army Regulations quoted by Government. The Board would therefore request that the Lieutenant-General Commanding may be addressed as to the authority for its issue.

(2) As will be observed the Commanding officers are directed in the circular above quoted to make arrangements with local civil authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary, but no applications have been received for any licenses nor have any been issued. According to the strict letter of the law licenses would appear to be necessary both in the case of canteens and in that of sales by the Commissariat Department.

(3) As regards the rate of duty levied upon liquor issued to soldiers it appears that up to the year 1897 such liquor was issued duty-free. In that year it was decided to impose a duty, but in order not to enhance the price of liquor too suddenly the duty is only being imposed by degrees. For the present it is being levied at the rate of As. 12 per proof gallon or As. 9 per gallon of 25° under proof. This duty has been ordered to be credited to the head of V. Excise, but the order does not appear to be enforced in this Presidency. Copies of letters Nos. 407 D, dated 23rd January 1897, and 408 D of the same date from the Secretaty to Governmant of India, Military Department, which contain full information on these points are enclosed. As regards the difference between the price paid by the canteens for the liquor and the price realized for the same it is stated that these sums are credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds according to the arrangements in force in the regiments in question. It may be added—as reported by the Commissary General—that rum—the only liquor obtained by his department for issue on payment to troops—is procured on contract and their last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs Morrison & Co., North Arcot.

(True Extract.)

R. M. Thurley,
Ag. Assistant Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with three enclosures.

IX

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 7th July 1898.
No.—A/B. T. 10942.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum for currunt No. 2874 of 2nd July 1898.]

A list of the localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both British and Native, are kept up, is enclosed.

Enclosure.

List of localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both European and Native, are kept up.

Station.	Locality.
Bangalore	British Cavalry Barracks. Royal Artillery do. British Infantry do. "Q.O." Madras Sappers and Miners Lines.
Wellington	Depot Barracks. British Infantry Barracks.
Ootacamund	Fourth Madras Pioneers Lines.
Fort St. George...	Royal Artillery Barracks. British Infantry do.
St. Thomas' Mount	Royal Artillery do. Fourteenth Madras Infantry Lines.
Pallavaram	E A.V. Company Barracks.
Poonamallee	Depôt Barracks.
Trichinopoly	27th Madras Infantry Lines.
Bellary	Royal Artillery Barracks. British Infantry do.
Cannanore	Do. do.
Calicut	Do. do.
Malappuram	Do. do.

X

Official Memorandum No. 164, Revenue, dated 22nd July 1898.

With reference to his letter No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898, the Deputy Adjutant-General is requested to be good enough to state whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (*rum and beer*, etc.), supplied to canteens of Native regiments and if so, whether it is purchased duty paid or whether duty is paid by the military authorities on its issue from the distillery or brewery.

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.

XI

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command,
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 23rd August 1898.
No.—A./N.T. 13656.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum No. 164 of 22nd July 1898.]

Herewith a schedule of replies from the Officers Commanding those Madras Regiments which maintain canteens showing how excise duty is paid on liquor (rum, beer, etc.), purchased.

2. The reply from the Officer Commanding 20th Madras Infantry, will follow when received.

Enclosure.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc.

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
"Q.O." Sappers and Miners.	Bangalore	Excise duty is paid at Ootacamund by Nilgiri Brewery Company for ale and stout purchased for which permits are obtained from the Collector of the Nilgiris prior to despatch of consignments to Bangalore.
4th Madras Pioneers ...	Ootacamund	Full duty paid for rum supplied after receipt for Commissariat Department, that is to say, the Commissariat Department include the duty in the bill. Full duty is paid for beer by private dealers and added to the cost of beer supplied to the canteen.
7th Madras Infantry ...	Kamptee	Full excise duty is paid by firms from whom liquor is purchased.
8th Madras Infantry ...	Barrackpore	Liquor purchasad duty paid.
13th Madras Infantry.	Raipur, Central Provinces.	Full excise duty paid on liquor by firms from whom purchased.
14th Madras Infantry.	St. Thomas' Mount, Madras.	No duty paid by regiment on beer supplied—presumes distillery does.
15th Madras Infantry.	Rangoon	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
16th Madras Infantry.	Do.	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
20th Madras Infantry.	Miranshah	No report received.
21st Madras Pioneers.	Belgaum	Beer supplied is purchased from a local merchant and price paid by the regiment includes duty paid by the vendor.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc—*cont.*

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
22nd Madras Infantry.	Berhampur	Reports that under sanction of the Collector of Ganjām some rum was issued to the canteen from the Aska distillery at Rs. 1-12-0 per gallon duty, afterwards this sanction was withdrawn and the duty of Rs. 6 per gallon demanded, a rate which makes it impossible for the men to buy.
26th Madras Infantry.	Belgaum	Full excise duty is paid by vendors before the beer leaves the brewery.
27th Madras Infantry.	Trichinopoly	Beer supplied to the canteen delivered free of all charges, no duty being paid by the regiment.
28th Madras Infantry.	Madras	Beer purchased from Messrs Leighton & Co, Madras, for the regimental canteen is duty paid.
29th Burma Madras Infantry.	Fort Stedman, Burma.	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	Meiktila, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
32nd Madras Infantry.	Mandalay, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
33rd Madras Infantry.	Keng-Tung	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.

Order—No. 4032, Revenue, dated 8th October 1898.

Miscellaneous.

The Board's Proceedings read above will be forwarded to the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces for the favour of remarks on the points raised in paragraphs 1 and 2.

2. With reference to the statement in paragraph 3, that the duty on liquor sold at Regimental canteens is not credited to "Excise", the Board of Revenue is requested to address the Controller of Military Accounts on the subject through the Adjutant-General if necessary.

3. With reference to the list of canteens received from the Deputy Adjutant-General and forwarded herewith, the Board of Revenue is requested to call upon the Collectors concerned to report whether liquor is issued from the canteens to anyone except soldiers.

(True Extract.)

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, Separate Revenue, with list.
„ Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command,
with Board's Proceedings No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Government of Madras.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Recd.	1914.	*Enclosures*
Regd.		*Spare copies*

G.O. No. 4032, 8th October 1898.

Referring to the Board of Revenue and the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces certain questions connected with the issue of liquor from the canteens.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers :—

I

Official Memorandum—from the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.
To—the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue).
No.—146.
Dated—the 16th July 1897.

With reference to paragraph 7 of Board's Proceedings No. 181, dated 10th May 1897, the undersigned has the honour to request that information may be furnished on the following points :—

(i) It is observed that under articles 811 and 813 of the Army Regulations, Volume V, the issue of spirits to Native troops is sanctioned only when from climatic or other causes the supply is considered really necessary by regimental medical officers whose recommendation must receive the concurrence of Deputies Surgeon-General. The Board merely states that two native regimental canteens have been opened at St. Thomas Mount. It should now be reported whether the conditions laid down in the above quoted articles of the Army Regulations have been satisfied in these cases.

(ii) The military authorities do *not* appear to hold any licenses for the issue of liquor to troops. It should be reported why *no* licenses are required in their case.

(iii) In regard to regimental canteens it is understood that rum is issued in bulk on requisition at 25° under proof at Rs. 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. It is not understood why As. 9 are taken as excise duty while the proper duty is Rs. 4½, nor who gets this As. 9. Again the rum is issued to soldiers at As. 2 per dram or Rs. 6 per gallon *plus* excise duty. It should be reported as to what is done with the difference between the amount paid for by the soldiers and that paid for by the canteen and as to how As. 9 can be paid on 48 drams.

II

Copies of paragraphs 811—815, *Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat.*

811. The issue of spirits to Native troops is only authorised when from climate or other causes it is considered really necessary. The indent (Commissariat form 65) must clearly show the grounds on which the issue is recommended, and should be countersigned by the General Officer Commanding the district.

812. Even under such circumstances, rum is not claimable from the Commissariat as a right, and will not be granted for more than one month at a time, unless, at the expiration of the period, the medical authorities consider further issue absolotely necessary.

813. The quantity of rum to be thus issued is restricted to one dram per man (for the number recommended) per diem and is to be issued at 25 per cent. under proof and paid for at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon, the amount being credited to Government in the pay list and "General State" of the regiment. This order does not affect certain regiments peculiarly situated which receive rum under special Government sanction—see paragraph 815.

S.G.O.B. 14 and 298 of 1876 A.R.B. vii, 184.

814. The sanction here given must be exercised as sparingly as possible. Tea may sometimes prove an efficient substitute for spirits and in such instances the issue may be made on payment under the above medical restrictions.

815. Rum may be issued at Port Blair on the recommendation of the Medical Officer. One hogshead of rum per mensem on indent is allowed to Sikhs and Christians of the second regiment, Central India horse. Rum is also allowed on indent to the 39th (the Garhwal Rifle) regiment of Bengal Infantry and the Goorkha regiments, on the understanding that the State is put to no expense, and that it gives the men no right to claim it in the field; also on indent to the Deputy Commissioner of the Chittagong hill tracts for the use of the Police.

Government of Madras, 3182 of 1874. Government of Bombay, dated 9th April 1896. Government of India, Nos. 2046 of 1873 and 3182 and 1121 of 1874, 1085 of 1875 and 477 S.D. and 1131 S.D. of 1882, Cir. C.G. B. 67 and 90 of 1882.

III

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 10th February 1898.
No.—A/N.T. 2296.

In continuation of my Memorandum, No. A/N.T. 18654 of 24th November 1897.

A copy of this office Circular No. N.A. 942, dated 26th May 1893, which is the authority for the establishment of Regimental Canteens in this command, is herewith forwarded together with a schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments furnishing further particulars.

2. The report from the Commandant 13th Madras Infantry will follow when received.

Enclosures.

(i)

Circular Memorandum—from Brigadier-General H. W. Pearson, Adjutant-General, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.
To—the Officer Commanding Regiment, Madras Infantry (through General Officer Commanding district).
Dated—Ootacamund, the 26th May 1893.
No.—N.A.-942.

The question of the establishment within the lines of Native Regiments of some place in which, under regimental arrangements good and sound liquor can be sold to Native soldiers, having been considered by the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant-General is desired to remark as follows.

2. In view of the very deleterious liquor sold in Native bazaars and of the undesirable nature of the surroundings of the shops where such is sold, the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the establishment of a canteen where good liquor could be obtained, would be in the interests of Native soldiers, and he has no objection to such being established provided that no extra expense is hereby incurred by the state.

3. It will be necessary that these canteens which are entirely optional, should be conducted on some fixed principle and with this view Commanding Officers should draw up and submit to General Officers Commanding Districts for their approval such orders as they may deem called for, to ensure that order is maintained and that the institution is not abused.

4. Such rules will doubtless differ in minor points in different stations, according to local conditions but the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the following points call for attention in all cases in which canteens in Native Regiments are established:—

A

Arrangements must be made by the Officer Commanding with the Local Civil Authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary.

B

The canteen should on no account be established in the centre of the lines where any noise or disturbance can take place without the knowledge or observation of the British officers, and where soldiers might meet for gambling.

If no existing building is available, a shed should be erected on the outskirts of the lines and not far from the Bells of arms, Barracks and Quarter guard.

C

Commanding officers must be most careful in satisfying themselves that the liquor supplied is of good quality.

D

Fixed hours of issue should be appointed and during these hours a thoroughly trustworthy and reliable Non-Commissioned officer is to be present who will be held responsible that order is maintained.

E

The orderly officer should visit the canteen daily and the British officer of the week frequently at uncertain hours.

F

Commanding officers should make it a point to exercise the strictest personal supervision over the Institution which is open to abuse if British officers be careless or apathetic.

G

General officers commanding districts should from time to time, when convenient visit these canteens to satisfy themselves that their establishment is really beneficial to the men.

5. Messrs. Leishman & Co., Nilgiri Brewery Company are prepared to supply wholesome beer of light gravity at the following rates:—To all stations in the Madras Command except Burmah, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 40 per hogshead—to Rangoon, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 42 per hogshead.

6. These prices are quoted merely for the information of Commanding officers who are, of course, at liberty to obtain the liquor they require from any firm they may choose to select.

7. In cases in which canteens are established, Commanding Officers will be good enough to submit, through District authorities, a report to this office on their working after a period of six months has elapsed, General Officers Commanding in forwarding these reports will express their opinion on the experiment.

(ii)

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens.

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
1st Madras Lancers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
3rd Do. (a)	....	Do.		..	....	....	(a) Establishment in Secunderabad against terms of agreement between British Government and His Highness the Nizam's Government.
"Queen's Own Madras Sappers and Miners.	5-30 A.M. to 9 P.M. ..	Beer and stout ..	Both Rs. 1-1-4 per quart.	No	Cannot be stated as they vary with strength at Head-quarters but very nearly every man uses the canteen.	Benefit of the men, maintenance and supply of buildings, sums given for festivals, provide free coffee and hoppers for men on Field Days, etc.	
1st Madras Pioneers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Madras Infantry	....	Do. (a)		..	....	....	
3rd Madras Light Infantry ..	....	Do.		..	....	....	
4th Madras Pioneers	6 P.M. to 8 P.M. (During the day if specially ordered on any feast day.)	Beer and rum (when procurable).	Beer As. 3-4 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No	Three-fourths of the Regiment or 625 men.	Benefit of the men such as free food on the march, etc.	
5th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
6th Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
7th Do.	11 A.M. to 12 Noon, 5-30 P.M. to 8 P.M.	Beer and rum.. ..	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum As. 3 per dram.	No	183	Benefit of the men, free ammunition for pool shooting, cricket, foot-ball, etc.	
8th Do.	4 P.M. to 9 P.M. (10 A.M. to 1 P.M. on Sundays and Thursdays as well as in the evening).	Do.	Beer As. 4-8 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No ..	75	Prizes for sports among the men.	
9th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
10th Burma Rifles	....	Do.		..	....	....	
11th Madras Infantry	....	Do. (a)		..	....	....	
12th Burma-Madras Infantry ..	....	Do.		..	....	....	
13th Madras Infantry	....	....	....	..	....	....	
14th Do.	10 A.M. to 12 Noon and 4 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 a quart ..	No	260	Benefit of the men, men's necessaries, prizes for sports, donations to men discharged without pension and prizes for shooting.	Report not yet received.

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens—*cont.*

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
15th Madras Infantry	Between 3-30 and 7-30 P.M.	Beer and porter ..	As. 4-6 a quart ..	No ..	250	Benefit of the men, regimental sports, etc.	
16th Do.	Do.	Beer and stout ..	Do.	No ..	200	Benefit of the men, purchase of barrack room, boxes, etc.	
17th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
19th Do. (a)	....	Do.		..	....	....	
20th Do.	5 to 7 P.M.	Beer and rum ..	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum 3 oz. As. 1-6.	No ..	Nearly 400	No profit at present owing to expenses paid on journey from Vizianagaram to Meerut.	
21st Madras Pioneers	....	....	....	..	....	....	On Field service depot, unable to report as no canteen exists.
22nd Madras Infantry ..	....	No canteen kept up ..	....	..	....	....	
23rd Madras Light Infantry ..	2 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer .. .. Whisky .. .. Brandy .. .. Arrack	As. 3 per quart .. As. 5-4 per dram .. As. 4-6 " As. 1-8 "	No ..	170	Benefit of men, prizes at Regimental sports, paying carriage of certain Regimental necessaries, etc.	
24th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
25th Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
26th Do.	5 P.M. to 8-30 P.M. ..	Beer only	As. 4 per quart ..	No ..	150	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, advancing money to obtain practice ammunition at cheap rates.	
27th Do.	4-30 P.M. to 7-30 P.M. ..	Do.	As. 5 per quart ..	No ..	500	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, etc., replacing foot-ball and cricket gear, paying for *ammunition to improve shooting.*	
28th Do.	....	No canteen kept up ..	....	..	....	....	
29th Burma-Madras Infantry ..	5-30 A.M. to 12 Noon and 2 P.M. to 7 P.M.	Rum only	As. 1-4 per 4 ozs. ..	No ..	850	Benefit of the men, Regimental sports, etc.	
30th Do.	....	No canteen kept up ..	....	..	....	....	
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	10 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 6 to 8-30 P.M.	Beer and porter only.	As. 3 per quart ..	No ..	70	To the Regimental coffee shop to supply the men with sugar, tea, etc.	
32nd Burma-Madras Infantry ..	5 to 6-30 P.M.	Rum*	6 pies per dram ..	No ..	Sikhs 426, Christians 32, Followers 24.	No profits, the sum charged being actual cost.	* No Regimental canteen establishment but rum supplied three times a week one dram per man to be drunk on the spot.
33rd Do.	5 to 6 P.M. (Twice weekly)	Beer and rum ..	As. 5 per quart. Anna 1 per dram.	No ..	450	Benefit of the men, sports, etc.	

IV

Letter—from the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.
To—the Adjutant-General in India.
Dated—the 23rd January 1897.
No.—407-D.

The question of the expediency of continuing the present practice under which rum supplied to troops on payment is issued at a price which does not include the customs or excise duty levied on rum consumed by the public, has recently been under the consideration of the Government of India, and the conclusion arrived at is that the practice is opposed to the principles which underlie the policy, long accepted and carried into effect in India as in other countries, of imposing customs and excise duties on spirits, and that it is inexpedient to allow soldiers to buy spirits at a cheaper rate than their fellow countrymen in India. The Government of India have accordingly decided that the issue of duty-free rum to soldiers, whether British or Native, shall be discontinued as soon as this can conveniently be arranged.

2. In view, however, of the length of time during which the exemption from duty of rum issued to the troops has been in force, and of the reasons which led to the grant of such exemption, it is considered desirable that the change in system should be effected gradually. The rate of duty to be ultimately imposed should in the opinion of Government of India be the rate of excise duty in force in the province in which the troops purchasing the rum are located. In Madras, Bombay and Burma, rum manufactured in India is already excised at the full rate of duty leviable on spirits imported from Europe, namely, Rs. 6 a gallon of proof strength. In Bengal the excise duty is Rs. 5 a gallon, and in the Punjab and North-Western Provinces Rs. 4; but these rates are liable to be raised so as to equal the full import duty on foreign liquor. To raise the price of the rum supplied to troops in all parts of India by an amount which shall correspond approximately to As. 12 a gallon (or 12·5 per cent. of the full duty leviable), will therefore be a moderate and tentative advance in the direction desired. This will be equivalent to an increase of As. 2 in the price of a bottle of the size of a reputed quart, which is believed to be the size of the bottles in which rum is sold; and this increase has been decided on as the first instalment of the imposition of duty.

3. I am, therefore, to request that, under the orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, instructions may be issued to enhance the price of a reputed quart bottle of rum by As. 2, with effect from the 1st April 1897, and to say that the Government of India would be glad to be favoured with a report on the effects of the measure not later than 31st December 1897, to admit of the feasibility of further raising the duty with effect from 1st April 1898, being duly considered.

