

CAMBRIDGE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY
1700 Cambridge Street

TO: CITY OFFICIALS, BLACKOUT COMMITTEE, DISTRICT WARDENS AND
WAR INDUSTRIES

FROM: DIRECTOR, PROTECTION DIVISION

SUBJECT: REMOVAL OF PERMANENT DIMOUT SHIELDING OR OTHER FORMS OF DIMOUT
LIGHT CONTROL.

The Massachusetts Committee on Public Safety, as a result of receiving numerous requests from municipalities and other sources for information with regard to the possibility of removing shielding or other forms of light control, have forwarded to me the following statement of the situation as it now exists.

I am transmitting it to you for your information:

"When the dimout was suspended by Army order, the following was appended as a warning but was not a part of the order itself -
'All concerns should be cautioned that a resumption of the dimout program may be ordered at any time and, therefore, permanent installations should not be altered so as to prevent a prompt return to present dimout requirements.'

"His Excellency, Governor Saltonstall, in issuing Executive Order No. 63 suspending Executive Order No. 55 issued the identical caution but did not embody it in the order itself. There are several reasons for this caution which are particularly pertinent to such installations as street lights, anti-sabotage lights and war plants. These are as follows: --

- 1 - If dimout should again be ordered, it will be an emergency measure and installations such as street lights, anti-sabotage lights, etc., that cannot dimout would undoubtedly be required to black out and remain blacked out until they can dimout. During such a continued period of blackout, public safety would be endangered from both accident and crime angles. The enemy would have excellent sabotage opportunities and war production would be seriously curtailed in such installations as were blacked out because they could not dimout.
- 2 - We know from experience the time it took to shield our street lights, anti-sabotage lights and war plants. Dimout materials and manpower are shorter today than previously. Manufacturers are no longer making dimout equipment. If the dimout returns, a very serious situation will result where shielding has been removed.
- 3 - As there is now no Army regulation or Executive Order requiring that shielding be retained, the final decision in regard to unshielding street lights rests with the municipalities and in regard to anti-sabotage lights and war plants with the management.

"We urge that municipal governments and war plant managements consider the situation well before ordering the shields removed. The responsibility for the results of such action will be theirs and theirs alone."

DANIEL NEEDHAM

DIRECTOR PROTECTION DIVISION

APPROVED: J. W. FARLEY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This bulletin should clear up some confusion which has existed as to the status of this type of lighting since the suspension of the Dimout.

Cordially yours

Walter L. Esom

DIRECTOR PROTECTION DIVISION



DR. WALTER L. CRONIN
CHIEF AIR WARDEN

City of Cambridge
Massachusetts

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY
PROTECTION DIVISION

AIR RAID PRECAUTION HEADQUARTERS
1700 CAMBRIDGE STREET
TROWBRIDGE 4500

EDWARD A. COUNIHAN, JR., CHAIRMAN
BARRISTERS HALL, BOSTON, MASS.
TEL. LAFAYETTE 7165

Mr. Frederick Burke, Esq.
City Clerk's Office
Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Burke:

Will you kindly transmit a copy of the enclosed bulletin
to each member of the incoming City Council.

Thank you

Cordially

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Walter L. Cronin".

Director, Protection Division

December 29, 1943

Communication
From Dr. Walter L. Auer
Director, Protection Division,
Committee on Public Safety, relative
to the removal of Permanent
Dismount Shielding or other Forms of
Dismount Light Control.

File

File With No. 11 Public Service 1944

In City Council JAN 10 1944

Referred to the Committee on

Public Service

Frederick H. Burke City Clerk

In City Council APR 17 1944

PLACED ON FILE

Frederick H. Burke City Clerk



City of Cambridge

IN CITY COUNCIL

February 7, 1944.

P111
ORDERED:-

That the Committee on Public Safety be requested to
consider having a street light installed in front of premises
No. ¹⁶⁹ Columbia Street.

Order

Street Light 169 Columbia St.

File With No. 11 Public Service 1944

File

In City Council APR 17 1944

PLACED ON FILE

Frederick H. Burke
City Clerk

Feb. 7, 1944.

In City Council _____

Referred to the Committee on

Public Service

Frederick H. Burke City Clerk

Mr. Pill

City of Cambridge

In City Council April 17, 1944

Committee PUBLIC SERVICE

The

to which was referred (1) communication and (1) order

Reports, Recommending that the

following be placed on File.

1. Order for Street light No. 169 Columbia Street
2. Communication from Dr. Walter L. Cronin Director, Protective Division, Department Public Safety relative to removal of Dimout shieldings & other forms Dimout light controls.

Sam Zator Jr.
For the Committee.

(91)

REPORT

Committee on PUBLIC SERVICE

Recommending that (1) Communication
& (1) order be placed on File.

A

April 17, 1944

Report received and

Recommendation ADOPTED.

Attest: Frederick H. Banks

City Clerk