

P R O V I S I O N A L .

C. S. O.

212/39

(Formerly)

SUBJECT :

His Majesty's Ships.

Casualties on and Deaths as a result of Battle.

Original File missing since 26.8.47 - See 2 herein.

CONNECTED FILES.

NUMBER AND YEAR.

No.

MEMORANDUM.

It is requested that, in any reference to this memorandum the above number, and the date may be quoted.

25th July, 1949.

To: The Honourable,
The Colonial Secretary,
Stanley, Falkland Is.

From: The Assistant Treasurer,
Stanley, Falkland Islands.

SUBJECT: River Plate Medical Stores, Deposit account.

I have the honour to inform you that the sum of £455 1. 9, is on deposit in the above account. The balance has accumulated as the result of sale of medical stores sent here by the British Patriotic Committee in Buenos Aires at the time of the Battle of the Plate. I understand that the above mentioned balance was to be utilized to provide a cine outfit for the R.M. V.T. Station, but I am unable to verify this as the file on the subject has gone missing; the matter is further complicated by the fact that all naval personnel have now been withdrawn. This account was commented on by the Auditor in his report on the Colony's account for 1947, and I should be grateful for a ruling as to the final disposal of this balance, please.

AF

~~*Pl pay into Revenue*~~

~~*under F.A. 236*~~

~~*K/A*~~

~~*27/1*~~

[Signature]

Assistant Treasurer.

P.T.O.

2

A

At the time of the River Plate Battle the British Patriotic Society in the Argentine sent a vast quantity of bedsteads mattresses bedding, medical and surgical equipment etc. to the 'Hospital'. The balance of these lay for some years in a warehouse, and following correspondence with the Society it was eventually decided to sell everything not required by the Hospital and use the proceeds as stated by A. Overleaf. The relative file 212499 was sent to Hon SMO (Dr Sladen) on the 26th August 1947 from which date the file could not be traced in the Hospital, although SMO was aware he had not returned it to the Secretariat as the list of equipment he wished to retain in the Hospital had not been prepared when the file went missing.

RHG
Jacs.
27/1/49

Cash placed on deposit
in Treasury March before
1947

RHG
28/7/49

B

As this must remain on deposit for five years before any action can be taken. FR 286.

Houles noted that you
would audit or be informed pl?

C

Kib.

28/7

Jacs.
29/7.

Auditor

142 f.i.p.

W.S. for C.S.
30.7.49.

H.C.S.

Seen, t.g. I must, however, point out that F.R. 236 refers only to deposits remaining "undclaimed" for 5 years. There is no question of the present deposit being claimed or not if the Committee in B.A. agreed to the balance being used for the provision of a cine outfit for the Navy. Since this is now impossible, the Committee, should, to my mind, be approached as to the disposal of the balance on deposit; I can see no justification for waiting another ~~three~~ ^{three} years other than crediting it to revenue, for the Committee must have intended ~~to use~~ that the money should be used for charitable purposes, & not to swell this Government's revenue.

RK

2/8/49.

4

ACB

Have we any means of tracing the British
Patriotic Comm. Society - if it is still in existence?

Rth.
578

212/39.

15th August, 49.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to the correspondence which terminated in 1947 regarding the disposal of the proceeds received from the sale of certain medical supplies and comforts sent to this Colony by your Society at the time of the River Plate Battle in 1939. Unfortunately the Secretariat file containing the correspondence cannot be traced, but it is understood that it was the wish of your Society that the money should be devoted to the purchase, among other things, of a cinematograph apparatus for the use of personnel at the Royal Naval W/T Station then stationed in the Colony.

2. I am informed that owing to the impending withdrawal of the R.N. establishment, the proposal was not proceeded with and the sum of £455. 1. 9d remains on deposit in the Colonial Treasury.

3. As all R.N. personnel have now left the Colony I should be grateful if you would advise me your wishes in regard to the disposal of the sum in question.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

Secretary,
British Patriotic Society,
Buenos Aires,

c/o H.M. Consul-General,
Buenos Aires.

Reply at 6.

DRM.

B.N. 31/10/49
~~30/9/49~~
11/15/49

BRITISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL IN THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC

CONSEJO DE LA COMUNIDAD BRITANICA EN LA REPUBLICA ARGENTINA
(REGISTRO NACIONAL DE ASISTENCIA SOCIAL No. 2604)

TELÉFONOS:

GENERAL SECRETARY 32-2131
VOLUNTEERS COMMITTEE 31-7197
EX-SERVICE COMMITTEE 32-1494
HON. TREASURER 32-3494



FLORIDA 365
BUENOS AIRES

September 19th., 1949.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH REFERENCE TO FINANCE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE
HON. TREASURER AND ALL OTHER CORRESPONDENCE TO THE GENERAL SECRETARY.



