

Primary Battery File

National Archives, Washington D.C.

Record Group 77

Correspondence of the Chief of Engineers

Entry 103

File, Fort, Battery:

27895

Hilton Head

Dynamite Battery

Oct 10/15/98

Office of the Chief of Engineers,
United States Army.

Washington, November 9, 1900

Captain:

No payments can be made from this allotment until the drawings have received the approval of the Chief of Engineers.

By command of Brig. Gen. Wilson:

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Finch, H. Abbott
Major, Corps of Engineers.

27895

*Through Col. PETER C. HAINS,
Corps of Engineers,
Division Engineer, Southeast Division.*

UNITED STATES ENGINEER OFFICE,

Charleston, S. C., August 23, 1900.

Brig. Gen. John M. Wilson,

Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army,

Washington, D. C.

(Through Col. Peter C. Hains, Division Engineer, Southeast Division).

General:

In accordance with instructions contained in your letter of June 9, 1900 (E. D. f. m. 27895), I have the honor to submit herewith detailed plans for construction of parapets and magazines for the dynamite battery at Hilton Head, S. C. and a portion of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey Chart No. 438 showing location of the battery. The plans follow in general those prepared by Major S. S. Leach, Corps of Engineers, for protecting the dynamite battery at Fort H. G. Wright, Fishers Island, N. Y., blue prints of which were sent me with your letter of the 1st instant (E. D. f. m. 27895), certain changes being made, however, on account of difference in exposure to fire and in climate. There being almost no exposure to reverse fire, the power room and boiler room are left open to the rear for better ventilation and access. Slight protection from flank fire is afforded by sloping the side parapets to the rear, retaining the slopes by wing walls. The positions of passages, coal room and observation station are also changed. I should estimate the cost of constructing the parapets and magazines in accordance with these plans, as follows:

3,562 cu. yds. Portland cement concrete @ \$8.00	\$28,496.
2,350 cu. yds. Rosendale cement concrete @ \$6.50	15,275.
21,000 cu. yds. sand in parapet @ 30 ¢	6,300.
150,000 ft. B. M. casing in place, at \$30	4,500.
128,000 lbs. I beams @ 2 ¢	2,560.
4,100 sq. ft. corrugated metal, galv. @ 6 ¢	246.
Cement shed, stone bins, mixer frame and repairs to wharf	4,000.
Transporting plant from Fort Fremont and setting up same	1,500.
Doors, windows, ladders and ventilators	800
4,600 sq. yds sodding @ 40 ¢	1,840.
Superintendence, contingencies, etc. 12%	<u>7,862.</u>
	\$73,379

The above figures are based on cost of hired labor work, using the United States plant now at Fort Fremont. This method of doing the work is in my opinion the most economical and advantageous to the Government. The inaccessibility of the site will make the items of work expensive, as indicated by the above figures. As, however, the Government has, at Fort Fremont a plant which is well adapted for this work, it is believed that the cost, by using this plant, will be considerably less than if the work were done by contract.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

E. F. ...
Captain of Engineers.

ter to present his views upon all communications of this character that may be forwarded through his office, even in cases where the original instructions may have been sent direct to the officer. Copies of such instructions will always be furnished upon Colonel Hains's request, in case through clerical error or necessities of service, the original papers have

Capt. Sanford indicates on the Coast Survey chart that the range is three miles. The gun must have been very much improved in the last few years if that range can be had with a full-calibre projectile. About half that distance was the limit a few years ago. In regard to the plans, it seems to me that they do not indi-

of such a dangerous compound as dynamite. I think the sand cover on the front should be increased 10 feet, and the vertical cover 5 feet. The power-room and the room for the compressed air tanks is directly in the rear of the gun. This is objectionable, in my opinion, as it is too liable to be destroyed by a single shell. These tanks of compressed air, I understand, explode with great violence if punctured. The tanks require considerable space for storage, and the pumping machinery likewise, but without information as to the number and size of tanks, and the size and capacity of the engines and pumping machinery, it is not practicable to say whether or not the amount of room is sufficient. However, assuming that it is, the location in the rear part of the battery is objectionable. In my opinion it would be better to locate the engine and pumping machinery, and perhaps most of the tanks, at some distance from the battery and connect with it by means of an air-conduit. Such a detached structure would not be expensive, and would not require as much cover.

I recommend, therefore, if the battery is to be located at this point, that some other defenses be provided in addition, and that the district engineer make a plan and estimate with the engines and pumps, and at least some of the air tanks, located off on the flank and as far (not exceeding one mile) from the battery as it can be placed without impairing efficiency or

greatly increasing the cost.

