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تحتوي النسخة الإلكترونية على معلومات إضافية ونصوص وصور بدقة عالية تسمح بإمكانية تكبيرها ومطالعتها بسهولة.

"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم"

المكتبة البريطانية: أوراق خاصة وسجلات من مكتب الهند

IOR/R/15/2/819

٠٦ مارس ١٩٣٩-١٤ ديسمبر ١٩٤٤ (ميلادي)

الإنجليزية في اللاتينية

ملف واحد (٤٥ ورقة)

غير معروف

المؤسسة المالكة

المرجع

التاريخ/ التواريخ

لغة الكتابة

الحجم والشكل

حق النشر



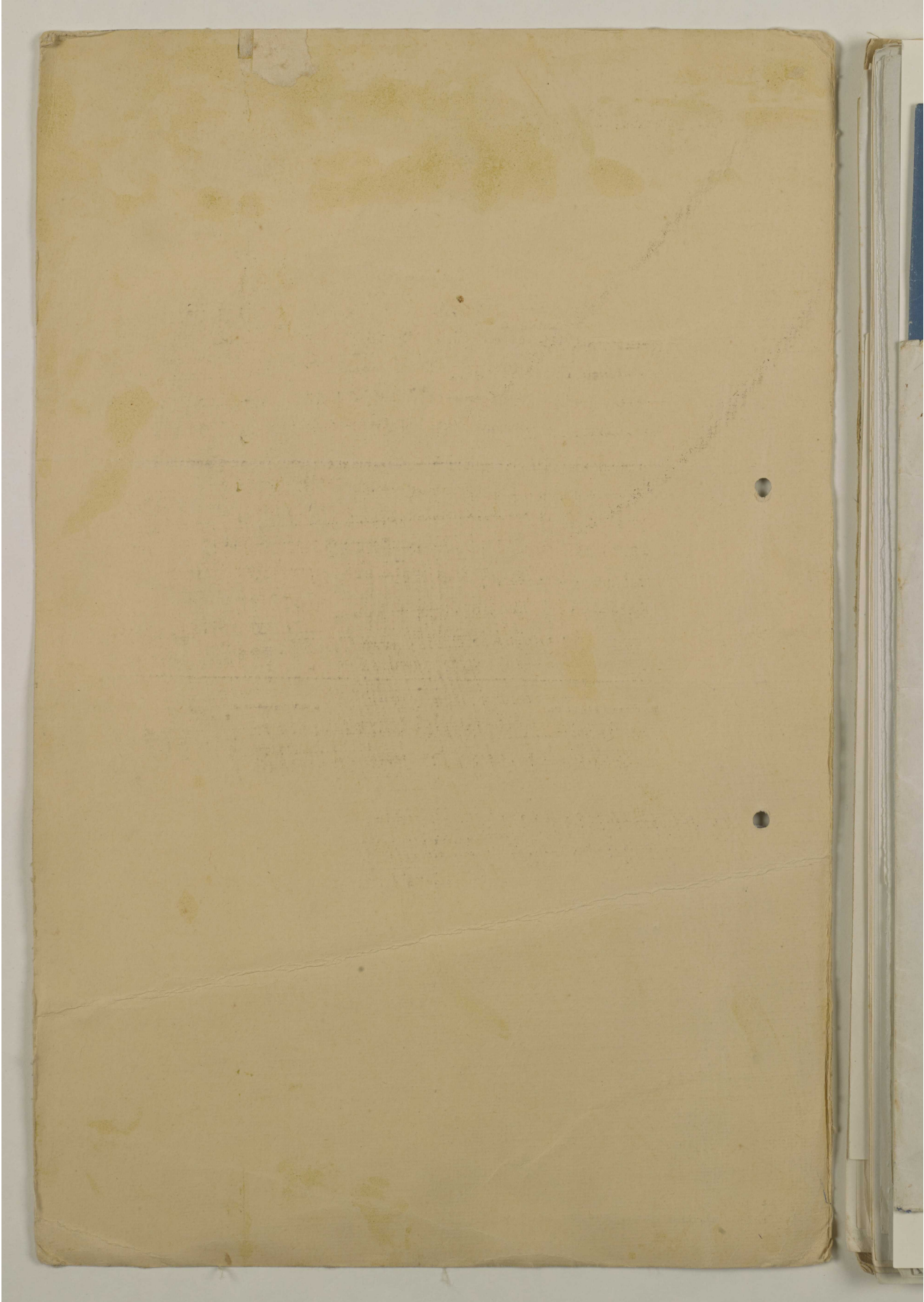
حول هذا السجل

يحتوي الملف على مراسلات متعلقة بممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم التي يؤديها الشيعة في البحرين. يتعلق جزء كبير من المراسلات بالجوانب اللوجستية لهذه الممارسات، بما في ذلك تفاصيل عن طرقها.

