

GEO. II. 1395

Admiralty Office

22^o Sept. 1772.

An Account of the number
of Guardships kept in
commission in the
several times of Peace
since the Treaty of Utrecht.

Admiralty Office 22. Sept. 1772

An Account of the number of Guardships kept in Commission in the several times of Peace since the Treaty of Utrecht.

In Feb. 1713

14.

| Rates | N ^o . of Ships |
|----------|---------------------------|
| 4. ----- | <u>5</u> |

Observations

In June 1714 another Guardship was added at Portsmouth & one at Sheerness. In Nov. following the numbers were reduced to Four.

In Feb. & March 1714

15.

| | |
|----------|------------|
| 3. ----- | 1 |
| 4. ----- | 7 |
| 5. ----- | <u>2</u> |
| | <u>10.</u> |

In May 1715 the numbers were reduced to seven & in Decem^r following to four, and continued so 'til May 1716 when one of them was sent to the Mediterranean.

In May 1716

| | |
|----------|-----------|
| 3. ----- | <u>3.</u> |
|----------|-----------|

In Octo^r 1716 two of them were discontinued, & in Dec^r following replaced again.

In Jan. 1716

17.

| | |
|----------|----------|
| 3. ----- | 3 |
| 4. ----- | <u>5</u> |
| | <u>8</u> |

This number was continued only for the month of Jan^r. There were none from that time 'til Feb. 1717/18 when three 3. Rates & one 4. Rate were appointed, but continued only that month and the month following, from which time 'til April 1721, there does not appear to have been any Guardships.

May 1721

| <u>Rates</u> | <u>N^o of Ships</u> |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| 3. ----- | 6 |
| 4. ----- | 3 |
| | <u>9</u> |

Observations

In July 1721 One Guardship reduced at Portsmouth & ordered to be fitted for Channel Service. In Sept^r 1722 they were fitted for other service; in Dec^r following five were again established, the next month one was reduced & no more than four employed 'til May 1723.

May 1723

| | |
|----------|-----------|
| 2. ----- | 1 |
| 3. ----- | 12 |
| 4. ----- | 5 |
| | <u>18</u> |

This number was continued 'til Jan^y 1725/6, from which time 'til Aug^y 1728 there does not appear to have been any Guardships.

Aug^y 1728

| | |
|----------|-----------|
| 3. ----- | 6 |
| 4. ----- | 9 |
| | <u>15</u> |

In March 1729 they were fitted for the Mediterranean and there does not appear to have been any Guardships from that time 'til Nov^r following.

Nov^r 1729

| | |
|----------|-----------|
| 3. ----- | 9 |
| 4. ----- | 5 |
| | <u>14</u> |

In 1730

| | |
|----------|----------|
| 3. ----- | 2 |
| 4. ----- | 2 |
| | <u>4</u> |

In May 1730 another Ship of the 3^d Rate was added to them.

In Sept. 1731

| <u>Rates</u> | <u>N.º of Ships</u> |
|--------------|---------------------|
| 3. ----- | 5 |
| 4. ----- | 1 |
| | <u>6.</u> |

In 1732

| | |
|----------|------------|
| 2. ----- | 1 |
| 3. ----- | 9 |
| 4. ----- | 1 |
| | <u>11.</u> |

In 1733

| | |
|----------|----------|
| 2. ----- | 1 |
| 3. ----- | 8 |
| | <u>9</u> |

In 1734 } These does not appear
 & } to have been any
 1735 } Guardships.

In 1736
 &
 1737

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| 3. ----- | 5 |
| 4. ----- | 4 |
| Fire-ships ----- | 2 |
| | <u>11.</u> |

Decem. 1738.

| | |
|----------|------------|
| 3. ----- | 6 |
| 4. ----- | 4 |
| | <u>10.</u> |

In Decem. 1733 the number of Guardships was increased to 19 but continued only two Months, they were then ordered to be fitted out for Channel Service and had their Complements greatly increased.

In the beginning of 1738 they were sent to the Mediterranean and no other Guardships appointed 'til December following.

These were continued 'til June 1739 when Hostilities commencing they were discontinued.

Augth 1748

| | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| <u>Rates</u> | <u>N^o of Ships</u> |
| 3. ----- | 3 |

Decem^r 1748.

| | |
|----------|------------|
| 3. ----- | 14. |
| 4. ----- | 6 |
| | <u>20.</u> |

In 1749 } The number of
 1750 } Guardships were the
 1751 } same as established
 in Decem^r 1748.

From May } 1752.
To October }

| | |
|----------|------------|
| 3. ----- | 11 |
| 4. ----- | 3 |
| | <u>14.</u> |

From Feb^r 1753

| | |
|----------|------------|
| 3. ----- | 12 |
| 4. ----- | 6 |
| | <u>18.</u> |

Observations

In Nov^r 1751 Two of the 4th Rate Guardships at Plymouth were discontinued & ordered to be fitted for foreign Service, which reduced the number to 18. In May 1752 four of them were sent with Troops to Gibraltar & Minorca.

In Nov^r 1752 They were all ordered to be paid off, and in Feb^r 1753 re-commissioned.

In Feb^r 1754 four of the Guardships were ordered to be fitted for the East Indies, four to carry Troops to Gibraltar and Minorca, & One sent to the North, which reduced the number to Nine. In June one 4th rate was added, & in Augth following three 3^d Rates & One 4th Rate were added which made the number fourteen; They continued so til Jan^r 1755 when Hostilities commencing they were discontinued.

The Guardships were established in June 1763 but did not exceed 6 in number, 'til Octo^r following when they were increased to Nine.

From Nov^r 1763

| Rates | N ^o . of Ships |
|----------|---------------------------|
| 3. ----- | 13 |
| 4. ----- | 1 |
| | <u>14.</u> |

In 1764.

| | |
|----------|------------|
| 3. ----- | 16 |
| 4. ----- | 4 |
| | <u>20.</u> |

In 1765

| | |
|----------|------------|
| 3. ----- | 16 |
| 4. ----- | 3 |
| | <u>19.</u> |

In 1766

| | |
|----------|------------|
| 3. ----- | 16 |
| 4. ----- | 4 |
| | <u>20.</u> |

From July 1766
To Sept^r 1770

| | |
|----------|------------|
| 3. ----- | 14 |
| 4. ----- | 4 |
| | <u>18.</u> |

In Sept^r 1765 One 4th rate was added.

In April 1766 one of the 3^d Rates, and in July following one other of the same rate, being in want of considerable repair, were paid off.

In Septem^r 1770 upon the appearance of a Rupture with Spain, they were all ordered to be fitted for Sea Service.

turn Over

In June 1771 the following
number of Guardships were established.

| <u>Rates</u> | <u>N^o of Ships</u> |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| 2. ----- | 2 |
| 3. ----- | 18. |
| | <u>20.</u> |

Observations

In Jan^r 1772 Two of the 3. Rates were
ordered to be fitted for the East Indies,
and they have been replaced by
two others.

to were
Indies,
by

[Faint, illegible handwriting]

