



Magazine Room (Artillery Room)
is the store houses to keep explosives
and other items for the police force

Credits

We acknowledge these personalities for their invaluable contribution,

Sri. Padmakumar IPS ADGP

Sri. Prakash IPS DIG

Smt. Merin Joseph IPS
(SP HQ PHQ)

Sri. U. Abdul Karim IPS
(MSP Commandant)

Sri.Vivek Kumar IPS
(Commandant IRB)

Sri. Devakidas
(Assistant Commandant, MSP)

Sri. Suresh
(Assistant Commandant, Areecode)

Sri. Sajeesh Babu
(Assistant Commandant, Pandikkad)

Sri M.C Keshavan Nair
(Rtd. Deputy Commandant (Gr)

Sri. Suresh Krishna
(JS PHQ)

Sri.V.P. Promod Kumar
(DD SPMC PHQ)

Sri. Yusuf Ali,
Pandikkad

Sri. Nayem
(APSI, MSP)

Sri.Rajeev
(API Pandikkad)

Sri. Sirajudeen AS
(API KAP-1)

Sri Suresh Kumar
(API Melmuri)

Sri. Murali
(APSI, Klari)

Sri. Satheesh YM
(CPO 6184 Vizhinjam PS)

Sri. Hassan Razy FS
(CPO 17953 AR TVPM City)

Smt. Sandhyamol R
(WCPO602, KAWP Bn)

Sri. Rabeesh
(PC, Pandikkad)

Sri. Rahul
(HDR 13519 Pandikkad)

Sri.Prajosh
(HDR 14581, MSP)

Sri. Sajeesh
(Driver PC 14808, MSP)

Sri. Suneesh
(Commando 7166)

Sri. Dileep V
(PC 3850, RRF Klari)

We also with all humility acknowledge that some facts about MSP have been culled out from the book "Views from the ringside seat" by Sri. A.K.Vasudevan IPS former Commandant of MSP. We are grateful to him.

A special appreciation for Ms. Veena K John and Mr. Arun K John for the layout, design and graphics in this book and Sri Abin Prasad Cherthala for the photographs in this book. We also appreciate direct and indirect contributions of many Police Officers in this modest venture of ours.

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“Mukkali” (Tripod Bell)
Sentry duty officer strikes this to count out the hours.
Its also used for alarming purposes as well.



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"Their discipline and general behaviour were excellent, they marched admirably, and inspite of frequent attacks of fever and the greatest hardships, there was never any grumbling".

Mr.Happel
Inspector General of Police

Message from the Hon'ble Governor, Kerala



Arif Mohammed Khan
Hon'ble Governor of Kerala

ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN
GOVERNOR OF KERALA



RAJ BHAVAN
KERALA

26 February 2021

MESSAGE

I am happy to know that Kerala Police is celebrating the centenary year of the Malabar Special Police (MSP) in the most befitting manner.

Ever since its formation in 1921, Malabar Special Police (MSP) has shown commendable professionalism in maintaining law and order. It is a matter of pride that Malabar Special Police and its detachment camps have become top class training centres. Besides, the schools run by Malabar Special Police have been making immense contributions to society.

I am informed that Malabar Special Police intends to start a Football Academy during the Centenary Year.

My best wishes to all MSP Personnel and their families on the occasion of the Centenary Celebrations.

I wish the Centenary Celebrations all success.



[Arif Mohammed Khan]

From The Desk Of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Kerala



Pinarayi Vijayan
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala

The Malabar Special Police (MSP) was formed in the year 1921 in Malabar Province of the Madras Presidency **in infantry line**. They were used by the British to handle rebel natives. However, its role got changed Post-independence and it has become one of the finest Armed Police Battalions in the country; disciplined, well-trained and they have contributed immensely to the Policing in the State. They have been pressed into law and order duties, election duties, etc. inside and outside the State. The most remarkable thing to happen to MSP is that the main Campus of MSP and its detachment camps have become excellent training centres for the Police. A large number of activities have been envisaged for the Centenary celebration which is happening this year.

The MSP is 100 years old and it is a matter of pride for the State and the Kerala Police to celebrate 100 years with befitting programmes.

The Government has sanctioned a Football Academy inside MSP as part of this celebration. A number of people-oriented activities also will be undertaken during this year.

The Schools run by MSP have become the Centres of Excellence in Malappuram. I wish, MSP will continue its good work with much more glory than ever before.

It will undertake other activities beneficial to the people of Kerala.
My best wishes to the Battalion, its police officials and their families

Thiruvananthapuram
08-03-2021

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P.V.', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Pinarayi Vijayan
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala

From State Police Chief...



Loknath Behera IPS
DGP & State Police Chief

Malabar Special Police (MSP) is one of the oldest and most prestigious Armed Police Forces in India and the first of its kind in Kerala, established in British India in 1921. At present, the Malabar Special Police headquartered at Malappuram is an integral part of the Armed Police Force under Kerala Police with other sub camps at Nilambur and Melmuri.

This police force has been historically deployed to counter major internal security challenges across the country and is still being drafted for various important assignments concerning maintenance of public order. This battalion has also been developed as an effective, professional and renowned training centre for Recruit Police Constables of Kerala Police. The schools run by MSP are pioneers in providing quality education to residents of Malappuram.

This Police Unit had been known for its extraordinary tough training, effective handling of difficult law and order situations and the high standard of firing and military drills. It is a strong, disciplined, professional and trained police force with the primary mandate of tackling serious public order issues. This vision was put into practice admirably for the past 100 years.

Having been formed in 1921, MSP is celebrating its centenary in 2021. Year long programmes have been planned in order to mark the centenary in a grand and befitting manner. A centenary gate has been constructed at the MSP HQ which was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 27th January, 2021. It is also proposed to construct a 100 bed hospital inside the MSP HQ camp for police personnel and nearby residents; a police museum, football academy and bio-diversity park will also come up. A centenary postal stamp will also be released.

My best wishes to all the staffs of MSP and their families.
I also pay my respectful compliments to all the Police officers who have/had worked in MSP in the past. Their contributions are invaluable.

It is with great pride Kerala Police started the Centenary celebrations of MSP. On this historic occasion, we are releasing this coffee table book to document the rich legacy of the MSP for the present and future generations.

Loknath Behera IPS
DGP & SPC Kerala

Thiruvananthapuram
08-03-2021

History of Policing in Malabar

The History of Police in Kerala can be traced back to the imperial Chera dynasty which ruled the west coast of India till 1100 AD.

The maintenance of law and order and administration of justice was vested with the State. Owing to the introduction of Indian Police Act in 1861, Devan Rama Varma was entrusted with the preparation of a report, for establishing a law keeping force in the State which resulted in the inception of a police force in modern Kerala known as Royal Travancore Police. The present Kerala Police was founded in 1956.