Col., Corps of Engrs., U.S.A.,
Copy of E.D. letter of June
9, 1900 retained.

OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGRS. SEP 15 1900

4th indorsement.

Office Chief of Engineers,

U. S. ARMY.

September 18, 1900.

Respectfully returned to Colonel Hains.

Referring to 3d indorsement, the following information is given as showing the previous steps leading to the placing of the dynamite gun at Hilton Head:

The Chief of Engineers has never favored the erection of batteries of dynamite guns.

By direction of the Secretary of War, a pneumatic dynamite gun battery mounting one 15-inch gun is to be constructed on the military reservation on Hilton Head. The duty of designating the location of the battery upon the reservation was assigned to the Chief of Engineers by the Secretary of War, but the "battery" is to be built by the Pneumatic Dynamite Gun Company under contract with the Ordnance Department. The site was selected by the local Engineer officer and approved by the Secretary of War.

Under the Act of May 25, 1900, \$180,000 is available for protecting the dynamite gun batteries, and from this sum will come the

allotment for the parapets and magazines for the battery at Hilton Head.

With the arrangement, foundations, relative positions, connections, or position of the site (beyond the slight variation permitted within the narrow limits of the present reservation on Hilton Head Island), the Chief of Engineers has nothing to do. He has no supervision of the contractor's methods or plans, or his execution thereof.

The contractor having erected one gun at Fishers Island, it was assumed that he would follow the same general arrangements at Hilton Head, and Captain Sanford was called on for plans, in order to have all in readiness when the Pneumatic Dynamite Company are ready with their work. All the action in this matter was taken while Colonel Hains was absent on the Isthmian Commission.

All that the Engineer Department is called upon to do is to provide proper cover and magazines for the battery erected by the Ordnance Department; and with the above statement the papers are returned to Colonel Hains for such further report as he may deem best. If Colonel Hains deems it necessary, he can visit the site of the battery, and the orders for the journey will be issued.

Such early action as Colonel Hains' other duties will admit is requested.

John M. Wilson

Brig. Gen., Chief of Engineers,

U. S. Army.

27895

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Inclos. 10-13 in sep. roll.

b
O
5th. Indorsement.
U.S. Engineer Office,
Baltimore, Md.,

September 27, 1900.

Respectfully submitted to the
Chief of Engineers, U.S.A.

2
In view of the information
contained in the 4th. indorse-
ment, the only subject for con-
sideration seems to be the desig-
nation of the proper location of
the battery on the reservation,
and the arrangement of the mag-
azines, &c., together with the
cover for them and the gun.

CL
In respect to the location of
the battery on the reservation,
I would suggest that, in case it
has not already been located, it
be set in such a position that
any additional armament that may
be established on Hilton Head
can be located not less than a-
bout 500 yards in the rear of
it. It is desirable that the
dynamite battery shall be placed
in front of the other defenses,
as is done at Fort Wright, Fish-
ers Island.

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In regard to the construc-
tion: as stated in the 3rd. in-
dorsement, I am of the opinion
that the horizontal cover on the
faces exposed to direct fire
should have at least 10 feet
more of sand, and the vertical
cover of the magazines, &c., a-
bout 5 feet. It is desirable
that special precautions should
be taken for ventilating the
magazines in this climate, and
for that purpose two entrances
should be provided, one at each
end, in order that a current of
air may be passed through. The
inner lining of walls to be a
porous brick with air-spaces be-

hind it.

The location of the boiler, en-
gine and air-pumps immediately
in rear of the gun is, in my o-
pinion, bad and, in this case, un-
necessary. The battery facing
about northeast, the fire to
which it will be exposed will be
that included between southeast
and northwest.

I have indicated on a tracing
which I send herewith, a rough
sketch which illustrates my idea
of the best position of the mag-
azines, pumping engine and boiler
room. I roughly estimate that
the cost of this construction
with the additional sand cover,
will be about 20% less than the
plan suggested by the district
engineer.

The details of the plan here-
with are not worked out. They
are intended merely to give the
general position of the gun, mag-
azines, &c. with reference to each
other. The rear part of the
boiler and machinery room, not
being exposed to fire, can be
well ventilated.

I would suggest that the
sketch enclosed be sent to the
district engineer, with request
that he prepare (without attempt-
ing to follow them too closely)
new plans embodying the general
ideas shown thereon.

John C. Hains
Col., Corps of Engineers, U.S.A.,
Div. Eng. S.E. Div.
1 inc. - tracing - 54p. roll.

