



SUPPLEMENT to  
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*Admiralty-Office, January 7, 1796.*

**D**ISPATCHES, of which the following are Copies and Extracts, have been received at this Office from Rear-Admiral Rainier, commanding His Majesty's Ships in the East Indies.

*Suffolk, Back Bay, Trincomalé,  
 August 14, 1795.*

**A**greeably to the Intimation in my last Letter of the 20th Ultimo, by the Royal Admiral, that Ship and Lafcelles have arrived here, therefore take the Opportunity, in Addition thereto, to request you will please to acquaint their Lordships, that the Transports having received the Stores and Ammunition, and the Troops embarked, which, owing to the unremitting Exertion and Attendance of Colonel Stuart, the Commanding Officer on this Service, was effected with much Expedition, I sailed from Madras, with the Centurion and Transports, the 21st following, having received on Board each of His Majesty's Ships upwards of 300 European Troops and their Followers, with the most of the heavy Artillery; Colonel Stuart and his Staff being with me in the Suffolk.

His Majesty's Ship *Resistance*, with Four European Flank Companies, a Transport, and the Suffolk's Tender, with the Remainder of the Troops and Baggage for the Malacca Expedition, sailed the same Day, and about Eight A. M. parted Company.

On the 23d anchored off Negapatnam, and having ordered the Troops appointed from thence to be immediately embarked on Board His Majesty's Ship *Diomedé* and the Transports there provided, being all Vessels owned and manned by Natives, left Negapatnam Road the 25th, each of the King's Ships and Two of the best sailing Transports having the

heavy sailing Vessels in Tow. On the 1st of August I anchored in Back Bay with the *Centurion*, being joined the Day before by Captain Gardner, in His Majesty's Ship *Heroine*, from Colombo, with Major Agnew, Deputy Adjutant-General, who had been sent to the Governor of that Place, the Chief of all the Settlements on Ceylon, with a Letter from Lord Hobart, and Instructions for his Conduct, under the joint Authority of Colonel Braithwaite and myself, to explain to him His Majesty's Commands, and the Purpose of the Armament. Major Agnew brought, in Return, an Order from the Governor of Ceylon to the Commandant of Trincomalé, to admit 300 of His Majesty's Troops to garrison Fort Oostenburg; to which, when presented to him, he refused Obedience, under a Pretence of Informality in the Order. The latter Part of this Day and greater Part of the following was occupied in receiving and replying to his Remonstrances relative thereto; which, as they were apparently calculated to evade the great Object of the Expedition, Colonel Stuart and myself determined on landing the Troops, and Preparations were making accordingly; but most unfortunately, as His Majesty's Ship *Diomedé*, with her Tow, were working up against a strong Land Wind into the Bay, she struck with so much Violence on a Rock, lying in Fifteen Fathoms Water, and not delineated in our Charts, between Pigeon Island and the outer Point of this Bay, that the Water the Ship made gained so fast on every Exertion of both Seamen and Soldiers at the Pumps, there was barely Time to take the Men out before she foundered, without a Possibility of saving a single Store of any Consequence but the Boats. The Employment of all the Boats on this pressing Occasion prevented the landing

landing the Army till the following Morning, when the first Detachment of 530 Europeans and 110 Natives, and Two Field Pieces, landed at the White Rocks, within Elizabeth Point, without Opposition, and were followed by the Remainder of European Troops and Natives as fast as the Boats could convey them. The Boats with the first Detachment rendezvoused on Board the Heroine, who was placed as near the Landing Place as she could anchor in Safety, and, on the Boats pushing off, presented her Broadside to cover them: The Broadside of the Suffolk and Centurion would also have done Execution, had there been any Opposition made. In the Course of the next Ten Days the Stores and Provisions were landed with all Expedition, not without the most vigorous Exertions of the Officers and Seamen, the Land Breeze blowing strong all the Time, as it still continues, and keeping up the most extraordinary high Surf I ever remember to have seen here: The Army had then to move them from the Landing Place to the Camp, a Distance of Three or Four Miles, over a very heavy Sand.