The period of Tippu's Expedition had turned the administrative system in the Malabar area upside down and Malabar came under British monopoly with the Treaty of Sreerangapattanam. In British Malabar, Adhikari, Tahsildar and District Magistrate were holding the administrative charge of the Police in Village, Taluk and District levels respectively. The patriot Mappilas had always fought against the supremacy of the British. Malabar Police was reorganized in 1869 after the murder of Lord Conoly who was the Collector of Malabar. For convenience, Malabar was divided into two regions with Thalassery and Kozhikode as administrative centers. The lion's share of the Kerala Police was filled with the Nairsibandhi soldiers. In 1906, Malabar Police had a strength of 188 Officers, 1278 Police men and 106 Police Stations. In 1884, Malappuram Special Police was established for confronting the Malabar Rebellions.

After the Malabar Rebellion of 1921, it was transformed into a big force with 600 men and renamed as Malabar Special Police. It was typical for the British to bring police from outside the state always. In 1956, with the formation of the Kerala State, Malabar Special Police was divided and a part of it was taken to Tamilnadu.

Realizing that anarchy prevailed in Malabar after the expedition of Tippu Sultan, Mooppans were appointed for a salary of Rs. 25/- and they were given the powers of Police. In 1792, the British made Malabar a part of Madras Presidency. In 1794, the 1st Pazhassi Revolt took place and it continued for 3 years. It had ended in a temporary settlement in 1797. However in 1800, Pazhassi Revolt had broken out again. In 1802, orders were issued prohibiting the natives to carry weapons with them. Kolkkar, the Police force that had existed 1500 years back was established again for implementing this order. In 1802, it has been recorded in Page 389, 1st Volume of Madras Gazetteer that Malabar Police Force had Jamedar-2, Daffedar-8 and Kolkkar- 277. In addition to this, another force was created namely 'Zilbandhi Force'. An armed force of 500 men headed by Captain Watson imparted training to 1200 Kolkars to handle the Pazhassi Rebellion. Pazhassi Raja was shot dead at Wayanad in 1805. A Police man named Karunakara Menon received a reward of Rs. 3000/- for that killing.



One of the oldest coloured map of Malabar. The MSP has approximately 250 similar maps.

Historical Backdrop of Malabar

As stated by Al-Beruni, the whole region of Malabar comprised of different regions such as the former nine taluks of Kottayam, Kurumbranadu, Calicut, Wynad, Ernad, Walluvanad, Ponnani and Palghat, which was compactly populated with people from various caste and communities. Malabar, one of the two districts of the Madras Presidency situated on the west coast of India, lies between N.Lat.10° 15' and 12° 18' E long. 75° 14' and 76° 15', and stretches along the shores of the Arabian sea for a distance of 1500 miles. Bounded on the north by South Canara and on the south by the Cochin state, the district was divided on the east from Coorg, the Nilgiris and Coimbatore by the Western Ghats, an almost continuous mountain wall broken only by the Palghat Gap.

The place name 'Malabar', traces its origin as back as 11th to 12th centuries when Muslims who came to trade here began to identify them as the land mass of mountains. When one goes further back it is clearly understood that 'Malabar' constitutes of two parts namely 'Ma-la' and 'bar', where the former is of a Dravidian origin signifying mountains and hills and the latter 'bar' means huge land mass or a country for Arabs and Persians respectively. Moreover, Arabs who often came here for trade purposes used to call this place as 'Malai'. Further the land region was further adorned by 'sahyan' mountain ranges alongside rivers and lakes like Neeleswaram puzha, Ezhimala puzha, Sulthan canal, Thaliparambu canal etc. More so, from the time of Comos Indicopleustus down to the eleventh century A.D., the word 'Malabar' was applied to the coast by the Arab navigators: and the seafaring population who flocked here subsequently for pepper and other spices. 'Malibar', 'Manibar', 'Mulibar', and Malabar were the various forms of the name, which meant the hilly or mountainous country, a name well suited to its configuration and geography.

Malabar was created as a District of the Madras Presidency in which the present 6

districts such as Kasargod, Wayanad, Kannur, Kozhikkode, Malappuram, Palakkad and Mattancheri in Cochin province and Anchuthengu in Travancore were included. The Kurichya Rebellion of 1812 was quelled after besieging several Kurichya Villages and many of them were shot dead. The Police system was re organized in 1816. The Naduvazhi and Police Aameen were entrusted with the charge of Village police. In 1830, Kurichya Rebellion again occurred and that was also suppressed.

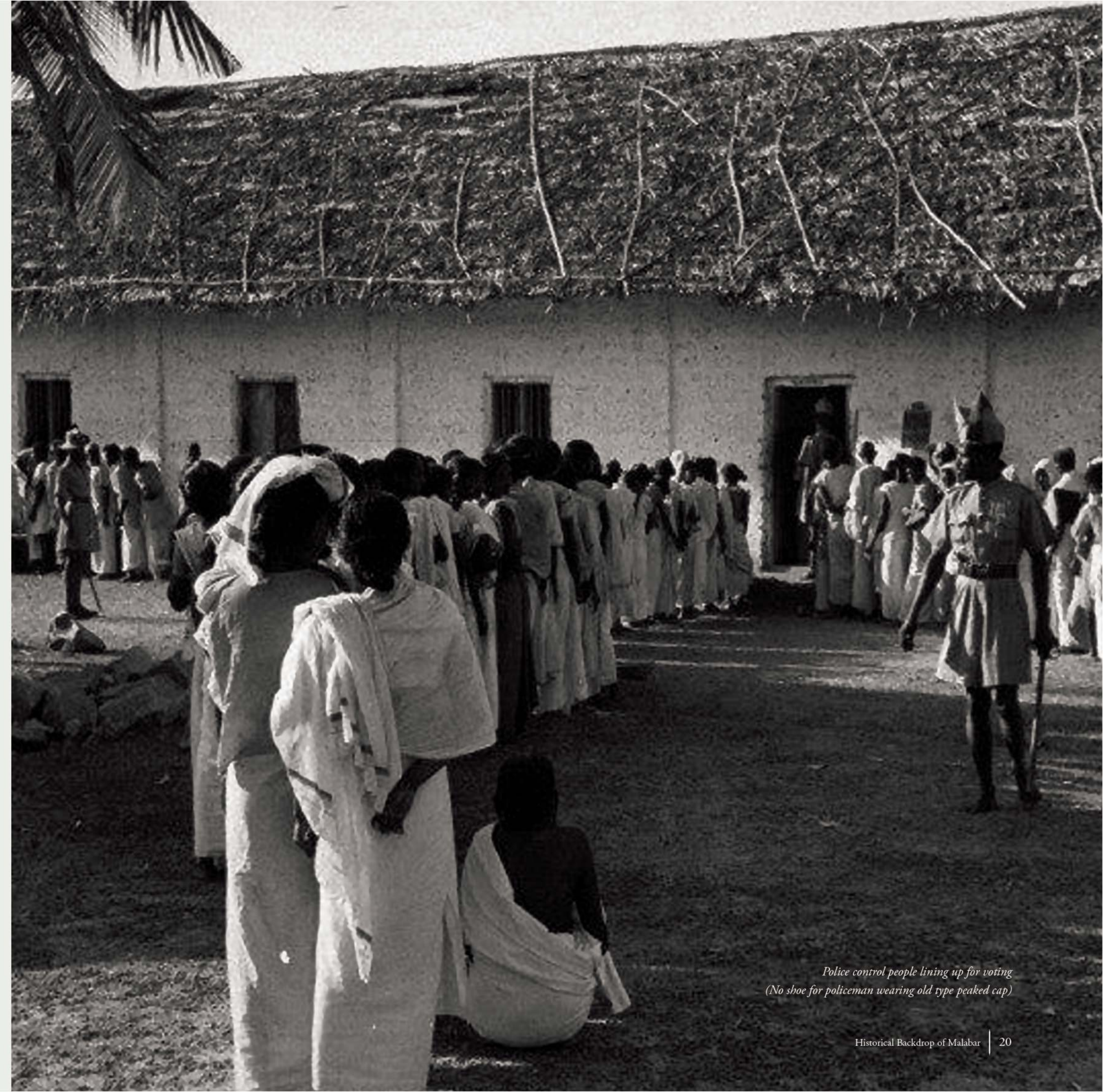
In 1852, first people's agitations known as Mappila/Moplah* Mutiny broke out. The District Collector, T S Strange conducted studies about these mutinies and submitted a report. In 1855 Tortur Commission also submitted a Report. On the basis of this Report, Madras Presidency was divided into twenty in order to create 20 posts of Superintendents and formulated a new Police Force. In 1851, Madras Police Manual came into force. Police was modernized as per the Police Manual. In 1858, William Robinson was deputed as the first Chief Police Commissioner.