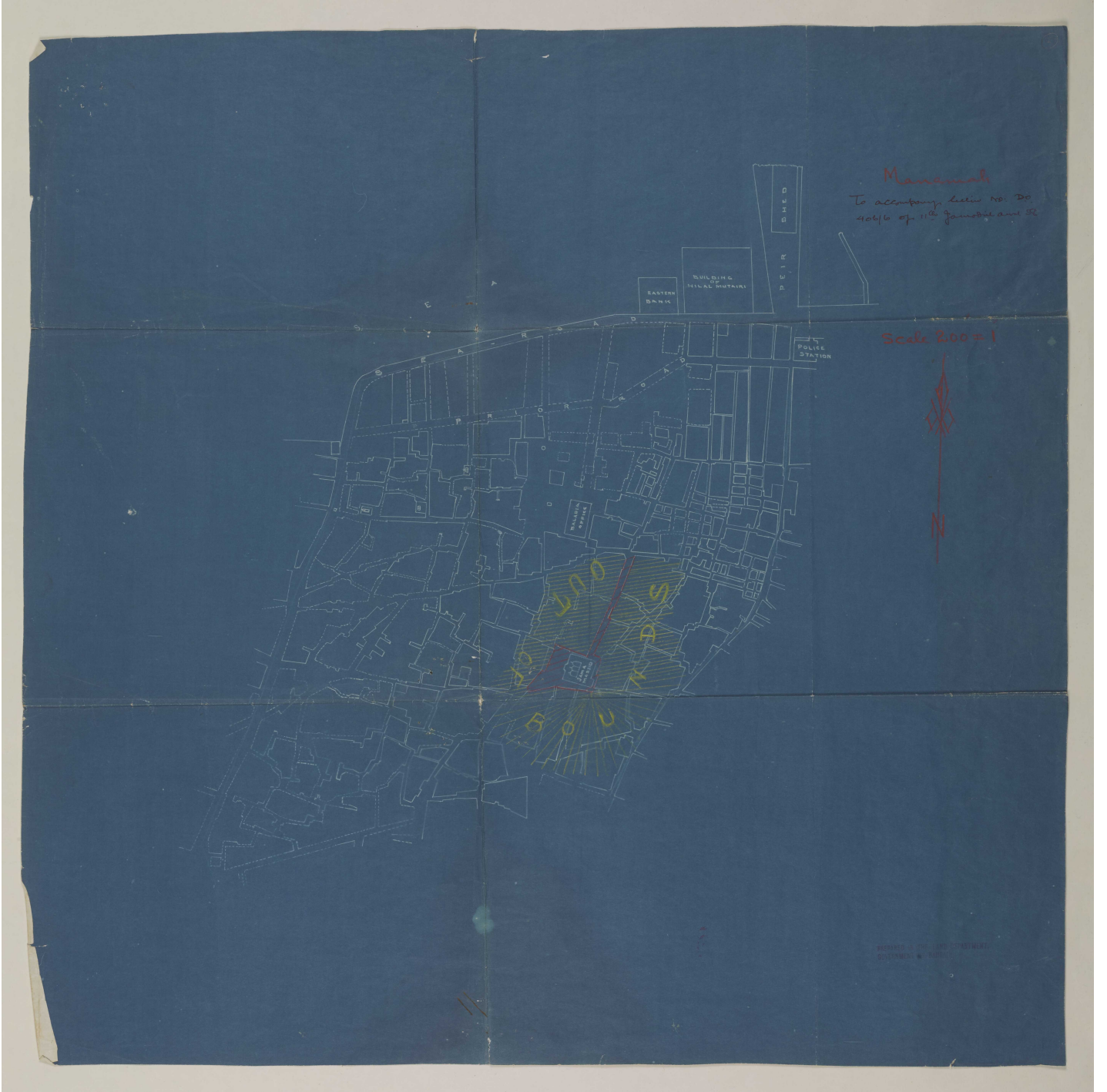
وتناقش المراسلات على وجه الخصوص رغبة الأجانب المقيمين في البحرين في الاشتراك في الممارسات المذكورة، وما ترتب على هذه الرغبة. في هذا السياق، يحتوي الملف على نسخة عن "تعليمات لكل من يرغب في حضور ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم القادمة" كتبها تشارلز بلجريف، مستشار حكومة البحرين، (صص. ١٧-١٨). مرفق أيضاً خريطة لوسط المنامة تبين المنطقة التي جرت فيها ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم (الورقة ٢).

يحتوي الملف أيضاً على تقرير بلجريف عن الاضطرابات التي حدثت خلال ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم

"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [أمامي-داخلي] (٩٠/٢)



خريطة لوسط المنامة [و٢] (٢/١)



خريطة لوسط المنامة [ظ٢] (٢/٢)



