

C.S.

SECRET

1941.

No.

S/21/41.

Secretary of State.

SUBJECT.

19 41.

17th October.

Previous Paper.

WAR DIARIES KEPT BY OFFICER COMMANDING,
FALKLAND ISLANDS DEFENCE FORCE.

Ref: See S/6/40.

MINUTES.

1. Circular telegram Saving from S. of S. (Secret) of 17.10.41.

(2)

Adjutant.

Z.I.D.7.

A copy of this Diary should have been sent to the
W.O. through the S.A.F. every quarter. Please ensure
that the Diary up to 30th June 1943 is ready for
transmission by the next mail (early July), so that
it goes quarterly thereafter.

KB
11/6

M.C.S.

noted. ⁽³⁾ The Diary will be completed
up to the quarter ending 30th June for transmission
by the next mail.

M.C.S. F.I.D.F.
11/6/43

4. Minutes from O.C. F.I.D.F. of 5/7/43.

Subsequent Paper.

5. Secret Saving telegram to S. of S. of 14. 7. 43.
per 30/9/43
6. Minutes from O.C. F.I.D.F. of 23/10/43
7. Secret Saving telegram to S. of S. of 25. 10. 43.

- Minutes from O/C, F.I.D.F., of 10. 2. 44. 8
- Secret Saving Telegram to S. of S. of 14. 2. 44. 9
- Minutes from O/C, F.I.D.F., of 19. 5. 44. 10
- Secret Saving Telegram to S. of S. of 29. 5. 44. 11
- Minutes from O/C, F.I.D.F., of 20. 7. 44. 12
- Secret Saving Telegram to S. of S. of 22. 7. 44. 13
- Minutes from O/C, F.I.D.F. of 30/10/44. 14
- Secret Saving Telegram to S. of S. of 2. 11. 44. 15
- Secret Circular Saving Telegram, No. 18 from S. of S. of 19/10/44. 16

(17)

O.C.
7.1.02

TO Ltr.

KB

4.12.44

Memorable Colonial Secretary. (18)

Notes. Thank you O.C. S. 21. 44.

- Minutes from O/C, F.I.D.F., of 22. 2. 45. 19
- Secret Telegram Saving to S. of S. of 27. 2. 45. 20
- Minutes from O/C, F.I.D.F., of 26. 4. 45. 21
- Secret Telegram Saving to S. of S. 27. 4. 45. 22
- Minutes from O/C, F.I.D.F. of 28. 8. 45 23
- Secret Telegram Saving to S. of S. of 31. 8. 45 24

acs
I have had this for
about 14 years
Oct. 16/5

24 JAN 1942
FALKLAND ISLANDS

128

From the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

To the Officer Administering the Government of.....

Circular Telegram Saving.

FALKLAND ISLANDS

17th October, 1941.

Secret.

The Army Council have asked that they may be supplied with copies of the War Diaries of the various Colonial Units in order that the fullest possible information may be available to the Historical Section of the Committee of Imperial Defence when the history of the war comes to be written.

I shall be glad therefore, if it is not already being done, if you would arrange that War Diaries should be regularly kept henceforth by all units of Colonies Forces in the territory under your administration, and that one copy should be sent to me each quarter for transmission to the War Office.

Where War Diaries have been kept in the past, the War Office suggest that, if spare copies are not available, photo-stat copies should if possible be made and transmitted to London. In cases where diaries have not been kept, it would be appreciated if a brief summary could be supplied covering events relating to each unit up to the date of starting the War Diaries.

A specimen of the Army Form which is used for the compilation of War Diaries is enclosed for your information.

In those territories where Colonial Forces are at present under the administration of the Army Council, arrangements are being made by the War Office for copies of War Diaries to be furnished by the local commanders to the Governments concerned for perusal by Governors who will forward them in due course to the Colonial Office.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I,
and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages
will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Army Form C. 2118

Unit.....

Commanding Officer.....

Month and Year.....

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices

No.

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

MINUTE.

5th July, 19 43. (14)

From The Officer Commanding,
Falkland Islands
Defence Force,
Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To THE HONOURABLE

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

STANLEY.

I have the honour to forward, for transmission to the War Office, two copies of the War Diary of the Falkland Islands Defence Force, covering the period 3rd September, 1939 to 30th June, 1943. A third copy is also enclosed for record in your Office.

Rush Woodgat.
Lt.-Col.

Officer Commanding,
Falk. Is. Defence Force.

(44)

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEFENCE FORCE.

WAR DIARY.

Period 3rd September to 31st December, 1939.