In 1853, Police was reconstituted as per the 24th Act. Malabar was divided into North Malabar and South Malabar. Thalassery was the capital of North Malabar. South Malabar functioned having Kozhikkode and Palakkad as its centres. 32 Mappila Rebellions happened from 1852 to 1885. In 1885, WW Logan submitted report on the Moplah Rebellions. This Report is known as Logan's Manual. As per the instructions in this

Manual, a force namely Malappuram Special Police with strength of 300 was created at Malappuram. In 1906, Malabar Police included 106 Police Stations, 188 Officers and 1278 Police men. State Police was also set up in Malabar who worked in the sea coast. In 1921, Mappila Rebellion broke out across Malabar especially at Ernadu and Valluvanadu. Government suppressed the Rebellions with the help of Sikh Regiment and Gurkha Regiment.



* Mappila, a malayalam term, was referred to as 'Moplah' by the British



Police control people lining up for voting
(No shoe for policeman wearing old type peaked cap)

Formation of the Malappuram Special Police

During the Malabar Rebellion, the Malappuram Special Police was established in 1885 as the largest Battalion in India with 49 Companies and it was named ‘Malabar Special Police’ (MSP). MSP, initially known as Malappuram Special Police is the oldest Battalion in Kerala formed in the year 1884. The purpose of the formation of MSP was specially to deal with the social unrest in the Malabar region. The beginnings of this force are to be found in the Nayar silbbandy Corps raised under native chieftains towards the end of the 18th century. The Nayar silbbandy Corps were developed to overawe the Moplahs. Later their place was taken up by a Force of 500 armed police men raised mainly for the purpose of collecting revenue. The Force suppressed a gang of Moplah fanatics, who settled in Chembrassery Village.

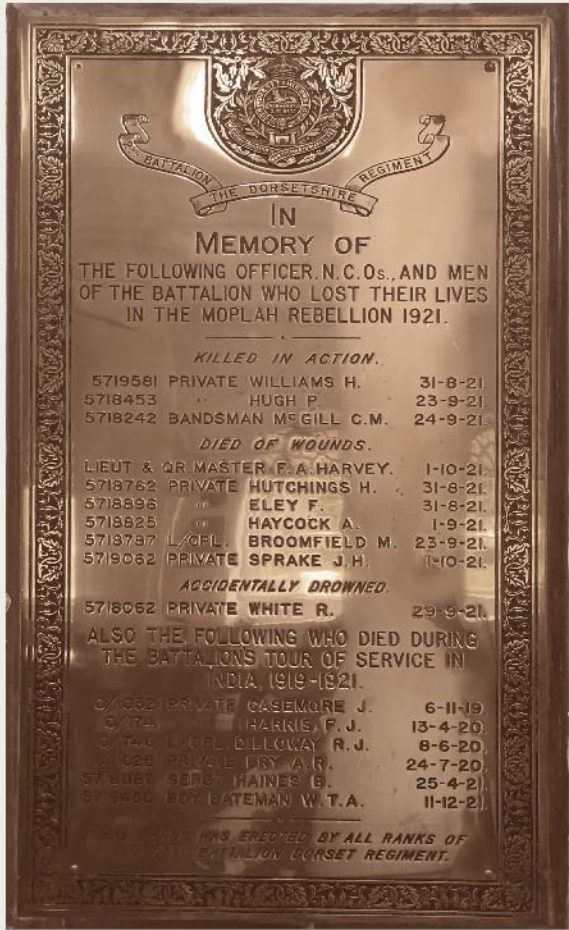
The Malappuram Special Force armed with Martin Henry Single shot rifles proved insufficient before the guerilla tactics adopted by the rebels. The Government on 30th September, 1921 sanctioned strength of 6 British officers, 8 subedars, 16 jamadars, 60 Havildars and 600 constables to be formed into companies of an auxiliary police force. This was later called the Malabar Special Police.

Subsequent to the outbreak of Mappila Rebellion, Malapuram Special Police was disbanded and Malabar Special Police was formed in 1921 well before the formation of Kerala State to maintain the law & order in Malabar region under Madras Provincial Government headed by the British Emperor. There were 2 other MSP Bns (MSP II & III BNs) also which were disbanded after Nagaland operation.

In 1929, British King awarded the Malabar Special Police with the honour of ‘Udhivikrama’ that means ‘Brave in Battle’. It is a part of our history that when the Independence Movement became strong in Malabar,

British suppressed the movement by using this Police Force.

British were also ready to utilize the Police System against the Peasants Revolts in Malabar. The Peasant Revolts were suppressed in various parts such as Morazha, Kayyur, Karivallur, Kodakara, Mattannur, Valarpattanam and police opened fire at peasants. There were protests in Malabar also during the Quit India Movement. This was also suppressed. Some were killed in the gun fire at Thalassery. Police System was used to confront the Peasants Revolts in Malabar.