REC'D. OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGRS. SEP 28 1900

6th indorsement.

Office Chief of Engineers,
U. S. ARMY.

September 29, 1900.

Respectfully returned to Captain Sanford, inviting attention to the foregoing indorsements, and to the accompanying sketch prepared by the Division Engineer. The records of this office indicate the probability of the gun being at Hilton Head, and perhaps erected, but nothing definite.

The form of battery proposed by Colonel Hains is very much better than those erected at Sandy Hook and Fishers Island, if it is possible to place the boiler room and power house in the positions assigned them without interfering with the mechanical details of the gun and its appurtenances as supplied by the Pneumatic Dynamite Gun Company. Captain Sanford will please inform this office of the exact state of affairs at the Hilton Head battery, and, if the present conditions and the contract with the Ordnance Department do not conflict with the proposed plans of the Division Engineer, Captain Sanford will please prepare the new set of drawings and submit them with a report and estimate.

These papers to be returned.

24475

John M. Wilson

Brig. Gen., Chief of Engineers,

Incl. 10-13 and 15 in sep. roll

Through Col. PETER C. HAINS,

U. S. Army.

Corps of Engineers,

Division Engineer, Southeast Division.

7th. Indorsement.
U.S. Engineer Office,
Baltimore, Md.,

October 2, 1900.

Respectfully transmitted to Capt. J.C. Sanford, Corps of Engineers, U.S.A., inviting attention to the preceding indorsements.

Peter C. Hains

Col., Corps of Engineers, U.S.A.,
Div. Eng. S.E. Div.

8th INDORSEMENT

U. S. ENGINEER OFFICE,

Charleston, S. O. Dec. 28, 1900.

Respectfully returned to the Chief of Engineers, U.S. Army, through the Division Engineer, Southeast Division, with report of this date, new plans and estimate being presented.

J. C. Sanford

Captain of Engineers.

6 inclosures (5 in sep. roll).

9th. Indorsement.

U.S. Engineer Office,
Baltimore, Md.,

December 29, 1900.

Respectfully submitted to the Chief of Engineers, U.S.A.

The district engineer states that the new drawings have been prepared with a view to embodying the suggestions of the Division Engineer as far as the conditions at the site will permit. One of the chief objections to the first plans was that the boiler room and storage tanks were in rear. The drawings indicate that they are now in place, and consequent-

ly the change to a position on the right flank cannot be made.

Under the circumstances it seems necessary to carry out the plans now submitted.

Peter L. Haines

Col., Corps of Engrs., U. S. A.,
Div. Eng. S.E. Div.

REC'D. OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGRS. DEC 31 1900

10th indorsement.

Office Chief of Engineers,

U. S. ARMY.

January 3, 1901.

Respectfully returned to the Division Engineer, who will please indicate whether, in his judgment, the within project and estimate should be approved, and funds for the carrying out of the work should be allotted, or whether he regards it as desirable or necessary to make any further changes in the plans of "parapets and magazines".

With the arrangement of the machinery and the gun carriage the Engineer Department has no connection.

John H. Wilson

Brig. Gen., Chief of Engineers,
U. S. Army.

Incl. 10-13, 15 & 16
in sep. roll

new plan for the first plan was
not the boiler room and stor-
age tanks were in rear. The
drawings indicate that they
were in place, and consequent

11th. Indorsement.
U. S. Engineers Office,
Baltimore, Md.,

January 7, 1901.

Respectfully returned to Capt. J. C. Sanford, Corps of Engineers with request that he state in positive terms whether or not the boilers, compressors and machinery have been erected. It is not stated in the letter although it is inferred.

Peter L. Haines

Col., Corps of Engrs., U. S. A.,
Div. Eng. S.E. Div.

12th INDORSEMENT.

U. S. ENGINEER'S OFFICE.

Charleston, S.C., Jan 9, 1901

Respectfully returned to Col. Peter L. Haines, Corps of Engineers, Division Engineer, Warhead Division. The boilers, compressor and machinery have been erected. A copy of my letter of October 24, 1900, stating condition of affairs at that date, is respectfully inclosed.

J. C. Sanford
Captain of Engineers

Enclosures
(Enclosures in sep. roll)

812 ST. PAUL ST., BALTIMORE, MD.

OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGRS JAN 14 1961

2000-00-00

UNITED STATES ENGINEER OFFICE,

Charleston, S. C., October 24, 1900.

Brig. Gen. John M. Wilson,
Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army,
Washington, D. C.

(Through Col. Peter C. Hains, Division Engineer, Southeast Division.)