- 3rd Sept. The 'War' telegram was received at 0930 local time.
- His Excellency the Governor and Commander-in-Chief assumed the Office of Officer Commanding and Commandant, Falkland Islands Defence Force.
- Complete mobilization of the Defence Force was ordered throughout the Colony.
- Sapper Hill Battery became Examination Battery.
- War Signal Stations established at Sapper Hill, Mount Low and Mount William.
- 4th Sept. 3-pdr. Hotchkiss Q.F. gun mounted on Tussac Point near entrance to Inner Harbour.
- Defended posts fully manned and coastwatching posts established throughout the Colony.
- 9th Sept. Warning received regarding movements of enemy merchant vessels from southern Argentine ports.
- Mounted patrol established on Long Island Ridge overlooking Berkeley Sound.
- As a further precautionary measure a mounted striking force was equipped and formed, and held in readiness at Headquarters.
- 12th Sept. Mount William and Watt Cove posts withdrawn in order to provide a Guard for internees due to arrive in Colony.
- 13th Sept. 33 German subjects taken from the German vessel "Carl Fritzen" were landed in Stanley from H.M.S. "Ajax" and placed under guard in a specially prepared Internment Camp.
- 27th Sept. A detachment of British ex-service men from Buenos Aires who had volunteered for service in the Falkland Islands, arrived at Stanley.
- 28th Sept. Lieut. J. A. Woodgate, late Adjutant, Hawke Battalion, Royal Naval Division, who arrived in the Colony on the 27th September to take up his civil appointment as Executive Engineer, was appointed Officer Commanding, Falkland Islands Defence Force, with the rank of Major.
- 9th Dec. As the position appeared to have clarified itself in so far as any attack on the Islands was concerned, the decision was taken to return the Buenos Aires detachment, and to withdraw all remaining coastwatching posts.
- 13th Dec. 107 German subjects taken from the German vessel "Ussukuma" arrived at Stanley in H.M.S. "Cumberland" and were placed under guard on disused hulk "Fennia" in the inner harbour.

29th Dec. Crews of "Carl Fritzen" and "Ussukuma" were embarked on H.M.S. "Cumberland" on transfer to South Africa.

During the period under review a 12-pdr. Q.F. gun was mounted at each Mount Low and Arrow Point, while the Tussac Point Defences were further strengthened by the mounting of a second 3-pdr. Hotchkiss gun.

Quarter ended 31st March, 1940.

No warlike events took place in the Colony during this quarter.

A decision was taken in February to withdraw certain defended posts to enable the more important posts to be strengthened.

On the 11th of March the Arrow Point Battery was established and manned.

In order that a system of monthly reliefs could be arranged at Canopus during the winter months, it was decided to withdraw Sapper Hill Battery personnel on the 31st of March, leaving sufficient men for maintenance and look-out purposes only. As a result of this decision the Examination Battery was transferred to Arrow Point on the same day.

Quarter ended 30th June, 1940.

No warlike events took place in the Colony during this quarter.

- 1st April. Sapper Hill Battery personnel discharged to civil employment for one month - maintenance party and lookout posted from Canopus Battery personnel.
- 21st April. Norwegian Oil Tanker "Vinga" arrived at Stanley and a German member of her crew was handed over for internment.
- 1st May. Canopus Battery personnel discharged to civil employment and Sapper Hill Battery personnel brought on strength and posted to Canopus with look-out and maintenance party at Sapper Hill.
- During the month of May, opportunity was taken to amend the Defence Force Ordinance to enable the services of Aliens to be accepted in the Defence Force.
- 1st June. Change over between Sapper Hill and Canopus Battery personnel.
- 4th June. Guard posted on board disused hulk "Fennia" in connection with internment of one British (a member of the British Union of Facists) and two German subjects.
- 5th June. Town Guard formed in Stanley to mount Guard over all places of public importance.
- 10th June. Sapper Hill Battery personnel brought on strength and returned to duty, following the collapse of France and Italy's entry into the war.

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14th June. Town Guard withdrawn and returned to civil employment.

During the month of June the Camp members of the Defence Force on East and West Falklands were given a period of training at centres on both Islands.

Quarter ended 30th September, 1940.

No warlike events took place in the Colony during this quarter.

13th July. Information received that one 4-inch gun mounted, and equipment installed at Grytviken, South Georgia.

31st July. Personnel of Sapper Hill and Canopus Batteries, with exception of lookout and maintenance parties, discharged temporarily to civil employment.

10th Sept. Protected Areas proclaimed in vicinities of Batteries, &c.

30th Sept. Guard and internees transferred from hulk "Pennia" to more suitable accommodation on shore.

Quarter ended 31st December, 1940.

No warlike events took place in the Colony during this quarter.

26th October. Three internees, 1 British and 2 German, were embarked on s.s. "Lafonia" for transfer to an Internment Camp in South Africa.

2nd December. Personnel of Sapper Hill and Canopus Batteries brought up to full strength for training purposes.

20th December. Personnel of Sapper Hill and Canopus Batteries, with the exception of lookout and maintenance parties, discharged temporarily to civil employment.

During this quarter two searchlights for the illumination of the entrance to Port William were received in the Colony, and satisfactory progress was made towards their installation at Cape Pembroke Lighthouse.

Quarter ended 31st March, 1941.

No warlike events took place in the Colony during this quarter.

21st March. Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel C. D. Allderidge, D.S.O., T.D., arrived in the Colony and assumed the appointment of Officer Commanding Troops, Falkland Islands.

A decision was taken during this quarter to move the Tussac Point Battery to a position on Ordnance Point.