Dear Sir,

In answer to your letter No.212/39 of the 13th. August ultimo and paragraph three thereof, we shall be much obliged if you will pay the amount of £ 455.1.9 which is on deposit in the Colonial Treasury into this Council's account in the Bank of London & South America Ltd., 6,7 & 8 Tokenhouse Yard, London, E.C.2, at your convenience.

The full title of the account is "BRITISH PATRIOTIC FUND OF THE BRITISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL IN THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC".

We are most grateful to you for having advised us of the existence of this amount and can only regret that it was not possible to use it for the purposes for which it was contributed at the time owing to the withdrawal of the Royal Navy Establishment in the Crown Colony of the Falkland Islands.

Yours very truly,

J.F. Bowen,
Acting Chairman.

Acting Colonial Secretary,
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Stanley,
FALKLAND ISLANDS.

OK to
K.H.
2/10

Reply at 10

7.

Dip. 2.

6 fnap.

with for CS.

28.X.49

H.C.S.

Draft letter to C.I.A.A. subred.

l/s

28/10/49.

212/39

8

31st October, 49.

Gentlemen,

I have to request that you will pay the sum of \$455 1. 9. into the account of "The British Patriotic Fund of the British Community Council in the Argentine Republic" with the Bank of London and South America Limited, 6 - 8 Tokenhouse Yard, London, E.C.2., debiting this Colony's account in the usual manner.

I am,

Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

H. Hunter

Acting Colonial Secretary.

The Crown Agents for the Colonies,
4, Millbank, Westminster,
LONDON, S.W.1.

9

Life. I.

Re note 8.

W.H. for CS.

2-XI-49

H.C.S.

Noted by.

AKB

2/11/49.

Major Aldridge

Ought we to let the Ex. Com. Council know about?

AKB

2/11/49

212/39

10

5th November, 49.

Sir,

6

I am directed to refer to your letter of the 19th of September, 1949, and to inform you that the Crown Agents for the Colonies have been instructed to pay the sum of £455. 1. 9. into your Council's account in the Bank of London & South America Limited, Tokenhouse Yard, London.

See 8

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

K. Winter

Acting Colonial Secretary.

Reply at 11

Chairman,
British Community Council in the Argentine Republic,
Florida 365,
BUENOS AIRES.

MAJ
4/11/49

BRITISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL IN THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC

CONSEJO DE LA COMUNIDAD BRITANICA EN LA REPUBLICA ARGENTINA
(REGISTRO NACIONAL DE ASISTENCIA SOCIAL No. 2604)

TELÉFONOS:
GENERAL SECRETARY 32-2131
VOLUNTEERS COMMITTEE 31-7187
EX-SERVICE COMMITTEE 32-1494
HON. TREASURER 32-3494



FLORIDA 365
BUENOS AIRES

December 7th., 1949.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH REFERENCE TO FINANCE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE
HON. TREASURER AND ALL OTHER CORRESPONDENCE TO THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

To
The Acting Colonial Secretary,
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Stanley,
Falkland Islands.



Dear Sir,

10 We have received your letter of the 5th. November ultimo which followed an advice from the Bank of London & South America Ltd. in London that they had received the sum of £ 455.1.9 from the Crown Agents for the Colonies and had paid it into our account.

May we express our very warm thanks to you for having drawn our attention to this matter and for your good offices with the Crown Agents in our behalf.

Yours very truly,

- C.F. Genth,
General Secretary.

10/1/50.

O/c Try to see, ^{then} and file and pa.

P. to ask P. pl.

H.C.S.

Seen by.

Rts
20/1/50.

21/1/50

His Excellency The Governor of Auckland Islands

H.C. p. 4. 0.

