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## 'File 28/17-C Action to be taken in the event of entry into the war of France'

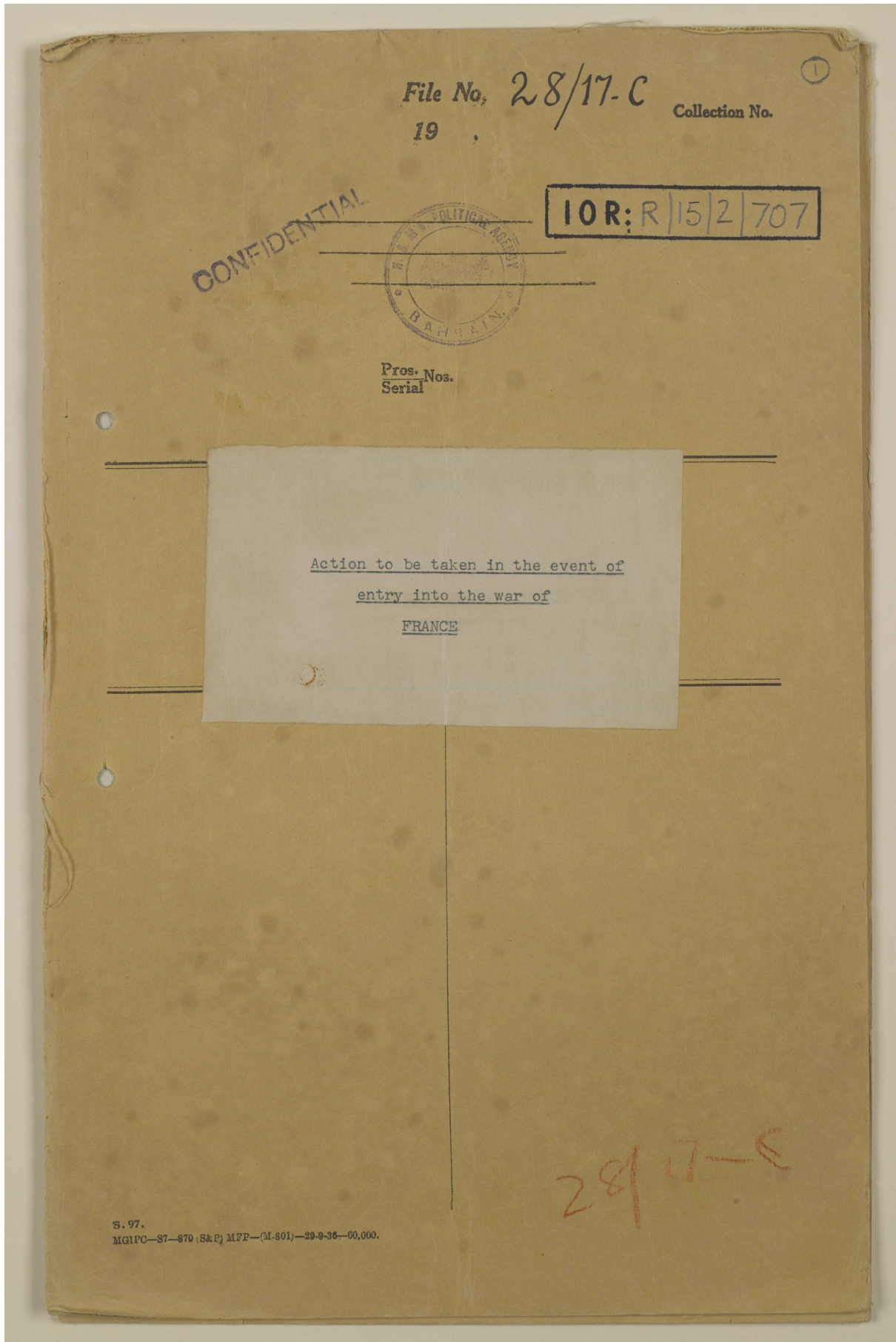
|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>Holding Institution</b>    | British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers |
| <b>Reference</b>              | IOR/R/15/2/707   |
| <b>Date(s)</b>                | 25 Sep 1940-18 Dec 1940 (CE, Gregorian)                  |
| <b>Written in</b>             | English in Latin   |
| <b>Extent and Format</b>      | 1 file (9 folios)  |
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### About this record

The file comprises copies of Government of India correspondence relating to actions to be taken or followed in the event of war with France, including: treatment of French colonies in Africa as enemy territory; detention of ships with French goods; French goods placed in prize (f 2). A copy of a telegram from the Secretary of State for India, dated 5 October 1940, lists those French territories that have declared for General Charles de Gaulle, and should not be treated as enemy territory (f 5). A telegram from the Principal Officer of the Mercantile Marine Department, dated 29 October 1940, states that France's possessions in India have also declared for de Gaulle (f 6).

'File 28/17-C Action to be taken in the event of entry into the war of France'  
[front] (1/22)





'File 28/17-C Action to be taken in the event of entry into the war of France'  
[front-i] (2/22)



'File 28/17-C Action to be taken in the event of entry into the war of France'  
[2r] (3/22)

I.R. 728  
26/9/40  
28/11

(2)

Telegram            S  
From                Government of India.  
To                   Political Resident, Camp, Shiraz.  
Repeated           Political Agent, Bahrain.  
                         Political Agent, Kuwait  
                         Political Agent, Muscat.  
No.                  3701  
Dated the 25th received the 26th September 1940.

Following telegram from Secretary of State to  
Commerce Department No.5378 dated September 11th repeated  
for information begins :-

In the event of outbreak of war with France, French colonies in Africa other than those which you know to have previously declared for Gaule should be treated as enemy territory and (besides action prescribed in War Book) ships carrying goods originating in or of interest to French enemy territory should be detained until goods are unloaded. The goods should be placed in prize when a High Court order is issued.

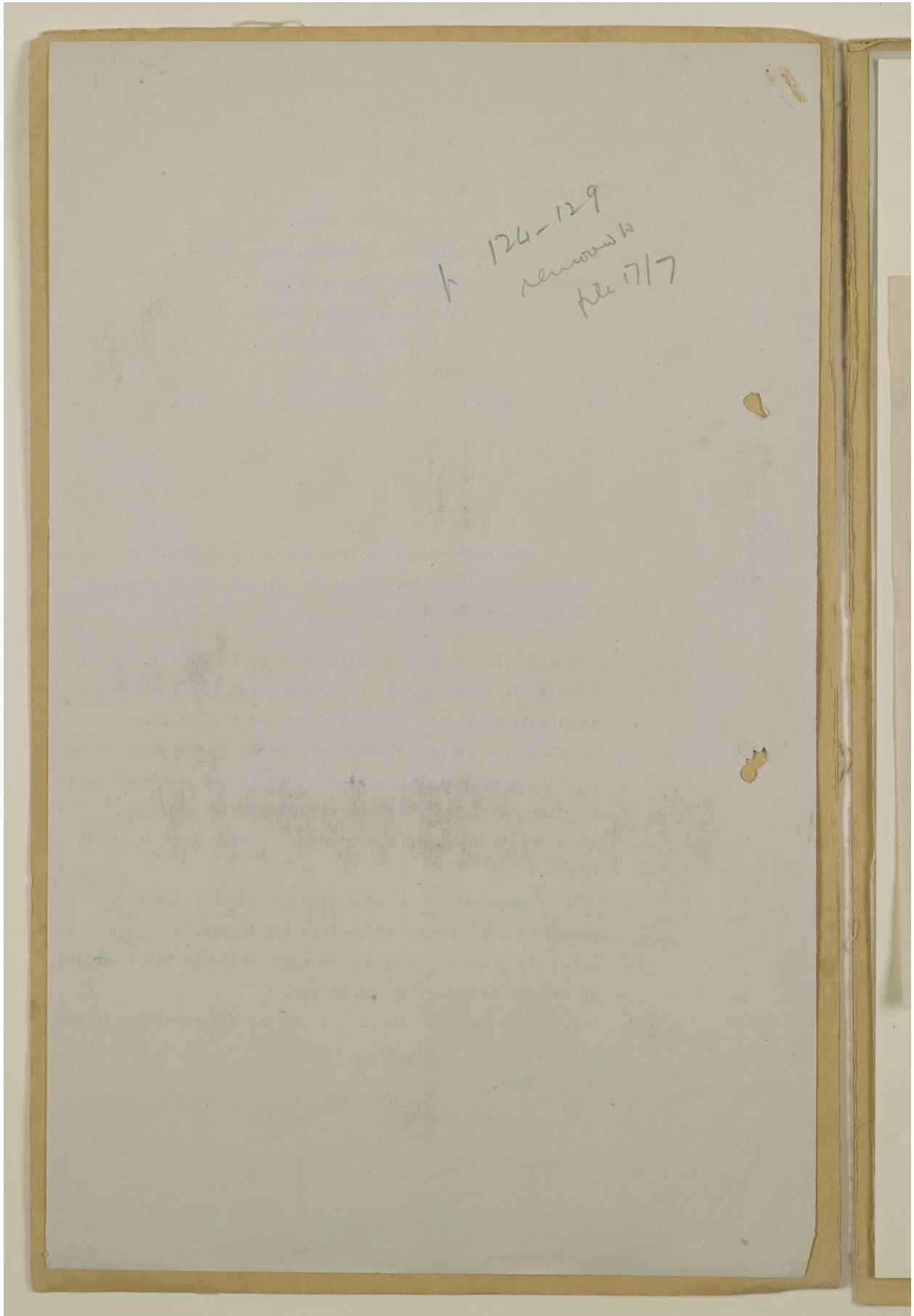
2. I would in this event give you further guidance regarding treatment of other French colonies.
3. It would probably not be worth while to issue warning of inevitable deterioration of war.
4. This telegram does not imply any deterioration in position.