V

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. L. ELIOT, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 2nd July 1897.
No.—C. 2117.

This department obtains its supply of rum (country manufactured) by contract and the last supply was obtained in 1894-95 from Messrs. Morrison & Co., Arcot, at Rs. 1-1-3 per 1 gallon 50° proof or at As. 12-4 per 1 gallon 25° under proof.

2. The rum at 25° under proof is issued in bulk to regimental canteens on requisitions at Rs 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. This rum is retailed to troops at As. 2 per dram plus excise duty. So far as is known in this office the military authorities do not hold any licenses for the issue of liquor.

3. Rum is not supplied by this department to Native troops under ordinary circumstances, but only when specially authorised—*vide* paragraph 811, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat: the issue is made as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* and paid for by the troops at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon.

No. A./B.T. 10249, *dated 2nd July* 1897.

Forwarded with reference to your telephone message of the 24th ultimo.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General, Deputy Adjutant-General.

To the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

VI

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. H. Eliot, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 9th October 1897.
No.—5217.

Rum—the only liquor obtained by this department for issue on payment to troops—is procured by contract (the last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs. Morison & Co., Arcot) and is issued in bulk at 25° under proof to British regimental canteens at Rs. 2 per gallon when requisitioned for with an additional charge of As. 9 per gallon on account of excise duty, which latter is credited to Government separately from the sale-proceeds of the rum, in accordance with the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 408-D, dated 23rd January 1897 (copy enclosed).

2. The rum is then retailed to the soldier by the regimental canteens at As. 2 per dram plus the excise duty or altogether at Rs. 5–9–0 per imperial gallon (40 drams) and the difference between this rate and the rate paid by the canteens, viz., Rs. 3 per gallon is, I understand, credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds. This is, however, a purely regimental arrangement with which this department has no concern.

3. As regards the issue of rum to Native troops, they are entitled to it from this department only when specially authorized in accordance with paragraphs * 811–815, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat, and in that case, the rum is paid for by the troops at Rs. 2–8–0 per gallon as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* plus the excise duty. This department has no concern with the further distribution of the spirit after its original issue in bulk, nor has it any connection whatever with the Native regimental canteens where such may exist.

* Copy herewith.

4. The circumstances under which As. 9 per gallon of rum at 25° under proof are charged as excise duty, are explained in the accompanying copy of the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 407-D, dated 23rd January 1897.

Equivalent of As. 12 per gallon of proof rum.

5. So far as I am aware the question of a license in this connection being considered necessary, for this department has never been raised previously, and I can only imagine that this is because issues so made are made under the orders of Government and for Government purposes.

6. The question in its relation to regimental canteens is one which I am not in a position to deal with and I can only suggest the matter being referred to the Deputy Adjutant-General of the Command.

VII

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. H. Lawson, Commandent, 13th Madras Infantry.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—the 29th January 1898.

With reference to your Memorandum No. A./N.T. 18840, dated Ootacamund, 26th November 1897, I have the honour to furnish information as follows :—

(1) (*a*) The regimental canteen is open daily.
  (*b*) Between the hours 10 and 11 A.M. and 4 and 8 P.M.
  (*c*) Sepoys and regimental followers only are allowed to frequent the canteen.

(2) Beer, rum, and mineral waters are sold.

(3) The beer is obtained from Messrs. Leeshman & Co., Ootacamund.

The rum from Messrs. E. Dyer & Co., Mandalay, during the stay of the regiment at Thayetangi.

(4) Beer is sold at As. 2 per pint and rum As. 2–6 pies per dram.

(5) The profits are expended for the good of the men of the regiment.

(6) The canteen was opened on the 1st October 1894, *vide* my No. 327 of 2nd July 1894 to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Southern district, in accordance with Adjutant-General's Circular No. A.A. 962, dated 25th May 1893, and my report No. 145 B submitted to you on the 10th April 1895.

(7) The average number of men frequenting the canteen is about 200 daily.

Endorsement No. 3063.

Forwarded in continuation of my Memorandum No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General.

VIII

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue), Mis. No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Read—the following papers :—

(i)

Official Memorandum No. 146, *Revenue, dated 16th July* 1897.

Abstract.—Requesting certain information regarding the supply of spirits to troops.

(ii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 899, *Revenue, dated 21st February* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 2237, dated 4th December 1897, a copy of the office circular from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, showing the authority for the establishment of regimental canteens in his command, etc.

(iii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 1105, *Revenue, dated 4th March* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 899, dated 21st February 1898, letter submitted by the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, No. A.N.T. 3063, dated 24th February 1898.

Resolution—Mis. No. 1220, *dated 23rd March* 1898.

The Board begs to submit the following reply to the Official Memorandum from Government No. 146, dated 16th July 1897 :—

(1) The Native regimental canteens referred to are reported to have been instituted under the authority of Circular No. NA/942, dated 26th May 1893, of the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, copy of which is enclosed. The circular would appear to overlook the provisions of the Army Regulations quoted by Government. The Board would therefore request that the Lieutenant-General Commanding may be addressed as to the authority for its issue.

(2) As will be observed the Commanding officers are directed in the circular above quoted to make arrangements with local civil authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary, but no applications have been received for any licenses nor have any been issued. According to the strict letter of the law licenses would appear to be necessary both in the case of canteens and in that of sales by the Commissariat Department.

(3) As regards the rate of duty levied upon liquor issued to soldiers it appears that up to the year 1897 such liquor was issued duty-free. In that year it was decided to impose a duty, but in order not to enhance the price of liquor too suddenly the duty is only being imposed by degrees. For the present it is being levied at the rate of As. 12 per proof gallon or As. 9 per gallon of 25° under proof. This duty has been ordered to be credited to the head of V. Excise, but the order does not appear to be enforced in this Presidency. Copies of letters Nos. 407 D, dated 23rd January 1897, and 408 D of the same date from the Secretaty to Government of India, Military Department, which contain full information on these points are enclosed. As regards the difference between the price paid by the canteens for the liquor and the price realized for the same it is stated that these sums are credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds according to the arrangements in force in the regiments in question. It may be added—as reported by the Commissary General—that rum—the only liquor obtained by his department for issue on payment to troops—is procured on contract and their last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs Morrison & Co., North Arcot.

(True Extract.)

R. M. Thurley,
Ag. Assistant Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with three enclosures.

IX

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 7th July 1898.
No.—A/B. T. 10942.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum for current No. 2874 of 2nd July 1898.]

A list of the localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both British and Native, are kept up, is enclosed.

Enclosure.

List of localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both European and Native, are kept up.

Station.	Locality.
Bangalore	British Cavalry Barracks.
	Royal Artillery do.
	British Infantry do.
	"Q.O." Madras Sappers and Miners Lines.
Wellington	Depot Barracks.
	British Infantry Barracks.
Ootacamund	Fourth Madras Pioneers Lines.
Fort St. George	Royal Artillery Barracks.
	British Infantry do.
St. Thomas' Mount	Royal Artillery do.
	Fourteenth Madras Infantry Lines.
Pallavaram	E A.V. Company Barracks.
Poonamallee	Depôt Barracks.
Trichinopoly	27th Madras Infantry Lines.
Bellary	Royal Artillery Barracks.
	British Infantry do.
Cannanore	Do. do.
Calicut	Do. do.
Malappuram	Do. do.

X

Official Memorandum No. 164, Revenue, dated 22nd July 1898.

With reference to his letter No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898, the Deputy Adjutant-General is requested to be good enough to state whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.), supplied to canteens of Native regiments and if so, whether it is purchased duty paid or whether duty is paid by the military authorities on its issue from the distillery or brewery.

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.

XI

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 23rd August 1898.
No.—A./N.T. 13656.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum No. 164 of 22nd July 1898.]

Herewith a schedule of replies from the Officers Commanding those Madras Regiments which maintain canteens showing how excise duty is paid on liquor (rum, beer, etc.), purchased.

2. The reply from the Officer Commanding 20th Madras Infantry, will follow when received.

Enclosure.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc.

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
"Q.O." Sappers and Miners.	Bangalore	Excise duty is paid at Ootacamund by Nilgiri Brewery Company for ale and stout purchased for which permits are obtained from the Collector of the Nilgiris prior to despatch of consignments to Bangalore.
4th Madras Pioneers ...	Ootacamund	Full duty paid for rum supplied after receipt for Commissariat Department, that is to say, the Commissariat Department include the duty in the bill. Full duty is paid for beer by private dealers and added to the cost of beer supplied to the canteen.
7th Madras Infantry ...	Kamptee	Full excise duty is paid by firms from whom liquor is purchased.
8th Madras Infantry ...	Barrackpore	Liquor purchasad duty paid.
13th Madras Infantry.	Raipur, Central Provinces.	Full excise duty paid on liquor by firms from whom purchased.
14th Madras Infantry.	St. Thomas' Mount, Madras.	No duty paid by regiment on beer supplied—presumes distillery does.
15th Madras Infantry.	Rangoon	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
16th Madras Infantry.	Do.	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
20th Madras Infantry.	Miranshah	No report received.
21st Madras Pioneers.	Belgaum	Beer supplied is purchased from a local merchant and price paid by the regiment includes duty paid by the vendor.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc—*cont.*

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
22nd Madras Infantry.	Berhampur	Reports that under sanction of the Collector of Ganjām some rum was issued to the canteen from the Aska distillery at Rs. 1-12-0 per gallon duty, afterwards this sanction was withdrawn and the duty of Rs. 6 per gallon demanded, a rate which makes it impossible for the men to buy.
26th Madras Infantry.	Belgaum	Full excise duty is paid by vendors before the beer leaves the brewery.
27th Madras Infantry.	Trichinopoly	Beer supplied to the canteen delivered free of all charges, no duty being paid by the regiment.
28th Madras Infantry.	Madras	Beer purchased from Messrs Leighton & Co , Madras, for the regimental canteen is duty paid.
29th Burma Madras Infantry.	Fort Stedman, Burma.	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	Meiktila, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
32nd Madras Infantry.	Mandalay, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
33rd Madras Infantry.	Kong-Tung	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.

Order—No. 4032, Revenue, dated 8th October 1898.

Miscellaneous.

The Board's Proceedings read above will be forwarded to the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces for the favour of remarks on the points raised in paragraphs 1 and 2.

2. With reference to the statement in paragraph 3, that the duty on liquor sold at Regimental canteens is not credited to " Excise ", the Board of Revenue is requested to address the Controller of Military Accounts on the subject through the Adjutant-General if necessary.

3. With reference to the list of canteens received from the Deputy Adjutant-General and forwarded herewith, the Board of Revenue is requested to call upon the Collectors concerned to report whether liquor is issued from the canteens to anyone except soldiers.

(True Extract.)

G. S. FORBES,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, Separate Revenue, with list.
,, Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command,
with Board's Proceedings No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Government of Madras.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Recd. } 1914. *Enclosures*
Regd. *Spare copies*

G.O. No. 4032, 8th October 1898.

Referring to the Board of Revenue and the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces certain questions connected with the issue of liquor from the canteens.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers :—

I

Official Memorandum—from the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

To—the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue).

No.—146.

Dated—the 16th July 1897.

With reference to paragraph 7 of Board's Proceedings No. 181, dated 10th May 1897, the undersigned has the honour to request that information may be furnished on the following points :—

(i) It is observed that under articles 811 and 813 of the Army Regulations, Volume V, the issue of spirits to Native troops is sanctioned only when from climatic or other causes the supply is considered really necessary by regimental medical officers whose recommendation must receive the concurrence of Deputies Surgeon-General. The Board merely states that two native regimental canteens have been opened at St. Thomas Mount. It should now be reported whether the conditions laid down in the above quoted articles of the Army Regulations have been satisfied in these cases.

(ii) The military authorities do not appear to hold any licenses for the issue of liquor to troops. It should be reported why no licenses are required in their case.

(iii) In regard to regimental canteens it is understood that rum is issued in bulk on requisition at 25° under proof at Rs. 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. It is not understood why As. 9 are taken as excise duty while the proper duty is Rs. 4½, nor who gets this As. 9. Again the rum is issued to soldiers at As. 2 per dram or Rs. 6 per gallon *plus* excise duty. It should be reported as to what is done with the difference between the amount paid for by the soldiers and that paid for by the canteen and as to how As. 9 can be paid on 48 drams.

II

Copies of paragraphs 811—815, *Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat.*

811. The issue of spirits to Native troops is only authorised when from climate or other causes it is considered really necessary. The indent (Commissariat form 65) must clearly show the grounds on which the issue is recommended, and should be countersigned by the General Officer Commanding the district.

812. Even under such circumstances, rum is not claimable from the Commissariat as a right, and will not be granted for more than one month at a time, unless, at the expiration of the period, the medical authorities consider further issue absolotely necessary.

813. The quantity of rum to be thus issued is restricted to one dram per man (for the number recommended) per diem and is to be issued at 25 per cent. under proof and paid for at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon, the amount being credited to Government in the pay list and "General State" of the regiment. This order does not affect certain regiments peculiarly situated which receive rum under special Government sanction—see paragraph 815.

S.G.O.B. 14 and 298 of 1876 A R.B. vii, 184.

814. The sanction here given must be exercised as sparingly as possible. Tea may sometimes prove an efficient substitute for spirits and in such instances the issue may be made on payment under the above medical restrictions.

815. Rum may be issued at Port Blair on the recommendation of the Medical Officer. One hogshead of rum per mensem on indent is allowed to Sikhs and Christians of the second regiment, Central India horse. Rum is also allowed on indent to the 39th (the Garhwal Rifle) regiment of Bengal Infantry and the Goorkha regiments, on the understanding that the State is put to no expense, and that it gives the men no right to claim it in the field; also on indent to the Deputy Commissioner of the Chittagong hill tracts for the use of the Police.

Government of Madras, 3182 of 1874. Government of Bombay, dated 9th April 1896. Government of India, Nos. 2046 of 1873 and 3182 and 1121 of 1874, 1085 of 1875 and 477 S.D. and 1131 S.D. of 1882, Cir. C.G. B. 67 and 90 of 1882.

III

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.

To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Dated—Ootacamund, the 10th February 1898.

No.—A/N.T. 2296.

In continuation of my Memorandum, No. A/N.T. 18654 of 24th November 1897.

A copy of this office Circular No. N.A. 942, dated 26th May 1893, which is the authority for the establishment of Regimental Canteens in this command, is herewith forwarded together with a schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments furnishing further particulars.

2. The report from the Commandant 13th Madras Infantry will follow when received.

Enclosures.

(i)

Circular Memorandum—from Brigadier-General H. W. Pearson, Adjutant-General, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.

To—the Officer Commanding Regiment, Madras Infantry (through General Officer Commanding district).

Dated—Ootacamund, the 26th May 1893.

No.—N.A.-942.

The question of the establishment within the lines of Native Regiments of some place in which, under regimental arrangements good and sound liquor can be sold to Native soldiers, having been considered by the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant-General is desired to remark as follows.

2. In view of the very deleterious liquor sold in Native bazaars and of the undesirable nature of the surroundings of the shops where such is sold, the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the establishment of a canteen where good liquor could be obtained, would be in the interests of Native soldiers, and he has no objection to such being established provided that no extra expense is hereby incurred by the state.

3. It will be necessary that these canteens which are entirely optional, should be conducted on some fixed principle and with this view Commanding Officers should draw up and submit to General Officers Commanding Districts for their approval such orders as they may deem called for, to ensure that order is maintained and that the institution is not abused.

4. Such rules will doubtless differ in minor points in different stations, according to local conditions but the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the following points call for attention in all cases in which canteens in Native Regiments are established :—

A

Arrangements must be made [illegible] the Officer Commanding with the Local Civil Authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary.

B

The canteen should on no account be established in the centre of the lines where any noise or disturbance can take place without the knowledge or observation of the British officers, and where soldiers might meet for gambling.

If no existing building is available, a shed should be erected on the outskirts of the lines and not far from the Bells of arms, Barracks and Quarter guard.

C

Commanding officers must be most careful in satisfying themselves that the liquor supplied is of good quality.

D

Fixed hours of issue should be appointed and during these hours a thoroughly trustworthy and reliable Non-Commissioned officer is to be present who will be held responsible that order is maintained.

E

The orderly officer should visit the canteen daily and the British officer of the week frequently at uncertain hours.

F

Commanding officers should make it a point to exercise the strictest personal supervision over the Institution which is open to abuse if British officers be careless or apathetic.

G

General officers commanding districts should from time to time, when convenient visit these canteens to satisfy themselves that their establishment is really beneficial to the men.

5. Messrs. Leishman & Co., Nilgiri Brewery Company are prepared to supply wholesome beer of light gravity at the following rates:—To all stations in the Madras Command except Burmah, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 40 per hogshead—to Rangoon, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 42 per hogshead.

6. These prices are quoted merely for the information of Commanding officers who are, of course, at liberty to obtain the liquor they require from any firm they may choose to select.

7. In cases in which canteens are established, Commanding Officers will be good enough to submit, through District authorities, a report to this office on their working after a period of six months has elapsed, General Officers Commanding in forwarding these reports will express their opinion on the experiment.

(ii)

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens.

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of *customers*.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
1st Madras Lancers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
3rd Do. (*a*)	....	Do.		..	....	....	(*a*) Establishment in Secunderabad against terms of *agreement* between British Government and His Highness the Nizam's Government.
"Queen's Own Madras Sappers and Miners.	5-30 A.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer and stout	Both Rs. 1-1-4 per quart.	No	Cannot be stated as they vary with strength at Head-quarters but very nearly every man uses the canteen.	Benefit of the men, maintenance and *supply of buildings*, sums given for festivals, provide free coffee and hoppers for men on Field Days, etc.	
1st Madras Pioneers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Madras Infantry	....	Do. (*a*)		..	....	....	
3rd Madras Light Infantry	....	Do.		..	....	....	
4th Madras Pioneers	6 P.M. to 8 P.M. (During the day if specially ordered on any feast day.)	Beer and rum (when procurable).	Beer As. 3-4 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No	Three-fourths of the Regiment or 625 men.	Benefit of the men such as free food on the *march*, *etc*.	
5th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
6th Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
7th Do.	11 A.M. to 12 Noon, 5-30 P.M. to 8 P.M.	Beer and *rum*	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum As. 3 per *dram*.	No	183	Benefit of the men, free ammunition for pool shooting, cricket, *foot-ball*, etc.	
8th Do.	4 P.M. to 9 P.M. (10 A.M. to 1 P.M. on Sundays and Thursdays as well as in the evening).	Do.	Beer As. 4-8 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No	75	Prizes for sports among the men.	
9th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
10th Burma Rifles	....	Do.		..	....	....	
11th Madras Infantry	....	Do. (*a*)		..	....	....	
12th Burma-Madras Infantry	....	Do.		..	....	....	
13th Madras Infantry	....	....	....	..	....	....	
14th Do.	10 A.M. to 12 Noon and 4 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 a quart	No	260	Benefit of the men, men's necessaries, *prizes for sports*, donations to men discharged without pension and prizes *for* shooting.	Report not yet received.