Confidential

D.O. No. C/151

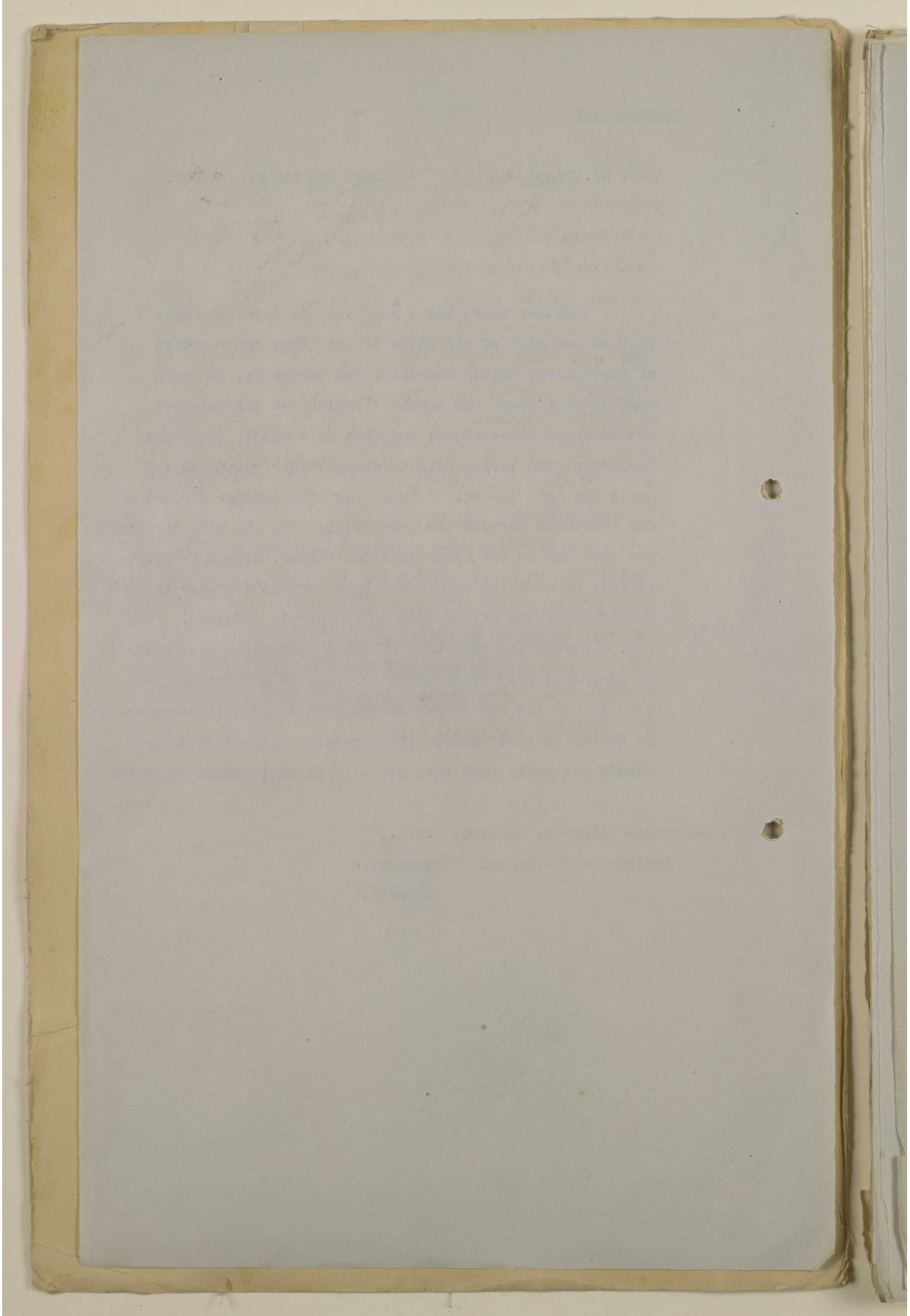
Dated the 6th March 1939.