Moplah Revolt Memorial



Entrance, MSP Headquarters, Malappuram

Strength of the Force in 1921*

After the visit of the Hon'ble Sir William Vincent, K.C.S.I., I.C.S., to the area on 20th October proposals were sent up to raise the strength of the force to six British officers, 24 Indian Officers, 60 non-commissioned officers and 600 men on 25th October 1921 and in G.O (Ms) No 809/21 dated 28-10-1921, this was sanctioned. The six companies were allotted to Nilambur, Arikkode, Tirurangadi, Kuttipala, Angadipuram and Karuvarakundu. For local reasons it took considerably longer to raise the second half of this force, in fact 'F' company the last to be raised was only ready to march out from Calicut late in January 1922 and was never actually in action

Recruitment & Training*

Recruitment was conducted by Richard Hitchcock as the first Commandant and the initial training was given at Cannanore under North Malabar DSP G.G.Tottenham, I.P. Who later became the Commandant. He was awarded King's Police Medal for gallantry for his heroic defense of the Feroke Bridge, an operation which saved Calicut town from the advancing rebels. The use of Malabar Special Police was an outstanding example for the deployment of special police on a large scale in India.

Training*

Haigh Barracks was constructed in 1920s by the Britishers for stationing the Army Units deployed in the region consequent on repeated disturbances of Communal nature as an aftermath of Khilafat Movement and the resultant Moplah rebellion. The

famous building Contractor Chirukandan Mesthiri of Calicut was the builder of the magnificent edifice which was fort like and even in 1949 remained as strong and sturdy as it must have been at the stage of completing the construction.

There were five barracks each 50 meters long parallel to each other with play and parade grounds in between the blocks. One end of each barrack was connected with a similar building used as mess and kitchen plus dining hall. The other side at a higher elevation than the barrack had a beautiful guard room, officers' dormitory, officers' quarters and officers' club. There was a powerhouse in the Campus working all the 24 hours and the entire camp and the Head Quarters of MSP nearly half a mile away from the barracks were all provided with electricity from this power house. Downhill the southern side ended in a steep drop of 150 feet to the river which horse shoed in and away again towards Kottappadi bridge on the Malappuram Kottakkal road. The sight from the dining hall to the river side was almost similar to a view from an aero plane just before landing. With Coconut trees spread far down along, broken here and there by small mud made red houses presented a pretty scene on the valley. A pump house was there on the river side and it worked all day long with the power from the power house. The Camp well maintained with all facilities gave the appearance of a regular military camp.

A few years after the formation of Malappuram District at the instance of the Indian Union Muslim League, there was a concerted effort to have Haigh Barracks



Old Barrack in MSP, Malappuram (Current Sports Hostel)

transferred from the possession of Government of India to Kerala Government. The reason conjecturally pointed out was for shifting the Collectorate and related offices as there were no suitable buildings available for the purpose at that point of time.

Since the British Army stationed in the barrack was used for suppressing the rebellion of 1921 and also that since the Malabar Special Police had played a major role in that operation was, at that time, occupying the building with a portion shared by the Territorial Army, the leadership of the IUML had determination to get it and make use of it in a manner as they thought it fit. After lot of ups and downs in the negotiations, the Camp was finally handed over to Kerala government by the Defense Ministry in Delhi. The Collectorate of the District till then functioning elsewhere was shifted to these barracks which neither in construction nor in layout was in any manner or means suited for a Collectorate to function in. The very day the barracks were converted most unnaturally into a Collectorate, the beauty, the cleanliness, the dignity and the grandeur of the edifice disappeared in one stroke. Day after day the entire face of the structure and surroundings went on changing for the worse. Flags of different Unions and Associations were displayed at odd places, posters and notices found all over the walls. It took only a few months for this area to be transformed into an area unredeemable nasty and disaster stricken. The famous Haigh Barracks thus became just a memory leaving nothing to be remained of its past glory.



Moplah Rebellion 1921

* As published in "Views from the ringside seat: Reminiscences of four Decades of Police Service" by A.K Vasudevan, IPS (Retd.), Samayam publications, Kannur, 2011

Malabar Special Police After Moplah Rebellion*

After the rebellion in Malabar was put down, MSP was deployed on the Eastern Ghat in Vishakapatnam in Andhra Orissa region. Sitharam Razu, a Kshatriya by caste, had raised the banner of revolt among the aboriginal tribesman of Ouden hills. Hayter of the Indian Police had been ambushed and killed by Razu's rebels. It was finally decided by the Government of Madras Province to call the Malabar Special Police.

The 'Fituri', as the rebellion was called, lasted till May 24, 1924 when Sitharam Razu was shot while attempting to escape while in Custody. The Inspector General of Police, Madras Province in his Administration report to the government wrote "The work and Conduct of MSP in the field was excellent. It is most regrettable that the health of the force has been seriously impaired by their in service on the operations and I fear that it would be long before they completely recover from it. They performed great feats of energy and endurance in driving through the jungle and maintaining an ever cheerful spirit in spite of constant attacks of fever."

Fifteen years following the 'Fituri' operation was one of comparative peace, although the units were called out from time to time to maintain law and order in various parts of the Presidency, chiefly in connection with the disturbances arising from the Nationalist movement, the highlights of which were the agitations over the Simon Commission in 1928 and Civil disobedience movement of 1930-31.