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens—*cont.*

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
15th Madras Infantry	Between 3-30 and 7-30 P.M.	Beer and porter	As. 4-6 a quart	No	250	Benefit of the men, regimental sports, etc.	
16th Do.	Do.	Beer and stout	Do.	No	200	Benefit of the men, purchase of barrack room, boxes, etc.	
17th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
19th Do. (*a*)	....	Do.		..	....	....	
20th Do.	5 to 7 P.M.	Beer and rum	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum 3 oz. As. 1-6.	No	Nearly 400	No profit at present owing to expenses paid on journey from Vizianagaram to Meerut.	
21st Madras Pioneers	....	....	....	..	....	....	On Field service depot, unable to report as no canteen exists.
22nd Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up	....	..	....	....	
23rd Madras Light Infantry	2 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer Whisky Brandy Arrack	As. 3 per quart As. 5-4 per dram As. 4-6 ,, As. 1-8 ,,	No	170	Benefit of men, prizes at Regimental sports, paying carriage of certain Regimental necessaries, etc.	
24th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
25th Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
26th Do.	5 P.M. to 8-30 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 per quart	No	150	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, advancing money to obtain practice ammunition at cheap rates.	
27th Do.	4-30 P.M. to 7-30 P.M.	Do.	As. 5 per quart	No	500	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, etc., replacing foot-ball and cricket gear, paying for ammunition to improve shooting.	
28th Do.	....	No canteen kept up	....	..	....	....	
29th Burma-Madras Infantry	9-30 A.M. to 12 Noon and 2 P.M. to 7 P.M.	Rum only	As. 1-4 per 4 ozs.	No	850	Benefit of the men, Regimental sports, etc.	
30th Do.	....	No canteen kept up	....	..	....	....	
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	10 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 6 to 8-30 P.M.	Beer and porter only.	As. 3 per quart	No	70	To the Regimental coffee shop to supply the men with sugar, tea, etc.	
32nd Burma-Madras Infantry	5 to 6-30 P.M.	Rum*	6 pies per dram	No	Sikhs 426, Christians 32, Followers 24.	No profits, the sum charged being actual cost.	* No Regimental canteen establishment but rum supplied three times a week one dram per man to be drunk on the spot.
33rd Do.	5 to 6 P.M. (Twice weekly)	Beer and rum	As. 5 per quart. Anna 1 per dram.	No	450	Benefit of the men, sports, etc.	

IV

Letter—from the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.
To—the Adjutant-General in India.
Dated—the 23rd January 1897.
No.—407-D.

The question of the expediency of continuing the present practice under which rum supplied to troops on payment is issued at a price which does not include the customs or excise duty levied on rum consumed by the public, has recently been under the consideration of the Government of India, and the conclusion arrived at is that the practice is opposed to the principles which underlie the policy, long accepted and carried into effect in India as in other countries, of imposing customs and excise duties on spirits, and that it is inexpedient to allow soldiers to buy spirits at a cheaper rate than their fellow countrymen in India. The Government of India have accordingly decided that the issue of duty-free rum to soldiers, whether British or Native, shall be discontinued as soon as this can conveniently be arranged.

2. In view, however, of the length of time during which the exemption from duty of rum issued to the troops has been in force, and of the reasons which led to the grant of such exemption, it is considered desirable that the change in system should be effected gradually. The rate of duty to be ultimately imposed should in the opinion of Government of India be the rate of excise duty in force in the province in which the troops purchasing the rum are located. In Madras, Bombay and Burma, rum manufactured in India is already excised at the full rate of duty leviable on spirits imported from Europe, namely, Rs. 6 a gallon of proof strength. In Bengal the excise duty is Rs. 5 a gallon, and in the Punjab and North-Western Provinces Rs. 4; but these rates are liable to be raised so as to equal the full import duty on foreign liquor. To raise the price of the rum supplied to troops in all parts of India by an amount which shall correspond approximately to As. 12 a gallon (or 12·5 per cent. of the full duty leviable), will therefore be a moderate and tentative advance in the direction desired. This will be equivalent to an increase of As. 2 in the price of a bottle of the size of a reputed quart, which is believed to be the size of the bottles in which rum is sold; and this increase has been decided on as the first instalment of the imposition of duty.

3. I am, therefore, to request that, under the orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, instructions may be issued to enhance the price of a reputed quart bottle of rum by As. 2, with effect from the 1st April 1897, and to say that the Government of India would be glad to be favoured with a report on the effects of the measure not later than 31st December 1897, to admit of the feasibility of further raising the duty with effect from 1st April 1898, being duly considered.

V

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. L. Eliot, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 2nd July 1897.
No.—C. 2117.

This department obtains its supply of rum (country manufactured) by contract and the last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs. Morrison & Co., Arcot, at Rs. 1-1-3 per 1 gallon 50° proof or at As. 12-4 per 1 gallon 25° under proof.

2. The rum at 25° under proof is issued in bulk to regimental canteens on requisitions at Rs 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. This rum is retailed to troops at As. 2 per dram plus excise duty. So far as is known in this office the military authorities do not hold any licenses for the issue of liquor.

3. Rum is not supplied by this department to Native troops under ordinary circumstances, but only when specially authorised—*vide* paragraph 811, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat: the issue is made as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* and paid for by the troops at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon.

No. A./B.T. 10249, *dated 2nd July* 1897.

Forwarded with reference to your telephone message of the 24th ultimo.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General, Deputy Adjutant-General.

To the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

VI

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. H. Eliot, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 9th October 1897.
No.—5217.

Rum—the only liquor obtained by this department for issue on payment to troops—is procured by contract (the last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs. Morison & Co., Arcot) and is issued in bulk at 25° under proof to British regimental canteens at Rs. 2 per gallon when requisitioned for with an additional charge of As. 9 per gallon on account of excise duty, which latter is credited to Government separately from the sale-proceeds of the rum, in accordance with the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 408-D, dated 23rd January 1897 (copy enclosed).

2. The rum is then retailed to the soldier by the regimental canteens at As. 2 per dram plus the excise duty or altogether at Rs. 5–9–0 per imperial gallon (40 drams) and the difference between this rate and the rate paid by the canteens, viz., Rs. 3 per gallon is, I understand, credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds. This is, however, a purely regimental arrangement with which this department has no concern.

3. As regards the issue of rum to Native troops, they are entitled to it from this department only when specially authorized in accordance with paragraphs * 811–815, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat, and in that case, the rum is paid for by the troops at Rs. 2–8–0 per gallon as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* plus the excise duty. This department has no concern with the further distribution of the spirit after its original issue in bulk, nor has it any connection whatever with the Native regimental canteens where such may exist.

* Copy herewith.

4. The circumstances under which As. 9 per gallon of rum at 25° under proof are charged as excise duty, are explained in the accompanying copy of the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 407-D, dated 23rd January 1897.

Equivalent of As. 12 per gallon of proof rum.

5. So far as I am aware the question of a license in this connection being considered necessary, for this department has never been raised previously, and I can only imagine that this is because issues so made are made under the orders of Government and for Government purposes.

6. The question in its relation to regimental canteens is one which I am not in a position to deal with and I can only suggest the matter being referred to the Deputy Adjutant-General of the Command.

VII

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. H. Lawson, Commandent, 13th Madras Infantry.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—the 29th January 1898.

With reference to your Memorandum No. A./N.T. 18840, dated Ootacamund, 26th November 1897, I have the honour to furnish information as follows :—

(1) (*a*) The regimental canteen is open daily.
(*b*) Between the hours 10 and 11 A.M. and 4 and 8 P.M.
(*c*) Sepoys and regimental followers only are allowed to frequent the canteen.

(2) Beer, rum, and mineral waters are sold.

(3) The beer is obtained from Messrs. Leeshman & Co., Ootacamund.

The rum from Messrs. E. Dyer & Co., Mandalay, during the stay of the regiment at Thayetangi.

(4) Beer is sold at As. 2 per pint and rum As. 2–6 pies per dram.

(5) The profits are expended for the good of the men of the regiment.

(6) The canteen was opened on the 1st October 1894, *vide* my No. 327 of 2nd July 1894 to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Southern district, in accordance with Adjutant-General's Circular No. A.A. 962, dated 25th May 1893, and my report No. 145 B submitted to you on the 10th April 1895.

(7) The average number of men frequenting the canteen is about 200 daily.

Endorsement No. 3063.

Forwarded in continuation of my Memorandum No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General.

VIII

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue), Mis. No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Read—the following papers :—

(i)

Official Memorandum No. 146, *Revenue, dated* 16*th July* 1897.

Abstract.—Requesting certain information regarding the supply of spirits to troops.

(ii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 899, *Revenue, dated* 21*st February* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 2237, dated 4th December 1897, a copy of the office circular from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, showing the authority for the establishment of regimental canteens in his command, etc.

(iii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 1105, *Revenue, dated* 4*th March* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 899, dated 21st February 1898, letter submitted by the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, No. A.N.T. 3063, dated 24th February 1898.

Resolution—Mis. No. 1220, *dated* 23*rd March* 1898.

The Board begs to submit the following reply to the Official Memorandum from Government No. 146, dated 16th July 1897 :—

(1) The Native regimental canteens referred to are reported to have been instituted under the authority of Circular No. NA/942, dated 26th May 1893, of the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, copy of which is enclosed. The circular would appear to overlook the provisions of the Army Regulations quoted by Government. The Board would therefore request that the Lieutenant-General Commanding may be addressed as to the authority for its issue.

(2) As will be observed the Commanding officers are directed in the circular above quoted to make arrangements with local civil authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary, but no applications have been received for any licenses nor have any been issued. According to the strict letter of the law licenses would appear to be necessary both in the case of canteens and in that of sales by the Commissariat Department.

(3) As regards the rate of duty levied upon liquor issued to soldiers it appears that up to the year 1897 such liquor was issued duty-free. In that year it was decided to impose a duty, but in order not to enhance the price of liquor too suddenly the duty is only being imposed by degrees. For the present it is being levied at the rate of As. 12 per proof gallon or As. 9 per gallon of 25° under proof. This duty has been ordered to be credited to the head of V. Excise, but the order does not appear to be enforced in this Presidency. Copies of letters Nos. 407 D, dated 23rd January 1897, and 408 D of the same date from the Secretaty to Government of India, Military Department, which contain full information on these points are enclosed. As regards the difference between the price paid by the canteens for the liquor and the price realized for the same it is stated that these sums are credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds according to the arrangements in force in the regiments in question. It may be added—as reported by the Commissary General—that rum—the only liquor obtained by his department for issue on payment to troops—is procured on contract and their last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs Morrison & Co., North Arcot.

(True Extract.)

R. M. Thurley,
Ag. Assistant Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with three enclosures.

IX

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 7th July 1898.
No.—A/B. T. 10942.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum for currunt No. 2874 of 2nd July 1898.]

A list of the localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both British and Native, are kept up, is enclosed.

Enclosure.

List of localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both European and Native, are kept up.

Station.	Locality.
Bangalore	British Cavalry Barracks.
	Royal Artillery do.
	British Infantry do.
	"Q.O" Madras Sappers and Miners Lines.
Wellington	Depot Barracks.
	British Infantry Barracks.
Ootacamund	Fourth Madras Pioneers Lines.
Fort St. George	Royal Artillery Barracks.
	British Infantry do.
St. Thomas' Mount	Royal Artillery do.
	Fourteenth Madras Infantry Lines.
Pallavaram	E A.V. Company Barracks.
Poonamallee	Depôt Barracks.
Trichinopoly	27th Madras Infantry Lines.
Bellary	Royal Artillery Barracks.
	British Infantry do.
Cannanore	Do. do.
Calicut	Do. do.
Malappuram	Do. do.

X

Official Memorandum No. 164, Revenue, dated 22nd July 1898.

With reference to his letter No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898, the Deputy Adjutant-General is requested to be good enough to state whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.), supplied to canteens of Native regiments and if so, whether it is purchased duty paid or whether duty is paid by the military authorities on its issue from the distillery or brewery.

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.

XI

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 23rd August 1898.
No.—A./N.T. 13656.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum No. 164 of 22nd July 1898.]

Herewith a schedule of replies from the Officers Commanding those Madras Regiments which maintain canteens showing how excise duty is paid on liquor (rum, beer, etc.), purchased.

2. The reply from the Officer Commanding 20th Madras Infantry, will follow when received.

Enclosure.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc.

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
"Q.O." Sappers and Miners.	Bangalore	Excise duty is paid at Ootacamund by Nilgiri Brewery Company for ale and stout purchased for which permits are obtained from the Collector of the Nilgiris prior to despatch of consignments to Bangalore.
4th Madras Pioneers ..	Ootacamund	Full duty paid for rum supplied after receipt for Commissariat Department, that is to say, the Commissariat Department include the duty in the bill. Full duty is paid for beer by private dealers and added to the cost of beer supplied to the canteen.
7th Madras Infantry ...	Kamptee	Full excise duty is paid by firms from whom liquor is purchased.
8th Madras Infantry ...	Barrackpore	Liquor purchasad duty paid.
13th Madras Infantry.	Raipur, Central Provinces.	Full excise duty paid on liquor by firms from whom purchased.
14th Madras Infantry.	St. Thomas' Mount, Madras.	No duty paid by regiment on beer supplied—presumes distillery does.
15th Madras Infantry.	Rangoon	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
16th Madras Infantry.	Do.	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
20th Madras Infantry.	Miranshah	No report received.
21st Madras Pioneers.	Belgaum	Beer supplied is purchased from a local merchant and price paid by the regiment includes duty paid by the vendor.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc—*cont.*

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
22nd Madras Infantry.	Berhampur	Reports that under sanction of the Collector of Ganjām some rum was issued to the canteen from the Aska distillery at Rs. 1-12-0 per gallon duty, afterwards this sanction was withdrawn and the duty of Rs. 6 per gallon demanded, a rate which makes it impossible for the men to buy.
26th Madras Infantry.	Belgaum	Full excise duty is paid by vendors before the beer leaves the brewery.
27th Madras Infantry.	Trichinopoly	Beer supplied to the canteen delivered free of all charges, no duty being paid by the regiment.
28th Madras Infantry.	Madras	Beer purchased from Messrs Leighton & Co, Madras, for the regimental canteen is duty paid.
29th Burma Madras Infantry.	Fort Stedman, Burma.	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	Meiktila, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
32nd Madras Infantry.	Mandalay, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
33rd Madras Infantry.	Keng-Tung	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.

Order—No. 4032, Revenue, dated 8th October 1898.

Miscellaneous.

The Board's Proceedings read above will be forwarded to the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces for the favour of remarks on the points raised in paragraphs 1 and 2.

2. With reference to the statement in paragraph 3, that the duty on liquor sold at Regimental canteens is not credited to " Excise ", the Board of Revenue is requested to address the Controller of Military Accounts on the subject through the Adjutant-General if necessary.

3. With reference to the list of canteens received from the Deputy Adjutant-General and forwarded herewith, the Board of Revenue is requested to call upon the Collectors concerned to report whether liquor is issued from the canteens to anyone except soldiers.

(True Extract.)

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, Separate Revenue, with list.
" Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command,
with Board's Proceedings No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Government of Madras.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Recd. } 1914. *Enclosures*
Regd. *Spare copies*

G.O. No. 4032, 8th October 1898.

Referring to the Board of Revenue and the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces certain questions connected with the issue of liquor from the canteens.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers:—

I

Official Memorandum—from the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.
To—the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue).
No.—146.
Dated—the 16th July 1897.

With reference to paragraph 7 of Board's Proceedings No. 181, dated 10th May 1897, the undersigned has the honour to request that information may be furnished on the following points:—

(i) It is observed that under articles 811 and 813 of the Army Regulations, Volume V, the issue of spirits to Native troops is sanctioned only when from climatic or other causes the supply is considered really necessary by regimental medical officers whose recommendation must receive the concurrence of Deputies Surgeon-General. The Board merely states that two native regimental canteens have been opened at St. Thomas Mount. It should now be reported whether the conditions laid down in the above quoted articles of the Army Regulations have been satisfied in these cases.

(ii) The military authorities do not appear to hold any licenses for the issue of liquor to troops. It should be reported why no licenses are required in their case.

(iii) In regard to regimental canteens it is understood that rum is issued in bulk on requisition at 25° under proof at Rs. 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. It is not understood why As. 9 are taken as excise duty while the proper duty is Rs. 4½, nor who gets this As. 9. Again the rum is issued to soldiers at As. 2 per dram or Rs. 6 per gallon *plus* excise duty. It should be reported as to what is done with the difference between the amount paid for by the soldiers and *that* paid for by the canteen and as to how As. 9 can be paid on 48 drams.

II

Copies of paragraphs 811—815, *Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat.*

811. The issue of spirits to Native troops is only authorised when from climate or other causes it is considered really necessary. The indent (Commissariat form 65) must clearly show the grounds on which the issue is recommended, and should be countersigned by the General Officer Commanding the district.

812. Even under such circumstances, rum is not claimable from the Commissariat as a right, and will not be granted for more than one month at a time, unless, at the expiration of the *period*, the *medical* authorities consider further issue absolotely necessary.

813. The quantity of rum to be thus issued is restricted to one dram per man (for the number recommended) per diem *and is to be* issued at 25 per cent. under proof and paid for at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon, the amount being credited to Government in the pay list and "General *State*" *of the* regiment. This order does not affect certain regiments peculiarly situated which receive rum under special Government *sanction*—see paragraph 815.

S.G.O.B. 14 and 298 of 1876 A.R.B. vii, 184.

814. The san*ction here given* must be exercised as sparingly as possible. Tea may sometimes prove an efficient substitute for *spirits and in* such instances the issue may be made on payment under the above medical restrictions.

815. *R*um may be issued at Port Blair on the recommendation of the Medical Officer. One hogshead of rum per mensem on indent is *allowed to* Sikhs and Christians of the second regiment, Central India horse. Rum is also allowed on indent *to the* 39th (*the* Garhwal Rifle) regiment of Bengal Infantry and the Goorkha regiments, *on the* understanding that the State is put to no expense, and that it gives the men no right to claim it *in the field*; also on indent to the Deputy Commissioner of the Chittagong hill tracts for the use of the Police.

