

C. S.

LAND & SURVEY
(Miscellaneous)
NAVAL & MILITARY
(Miscellaneous)

NAT/MET/1#14

19 45.

No. 26/45.

N. O. I. C.

SUBJECT.

19 45.

13th March.

Previous Paper.

ERECTION OF AN IONOSPHERIC MEASUREMENT
STATION IN THE VICINITY OF STANLEY.

0167 "G. G. S. S."

MINUTES.

Letter from Naval Officer-in-Charge of 13. 3. 45.

(2).

NOIC.

This will be submitted to His Excellency immediately he returns. Meanwhile perhaps you could let me have a rough plan of the ground required showing its site and area?

*KB
16/3/45*

(3).

C.S. Sketch plan enclosed showing area occupied by station. Suggest a barbed wire fence be erected across the perimeter approximately as shown by red dotted line. High Honor keeper informs me that this fence would be of assistance to him.

6.6.45.

Subsequent Paper.

0167 (F. to
Ionospheric Stn.
- Staff)

Sketch plan of site. 8.6.45.

4

G.E.

We have been waiting for this plan.

2. The station will, in fact, be unlikely to cause any interference with wireless reception in Pt. Charles Stanley.
3. I will write to W.O.I.C. to inform them that the Admiralty may have the use of the land for as long as they require it free of rent. Yes.
4. W.O.I.C. also asks for a telephone extension from the lighthouse & a barbed wire fence to be done at naval expense. These will be arranged. ✓
5. If a landing ground is made near Campus it looks as though before long we shall have to make a road all the way to Cape Pembroke, but not for the moment.

R.N. might help to finance

[Signature] 8/11/45

[Signature]
8/11/45

Minute to Naval Officer-in Charge of 13. 6. 45.

Telegram from Admiralty of 31. 7. 46

6.

7.

[Faint handwritten notes]

Preliminary Report on Ionospheric Sta. by Met. Office of 16. 11. 46 8.

PA CBE
19...

CHOSED
(see 0167 G. Is
Ionospheric Sta.)

Office of
The Naval Officer-in-Charge,
Falklands.

13th March, 1945.

No. B 7.

The Honourable Colonial Secretary,
Stanley.

I have been instructed to make arrangements for the erection of an Ionospheric Measurement Station. This Station, which will be manned by naval personnel during hostilities but eventually by a civilian staff, will be maintained permanently.

The only suitable site is in the vicinity of Pembroke Light House. Can the necessary ground be leased to Admiralty, please?

