

C.S.

MISCELLANEOUS

(Telegraphic News)

No. 725/21

MED/BRO/1#2

1921.

S. of S. Circular

SUBJECT.

192 1

22nd April

Previous Paper.

Transmission of News from Horsea W/T Station

MINUTES.

S. of S. Circular, 22nd April, 1921.....Encl 1

H.S. the Governor

Submitted

Butcher

A.C.S. 5/8/21

H.C.S.

Will you please send copy to O.I.C. W/T for his information & enquire whether it is practical for H.M. W/T Station to pick up the papers.

Sr.

5 Aug 1921

Letter to O.I.C. Naval Wireless Station, dated, 6th Aug, 1921  
Encl.....2.

Letter from O.I.C. Naval W/T Station, 12th August, 1921  
Encl.....3

Subsequent Paper.

H.S. the Governor

Submitted

to the Governor

A.C.A. 15/8/21

Draft despatch to S.G.

M

21 August 1921.

Despatch to S. of S.  
No 90 of 22nd August.

Encl (4)

S of S letter despatch of 12 December 1921 — Encl (5)

Y.B. Submitted

2 May a copy for the O.C. W/T Station?

14/1/22

Para 2. yes please M.  
24 January 1922

Letter to Officer in Charge Naval Wireless Div.

Encl (6)

Letter from O.C. Naval W/T Station d 28/1/22 — Encl (7)

S of S. Circular despatch of 3rd May 1921 — Encl (8)

Y.B. Submitted

To refer to Postmaster for report?

14 July 22

M.  
15 July 1922.



Colonial Postmaster

Referred.

W. H. Brown  
for Col Secretary -  
16 July 1921.

Hon. Col. Sec.

We have so far been unable to get any message from Leafia. The signals are very weak, much more so now than when the shorter wave length was in use.

The Monte Grande W.T. Station of Argentina was a similar wave length to Leafia & cut out all possibility of receiving any message from the latter St.

It is quite possible in view of the re-connection of the Leafia Station of the Stanley Station that the connection will be improved hereafter.

G. W. B. B. B.  
16/7/21

Colonial Postmaster

For the purposes of reply it might be as well to obtain a report from the Engineer-Operator.

2. There is no indication in the despatch that the Leafia Station is being reconstructed.

G. W. B. B.  
for CS



Hon. Col. Dec.

minutes from Eng. Operations Committee.

G.B. Brinn

30/7/24

(9)

of Col. Portman

A somewhat fuller reply is necessary than is obtainable from the information herein. It is very desirable that press news from British sources should be available and I am not aware of our station or having been able to obtain any. Will you please report

(a) On how many occasions if any, <sup>B.O.</sup> press news messages from leaflets have been received

(b) On how many occasions press news from other sources have been received

(c) <sup>from</sup> What stations <sup>has</sup> ~~been~~ <sup>received</sup> press news been received on each occasion

The period from 31<sup>st</sup> July 1923 to 31<sup>st</sup> July last should be covered in the reply

Can we take messages on the 12340 ft. wave length?

*[Signature]* 21 Aug. 24



Hon. Col. Dec.

(a) on no occasion has complete press Bulletin from Leipzig been received suitable for publication.

(b) Press news from other stations has been received on 175 occasions between 31st July 1923 - 1924.

(c) From San Diego, California 132 occasions and partly on 24.

From Rio de Janeiro 19 occasions between dates August 22nd and Oct. 2nd 1923.

(d) The Tuner is designed for reception of wave lengths between 450 and 14000 metres. The amplifier is designed for wave lengths between 600 & 5000 but can be used with increased efficiency up to 14000. Efficiency would however not be increased to such an extent to make reception impossible.

2. With regard to (c) do you require further information, as to the occasions of reception?

Genl. B. B. B. B.

Ag. Col. Postmaster

22/ Aug. 1924

Minute from Ag Postmaster of

12th August 1924 - Encl (10)

Report by Engineer Operator of

10th August 1924

(104)



of Colonial Postmaster

Has he last seen the circular  
about the alteration in wave length  
of the previous to 8780 meters (? 8750)  
has since taken place can he  
fix the time when this occurred

Httttt 20 Aug 24

Hon. Col. Dec. Jrs.