Government of Madras, 3182 of 1874. Government of Bombay, dated 9th April 1896. Government of India, Nos. 2046 of 1873 and 3182 and 1121 of 1874, 1085 *of* 1875 and 477 S.D. and 1131 S.D. of 1882, Cir. C.G. B. 67 and 90 *of* 1882.

III

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 10th February 1898.
No.—A/N.T. 2296.

In continuation of my Memorandum, No. A/N.T. 18654 *of* 24th November 1897.

A copy of *this office* Circular No. N.A. 942, dated 26th May 1893, which is the authority for the establishment of Regimental *Canteens* in this command, is herewith forwarded together with a schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments *furnishing* further particulars.

2. The report from the Commandant 13th Madras Infantry will follow when received.

Enclosures.

(i)

Circular Memorandum—from Brigadier-General H. W. Pearson, Adjutant-General, *Regimental* Institutions—Canteens.
To—the Officer Commanding Regiment, Madras Infantry (through General Officer Commanding district).
Dated—Ootacamund, the 26th May 1893.
No.—N.A.-942.

The question of the establishment within the lines of Native *Regiments* of some place in which, *under regimental* arrangements good and sound liquor can be sold to Native soldiers, having been considered by the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant-General is desired to remark as follows.

2. In view of the very deleterious liquor sold in Native bazaars and of the undesirable nature of the surroundings of the shops where such is sold, the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the establishment of a canteen where good liquor could be obtained, would be in the interests of Native soldiers, and he has no objection to such being established provided that no extra expense is hereby incurred by the state.

3. It will be necessary that these canteens which are entirely optional, should be conducted on some fixed principle and with this view Commanding Officers should draw up and submit to General Officers Commanding Districts for their approval such orders as they may deem called for, to ensure that order is maintained and that the institution is not abused.

4. Such rules will doubtless differ in minor points in different stations, according to local conditions but the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the following points call for attention in all cases in which canteens in Native Regiments are established:—

A

Arrangements must be made the Officer Commanding with the Local Civil Authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary.

B

The canteen should on no account be established in the centre of the lines where any noise or disturbance can take place without the knowledge or observation of the British officers, and where soldiers might meet for gambling.

If no existing building is available, a shed should be erected on the outskirts of the lines and not far from the Bells of arms, Barracks and Quarter guard.

C

Commanding officers must be most careful in satisfying themselves that the liquor supplied is of good quality.

D

Fixed hours of issue should be appointed and during these hours a thoroughly trustworthy and reliable Non-Commissioned officer is to be present who will be held responsible that order is maintained.

E

The orderly officer should visit the canteen daily and the British officer of the week frequently at uncertain hours.

F

Commanding officers should make it a point to exercise the strictest personal supervision over the Institution which is open to abuse if British officers be careless or apathetic.

G

General officers commanding districts should from time to time, when convenient visit these canteens to satisfy themselves that their establishment is really beneficial to the men.

5. Messrs. Leishman & Co., Nilgiri Brewery Company are prepared to supply wholesome beer of light gravity at the following rates:—To all stations in the Madras Command except Burmah, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 40 per hogshead—to Rangoon, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 42 per hogshead.

6. These prices are quoted merely for the information of Commanding officers who are, of course, at liberty to obtain the liquor they require from any firm they may choose to select.

7. In cases in which canteens are established, Commanding Officers will be good enough to submit, through District authorities, a report to this office on their working after a period of six months has elapsed, General Officers Commanding in forwarding these reports will express their opinion on the experiment.

(ii)

Schedule of replies from officers commanding *Madras Regiments regarding* Canteens.

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	*Profits how spent.*	Remarks.
1st Madras Lancers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
3rd Do. (*a*)	....	Do.		..	....	....	(*a*) Establishment in Secunderabad against terms of agreement between British Government and His Highness the Nizam's Government.
"Queen's Own Madras Sappers and Miners.	5-30 A.M. to 9 P.M. ..	Beer and stout ..	Both Rs. 1-1-4 per quart.	No ..	Cannot be stated as they vary with strength at Head-quarters but very nearly every man uses the canteen.	Benefit of the men, maintenance and supply of buildings, sums given for festivals, provide free coffee and hoppers for men on Field Days, etc.	
1st Madras Pioneers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Madras Infantry	....	Do. (*a*)		..	....	....	
3rd Madras Light Infantry ..	....	Do.		..	....	....	
4th Madras Pioneers	6 P.M. to 8 P.M. (During the day if specially ordered on any feast day.)	Beer and rum (when procurable).	Beer As. 3-4 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No ..	Three-fourths of the Regiment or 625 men.	Benefit of the men such as free food on the march, etc.	
5th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
6th Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
7th Do.	11 A.M. to 12 Noon, 5-30 P.M. to 8 P.M.	Beer and rum	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No ..	183	Benefit of the men, free ammunition for pool shooting, cricket, foot-ball, etc.	
8th Do.	4 P.M. to 9 P.M. (10 A.M. to 1 P.M. on Sundays and Thursdays as well as in the evening).	Do.	Beer As. 4-8 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No ..	75	Prizes for sports among the men.	
9th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
10th Burma Rifles	....	Do.		..	....	....	
11th Madras Infantry	....	Do. (*a*)		..	....	....	
12th Burma-Madras Infantry ..	....	Do.		..	....	....	
13th Madras Infantry	....	....	....	..	....	....	
14th Do.	10 A.M. to 12 Noon and 4 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 a quart ..	No ..	260	Benefit of the men, men's necessaries, prizes for sports, donations to men discharged without pension and prizes for shooting.	Report not yet received.

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens—*cont.*

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor. Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
15th Madras Infantry	Between 3-30 and 7-30 P.M.	Beer and porter	As. 4-6 a quart	No	250	Benefit of the men, regimental sports, etc.	
16th Do.	Do.	Beer and stout	*Do.*	*No*	200	Benefit of the men, purchase of barrack room, boxes, etc.	
17th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.			....	....	
19th Do. (a)	....	Do.			....	....	
20th Do.	5 to 7 P.M.	Beer and rum	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum 3 oz. As. 1-6.	No	Nearly 400	No profit at present owing to expenses paid on journey from Vizianagaram to Meerut.	
21st Madras Pioneers	....	....	....		....	....	On Field service depot, unable to report as no canteen exists.
22nd Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up	....		....	....	
23rd Madras Light Infantry	2 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer Whisky Brandy Arrack	As. 3 per quart As. 5-4 per dram As. 4-6 ,, As. 1-8 ,,	No	170	Benefit of men, prizes at Regimental sports, paying carriage of certain Regimental necessaries, etc.	
24th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.			....	....	
25th Do.	....	Do.			....	....	
26th Do.	5 P.M. to 8-30 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 per quart	No	150	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, advancing money to obtain practice ammunition at cheap rates.	
27th *Do.*	4-30 P.M. to 7-30 P.M.	Do.	As. 5 per quart	No	500	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, etc., replacing foot-ball and cricket gear, paying for ammunition to improve shooting.	
28th Do.	....	No canteen kept up	....		....	....	
29th Burma-Madras Infantry	9-30 A.M. to 12 Noon and 2 P.M. to 7 P.M.	Rum only	As. 1-4 per 4 ozs.	No	850	Benefit of the men, Regimental sports, etc.	
30th Do.	....	No canteen kept up	....		....	....	
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	10 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 6 to 8-30 P.M.	Beer and porter only.	As. 3 per quart	No	70	To the Regimental coffee shop to supply the men with sugar, tea, etc.	
32nd Burma-Madras Infantry	5 to 6-30 P.M.	Rum*	6 pies per dram	No	Sikhs 426, Christians 32, Followers 24.	No profits, the sum charged being actual cost.	* No Regimental canteen establishment but rum supplied three times a week one dram per man to be drunk on the spot.
33rd Do.	5 to 6 P.M. (Twice weekly)	Beer and rum	As. 5 per quart. Anna 1 per dram.	No	450	Benefit of the men, sports, etc.	

IV

Letter—from the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.
To—the Adjutant-General in India.
Dated—the 23rd January 1897.
No.—407-D.

The question of the expediency of continuing the present practice under which rum supplied to troops on payment is issued at a price which does not include the customs or excise duty levied on rum consumed by the public, has recently been under the consideration of the Government of India, and the conclusion arrived at is that the practice is opposed to the principles which underlie the policy, long accepted and carried into effect in India as in other countries, of imposing customs and excise duties on spirits, and that it is inexpedient to allow soldiers to buy spirits at a cheaper rate than their fellow countrymen in India. The Government of India have accordingly decided that the issue of duty-free rum to soldiers, whether British or Native, shall be discontinued as soon as this can conveniently be arranged.

2. In view, however, of the length of time during which the exemption from duty of rum issued to the troops has been in force, and of the reasons which led to the grant of such exemption, it is considered desirable that the change in system should be effected gradually. The rate of duty to be ultimately imposed should in the opinion of Government of India be the rate of excise duty in force in the province in which the troops purchasing the rum are located. In Madras, Bombay and Burma, rum manufactured in India is already excised at the full rate of duty leviable on spirits imported from Europe, namely, Rs. 6 a gallon of proof strength. In Bengal the excise duty is Rs. 5 a gallon, and in the Punjab and North-Western Provinces Rs. 4; but these rates are liable to be raised so as to equal the full import duty on foreign liquor. To raise the price of the rum supplied to troops in all parts of India by an amount which shall correspond approximately to As. 12 a gallon (or 12·5 per cent. of the full duty leviable), will therefore be a moderate and tentative advance in the direction desired. This will be equivalent to an increase of As. 2 in the price of a bottle of the size of a reputed quart, which is believed to be the size of the bottles in which rum is sold; and this increase has been decided on as the first instalment of the imposition of duty.

3. I am, therefore, to request that, under the orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, instructions may be issued to enhance the price of a reputed quart bottle of rum by As. 2, with effect from the 1st April 1897, and to say that the Government of India would be glad to be favoured with a *report on the effects* of the measure not later than 31st December 1897, to admit of the feasibility of further raising the duty with effect from 1st April 1898, being duly considered.

V

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. L. ELIOT, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 2nd July 1897.
No.—C. 2117.

This department obtains its supply of rum (country manufactured) by contract and the last supply was obtained in 1894-95 from Messrs. Morrison & Co., Arcot, at Rs. 1-1-3 per 1 gallon 50° proof or at As. 12-4 per 1 gallon 25° under proof.

2. The rum at 25° under proof is issued in bulk to regimental canteens on requisitions at Rs. 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. This rum is retailed to troops at As. 2 per dram plus excise duty. So far as is known in this office the military authorities do not hold any licenses for the issue of liquor.

3. Rum is not supplied by this department to Native troops under ordinary circumstances, but only when specially authorised—*vide* paragraph 811, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat: the issue is made as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* and paid for by the troops at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon.

No. A./B.T. 10249, *dated 2nd July* 1897.

Forwarded with reference to your telephone message of the 24th ultimo.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General, Deputy Adjutant-General.

To the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

VI

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. H. Eliot, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 9th October 1897.
No.—5217.

Rum—the only liquor obtained by this department for issue on payment to troops—is procured by contract (the last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs. Morison & Co., Arcot) and is issued in bulk at 25° under proof to British regimental canteens at Rs. 2 per gallon when requisitioned for with an additional charge of As. 9 per gallon on account of excise duty, which latter is credited to Government separately from the sale-proceeds of the rum, in accordance with the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 408-D, dated 23rd January 1897 (copy enclosed).

2. The rum is then retailed to the soldier by the regimental canteens at As. 2 per dram plus the excise duty or altogether at Rs. 5–9–0 per imperial gallon (40 drams) and the difference between this rate and the rate paid by the canteens, viz., Rs. 3 per gallon is, I understand, credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds. This is, however, a purely regimental arrangement with which this department has no concern.

3. As regards the issue of rum to Native troops, they are entitled to it from this department only when specially authorized in accordance with paragraphs * 811–815, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat, and in that case, the rum is paid for by the troops at Rs. 2–8–0 per gallon as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* plus the excise duty. This department has no concern with the further distribution of the spirit after its original issue in bulk, nor has it any connection whatever with the Native regimental canteens where such may exist.

* Copy herewith.

4. The circumstances under which As. 9 per gallon of rum at 25° under proof are charged as excise duty, are explained in the accompanying copy of the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 407-D, dated 23rd January 1897.

Equivalent of As. 12 per gallon of proof rum.

5. So far as I am aware the question of a license in this connection being considered necessary, for this department has never been raised previously, and I can only imagine that this is because issues so made are made under the orders of Government and for Government purposes.

6. The question in its relation to regimental canteens is one which I am not in a position to deal with and I can only suggest the matter being referred to the Deputy Adjutant-General of the Command.

VII

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. H. Lawson, Commandent, 13th Madras Infantry.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—the 29th January 1898.

With reference to your Memorandum No. A./N.T. 18840, dated Ootacamund, 26th November 1897, I have the honour to furnish information as follows :—

(1) (*a*) The regimental canteen is open daily.
(*b*) Between the hours 10 and 11 A.M. and 4 and 8 P.M.
(*c*) Sepoys and regimental followers only are allowed to frequent the canteen.

(2) Beer, rum, and mineral waters are sold.

(3) The beer is obtained from Messrs. Leeshman & Co., Ootacamund.

The rum from Messrs. E. Dyer & Co., Mandalay, during the stay of the regiment at Thayetangi.

(4) Beer is sold at As. 2 per pint and rum As. 2–6 pies per dram.

(5) The profits are expended for the good of the men of the regiment.

(6) The canteen was opened on the 1st October 1894, *vide* my No. 327 of 2nd July 1894 to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Southern district, in accordance with Adjutant-General's Circular No. A.A. 962, dated 25th May 1893, and my report No. 145 B submitted to you on the 10th April 1895.

(7) The average number of men frequenting the canteen is about 200 daily.

Endorsement No. 3063.

Forwarded in continuation of my Memorandum No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General.

VIII

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue), Mis. No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Read—the following papers :—

(i)

Official Memorandum No. 146, *Revenue, dated* 16*th July* 1897.

Abstract.—Requesting certain information regarding the supply of spirits to troops.

(ii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 899, *Revenue, dated* 21*st February* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 2237, dated 4th December 1897, a copy of the office circular from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, showing the authority for the establishment of regimental canteens in his command, etc.

(iii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 1105, *Revenue, dated 4th March* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 899, dated 21st February 1898, letter submitted by the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, No. A.N.T. 3063, dated 24th February 1898.

Resolution—Mis. No. 1220, *dated* 23*rd March* 1898.

The Board begs to submit the following reply to the Official Memorandum from Government No. 146, dated 16th July 1897 :—

(1) The Native regimental canteens referred to are reported to have been instituted under the authority of Circular No. NA/942, dated 26th May 1893, of the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, copy of which is enclosed. The circular would appear to overlook the provisions of the Army Regulations quoted by Government. The Board would therefore request that the Lieutenant-General Commanding may be addressed as to the authority for its issue.

(2) As will be observed the Commanding officers are directed in the circular above quoted to make arrangements with local civil authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary, but no applications have been received for any licenses nor have any been issued. According to the strict letter of the law licenses would appear to be necessary both in the case of canteens and in that of sales by the Commissariat Department.

(3) As regards the rate of duty levied upon liquor issued to soldiers it appears that up to the year 1897 such liquor was issued duty-free. In that year it was decided to impose a duty, but in order not to enhance the price of liquor too suddenly the duty is only being imposed by degrees. For the present it is being levied at the rate of As. 12 per proof gallon or As. 9 per gallon of 25° under proof. This duty has been ordered to be credited to the head of V. Excise, but the order does not appear to be enforced in this Presidency. Copies of letters Nos. 407 D, dated 23rd January 1897, and 408 D of the same date from the Secretaty to Government of India, Military Department, which contain full information on these points are enclosed. As regards the difference between the price paid by the canteens for the liquor and the price realized for the same it is stated that these sums are credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds according to the arrangements in force in the regiments in question. It may be added—as reported by the Commissary General—that rum—the only liquor obtained by his department for issue on payment to troops—is procured on contract and their last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs Morrison & Co., North Arcot.

(True Extract.)

R. M. Thurley,
Ag. Assistant Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with three enclosures.

IX

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 7th July 1898.
No.—A/B. T. 10942.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum for current No. 2874 of 2nd July 1898.]

A list of the localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both British and Native, are kept up, is enclosed.

Enclosure.

List of localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both European and Native, are kept up.

Station.	Locality.
Bangalore	British Cavalry Barracks.
	Royal Artillery do.
	British Infantry do.
	"Q.O" Madras Sappers and Miners Lines.
Wellington	Depot Barracks.
	British Infantry Barracks.
Ootacamund	Fourth Madras Pioneers Lines.
Fort St. George	Royal Artillery Barracks.
	British Infantry do.
St. Thomas' Mount	Royal Artillery do.
	Fourteenth Madras Infantry Lines.
Pallavaram	E A.V. Company Barracks.
Poonamallee	Depôt Barracks.
Trichinopoly	27th Madras Infantry Lines.
Bellary	Royal Artillery Barracks.
	British Infantry do.
Cannanore	Do. do.
Calicut	Do. do.
Malappuram	Do. do.

X

Official Memorandum No. 164, Revenue, dated 22nd July 1898.

With reference to his letter No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898, the Deputy Adjutant-General is requested to be good enough to state whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.), supplied to canteens of Native regiments and if so, whether it is purchased duty paid or whether duty is paid by the military authorities on its issue from the distillery or brewery.

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.

XI

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 23rd August 1898.
No.—A./N.T. 13656.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum No. 164 of 22nd July 1898.]

Herewith a schedule of replies from the Officers Commanding those Madras Regiments which maintain canteens showing how excise duty is paid on liquor (rum, beer, etc.), purchased.

2. The reply from the Officer Commanding 20th Madras Infantry, will follow when received.

Enclosure.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc.