Ends.

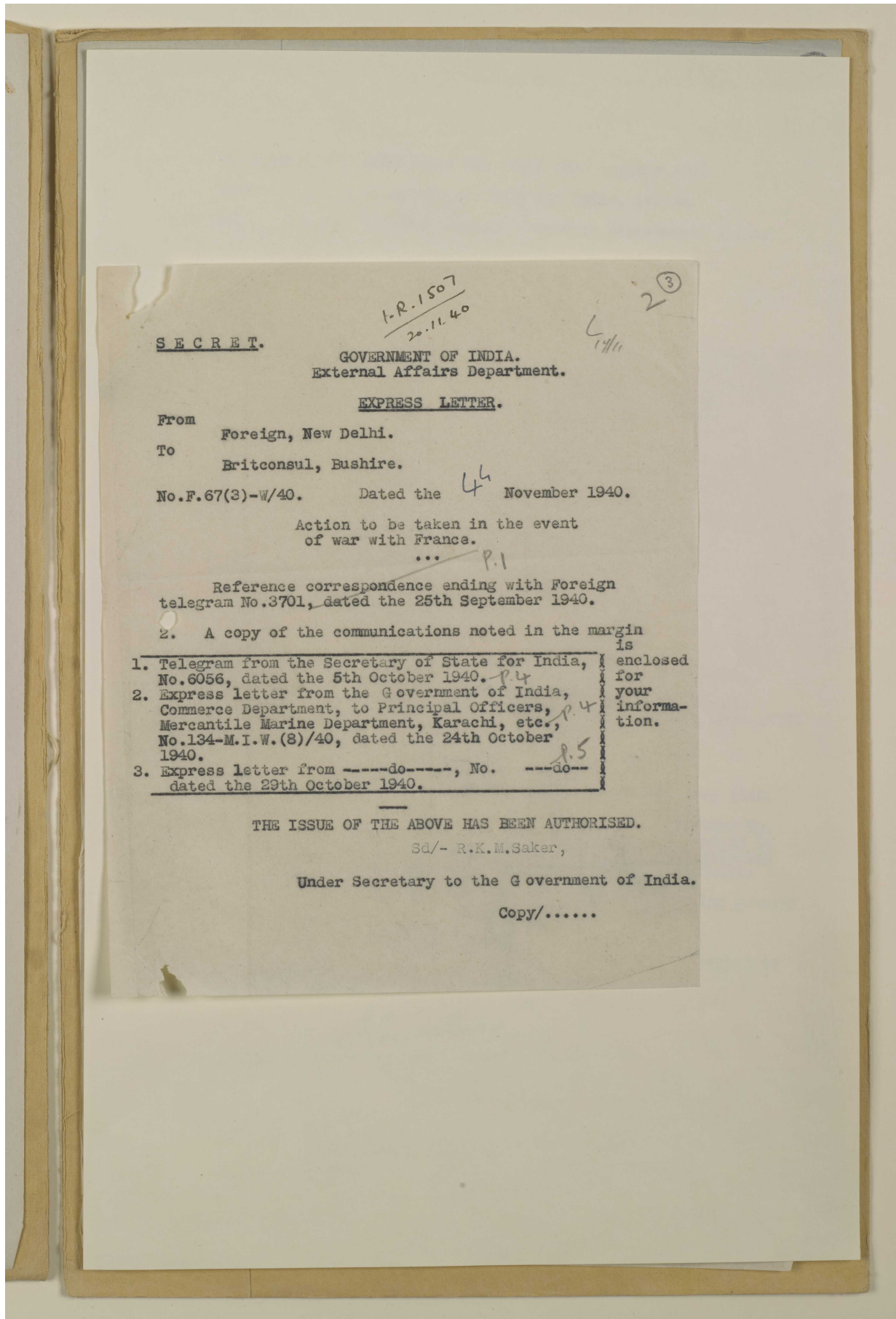
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26/9



'File 28/17-C Action to be taken in the event of entry into the war of France'  
[2v] (4/22)

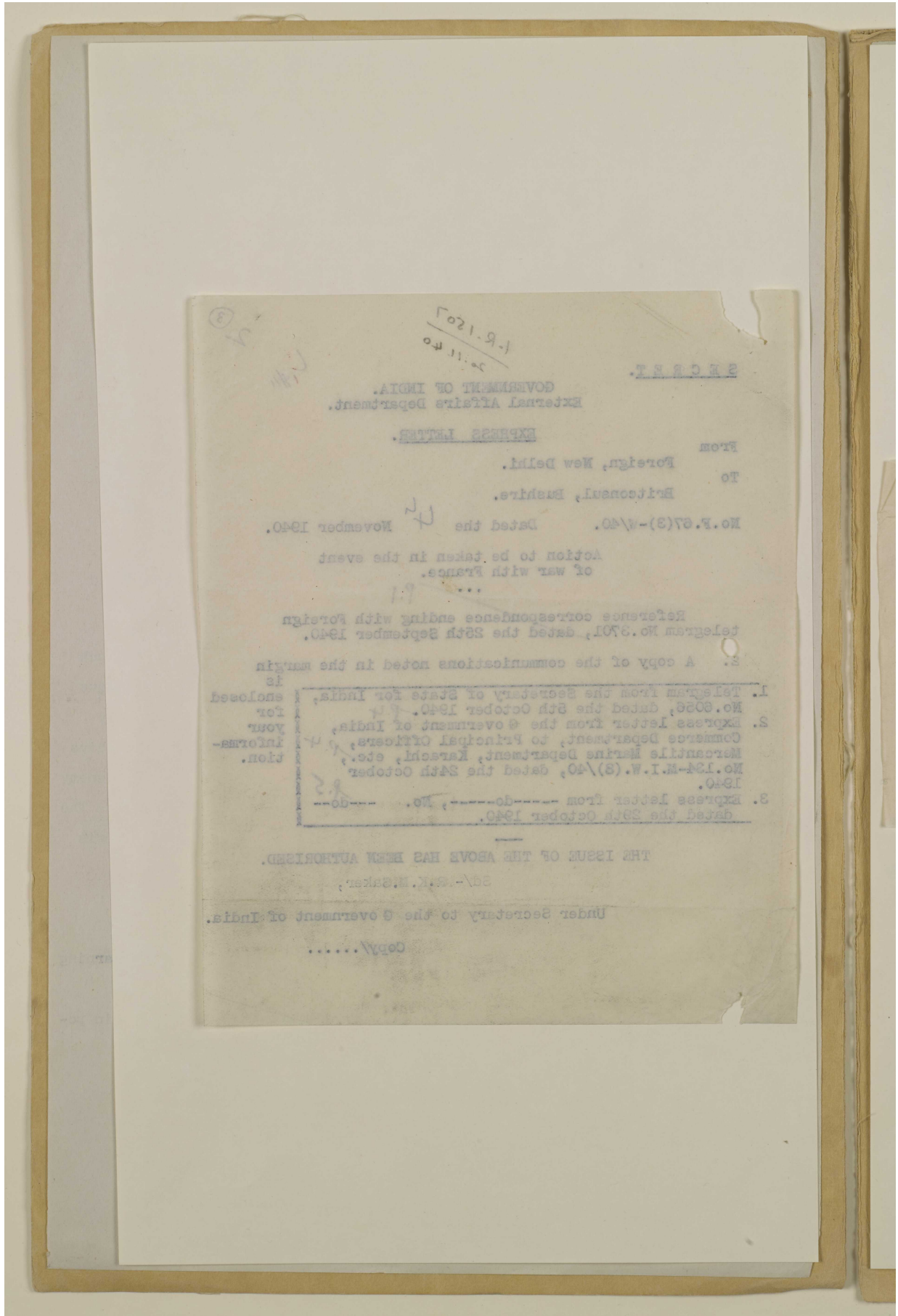


'File 28/17-C Action to be taken in the event of entry into the war of France'  
[3r] (5/22)