General:

Referring to instructions contained in 6th indorsement (E. D. f. m., 27895), on my letter of August 23, 1900, submitting plans for construction of parapets and magazines for the dynamite gun battery at Hilton Head, S. C., I have the honor to report that I wrote on the 4th and 8th instant to Captain H. D. Borup, Ordnance Department, Inspector of Ordnance, who is charged with inspection of the construction of the battery under the contract with the Ordnance Department, inquiring as to the exact state of affairs at the battery and as to whether the present conditions and the contract with the Ordnance Department (which I have never seen) conflict with the plans proposed by the Division Engineer in his indorsement of the 27th ultimo on my above letter of the 27th ultimo. Captain Borup in his reply states: "The plant is practically finished, and if the position of the various parts are now changed, it will have to be done at the expense of the United States." From Mr. R. T. Crawford who, until about the 20th ultimo, was employed as Superintendent of Construction at the Hilton Head battery by Messrs. W. R. Bonsal & Co., ^{sub-}contractors for constructing emplacement, installing machinery and mounting gun, I learn that, before the 20th ultimo, the following work had been done: Gun block built and gun mounted, vaults for compressed air reservoirs built and reservoirs put in place, tunnel from gun center to power house built, power house, boiler room, coal shed and temporary magazine built,

foundations for boilers and machinery built and boilers and machinery put in place and all steam connections made. The battery is now being wired, and air compressors tested, and machinery generally overhauled preparatory to final test.

The site was selected, in the latter half of 1898, by my predecessor and approved by the Secretary of War. Work on the construction of the battery began in the early part of the present calendar year. The location of the power house, boiler room, and magazine (temporary), with respect to the gun are as shown on the plans which accompanied my letter of August 23, 1900, being in practically the same relative positions as in the dynamite gun battery at Fishers Island, N. Y.

A new set of drawings will be prepared embodying the suggestions of the Division Engineer, so far as existing conditions will permit, with report and estimate, and will be submitted as soon as practicable, with return of the papers sent me.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Captain of Engineers.

68 130
27895
16
WAR DEPARTMENT

October 24, 1900.
Charlesston, S. C.

1st. Indorsement.
U.S. Engineer Office,
Baltimore, Md.
October 27, 1900.
Respectfully submitted to the
Chief of Engineers, U.S.A.
W. A. Brown
Colonel, Corps of Engineers, U.S.A.,
Div. Eng. S. E. Div.

556
The power house, boiler room, and magazine (temporary), with respect
to the plan as shown on the plans which accompanied my letter of
August 23, 1900, being in practically the same relative positions as in
the present battery at Fishers Island, N. Y.
The plan of the battery will be prepared embodying the suggestions of
the Engineer Office, so far as existing conditions will permit, with
the understanding that it will be submitted as soon as practicable, with
the necessary explanations.
Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
Captain of Engineers.

Report on the progress made on the
system of dynamite loading
which is being carried out
by the 6th Div. of the
Army at the
Battery at Fishers Island, N. Y.
The plan of the battery will be prepared embodying the suggestions of
the Engineer Office, so far as existing conditions will permit, with
the understanding that it will be submitted as soon as practicable, with
the necessary explanations.
Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
Captain of Engineers.

Rec'd Eng'r. Office, Balto. OCT 26 1900

UNITED STATES ENGINEER OFFICE,

CUSTOM HOUSE,

CHARLESTON, S. C., December 28, 1900.

Brig. Gen. John M. Wilson,
Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army,
Washington, D. C.

(Through Col. Peter C. Hains, Division Engineer, Southeast Division).

General:

Referring to your indorsement, dated September 29, 1900 (E. D.,
f. m. 27895)⁹ on my letter dated August 23, 1900, submitting plans,
with estimate, for construction of parapets and magazines for the
dynamite battery at Hilton Head, S. C., which indorsement directed me
to report as to the exact state of affairs at the Hilton Head battery,
and, under conditions stated, to prepare a new set of drawings and
submit them with a report and estimate, I have the honor to submit
inclosed a new set of drawings (1 sheet) with the following report and
estimate, reference being respectfully made, for description of the
state of affairs at the Hilton Head battery, to my letter of October
24, 1900:

The new drawings submitted have been prepared with a view to
embodying the suggestions of the Division Engineer so far as existing
conditions at the site will permit. The principal changes made from
the original plans consist in increasing the cover of the magazine; in
providing for better ventilation of the magazine by means of an entrance
at each end and by ventilators; in dispensing with the curved room in
front of the power room, thus affording better cover to the latter,
together with a slight increase in the thickness of the front wall of
the power room; and in dispensing with the coal room, with a view to
storing coal in rear of the battery under wooden sheds. It is proposed

to line the magazines with porous brick with air spaces behind. I should estimate the cost of constructing the parapets and magazines in accordance with these plans as follows:

2,685 cu. yds. Portland cement concrete	@	\$8.00	\$21,480.00
2,351 cu. yds. natural cement concrete	@	\$6.50	15,281.50
42 cu. yds. brick lining of magazines	@	\$6.50	273.00
20,350 cu. yds. sand in parapet	@	30 ¢	6,105.00
150,000 ft. B. M. casing in place	@	\$30.00 per M	4,500.00
70,000 lbs. I beams	@	2 1/2 ¢	1,750.00
3,800 sq. ft. corrugated iron, galv.	@	6 ¢	228.00
4,900 sq. yds. sodding	@	40 ¢	1,960.00
Cement shed, stone bins, mixer frame, and repairs to wharf			4,000.00
Transporting plant from Fort Fremont and setting up same			1,500.00
Doors, windows, ladders and ventilators			800.00
Superintendence, contingencies, etc., 12%			6,945.30
Total			\$64,822.80

The above figures are, as were those submitted with my letter of August 23, 1900, based on cost of hired labor work, using the United States plant now at Fort Fremont. This method of doing the work is, in my opinion, the most economical and advantageous to the Government. The inaccessibility of the site will make the items of work expensive; but, as the Government has, at Fort Fremont, a plant which is well adapted for this work, it is believed that the cost, by using this plant, will be considerably less than if the work were done by contract.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

[Signature]
Captain of Engineers.

1 inclosure in sep. roll.

1st Indorsement.

Office Chief of Engineers,
U. S. ARMY.

27895
DEC 31 17
WAR DEPARTMENT

5759 Johnston, A. C.
Dec. 28, 1900

Sanford, Capt. E. C.

Returning to E. C. find.

of Oct. 29, 1900, with a
new set of drawings, with
reports and notes, reference being
made to the letter of Oct. 24,
1900, for the condition of condition
at Station 1000, Pullman.

Continued total cost of con-
struction of parapets and mag-
azine in accordance with the
plans, at \$64,822.80.

These figures are based on
cost of 1/2 inch laminated iron
U. S. plant now at Fort Ste-

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January 15, 1901

Respectfully returned to Captain
Sanford, approved and recommended Jan-
uary 12, 1901, by the Division Engineer
in 13th Indorsement on E.D. 27890.

The provisional allotment of \$14,800
made by letter from this office under
date of November 9, 1900, is hereby made
available, and a further allotment of
\$14,800 is hereby made for the pur-
pose from the appropriation for "Gun
and Mortar Batteries," for the year
1900.

When such record as may be neces-
sary has been made, these papers will
be returned to this office.

By command of Brig. Gen. Wilcox:

James V. Smith

Major, Corps of Engineers.

27895

Major, Corps of Engineers.

Incls. 9 & 19 accompg.

Incls. 10-13, 15, 18 in
sep. roll.

1 0 0

1 Through Col. PETER C. HAINS,
Corps of Engineers,
Division Engineer, Southeast Division

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2nd. Indorsement.

U. S. Engineer Office,
Baltimore, Md. 1901.

Respectfully transmitted to
Capt. E. C. Sanford, Corps of
Engineers, U. S. A., inviting at-
tention to the preceding in-
dorsement.

Johnston

Records of Engineers, U. S. A.
Div. Eng. S. F. Div.

INDORSEMENT.

S. ENGINEER OFFICE

Division, S. F. Div.

Respectfully returned to the Chief of
Engineers, U. S. A., the necessary
approval having been granted.

By command of the Chief of
Engineers, U. S. A.

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MAIN OFFICE: 40 WALL ST., NEW YORK CITY, N.Y. U.S.A.

New York, Mar. 1st, 1901.

Capt. H. D. Borup,

Chief Ord. Dept.,

Army Building, N. Y.

Dear Sir:-

I quote as follows from our engineer Mr. Frank Watson, which I trust will answer your question fully.

"Referring to the request of the Chief of Ordnance through Capt. Borup for information to whether the work of construction on the parapet and magazine at the Gun Plant at Hilton Head, S. C. can be proceeded with at present, I would say that the construction of the parapet about the gun is not advisable previous to the test, the prohibitory reason being, that in the program prescribed by the Ordnance Department under date of March 16, 1900, in paragraph #7, it states, - "One round as in six (6) at the same elevation, and valve setting regulated to give a range of about 1000 yards".