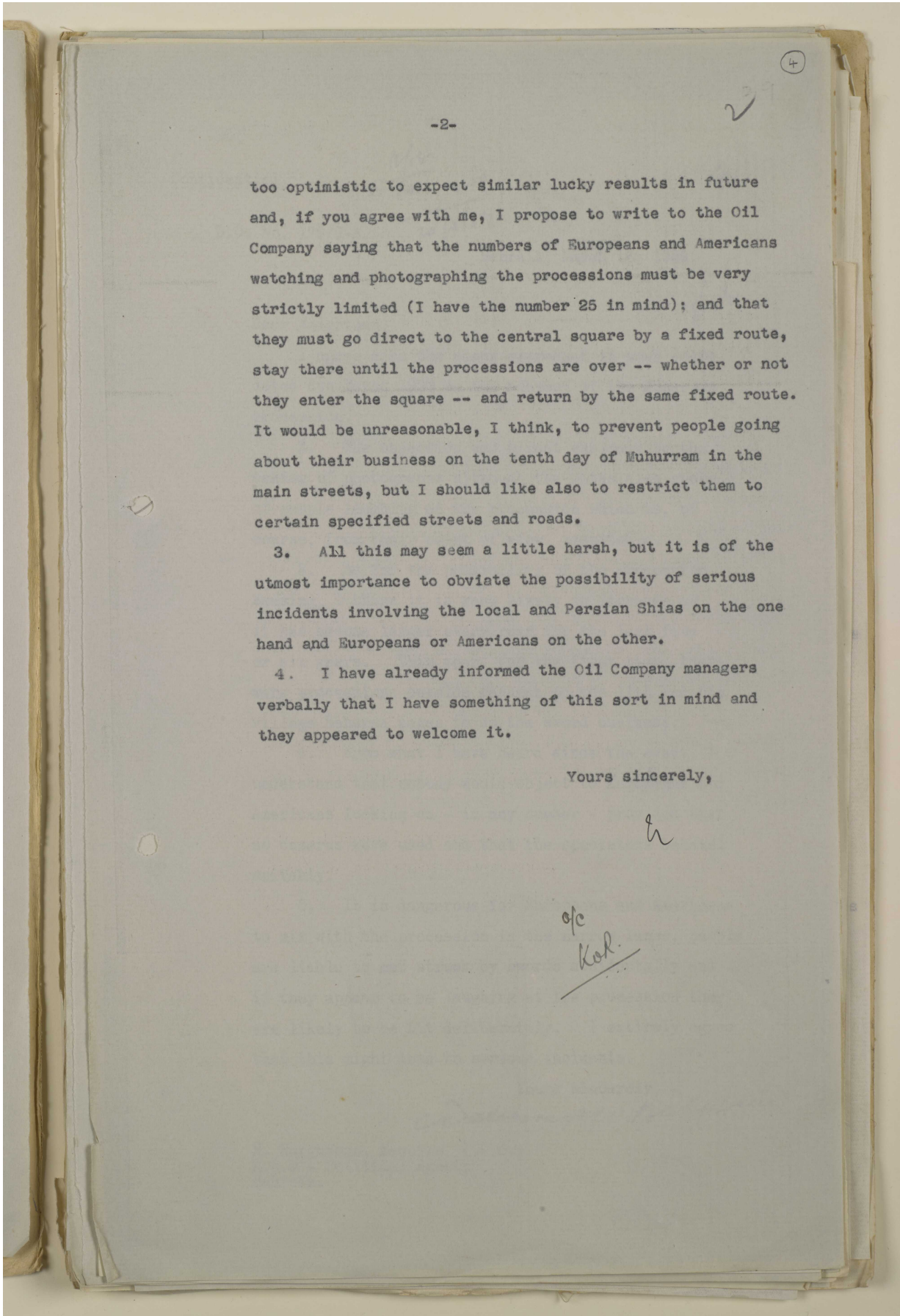
I gather there was a good deal of objection this year on the part of the Shias to the large congregation of foreigners, mostly Americans and Europeans, who came down to photograph the somewhat unpleasant ecstasies of the Muharram processions; and that as a result the Shias decided at the last minute to change their route and to avoid the main square. I hear also that several Europeans and Americans pursued the processions into the side streets and that one or two minor scuffles ensued, though in point of fact no official complaints have been made either to myself or to the Oil Company by the people involved.

2. Though the cessation of these gory spectacles would be admirable from every point of view, it is obvious that this is not the way to put an end to them; and it seems to me fortunate that none of the European or American camera fiends got badly hurt this year. I think it would be rather too/-

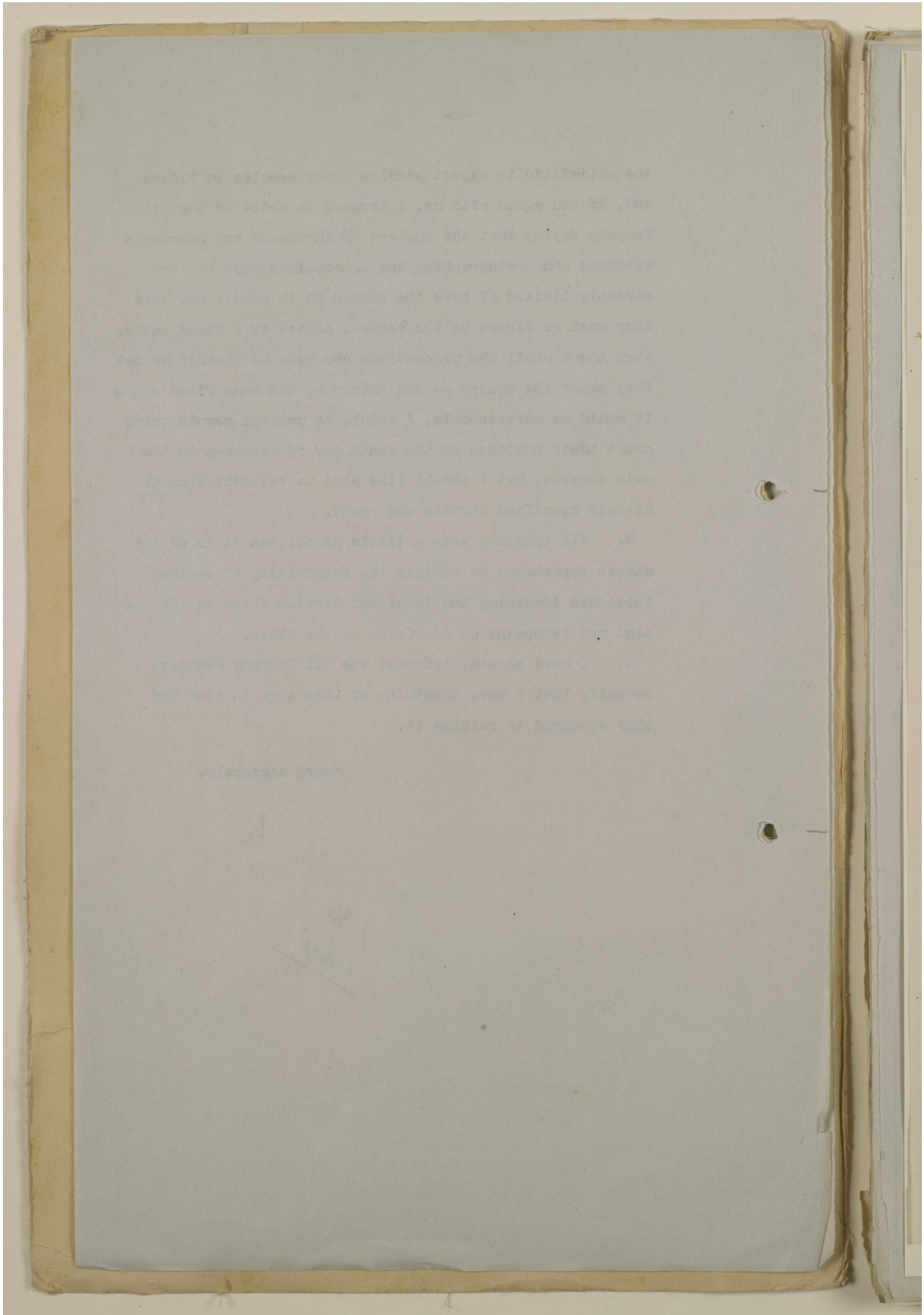
C. Dalrymple Belgrave, Esquire, C.B.E.,
Adviser to the Bahrain Government,
Bahrain.