Quarter/

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Quarter ended 30th June, 1941.

No warlike events took place in the Colony during this quarter.

During the month of May, a decision was taken to move the single 12-pdr. guns from Arrow Point and Mount Low to Charles Point, which latter site was considered to be more suitable for the siting of both guns. It was also decided that this Battery, when completed, should be used as the Examination Battery.

The change over from Arrow Point to Charles Point was completed during the month of June.

On the recommendation of the Officer Commanding Troops, the work of installing the Defence Electric Lights at Cape Pembroke was discontinued, the site being considered unsuitable. It was finally decided to erect one light at Charles Point and the other at Ordnance Point, and preparations for their installation at these two points were made.

During the month, training camps for the Mounted Rifles Units were held on the East and West Falklands. The training for each unit extended over a period of ten days.

Quarter ended 30th September, 1941.

No warlike events took place in the Colony during this quarter.

During the month of July, a Military Guard was established at the recently completed Royal Naval Magazines.

During the month of August, the Battery at Charles Point was completed and the two 12-pdr. guns tested.

A "General Alarm" (test exercise) was held in Stanley at 2213 hours on the 13th August. The "All Clear" signal was given at 2248.

During the second half of August a Training Camp for members of the Defence Force resident in south-west districts of the East Falklands was held at a central point in the area.

Quarter ended 31st December, 1941.

No warlike events took place in the Colony during this quarter.

October. Members of the Posting Company of the Defence Force hauled the newly arrived 4-inch Naval gun from Sparrow Cove to a site on Signal Hill.

November. The mounting of the 4-inch Naval gun on Signal Hill was completed and the gun tested.

8th December. Owing to Japan's entry into the war and of the possibility of an attack on the Colony by Japanese raiders, all gun defences were brought up to full strength and coastwatching stations/

stations established on the East and West Falklands. As a further precautionary measure mounted patrols were posted in the suburbs of Stanley.

The Defence Force Ordinance was amended by the ~~Governor in Council~~, extending the age limit for Military service from 41 to 51 years.

11th December. Battery at Signal Hill established and manned.

14th December. Members of the 'Age Group' (41s to 51s) commenced training.

Quarter ended 31st March, 1942.

7th January. Members of 'Age Group' completed preliminary training and were discharged to civil employment.

Permanent lookout established in the south-western suburbs of Stanley in the vicinity of Mount William.

10th January. Mounted Patrols withdrawn and members returned to civil employment.

27th January. Installation of Defence Electric Lights at Charles Point and Ordnance Point completed.

2nd February. Splinter-proof protection erected at public telephone exchange.

3rd February. Boom defence laid across harbour entrance by Naval personnel and placed under charge of Defence Force.

21st February. Owing to continued fouling of the boom defence by heavy masses of kelp, it was decided to discontinue its use, and the boom was removed by naval personnel.

22nd February. The first complete night test was carried out with Defence Electric Lights.

24th February. The services of Lieutenant-Colonel C. D. Allderidge, O/C. Troops, were terminated on instructions received from Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Major J. A. Woodgate appointed to act as Officer Commanding Troops, Falkland Islands and Dependencies, and Officer Commanding, Falkland Islands Defence Force.

17th March. S.A. ammunition and iron rations shipped to Douglas Station for deposit in pre-arranged dumps between Douglas Station and Stanley.

20th March. Order made under the Defence Regulations proclaiming an area east of a line drawn from Strike-Off Point in Berkeley Sound to Port Harriet Waters to be a Protected Area.

Quarter ended 30th June, 1942.

No warlike events took place in the Colony during this quarter.

10th April. Naval Intelligence Report received to the effect that a fast unidentified vessel had passed through the Magellan Straits proceeding eastwards.

11th/

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11th April. In view of the above the Infantry Company of the Defence Force was called out at 0130 and proceeded to positions on the Western Defence Line. As no further developments were reported, the Company returned to Stanley at 0900 hours.

During the months of May and June, forward ammunition dumps and iron rations were established in positions on the Western Defence Line.

Quarter ended 30th September, 1942.

No warlike events took place in the Colony during this quarter.

1st July. His Excellency the Governor and Commander-in-Chief broadcast over the Stanley system concerning the expected arrival of a Garrison of Imperial Troops.

6th July. Transport "Strategist" arrived at Stanley with Advance Party consisting of Royal Engineers and contingents of other Army Units. Colonel W. H. Hynes accompanied this Advance Party and assumed the appointment of Officer Commanding Troops, Falkland Islands and Dependencies.

11th August. Transport "Esperence Bay" arrived at Stanley with main body of Garrison.

12th August. Major A. I. Fleuret, M.B.E., appointed Officer Commanding, South Georgia Defences.

During the month of August the Defence Force Guards at the Royal Naval Magazines and W/T. Station were relieved by Guards from the 11th Bn. the West Yorkshire Regiment.

The Defence Force Lookout at North Lookout Hill (Johnson's Harbour) was transferred to a position on French Wreck Mountain (Rincon Grande).