"Now this is impossible without the depression of the gun to about nine (9) degrees. Taking it for granted the the height of the parapet is approximately the same as at Sandy Hook, N. J. (20) feet, the lowest elevation obtainable would be 18 degrees."

Very truly yours,

President.

#34441

OFFICE OF CHIEF OF ORDNANCE

12727
MAR 20 1901
WAR DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF CHIEF OF ENGINEERS
New York, 27895
Mar 21 1901

Dynamite Gun Company

WAR DEPARTMENT

Refers to request of Department for information as to whether the work of construction of paracet and magazine at Gun Plant at Hilton Head S.C. can be proceeded with, and states that construction of paracet about the gun is not advisable previous to test, and gives reasons therefor.

Army Building, N. Y.

Dear Sir:-

I quote as follows from our engineer Mr. Frank Watson, which I think will answer your question fully.

"Referring to the request of the Chief of Ordnance through Capt. Horn for information as to whether the work of construction on the paracet and magazine at the Gun Plant at Hilton Head, S.C. can be proceeded with at present, I would say that the construction of the paracet about the gun is not advisable previous to the test, the prohibitory reason being, that in the program prescribed by the Ordnance Department under date of March 16, 1900, in paragraph #7, it states, - "One round as in six (6) at the same elevation, and valve setting regulated to give a range of about 1000 yards".

"Now this is impossible without the depression of the gun to about nine (9) degrees. Testing is for granted and the height of the paracet is approximately the same as at Sandy Hook, N. J. (23) feet, the lowest elevation of the gun would be 13 degrees."

Mar. 1st, 1901.

CABLE ADDRESS "DYNAMITE"
TELEPHONE 4561 COLUMBIA

RECORDED BY OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGRS. MAR 20 1901

UNITED STATES ENGINEER OFFICE,

CUSTOM HOUSE,

CHARLESTON, S. C. February 16, 1901.

Brig. Gen. John M. Wilson,

Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army,

Washington, D. C.

General:

Referring to your indorsement of the 15th ultimo (E. D. f. m. 27695)¹⁷ approving plans for parapets and magazines for the dynamite gun battery at Hilton Head, S. C., and making a further allotment for construction of same, I have the honor to request to be informed as to whether I should assume that the condition of the work on this battery under contract with the Ordnance Department is now such that the construction of the parapets and magazines will not interfere with the work, or whether I should await a statement from the Ordnance Department that the construction of the parapets and magazines can be begun without interfering with their work under above contract.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

[Signature]
Captain of Engineers.

OFFICE OF CHIEF OF ENGINEERS

OFFICE OF CHIEF OF ORDNANCE

27895
WAR DEPARTMENT

12727
WAR DEPARTMENT

Charleston, S.C.
Feb. 16, 1901.

Sanford,
Capt. J. C.

Referring to E. D. Indorsement of Jan. 15, 1901, approving plans for gun battery, Hilton Head, S.C., etc., requests to be informed if he should assume condition of work on battery under contract with Ord. Dept. Is now such that construction of gun battery and magazines will not interfere, or await statement from Ord. Dept. that work can be begun without interfering with work under above contract.

May 4, 1901 - letter to E. D.

✓
1801.

RECD. BACK, OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGRS. MAR 20 1901
Bufile 24, accm 1-9

MAR 9 1901

for the dynamite gun battery

Office of Chief of Engineers,
U. S. ARMY.
February 19, 1901.

Respectfully referred to the Chief of Ordnance, U.S. Army, with request for information as to whether the District Engineer Officer can proceed with the work of parapet and magazine construction at the present time without interference with work on the contract for mounting the guns, not in progress, under the Ordnance Department.

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Brig. Gen. Chief of Engineers,
U. S. Army.

Office of Chief of Engineers,
U. S. ARMY.
February 19, 1901.

12727-Enc. 198.
2d Indorsement
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ORDNANCE
Washington, Feb. 23, 1901.

Respectfully referred to the Inspector of Ordnance, U.S.A., Army Building, New York City, for report.

By order of the
Chief of Ordnance

✓
Maj. Ord. Dept. U.S.A.

12727-Enc. 198.
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ORDNANCE
Army Building, New York City.
March 2, 1901.

Respectfully returned to the Chief of Ordnance, U.S.A., with the information that the work is advised to proceed for the reason expressed in letter of the Inspector of Ordnance, U.S.A., dated March 2, 1901.