Colonel Stuart is making every Effort preparatory to the Attack of the lower Fort: The Dutch have as yet given no Interruption, as if the Commandant waited some further Authority, but appear to be hard at Work within. I can scarcely allow myself to think he will be so rash as to risk a formal Attack, but should that by the Cafe, the Event, from every Consideration, will, I have little Doubt of, be glorious to His Majesty's Arms; a short Time will decide. I have the Satisfaction to inform you, Sir, that the utmost Harmony subsists between the Officers and Men of both Services, which has much expedited their united Labours.

*Suffolk, Back Bay, Trincomalé,  
August 30, 1795.*

S I R,  
I Have the Pleasure to acquaint you, for their Lordships Information, that the lower Fort and Town of Trincomalé surrendered to His Majesty's Arms the 26th Instant, the Eighth Day from the opening of the Trenches, a Work the Enemy most unaccountably never interrupted. The grand Battery of 8 Eighteen Pounders and 2 Ten Inch Mortars, from Five to Six Hundred Yards distant from the Glacis of the N. W. Bastion, was so judiciously planned by Colonel Stuart, and the Work so ably executed, as to do amazing Execution from its first opening, dismounting, in the Course of the Attack, almost every Gun the Enemy could bring to bear upon it.

There were also Two Batteries erected to the Right of the Grand Battery, One of 2 Twelve Pounders, the other of 2 Eight Inch Howitzers, that annoyed the Enemy much, and diverted their Attention from the working Parties of the Grand Battery, which was opened on the 23d Instant. During the Three first Days, the Enemy kept up a very smart Fire from all their Works that looked towards our Batteries, but with little Execution, and few Casualties. The Breach was effected directly over the Sea Gate and Landing Place of the Fort at Back Bay; and when practicable, on the Morning of the 26th, a Summons was sent by a Drum with the Conditions of Surrender. The Return was an inadmissible Demand from the Commandant on the Part of the Garrison. However, after some little Ceremony, he surrendered on the Terms offered, with some few Explanations; a Copy whereof, with a List of Killed and Wounded, and Return of the Ordnance found in the Garrison, are herewith inclosed.

In the Course of the Operations of the Army, observing Colonel Stuart to be short of Men for Working Parties, the Distance of the Camp from the Trenches being nearly Two Miles, partly over a heavy Sand, and no Draught Cattle or Vehicle of

any Kind to assist, I pressed him to accept of the Services of the Seamen of His Majesty's Ships, who were accordingly landed as required, in Parties of One and Two Hundred, and worked with great Chearfulness. A Party of Twenty-seven Artillery-Men, who had entered at Madras, their Time being expired, were also at Colonel Stuart's Request landed to assist in the Battery under Mr. William Staines, one of the Midshipmen of the Suffolk. Three of the Suffolk's Upper Deck Guns were landed to supply as many found defective in the Grand Battery from Injury received, and false Boring.

Three Hundred Seamen and Marines, under the Command of Captain Smith, late of the Diomedé, were also under Orders to assist in storming the Breach, had the Enemy determined to hold out: With the Seamen were Lieutenants Page and Hayward, with Messrs. Clarke, Dredge, Jennings, Elliott and Percy, under Captain Smith's Orders for the Seamen, and Lieutenants M'Gibbon and Percival for the Marines; a considerable Part of both were selected from the Diomedé's late Crew.

I beg you will assure their Lordships that every Service required of the Captains, Officers and Seamen of His Majesty's Ships under my Command, was executed with amazing Alacrity and Steadiness, the only Contention being who should be foremost on every Service required.

Colonel Stuart and myself have sent all the Prisoners, with a few Exceptions, to Madras, in a Transport and Prize, under Convoy of his Majesty's Ship Heroine; their Number as per List. There appeared some Disposition among the Soldiers of the Garrison to Mutiny after the Summons was delivered, which probably accelerated the Surrender. His Majesty's Forces were put in Possession of the Garrison that very Evening; the Dutch Troops marched out, and grounded their Arms in the Battery.