"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [ظ3] (٩٠/٦)





"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٤ظ] (٩٠/٨)



"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [هـ] [٩٠/٩]

Confidential.

D.O. No. 179/9-A.

Bahrain, March 16, 1939.

Dear Weightman,

I agree with the views expressed in your C/151 dated 6th March 1939 on the subject of the Muharram procession.

2. The objection was almost entirely to the taking of photographs although the Shias also spoke of people laughing at the procession which is, of course, from their point of view, unsuitable.

3. As for the possibility of the procession ceasing, I think it is more likely to increase as it has become larger every year for the last five or six years. This year, for the first time, there were processions outside Manamah, on the 11th, and the village Baharna began to do the sword business.

4. From what I have heard since the event, I understand that nobody would object to Europeans and Americans looking on - in any number - provided that no cameras were used and that the spectators behaved suitably.

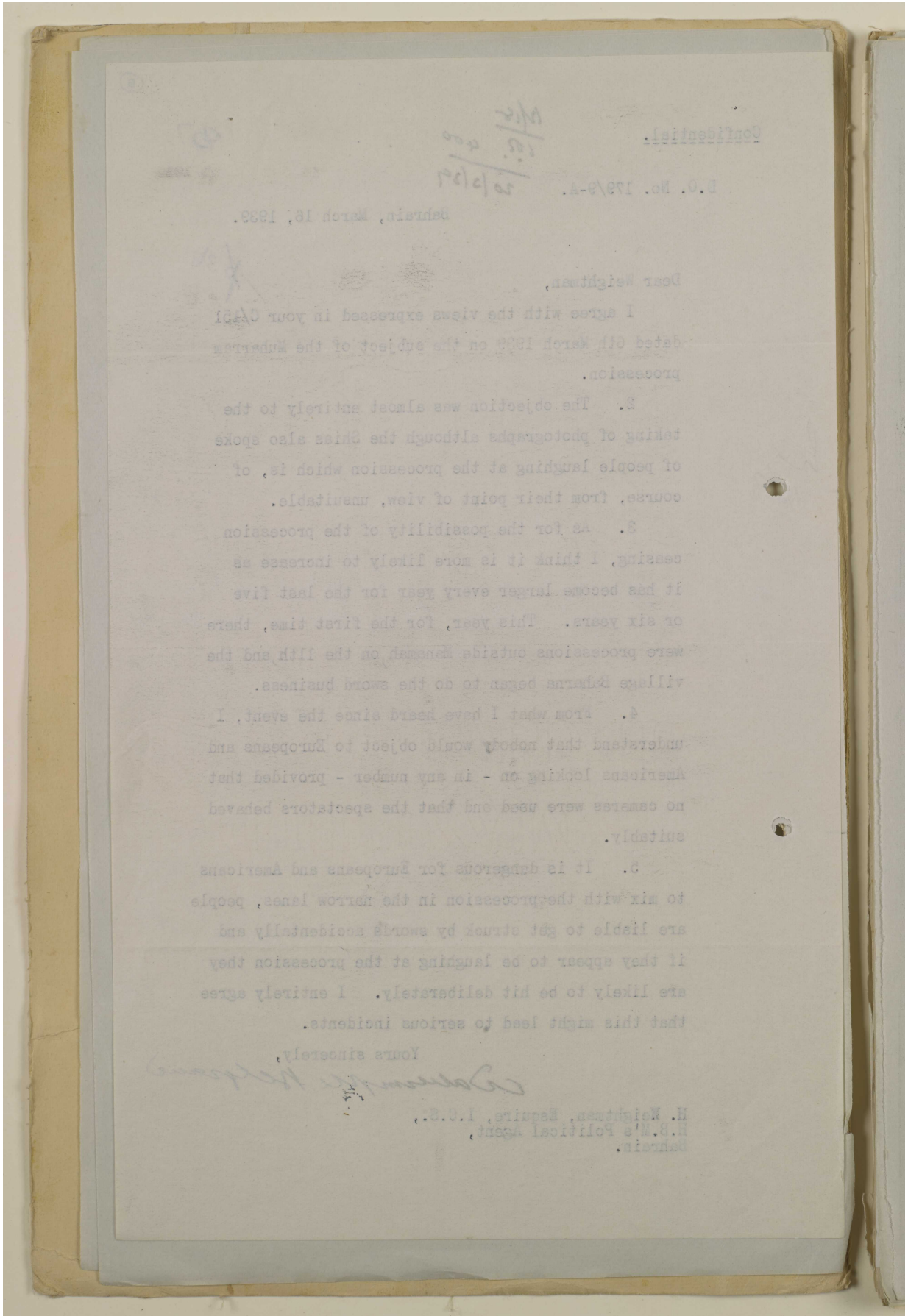
5. It is dangerous for Europeans and Americans to mix with the procession in the narrow lanes, people are liable to get struck by swords accidentally and if they appear to be laughing at the procession they are likely to be hit deliberately. I entirely agree that this might lead to serious incidents.