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
"Q.O." Sappers and Miners.	Bangalore	Excise duty is paid at Ootacamund by Nilgiri Brewery Company for ale and stout purchased for which permits are obtained from the Collector of the Nilgiris prior to despatch of consignments to Bangalore.
4th Madras Pioneers ..	Ootacamund	Full duty paid for rum supplied after receipt for Commissariat Department, that is to say, the Commissariat Department include the duty in the bill. Full duty is paid for beer by private dealers and added to the cost of beer supplied to the canteen.
7th Madras Infantry ...	Kamptee	Full excise duty is paid by firms from whom liquor is purchased.
8th Madras Infantry ...	Barrackpore	Liquor purchasad duty paid.
13th Madras Infantry.	Raipur, Central Provinces.	Full excise duty paid on liquor by firms from whom purchased.
14th Madras Infantry.	St. Thomas' Mount, Madras.	No duty paid by regiment on beer supplied—presumes distillery does.
15th Madras Infantry.	Rangoon	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
16th Madras Infantry.	Do.	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
20th Madras Infantry.	Miranshah	No report received.
21st Madras Pioneers.	Belgaum	Beer supplied is purchased from a local merchant and price paid by the regiment includes duty paid by the vendor.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc—*cont.*

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
22nd Madras Infantry.	Berhampur	Reports that under sanction of the Collector of Ganjām some rum was issued to the canteen from the Aska distillery at Rs. 1-12-0 per gallon duty, afterwards this sanction was withdrawn and the duty of Rs. 6 per gallon demanded, a rate which makes it impossible for the men to buy.
26th Madras Infantry.	Belgaum	Full excise duty is paid by vendors before the beer leaves the brewery.
27th Madras Infantry.	Trichinopoly	Beer supplied to the canteen delivered free of all charges, no duty being paid by the regiment.
28th Madras Infantry.	Madras	Beer purchased from Messrs Leighton & Co , Madras, for the regimental canteen is duty paid.
29th Burma Madras Infantry.	Fort Stedman, Burma.	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	Meiktila, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
32nd Madras Infantry.	Mandalay, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
33rd Madras Infantry.	Keng-Tung	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.

Order—No. 4032, Revenue, dated 8th October 1898.

Miscellaneous.

The Board's Proceedings read above will be forwarded to the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces for the favour of remarks on the points raised in paragraphs 1 and 2.

2. With reference to the statement in paragraph 3, that the duty on liquor sold at Regimental canteens is not credited to " Excise ", the Board of Revenue is requested to address the Controller of Military Accounts on the subject through the Adjutant-General if necessary.

3. With reference to the list of canteens received from the Deputy Adjutant-General and forwarded herewith, the Board of Revenue is requested to call upon the Collectors concerned to report whether liquor is issued from the canteens to anyone except soldiers.

(True Extract.)

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, Separate Revenue, with list.
,, Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command,
with Board's Proceedings No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Government of Madras.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Recd. } 1914. *Enclosures*

Regd. } *Spare copies*

G.O. No. 4032, 8th October 1898.

Referring to the Board of Revenue and the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces certain questions connected with the issue of liquor from the canteens.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

I

Official Memorandum—from the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

To—the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue).

No.—146.

Dated—the 16th July 1897.

With reference to paragraph 7 of Board's Proceedings No. 181, dated 10th May 1897, the undersigned has the honour to request that information may be furnished on the following points:—

(i) It is observed that under articles 811 and 813 of the Army Regulations, Volume V, the issue of spirits to Native troops is sanctioned only when from climatic or other causes the supply is considered really necessary by regimental medical officers whose recommendation must receive the concurrence of Deputies Surgeon-General. The Board merely states that two native regimental canteens have been opened at St. Thomas Mount. It should now be reported whether the conditions laid down in the above quoted articles of the Army Regulations have been satisfied in these cases.

(ii) The military authorities do not appear to hold any licenses for the issue of liquor to troops. It should be reported why no licenses are required in their case.

(iii) In regard to regimental canteens it is understood that rum is issued in bulk on requisition at 25° under proof at Rs. 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. It is not understood why As. 9 are taken as excise duty while the proper duty is Rs. 4½, nor who gets this As. 9. Again the rum is issued to soldiers at As. 2 per dram or Rs. 6 per gallon *plus* excise duty. It should be reported as to what is done with the difference between the amount paid for by the soldiers and that paid for by the canteen and as to how As. 9 can be paid on 48 drams.

II

Copies of paragraphs 811—815, *Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat.*

811. The issue of spirits to Native troops is only authorised when from climate or other causes it is considered really necessary. The indent (Commissariat form 65) must clearly show the grounds on which the issue is recommended, and should be countersigned by the General Officer Commanding the district.

812. Even under such circumstances, rum is not claimable from the Commissariat as a right, and will not be granted for more than one month at a time, unless, at the expiration of the period, the medical authorities consider further issue absolotely necessary.

813. The quantity of rum to be thus issued is restricted to one dram per man (for the number recommended) per diem and is to be issued at 25 per cent. under proof and paid for at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon, the amount being credited to Government in the pay list and "General State" of the regiment. This order does not affect certain regiments peculiarly situated which receive rum under special Government sanction—see paragraph 815.

S.G.O.B. 14 and 298 of 1876 A.R.B. vii, 184.

814. The sanction here given must be exercised as sparingly as possible. Tea may sometimes prove an efficient substitute for spirits and in such instances the issue may be made on payment under the above medical restrictions.

815. Rum may be issued at Port Blair on the recommendation of the Medical Officer. One hogshead of rum per mensem on indent is allowed to Sikhs and Christians of the second regiment, Central India horse. Rum is also allowed on indent to the 39th (the Garhwal Rifle) regiment of Bengal Infantry and the Goorkha regiments, on the understanding that the State is put to no expense, and that it gives the men no right to claim it in the field; also on indent to the Deputy Commissioner of the Chittagong hill tracts for the use of the Police.

Government of Madras, 3182 of 1874. Government of Bombay, dated 9th April 1896 Government of India, Nos. 2046 of 1873 and 3182 and 1121 of 1874, 1085 of 1875 and 477 S.D. and 1131 S.D. of 1882, Cir. C.G. B. 67 and 90 of 1882.

III

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.

To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Dated—Ootacamund, the 10th February 1898.

No.—A/N.T. 2296.

In continuation of my Memorandum, No. A/N.T. 18654 of 24th November 1897.

A copy of this office Circular No. N.A. 942, dated 26th May 1893, which is the authority for the establishment of Regimental Canteens in this command, is herewith forwarded together with a schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments furnishing further particulars.

2. The report from the Commandant 13th Madras Infantry will follow when received.

ENCLOSURES.

(i)

Circular Memorandum—from Brigadier-General H. W. PEARSON, Adjutant-General, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.

To—the Officer Commanding Regiment, Madras Infantry (through General Officer Commanding district).

Dated—Ootacamund, the 26th May 1893.

No.—N.A.-942.

The question of the establishment within the lines of Native Regiments of some place in which, under regimental arrangements good and sound liquor can be sold to Native soldiers, having been considered by the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant-General is desired to remark as follows.

2. In view of the very deleterious liquor sold in Native bazaars and of the undesirable nature of the surroundings of the shops where such is sold, the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the establishment of a canteen where good liquor could be obtained, would be in the interests of Native soldiers, and he has no objection to such being established provided that no extra expense is hereby incurred by the state.

3. It will be necessary that these canteens which are entirely optional, should be conducted on some fixed principle and with this view Commanding Officers should draw up and submit to General Officers Commanding Districts for their approval such orders as they may deem called for, to ensure that order is maintained and that the institution is not abused.

4. Such rules will doubtless differ in minor points in different stations, according to local conditions but the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the following points call for attention in all cases in which canteens in Native Regiments are established:—

A

Arrangements must be made by the Officer Commanding with the Local Civil Authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary.

B

The canteen should on no account be established in the centre of the lines where any noise or disturbance can take place without the knowledge or observation of the British officers, and where soldiers might meet for gambling.

If no existing building is available, a shed should be erected on the outskirts of the lines and not far from the Bells of arms, Barracks and Quarter guard.

C

Commanding officers must be most careful in satisfying themselves that the liquor supplied is of good quality.

D

Fixed hours of issue should be appointed and during these hours a thoroughly trustworthy and reliable Non-Commissioned officer is to be present who will be held responsible that order is maintained.

E

The orderly officer should visit the canteen daily and the British officer of the week frequently at uncertain hours.

F

Commanding officers should make it a point to exercise the strictest personal supervision over the Institution which is open to abuse if British officers be careless or apathetic.

G

General officers commanding districts should from time to time, when convenient visit these canteens to satisfy themselves that their establishment is really beneficial to the men.

5. Messrs. Leishman & Co., Nilgiri Brewery Company are prepared to supply wholesome beer of light gravity at the following rates:—To all stations in the Madras Command except Burmah, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 40 per hogshead—to Rangoon, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 42 per hogshead.

6. These prices are quoted merely for the information of Commanding officers who are, of course, at liberty to obtain the liquor they require from any firm they may choose to select.

7. In cases in which canteens are established, Commanding Officers will be good enough to submit, through District authorities, a report to this office on their working after a period of six months has elapsed, General Officers Commanding in forwarding these reports will express their opinion on the experiment.

(ii)

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens.

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
1st Madras Lancers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
3rd Do. (a)	....	Do.		..	....	....	(a) Establishment in Secunderabad against terms of agreement between British Government and His Highness the Nizam's Government.
"Queen's Own Madras Sappers and Miners.	5-30 A.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer and stout	Both Rs. 1-1-4 per quart.	No	Cannot be stated as they vary with strength at Head-quarters but very nearly every man uses the canteen.	Benefit of the men, maintenance and supply of buildings, sums given for festivals, provide free coffee and hoppers for men on Field Days, etc.	
1st Madras Pioneers	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
2nd Madras Infantry	....	Do. (a)		..	....	....	
3rd Madras Light Infantry	....	Do.		..	....	....	
4th Madras Pioneers	6 P.M. to 8 P.M. (During the day if specially ordered on any feast day.)	Beer and rum (when procurable).	Beer As. 3-4 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No	Three-fourths of the Regiment or 625 men.	Benefit of the men such as free food on the march, etc.	
5th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
6th Do.	..	Do.		..	....	....	
7th Do.	11 A.M. to 12 Noon, 5-30 P.M. to 8 P.M.	Beer and rum	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum As. 3 per dram.	No	188	Benefit of the men, free ammunition for pool shooting, cricket, foot-ball, etc.	
8th Do.	4 P.M. to 9 P.M. (10 A.M. to 1 P.M. on Sundays and Thursdays as well as in the evening).	Do.	Beer As. 4-8 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No	75	Prizes for sports among the men.	
9th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
10th Burma Rifles	....	Do.		..	....	....	
11th Madras Infantry	....	Do. (a)		..	....	....	
12th Burma-Madras Infantry	....	Do.		..	....	....	
13th Madras Infantry	....	....	....	..	....	....	
14th Do	10 A.M. to 12 Noon and 4 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 a quart	No	260	Benefit of the men, men's necessaries, prizes for sports, donations to men discharged without pension and prizes for shooting.	Report not yet received.

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens—*cont.*

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
15th Madras Infantry	Between 3-30 and 7-30 P.M.	Beer and porter ..	As. 4-6 a quart ..	No ..	250	Benefit of the men, regimental sports, etc.	
16th Do.	Do.	Beer and stout ..	Do.	No ..	200	Benefit of the men, purchase of barrack room, boxes, etc.	
17th Do.	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
19th Do. (a)	....	Do.		..	....	....	
20th Do.	5 to 7 P.M.	Beer and rum ..	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum 3 oz. As. 1-6.	No ..	Nearly 400	No profit at present owing to expenses paid on journey from Vizianagaram to Meerut.	
21st Madras Pioneers	....	....	....	..	....	....	On Field service depot, unable to report as no canteen exists.
22nd Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up ..	....	..	....	....	
23rd Madras Light Infantry ..	2 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer .. .. .. Whisky .. .. Brandy .. .. Arrack	As. 3 per quart .. As. 5-4 per dram .. As. 4-6 ,, As. 1-8 ,,	No ..	170	Benefit of men, prizes at Regimental sports, paying carriage of certain Regimental necessaries, etc.	
24th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen kept up.		..	....	....	
25th Do.	....	Do.		..	....	....	
26th Do.	5 P.M. to 8-30 P.M. ..	Beer only	As. 4 per quart ..	No ..	150	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, advancing money to obtain practice ammunition at cheap rates.	
27th Do.	4-30 P.M. to 7-30 P.M. ..	Do.	As. 6 per quart ..	No ..	500	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, etc., replacing foot-ball and cricket gear, paying for ammunition to improve shooting.	
28th Do.	....	No canteen kept up ..	...	..	....	....	
29th Burma-Madras Infantry ..	9-30 A.M. to 12 Noon and 2 P.M. to 7 P.M.	Rum only	As. 1-4 per 4 ozs. ..	No ..	850	Benefit of the men, Regimental sports, etc.	
30th Do.	....	No canteen kept up ..	....	..	....	....	
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	10 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 6 to 8-30 P.M.	Beer and porter only.	As. 3 per quart ..	No ..	70	To the Regimental coffee shop to supply the men with sugar, tea, etc.	
32nd Burma-Madras Infantry ..	5 to 6-30 P.M.	Rum*	6 pies per dram ..	No ..	Sikhs 426, Christians 32, Followers 24.	No profits, the sum charged being actual cost.	* No Regimental canteen establishment but rum supplied three times a week one dram per man to be drunk on the spot.
33rd Do.	5 to 6 P.M. (Twice weekly)	Beer and rum ..	As. 5 per quart. Anna 1 per dram.	No ..	450	Benefit of the men, sports, etc.	

IV

Letter—from the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.
To—the Adjutant-General in India.
Dated—the 23rd January 1897.
No.—407-D.

The question of the expediency of continuing the present practice under which rum supplied to troops on payment is issued at a price which does not include the customs or excise duty levied on rum consumed by the public, has recently been under the consideration of the Government of India, and the conclusion arrived at is that the practice is opposed to the principles which underlie the policy, long accepted and carried into effect in India as in other countries, of imposing customs and excise duties on spirits, and that it is inexpedient to allow soldiers to buy spirits at a cheaper rate than their fellow countrymen in India. The Government of India have accordingly decided that the issue of duty-free rum to soldiers, whether British or Native, shall be discontinued as soon as this can conveniently be arranged.

2. In view, however, of the length of time during which the exemption from duty of rum issued to the troops has been in force, and of the reasons which led to the grant of such exemption, it is considered desirable that the change in system should be effected gradually. The rate of duty to be ultimately imposed should in the opinion of Government of India be the rate of excise duty in force in the province in which the troops purchasing the rum are located. In Madras, Bombay and Burma, rum manufactured in India is already excised at the full rate of duty leviable on spirits imported from Europe, namely, Rs. 6 a gallon of proof strength. In Bengal the excise duty is Rs. 5 a gallon, and in the Punjab and North-Western Provinces Rs. 4; but these rates are liable to be raised so as to equal the full import duty on foreign liquor. To raise the price of the rum supplied to troops in all parts of India by an amount which shall correspond approximately to As. 12 a gallon (or 12·5 per cent. of the full duty leviable), will therefore be a moderate and tentative advance in the direction desired. This will be equivalent to an increase of As. 2 in the price of a bottle of the size of a reputed quart, which is believed to be the size of the bottles in which rum is sold; and this increase has been decided on as the first instalment of the imposition of duty.

3. I am, therefore, to request that, under the orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, instructions may be issued to enhance the price of a reputed quart bottle of rum by As. 2, with effect from the 1st April 1897, and to say that the Government of India would be glad to be favoured with a report on the effects of the measure not later than 31st December 1897, to admit of the feasibility of further raising the duty with effect from 1st April 1898, being duly considered.

V

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. L. Eliot, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 2nd July 1897.
No.—C. 2117.

This department obtains its supply of rum (country manufactured) by contract and the last supply was obtained in 1894-95 from Messrs. Morrison & Co., Arcot, at Rs. 1-1-3 per 1 gallon 50° proof or at As. 12-4 per 1 gallon 25° under proof.

2. The rum at 25° under proof is issued in bulk to regimental canteens on requisitions at Rs 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. This rum is retailed to troops at As. 2 per dram plus excise duty. So far as is known in this office the military authorities do not hold any licenses for the issue of liquor.

3. Rum is not supplied by this department to Native troops under ordinary circumstances, but only when specially authorised—*vide* paragraph 811, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat: the issue is made as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* and paid for by the troops at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon.

No. A./B.T. 10249, *dated 2nd July* 1897.

Forwarded with reference to your telephone message of the 24th ultimo.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General, Deputy Adjutant-General.

To the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

VI

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. H. Eliot, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 9th October 1897.
No.—5217.

Rum—the only liquor obtained by this department for issue on payment to troops—is procured by contract (the last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs. Morison & Co., Arcot) and is issued in bulk at 25° under proof to British regimental canteens at Rs. 2 per gallon when requisitioned for with an additional charge of As. 9 per gallon on account of excise duty, which latter is credited to Government separately from the sale-proceeds of the rum, in accordance with the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 408-D, dated 23rd January 1897 (copy enclosed).

2. The rum is then retailed to the soldier by the regimental canteens at As. 2 per dram plus the excise duty or altogether at Rs. 5-9-0 per imperial gallon (40 drams) and the difference between this rate and the rate paid by the canteens, viz., Rs. 3 per gallon is, I understand, credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds. This is, however, a purely regimental arrangement with which this department has no concern.

3. As regards the issue of rum to Native troops, they are entitled to it from this department only when specially authorized in accordance with paragraphs * 811–815, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat, and in that case, the rum is paid for by the troops at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon as laid down in paragraph 818 *ibid* plus the excise duty. This department has no concern with the further distribution of the spirit after its original issue in bulk, nor has it any connection whatever with the Native regimental canteens where such may exist.

* Copy herewith.

4. The circumstances under which As. 9 per gallon of rum at 25° under proof are charged as excise duty, are explained in the accompanying copy of the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 407-D, dated 23rd January 1897.

Equivalent of As. 12 per gallon of proof rum.

5. So far as I am aware the question of a license in this connection being considered necessary, for this department has never been raised previously, and I can only imagine that this is because issues so made are made under the orders of Government and for Government purposes.

6. The question in its relation to regimental canteens is one which I am not in a position to deal with and I can only suggest the matter being referred to the Deputy Adjutant-General of the Command.

VII

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. H. Lawson, Commandent, 13th Madras Infantry.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—the 29th January 1898.

With reference to your Memorandum No. A./N.T. 18840, dated Ootacamund, 26th November 1897, I have the honour to furnish information as follows:—

(1) (*a*) The regimental canteen is open daily.
(*b*) Between the hours 10 and 11 A.M. and 4 and 8 P.M.
(*c*) Sepoys and regimental followers only are allowed to frequent the canteen.

(2) Beer, rum, and mineral waters are sold.

(3) The beer is obtained from Messrs. Leeshman & Co., Ootacamund.

The rum from Messrs. E. Dyer & Co., Mandalay, during the stay of the regiment at Thayetangi.

(4) Beer is sold at As. 2 per pint and rum As. 2-6 pies per dram.

(5) The profits are expended for the good of the men of the regiment.

(6) The canteen was opened on the 1st October 1894, *vide* my No. 327 of 2nd July 1894 to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Southern district, in accordance with Adjutant-General's Circular No. A.A. 962, dated 25th May 1893, and my report No. 145 B submitted to you on the 10th April 1895.

(7) The average number of men frequenting the canteen is about 200 daily.

Endorsement No. 3063.