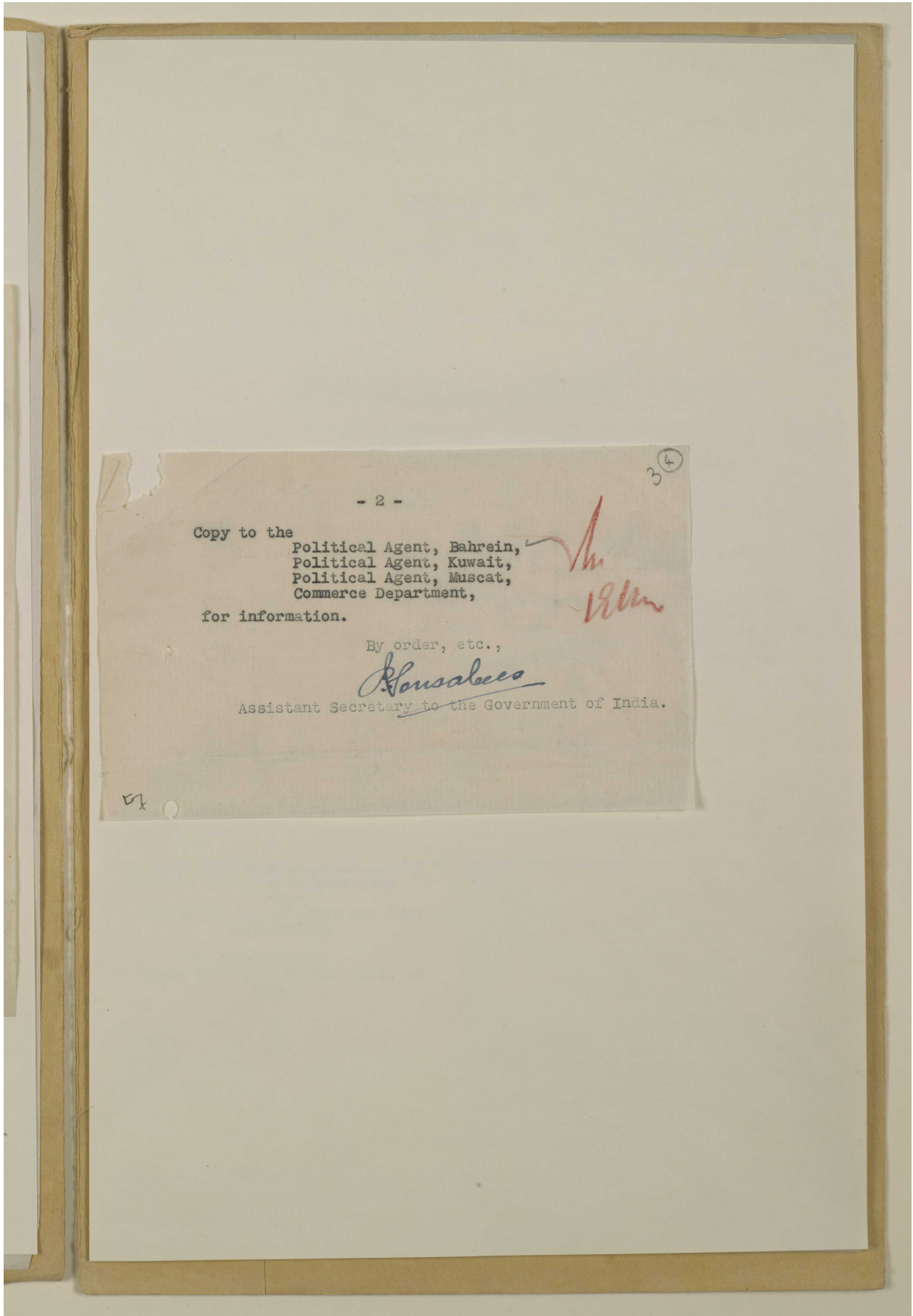




'File 28/17-C Action to be taken in the event of entry into the war of France'  
[3v] (6/22)

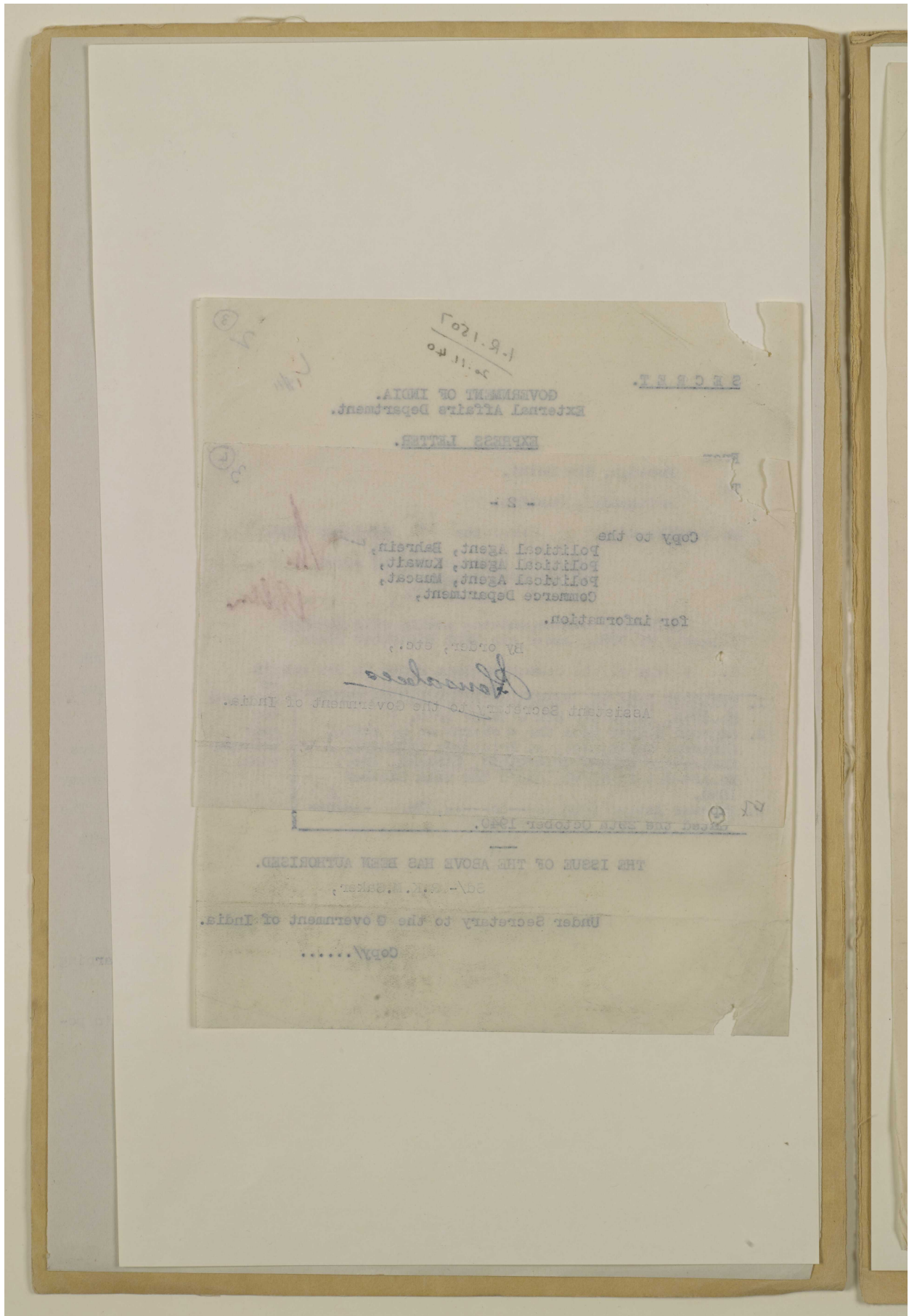


'File 28/17-C Action to be taken in the event of entry into the war of France'  
[4r] (7/22)





'File 28/17-C Action to be taken in the event of entry into the war of France'  
[4v] (8/22)



'File 28/17-C Action to be taken in the event of entry into the war of France'  
[5r] (9/22)

Telegram XX No. 6056 dated 5th (Recd 6th) October 1940  
From..... Secretary of State for India, London.  
To..... Governor General (Commerce Department) Simla.

IMPORTANT.

Your telegram No. 3560 September 16th.

Following French territories have so far declared for General de Gaulle. French Equatorial Africa (including Chad but excluding greater part of Gaboon) French Cameroons, French Establishments in India, New Caledonia, French Oceania (Tahiti). French administration of Condominium of New Hebrides have also joined.

2. I will telegraph any additions to list.

SECRET.

EXPRESS LETTER.

From The Secretary to the Government of India,  
Department of Commerce.

To The Principal Officer, Mercantile Marine Department,  
Karachi/Bombay/Madras/Calcutta.  
The Nautical Surveyor, Mercantile Marine Department,  
Chittagong (through the Principal Officer, Mercantile  
Marine Department, Calcutta).  
The Traffic Manager, Vizagapatam.  
The Port Officer, Cochin.

No. 134-M.I.W. (8)/40, New Delhi, dated the 24th October 1940.

Reference para. 2 of this Department Express Letter No. 134-M.I.W. (8)/40 dated the 16th September, regarding action to be taken in the event of outbreak of war with France. Following French Colonies in Africa have declared for General de Gaulle and should not be treated as enemy territory:-  
(1) French Equatorial Africa (including Chad but excluding greater part of Gaboon) and  
(2) French Cameroons.

