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*Admiralty, July 10, 1855.*

**D**ESPATCHES, of which the following are copies or extracts, have been received at this Office from Rear-Admiral the Honourable R. S. Dundas, Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's ships and vessels on the Baltic Station.

*Duke of Wellington, at anchor off Tolboukin Lighthouse, July 2, 1855.*

"THE Arrogant arrived here from the neighbourhood of Biorko on the 28th ultimo, and returns to-day to the same station. I have directed Captain Yelverton to extend his examination of the coast as far westward as Lovisa; and I beg leave to direct their Lordships' attention to a report, herewith transmitted, which I have this day received from Captain Vansittart, of the *Magicienne*, through whose activity and zeal, with the aid of the *Ruby* gun-boat, a large number of vessels, laden with granite blocks, have been successfully destroyed in Werolax Bay."

*Her Majesty's ship Magicienne,  
Off Nerva Beacon, July 1, 1855.*

SIR,  
I HAVE the honour to report that, in obedience to orders received from Captain Yelverton, I left the anchorage of Biorko on the 28th of last month, with Her Majesty's ship *Magicienne* under my command, and *Ruby* gun-boat, in search of a number of vessels said to be freighted by the Russian Government to carry blocks of granite, and in the neighbourhood of the Island of LUKAR.

Having arrived off the Island of Kyskykyla the same evening, early on the 29th I proceeded in Her Majesty's gun-boat *Ruby*, and boats of Her Majesty's ship *Magicienne*, under the First Lieutenant H. B. King, to the very end of the bay, looking well in about the Island of LUKAR, and in boats ascending some little distance up the River of Kyskykyla, finding only four vessels, which, being both new and empty, I left unhurt.

The following morning, the 30th, I proceeded with Her Majesty's ship *Magicienne* and *Ruby* gun-boat, to the next large Bay of Werolax, where anchoring Her Majesty's ship *Magicienne* at the entrance, I proceeded to the very end of Werolax Bay, a distance of about nine miles, where I found a large granite quarry with near two hundred men at work, who at our approach went off,

Anchoring the *Ruby*, so as to command the whole place with the boats, I had the various vessels at anchor, consisting of thirty large galiots, boarded.

Twenty-nine being laden with granite blocks, I had them destroyed by fire.

With the exception of three or four rifle shots being fired upon us, which were quickly returned by rockets and rifles, we met with no resistance.

The head of Werolax Bay was evidently the rendezvous for the granite vessels, as, with the exception of one, all their sails were unbent, colours and papers secured, and most of their vessels were slung and buoyed, so as to be ready for scuttling if discovered, which many had commenced doing on the present occasion.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) NICHOLAS VANSITTART,  
Captain.

*Rear-Admiral the Hon. R. S. Dundas, C.B.*

*Her Majesty's Ship Arrogant,  
off Biorka, June 25, 1855.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you with my proceedings since the 18th instant.

On the 20th I anchored at Rotsinshalm, and took immediate steps for blowing up the fort, which was accomplished on the following day.

On the afternoon of the 20th I made a careful reconnoissance of Kotka, in the *Ruby*, and discovered at the back of the island, where I had not been before, large government buildings, with barracks fit to contain about 5000 men, stables, storehouses, and hospital, all of which I destroyed. The buildings had evidently been very recently occupied. I met no troops except a few Cossacks, who retired on our approach.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. R. YELVERTON,  
Captain.

*War-Department, July 5, 1855.*

**T**HE Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the appointment of the following Officers, of Her Majesty's Land and Naval Forces, to be Ordinary Members of the Military Divisions