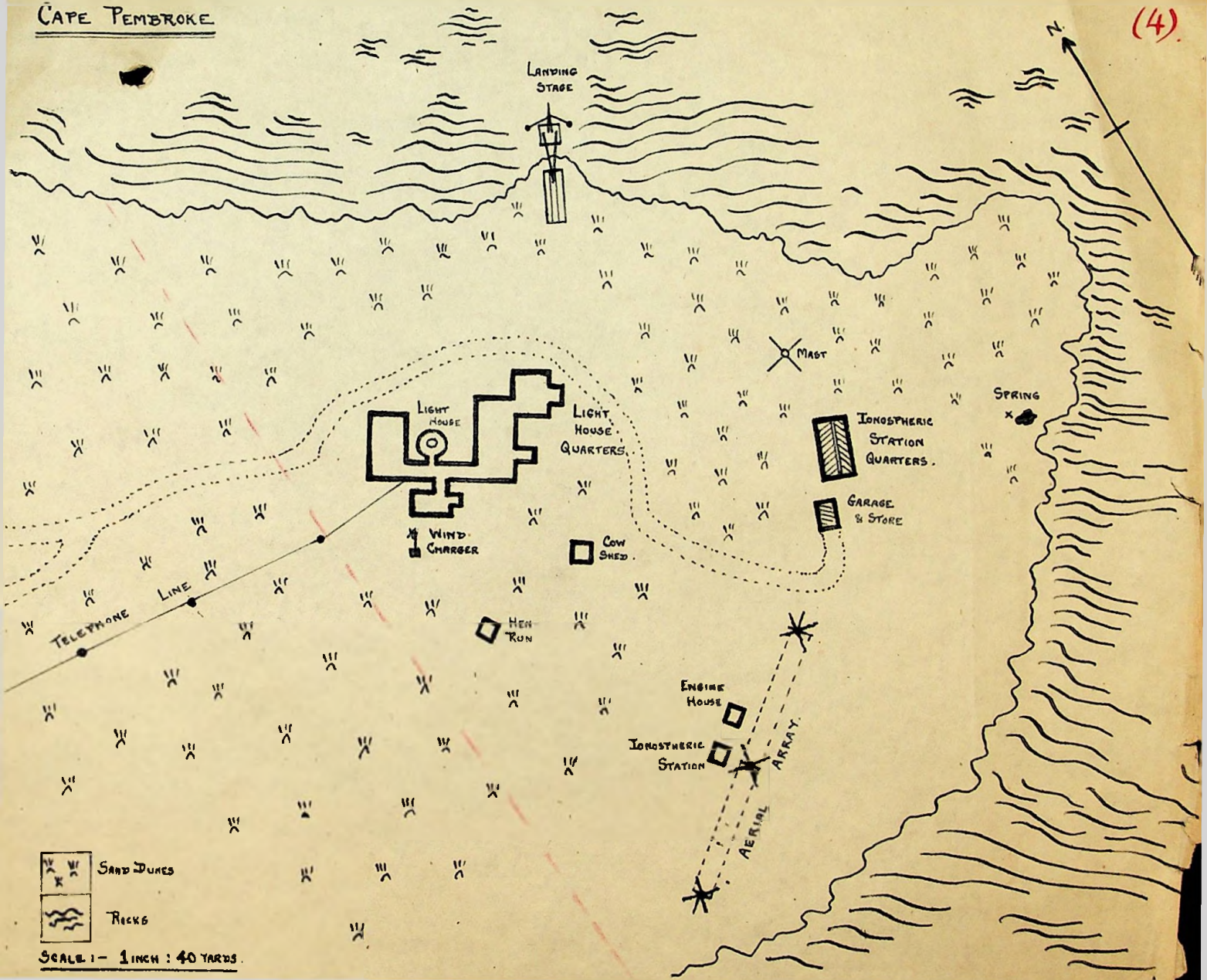
The working of this Station requires that for 60 seconds every hour a VHF wave is transmitted towards the heavy-side layer. This wave will interfere with all broadcast receivers within 7 miles of the Station, but the time for this transmission will be so arranged as not to cause an interference on news broadcasts. Initial testing of the apparatus will necessitate continuous transmitting over a period, but this could be done between midnight and 7 a.m.





Commander, R.N.
Naval Officer-in-Charge

CAPE PEMROKE

(4)



-  SAND DUNES
-  ROCKS

SCALE: 1 - 1 INCH : 40 YARDS

No. 25/45.

MINUTE.

6.

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

15th June, 19 45.

From The Colonial Secretary,

To The Naval Officer-in-Charge,

STANLEY.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

Redl.

With reference to your Minute No. B 7 of the 13th March, His Excellency has directed that the Admiralty may have the use of the necessary land at Cape Pembroke rent free for the erection of an ionospheric station for so long as it is required.

2. A telephone extension from the Lighthouse will be installed by Government at Admiralty expense on the understanding that you can supply the necessary instrument.

3. The Lighthouse is owned and operated by Trinity House. The Government has no objection to the erection of a barbed wire fence and I understand that Mr. Lewis is willing to erect it on contract for you. You will no doubt arrange this with him direct.

K. G. BRADLEY
Colonial Secretary.

Copy to Supr. S. & T., for inf.
" " Lighthouse Keeper " "

S. 1. Ob.

NAVAL MESSAGE.

7

For use in
Signal
Department
only

Originators Instructions:
(Indication of Priority,
Intercept Group, etc.)

Codress/Plaindress

No. of
Groups:

TO:

N.O.I.C. FAIRLAND ISLANDS (R) C.in C A.W.I.

FROM:

ADMIRALTY.

Write
Across

The National Physical Laboratory are now considering a programme 5
for taking over charge of Type 249 Ionosphere Measuring Station in the Falkland 10
Islands manned by experimental officers and other staff who may also combine
duties with meteorological requirements locally. 15
2. Request information therefore of (a) any major stores requirements 20
for Type 249 that N.P.L. Staff should bring with them to keep the Station
operating officially. (b) The latest possible date that N.P.L. Staff can 25
arrive and take over before Type 249 has to close down under instructions 30
in A.M. 051534 JUNE, 35