2. Any additions to the above list will be communicated to you in due course.

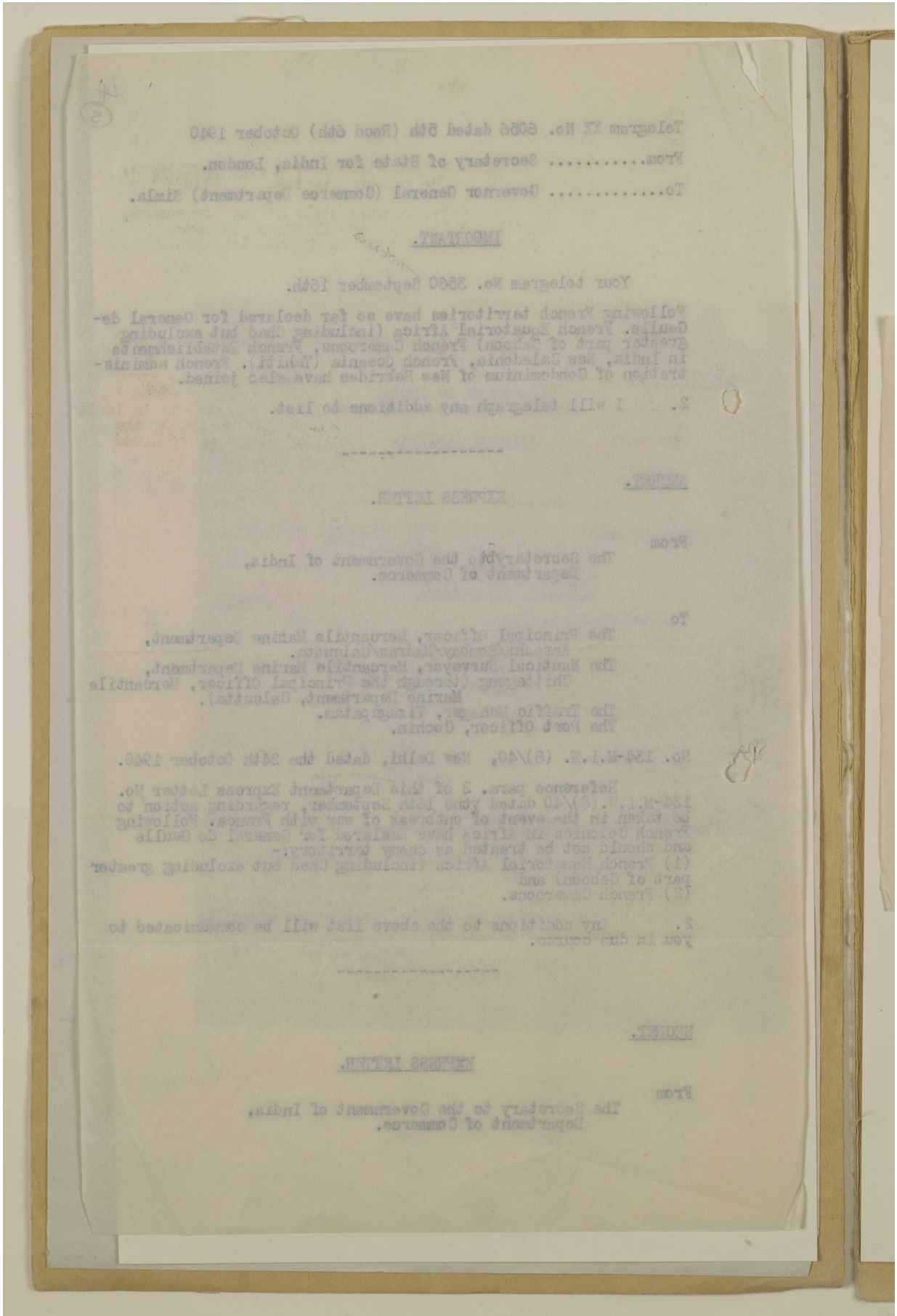
SECRET.

EXPRESS LETTER.

From The Secretary to the Government of India,  
Department of Commerce.



'File 28/17-C Action to be taken in the event of entry into the war of France'  
[5v] (10/22)



'File 28/17-C Action to be taken in the event of entry into the war of France'  
[6r] (11/22)

-2-

5 (6)

To

The Principal Officer, Mercantile Marine Department,  
Karachi/Bombay/Madras/Calcutta.

The Nautical Surveyor, Mercantile Marine Department,  
Chittagong (through the Principal Officer,  
Mercantile Marine Department, Calcutta).

The Traffic Manager, Vizagapatam.  
The Port Officer, Cochin.

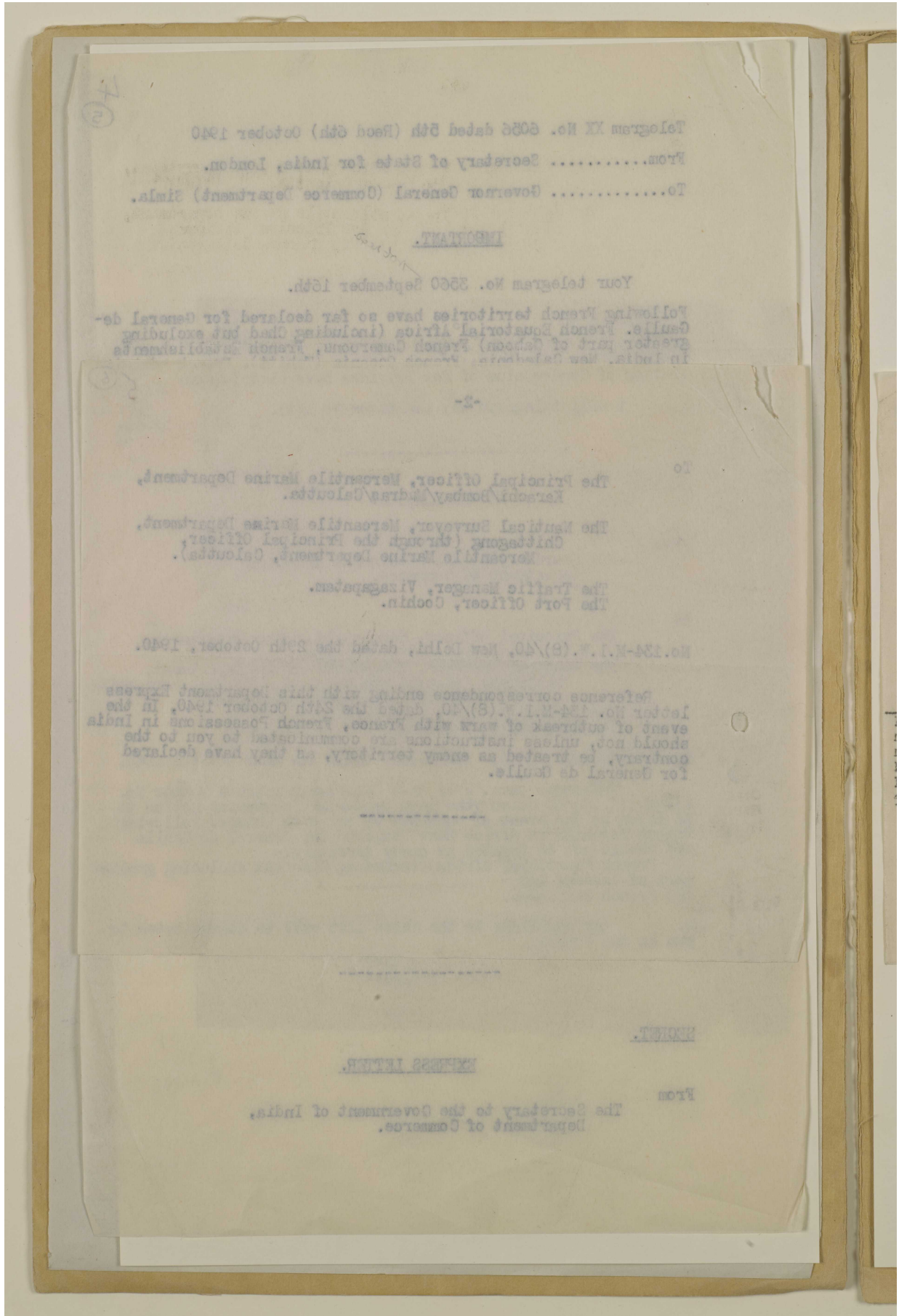
No.134-M.I.W.(8)/40, New Delhi, dated the 29th October, 1940.

Reference correspondence ending with this Department Express letter No. 134-M.I.W.(8)/40, dated the 24th October 1940. In the event of outbreak of war with France, French Possessions in India should not, unless instructions are communicated to you to the contrary, be treated as enemy territory, as they have declared for General de Gaulle.