Yours sincerely,

H. Weightman

H. Weightman, Esquire, I.C.S.,
H.B.M.'s Political Agent,
Bahrain.

"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٥٥] (٩٠/١٠)



Confidential

D.O. No. C/180-12/18

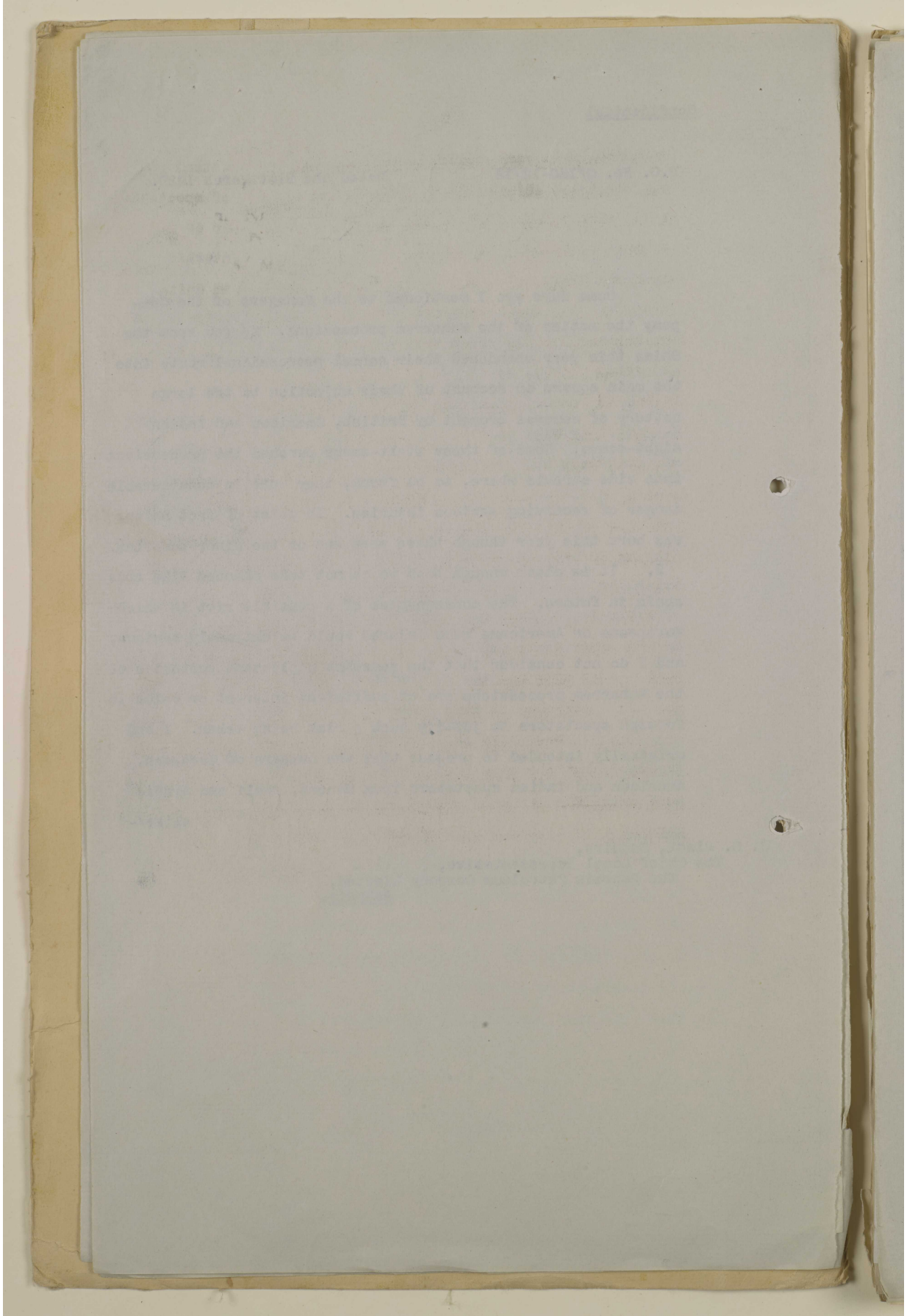
Dated the 21st March 1939.

