

Front

DETACHMENT SERIAL 186

To:

O.C. BOTWOOD DETACHMENT, SERIAL 753.

*Appendix III*

(1)  
ADDITIONAL  
PROTECTION OF  
BOTWOOD  
SECRET  
8 AUG. 40. *app III*

1. Mr. E.C. Price, Commissioner of Customs and Mr. G.B. Sommers, Secretary of Justice, Nfld., came to BOTWOOD on the 5th and 7th of August, to discuss the marginally noted (Additional Protection of Botwood).
2. The following were discussed and the undermentioned decisions were reached:

- (a) Search all vessels coming into EXPLOITS BAY before reaching SANDY POINT.

A Government ship, the POINT MAY, approximately 30 tons draft, is to be stationed at the north end of THWART ISLAND. The revenue officer on board will stop and examine all ships wishing to enter the harbour. His procedure will be as laid down by the Commissioner of Customs. This to include warning of the approach of a vessel and a signal before the actual boarding takes place and afterwards if all is in order. One L.M.C. and gun crew, consisting of two men, from the Botwood Detachment, will be on board the cutter to add weight to the Captain's authority. Arrangements for reliefs, tour of duty etc. to be as order<sup>ed</sup> by O.C. Detachment. Gun crews to be under command of Captain during their tour of duty. Food and rations to be supplied by Nfld. Government

- (b) Suggested Prohibited Areas

1. Camp sites, HIGHLAND CAMP and SEAPLANE BASE (more fully described in attached schedule).

2. Area of wharves both COAL and PAPER. As soon as we can furnish the Dept. of Justice with a description of the Camp Areas, they will be included in the prohibited areas and notification of same will be published in the Nfld. Gazette.

Due to the difficulty of actually defining the area to be prohibited near the wharves, this is left in abeyance until the A.N.D. Co. send an engineer to go over and decide with the O.C. Detachment what area is to be included. It is recommended that a barbed wire fence should be constructed

(over to 2)

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To: O.C.  
BOTWOOD DETACHMENT, SERIAL 753

(2)

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2. (b) cont'd.

around this area so that the military guards could question the authority of anyone going on or off the docks. It is suggested that if wire and pickets were supplied that men from this detachment would erect the fence.

(c) Persons using the wharves

All members of ships' crews must have passes, to be issued by Customs Officer, before being allowed on shore. Any passes issued should be collected upon departure of ship. All employees of the A.N.D. Coy, who use this area are to be supplied with passes by the management.

All civilians who use these wharves must be furnished with a pass issued by the Police, these passes should be numbered. All persons to whom passes have not been issued must use the Government Wharf or shore in its vicinity or that of the DOCTOR'S WHARF.

(d) Authority to be given to O.C. Detachment

Definite authority should be given so that the men of this Detachment, would have the legal right, to stop and question and if necessary open fire on anyone entering any of the prohibited areas.

(e) Black-out regulations for town and vicinity

1. It was recommended that all lights in houses should be extinguished or shades for the windows provided by every householder.

2. Street lights should be either extinguished or have a shade to prevent light being thrown upward.

3. Man or men on duty at the distributing station to extinguish all lights upon sounding of an 'Alarm'.

The difficulty of number three is that power for all telephone and radio intercommunication is supplied by the general lighting system. This matter is under discussion with the A.N.D. Co. which supplies power from their Dishop's Falls Development.

(f) Motor boat to be available at SEAFLANE AIR BASE

(over to 3)

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(3)

ADDITIONAL  
PROTECTION OF  
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2.  
(f) cont'd.

A man should be constantly on duty and sleep in the BOAT HOUSE so that one of the boats could be used for military purposes at any time. This matter has been taken up with Mr. McGrath and he promised to make the necessary arrangements.

(g) BOTWOOD to be made a registration area.

(a) By this means a check of any stranger could be enforced by the police and the necessary legal steps taken when necessary. The Nfld. Government to consider and if thought necessary will enforce same.