Fort Oostenburg was summoned the Day following; but the Commandant refusing to surrender to the very favourable Terms offered it, Colonel Stuart is making every Preparation for the Attack of it.

Previous to the Surrender of Trincomalé, the Ships and Boats of the Squadron took two small Vessels laden with Provisions and Stores for the Garrison from Columbo, and some small Craft belonging to the Port; having also found One small Ketch under the Guns of the Fort laden with Rice, the Whole of little Value.

I have the Honour to remain, Sir, your most obedient humble Servant,

PETER RAINIER.

WE, the undersigned Officers commanding His Britannick Majesty's Naval and Land Forces before Trincomalé, summon you to surrender the Fort under your Command to His Majesty's Arms. Motives of Humanity alone induce us to make this Proposal to prevent an unnecessary Effusion of Blood. You must be sensible that the Place is no longer capable of Defence; by an immediate Surrender the Lives and private Property of the Garrison will be preserved; but if you resolve to stand a Storm, they must prepare to meet their Fate. In this Event we request that the Women and Children of the Garrison may be immediately sent out, and a Passport will be granted for them to proceed to a Place of Safety. One Hour from the Delivery of this Summons will be allowed you to form your Resolution, during which Time all Firing shall cease on our Part, unless provoked by Acts of Hostility on your's.

Camp before Trincomalé, August 26, 1795:

(Signed)

PETER RAINIER.  
J. STUART.



TERMS of CAPITULATION.

THE Garrison of Trincomalé, in Consideration of the Defence they have made, will be allowed to march out of the Fort with the Honours of War, Drums beating and Colours flying to the Glacis, where they will ground their Arms, and surrender themselves Prisoners of War; the Officers keeping their Swords. Private Property will be secured to them; but all Public Property, Papers, Guns, Stores and Provisions of every Kind, must be delivered up, in their present Condition, to the Officers appointed by us to receive them.

The Garrison to march out, and the British Troops to be put in Possession of the Fort, in One Hour after this Capitulation is signed; and Two Officers of the Garrison of the Rank of Captain to be delivered immediately as Hostages for the Performance of this Agreement. These are the only Terms we the undersigned Officers, commanding His Britannic Majesty's Forces, can grant. Major Fornbauer, if he accepts the Conditions, will sign this Paper, and return it by the Officers he sends as Hostages, within Half an Hour from the Time he receives it.

Given under our Hands, in Camp before Trincomalé, this 26th Day of August, 1795.

(Signed) PETER RAINIER.  
J. STUART.

GENTLEMEN,

I Request you will be pleased to admit of an Armistice of Twenty-four Hours for the Purpose of settling the Term of the Capitulation, the first of which is—"the unmolested Departure of the Garrison by the Way of the Breach, with Permission to retire to Colombo or Jaffanapatam." In the mean Time I have the Honor to remain, with great Respect,

GENTLEMEN,

You most humble and most obedient Servant,

J. G. FORNBAUER.

Trincomalé, August 26, 1795.

GENTLEMEN,

IT is proper that I should consult the Officers of the Garrison respecting the Articles of Capitulation, and I shall have the Honor of transmitting my Answer by Two Officers, whom I shall send to you at Four o'Clock this Afternoon.

I request you will be so good as inform me whether the Paper you have addressed to me is considered as the Capitulation; because, in such Case, it will be impossible, in the Space of One Hour after its being signed, to put His Britannic Majesty's Troops in Possession of the Fort.

I have the Honor to be, with great Respect,

GENTLEMEN,

Your most humble and most obedient Servant,

J. G. FORNBAUER.

Trincomalé, August 26, 1795.

*CAPITULATION, according to the Terms of which Fort Trincomalé shall be surrendered to the Troops of His Britannic Majesty, viz.*

Article I.

