

EAST INDIA (ARMY ADMINISTRATION)

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FURTHER PAPERS

REGARDING THE

ADMINISTRATION OF THE ARMY

IN

INDIA.

(In continuation of Cd. 2572.)

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Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

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1905.

[Cd. 2615.] Price 1d.

# I N D I A

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## No. 1.

From Governor-General of India to the Secretary of State,  
dated 6th July, 1905.

(Telegraphic.)

Your Military Despatch, No. 66, of the 31st May. Military Administration. We think scheme therein proposed, unless modified in important particulars, will be unworkable in operation, and that it will imperil military control of Governor-General in Council. It will further impose heavy burden upon Viceroy, while depriving him of indispensable advice. To remedy these defects we desire to submit following representations :—

1. Paragraph 23 assigns functions to Military Supply Member which cannot properly be performed except by a soldier, but is otherwise not inconsistent with appointment of a civilian. We think that he should always be a soldier, as Military Member has hitherto invariably been. Though we do not press for alteration in existing law, nomination of a civilian would obviously be fatal to safeguards which we now desire to create.
2. Paragraphs 15 and 23 are ambiguous as to functions of new Member. We advise that he should be available for official consultation by Viceroy on all military questions without distinction, and not only upon questions of general policy or when cases are marked for Council. We propose that identical conditions should apply to both of the Military Departments, and that upon submission of any case from either Department, Viceroy should, if he deems it necessary, refer it to head of other Department for advice. We do not anticipate that this will become general practice in either case, but power of reference will relieve Viceroy of burden of some responsibility, and where resorted to should tend to promote co-ordination.

MVA:q. 2.N  
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do so, and the right of every member as established by law to discuss matters in Council will, of course, remain unaffected. But His Majesty's Government having decided to alter the existing system, and to give to members in charge of Army and Military Supply Departments independent channels of communication with Governor-General in Council, it follows that neither member can have any special claim to be consulted or to note on the proposals of the other.

- (3.) Reference of important matters to Mobilization Committee, of which Commander-in-Chief and Military Supply Member were to be essential members, was contemplated in paragraph 22 of Despatch, and is approved accordingly.
- (4.) As stated in your telegram, Despatch was silent with regard to rank of Secretary to Government in Army Department, and His Majesty's Government see no objection to his having local rank of Major-General.
- (5.) Proposed schedule of classes of cases in Army Department, to be specially dealt with on the lines which you indicate, is quite in accordance with views of His Majesty's Government.

These arrangements, so far as they are matter for rules, will no doubt be embodied in Rules of Business which you were requested in paragraph 28 of Despatch to send home for approval. General approval above conveyed will be fully adhered to, but details must necessarily be subject to further consideration when rules are received.

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FURTHER PAPERS

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*(In continuation of Cd. 2718.)*

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1906.

[Cd. 2842.] Price 2d.

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