11th Sept. The Lookout which was established in the southwestern suburbs of Stanley in January, 1942, was withdrawn, and the personnel posted to Batteries.

In August and September training camps for members of the Mounted Infantry resident on the West Falkland and in the northern districts of the East Falkland were held at convenient centres. During the same period N.C.O's. of the Infantry Company in Stanley were brought on strength for a period of intense training, and N.C.O's. of the East Falkland Mounted Infantry were called to Stanley towards the end of the quarter for this same purpose. The training was conducted to a large extent by Officers and N.C.O's. loaned from the 11th Bn. the West Yorkshire Regiment.

Quarter ended 31st December, 1942.

No warlike events took place in the Colony during this quarter.

1st October./

- 1st October. The Defence Force Lookout at Strike-off Point, Berkeley Sound, was relieved by a Lookout party from the 11th Bn. the West Yorkshire Regiment.
- 12th October. The forward ammunition &c., dumps were transferred from the Western Defense Line to newly prepared positions on the Murray Heights, preparatory to the taking over of these positions by the Infantry Company of the Falkland Islands Defence Force.
- 7th December. Defensive positions on the Murray Heights to the south of Stanley, which had been prepared by the 11th Bn. the West Yorkshire Regiment, were taken over by the Infantry Company of the Falkland Islands Defence Force.
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Quarter ended 31st March, 1943.

No warlike events took place in the Colony during this quarter.

January, 1943. A test alarm was sounded at 2100 hours on the 29th of January. The Infantry Company of the Defence Force had paraded, drawn all necessary stores and moved off from Headquarters by 2120. The defensive positions on Murray Heights were manned until the exercise terminated at 2300 hours.

Throughout the month weekly training was carried out by the Infantry Company.

February, 1943. On the 21st of February a "Stand To" exercise was carried out by the Infantry Company, the alarm being given at 1415 hours. The defensive positions on Murray Heights were occupied by 1450 hours. The exercise terminated at 1800 hours.

Weekly training of Infantry Company continued throughout the month.

March, 1943. Weekly training continued as in January and February, and the wiring in of the defensive positions on Murray Heights was completed.

During the quarter under review, the War Department informed the Commander, Falkland Islands Force, that three 5.25 guns had been allocated to the Islands to strengthen the Coastal Defences, and that these, together with complete personnel, were being sent to the Colony. Mount Low was selected as the most suitable position for siting these guns, but owing to an adequate water supply not being available at this site, other alternatives were considered.

The War Department then telegraphed that two new 4" guns would be sent out instead of the three 5.25's., but that personnel would not accompany the guns. The question of the re-grouping of the Coastal Defence Artillery so as to include the new guns was considered, and the following suggestions submitted to the War Department - the two new 4" guns to be sited at Cape Pembroke Lighthouse; the 6" gun at Sapper Hill to be moved to Canopus Hut thereby constituting a two-gun battery at that position; the 4" Naval gun at Mount Low to be moved to Ordnance Point, and the two 3-pdrs. at Ordnance Point to be resited at Tussac Point, both the Ordnance and Tussac Point batteries being manned by personnel from the 11th Bn. the West Yorkshire Regt. The War Department would not agree to Mount Low being left without a gun, and directed that the two new 4" guns should be sited at this position, and furthermore asked that the Falkland Islands Defence Force should endeavour to man all Batteries with the exception of that at Tussac Point.

The following scheme was finally approved :-

Two 6" guns at Canopus) To be manned by F. Is. Defence Force personnel.
Two new 4" at Mount Low	
One Naval 4" at Ordnance Pt.	
Two 12-pdrs at Charles Pt.	

Two 3-pdrs. at Tussac Pt.

To be manned by 11th
Bn. the West Yorkshir
personnel.

(H I)

Quarter ended 30th June, 1943.

No events of an hostile nature occurred in the Colony during this quarter.

- April 20th. Test Alarm sounded at 1806 hours. The Infantry Company moved off from Headquarters at 1820 and had occupied its battle positions on Murray Heights by 1848 hours. Exercise terminated at 1920 hours.
- April 24th. Battery personnel transferred from Sapper Hill Battery to Canopus.
During the month the scheme for the re-grouping of the Coastal Defence Artillery was commenced, when the 6" gun at Sapper Hill was moved to a pre-arranged position at Canopus.
- May 6th. The eastern battle position of the Infantry Company on the Murray Heights was taken over by the 11th Bn. the West Yorkshire Regiment, and new positions to the west, covering the Magazine Valley were completed and taken over by the Infantry Company. One M.G. Section of the Infantry Company was detached to the 11th Bn. the West Yorkshire Regiment for operational purposes.

In continuation of the scheme for the reorganization of the Coastal Defence Artillery, the 3-pdr. Battery at Ordnance Point was moved to and re-sited at Tussac Point, where it was manned by personnel from the 11th Bn. the West Yorkshire Regiment. The 4" Naval gun was moved from Mount Low to its new site at Ordnance Point. The manning of the batteries as re-grouped was, with the exception of Tussac Point, eventually done by the Defence Force, but only by the most rigid conservation of man power and all round sacrifice of non-essential services in the Colony.