THE Garrison to march out Tomorrow Afternoon at Four o'Clock, by the Breach, with the Honours of War, Drums beating and Colours flying. They will lay down their Arms on the Glacis of the Place. All Officers, whether Europeans or Indians, shall be allowed to retain their Arms. The Creeses of the Malays shall be packed up and deposited in a Chest, in order to be afterwards delivered to them in case of their being sent back to their own Country, these being their personal Weapons, which they can never consent to part with.

Answer.—The Garrison shall march out at Sunset this Evening in the Manner demanded; but the Redoubt, the Cavalier on the Flank of the Breach, and the Zeeberg Bastion, must be immediately given up to the British Troops. The Creeses of the Malays shall be disposed of in the Manner requested; and the whole Officers and Men shall be considered as Prisoners of War.

Article II.

All Stores and other Effects belonging to the Company shall be delivered up to such Persons as the Commanding Officers of His Britannic Majesty's Forces may appoint.

Answer.—Granted.

Article III.

The European Officers shall not be sent to Europe contrary to their Inclination.

Answer.—Granted.

Article IV.

The Private Property of the Garrison, as well as that belonging to Individuals, shall be preserved to the several Persons respectively.

Answer.—Granted.

Article V.

All Persons in the Civil Employments of the Company shall have Liberty to retire to another Part of the Island,

Answer.—It is not in the Power of the Officers commanding the British Forces to grant this Article.

Article VI.

The Sick and Wounded shall be treated with all convenient Care and Attention.

Answer.—Certainly.

Article VII.

The Garrison shall not be subject to Reprisals.

The Commandant requests Permission to transmit all Papers respecting the Siege to the Governors of the Island, by an Officer in the Company's Civil Employ.

Answer.—Granted.—Copies of the Papers to be submitted to the British Commanders.

Dated at Fort Trincomalé, the 26th of August, 1795.

(Signed) J. G. Fornbauer.

Signed, by Authority of  
Commodore Rainier  
and Colonel Stuart,

P. A. Agnew,

Dep. Adj. Genl.

(Confirmed)

Peter Rainier.

Ja. Stuart.

*A General Return of the Killed and Wounded of the Seamen of His Majesty's Squadron under my Command, during the Siege of Trincomalé.*

Suffolk—2 Seamen wounded.

Centurion—1 Seaman killed, and 2 Ditto wounded.  
Heroine—2 Seamen wounded.

Total—1 Seaman killed, and 6 Seamen wounded.

N. B. The Return of Ordnance taken in Trincomalé has already been inserted in the preceding Gazette.

Suffolk, Back Bay, Trincomalé,  
August 31, 1795.

S I R,

FORT Oostenburg surrendered to His Majesty's Arms this Morning according to the Capitulation enclosed, which please make known to their Lordships; and I flatter myself when 'tis considered how much Time and Labour is saved, that the Construction of Batteries, and the consequent Repair of the Works damaged when captured, would necessarily have required, the Number of Casualties

ties prevented, and Lives preserved, the great Advantage of obtaining Possession of so important a Fortification in an uninjured State at this advanced Season of the Year, in the Security thereby afforded to both Places from any Enterprize of the Enemy, with the Acquisition of the only safe Harbour on this Side of India, and that a very fine one, the great Object of the Expedition, the Value of this most seasonable Surrender can scarcely be too highly estimated. Much Commendation is due to the Deputy Adjutant General, Major Agnew, for his Ability and Dexterity in conducting this Negotiation with the Commandant of Fort Oostenburg.

I was on the Point of dispatching the Royal Admiral and Laſcelles with my former Letters of the 14th and 30th Instant, being uncertain as to the Event of the Business, when the Commandant of Oostenburg expressed his Inclination to surrender; and as I propose to recommend to the Government of Fort St. George to dispatch a Packet with this important Intelligence, shall not detain those Ships any longer, but leave to that Opportunity to acquaint their Lordships with the Return of Ammunition and Stores found in Fort Oostenburg.