= 271131 A JULY. 40

Handwritten:
A.S.C.
7.10.46

45

System

P/L Code or Cypher

Time of

Receipt

Despatch

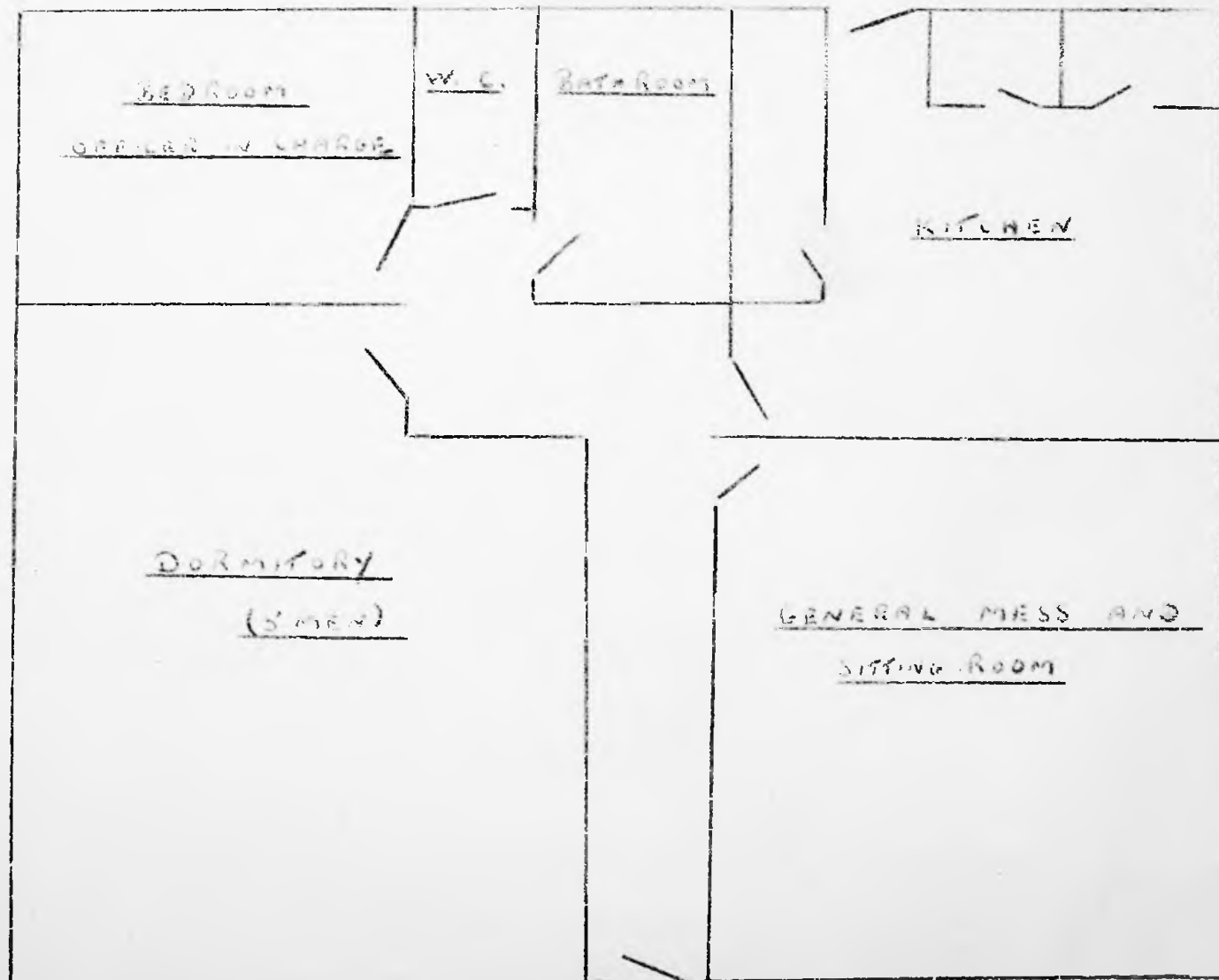
Operator

P.O.O.W.

Date

194

EXISTING LIVING QUARTERS OF THE IONOSPHERIC STATION



8

(8)

Meteorological Office,
Stanley,
Falkland Islands,

November 16th, 1945.

Open new file, but
link up with 258746.

Re pt. submit.
L.H.
15.11

Dr. Smith-Rose,
Radio Research Station,
Datchet.

PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE IONOSPHERIC STATION.

Introduction:

This report is intended to summarise the existing conditions with regard to Site and Equipment, Staff, Accommodation and Communications and also deals with the problems to be faced in erecting the station on a new site near the town.