It was just noticed that Leaflet  
has reverted to the wavelength of  
8750 meters on August 7, 1924.

The change may have occurred some  
days previous as it is only possible  
to listen for Leaflet when the power  
transmitting set is closed down owing  
to parasitic noise.

E. B. Binn  
22<sup>nd</sup> Sept 1924

Despatch to Secretary of State  
No 84 of 4 Sept 1924

(11)

5 of S. Circular despatch of 30<sup>th</sup> July 1924 —

(12)

to Colonial Postmaster for information  
of Engineer Operator w/ff station

18 Oct 1924



C.S.O. No. 725/21

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 4

Colonial Postmaster

Referred.

W.L. 17

for C.O.

18 Oct 1924

Hon. Col. Sec.

Noted. Extract from S. of S.  
Circular of the 30<sup>th</sup> July 1924  
forwarded to the Engineer Operator  
W/T. Station for his information  
and guidance.

W. Craig Hackett

Col. Postmaster

20. X. 24



FALKLAND ISLANDS

CIRCULAR

Downing Street,

22 April, 1921.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that for some time arrangements have been in existence by which British official wireless messages composed under the supervision of His Majesty's Government are sent out daily from Horsea. Previous to the 1st of June 1920, messages were also sent from the station at Carnarvon, but since that date the transmission of official news messages from that station has been discontinued.

2. The messages are emitted from Horsea at noon, 6 p.m and midnight, Greenwich meantime; the average length of each message is 500 words, and that sent at midnight is composed of repetitions of the more important items in the two earlier messages, with the addition of any late news of exceptional interest. The messages are sent on a wave length of 4500 metres.

3. I have thought it advisable to inform you of this service in case it should be practicable for the local wireless station to pick up the messages if you should consider it desirable to receive them.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient  
humble servant.

(Signed) WINSTON S. CHURCHILL.

GOVERNOR

J. MIDDLETON, ESQ., C.M.G.

etc., etc., etc.



725/21

8th August,

21

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor to forward herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch from the Secretary of State dated the 22nd of April, 1921, with regard to news messages transmitted from the Horsea W/T Station.

2. I am to request that you will be so good as to inform me whether it will be practicable for H. M. W/T Station to pick up these messages

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,  
(sgd) W. A. Thompson,  
Ag. Colonial Secretary.

The Officer-in-Charge  
Naval W/T Station,  
Stanley.





H.M.W/T Station, Falkland Islands.

12th August 1921.

No.A/2.

Your Excellency,

In reply to the Colonial Secretary's letter No.725/21 of 8th August 1921, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that every endeavour has been made since the setting in of winter to obtain press messages from Horsea and other W/T Stations, which has been done with varying success.

2. As your Excellency is aware, atmospheric conditions often preclude the possibility of any W/T work being done, sometimes for successive days; this is much more noticeable in the summer months than is the case during the winter.

For some time now, the German H.P.Station at Nauen (Berlin) has been read successfully, also the American Station at San Diego and D'arsena Norte in Argentine.

3. With very little interference, other than that caused by atmospheric conditions, Horsea W/T Station is frequently audible here, both at the noon and 8 p.m. routine transmissions, but signals are too weak to be read with any degree of success.

At the midnight transmission, signals have been

read

His Excellency  
The Governor & Commander in Chief,  
Falkland Islands.



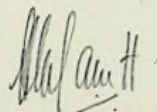
read several times lately, and the results forwarded in due course to the Cable Office for publication.

Many times a full midnight programme from Horsea could be read successfully here, if it were not for the interference caused by Punta Arenas H.P. Station working on wavelengths between 4000 and 4500 metres, which being so close to Horsea's wavelength of 4500 metres, causes great interference at this station.

4. It is anticipated that very much more reliable results could be obtained here from Horsea if a wavelength of about 10000 to 12000 metres were employed, as the signal strength of Horsea is probably the same as the German station, Nauen, which uses a wavelength of approximately 15000 metres.

I have the honour to be,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,



Lieutenant Commander R.N.  
Officer in Charge.



FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. 70.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,  
STANLEY,

22nd August, 1921.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Circular despatch of the 22nd of April, relative to the arrangements by which British official wireless messages are sent out from Harsea.