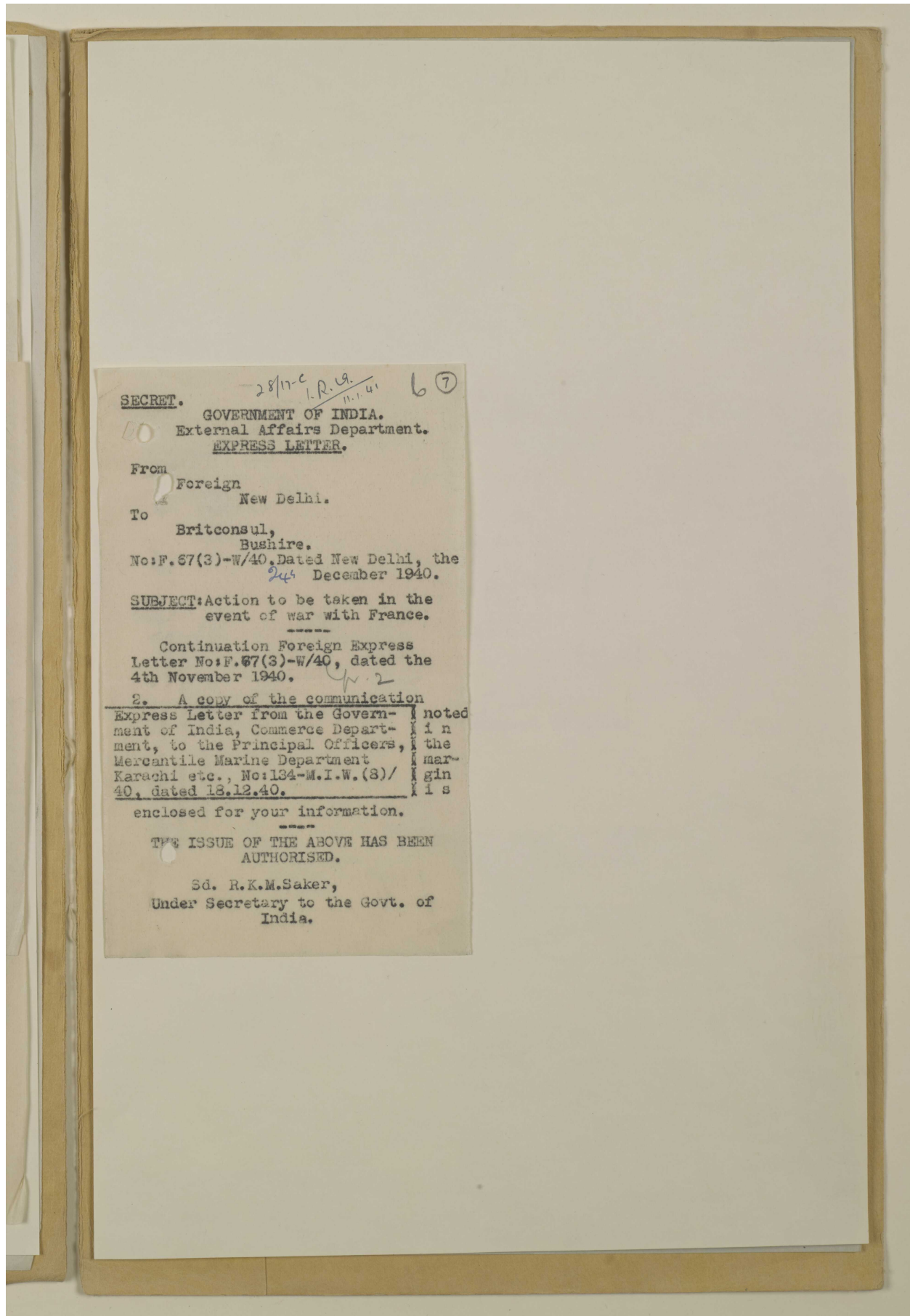
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'File 28/17-C Action to be taken in the event of entry into the war of France'  
[6v] (12/22)



'File 28/17-C Action to be taken in the event of entry into the war of France'  
[7r] (13/22)



SECRET.

28/17-C I.R. 9. 11.1.41 6 (7)  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.  
External Affairs Department.  
EXPRESS LETTER.

From Foreign  
New Delhi.

To Britconsul,  
Bushire.

No: F. 67(3)-W/40, Dated New Delhi, the  
24<sup>th</sup> December 1940.

SUBJECT: Action to be taken in the  
event of war with France.

-----  
Continuation Foreign Express  
Letter No: F. 67(3)-W/40, dated the  
4th November 1940. W. 2

2. A copy of the communication

Express Letter from the Govern- | noted  
ment of India, Commerce Depart- | in  
ment, to the Principal Officers, | the  
Mercantile Marine Department | mar-  
Karachi etc., No: 134-M.I.W.(8)/ | gin  
40, dated 18.12.40. | is

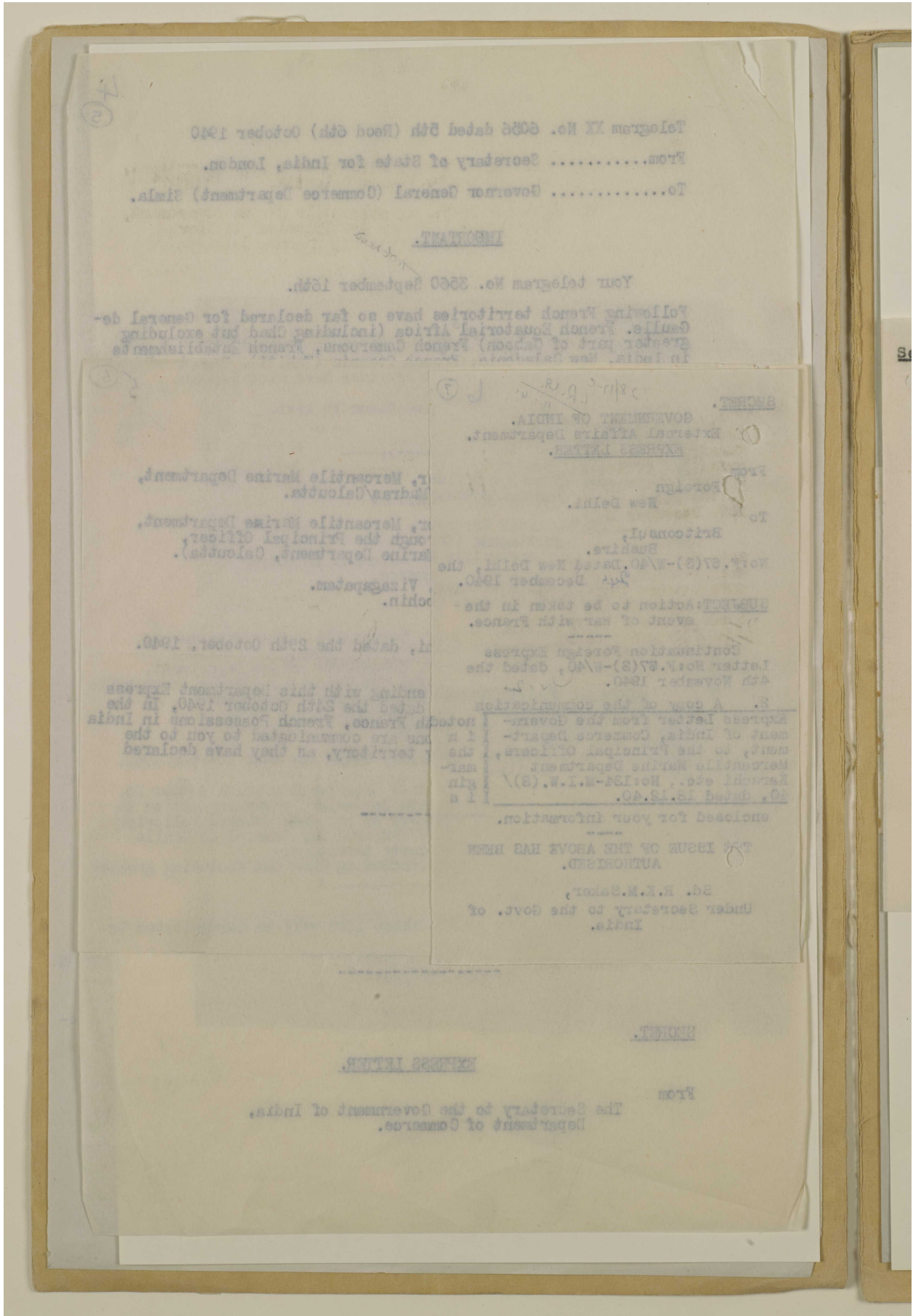
enclosed for your information.

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THE ISSUE OF THE ABOVE HAS BEEN  
AUTHORISED.