During this month a Training Camp for members of the Mounted Infantry resident in the North Camp of the East Island was held at Douglas Station under the direction of an Officer and N.C.O's., loaned by the 11th Bn. the West Yorkshire Regiment. A total of 36 men attended this training which was of 7 days duration.

- June. The re-siting of the 2nd 6" gun at Canopus Battery and of the 4" Naval gun at Ordnance Point was completed and both guns tested. The bases and ground work for the new 4" guns to be sited at Mount Low were completed so far as possible, pending the eventual arrival of the guns.

Barbed wire was issued to all Batteries so that each could eventually be wired and made a defended locality.

5

SAVING TELEGRAM.

From His Excellency the Governor, Falkland Islands.

To The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Date 14th July, 1943.

SECRET. SAVING.

Red!
With reference to Lord Moyne's Secret Circular telegram SAVING of the 17th October, 1941, I forward one copy of the War Diary of the Falkland Islands Defence Force for the period 3rd September, 1939, to 30th June, 1943.

I regret the delay in complying with Lord Moyne's instructions in this matter. The Diary will be forwarded quarterly in future.

GUVNE.

No.

MINUTE.

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

22nd October, 19 43. (6)

From

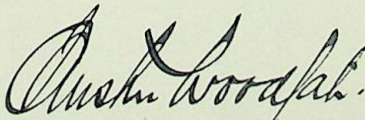
The Officer Commanding,
F. I. D. F.,
Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To The Honourable

The Colonial Secretary,
STANLEY.

In
Triplicate

I have the honour to forward, for transmission to the War Office, a copy of the War Diary of the Falkland Islands Defence Force for the quarter ended the 30th September, 1943.

 Lt.-Col.
Officer Commanding,
Falk. Is. Defence Force.

6A.

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEFENCE FORCE.

WAR DIARY.

Quarter ended 30th September, 1943.

No events of an hostile nature occurred in the Colony during the quarter under review.

During the month of July, Training Camps for members of the Mounted Infantry resident on the West Falklands and in the south-eastern districts of the East Falklands, were held at convenient centres. A total of 35 men attended the Camps held on the West Falklands and 63 that held on the East. As in 1942, training was supervised to a large extent by Officers and N.C.O's., kindly loaned from the 11th Bn. the West Yorkshire Regiment.

Weekly training of the Infantry Company of the Defence Force continued throughout the quarter.

During the last days of July, the Coastal Defence Artillery took part in an exercise organised under the direction of the Officer Commanding, Falkland Islands Force. All Batteries went into action against specially prepared targets.

(7.)

SAVING TELEGRAM.

From the Officer Administering the Government
of the Falkland Islands.

To The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Date 22nd October, 1943.

SECRET. SAVING.

Red! With reference to Lord Moyne's Secret Circular telegram SAVING of
the 17th October, 1941, I forward one copy of the War Diary of the
Falkland Islands Defence Force for the quarter ended 30th September, 1943.

CUVINE.

No. S/21/41.

MINUTE.

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

From The Officer Commanding,

F. I. D. F.,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

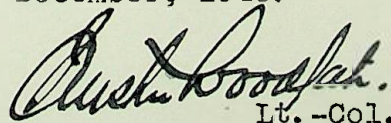
10th February, 1944. (8)

To THE HONOURABLE

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

STANLEY.

I have the honour to forward, for transmission to the War Office, a copy of the War Diary of the Falkland Islands Defence Force for the quarter ended the 31st December, 1943.



Lt.-Col.

Officer Commanding,
Falk. Is. Defence Force.

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEFENCE FORCE.

WAR DIARY.

Quarter ended 31st December, 1943.

No hostile action was directed against the Colony during the quarter under review.

During the month of October, the Defence Force took part in a tactical exercise arranged by the Officer Commanding, Falkland Islands Force. The Infantry Company manned its positions on the Murray Heights, and as part of the exercise the Coastal Defence Batteries carried out full calibre practices.

During the week-end Saturday/Sunday the 18th/19th December, a further Force exercise was held and was planned primarily to give the Infantry Company of the Defence Force an exercise in a more mobile role. The Coastal Defence Artillery carried out full calibre practices at the same time.

As a result of the great reduction in the possible scale of hostile attack against the Colony, the Committee of Imperial Defence decided greatly to reduce the Garrison and scale of defences. The immediate results of this decision were :-

(1) The battery at Tussac Point, manned by personnel from the 11th Bn. the West Yorkshire Regt., was closed down and the two 3-pdr. guns returned to store.

(2) The Battery at Ordnance Point, manned by Defence Force personnel, was closed down, the crew being absorbed into other batteries. The Naval 4-inch gun was placed in a state of preservation and arrangements were made for the manning of the Defence Electric Light by personnel from the 6-inch battery at Canopus Hut.

(3) The Garrison were warned to be ready for relief early in the New Year and commenced to strike camp.