1. The Site and Equipment.

The present site is near Cape Pembroke Lighthouse and no doubt details of this are already in the possession of the R.F.S. The station is now being dismantled under Admiralty instructions, owing to the impossibility of replacing a defective transformer. It is presumed that the R.F.S. were contacted about the replacement of this part and that they are therefore conversant with the fact that the station has ceased to operate. N.C.I.C., Falklands has instructed that all the wireless equipment be dismantled and placed in the Naval Store Depot. The diesels, which are housed in a garage, are to be further protected by tarpaulins and the masts are to be unstopped and stored, because the rigging is unsafe.

The stipulation laid down by Admiralty, before the present station was established was that the apparatus should be at least 7 miles from the Naval W/T Station. The site actually chosen is $\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Stanley and very slight interference has occurred on high powered receivers in the town. It is clear, therefore, that both the Admiralty and the Colonial Government will require categorical assurances that no interference whatever will occur when the new station is erected on the proposed site at the Met. Office. It is presumed that the powerful Naval W/T transmitters which are within five miles of the new site, will not compromise the Ionospheric records.

The proposed new site is on a good road about 400 yards from the edge of the town close to the Met. Office and about 2 miles from the W/T Control Room. The Public Works Department will be able to provide the labour, materials and transport to move the old station and to erect any new buildings which may be required: the Officer-in-Charge, Naval W/T Station has offered to provide skilled direction during the movement and installation of the diesels and other equipment.

The local power station is able to supply 3 kilowatts for use at the new station but it is pointed out that neither voltage nor frequency are steady and it is the opinion of the present C/O, Ionospheric Station that the existing diesels must still be used to provide the steady 50a current required. These diesels (Austin Hornsby, 235 volts, 50a, 5.625 kw) are very reliable and the Electrical and Telegraph Department have offered to help with any major overhauls which may be necessary, provided that the Ionospheric staff can carry out routine maintenance.

2. Staff.

The present C/O, Ionospheric Station is capable of maintaining both the W/T and Diesel equipment but the Naval W/T staff have hitherto assisted with major engine repairs. Watches are kept by four order ratings throughout the 24 hours since neither the diesel nor the radio equipment is automatic.

The Experimental Officer in charge will no doubt be capable of maintaining diesel engines and the Electrical and Telegraphic Department are willing to help with major repairs. The Naval W/T staff will be unable to assist except in moving the diesels to the new site.

It is presumed that some form of automatic starting gear can be attached to the engines as well as to the radio equipment so that the proposed staff of 1 N.O. and 2 A.R.O.'s will not be required to work night duties.

The new site would be close to the Met. Office and therefore it would be easy for the two stations to help each other: this would clearly be impossible if the old site is persevered with.

8a
3. Accommodation.

The present accommodation is in a large bungalow - a sketch of which is appended.

The housing situation in Stanley is almost as acute as in the U.K. No Government houses are available and both hotel and boarding house accommodation is very difficult to obtain. It may be possible to find a bedroom and sitting room (full board or with use of kitchen, etc.) for the married A.E.O., provided that the Meteorological Officer has ample time to make the necessary arrangements. It is highly unlikely that the other officers would find quarters with a private sitting room and very few houses have bathrooms or indoor W.C.'s. Under these circumstances it may be necessary to utilise the existing quarters at the present site. This bungalow could be rebuilt on the new site and adapted to provide 3 large bed-sitting rooms (possibly 3 separate bedrooms and sitting rooms) in addition to the W.C., bathroom, mess room, kitchen already in the original plan. Arranged in this way the accommodation should be quite comfortable for 3 single men. The site being close to town, it would be comparatively easy to find a cook and maid and it would be possible to use the town services of water, electricity and sanitation.

4. Transport.

No routine transport can be provided by the Navy or by the Government and it would therefore be necessary to have a jeep and a 15 cwt. truck if the old site is retained; both vehicles would require a 4-wheel drive. The P.W.D. can provide heavy transport when necessary.

The routine light transport would be unnecessary on the proposed new site.

5. Conclusion.

It is requested that the Meteorological Officer be informed whether any action should be taken with regard to the new site prior to the arrival of the NPL staff. In particular it is important to have an early decision, before arrival of the staff, regarding the accommodation required and it will be necessary to arrange through the Colonial Office for the opening of an imprest account with the Colonial Government to cover the cost of new building, payment of NPL staff, etc.

G. A. Hawkins
Meteorological Officer.