5TH Nov:

70 Fore Street
Torpoint
Cornwall

Your Excellency,

copy at 13th Dec 1939

The 25th anniversary of the Battle of River Plate falls on Sunday 13th Dec and will be commemorated by a number of veterans - at a reunion - dinner at Lockyer Hotel Plymouth on Sat: 12th Dec and a service in the Royal Naval Barracks Church on Sunday morning. It has been our custom for years past to have the ceremony at the naval war memorial on Plymouth Hoe with the placing of a wreath during the service, and our thoughts have turned to those of our comrades who died and were buried in Port Stanley. We have learned with emotional gratitude that flowers have been taken up to the little burial ground on the hill and reverently placed on the graves of our comrades by your good Island people. The ship's company of H.M.S. Exeter suffered severe losses during the action, not only in limbs and lives, but also in personal belongings. To most of us, it was like losing a home with all the amenities, and the journey from the battle area was a nightmare to all in Exeter. The good people of Port Stanley were stunned to see the shattered hull of the ship as she anchored off Bananus Point, but soon made arrangements to express their sympathy and gratitude by opening their doors to the men who were in need of comfort. Their hospitality so warm hearted, will always be remembered. It is the wish of my chairman and associates to have a wreath placed on your war memorial, to honor the glorious memory of our comrades who lost their lives in the action of River Plate Dec: 13th 1939 and would consider it a great honor if you would represent us at this ceremony. Reimbursement for wreath will be forwarded at your request. A reply will be greatly appreciated and can be read at our reunion. Assuring you of our sincerity and heartfelt gratitude to your loyal Island people. I remain your Excellency Fred Hodder Hon Secretary River Plate Veterans Association

Re overleaf - I suggest that I lay a wreath ~~privately~~
on Sunday 13th without ceremony.

Oct 20/11

~~13~~
13

20 November, 1964.

d/o

Your letter dated 5th November has just reached me here in Stanley having been brought South by the Royal Research Ship "John Biscoe". The outgoing mail has already closed but I am asking someone who is travelling to Montevideo in the R.M.S. "Darwin" to post this letter to you on arrival at Montevideo.

I feel greatly honoured by your invitation to represent the River Plate Veterans Association in laying a wreath on Sunday 13th December at the foot of the Stanley War Memorial in memory of your gallant comrades who lost their lives in that famous action.

The Royal Navy has had a close connection with the Falkland Islands for almost 200 years and the links which bind the very loyal people of this Colony to Her Majesty's Navy are strong indeed.

The contents of your letter will be much appreciated by many people living in these Islands who were present in December, 1939.

U6

F. Nodder, Esq., Hon. Secretary, River Plate Veterans Association,
70 Fore Street, Forpoint, Cornwall.

la

C.S.

14

I believe you are sending a
photograph to Mr. Nodder. That
being so, will you please tell him
that a wreath was duly laid. I need
not write further.

Yrs
24/12

5th January, 1965.

Dear Mr. Hodder,

12

As requested by your association His Excellency the Governor laid a wreath at the Cross of Sacrifice here on the Anniversary of the Battle of the River Plate.

I attach a photograph of the simple ceremony. Although the photograph does not give the impression the wreath was a particularly beautiful one.

Yours sincerely,

(W.H. THOMPSON)
COLONIAL SECRETARY

F. Hodder, Esq.,
Hon. Secretary,
River Plate Veterans Association,
70 Fore Street,
Torpoint,
COMBVAL

PAA

WHI/IN.

16

NNNN

ZCZC ATSO116 BSV1355 F17

FLLX HL GBES 026

PLYMOUTH 26 8 1106

TK.
Please see attached file

W
14/1

So is no way helpful.

S.

Wm

LT

GOVERNOR FALKLANDS ISLANDS

RIVER PLAT⁷E VETERANS ANNUAL DINNER REMEMBER STILL

YOUR KINDNESS AND DEAD LEFT WITH YOU

SYMPATHISE DEEPLY YOUR PRESENT DILEMA

JOHN'S CHAIRMAN HMS EXETER

COL I THINK IT SHOULD READ PRESENT DILEMA TKS

14 January, 1969.

16

I write to thank you very much indeed for the telegram sent on behalf of the River Plate Veterans Association on the occasion of your annual dinner.

Your message of encouragement was broadcast from the Stanley Studio and I know that it was greatly appreciated by the many people who heard it.

The delay in replying to your telegram is due to the fact that it took some time to ascertain your address but I hope that in due course you will receive this acknowledgement from me.

On 13th December 1964 I had the honour of being invited to represent your Association in laying a wreath at the Stanley War Memorial in memory of your comrades who had lost their lives 25 years before.

Although no special ceremony takes place here on the anniversary of the Battle of the River Plate you will, I am sure, be interested to know that Remembrance Sunday and the anniversary of the Battle of the Falkland Islands are both commemorated in a fitting manner and public support for these occasions shows no sign of diminishing.

MS

William Johns, Esq.,
Chairman,
River Plate Veterans Association,
70, Fore Street,
Torpoint,
Cornwall.

Cd for filing please

WA 14/1

Pa