(4) Two "Bofor" light A/A. guns, previously manned by personnel of 359 A/A. Battery, Royal Artillery, were, in anticipation of their relief, placed at the disposal of the Defence Force, and the training of crews was commenced on the 27th of December under the supervision of Officers and N.C.O's., loaned from the Royal Artillery.

(5) The Norwegian detachment manning part of the South Georgia defences was withdrawn and arrived at Stanley en route for England on the 30th December.

(9)

SAVING TELEGRAM.

From the Officer Administering the Government
of the Falkland Islands.

To The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Date 14th February, 1944.

SECRET. SAVING.

With reference to Lord Moyn's Secret Circular telegram Saving of
the 17th October, 1941, I forward a copy of the War Diary of the
Falkland Islands Defence Force for the quarter ended 31st December, 1941

GOVERNOR.

No.

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

MINUTE.

11th May, 19 44

10

From The Officer Commanding,
Falk. Is. Defence Force,
Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To The Honourable
The Colonial Secretary,
STANLEY.

I have the honour to forward, for transmission to the War Office, a copy of the War Diary of the Falkland Islands Defence Force for the quarter ended the 31st March, 1944.

Charles Lloyd-Jones Lt.-Col.
Officer Commanding,
Falk. Is. Defence Force.

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEFENCE FORCE.

102

WAR DIARY.

Quarter ended 31st March, 1944.

No hostile action was directed against the Colony during the quarter under review.

Early in January the Government intimated that it would be prepared to allow a limited number of Falkland Islands Defence Force personnel to volunteer for service overseas. Altogether 22 applicants were accepted, 18 of whom were desirous of joining the Royal Air Force and 4 the Royal Navy.

On the 25th of January, the crews manning the two "Bofor" light A/A. guns which had been placed at the disposal of the Defence Force by the Officer Commanding, Falkland Islands Force, carried out their first practice shoot.

The troop ship "Highland Monarch" arrived at Stanley on the 26th of January with the relieving Force numbering approximately 186 all ranks, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel A. E. Momber.

Force 122, under the command of Colonel W. H. Hynes, left the Colony on the 3rd of February, carrying with it the 22 Volunteers from the Falkland Islands Defence Force.

During the quarter under review, weekly training of the Infantry Company of the Defence Force continued satisfactorily. Early in March a Platoon of the Royal Scots Regiment some 40 strong was attached to the Infantry Company for operational purposes, and thereafter commenced weekly training with the Company.

S A V I N G T E L E G R A M .

From the Officer Administering the Government
of the Falkland Islands.

To the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Date 29th May, 1944.

SECRET.

Red! With reference to Lord Moyne's Secret Circular telegram Saving of
the 17th October, 1941, I forward a copy of the War Diary of the Falkland
Islands Defence Force for the quarter ended 31st March, 1944.

GOVERNOR.

No.

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

MINUTE.

20th July, 19 44.

From

The Officer Commanding,
F. Is. Defence Force,
Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To The Honourable

The Colonial Secretary,
STANLEY.

I have the honour to forward, for transmission to the War Office, a copy of the War Diary of the Falkland Islands Defence Force for the quarter ended the 30th of June, 1944.

A. Woodgate
Lt.-Col.
Officer Commanding,
Falk. Is. Defence Force.

(12a)

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEFENCE FORCE.

WAR DIARY.

Quarter ended 30th June, 1944.

No hostile action was directed against the Colony during the quarter under review.

On the 6th of April, the Infantry Company of the Defence Force carried out a night attack on Canopus Battery, the main body marching from Stanley while a diversionary Platoon proceeded by boat and made a landing on a nearby beach. During the exercise the "Bofor" light A/A guns were brought into action.

This exercise brought the season's Company Training to an end, and the remainder of the quarter was occupied with revision of weapon and signals training. By the end of the quarter all ranks had passed F.O.E.T., in musketry and all riflemen F.O.E.T. in L.M.G.

On the night of the 16th of April the Falkland Islands Defence Force Fire Fighting Unit assisted in controlling the spread of a fire which broke out in and completely destroyed the Town Hall. During the fire a member of the unit received eye injuries caused by a hose jet, which subsequently necessitated specialist treatment in Montevideo.

During the month of April the two 6-inch barrels which had been sent to the Colony by the War Office during the previous quarter, were transported to Canopus Battery.

In May the barrels were mounted on the existing mountings, and a demonstration practice to test the barrels was satisfactorily carried out on the 5th of June.

On the 10th of June, the "Bofors" detachment of the Defence Force carried out a high-angle practice at balloon targets.

On the 20th of June, the Canopus Battery carried out a full-calibre practice at a target towed by H.M.S. "Roydur", and a similar practice was carried out by Charles Point Battery on the 21st of June.

Towards the end of June, a Training Camp for members of the Mounted Infantry resident in the northern districts of the East Falkland, was commenced at Douglas Station. This Camp will be reported on in the next quarterly review.

Throughout the quarter the Fire Fighting Unit of the Force continued weekly training.

SAVING TELEGRAM.

From the Officer Administering the Government
of the Falkland Islands.

To the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Date: 22nd July, 1944.

S E C R E T.

Red!