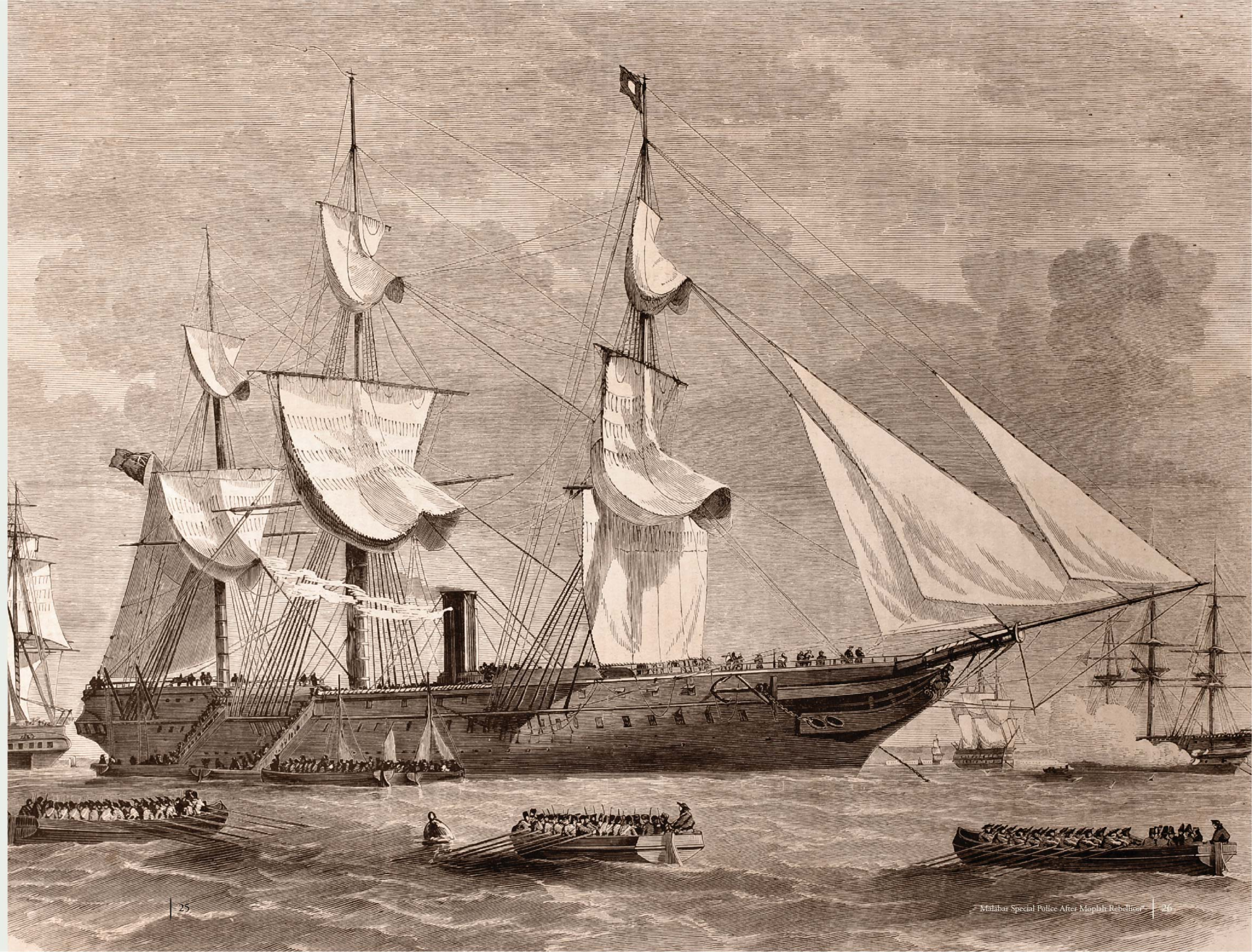


Metronome (Page 53)

Biannual inspections by senior military officers were introduced in 1929. In 1945 after the world war inspections were made and continued up to 1956 when it was unfortunately discontinued after the State's Reorganization and the formation of the new Kerala State. Some had the feel that inspection by the Army Officers been allowed to continue, at least triennially, MSP would have become a frontline striking force in the country like BSF and ITBP. Latest type of weapons and equipments would have been provided by the Army and the Unit would have come under Government of India like Assam Rifles. Glowing tributes were paid by Senior Military officers on the work and functioning of the force in General.

After the second World War broke out in 1939, the force was, step by step expanded from 6 to 16 companies to meet demands of war. The indiscriminate expansion done in haste led to some serious problems in later years. During the war years, MSP was deployed at vital installations all over the sub continent including Telengana area to combat communist intervention.

MSP was guarding the Madras harbor when Japanese planes bombed the area. The instant relief work done by the force on that occasion was highly appreciated by the public and the government.



* As published in "Views from the ringside seat: Reminiscences of four Decades of Police Service" by A.K Vasudevan, IPS (Retd.), Samayam publications, Kannur, 2011

Endeavours Outside State*

A. HYDERABAD OPERATIONS *

Three companies of MSP took part in the Hyderabad operation.

The unit has the distinction of being the first police force in the history of the country to be included in a Military operation and to be assigned an infantry task. This was made possible because MSP was held in high esteem at the highest level of the Army consequent on the glowing tributes recorded by top level Army officers during the ongoing military inspections. Constable Appu Nair was killed in the operation along with some army personnel and was awarded posthumously the President's Medal for gallantry and his mother was granted pension. Three others also from MSP got awards for gallantry during the campaign and three junior officers Police Medal for meritorious service

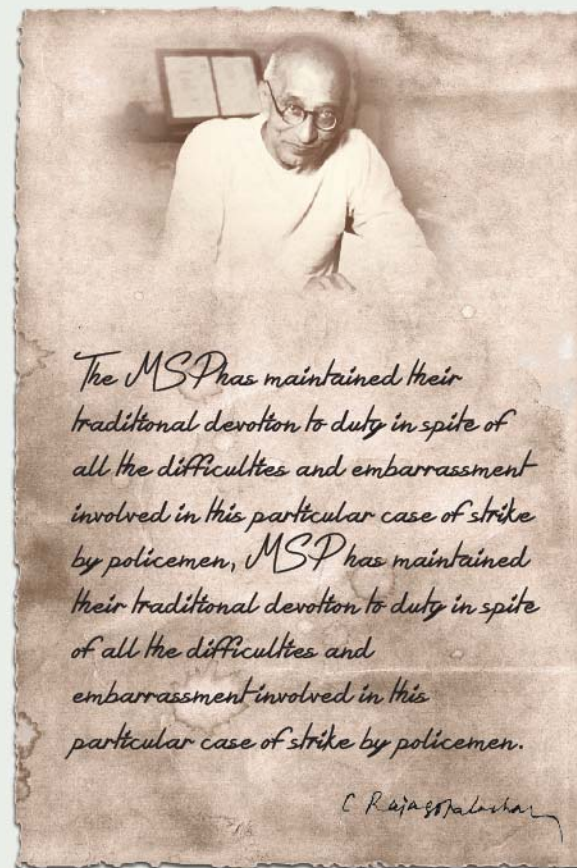
B. NAGALAND OPERATION *

After the States reorganization in 1956, MSP was bifurcated with 6 companies each going to Kerala and Tamilnadu States. After the Chinese aggression in 1962, the call for MSP came once again, this time it was from Government of India for deployment along international borders. Consequently, Kerala and Tamilnadu MSP Battalion were deputed to Nagaland and North Eastern states for border security duties. Army units from these areas were moved to Chinese borders and MSP took over the duties along with Assam Rifles and Bihar Military Police. The deployment lasted for five years.