(h) GASOLINE in vicinity of SEAPLANE BASE

Recommended that the Shell Co. take over all refuelling as it has the necessary equipment. All gasoline in excess of 5000 gals. to be removed to another area (near HIGHLAND CAMP) where it could be placed under guard. Pan American Tanks to be camouflaged.

Mr. Sommers will contact Imperial Oil agent in St. Johns re Pan American supply and Canadian Government re stock of Imperial Gasoline at end of point.

(i) Additional important buildings or equipment in town such as, transformers, distributing station, locomotives, equipment etc.

These are all ~~xxx~~ property of the A.N.D. Co. but are of vital importance to operation of harbour.

Although most if not all these places are now included in those over which we are furnishing supervision, I have advised Mr. Arklie that in my opinion the Coy. should place a guard over same in addition to the night watchman who is now employed. This matter is under consideration by both the Government and the A.N.D. Co.

(j) Suspicious Characters

Any definite information in regard to the above should be immediately communicated to the local police officer, the actual investigation will be carried out by him.

(k) Demolition of Wharves and removal of locomotives

These are two matters that should be given consideration.

(over to 4)

From:

DETACHMENT SERIAL 186

To: C.C.  
Botwood Detachment, Ser. 753.

(4)  
ADDITIONAL  
PROTECTION OF  
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8 AUG. 40.

2.

(k) cont'd.

As long as the British Navy is intact it is not probable that any large enemy force would endeavour to land. Therefore it is more likely that an enemy would be anxious to destroy these rather than secure them for his own use.

ILI:JEC  
1130 hours.

*J. L. Ibbotson* Major,  
C.C. Detachment, Ser. 186.

2. cont'd.

(L) USE OF GUNS MOUNTED ON SHIPS IN PORT

It should be arranged so that a member of a gun crew of any vessel, so armed, in the harbour should be on duty in case of an enemy raider entering the harbour.

SCHEDULE "A"

(1)  
 ADDITIONAL  
 PROTECTION  
BOTWOOD  
 SECRET  
 8 AUG. 40.

PROHIBITED AREAS

1. That area known as the BOTWOOD SEAPLANE BASE and the adjacent areas used in connection therewith by IMPERIAL AIRWAYS, PAN AMERICAN AIRWAYS, SHELL OIL COY. and IMPERIAL OIL COY. and more particularly described as follows:-

A certain emplacement in the Town of BOTWOOD bounded on the east and north by EXPLOITS BAY, on the south by adjacent lot of Ephrian Baker and on the west by the BOTWOOD-POINT LEAMINGTON ROAD from the northwest corner of Ephrian Baker north to the shoreline of EXPLOITS BAY.

A certain fenced emplacement owned by the IMPERIAL AIRWAYS in the TOWN OF BOTWOOD described as follows:  
 From the northeast corner of a lot owned by Mrs. E.V. Cobb westwards 180 feet to fence of lot owned by G. Jewer, northly 50 feet to corner of fence, westerly along lot line of C. Jewer 200 feet to fence then northerly 150 feet to fence ~~boundary~~ boundary of lot owned by M. Jewer, thence westerly to BOTWOOD-POINT LEAMINGTON ROAD, thence southerly to northwest corner of lot line of Mrs. E.V. Cobb. All distances more or less.

A certain fenced emplacement known as BLACKWOOD FIELD, owned by the A.N.D. Coy. in BOTWOOD, described as follows:  
 From a point on the back road, 120 feet from intersection of the RANGE ROAD 110 degrees, a distance of 500 feet, thence 26 degrees, a distance of 570 feet, thence 305 degrees, a distance of 225 feet, thence 305 degrees, a distance of 100 feet, thence 221 degrees, a distance of 230 feet.  
 All distances more or less.

BRR:JEC  
 1630 hours

  
 Major,  
 O.C. Detachment, Ser. 186.