Forwarded in continuation of my Memorandum No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General.

VIII

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue), Mis. No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Read—the following papers:—

(i)

Official Memorandum No. 146, *Revenue, dated* 16*th July* 1897.

Abstract.—Requesting certain information regarding the supply of spirits to troops.

(ii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 899, *Revenue, dated* 21*st February* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 2237, dated 4th December 1897, a copy of the office circular from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, showing the authority for the establishment of regimental canteens in his command, etc.

(iii)

Endorsement Mis. No. 1105, *Revenue, dated* 4*th March* 1898.

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 899, dated 21st February 1898, letter submitted by the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, No. A.N.T. 3063, dated 24th February 1898.

Resolution—Mis. No. 1220, *dated* 23*rd March* 1898.

The Board begs to submit the following reply to the Official Memorandum from Government No. 146, dated 16th July 1897:—

(1) The Native regimental canteens referred to are reported to have been instituted under the authority of Circular No. NA/942, dated 26th May 1893, of the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, copy of which is enclosed. The circular would appear to overlook the provisions of the Army Regulations quoted by Government. The Board would therefore request that the Lieutenant-General Commanding may be addressed as to the authority for its issue.

(2) As will be observed the Commanding officers are directed in the circular above quoted to make arrangements with local civil authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary, but no applications have been received for any licenses nor have any been issued. According to the strict letter of the law licenses would appear to be necessary both in the case of canteens and in that of sales by the Commissariat Department.

(3) As regards the rate of duty levied upon liquor issued to soldiers it appears that up to the year 1897 such liquor was issued duty-free. In that year it was decided to impose a duty, but in order not to enhance the price of liquor too suddenly the duty is only being imposed by degrees. For the present it is being levied at the rate of As. 12 per proof gallon or As. 9 per gallon of 25° under proof. This duty has been ordered to be credited to the head of V. Excise, but the order does not appear to be enforced in this Presidency. Copies of letters Nos. 407 D, dated 23rd January 1897, and 408 D of the same date from the Secretaty to Government of India, Military Department, which contain full information on these points are enclosed. As regards the difference between the price paid by the canteens for the liquor and the price realized for the same it is stated that these sums are credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds according to the arrangements in force in the regiments in question. It may be added—as reported by the Commissary General—that rum—the only liquor obtained by his department for issue on payment to troops—is procured on contract and their last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs Morrison & Co., North Arcot.

(True Extract.)

R. M. Thurley,
Ag. Assistant Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with three enclosures.

IX

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 7th July 1898.
No.—A/B. T. 10942.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum for currunt No. 2874 of 2nd July 1898.]

A list of the localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both British and Native, are kept up, is enclosed.

ENCLOSURE.

List of localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both European and Native, are kept up.

Station.	Locality.
Bangalore	British Cavalry Barracks. Royal Artillery do. British Infantry do. "Q.O" Madras Sappers and Miners Lines.
Wellington	Depot Barracks. British Infantry Barracks.
Ootacamund	Fourth Madras Pioneers Lines.
Fort St. George	Royal Artillery Barracks. British Infantry do.
St. Thomas' Mount	Royal Artillery do. Fourteenth Madras Infantry Lines.
Pallavaram	E A.V. Company Barracks.
Poonamallee	Depôt Barracks.
Trichinopoly	27th Madras Infantry Lines.
Bellary	Royal Artillery Barracks. British Infantry do.
Cannanore	Do. do.
Calicut	Do. do.
Malappuram	Do. do.

X

Official Memorandum No. 164, Revenue, dated 22nd July 1898.

With reference to his letter No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898, the Deputy Adjutant-General is requested to be good enough to state whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.), supplied to canteens of Native regiments and if so, whether it is purchased duty paid or whether duty is paid by the military authorities on its issue from the distillery or brewery.

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.

XI

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command,
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 23rd August 1898.
No.—A./N.T. 13656.

[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum No. 164 of 22nd July 1898.]

Herewith a schedule of replies from the Officers Commanding those Madras Regiments which maintain canteens showing how excise duty is paid on liquor (rum, beer, etc.), purchased.

2. The reply from the Officer Commanding 20th Madras Infantry, will follow when received.

ENCLOSURE.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc.

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
"Q.O." Sappers and Miners.	Bangalore	Excise duty is paid at Ootacamund by Nilgiri Brewery Company for ale and stout purchased for which permits are obtained from the Collector of the Nilgiris prior to despatch of consignments to Bangalore.
4th Madras Pioneers ...	Ootacamund	Full duty paid for rum supplied after receipt for Commissariat Department, that is to say, the Commissariat Department include the duty in the bill. Full duty is paid for beer by private dealers and added to the cost of beer supplied to the canteen.
7th Madras Infantry ...	Kamptee	Full excise duty is paid by firms from whom liquor is purchased.
8th Madras Infantry ...	Barrackpore	Liquor purchasad duty paid.
13th Madras Infantry.	Raipur, Central Provinces.	Full excise duty paid on liquor by firms from whom purchased.
14th Madras Infantry.	St. Thomas' Mount, Madras.	No duty paid by regiment on beer supplied—presumes distillery does.
15th Madras Infantry.	Rangoon	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
16th Madras Infantry.	Do.	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
20th Madras Infantry.	Miranshah	No report received.
21st Madras Pioneers.	Belgaum	Beer supplied is purchased from a local merchant and price paid by the regiment includes duty paid by the vendor.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native regiments, etc—*cont.*

Regiment.	Station.	Reply of Officers Commanding.
22nd Madras Infantry.	Berhampur	Reports that under sanction of the Collector of Ganjām some rum was issued to the canteen from the Aska distillery at Rs. 1-12-0 per gallon duty, afterwards this sanction was withdrawn and the duty of Rs. 6 per gallon demanded, a rate which makes it impossible for the men to buy.
26th Madras Infantry.	Belgaum	Full excise duty is paid by vendors before the beer leaves the brewery.
27th Madras Infantry.	Trichinopoly	Beer supplied to the canteen delivered free of all charges, no duty being paid by the regiment.
28th Madras Infantry.	Madras	Beer purchased from Messrs Leighton & Co, Madras, for the regimental canteen is duty paid.
29th Burma Madras Infantry.	Fort Stedman, Burma.	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	Meiktila, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
32nd Madras Infantry.	Mandalay, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
33rd Madras Infantry.	Keng-Tung	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.

Order—No. 4032, Revenue, dated 8th October 1898.

Miscellaneous.

The Board's Proceedings read above will be forwarded to the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces for the favour of remarks on the points raised in paragraphs 1 and 2.

2. With reference to the statement in paragraph 3, that the duty on liquor sold at Regimental canteens is not credited to "Excise", the Board of Revenue is requested to address the Controller of Military Accounts on the subject through the Adjutant-General if necessary.

3. With reference to the list of canteens received from the Deputy Adjutant-General and forwarded herewith, the Board of Revenue is requested to call upon the Collectors concerned to report whether liquor is issued from the canteens to anyone except soldiers.

(True Extract.)

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, Separate Revenue, with list.
,, Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command,
with Board's Proceedings No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

[illegible]
Queries answered
arrangt. appd.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers :—

I

Official Memorandum—from the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.
To—the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue).
No.—146.
Dated—the 16th July 1897.

With reference to paragraph 7 of Board's Proceedings No. 181, dated 10th May 1897, the undersigned has the honour to request that information may be furnished on the following points :—

(i) It is observed that under articles 811 and 813 of the Army Regulations, Volume V, the issue of spirits to Native troops is sanctioned only when from climatic or other causes the supply is considered really necessary by regimental medical officers whose recommendation must receive the concurrence of Deputies Surgeon-General. The Board merely states that two native regimental canteens have been opened at St. Thomas Mount. It should now be reported whether the conditions laid down in the above quoted articles of the Army Regulations have been satisfied in these cases.

(ii) The military authorities do not appear to hold any licenses for the issue of liquor to troops. It should be reported why no licenses are required in their case.

(iii) In regard to regimental canteens it is understood that rum is issued in bulk on requisition at 25° under proof at Rs. 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. It is not understood why As. 9 are taken as excise duty while the proper duty is Rs. $4\frac{1}{2}$, nor who gets this As. 9. Again the rum is issued to soldiers at As. 2 per dram or Rs. 6 per gallon *plus* excise duty. It should be reported as to what is done with the difference between the amount paid for by the soldiers and that paid for by the canteen and as to how As. 9 can be paid on 48 drams.

II

Copies of paragraphs 811—815, *Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat.*

811. The issue of spirits to Native troops is only authorised when from climate or other causes it is considered really necessary. The indent (Commissariat form 65) must clearly show the grounds on which the issue is recommended, and should be countersigned by the General Officer Commanding the district.

812. Even under such circumstances, rum is not claimable from the Commissariat as a right, and will not be granted for more than one month at a time, unless, at the expiration of the period, the medical authorities consider further issue absolutely necessary.

813. The quantity of rum to be thus issued is restricted to one dram per man (for the number recommended) per diem and is to be issued at 25 per cent. under proof and paid for at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon, the amount being credited to

S.G.O.B. 14 and 298, of 1876 A.R.B. vii, 184.

Government in the pay list and "General State" of the regiment. This order does not affect certain regiments peculiarly situated which receive rum under special Government sanction—see paragraph 815.

814. The sanction here given must be exercised as sparingly as possible. Tea may sometimes prove an efficient substitute for spirits and in such instances the issue may be made on payment under the above medical restrictions.

815. Rum may be issued at Port Blair on the recommendation of the Medical Officer. One hogshead of rum per mensem on indent is allowed to Sikhs and Christians of the second regiment, Central India horse. Rum is also allowed on indent to the 39th (the Garhwal Rifle) regiment of Bengal Infantry and the Goorkha regiments, on the understanding that the State is put to no expense, and that it gives the men no right to claim it in the field; also on indent to the Deputy Commissioner of the Chittagong hill tracts for the use of the Police.

Government of Madras, 3182 of 1874. Government of Bombay, dated 9th April 1896. Government of India, Nos. 2046 of 1873 and 3182 and 1121 of 1874, 1085 of 1875 and 477 S.D. and 1131 S.D. of 1882, Cir. C.G. B. 67 and 90 of 1882.

III

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.
To—the Secretary to Government Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 10th February 1898.
No.—A/N.T. 2296.

In continuation of my Memorandum, No. A/N.T. 18654 of 24th November 1897.

A copy of this office Circular No. N.A. 942, dated 26th May 1893, which is the authority for the establishment of Regimental Canteens in this command, is herewith forwarded together with a schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments furnishing further particulars.

2. The report from the Commandant 13th Madras Infantry will follow when received.

Enclosures.

(i)

Circular Memorandum—from Brigadier-General, H. W. Pearson, Adjutant-General, Regimental Institutions—Canteens.
To—the Officer Commanding Regiment, Madras Infantry (through General Officer Commanding district).
Dated—Ootacamund, the 26th May 1893.
No.—N.A.-942.

The question of the establishment within the lines of Native Regiments of some place in which, under regimental arrangements good and sound liquor can be sold to Native soldiers, having been considered by the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant-General is desired to remark as follows.

2. In view of the very deleterious liquor sold in Native bazaars and of the undesirable nature of the surroundings of the shops where such is sold, the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the establishment of a canteen where good liquor could be obtained, would be in the interests of Native soldiers, and he has no objection to such being established provided that no extra expense is hereby incurred by the state.

3. It will be necessary that these canteens which are entirely optional, should be conducted on some fixed principle and with this view Commanding Officers should draw up and submit to General Officers Commanding Districts for their approval such orders as they may deem called for, to ensure that order is maintained and that the institution is not abused.

4. Such rules will doubtless differ in minor points in different stations, according to local conditions but the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the following points call for attention in all cases in which canteens in Native Regiments are established :—

A

Arrangements must be made by the Officer Commanding with the Local Civil Authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary.

B

The canteen should on no account be established in the centre of the lines where any noise or disturbance can take place without the knowledge or observation of the British officers, and where soldiers might meet for gambling.

If no existing building is available, a shed should be erected on the outskirts of the lines and not far from the Bells of arms, Barracks and Quarter guard.

C

Commanding officers must be most careful in satisfying themselves that the liquor supplied is of good quality.

D

Fixed hours of issue should be appointed and during these hours a thoroughly trustworthy and reliable Non-Commissioned officer is to be present who will be held responsible that order is maintained.

E

The orderly officer should visit the canteen daily and the British officer of the week frequently at uncertain hours.

F

Commanding officers should make it a point to exercise the strictest personal supervision over the Institution which is open to abuse if British officers be careless or apathetic.

G

General officers commanding districts should from time to time, when convenient visit these canteens to satisfy themselves that their establishment is really beneficial to the men.

5. Messrs. Leishman & Co., Nilgiri Brewery Company are prepared to supply wholesome beer of light gravity at the following rates:—To all stations in the Madras Command except Burmah, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 40 per hogshead—to Rangoon, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs. 42 per hogshead.

6. These prices are quoted merely for the information of Commanding officers who are, of course, at liberty to obtain the liquor they require from any firm they may choose to select.

7. In cases in which canteens are established, Commanding Officers will be good enough to submit, through District authorities, a report to this office on their working after a period of six months has elapsed, General Officers Commanding in forwarding these reports will express their opinion on the experiment.

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
1st Madras Lancers	....	No canteen	Kept up	..	....	....	
2nd Do.	....	Do.	....	..	....	....	
3rd Do. (a)	....	Do.	....	..	....	....	(a) Establishment in Secunderabad against terms of agreement between British Government and His Highness the Nizam's Government.
"Queen's Own Madras Sappers and Miners.	5-30 A.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer and stout	Both Rs. 1-1-4 per quart.	No	Cannot be stated as they vary with strength at Head-quarters but very nearly every man uses the canteen.	Benefit of the men, maintenance and supply of buildings, sums given for festivals, provide free coffee and hoppers for men on Field Days, etc.	
1st Madras Pioneers	....	No canteen	Kept up	..	....	....	
2nd Madras Infantry	....	Do.	....	..	....	....	
3rd Madras Light Infantry	....	Do.	Kept up	..	....	....	
4th Madras Pioneers	6 P.M. to 8 P.M. (During the day if specially ordered on any feast day.)	Beer and rum (when procurable).	Beer As. 3-4 per quart Rum As. 2 per dram.	No	Three-fourths of the Regiment or 625 men.	Benefit of the men such as free food on the march, etc.	
5th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen	Kept up	..	....	....	
6th Do.	....	Do.	Do.	..	....	....	
7th Do.	11 A.M. to 12 Noon, 5-30 P.M. to 8 P.M.	Beer and rum	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum As. 3 per dram.	No	183	Benefit of the men, free ammunition for pool shooting, cricket, foot ball, etc.	
8th Do.	4 P.M. to 9 P.M. (10 A.M. to 1 P.M. on Sundays and Thursdays as well as in the evening).	Do.	Beer As. 4-8 per quart. Rum As. 2 per dram.	No	75	Prizes for sports among the men.	
9th Do.	....	No canteen	Kept up	..	....	....	
10th Burma Rifles	....	Do.	..	..	....	....	
11th Madras Infantry	....	Do.	Kept up	..	....	....	
12th Burma-Madras Infantry	....	Do.	..	..	....	....	
13th Madras Infantry	....	....	....	..	....	....	
14th Do.	10 A.M. to 12 Noon and 4 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 a quart.	No	260	Benefit of the men, men's necessaries, prizes for sports, donations to men discharged without pension and prizes for shooting.	Report not yet received.

Schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens—*cont.*

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt liquor, Rum.	If open to all comers.	Average daily number of customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
15th Madras Infantry	Between 3-30 and 7-30 P.M.	Beer and porter	As. 4-6 a quart	No	250	Benefit of the men, regimental sports, etc.	
16th Do.	Do.	Beer and stout	Do.	No	200	Benefit of the men, purchase of barrack room, boxes, etc.	
17th Do.	....	No canteen	Kept up	..	....	....	
19th Do. (a)	....	Do.	....	..	....	....	
20th Do.	5 to 7 P.M.	Beer and rum	Beer As. 4 per quart. Rum 3 oz. As. 1-6.	No	Nearly 400	No profit at present owing to expenses paid on journey from Vizianagaram to Meerut.	
21st Madras Pioneers	....	....	....	..	....	....	On Field service depot, unable to report as no canteen exists.
22nd Madras Infantry	....	No canteen	Kept up	..	....	....	
23rd Madras Light Infantry	2 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer Whisky Brandy Arrack	As. 3 per quart As. 5-4 per dram As. 4-6 " As. 1-8 "	No	170	Benefit of men, prizes at Regimental sports, paying carriage of certain Regimental necessaries, etc.	
24th Madras Infantry	....	No canteen	Kept up	..	....	....	
25th Do.	....	Do.	....	..	....	....	
26th Do.	5 P.M. to 8-30 P.M.	Beer only	As. 4 per quart	No	150	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, advancing money to obtain practice ammunition at cheap rates.	
27th Do.	4-30 P.M. to 7-30 P.M.	Do.	As. 5 per quart	No	500	Benefits of the men, prizes for sports, etc., replacing foot-ball and cricket year, paying for ammunition to improve shooting.	
28th Do.	....	No canteen	Kept up	..	....	....	
29th Burma-Madras Infantry	9-30 A.M. to 12 Noon and 2 P.M. to 7 P.M.	Rum only	As. 1-4 per 4 ozs	No	850	Benefit of the men, Regimental sports, etc.	
30th Do.	....	No canteen	Kept up	..	....	....	
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	10 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 6 to 8-30 P.M.	Beer and porter only	As. 3 per quart	No	70	To the Regimental coffee shop to supply the men with sugar, tea, etc.	
32nd Burma-Madras Infantry	5 to 6-30 P.M.	Rum*	6 pies per dram	No	Sikhs 426, Christians 32, Followers 24.	No profits, the sum charged being actual cost.	* No Regimental canteen establishment but rum supplied three times a week one dram per man to be drunk on the spot.
33rd Do.	5 to 6 P.M. (Twice weekly)	Beer and rum	As. 5 per quart. Anna 1 per dram.	No	450	Benefit of the men, Sports, etc.	

1

IV

Letter—from the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.
To—the Adjutant-General in India.
Dated—the 23rd January 1897.
No.—407-D.

The question of the expediency of continuing the present practice under which rum supplied to troops on payment is issued at a price which does not include the customs or excise duty levied on rum consumed by the public, has recently been under the consideration of the Government of India, and the conclusion arrived at is that the practice is opposed to the principles which underlie the policy, long accepted and carried into effect in India as in other countries, of imposing customs and excise duties on spirits, and that it is inexpedient to allow soldiers to buy spirits at a cheaper rate than their fellow countrymen in India. The Government of India have accordingly decided that the issue of duty-free rum to soldiers, whether British or Native, shall be discontinued as soon as this can conveniently be arranged.