Enc. 200, Letter of Dynamite Gun Company.

12727-Enc. 198.
4th Indorsement
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF
Washington, Mar. 8, 1901

Respectfully returned to Chief of Engineers, U.S.A., inviting attention to pi endorsement hereon, in this Office concurs.

✓
Brig. Gen. Chief of Ord
Enc. 200 accompg.

5th Indorsement.
Office Chief of Engin
U. S. ARMY.

March 12,
Respectfully returned to Sanford, inviting his attention the 3d and 4th Indorsement. To be returned.

By order of the
Acting Chief of Engineers:

✓
Major, Corps

27895
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Incl. 21 accompg.

SUBJECT:

*Office of the Chief of Engineers,
United States Army,*

Washington, May 4, 1901.

Brig. Gen. A. R. Buffington,
Chief of Ordnance, U. S. Army,
Washington, D. C.

General:

Referring to your indorsement of March 8, 1901, on letter of Capt. J. C. Sanford, Corps of Engineers, of February 16, 1901, informing this office that construction work by the Engineer Department could not, at that date, begin on the parapets and magazines to surround the pneumatic dynamite gun at Hilton Head, S.C., which the Ordnance Department is now installing, the Chief of Engineers requests information as to whether the Ordnance work is yet sufficiently far advanced to make it advantageous for the Engineer work to begin, and if not, the further request is made that this office be informed when it should make the necessary arrangements to begin active work at Hilton Head. An approximate date would be an assistance to the district Engineer in arranging his plant and working parties.

Very respectfully,

S. L. Luciani

Brig. Gen., Chief of Engineers,

U. S. Army.

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OFFICE OF CHIEF OF ENGINEERS
OFFICE OF CHIEF OF ORDNANCE

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WAR DEPARTMENT
WAR DEPARTMENT

Washington, D. C.
May 4, 1901.

Chief of Engineers, U.S.A.,

Referring to O.O. endorsement of March 8, 1901, on letter of Capt. J. C. Sanford, Corps of Engineers, informing that office that construction work by the Engineer Dept. could not at that date begin on the parapets and magazines to surround the pneumatic dynamite gun at Hilton Head, S.C., which the Ord. Dept. is now installing, asks to be informed when the necessary arrangements should be made to begin active work at Hilton Head.

2 ✓ file

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MAY 22 1901

1. Insp. Ord. N.Y. MAY 13 1901

12727-Enc. 203.

1st Endorsement

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ORDNANCE
Washington, May 13, 1901.

Respectfully referred to the Inspector of Ordnance, U.S.A., Army Building, New York City, for his information.

By order of the
Chief of Ordnance

Maj. Ord. Dept. U.S.A.

12727-Enc. 203.

2nd Endorsement

3812

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR OF ORDNANCE,
Army Building, New York City,
May 13th, 1901.

Respectfully returned to the Chief of Ordnance, U.S.A. The same condition of affairs exists at Hilton Head today as existed last March when the matter was brought up on O.O. file 12727-Enc. 198. The contractors are proceeding to take up the work on the gun at Hilton Head and it is successful, the tests may be made about 8 weeks from now. After completion of the test, and if it is satisfactory and the gun is accepted, the work referred to within could then be begun.

Capt. Ord. Dept., U.S.A. Inspector

12727-Enc. 203.

3d Endorsement

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ORDNANCE
Washington, May 15, 1901.

Respectfully returned to the Chief of Engineers, U.S. Army, inviting attention to preceding endorsement hereon.

By order of the
Chief of Ordnance

Maj. Ord. Dept. U.S.A.

4th endorsement.

Office Chief of Engineers,
U.S. Army.

May 17, 1901.

Respectfully referred to Capt. J. C. Sanford, Corps of Engineers, for his information, and return to this office. By command of
Brig. Gen. Gillespie:

Major, Corps of Engineers

27895

INDORSEMENT.

U.S. ENGINEER OFFICE

Washington, S.C. MAY 20 1901

Respectfully returned to the Chief of Engineers, U.S. Army, the necessary report having been made by the Inspector of Ordnance of the Army.

Brig. Gen. Gillespie

OFFICE OF CHIEF OF ENGRS. MAY 22 1901

UNITED STATES ENGINEER OFFICE,

CUSTOM HOUSE,

CHARLESTON, S. C. March 25, 1902.

Brig. Gen. G. L. Gillespie,
Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army,
Washington, D. C.

(Through Col. Peter C. Hains, Division Engineer, S. E. Division).

