

H.M. Training Establishment, Shotley,

29th January, 1912.

No. D. 192.

Sir,

In accordance with your wishes, I have the honour to report as follows on the proposed curtailment of the Gunnery Course for Boys under training in Harbour Establishments :-

2. I consider that the Gunnery Courses of Boys can be altered without any loss of efficiency by the curtailment of the shooting & stripping courses. The course which, in my opinion, must be maintained at its full length, is the Field Exercise & Rifle Practice Course, which is of the utmost utility in teaching discipline, whereas in the case of the Shooting Course, which includes a good knowledge of how to work Navyphones etc, it is not necessary to turn a Boy into an expert shot with deflection teacher, but simply to give him a good knowledge of the uses of the various instructional appliances, as the whole of his shooting will be gone into later on in his career. As regards stripping, any detailed knowledge of assembling gear, names of parts &c is forgotten directly Boys leave ; therefore, it seems preferable to give them a good insight into the building up of the various parts i.e. breech block, firing mechanism,

also.

Rear Admiral J.M. de Robeck,

President of the Committee
on Boys' Training Establishments,

Admiralty,

LONDON, S.W.

also the use and action of recoil gear etc, but not to require them to be able to assemble them, or to know the names of anything more than the important parts i.e., breech mechanism lever, crank, actuating link, lock, etc, and safety arrangements, but not to know the details of these parts.

3. In the case of Advanced Class Boys, who are destined to fill the more important ratings, it is necessary to give them a more detailed knowledge of stripping and the action of the various parts; their course, therefore, at this should be longer than that for Ordinary Boys, and the same applies to their shooting course.

4. I beg to forward an enclosure showing suggested modified gunnery course for both Ordinary & Advanced Class Boys.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant.

A. H. H. H.

CAPTAIN.

	<u>Ordinary Boys.</u>		<u>Advanced Class Boys.</u>	
	<u>Present</u>	<u>Proposed.</u>	<u>Present.</u>	<u>Proposed.</u>
	Half-days.	Half-days.	Half-days.	Half-days.
Field Exercise & Rifle Practice.	38	38 (includes Battalion)	38	38 (includes Battalion)
Shooting & Melaupad (Deflection Teacher, latter).	26	12	26	22
Ammunition.	6	6	6	6
Gun Drill.	12	12	12	12
Stripping.	16	8	16	15
Field Gun Drill.	6	6	6	6
Battalion.	4	--	4	--
TOTAL	<u>108</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>108</u>	<u>99</u>
	(12 weeks)	(9 weeks)	(12 weeks)	(11 weeks)

1 week's Mechanical training perhaps might be ~~added~~ ^{taken} off present course

Shotley