2. In view, however, of the length of time during which the exemption from duty of rum issued to the troops has been in force, and of the reasons which led to the grant of such exemption, it is considered desirable that the change in system should be effected gradually. The rate of duty to be ultimately imposed should in the opinion of Government of India be the rate of excise duty in force in the province in which the troops purchasing the rum are located. In Madras, Bombay and Burma, rum manufactured in India is already excised at the full rate of duty leviable on spirits imported from Europe, namely, Rs. 6, a gallon of proof strength. In Bengal the excise duty is Rs. 5 a gallon, and in the Punjab and North-Western Provinces Rs. 4; but these rates are liable to be raised so as to equal the full import duty on foreign liquor. To raise the price of the rum supplied to troops in all parts of India by an amount which shall correspond approximately to As. 12 a gallon (or 12·5 per cent. of the full duty leviable), will therefore be a moderate and tentative advance in the direction desired. This will be equivalent to an increase of As. 2 in the price of a bottle of the size of a reputed quart, which is believed to be the size of the bottles in which rum is sold; and this increase has been decided on as the first instalment of the imposition of duty.

3. I am, therefore, to request that, under the orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, instructions may be issued to enhance the price of a reputed quart bottle of rum by As. 2, with effect from the 1st April 1897, and to say that the Government of India would be glad to be favoured with a report on the effects of the measure not later than 31st December 1897, to admit of the feasibility of further raising the duty with effect from 1st April 1898, being duly considered.

V

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. L. Eliot, Lt.-Col., Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 2nd July 1897.
No.—C. 2117.

This department obtains its supply of rum (country manufactured) by contract and the last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs. Morrison & Co., Arcot, at Rs. 1–1–3 per 1 gallon 50° proof or at As. 12–4 per 1 gallon 25° under proof.

2. The rum at 25° under proof is issued in bulk to regimental canteens on requisitions at Rs. 2 per gallon with an additional charge of As. 9 on account of excise duty. This rum is retailed to troops at As. 2 per dram plus excise duty. So far as is known in this office the military authorities do not hold any licenses for the issue of liquor.

3. Rum is not supplied by this department to Native troops under ordinary circumstances, but only when specially authorised—*vide* paragraph 811, Army Regulations. India, Volume V, Commissariat: the issue is made as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* and paid for by the troops at Rs. 2–8–0 per gallon.

No. 4032, Revenue, 8th October 1898.

No. A./B.T. 10249, *dated 2nd July* 1897.

Forwarded with reference to your telephone message of the 24th ultimo.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General, Deputy Adjutant-General.

To the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

VI

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. E. H. Eliot, Officiating Commissary-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 9th October 1897.
No.—5217.

Rum—the only liquor obtained by this department for issue on payment to troops—is procured by contract (the last supply was obtained in 1894–95 from Messrs. Morison & Co., Arcot) and is issued in bulk at 25° under proof to British regimental canteens at Rs. 2 per gallon when requisitioned for with an additional charge of As. 9 per gallon on account of excise duty, which latter is credited to Government separately from the sale-proceeds of the rum, in accordance with the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 408-D, dated 23rd January 1897 (copy enclosed).

2. The rum is then retailed to the soldier by the regimental canteens at As. 2 per dram plus the excise duty or altogether at Rs. 5–9–0 per imperial gallon (40 drams) and the difference between this rate and the rate paid by the canteens, viz., Rs. 3 per gallon is, I understand, credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds. This is, however, a purely regimental arrangement with which this department has no concern.

3. As regards the issue of rum to Native troops, they are entitled to it from this department only when specially authorized in accordance with paragraphs* 811–815, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat, and in that case, the rum is paid for by the troops at Rs. 2–8–0 per gallon as laid down in paragraph 813 *ibid* plus the excise duty. This department has no concern with the further distribution of the spirit after its original issue in bulk, nor has it any connection whatever with the Native regimental canteens where such may exist

* Copy herewith.

4. The circumstances under which As. 9 per gallon of rum at 25° under proof are charged as excise duty, are explained in the accompanying copy of the Government of India, Military Department, letter No. 407-D, dated 23rd January 1897.

Equivalent of As. 12 per gallon of proof rum.

5. So far as I am aware the question of a license in this connection being considered necessary, for this department has never been raised previously, and I can only imagine that this is because issues so made are made under the orders of Government and for Government purposes.

6. The question in its relation to regimental canteens is one which I am not in a position to deal with and I can only suggest the matter being referred to the Deputy Adjutant-General of the Command.

VII

Letter—from Lieut.-Col. H. Lawson, Commandent, 13th Madras Infantry.
To—the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
Dated—the 29th January 1898.

With reference to your Memorandum No. A./N.T. 18840, dated Ootacamund, 26th November 1897, I have the honour to furnish information as follows :—

(1) (*a*) The regimental canteen is open daily.
(*b*) Between the hours 10 and 11 A.M. and 4 and 8 P.M.
(*c*) Sepoys and regimental followers only are allowed to frequent the canteen.
(2) Beer, rum, and mineral waters are sold.

(3) The beer is obtained from Messrs. Leeshman & Co., Ootacamund.

The rum from Messrs. E. Dyer & Co., Mandalay, during the stay of the regiment at Thayetangi.

(4) Beer is sold at As. 2 per pint and rum As. 2–6 pies per dram.

(5) The profits are expended for the good of the men of the regiment.

(6) The canteen was opened on the 1st October 1894, *vide* my No. 327 of 2nd July 1894 to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Southern district, in accordance with Adjutant-General's Circular No. A.A. 962, dated 25th May 1893, and my report No. 145 B submitted to you on the 10th April 1895.

(7) The average number of men frequenting the canteen is about 200 daily.

Endorsement No. 3063.

Forwarded in continuation of my Memorandum No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898.

G. Simpson,
Brigadier-General.

VIII

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue), Mis. No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Read—the following papers :—

(i)

Official Memorandum No. 146, *Revenue, dated 16th July* 1897.

Abstract.—Requesting certain information regarding the supply of spirits to troops.

Endorsement Mis. No. 899, *Revenue, dated 21st February* 1898.

(ii)

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 2237, dated 4th December 1897, a copy of the office circular from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, showing the authority for the establishment of regimental, canteens in his command, etc.

Endorsement Mis. No. 1105, *Revenue, dated 4th March* 1898.

(iii)

Abstract.—Transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Endorsement No. 899, dated 21st February 1898, letter submitted by the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, No. A.N.T. 3063, dated 24th February 1898.

Resolution—Mis. No. 1220, *dated 23rd March* 1898.

The Board begs to submit the following reply to the Official Memorandum from Government No. 146, dated 16th July 1897 :—

(1) The Native regimental canteens referred to are reported to have been instituted under the authority of Circular No. NA/942, dated 26th May 1893, of the Provisional Commander-in-Chief, copy of which is enclosed. The circular would appear to overlook the provisions of the Army Regulations quoted by Government. The Board would therefore request that the Lieutenant-General Commanding may be addressed as to the authority for its issue.

(2) As will be observed the Commanding officers are directed in the circular above quoted to make arrangements with local civil authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary, but no applications have been received for any licenses nor have any been issued. According to the strict letter of the law licenses would appear to be necessary both in the case of canteens and in that of sales by the Commissariat Department.

(3) As regards the rate of duty levied upon liquor issued to soldiers it appears that up to the year 1897 such liquor was issued duty-free. In that year it was decided to impose a duty, but in order not to enhance the price of liquor too suddenly the duty is only being imposed by degrees. For the present it is being levied at the rate of As. 12 per proof gallon or As. 9 per gallon of 25° under proof. This duty has been ordered to be credited to the head of V. Excise, but the order does not appear to be enforced in this Presidency. Copies of letters Nos. 407 D, dated 23rd January 1897, and 408 D of the same date from the Secretaty to Government

of India, Military Department, which contain full information on these points are enclosed. As regards the difference between the price paid by the canteens for the liquor and the price realized for the same it is stated that these sums are credited to refreshment rooms or other regimental funds according to the arrangements in force in the regiments in question. It may be added—as reported by the Commissary General—that rum—the only liquor obtained by his department for issue on payment to troops—is procured on contract and their last supply was obtained in 1894-95 from Messrs Morrison & Co., North Arcot.

(True Extract.)

R. M. Thurley,
Ag. Assistant Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with three enclosures.

IX

Memorandum—from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
To—the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 7th July 1898.
No.—A/B. T. 10942.
[*Reference.*—Your Memorandum for current No. 2874 of 2nd July 1898.]

A list of the localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both British and Native, are kept up, is enclosed.

ENCLOSURE.

LIST of localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens, both European and Native, are kept up.

Station.	Locality.
Bangalore	British Cavalry Barracks. Royal Artillery do. British Infantry do. "Q.O." Madras Sappers and Miners Lines.
Wellington	Depot Barracks. British Infantry Barracks.
Ootacamund	Fourth Madras Pioneers Lines.
Fort St. George	Royal Artillery Barracks. British Infantry do.
St. Thomas' Mount	Royal Artillery do. Fourteenth Madras Infantry Lines.
Pallavaram	E.A.V. Company Barracks.
Poonamallee	Depôt Barracks.
Trichinopoly	27th Madras Infantry Lines.
Bellary	Royal Artillery Barracks. British Infantry do.
Cannanore	Do. do.
Calicut	Do. do.
Malappuram	Do. do.

X

Official Memorandum No. 164, Revenue, dated 22nd July 1898.

With reference to his letter No. A./N.T. 2296, dated 10th February 1898, the Deputy Adjutant-General is requested to be good enough to state whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.), supplied to canteens of Native regiments and if so, whether it is purchased duty paid or whether duty is paid by the military authorities on its issue from the distillery or brewery.

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.

Schedule of *replies from* Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer, etc.) supplied to canteens of Native *regiments*, etc—*cont.*

Regiment.	*Station.*	Reply of Officers Commanding.
27th Madras Infantry.	Trichinopoly	Beer supplied to the canteen delivered free of all charges, no duty being paid by the regiment.
28th Madras Infantry.	Madras	Beer purchased from Messrs Leighton & Co., Madras, for the regimental canteen is duty paid.
29th Burma-Madras Infantry.	Fort Stedman, Burma.	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
31st Burma-Madras Light Infantry.	Meiktila, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
32nd Madras Infantry.	Mandalay, Burma ...	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.
33rd Madras Infantry.	Keng-Tung	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.

Order—No. 4032, Revenue, dated 8th October 1898.

Miscellaneous.

The Board's Proceedings read above will be forwarded to the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces for the favour of remarks on the points raised in paragraphs 1 and 2.

2. With reference to the statement in paragraph 3, that the duty on liquor sold at Regimental canteens is not credited to "Excise" the Board of Revenue is requested to address the Controller of Military Accounts on the subject through the Adjutant-General if necessary.

3. With reference to the list of canteens received from the Deputy Adjutant-General and forwarded herewith, the Board of Revenue is requested to call upon the Collectors concerned to report whether liquor is issued from the canteens to anyone except soldiers.

(True Extract.)

G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, Separate Revenue, with list.
,, Deputy Adjutant-General, *Madras Command*,
with Board's Proceedings No. 1220, dated 23rd March 1898.

Forwarded to the

(By Order.)

Superintendent.

G.O. No. 4032, 8th October 1898.

Miscellaneous.

Referring to the Board of Revenue and the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces certain questions connected with the issue of liquor from the canteens.

abstract of G.O. No. 4032
mis Rev dd 8.10.98

Referring to the Board of Revenue & the Lt.-Genl. commanding the forces certain questions connected with the issue of liquor from canteens.

Page No.

V. E.

Press

Please print the typed copy of the G.O. below v.E. and send a proof for approval. The no. of final copies to be struck off will be intimated later.

18.9.14

Rev. Sectt. 1-15—7,002—12-13.

1B

Revenue Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read – Official Memorandum, No.146 Rev., dated 16th July 1897.

Read Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, Separate Revenue No.1220 Mis., dated 23rd March 1898.

Read letter from the Deputy Adjutant General, Madras Command, No.A/B.T.10942, dated 7th July 1898.

Official Memorandum No.164 Rev., dated 22nd July 1898.

Read letter from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command, No.A/N.T. 13656, dated 23rd August 1898.

26

ORDER thereon Mis.No.4032 Rev., dated 8th October 1898.

The Board's proceedings read above will be forwarded to the Lieut: General Commanding the Forces for the favour of remarks on the points raised in paragraphs 1 and 2.

2. With reference to the statement in paragraph 3, that the duty on liquor sold at Regimental canteens is not credited to 'Excise' the Board of Revenue is requested to address the Controller of Military Accounts on the subject through the Adjutant-General if necessary.

3. With reference to the list of canteens received from the Deputy Adjutant-General and forwarded herewith, the Board of Revenue is requested to call upon the Collectors concerned to report whether liquor is issued from the canteens to any-one except soldiers.

(True Extract)

G.S.Forbes,

Secretary to Government.

To

To the Board of Revenue, Sep. Rev., with list.
,, D.A.G., Madras Command, with B.P. No. 1220/23-3-98.

O.M. to the Board of Revenue, Separate Revenue No.146 dated 16-7-97

With reference to para 7 of B.P. No.181 dated 10-5-1897 the undersigned has the honor to request that information may be furnished on the following points:-

(i) It is observed that under Articles 811 and 813 of the Army Regulations Vol.V the issue of spirits to Native troops is sanctioned only when from climatic or other causes the supply is considered really necessary by regimental medical officers whose recommendation must receive the concurrence of Deputies Surgeon General. The Board merely states that two native regimental canteens have been opened at Saint Thomas Mount. It should now be reported whether the conditions laid down in the above quoted articles of the Army Regulations have been satisfied in these cases.

(ii) The Military authorities do not appear to hold any licenses for the issue of liquor to troops. It should be reported why no licenses are required in their case.

(iii) In regard to regimental canteens it is understood that rum is issued in bulk on requisition at 25° U.P. at Rs.2 per gallon with an additional charge of 9 annas on account of excise duty. It is not understood ~~unless~~ why 9 annas are taken as excise duty while the proper duty is Rs.4½, nor who gets this 9 annas. Again the rum is issued to soldiers at 2 annas per dram or Rs.6 per gallon plus excise duty. It should be - - reported as to what is done with the difference between the amount paid for by the soldiers and that paid for by the Canteen and as to how 9 annas can be paid on 48 drams.

To the Board of Rev., Sep. Rev.

II 028

Copies of paras.811-815, Army Regulations, India, Volume V, Commissariat.

811. The issue of spirits to Native troops is only authorised when from climate or other causes it is considered really necessary. The indent (Commissariat form 65) must clearly show the grounds on which the issue is recommended, and should be countersigned by the General Officer Commanding the District.

Ibid. 812. Even under such circumstances, rum is not claimable from the Commissariat as a right, and will not be granted for more than one month at a time, unless, at the expiration of the period, the Medical authorities consider further issue absolutely necessary.

813.
S.G.O.B.14
and 298 of 1876
A.R.B.vii,184.

The quantity of rum to be thus issued is restricted to one dram per man (for the number recommended) per diem and is to be issued at 25 per cent under proof and paid for at Rs.2-8-0 per gallon, the amount being credited to Government in the pay list and "General State" of the regiment. This order does not affect certain regiments peculiarly situated which receive rum under special Government sanction-See para.815.

814. The sanction here given must be exercised as sparingly as possible. Tea may sometimes prove an efficient substitute for spirits and in such instances the issue may be made on payment under the above medical restrictions.

815. Rum may be issued at Port Blair on the recommendation of the Medical Officer. One hogshead of rum per mensem on indent is allowed to Sikhs and Christians of the second regiment, Central India horse. Rum is also allowed on indent to the 39th (the Garhwal Rifle) regiment of Bengal Infantry and the Goorkha regiments, on the understanding that the State is put to no expense, and that it gives the men no right to claim it in the field ; also on indent to the Deputy Commissioner of the Chittagong hill tracts for the use of the Police.

Govt.of Madras
3182 of 1874.
Govt.of Bombay
9th April 1896.
Govt.of India,
2046 of 1873 &
3182 & 1121 of
1874, 1055 of
1875 & 477 S.D
& 1131 S.D.of
1882.Cir.C.G.B
67 & 90 of 1882.

(True copies)

Regimental Institution.
Canteens.

Ootacamund,
10th February 1898.

No: A/N.T.2296.

From

The Deputy Adjutant General, Madras Command.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Revenue Department.

In continuation of my Memo, No. A/N.T.18654 of 24th November 1897.

M E M O R A N D U M

A copy of this office Circular No. N.A.942 dated 26th May 1893, which is the authority for the establishment of Regimental Canteens in this command, is herewith forwarded together with a schedule of replies from officers commanding Madras Regiments furnishing further particulars.

2. The report from the Commandant 13th Madras Infantry will follow when received..

(Sd.) G. Simpson
Brigadier General,
Deputy Adjutant General.

Ootacamund

Regimental Institutions
Canteens.

26th May 1893.

Thro' G.O.C. —— Dt.

N.A./No.942.

To

The Officer Commanding,
Regiment M.I.

Circular Memorandum.

The question of the establishment within the lines of Native Regiments of some place in which, under Regimental arrangements, good and sound liquor can be sold to Native soldiers, having been considered by the Provisional Commander-in-chief, the Adjutant General is desired to remark as follows:-

2. In view of the very deleterious liquor sold in Native bazaars and of the undesirable nature of the surroundings of the shops where such is sold, the Provisional Commander-in-Chief considers that the establishment of a Canteen where good liquor could be obtained, would be in the interests of Native soldiers, and he has no objection to such being established provided that no extra expense is thereby incurred by the state.

3. It will be necessary that these canteens which are entirely optional, should be conducted on some fixed principle and with this view Commanding Officers should draw up and submit to General officers Commanding Districts for their approval such orders as they may deem called for, to ensure that order is maintained and that the institution is not abused.

4. Such rules will doubtless differ in minor points in different stations, according to local conditions but the Provisional Commander-in-chief considers that the following points call for attention in all cases in which canteens in Native Regiments are established.

A

A

Arrangements must be made by the Officer Commanding with the Local Civil Authorities regarding licenses, should such be necessary.

B

The canteen should on no account be established in the centre of the lines where any noise or disturbance can take place without the knowledge or observation of the British officers, and where soldiers might meet for gambling.

If no existing building is available a shed should be erected on the outskirts of the lines and not far from the Bells of arms, Barracks and Quarter guard.

C

Commanding officers must be most careful in satisfying themselves that the liquor supplied is of good quality.

D.

Fixed hours of issue should be appointed and during these hours a thoroughly trustworthy and reliable Non-Commissioned officer is to be present who will be held responsible that order is maintained.

