

C.S.

NAVAL & MILITARY.
(Falkland Islands Force)
(Miscellaneous)

DEF/FID/6#9

19 43.

No. 3/43.

Falkland Islands Force.

SUBJECT.

19 42.

29th December.

Previous Paper.

PROPOSED RIFLE RANGE FOR USE OF
FALKLAND ISLANDS FORCE.

MINUTES.

Letter from Captain Moulton, F.I.F., of 29. 12. 42.

Honourable Colonial Secretary. (2)

I inspected the site of range this morning with C.S.O. & F.I.F. & in my opinion there is no objection to the construction of the range in the position selected as it will not interfere with any civilian rights or conveniences. It is all on Government land.

W. E. 7. 1. 43.

4.F. (3)
Will 4.F. approve this construction? No formalities appear to be necessary.

W.B.
2/1

Before answering to this I should like to have more information.

- 2 The D. of R's view also ought to be recorded
- 3 What about the position vis-a-vis Brown's home, south to?

W.B. 8/1/43

Subsequent Paper.

(5).

W.B.

In your views as in (4) please. The land in question is outside the boundary fence of Brown's farm. Col. Woodgate can give you any other information you may require. An early reply wd be appreciated.

KBG/1.

Recd Agric Office 11/1/43.

(4)

M.C.

The proposed site of the range is quite unsuitable. The line of fire would be over Goose green, one of the best grazing areas on the common, ~~and~~ on which animals will be found grazing 5 or 6 days in each week. If this proposal is proceeded with I believe that it would not be long before an animal or an owner gathering them would be shot. (I understand that the range would be used on up to 3 days a week).

I suggest that a less frequented portion of the common such as that between Sappers Hill & Mt William or alternatively to the north of the Wireless Station, where shooting could be directed diagonally across Port William or into the hill at the mouth of the Murrell would be equally close to the main camp & of less inconvenience to stock graziers & farmers.

M.C.
11/1/43.

Revised to O.C. F.I. Force of 12.1.43.

7.

FO

Subject: Site for Proposed Rifle Range.

6

The Honourable,
The Colonial Secretary.

122/C3/24/1.

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1. It is proposed to construct a 1,000 yards classification range for rifle and machine gun for the use of the Falkland Islands Force.
 2. A suitable site has been found in the area between the road Stanley-Pony's Pass and the Mile Pond, approximately S.S.E. of Sapper Hill. Direction of fire S.S.E.
 3. Will you please say whether it is in order for this range to be constructed on Government land on the site selected.
 4. It is suggested that, owing to the difficulty of showing accurately the proposed site on a sketch map, an officer of this Force should show a representative of the Government the site on the ground. Will you please say when it will be convenient for the Government representative to inspect the site.

Stanley,
29 Dec 42
RCP.

[Signature]
Captain,
General Staff,
Falkland Islands Force.

No. 3/43.

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

MINUTE.

7.

12th January, 19 43.

From

The Colonial Secretary,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To The Officer Commanding,

Falkland Islands Force,

STANLEY.

With reference to Captain Moulton's 122/CR/24/1 of the 29th December, I am to express His Excellency's regret that he is unable to approve the proposal to construct a rifle range on the particular site suggested. Some of the best and most frequented grazing on the Common would be within the line of fire. It is, even in existing circumstances extremely difficult to keep the local cattle alive in the winter for the maintenance of essential milk supplies, and any curtailment of the already inadequate grazing cannot be contemplated.

K. G. BRADLEY
Colonial Secretary.