C. CITY POLICE STRIKE *

In 1953 the Unit was called out to handle the city police 'Pay Strike' in Madras city. The entire police stations in the city were taken over by MSP officers after disarming the city policemen in a surprise move. Stoutly resisting all overtures from the powerful striking

leaders and the violence lashed out by them, the force displayed the utmost devotion to duty. **C.Rajagopalachari, Chief Minister of Madras State while expressing his appreciation wrote:**



D. BLACK SPOT *

Strike by a group of policemen in 1946 is a black spot in an otherwise unblemished record in the long history of the Unit. The strike was the outcome mainly of a rumor of retrenchment allegedly to provide placement for ex-servicemen returning after the war. Consequent to the strike large number of policemen was discharged from service besides dismissing some of them for disobedience and indiscipline of acute nature. There were complaints about Indian officers

indulging in corruption and ill treatment of other ranks. The officers involved were found to be misappropriating and misusing mess funds and uniform allowances of policemen. Some of the Indian officers were reverted in rank and some of them discharged from service also. One notable feature was that during the period of disturbances none of the policemen raised any complaint against British officers or misbehaved with them.

H.D.Latham a disciplinarian IP officer of Madras service took over as Commandant of the Battalion who ably and appropriately handled the situation and kept it under control. Two prominent Commandants namely H.G.C.Barboza and E.L.Stracey had made deep and comprehensive enquiries about the strike by MSP men and confirmed the causative reasons for the strike as already described. The unfortunate incident of the strike and the consequent action that took place in Madras City had no repercussions anywhere in Malabar area. Speculations of British Army bombarding Camps in Malabar were only created with ulterior motives to justify the strike and to gain sympathy and unwarranted concessions and benefits for those involved and got themselves dismissed.

Such attempts were successful to a certain extent and some of them even got pension from State Government by invoking the plea of freedom struggle in sympathy with the freedom movement in the country. There was no need for such agitations by policemen at that particular moment as independence was very much in sight at that time.



Cap of Kerala Police (Old Style)

* As published in "Views from the ringside seat: Reminiscences of four Decades of Police Service" by A.K Vasudevan, IPS (Retd.), Samayam publications, Kannur, 2011



Old Helmets used by MSP and Kerala Police

Establishment of MSP

BAND WING

The Band Wing of MSP was one of the old band wings in Kerala Police headed by a Sub Inspector. Brass Band is the

specialty of this unit which participated various ceremonies and competitions around the state and across the country.



Once there lived a beautiful goat in MSP Camp. It was affectionately raised by Commander HGC Barboza, Commandant of MSP (1950-1954). He got it when it was a kid. Mr. Barboza had a very good bond with the goat. He trained the goat like any other pet animal. The goat became excellent in marching in Rhythm with slow as well as fast beat. During 1950s, Mr Barboza sent this goat along with the

MSP Band wing to perform and precede the Processions and marching. The goat became the centre of attraction of the MSP band. The Team used to take the goat along with them across the country for many more performances. It continued for several years. It is said that, later during the formation of Kerala state in 1956, the goat has been handed over to Madras Presidency. After that what happened to the goat is unknown.



An illustrative representation of the goat

MSP and its current organization

The Malabar Special Police is one of the oldest, unique and prominent police units under Kerala Police that has a rich history both prior and after independence in India.

This unit is now one of the Armed Police Battalions of Kerala Police under Additional Director General of Police, Armed Police Battalions and Deputy Inspector General of Police, Armed Police Battalions, and MSP has its headquarters located at Malappuram in an area of 67 acres and two detachment camps at Melmuri and Nilambur.

The commandant with the rank of Superintendent of Police is the organizational Head of this unit. He is being assisted by one Deputy Commandant and Five Assistant Commandants. Main four companies include HQ company, Main Training Company (MTC) and F Company are operating from Head Quarters under Armed Police Inspectors Other three companies (A B and C Companies) are now operating from Nilambur sub Camp and one Company (D company) from Melmuri Sub Camp.

MSP is now one of the Armed Police Battalions performing various duties which include Law and Order, VIP Security, Traffic Management Sabarimala Pilgrimage etc. This unit already proved its mettle and devotion to duty in crucial juncture in different areas.



MSP Malappuram HQ

Firing Range at Melmuri

The firing range at Melmuri under MSP is considered as one of the old natural firing ranges in India. Now the entire Police force in nearby Districts is fully depending on this firing range to develop their tactical skills with modern tactical weapons.

The speciality of Melmuri firing range is the clarity of “Point of Aim” as the target is facing towards west. Hence when the sun rises, the light directly falls on the target and makes the target look clearer.

Another specialty of this firing range is that eight policemen can shoot at a time, unlike the usual six.



Close up of Shooting Butt

*Melmuri Firing Range, a view from a distance of 500 Yards.
Geologists says that this is one of the largest firing range in South India*

The Motto

“Yudhi
Vikrama

The motto of the force "Yudhi Vikrama" was written by a famous scholar and astrologist of Calicut in 1930's, Sri Norman Achutan Nair and adored ever since. The spirit of the motto ever remained as a beacon to remind the force of its responsibilities while performing duties under conditions whether normal or adverse, friendly or hostile and last but not least, peaceful or dreadful.

Logo

The logo shows a coconut tree, mountain and mixed form of sea and sky at the middle (represents the landscape of the region.) It is surrounded by paddy. At the top there is Ashok Stambh, which signify the national emblem and the bottom structure contains name of the unit Malabar Special Police.



A document that shows the official symbol of MSP(19-4-1927)



MSP Logo in Color



Flag

The rectangular horizontal flag of 3:2 ratios sectioned diagonally; Upper part green in color while the lower diagonal with blue in colour. The logo of MSP is placed at the centre of the flag.



Establishment of MSP

BAND WING

The Band Wing of MSP was one of the old band wings in Kerala Police headed by a Sub Inspector. Brass Band is the

specialty of this unit which participated various ceremonies and competitions around the state and across the country.



Once there lived a beautiful goat in MSP Camp. It was affectionately raised by Commander HGC Barboza, Commandant of MSP (1950-1954). He got it when it was a kid. Mr. Barboza had a very good bond with the goat. He trained the goat like any other pet animal. The goat became excellent in marching in Rhythm with slow as well as fast beat. During 1950s, Mr Barboza sent this goat along with the

MSP Band wing to perform and precede the Processions and marching. The goat became the centre of attraction of the MSP band. The Team used to take the goat along with them across the country for many more performances. It continued for several years. It is said that, later during the formation of Kerala state in 1956, the goat has been handed over to Madras Presidency. After that what happened to the goat is unknown.



An illustrative representation of the goat

**BATTALION
TRANSPORT OFFICE**

All the vehicles and records of this unit are maintained by Battalion Transport Office under a Sub Inspector who is designated as Battalion Transport officer. The repair and maintenance of the vehicles of this unit are carried out by BTO.