E.

The Orderly officer should visit the canteen daily and the British officer of the week frequently at uncertain hours.

F.

Commanding officers should make it a point to exercise the strictest personal supervision over the Institution which is opened to abuse if British officers be careless or apathetic.

G.

General officers commanding Districts should from time to time, when convenient visit these canteens to satisfy themselves that their establishment is really beneficial to the men.

5. Messrs. Leishman & Co., Nilgiri Brewery Company are prepared to supply wholesome beer of light gravity at the following rates:- To all stations in the Madras Command except Burmah, Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs.40 per hogshead- to Rangoon,

Belgaum and Secunderabad at Rs.42 per hogshead.

6. These prices are quoted merely for the information of Commanding officers who are, of course, at liberty to obtain the liquor they require from any firm they may choose to select.

7. In cases in which canteens are established, Commanding - Officers will be good enough to submit, through District authorities, a report to this office on their working after a period of six months has elapsed, General Officers Commanding in forwarding these reports will express their opinion on the experiment.

(By Order)

(Sd.) H.W.Pearson

Brigr.General,

Adjutant General.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments regarding Canteens.

Corps.	Hours open daily.	Liquor supplied.	Price malt Liquor - Rum	If open to all Comers.	Average daily number of Customers.	Profits how spent.	Remarks.
1st Madras Lancers	---	No Canteen	Kept up.			-	
2nd Do.	-	Do.	-	-	-	-	
3rd Do. (a)	-	Do.	-	-	-	-	(a) Establishment in Secun -bad against terms of agreement between Briti Government and His Highness the Nizam's Gov -ment.
Q.O. Madras Sap and Miners	5.30 A.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer and Stout	Both Rs. 1-1-4 per quart	No	Cannot be stated as they vary with strength at Head Quarters but nearly every man uses the Canteen.	Benefit of the men, maintenance and supply of buildings, sums given for festivals, provide free Coffee and hoppers for men on Field Days &c.	
1st Madras Pioneers	—	No Canteen	Kept up	—			
2nd Madras Infantry	—	Do.	— (a)	—			
3rd Madras Light Infantry	—	No Canteen	Kept up	—			
4th Madras Pioneers	6 P.M. to 8 P.M. (During the day if specially ordered for any feast day)	Beer and rum (when procurable)	Beer 3 as 4 pies per quart Rum 2 as per dram	No	3/4ths of the Regiment or 625 men	Benefit of the men such as free food on the march &c.	
5th Madras Infantry	—	No Canteen	Kept up.				
6th Madras Infantry	—	No Canteen	Kept up.				
7th Madras Infantry	11 A.M. to 12 Noon 5.30 P.M. to 8 P.M.	Beer and rum	Beer 4 Annas per quart Rum 3 as per dram	No	183	Benefit of the men, free ammunition for pool shooting, cricket foot-ball &c.	
8th Madras Infantry	4 P.M. to 9 P.M. (10 A.M. to 1 P.M. on Sundays and Thursdays as well as in the evening)	Beer and rum	Beer 4 as 8 pies per quart Rum 2 as per dram	No	75	Prizes for Sports among the men.	
9th Madras Infantry	—	No Canteen	Kept up				
10th Burma Rifles	—	do	—				
11th Madras Infantry	—	No Canteen	Kept up (a)				
12th Burma Madras Infantry	—	do	—				
13th Madras Infantry							Report not yet received
14th Madras Infantry	10 A.M. to 12 noon and 4 P.M. to 9 P.M.	Beer only	4 as a quart	No	260	Benefit of the men: men's necessaries, prizes for sports, donations to men discharged without pension and prizes for shooting.	
15th Madras Infantry	Between 3.30 and 7.30 P.M.	Beer and Porter	4 as 6 ps a quart	No	250	Benefit of the men: Regimental Sports &c.	

IV

Office of the Commissary General, Madras Command.

Copy of letter No.407-D, dated 23rd January 1897, from the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to the Adjutant General in India.

The question of the expediency of continuing the present practice under which rum supplied to troops on payment is issued at a price which does not include the Customs or Excise duty levied on rum consumed by the public, has recently been under the consideration of the Government of India, and the conclusion arrived at is that the practice is opposed to the principles which underlie the policy, long accepted and carried into effect in India as in other countries, of imposing customs and excise duties on spirits, and that it is inexpedient to allow soldiers to buy spirits at a cheaper rate than their fellow countrymen in India. The Government of India have accordingly decided that the issue of duty-free rum to soldiers, whether British or Native, shall be discontinued as soon as this can conveniently be arranged.

2. In view, however, of the length of time during which the exemption from duty of rum issued to the troops has been in force, and of the reasons which led to the grant of such exemption, it is considered desirable that the change in system should be effected gradually. The rate of duty to be ultimately imposed should in the opinion of Government of India be the rate of excise duty in force in the province in which the troops purchasing the rum are located. In Madras, Bombay and Burma, rum manufactured in India is already excised at the f
rate of duty leviable on spirits imported from Europe, nam
Rs.6 a gallon of proof strength: In Bengal the excise du
Rs.5 a gallon, and in the Punjab and North-Western Prov
Rs.4; but these rates are liable to be raised so as t

the full import duty on foreign liquor. To raise the price of the rum supplied to troops in all parts of India by an amount which shall correspond approximately to 12 annas a gallon (or 12.5 per cent of the full duty leviable), will therefore be a moderate and tentative advance in the direction desired. This will be equivalent to an increase of 2 annas in the price of a bottle of the size of a reputed quart, which is believed to be the size of the bottles in which rum is sold; and this increase has been decided on as the first instalment of the imposition of duty.

3. I am, therefore, to request that, under the orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, instructions may be issued to enhance the price of a reputed quart bottle of rum by two annas, with effect from the 1st April 1897, and to say that the Government of India would be glad to be favoured with a report on the effects of the measure not later than 31st December 1897, to admit of the feasibility of further raising the duty with effect from 1st April 1898, being duly considered.

---

ull
ely
ty is
inces
o e

No.C.2117

Office of the Commissary-General
Madras Command, Ootacamund, 2nd
July 1897.

From

The Offg. Commissary-General,
Madras Command.

To

The Deputy Adjutant-General,
Madras Command, Ootacamund.

This Department obtains its supply of rum (country manufactured) by contract and the last supply was obtained in 1894-95 from Messrs. Morrison and Co. Arcot at Rs.1-1-3 per I Gallon 50°.P. or at Rs.0-12-4 per I Gallon 25° U.P.

2. The rum at 25 U.P. is issued in bulk to Regimental Canteens on requisitions at Rs.2/ per gallon with an additional charge of annas 9/- on account of excise duty. This rum is retailed to troops at annas 2/- per dram plus excise duty. So far as is known in this office the Military Authorities do not hold any licenses for the issue of liquor.

3. Rum is not supplied by this Department to Native troops under ordinary circumstances, but only when specially authorised. vide para.811 A.R.I. Vol. V Comst: the issue is made as laid down in para. 813 ibid and paid for by the troops at Rs.2-8-0 per gallon.

E. L. Eliot, Lt.Colonel
Offg. Commissary-General, Madras Command.

Ootacamund,
2nd July 1897.

To the Secretary to the Govt. of Madras, Revenue Deptt.

No.A/B.T.10249.

Forwarded with reference to your telephone message of the 24th ultimo.

G.Simpson,
Br. Genl.,
D.A.G.

VI

No.5217.

Office of the Commissary General,
Madras Command,
Ootacamund 9th October 1897.

From

The Offg. Commissary-General,
Madras Command.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Revenue Department.

Rum- the only liquor obtained by this Department for issue on payment to troops- is procured by contract (the last supply was obtained in 1894-95 from Messrs. Morison and Co., Arcot) and is issued in bulk at 25 U.P. to British Regimental Canteens at Rs.2 per gallon when requisitioned for with an additional charge of 9 annas per gallon on account of excise duty, which latter is credited to Government separately from the sale proceeds of the rum, in accordance with the Government of India Military Department letter No.408-D, dated 23rd January 1897 (copy enclosed).

2. The rum is then retailed to the soldier by the Regimental Canteens at 2 annas per dram plus the excise duty or altogether at Rs.5-9-0 per imperial gallon (40 drams) and the difference between this rate and the rate paid by the Canteens viz. Rs.3 per gallon is, I understand, credited to Refreshment rooms or other Regimental funds. This is, however, a purely Regimental arrangement with which this Department has no concern.

3. As regards the issue of rum to Native troops, they are entitled to it from this Department only when specially authorised in accordance with paras × 811-815, Army Regulations., India, Volume V, Commissariat, and in that case, the rum is paid for by the troops at Rs.2-8-0 per gallon as laid down in para. 813 ibid plus the excise duty. This Department has

× Copy herewith.

has no concern with the further distribution of the spirit after its original issue in bulk, nor has it any connection whatever with the Native Regimental Canteens where such may exist.

4. The circumstances under which 9 annas per gallon of rum at 25 U.P. are charged as excise duty, are explained in the accompanying copy of the Government of India Military Department letter No.407-D, dated 23rd January 1897.

Equivalent of twelve annas per gallon of proof rum.

5. So far as I am aware the question of a license in this connection being considered necessary, for this Department has never been raised previously, and I can only imagine that this is because issues so made are made under the orders of Government and for Government purposes.

6. The question in its relation to Regimental Canteens is one which I am not in a position to deal with and I can only suggest the matter being referred to the Deputy Adjutant-General of the Command.

(Signed) G.H. Eliot.

Lieut.Colonel,

Offg.Commissary General,
Madras Command.

4022 8/10

VII

148

From

Lieut. Col. H. Lawson,

Comdt. 13th M. I.

To

The Deputy Adjutant General,

Madras Command,

Ootacamund.

29-1-'98.

Sir,

With reference to your Memorandum No. A/N.T.15840 dated Ootacamund 26th November 1897

I have the honour to furnish information as follows:--

(1) (a) The Regimental Canteen is open daily

(b) Between the hours 10 and 11 A.M. and 4 and 8 P.M.

(c) Sepoys and Regimental Followers only are allowed to frequent the Canteen.

(2) Beer, Rum, and Mineral waters are sold --

(3) The Beer is obtained from Messrs. Leeshman and Co., Ootacamund.

The Rum from Messrs. E. Dyer and Co., Mandalay, during the stay of the Regiment at Thayetmagi

(4) Beer is sold at 2 annas per pint and Rum 2½ annas per dram.

(5) The profits are expended for the good of the men of the Regiment.

(6) The Canteen was opened on the 1st October 1894 vide my No.327 of 2nd Ju[illegible]94 to the A.A.G. Southern Dist. in accordance with Adjutant General's Circular No.A.A./362 dated 25th May 1893 and my report No.145 B submitted to you on the 10th April 1895.

(7) The average number of men frequenting the Canteen is about 200 daily

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) H. Lawson Lt. Col.

Comdt. 13 M.I.

Endorsement No. 3063

Forwarded in continuation of my Memo. No. A/NT 2296 dated 10th February 1898.

(Signed) G. Simpson,
Brig. General.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

(Separate Revenue)

Dated 23rd March 1898.

Mis.No.1220.

Read again Government Official Memorandum No.146 Revenue dated 16th July 1897 requesting certain information regarding the supply of spirits to troops.

Read also endorsement Mis.No.899 Revenue., dated 21st February 1898, transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of endorsement No.2237 dated 4th December 1897 a copy of the office circular from the Deputy Adjutant General Madras Command showing the authority for the establishment of Regimental Canteens in his Command &c.

Read also endorsement Mis.No.1105 Revenue, dated 4th March 1898 transferring to the Board of Revenue in continuation of endorsement No.899 dated 21st February 1898 letter submitted by the Deputy Adjutant General, Madras Command, No.A/N T 3063, dated 24th February 1898.

RESOLUTION.

The Board begs to submit the following reply to the official memorandum from Government No.146, dated 16th July 1897.

(1) The Native regimental Canteens referred to are reported to have been instituted under the authority of circular No. NA/942, dated 26th May 1893 of the Provisional Commander-in-Chief copy of which is enclosed. The Circular would appear to overlook the provisions of the Army Regulations quoted by Government. The Board would therefore request that the Liet: General Commanding may be addressed as to the authority for its issue.

(2) As will be observed the Commanding officers are directed in the Circular above quoted to make arrangements with local civil authorities regarding licenses, should such

be necessary, but no applications have been received for any licenses nor have any been issued. According to the strict letter of the law licenses would appear to be necessary both in the case of Canteens and in that of sales by the Commissariat Department.

(3) As regards the rate of duty levied upon liquor issued to soldiers it appears that up to the year 1897 such liquor was issued duty-free. In that year it was decided to impose a duty, but in order not to enhance the price of liquor too suddenly the duty is only being imposed by degrees. For the present it is being levied at the rate of twelve annas per proof gallon or nine annas per gallon of 25° Under Proof. This duty has been ordered to be credited to the head of V Excise but the order does not appear to be enforced in this Presidency. Copies of letters Nos. 407 D dated 23rd January 1897 and 408 D of the same date from the Secretary to Government of India Military Department which contain full information on these points are enclosed. As regards the difference between the price paid by the Canteens for the liquor and the price realized for the same it is stated that these sums are credited to Refreshment rooms or other regimental funds according to the arrangements in force in the regiments in question. It may be added - as ~~regards~~ reported by the Commissary General - that rum - the only liquor obtained by his department for issue on payment to troops - is procured on contract and their last supply was obtained in 1894-95 from Messrs Morrison and Company, North Arcot.

(True Extract)

R.M.Thurley,

Ag. Assistant Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government,

Revenue Department, with 3 enclosures.

Ootacamund,

No.A/P.T.10942 7th July 1898.

From

The Deputy Adjutant General, Madras Command,

To the Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Revenue Department.

Reference your Memo: for current No.2874 of 2nd July 1898.

MEMORANDUM

A list of the localities in the Madras Presidency where ~~can~~ canteens, both British and Native are kept up, is enclosed.

G. Simpson,
Brigr. General,
Dy. Adjutant General.

1

Enclosure

List of localities in the Madras Presidency where canteens both European and Native, are kept up.

Station	Locality.
Bangalore.	British Cavalry Barracks Royal Artillery ,, British Infantry ,, "Q.O" Madras Sappers & Miners Lines.
Wellington.	Depot Barracks British Infantry Barracks
Ootacamund	4th Madras Pioneers Lines.
Fort St. George	Royal Artillery Barracks British Infantry ,,
St. Thomas' Mount.	Royal Artillery Barracks 14th Madras Infantry Lines
Pallaveram	E.A.V.Company Barracks
Poonamallee	Depot Barracks
Trichinopoly	27th Madras Infantry Lines.
Bellary	Royal Artillery Barracks British Infantry ,,
Cannanore	British Infantry Barrcks
Calicut	do.
Malappuram	do.

Ootacamund
7th July 1898.

G.Simpson,
Brigr.General
Dy. Ad. General.

Revenue Department.

Official Memorandum No.164 Rev., dated 22nd July 1898

With reference to his letter No.A/N.T. 2296 dated 10th February 1898, the Deputy Adjutant General is requested to be good enough to state whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer etc.) supplied to Canteens of Native regiments and if so, whether it is purchased duty paid or whether duty is paid by the Military Authorities on its issue~~s~~ from the distillery or brewery.

G.S.Forbes,
Secretary to Government.

To the D.A.G. Madras Command.

Ootacamund,

No.A/N.T.13656 23rd August 1898.

From

The Deputy Adjutant General, Madras Command,

To the Secretary to the Government of Madras,

Revenue Department.

Reference your Memo: No.164 of 22nd July 1898.

MEMORANDUM.

Herewith a schedule of replies from the Officers Commanding those Madras Regiments which maintain Canteens showing how excise duty is paid on liquor (rum, beer etc.) purchased.

2. The reply from the Officer Commanding 20th Madras Infantry, will follow when received.

F.Jerrards

Colonel,

for Dy. Ad. General.

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on liquor (rum and beer &c) supplied to Canteens of Native regiments &c.

Regiment	Station	Reply of Officers Commanding	Remarks.
Q.O. Sappers & Miners	Bangalore	Excise duty is paid at Ootacamund by Nilgiri Brewery Company for ale and stout purchased for which permits are obtained from the Collector of the Nilgiris prior to despatch of Consignments to Bangalore.	
4th Madras Pioneers	Ootacamund	Full duty paid for rum supplied after receipt from Commissariat Department, that is to say the Commissariat Department include the duty in the bill. Full duty is paid for beer by private dealers and added to the cost of beer supplied to the Canteen.	
7th Madras Infantry	Kamptee	Full excise duty is paid by firms from whom liquor is purchased.	
8th Madras Infantry	Barrackpore	Liquor purchased duty paid	
13th Madras Infantry	Raipur C. P.	Full excise duty paid on liquor by firms from whom purchased.	
14th Madras Infy:	St. Saint Thomas's Mt. Madras.	No duty paid by regiments on beer supplied presumes distillery does.	
15th — do —	Rangoon	Liquor purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.	
16th — do —	— do —	— do —	
20th Madras Infy:	Miranshah	No report received	
21st Madras Pioneers	Belgaum	Beer supplied is purchased from a local merchant and price paid by the regiment includes duty paid by the Vendor	

Ootacamund }
23rd August 1898 }

F. Jerrard

Colonel

for Deputy Adjutant General

Schedule of replies from Officers Commanding Madras Regiments as to whether full excise duty is paid on Liquor (rum and beer &c) supplied to Canteens of Native regiments &c.

Regiment	Station	Reply of Officers Commanding	Remarks.
Sappers & Miners	Bangalore	Excise duty is paid at Ootacamund by	
22nd Madras Infy:	Berhampore	Reports that under sanction of the Collector of Ganjam some rum was issued to the Canteen from the Aska distillery at Rs1-12-- per gallon duty, afterwards this sanction was withdrawn and the duty ~~was~~ of Rs6-0-0 per gallon demanded, a rate which makes it impossible for the men to buy.	
26th Madras Infy:	Belgaum	Full excise duty is paid by Vendors before the beer leaves the brewery.	
27th Madras Infy:	Trichinopoly.	Beer supplied to the Canteen delivered free of all charges. no duty being paid by the regiment.	
28th Madras Infy:	Madras	Beer purchased from Messrs. Leighton & Co. Madras for the regimental Canteen is duty paid.	
29th Burma Madras Infantry	Fort Stedman, Burma	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.	
31st Burma Madras Lt. Infantry.	Meiktila Burma	Liquor is purchased from private firms whose price includes full duty.	
32nd Madras Infy:	Mandalay — do —	———— do ————	
33rd —— do ——	Keng-Tung	———— do ————	

Ootacamund }
23rd August 1898 }

F. Jerrard
Colonel
for Deputy Adjutant General