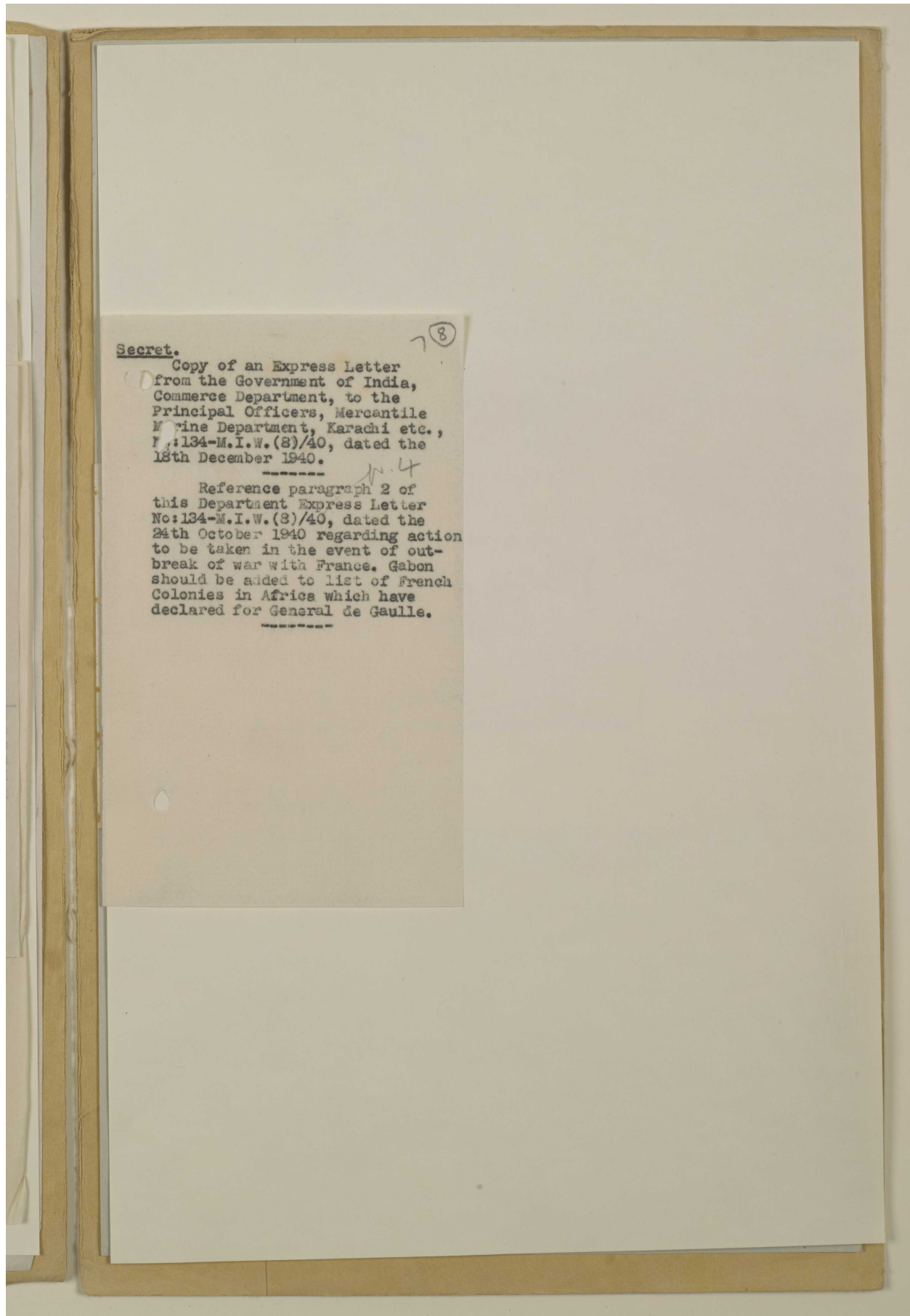
Sd. R.K.M.Saker,  
Under Secretary to the Govt. of  
India.



'File 28/17-C Action to be taken in the event of entry into the war of France'  
[7v] (14/22)

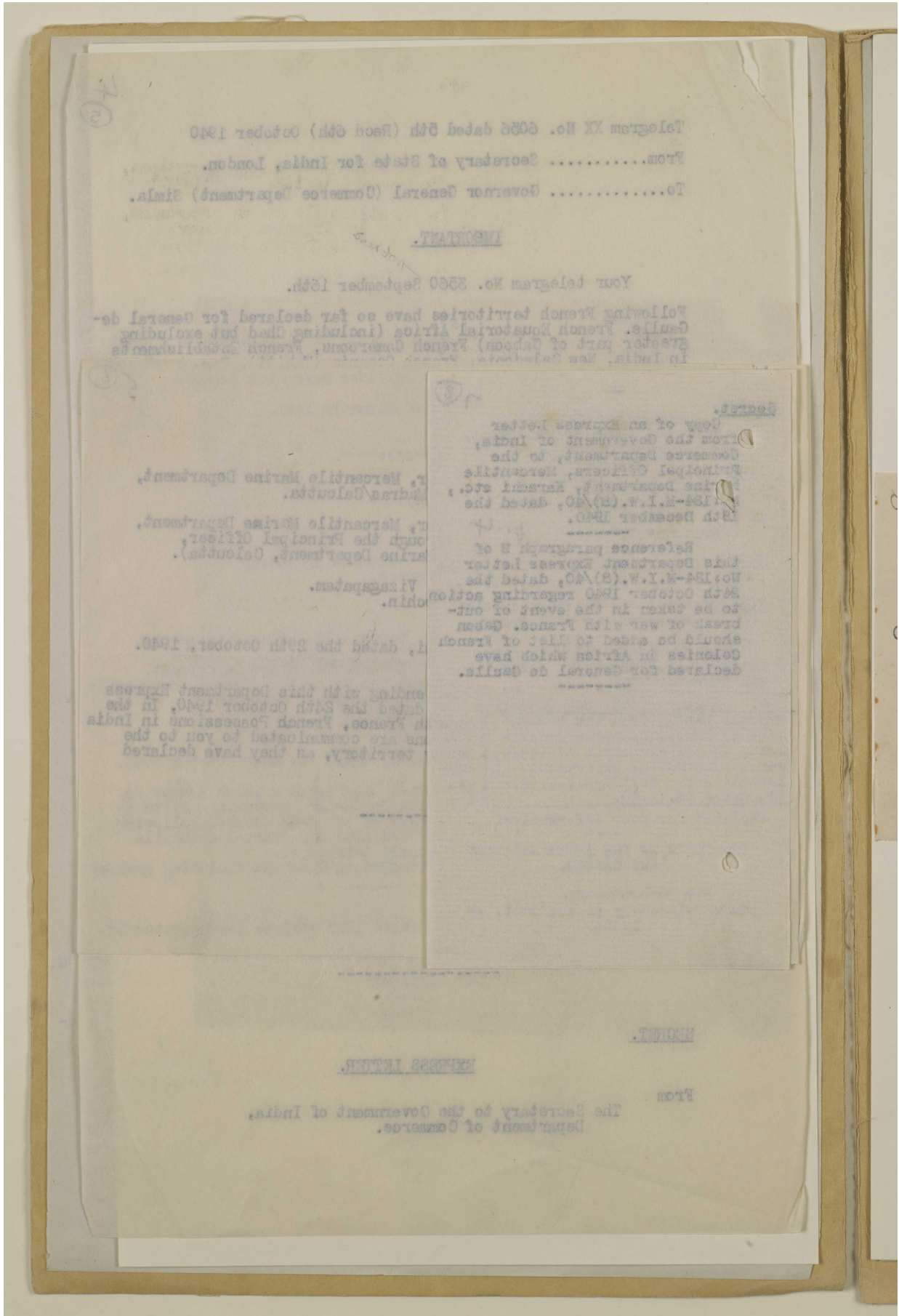


'File 28/17-C Action to be taken in the event of entry into the war of France'  
[8r] (15/22)