RANGE WORKSHOP

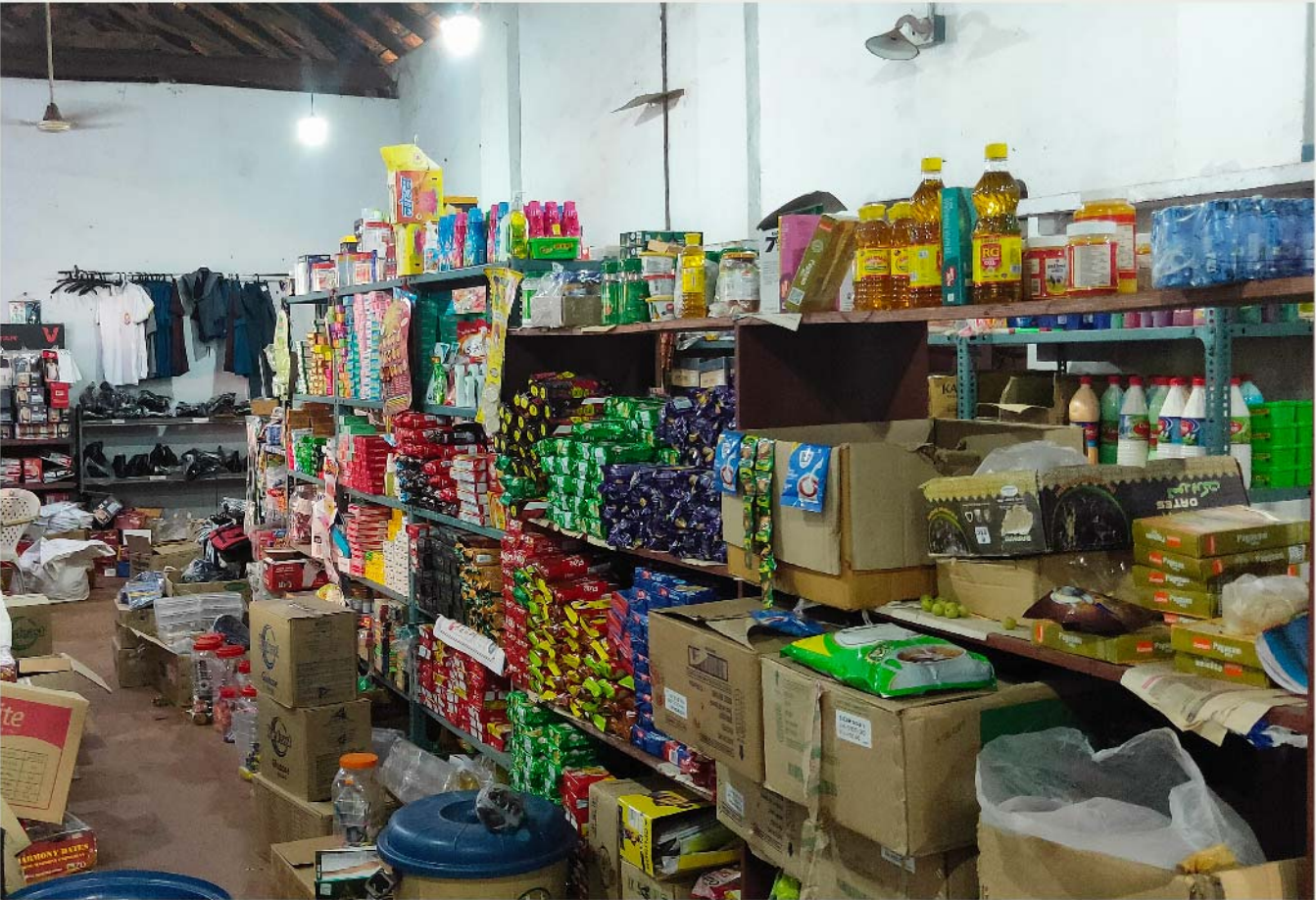
Range Workshop of MSP is one of the main motor repairing workshops established in MSP Malappuram with the objective to make prompt repair of the police vehicles of North Malabar. The Range workshop consists of different units which include mechanical, electrical, welding, water washing and painting etc.



**POLICE
WELFARE**

**POLISH STORE AND
PROVISIONAL STORE**

Initially a store called "Polish store" was started for issuing the uniform articles that include polish for polishing boots of the police personnel of MSP Later it was developed and the uniform articles of all ranks were made available. Based on the repeated requests of the police personnel and their families a provisional store was also started and provisions for the families of police personnel are available at cheaper rates compared to open market.



**CO OPERATIVE
SOCIETY**

A Co-operative society registered under Co operative Societies Act is functioning at MSP in order to provide financial Assistance to Police Personnel as part of the welfare measures. This is the only one society under the co operative sector among the Armed Police Battalion in Kerala.



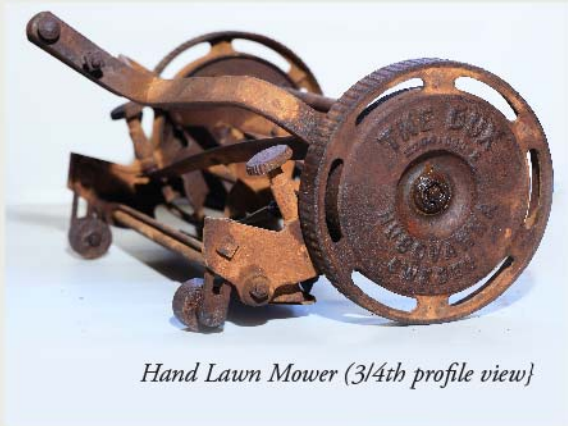
GYMNASIUM

To maintain the physical fitness of the Police personnel, a Gymnasium is functioning inside the camp with modern equipments which are effectively using by the Police Personnel and the sports Personnel of MSP.



An old 'push' mower.

An early hand lawnmower, made by the Swedish company Husqvarna. A beautifully simple and well-constructed piece of engineering that still works very well even today.



Hand Lawn Mower (3/4th profile view)



Hand Lawn Mower - approximately 120 years old (Frontal view)



*Knife sharpening equipment and
Old knives displayed next to it.*



Old Large Scale Blacksmith Bellows
(Made in England)

A Pear-shaped, double-action; wooden board with hand-forged hook-on base to suspend bellows - large stone sat on top to provide counter-weight. The bellows is made of leathers and it has tuyere (blast pipe).

