

C.S.

TREASURY & CUSTOMS.

(Miscellaneous.)

DEF/NVI/2#6

19 40.

No. 3/1940.

Hon. Col. Treasurer.

SUBJECT.

19 40.

8th January.

ALLEGED LANDINGS OF DUTIABLE GOODS
FROM H.M.S. "EXETER".

Previous Paper.

MINUTES.

1-3.

Minute from Hon. Col. Treasurer of 8th January, 1940.

Yh.
Submitted. This is no new thing. It has gone on whenever a warship has visited the Colony and would be difficult to stop. Does *Yh.* wish the matter referred to the O.C. H.M.S. "Exeter".

McH
CS
10. 1. 40

Yes please

Customs

~~10/1/40~~ *10/1/40*

To note. Please see me with file.

McH
CS
10. 1. 40

Subsequent Paper.

Letter to Oc. H.M.S. "Exeter" 11.1.40 5-6

Customs,

To note.

MCH
C.S.
11.1.40

~~Handled~~ noted.

~~ewdf~~ 11/1/40

P.A.
MCH
12/1/40.

Letter from Captain F.S. Bell of 12/1/40. 6.

Customs.

To note.

MCH
C.S.
12.1.40

~~Handled.~~

~~Noted.~~ Thank you.

~~ewdf~~ 15/1/40

P.A. MCH
C.S. 15.1.40

Letter from Captain F.S. Bell of 15/1/40.

Customs

Referred please.

MCH
C.S.
17.1.40

(7)

Hon. C.S.

Submitted.

Such a request is in accord with the approved practice.

⑦ I would suggest that "Supply Notes" be passed from the Hospital through this Dept, where they would be endorsed and landing & distribution be supervised by the Customs officer.

EWDF 17/1/40.

⑧ Letter to Captain F.S. Bell of 19/1/40.

P.H.
19/1/40.

⑨ Letter from Naval Officer in Charge of 3/1/41.
done

To be done 7/1/41

1/11

~~a minute from Naval Officer-in-Charge of 12/6/41.~~

No.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted).

MINUTE.

4th. January, 19 40.

From Customs Officer.

To The ~~Asst.~~ Collector of Customs,

Port Stanley.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

Sir,

In the past few days it has come to my knowledge that a considerable amount of Navy tobacco and cigarettes has been brought ashore and given, and in some cases sold, to the local people. I have also learnt of one case at least, of a member of "Exeter's" wardroom bringing a bottle of liqueur ashore, and I have heard accounts which are, I think, fairly well based, of other similar cases, although I have no definite proof.

I have actually seen a man with two half pound tins of tobacco, which he said he had bought (although I am convinced that the buyer was unaware that he was breaking the law); and in a house, to which I was invited to tea, I was asked to fill my pipe from a tin of Navy tobacco that stood on the mantelpiece. (Here again, I do not think that the owner of the tobacco realised that he had committed an offence.)

Whilst not wishing to interfere with the enjoyment by men from H.M. ships of their normal privileges, I would point out that under the Customs Code of the United Kingdom, vol. 1. part 9. (Relations with the Navy), navy men are only allowed to bring ashore sufficient tobacco each day to last them until they return to the ship either on the same night, or on the following morning; and I presume that it is desired to apply the same regulations here.

It is impossible to control the amount of tobacco landed from the shore end, but it would be perfectly simple to do so from the ship. I would respectfully suggest the following procedure, therefore, which would, with the active co-operation of "Exeter's" captain, do away with the abuses of the law, at least as far as the men are concerned.-

- (i) The tobacco and cigarettes should be issued to each man on the basis of a certain quantity to cover a certain number of days; and until that period has elapsed, no more tobacco should be issued to that man.

No.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted).

MINUTE.

From

To

19

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

(Continued)

(ii) Tobacco and cigarettes for the wounded, both in and out of the hospital, should be brought ashore in bulk, and issued to the men by a responsible officer, on the same basis mentioned in (i) above.]

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,



Customs Officer.

No.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted).

MINUTE.

8th January, 1939.

From The Colonial Treasurer,

To The Honourable

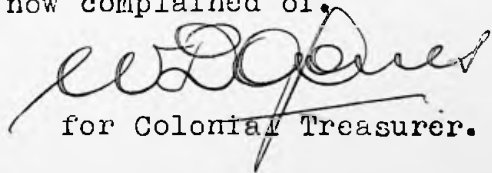
The Colonial Secretary,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

STANLEY.

I have the honour to forward herewith a report received from the Customs Officer regarding alleged landings of dutiable goods from H.M.S. "Exeter".

It will be appreciated that, in the present circumstances, shore control is extremely difficult of application, and that remedial measures can best be undertaken at the source. I have, therefore, to request that the Commanding Officer of "Exeter" be addressed in this connection with a view to procuring co-operation in removing the abuse of the law now complained of.


for Colonial Treasurer.

3 of 1940.

January 10th

5
40.

Sir,

I am directed to transmit the accompanying copy of a Report by the Customs Officer regarding alleged landings of dutiable goods from H.M.S. "Exeter".

2. I am to request that you will be so good as to cause suitable action to be taken to remove the abuse of the law referred to in the report.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

meH

Colonial Secretary.

The Officer Commanding,

H.M.S. "Exeter".

Port Stanley.

H.M.S. "EXETER",
12th January 1940.

No.209.

Sir,

Red 5.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No.3 of 1940, dated 10th January 1940, enclosing the report of the Customs Officer dated 4th January 1940.

2. I greatly regret that my Officers and Ship's Company have been landing at Port Stanley, tobacco and wines, from H.M.S. "EXETER", in contravention of the Colony's regulations.

3. The taking ashore of these articles as gifts and not declaring them at the customs was probably due to thoughtlessness. The taking ashore of these items for sale is quite inexcusable.

4. I have issued instructions that no one proceeding on leave in Port Stanley is to take more than 30 cigarettes or 1½ ounces of tobacco ashore with him. No other dutiable articles are to be landed without my prior approval. It is requested that I may be informed of any breaches of this order which may come to your notice.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant



CAPTAIN.

The Colonial Secretary,
New Government Buildings,
PORT STANLEY.

H.M.S. "Exeter",
15th January 1940.

No. 209.

Sir,

I have the honour to request that permission may be granted to land duty free cigarettes and tobacco from H.M.S. "Exeter" and, (after the departure of H.M.S. "Exeter"), from H.M.S. "Baltavia", for the sole use of the wounded Service cases who are remaining in the King Edward Memorial Hospital, Stanley.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,



Captain.

The Colonial Secretary,
New Government Buildings,
Stanley,
Falkland Islands.

3/1940.

19th January, 40.

Sir,

Redy.

With reference to your letter No. 209 of the 15th January, 1940, I have the honour to inform you that permission is granted to land duty free cigarettes and tobacco from H.M.S. "Exeter" and, (after the departure of H.M.S. "Exeter"), from H.M.S. "Baltavia" for the sole use of the wounded service cases who are remaining in the Hospital, Stanley.

2. Arrangements should be made with the Customs regarding the landing and the distribution of the cigarettes and tobacco.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. H. N.

Colonial Secretary.

Captain F. S. Bell, C.B., R.N.,
H.M.S. "Exeter",
at STANLEY.