With reference to Lord Moyne's Secret Circular telegram Saving of
the 17th October, 1941, I forward a copy of the War Diary of the Falkland
Islands Defence Force for the quarter ended 30th June, 1944.

GOVERNOR.

No. S/21/41.

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

MINUTE.

30th October, 19 44.

To The Honourable

The Colonial Secretary,

STANLEY.

From The Officer Commanding,

F. Is. Defence Force,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

I have the honour to forward, for transmission to the War Office, a copy of the War Diary of the Falkland Islands Defence Force for the quarter ended the 30th of September, 1944.

Austin Goodlat.

Lt. Col.

Officer Commanding,
Falkland Islands Defence Force.

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEFENCE FORCE.

14^a

WAR DIARY.

Quarter ended 30th September, 1944.

No hostile action was directed against the Colony during the quarter under review.

The Training Camp for members of the Mounted Infantry resident in the northern districts of the East Falkland which had commenced on the 25th of June, concluded on the 2nd of July. A total of 21 members attended this training, which, unfortunately, was marred to a very great extent by severe winter conditions.

Similarly a Training Camp for members of the Mounted Infantry resident in the south-western districts of the East Falkland was held at Goose Green between the 22nd and 30th of July. 64 members attended this Training.

Indoor training for members of the Infantry Company continued weekly throughout the quarter, and members of the M.M.G. Platoon passed their T.O.E.C.D.

During the quarter practices were carried out by the coastal defence Batteries at Canopus and Charles Point. The 'Bofors' detachment also carried out h/a., and l/a., practices.

In view of the changed military position, His Excellency, on the 9th September, informed the Secretary of State that, subject to his approval, he proposed to begin reducing the Defence Force towards a peace-time basis.

SAVING TELEGRAM.

From the Officer Administering the Government
of the Falkland Islands.

To the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Date: 2nd November, 1944.

S e c r e t.

Read!

With reference to Lord Moyne's Secret Circular telegram SAVING of the 17th October, 1941, I forward a copy of the War Diary of the Falkland Islands Defence Force for the quarter ended 30th September, 1944.

GOVERNOR.

Saving.

16

From the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

To the Officer Administering the Government of..... FALKLAND ISLANDS

Date. 10th October, 1944.

No. 18 Saving. SECRET

Red 1

My circular telegram Saving of
17th October, 1941.

I enclose for your information a copy
of a letter relating to the future maintenance
of War Diaries which has been sent by the
War Office to Commands abroad.

SECEr.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE
29 NOV. 1944
FALKLAND ISLANDS

162

COPY

Tele:- Whitehall 9400

THE WAR OFFICE,
WHITEHALL,
LONDON, S.W.1.

21st September, 1944.

26/Records/9561 (SDI)

RESTRICTED

Sir,

I am commanded by the Army Council to inform you that the question of the maintenance of war diaries after the conclusion of the war in Europe has been under consideration. Whilst it is appreciated that on the cessation of hostilities with Germany the war diaries of formations and units not actively engaged in the war against Japan will not be of such great value from the point of view of operational research, nevertheless they will still be of considerable importance to the War Office and the Historical Section as a record, both of the specific military occupation of enemy territory and, in general, covering the interim period until the Army returns to peace conditions. It has been decided, therefore, that:-

(a) war diaries will continue to be maintained on the lines of ACI 934 of 1944 by all formations and units both at home or overseas either until their disbandment or until instructions to the contrary are given by the War Office;

(b) those formations and units not engaged in the war against Japan should include in their diaries such items of interest or importance appertaining to the period of occupation or other such details of their activities which are likely to be of historical interest or value at some subsequent date.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Sgd.) J.D. Roseway.

The Supreme Allied Commander, Mediterranean Theatre
The Commander-in-Chief, 21 Army Group
The Commander-in-Chief, Middle East
The Commander-in-Chief, Persia
The Commander-in-Chief, 11 Army

Copies to:

No. 3/31/41.

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

MINUTE.

19

22nd February, 19 45.

From The Officer Commanding,
F. Is. Defence Force,
Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To The Honourable
The Colonial Secretary,
STANLEY.

I have the honour to forward, for transmission to the War Office, a copy of the War Diary of the Falkland Islands Defence Force for the quarter ended the 31st December, 1944.

Major.

Officer Commanding,
Falkland Islands Defence Force.

(19a)

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEFENCE FORCE.

WAR DIARY.

quarter ended 31st December, 1944.

No hostile action was directed against the Colony during the quarter under review.

The decision taken in September to begin reducing the strength of the Defence Force towards a peace-time basis, was approved by the Secretary of State on the 5th of October. In consultation with the Force Commander, it was agreed that the actual closing down of any Battery should be left until such time as the personnel were entirely reduced, that Charles Point (the Examination Battery) should be the last to be closed down, and that in order to do this it should be reinforced at the expense of Canopus Battery.

Following on this decision, parades of the Infantry Company and 'Bofors' detachment were reduced to one a month.

Similarly it was agreed that the South Georgia defences could now be stood down, and this was put into effect as from the 14th of November, the guns being placed in a state of preservation.