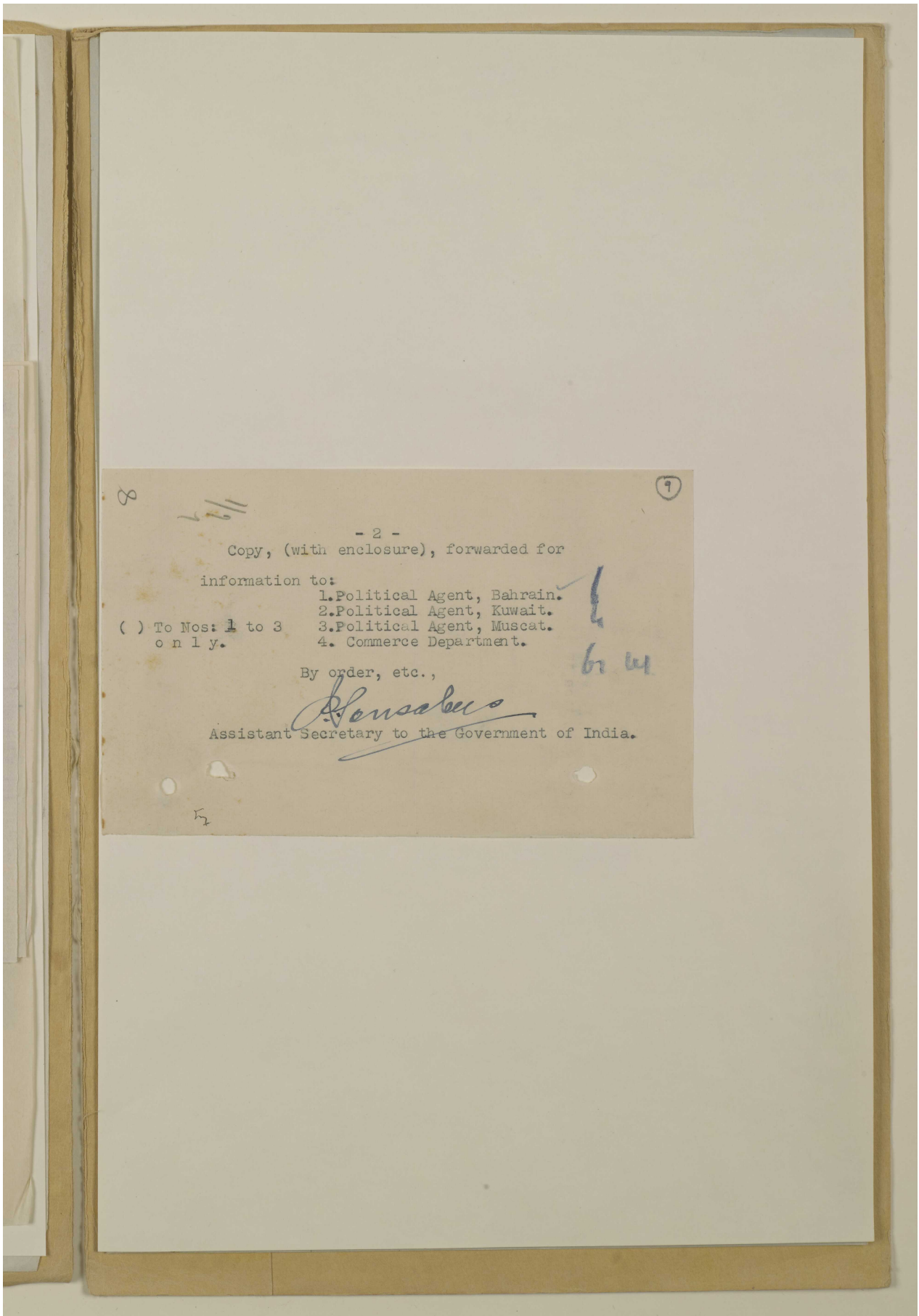




'File 28/17-C Action to be taken in the event of entry into the war of France'  
[8v] (16/22)



'File 28/17-C Action to be taken in the event of entry into the war of France'  
[9r] (17/22)



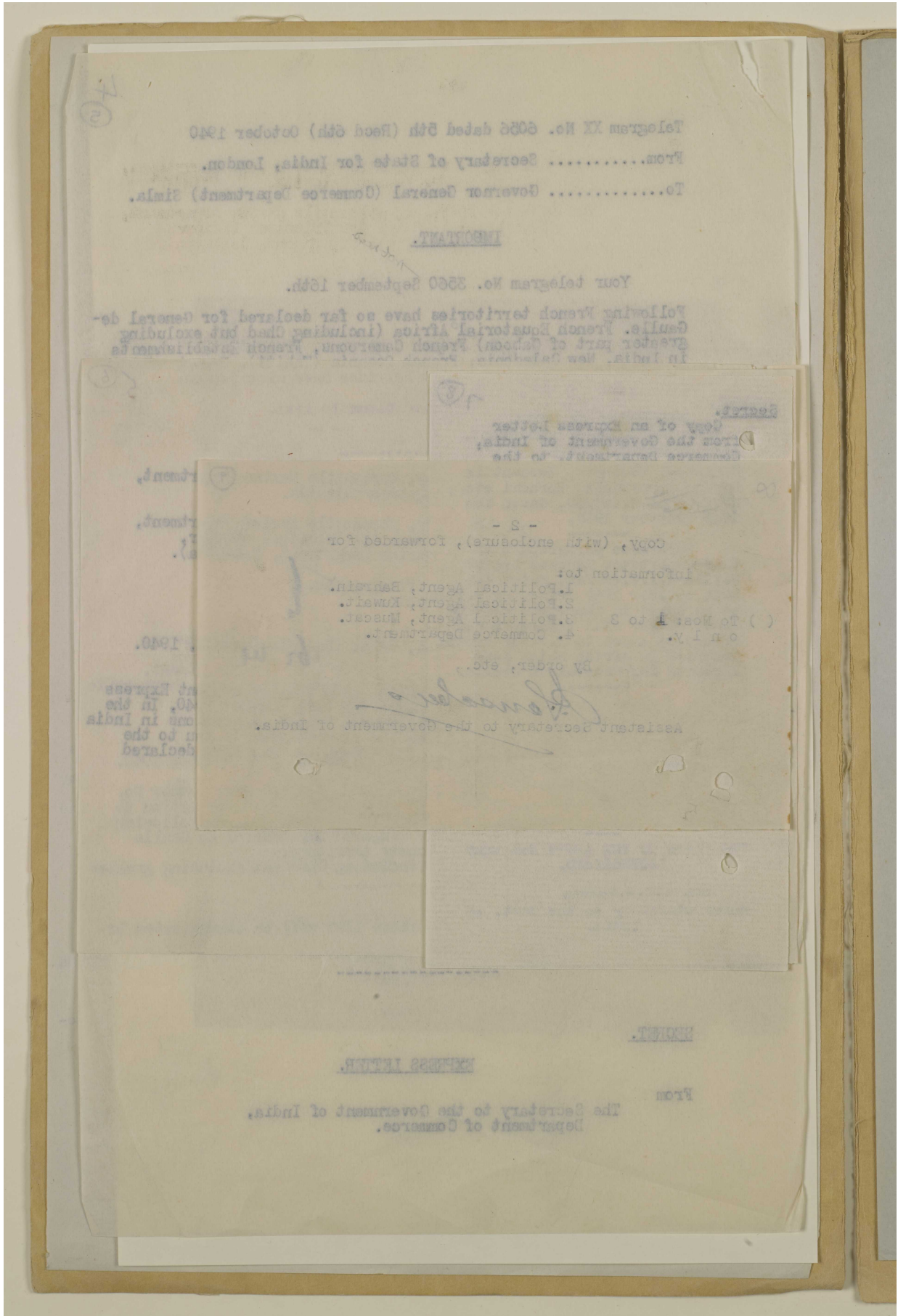
8  
11/11  
- 2 -  
Copy, (with enclosure), forwarded for  
information to:  
1. Political Agent, Bahrain.  
2. Political Agent, Kuwait.  
3. Political Agent, Muscat.  
4. Commerce Department.  
( ) To Nos: 1 to 3  
only.

By order, etc.,  
*Sensabeo*  
Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.

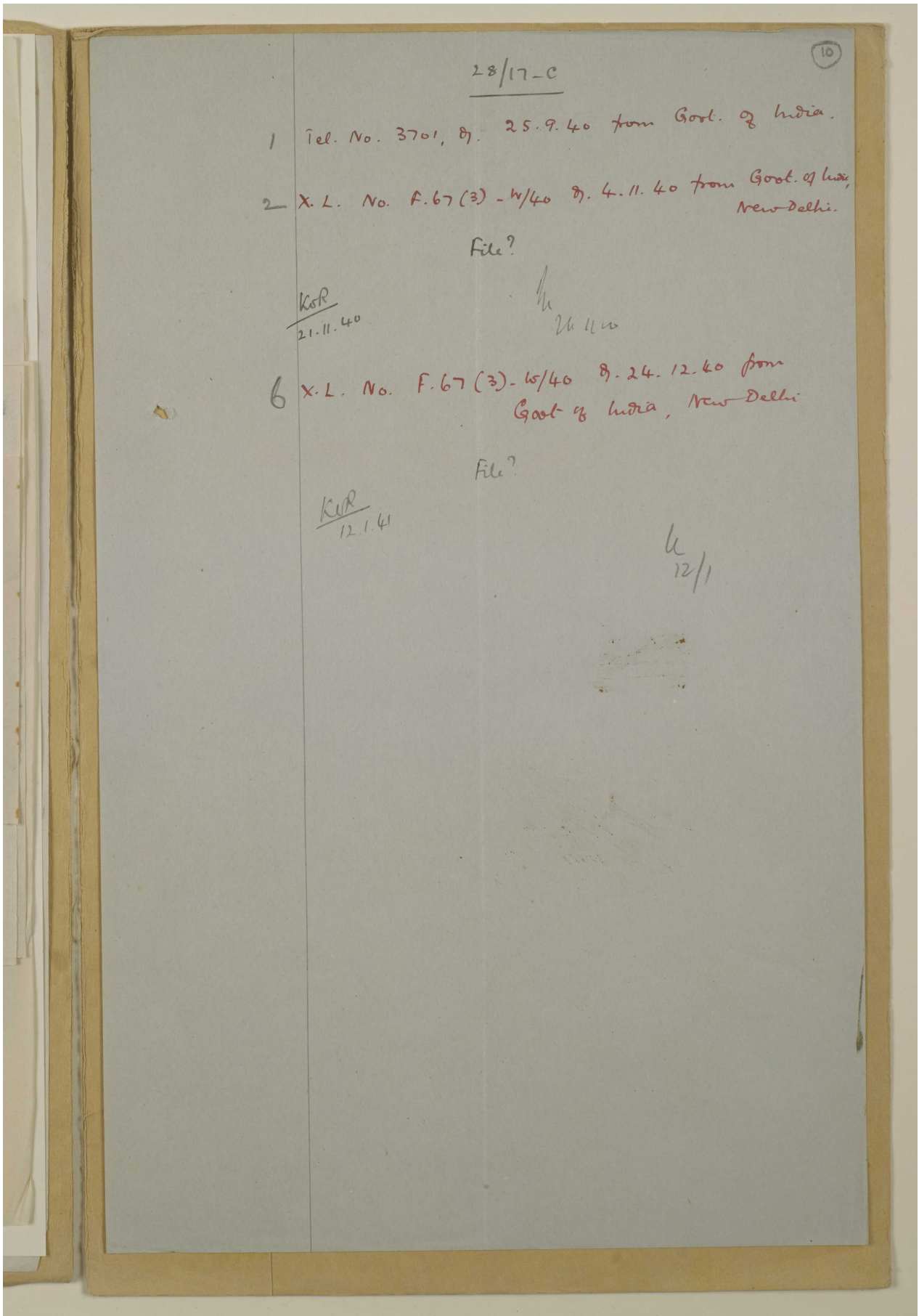
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'File 28/17-C Action to be taken in the event of entry into the war of France'  
[9v] (18/22)