2. It has been possible to read these messages on a few occasions, but their reception, as is explained in the accompanying letter from the Officer in Charge of the Naval Wireless Station, is much interfered with by the high power station at Punta Arenas. The messages, however, which are sent out by the station at HAVEN, are frequently received.

3. It would be of the greatest advantage to the Colony if any arrangement were practicable which would permit of news being received from a British source.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

J. Middleton.

W. L. S. CHURCHILL, M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

No.A/2 of 12th Aug: 1921.



725/21



FALKLAND ISLANDS.

Miscellaneous.

Downing Street,

12th December, 1921.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 70 of the 22nd of August, regarding the difficulty experienced in receiving the British official wireless messages sent out from Horsea.

2. The transmission of these messages has been undertaken by the General Post Office, and they are now sent out from the new station at Leafield on a wave-length of 8,750 metres at the same times as previously sent from the Admiralty station at Horsea.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

WINSTON S. CHURCHILL.

GOVERNOR

J. MIDDLETON, ESQ., C. M. G.,

&c.      &c.      &c.



725/21.

27th January,

22

Sir,

From Secretary of State  
Nasc. of 12th Dec: 1921

I am directed by the Governor to enclose for your information, a copy of a despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, relating to the transmission of British official wireless messages.

I am,

Sir,




Your obedient servant,

G. R. L. Brown,

for Colonial Secretary.

The Officer in Charge,  
Naval Wireless Station,  
Stanley.



  
H.M.W/T Station, Falkland Islands.

28th January 1922.

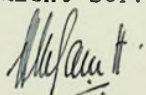
No.A/2.

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter No.  
? 725. 752/21 of 27th January 1922, with reference to the  
transmission of British official wireless messages from  
the new station at Leaffield.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

  
Lieutenant Commander R.N.  
(Officer in Charge).

The Honourable  
The Colonial Secretary,  
Falkland Islands.



CIRCULAR.



8

Downing Street,

3rd May, 1924.

Sir,

(1)  
(2) With reference to Mr. Churchill's <sup>Leafeld Miscellaneous 12th December, 1921.</sup> ~~Circular despatch~~ of the ~~4th~~ of April, 1922, respecting the transmission of British Official wireless news messages from Leafeld, I have the honour to inform you that the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs is desirous of compiling a complete record of the extent to which this service is used, and for this purpose he is anxious to learn in which countries the British news messages are taken down and published in the Press, and also in which countries the reception and distribution of these messages may be in contemplation.

2. In the event therefore of the messages being received and recorded by any station in the territory under your administration. I shall be glad to receive the following information:—

- (a) by what station received,
- (b) how distributed,
- (c) to what extent published,
- (d) any other observations.

If the messages are not at present received and distributed, I shall be glad to be informed whether any arrangements for that purpose are contemplated.

3. The following details of the Leafeld Station are supplied for information :—

Leafeld call sign ; G.B.L.

Prefix ; " c.q. "—" open to all stations."

Transmission ; midday, 8 p.m., and midnight ; the midnight message being generally a repetition of the preceding message. Approximate length of each message ; six hundred words.

The Officer Administering

the Government of



4. I take this opportunity of informing you that the wave length employed by Leasfield Station for these messages was altered from 8,750 metres to 12,350 metres on the 1st of March last.

*I have the honour to be,*

*Sir,*

*Your most obedient, humble servant,*

J. H. THOMAS.



MINUTE

Wireless Station,

Stanley,

28th July, 1924.

The Colonial Postmaster,  
Stanley.

Dear Sir,

Regarding the re-conditioning of the Leaffield W/T Station, my information was derived from an article which appeared in the "Electrician" stating the result of the deliberations of the Parliamentary Committee which was appointed to advise on Imperial communications last February. The report in question was issued in March.

Unfortunately this particular copy of the "Electrician" has been destroyed, however, the Committee's recommendations on this issue may be summarized as follows:-

(a) The erection of a high power station at Rugby to have a world-wide range

(b) The reconditioning of the Leaffield Station by the installation of modern C.W. Transmitting apparatus.

Later paragraphs indicate that (a) is already well in hand and make it apparent that the press service will be transferred to Rugby on the completion of that station until such time as the reconditioning of Leaffield is carried out.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

*A. R. Lush*

Eng-Opr in Charge.