On the 18th November the Force Lookout at Mount Low was withdrawn and the personnel posted to the Examination Battery to fill gaps caused by men released to take up civil employment.

On the 29th November the Force Commander directed that the Defence Force should again take over Guard duties at the Royal Naval Magazines, and the necessary personnel were drawn from Canopus Battery for this purpose.

On the 5th December a notice was published to the effect that His Excellency the Governor had been advised by the Secretary of State that His Majesty the King had been graciously pleased to approve an alliance between the Coast Defence Battery of the Falkland Islands Defence Force and the Royal Regiment of Artillery, and an alliance between the Infantry Company and Mounted Infantry of the Falkland Islands Defence Force and the West Yorkshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's Own).

SAVING TELEGRAM.

From the Officer Administering the Government
of the Falkland Islands.

To the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Date: 22nd February, 1945.

S E C R E T.

Red!

With reference to Lord Moyne's Secret Circular telegram SAVING of
the 17th October, 1944, I forward a copy of the War Diary of the
Falkland Islands Defence Force for the quarter ended 31st December,
1944.

GOVERNOR.

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEFENCE FORCE.

WAR DIARY.

quarter ended the 31st of March, 1945.

No hostile action was directed against the Colony during the quarter under review.

A practice shoot of 10 rounds was carried out by the Examination Battery at Charles Point on the 7th of January.

To meet the demand for civilian labour and in accordance with the 'stand down' policy of the Defence Force, the Force Commander approved the withdrawal of all personnel from Canopus Battery and the Fire Command Post, and this took effect as from the 28th February

The two "Bofor" A/A. guns which had been placed at the disposal of the Defence Force on the departure of Force 122, were placed in a state of preservation and returned to the R.A.O.C. on the 13th February.

During the month of March, the Admiralty notified the Naval Officer-in-Charge that the maintenance of a Port War Signal Station and an Examination Service could be discontinued. Accordingly the Charles Point personnel, with the exception of a Caretaker, were withdrawn and formed into a mobile working party for duty in connection with maintenance of buildings and stores on all Outposts.

Inspection parades for the Infantry Company and Artillery Units were held monthly.

SAVING TELEGRAM.

From the Officer Administering the Government
of the Falkland Islands.

To the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Date: 27th April, 1945.

S E C R E T.

Red 1

With reference to Lord Moyne's Secret Circular telegram Saving of
the 17th October, 1941, I forward a copy of the War Diary of the
Falkland Islands Defence Force for the quarter ended 31st March, 1945.

GOVERNOR.

No. _____

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



MINUTE.

21.
..... 26th April, 19 45.

To The Honourable
The Colonial Secretary,
STANLEY.

From

The Officer Commanding,
Falkland Islands
Defence Force,
Stanley, Falkland Islands.

I have the honour to forward, for transmission to the War Office, a copy of the War Diary of the Falkland Islands Defence Force for the quarter ended the 31st of March, 1945.

R. Greenhills

Major.
Officer Commanding,
Falkland Islands Defence Force.

No. S/21/41.

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

MINUTE.

23

28th August, 19 45.

From The Officer Commanding,

Falkland Islands
Defence Force,
Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To The Honourable
The Colonial Secretary,

STANLEY.

I have the honour to forward, for transmission to the War Office, a copy of the War Diary of the Falkland Islands Defence Force for the quarter ended the 30th of June, 1945.



Lieutenant-Colonel,
Officer Commanding,
Falkland Islands Defence Force.

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEFENCE FORCE.WAR DIARY.Quarter ended the 30th of June, 1945.

During the month of April, the clearing up of all Outposts was completed and the mobile working party discharged to civil employment.

The maintenance of Military night telephone operators at the civilian telephone exchange was discontinued on the 5th May, on which date this service reverted to the responsible civil authority.

Likewise on the 12th May the Defence Force Guard at the Royal Naval Magazine was withdrawn and the personnel discharged to civil employment, civilian watchmen being employed by the Naval Authorities for this purpose.

On the 22nd of May, Imperial Force 132, under the command of Lieut.-Col. A. B. Mober, left the Colony on route to the United Kingdom.

Early in June standard War Chevrons were issued to the Defence Force and these were first worn at a Ceremonial Parade held on the 14th June on the occasion of the Celebration of His Majesty the King's Birthday.

In the course of an Address given at this Parade, His Excellency the Governor and Commander-in-Chief stated that the Defence Force would revert to peace-time establishment at midnight on the 2nd of July. His Excellency also stated that war gratuities on a scale similar to those paid to Imperial Forces would be paid to members of the Defence Force who had acquired the minimum qualifying period of war service of six months.

SAVING TELEGRAM.

From the Officer Administering the Government
of the Falkland Islands.

To the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Date: 31st August, 1945.

S E C R E T.

Red!

With reference to Lord Moyne's Secret Circular telegram Saving of
the 17th October, 1941, I forward a copy of the War Diary of the
Falkland Islands Defence Force for the quarter ended 30th June, 1945.

GOVERNOR.