Lieutenant Pul'am, of the Suffolk, cut out a small Vessel from under the Guns of Fort Oostenburg the Night before last, without receiving any Molestation from the Enemy, the Crew having abandoned her.

I have the Honour to remain, &c.

PETER RAINIER.

#### SUMMONS OF FORT OOSTENBURG.

S I R,

THE Capture of Trincomalé, the Garrison of which Place surrendered Yesterday Evening as Prisoners of War, having placed the Fort of Oostenburg entirely under your Orders, we, the undersigned Officers, commanding the Forces of His Britannick Majesty, at Trincomalé, demand of you to surrender the Fort of Oostenburg to the King our Master. The Officers and European Troops of the Garrison, if it is their Wish, will be immediately received into the Pay of Great Britain, with the Rank they now hold. Their private Property will be secured to them, and every other reasonable Indulgence which you can demand will be granted, as far as the undersigned are authorized by their Instructions to allow.

It must be evident to you, that Resistance cannot long preserve the Fort under your Command; if, therefore, your Refusal to surrender on the very favourable Condition we now offer obliges us to erect Batteries against the Place, no Terms will hereafter be granted; and if you are permitted to surrender, it must be at Discretion.

Major Agnew, the Deputy Adjutant-General of the Army, will have the Honor to deliver this to you, and is empowered by us to arrange the Terms of Surrender: Whatever he may consent to we will confirm.

Given under our Hands, in Camp near Trincomalé, this 27th of August, 1795.

(Signed) P. RAINIER,  
JA. STUART.

#### CAPITULATION of Fort Oostenburg.

THE Commandant of Fort Oostenburg surrenders the said Fort to His Britannick Majesty on the following Conditions:

#### Article I.

The Garrison of Fort Oostenburg surrender themselves Prisoners of War; but the Officers to be permitted to retain their Swords.

Answer.—Granted.

#### Article II.

Captain Weerman and Lieutenant Zellman, Engineer, request Leave to remain in the Fort, for the Purpose of arranging their private Affairs, and those of the other Officers.

Answer.—These Officers will be permitted to remain a reasonable Time for the Arrangement of their Affairs.

#### Articles III.

The Property of Officers and Soldiers shall be secured to them.

Answer.—Granted.

#### Article IV.

The Soldiers shall become Prisoners of War, and be delivered up to be removed from the Fort: They shall not be compelled to serve; and such of them as do not choose to enter into Service shall be sent to Europe at a convenient Opportunity.

Answer.—Granted.

#### Article V.

The Malays shall be well treated, and not compelled to serve either as Soldiers or Sailors.

Answer.—Granted.

#### Article VI.

The Storekeeper, his Assistant, and the Secretary, request Leave to remain in the Fort to settle their Private Affairs.

Answer.—These Gentlemen will be allowed a reasonable Time for the Arrangement of their Affairs, but are to be considered as Prisoners of War.

#### Article VII.

All the Articles of the Capitulation of Trincomalé, although not expressed in this Capitulation, shall be understood as extending to the Garrison of Fort Oostenburg, as far as Circumstances will admit.

Answer.—Granted.

#### Article VIII.

At Four o'Clock this Afternoon the Garrison will march out, with Drums beating, and lay down their Arms.

#### Article IX.

All Provisions and Stores, as well as Papers, being Public Property, will be delivered over to His Britannick Majesty's Commissary appointed to receive the same.

Answer.—The Garrison will march out at Four o'Clock this Afternoon, in the Manner required by this Article; but a Detachment of the British Army must be put in Possession of the Water Pass Gate at Two o'Clock this Afternoon, and proper Persons will be appointed by Captain Hoffman to point out the Magazines, &c, that Guards may be posted for their Security.

Fort D'Oostenburg, 31st August, 1795.

(Signed) G. Hoffmann,  
Commandant.

(Confirmed) Peter Rainier.  
Ja. Stuart.

Signed by Authority of  
Commodore Rainier  
and Colonel Stuart,  
(Signed) P. A. Agnew,  
Dep. Adj. Gen.