Some days ago I mentioned to the Managers of the Company the matter of the Muharram processions. As you know the Shias this year abandoned their normal processional route into the main square on account of their objection to the large battery of cameras brought by British, American and Indian sight-seers. Some of these sight-seers pursued the processions into side streets where, to be frank, they were in considerable danger of receiving serious injuries. In point of fact no one was hurt this year though there were one or two minor scuffles.

2. It is clear enough that we cannot take chances like this again in future. The consequences of a possible riot in which Europeans or Americans were injured would be extremely serious, and I do not consider that the somewhat unpleasant ecstasies of the Muharram processions are of sufficient interest or value to foreign spectators to justify such a risk being taken. I had originally intended to propose that the numbers of European, American and Indian spectators from Manama, Awali and Arabia alike/-

J. S. Black, Esquire,
The Chief Local Representative,
The Bahrain Petroleum Company Limited,
Bahrain.

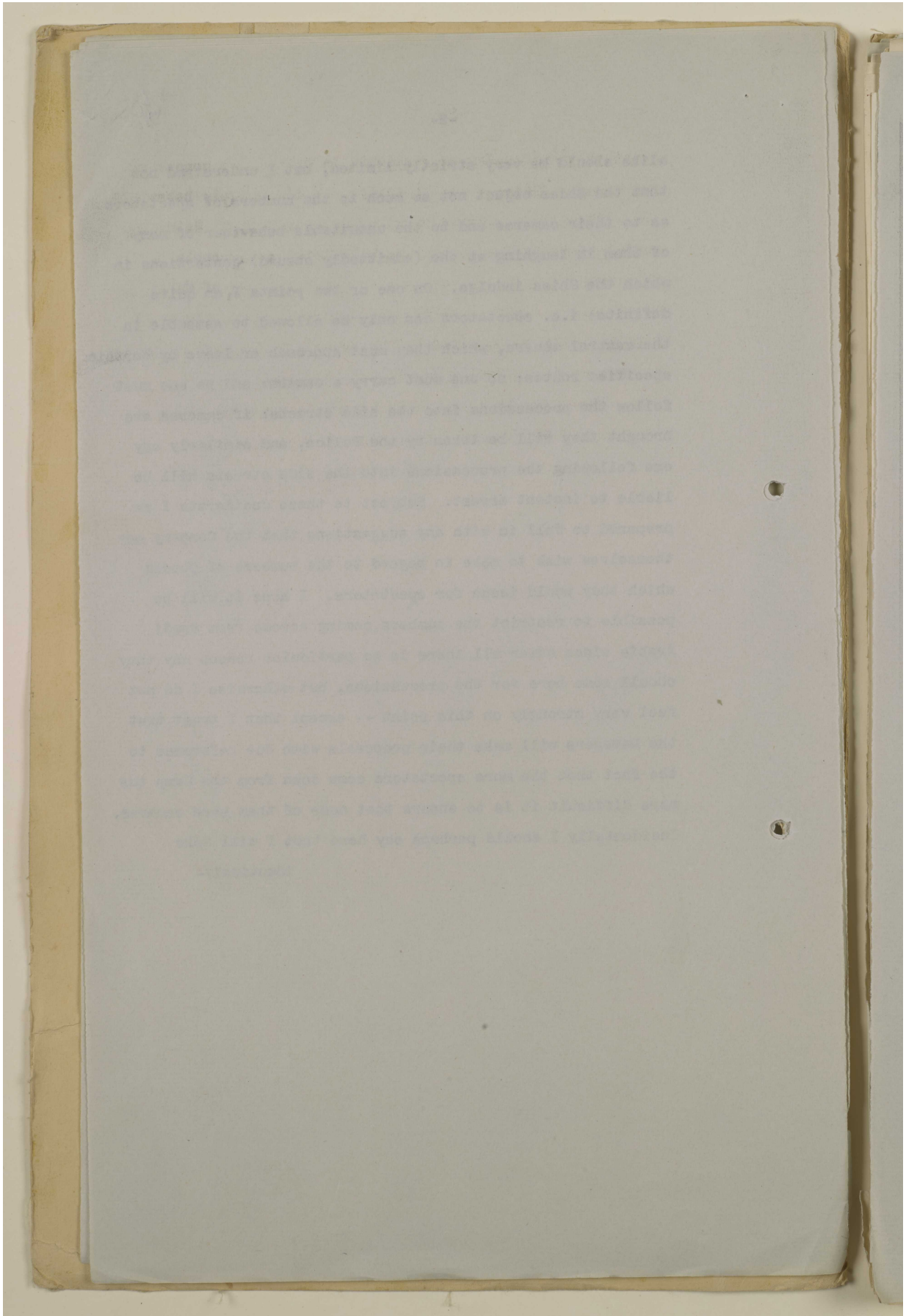
"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [ظ ٦] (٩٠/١٢)