No.

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

MINUTE.

12th. August 1924...19

From... Ag. Col. Postmaster...

To

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

Report on the Leaflet Station from the Engineer Operator in charge submitted for information.

*E. B. Binn*  
12/8/24

I regret that this report has been so delayed, but I remember receiving it on the second day of the Supreme Court Sitting and it had evidently got mixed up in the Court papers.

*E. B. Binn*  
26/8/24



MINUTE

10A

Wireless Station,

Stanley,

10th <sup>August</sup> ~~July~~, 1924.

The Colonial Postmaster,

Stanley.

Dear Sir,

Little success has been experienced locally in the reception of the press messages from Leaffield owing to the following reasons:-

(a) Reception of Leaffield is impossible when the wavelength of 12,350 metres is used due to jamming mainly by a strong harmonic from the station at Monte Grande, Buenos Aires.

(b) The signal strength during the 1200 and 2000 GMT programmes is usually too weak to be readable, even when the wavelength of 8,780 metres is used, whereas it is seldom possible to listen for the 0000 GMT programme which lasts between 8.8 pm and about 9.20 pm, local time, owing to traffic considerations.

Leaffield has recently returned to the wavelength of 8,780 metres and considerable increase in signal strength has been experienced at such times as it has been possible to listen for the 0000 GMT programme, however, it has seldom been possible to copy more than a few odd paragraphs owing to the indifferent atmospheric conditions which so often prevail on long wavelengths in this part of the world.

I consider that reliable reception of the press messages cannot be anticipated until such time as Leaffield uses increased power so as to be readable in daylight at



2000 GMT and further that the 8,780 metre wavelength is adhered to.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

*A. R. Lash*

Eng-Opr in Charge.



(11)

FALKLAND ISLANDS

No. 84.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

STANLEY,

9th September, 1924.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Circular despatch of the 3rd of May, on the subject of the use that is made of the service of British Official Wireless news messages from Leefield.

2. On no occasion has it yet been possible to obtain a complete press message in this Colony from Leefield. During the past year press news has been received on 132 occasions from San Diego, California, and on 19 occasions from Rio de Janeiro. The Officer-in-Charge of the Government Wireless Station reports that owing to the indifferent atmospheric conditions which so often prevail on long wave lengths in this part of the world reliable reception of British press messages cannot be anticipated until such time as Leefield uses increased power.

3. It may seem scarcely necessary to state that the boon of British press messages would be greatly appreciated by all in this isolated community.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

J. H. THOMAS, P.C., M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE

FOR THE COLONIES.

J. Middleton.



EMISSIONS FROM THE LEAFIELD (ENGLAND) W/T.Station.

Extract from S.of S.Circular despatch of the 30th July 1924:-

Considerable difficulty has been reported from various sources in receiving the 8 p.m. and midnight (Greenwich mean time) emissions from the Leafield wireless station of the British official news messages upon the 12,350 metres wave length and it is therefore intended on and after August 5th to revert to a wave length of 8.750 metres for these emissions, although the 12,350 metres wave length will continue to be employed for the midday (Greenwich mean time) messages x x x

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The Engineer Operator,

W/T.Station Stanley.

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The above extract is forwarded for your information and guidance.

(sgd) M.Craigie Halkett

Col.Postmaster.

Octbr 20th 1924



CIRCULAR.

12

*Downing Street,*

*30th July, 1924.*

*Sir,*

*With reference to the last paragraph of my Circular despatch of the 3rd of May, I have the honour to inform you that considerable difficulty has been reported from various sources in receiving the 8 p.m. and midnight (Greenwich mean time) emissions from the Leafield wireless station of the British official news messages upon the 12,350 metres wave length and that it is therefore intended on and after August 5th to revert to a wave length of 8,750 metres for these emissions, although the 12,350 metres wave length will continue to be employed for the midday (Greenwich mean time) messages.*

*It has been arranged that notification of this change shall be incorporated in the messages for several days before it comes into effect.*

*I have the honour to be,*

*Sir,*

*Your most obedient, humble servant,*

J. H. THOMAS.

*The Officer Administering*

*the Government of*