General:

1. I have the honor to state that I have this day received information from Captain Joseph T. Knowlton, Artillery Corps, U. S. Army, Commanding Post, Fort Fremont, S. C., to the effect that the dynamite gun at Hilton Head, S. C. is to be turned over to the Artillery, ^{that he} and has been referred to Par. 1, G. O. No. 65, Headquarters of the Army, A. G. O., May 11, 1901, in order to take the necessary action and make report. In connection with that paragraph he has invited me to accompany him in the inspection required thereby.

2. The gun emplacement, power house, etc., were not constructed under this office, or under the Engineer Department, and Department letter dated August 9, 1898 (E. D. 27895) to my predecessor, Major Ruffner, Corps of Engineers, directs Major Ruffner as follows: "When called upon by the contractor, you will please indicate to him the selected site, which will constitute the only supervision of the work expected from you. In view of the above, I have the honor to request instructions as to whether or not, I should under the above paragraph accompany the Artillery Commanding Officer in the inspection referred to; said paragraph appearing to me to contemplate cases in which a battery or mining casemate has been constructed by the Engineer Department, in which case the local Engineer Officer could furnish information regarding the

construction and the purposes of various details.

3. As the inspection in question would require my absence from this station at least two days, and probably longer if weather conditions were unfavorable for a visit to this greatly exposed site, it is respectfully recommended that, in case it be decided that I should accompany the Artillery Commanding Officer, the inspection be postponed, if practicable, until the next regular inspection of fortifications at

Fort Fremont, required by General Orders No. 10, Headquarters, Corps of Engineers, September 4, 1909.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Captain of Engineers.

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Attention Clerk.

March 27, 1909.

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2.3
WAR DEPARTMENT

Charleston, S.C.
March 25, 1902.

SANFORD,
Captain J.C.

States he has been invited to take part in the inspection preliminary to turning over the dynamite gun at Hilton Head, S.C., to the Artillery. In view of the circumstances surrounding the construction of this emplacement, asks if he should do so. If so, recommends the postponement of the transfer until the next regular inspection of fortifications at Fort Mifflin, required by G.O. No. 10, Engineers, September 1901.

1st. Indorsement.
Received Division Engineer Office, Baltimore, Md., March 28, 1902, and forwarded same date to the Chief of Engineers, U.S.A., in the absence of the Division Engineer.
Quail N. Sharrett,
Division Clerk.
2d indorsement.
Office Chief of Engineers,
U. S. ARMY.
March 31, 1902.
Respectfully referred to the Chief of Ordnance, U.S. Army, with request for information as to whether he can detail an Ordnance Officer to accompany Captain Knowlton in his inspection of the dynamite gun. As the Engineer Department has had nothing to do with the erection of the gun or operating machinery, this is believed to be the course most in accord with the meaning of G.O. 65, A.G.O., 1901. The return of this paper is requested.

Ed. Muecke
Brig. Gen., Chief of Engineers,
U. S. Army.

12727-274
3rd Indorsement.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ORDNANCE
Washington, April 2, 1902.

Respectfully returned to the Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army.
Orders have been requested for Major Ira MacNutt, Ordnance Department, to proceed to the site of the dynamite gun battery at Hiltonhead, S. C., to accompany Captain Knowlton in his inspection of that battery as indicated in the within letter.

Brig. Gen., Chief of Ordnance.

RECD. OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGRS. APR 4 1902
4th indorsement.

Office Chief of Engineers,

U. S. ARMY.

April 5, 1902.

Respectfully returned to Captain Sanford, for his information, with request that he at once inform Captain Knowlton of the action of the Ordnance Department. This paper to be returned.

By command of Brig. Gen. Gillespie:

Francis V. Allen
Major, Corps of Engineers.

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Through Col. PETER C. HAINES,

Corps of Engineers,
Division Engineer, Southeast Division.

5th. Indor
U.S. Engineer Office,
Baltimore, Md.,

April 7, 1902.

Respectfully transmitted to Captain J.C. Sanford, Corps of Engineers, U.S.A., inviting attention to the preceding indorsements

Col., Corps of Engineers, U.S.A.,
Div. Eng. S. E. Div.

6th. Indorsement.

U. S. ENGINEER OFFICE
Charleston, S.C. Apr. 11, 1902.

1. Respectfully returned to the Chief of Engineers, U.S.A., through the Division Engineer, Southeast Division.
2. Captain Knowlton, Artillery Corps, has been informed of the contents of the 3d indorsement, as directed.

For and in the absence of
Captain Sanford.

James D. Allen,
Assistant Engineer.

RECD. OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGRS. APR 24 1902