Assuming that the production date is around Mid-19th Century-Late 19th Century



Blacksmith Bellows (Close Up View od blast pipe)

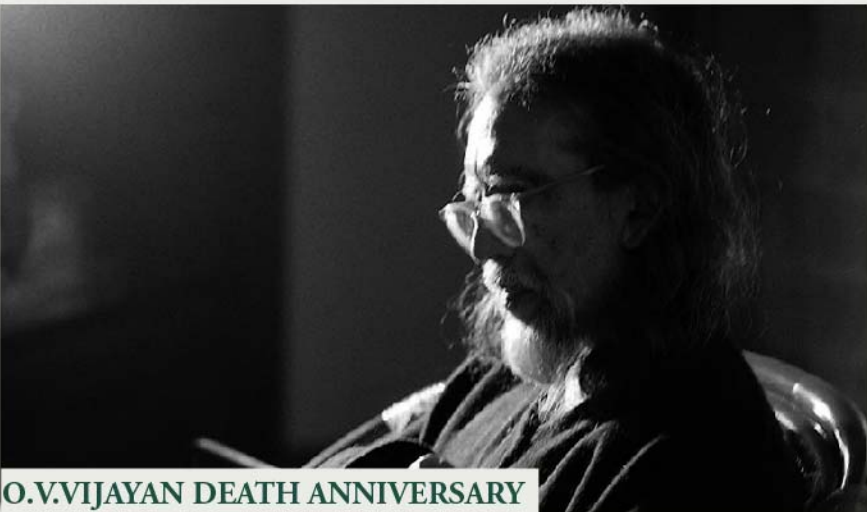
Public Welfare



TRIBAL MEDICAL CAMP



TRAUMA CARE TRAINING



O.V.VIJAYAN DEATH ANNIVERSARY



STRESS MANAGEMENT CLASS



WATER BED DISTRIBUTION



BEAT OFFICER TRAINING

Janamaithri Centre

Various social activities and awareness classes are being conducted under the auspices of Janamaithri Centre established in MSP. Pain and Palliative care activities, are undertaken

in various camps include Eye Testing Camp, Lifestyle Diagnostic Camp. Medical camp etc are arranged regularly. These are organized as the part of welfare and social activities.

There is a community Hall at MSP Head Quarters maintained for the welfare of the Police Personnel. This hall is also rented out to the public.



Janamaitri Centre, MSP, Malappuram

Contribution of MSP in Social Development

HEALTH

The Police Hospital at MSP was established in the early days of the regiment. The equipments were imported from Europe during the period. MSP Hospital was the only hospital in Malappuram with the facility of

operation Theatre and Mortuary. Now seven staff including two doctors are working. Medical Laboratory and pharmacy are also provided as part of supplementary facilities of this Hospital. This hospital also caters to the needs of the public. It is now proposed to expand this hospital.



MSP Laboratory



MSP Hospital, Malappuram



Exterior of Old Operation Theatre



Old Operating Table



Old Table Top Light

EDUCATION

MSP has two schools - MSP Higher Secondary School and MSP English Medium High School. Approximately 3,700 children are studying in both the schools and 163 teachers also serve here.

MSP Higher Secondary School

The MSP School was founded by Hitchcock to provide elementary education to the children of the policemen serving at MSP. Initially one havildar and one head constable were appointed as teachers in this school. The school initially consisted of two teachers and six children and was open only to the kids of police personnel, but later the children in the vicinity were also allowed to enter. In 1911 the school got approval of educational department of Madras government. This institution, formerly known as the Police School changed its name as Hitchcock Memorial School following the death of Hitchcock, MSP commandant, in 1921-24. In 1920 the school was upgraded as aided lower primary school and in 1958 the school was upgraded as upper primary school and in 1966 the school was further upgraded as high school. During the year 1970 the Hitchcock memorial high school was renamed as MSP high school. This high school was upgraded as higher secondary school in the year 2000.

Smart TVs are have been installed in all classrooms. To enhance the educational service classrooms have computer labs for improving IT standards. For the welfare of the community, the MSP School generates electricity from 15 KV Solar Panel Provided by KSEB.

MSP commandant is the EX- officio Manager of the school. It also has the distinction of being the only aided school in the state managed by the Police Department. This is one of the leading schools in Malappuram in matters of excellence in both academic and sports activities.



Higher Secondary Block and Play Ground



MSP English Medium School

Started as Kindergarten school in the year of 1974, the school was upgraded to upper primary school during 1987 and to high school in the year 1992. At present around 800 students are studying in this school with 56 teaching and non teaching staff. Since its inception, the school has been keeping the honor of 100% success in 10th Board examination. Some of the highlights include the smart classroom facilities. Student Police Cadet (SPC), Scout and Guides, Junior Red Cross (JRS) and one band team functioning at this school.



OFFICERS' BUNGALOWS

The following are the residential buildings designated for various superior officers of Malabar Special Police.



Commandant's Bungalow

SPORTS

MSP Grounds

MSP Battalion has 3 sports grounds. Among these, Public utilize two grounds for their morning activities like walking, running, jogging and other activities. Many sports tournaments are being conducted on this ground with the participation of the public. Several schools in Malappuram district utilize this ground for their sports activities.

MSP Football Academy And Sports Hostel

MSP Football Academy was established in 2000 under Kerala State Sports Council. There is a football hostel in MSP around 50 students are staying in this hostel. The selected students from MSP School of class 7 to 12 are staying here and a mess has been provided to these students. MSP sports grounds are provided to these students for their practice. The students had participated in many national and state level football tournaments and also were the winners in many tournaments. Many of them got selection in the national team. This academy was registered in AIFF in 2015. One sports hostel is provided for the students who are specializing in football is functioning at MSP Headquarters. It is financed by the Kerala State Sports council and managed by Malabar Special Police.



Achievements of MSP School In Subroto Cup

MSP Higher Secondary School had participated five times in Subroto Cup Football Championship. This was the first school from Kerala that entered in the quarter finals of Subroto Cup in 2008. In 2012, MSP Higher Secondary School bagged the runners up and in 2013, the school represented Kerala for Sub-Junior category. MSP higher secondary school reached on the final of Subroto Cup during 2014 and represented the whole nation in the finals and became runners up.



Inspection Reports of Visiting Officers

Biannual inspections by senior military officers were introduced in 1929 and it continued after Independence upto 1956.

Some precious credible esteem notes are:-

Major General Telfair Smollet
GOC Madras Area
on his visit in 1936

"An efficient mobile
and self-reliant force
which should give an
excellent account of
itself in the role which
it is required to fulfill
MSP is a crack
force."

Brigadier Habeebullah, Sub-area Commander,
Bangalore concluded his inspection report in
1949 as

The whole
organization
is well
molded and
efficiently
maintained.

Major General Mobite,
GOC Madras Area
recorded after his inspection in 1956,

A first class parade,
one of the best I
have seen

Awards & Rewards

The personnel of MSP have so far been awarded with 4 King's Police Medals and 4 President's Police Medal, all for Gallantry. Two officers secured President's Police Medal for distinguished service and 48 officers have been awarded President's Police Medal for meritorious service.

Malabar Special Police has major role in the history of policing in pre and post independence era. Malabar Special Police is being developed as a community interaction centre to promote the police- public interface for enhancing safety and security of the

community. Undoubtedly we can proudly say that MSP is an integral part of Indian Police System.



Silver Trophies (1923 onwards) and Shield gained by MSP for Sports.