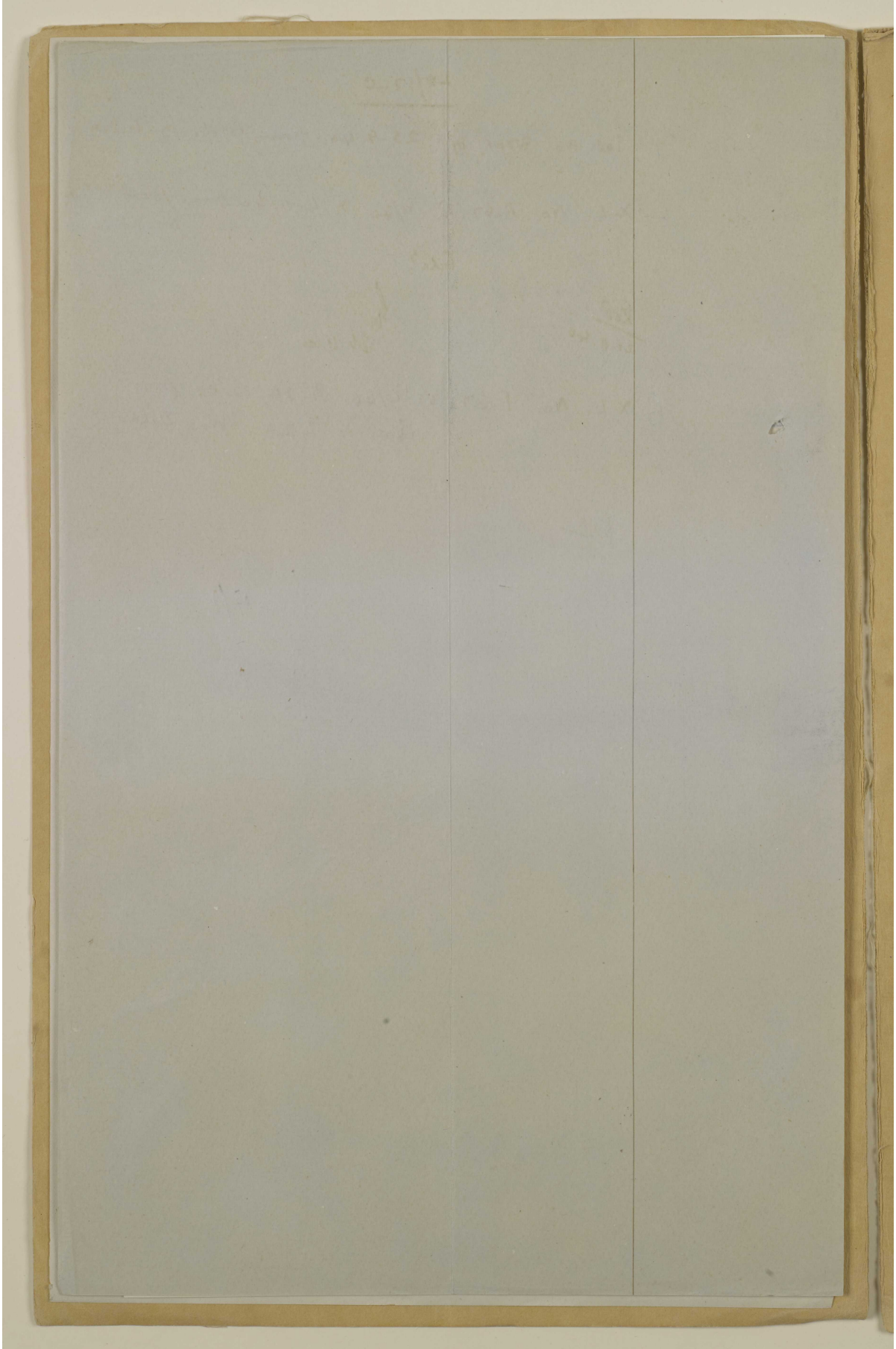


'File 28/17-C Action to be taken in the event of entry into the war of France'  
[10r] (19/22)

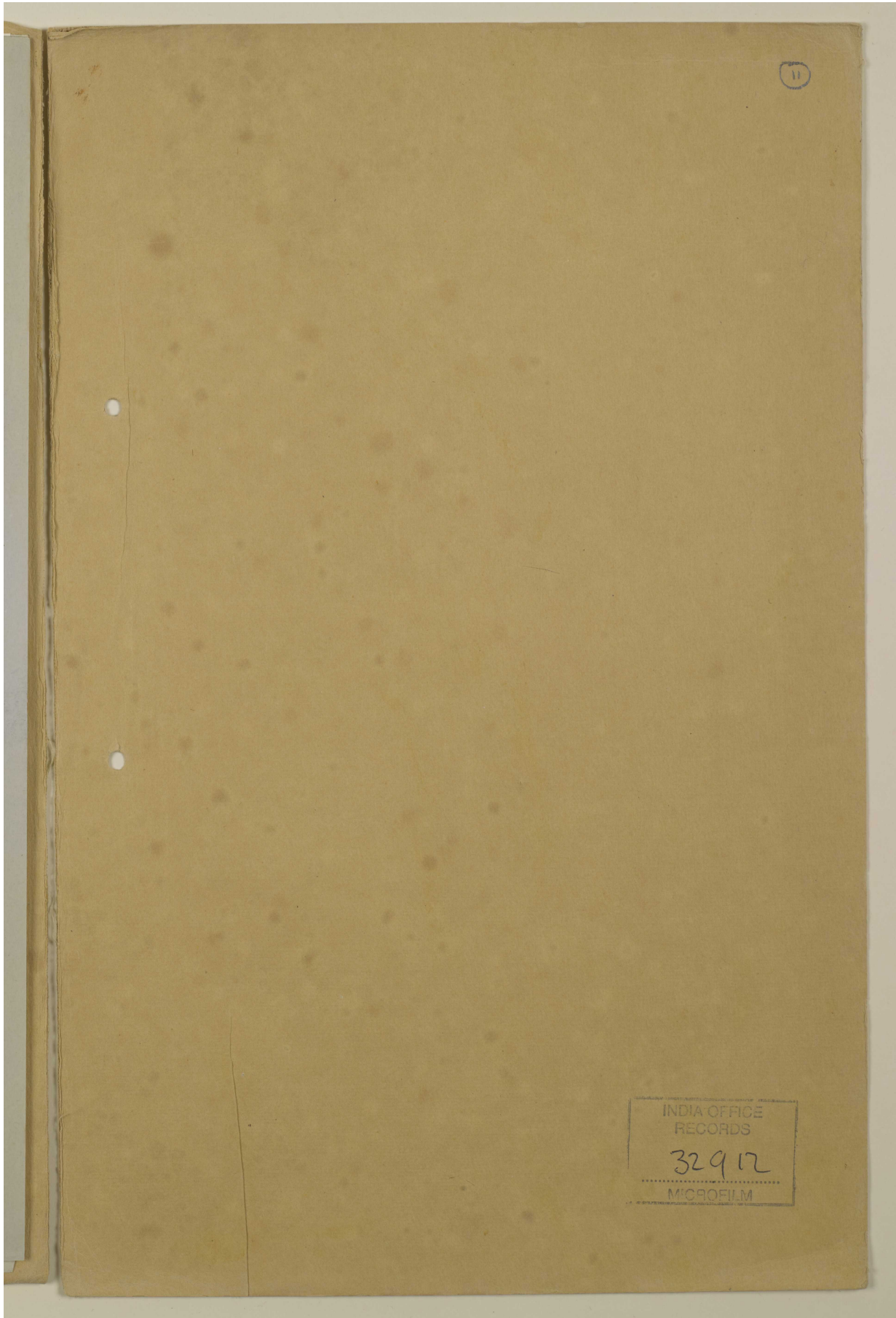




'File 28/17-C Action to be taken in the event of entry into the war of France'  
[10v] (20/22)



'File 28/17-C Action to be taken in the event of entry into the war of France'  
[back-i] (21/22)





'File 28/17-C Action to be taken in the event of entry into the war of France'  
[back] (22/22)