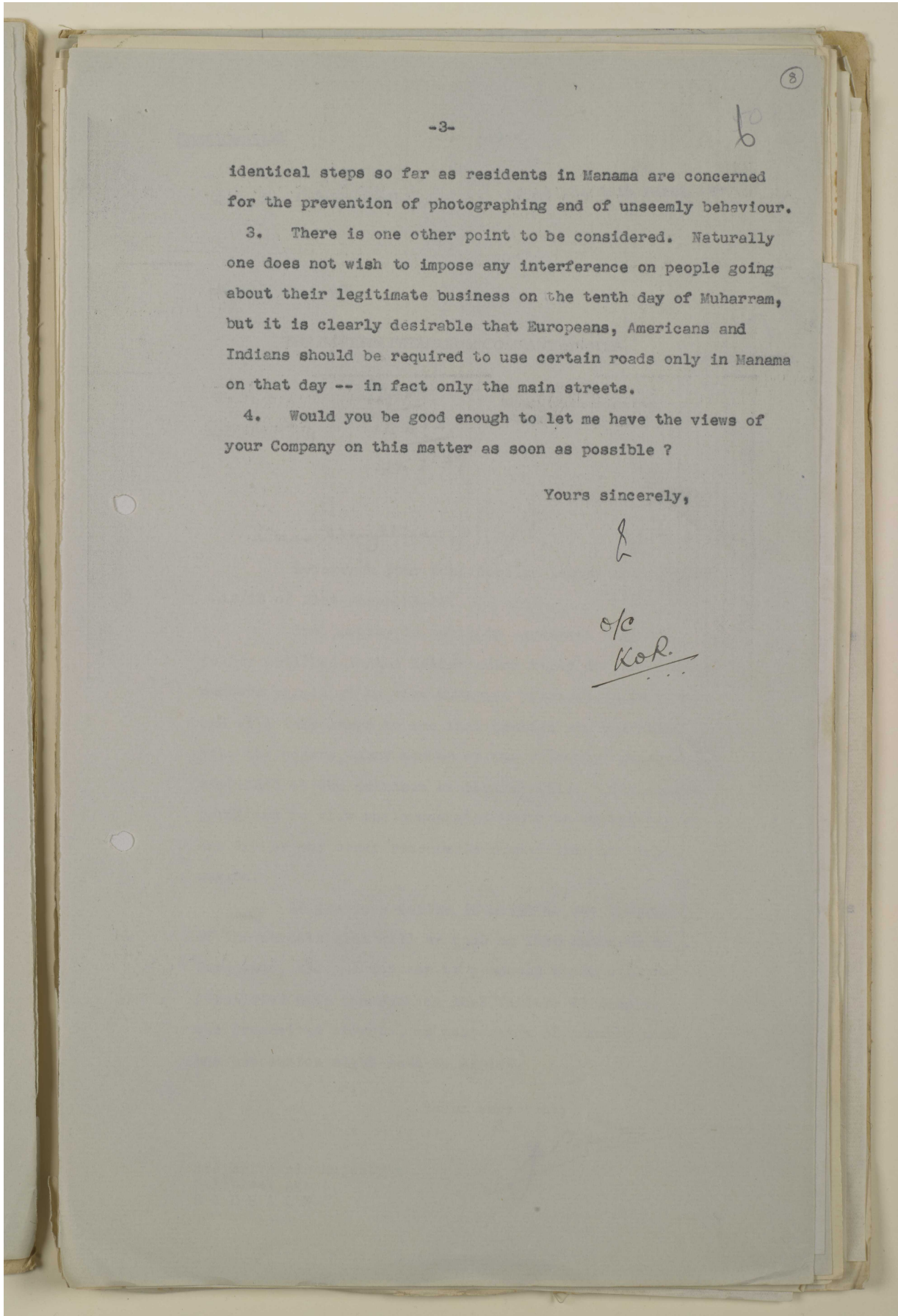
-2-

alike should be very strictly limited, but I understand now that the Shias object not so much to the numbers of spectators as to their cameras and to the unsuitable behaviour of many of them in laughing at the (admittedly absurd) contortions in which the Shias indulge. On one or two points I am quite definite; i.e. spectators can only be allowed to assemble in the central square, which they must approach or leave by certain specified routes; no one must carry a camera; and no one must follow the processions into the side streets; if cameras are brought they will be taken by the Police, and similarly any one following the processions into the side streets will be liable to instant arrest. Subject to these desiderata I am prepared to fall in with any suggestions that the Company may themselves wish to make in regard to the numbers of passes which they would issue for spectators. I hope it will be possible to restrict the numbers coming across from Saudi Arabia since after all there is no particular reason why they should come here for the processions, but otherwise I do not feel very strongly on this point -- except that I trust that the Managers will make their proposals with due reference to the fact that the more spectators come down from the Camp the more difficult it is to ensure that none of them have cameras. Incidentally I should perhaps say here that I will take
identical/-

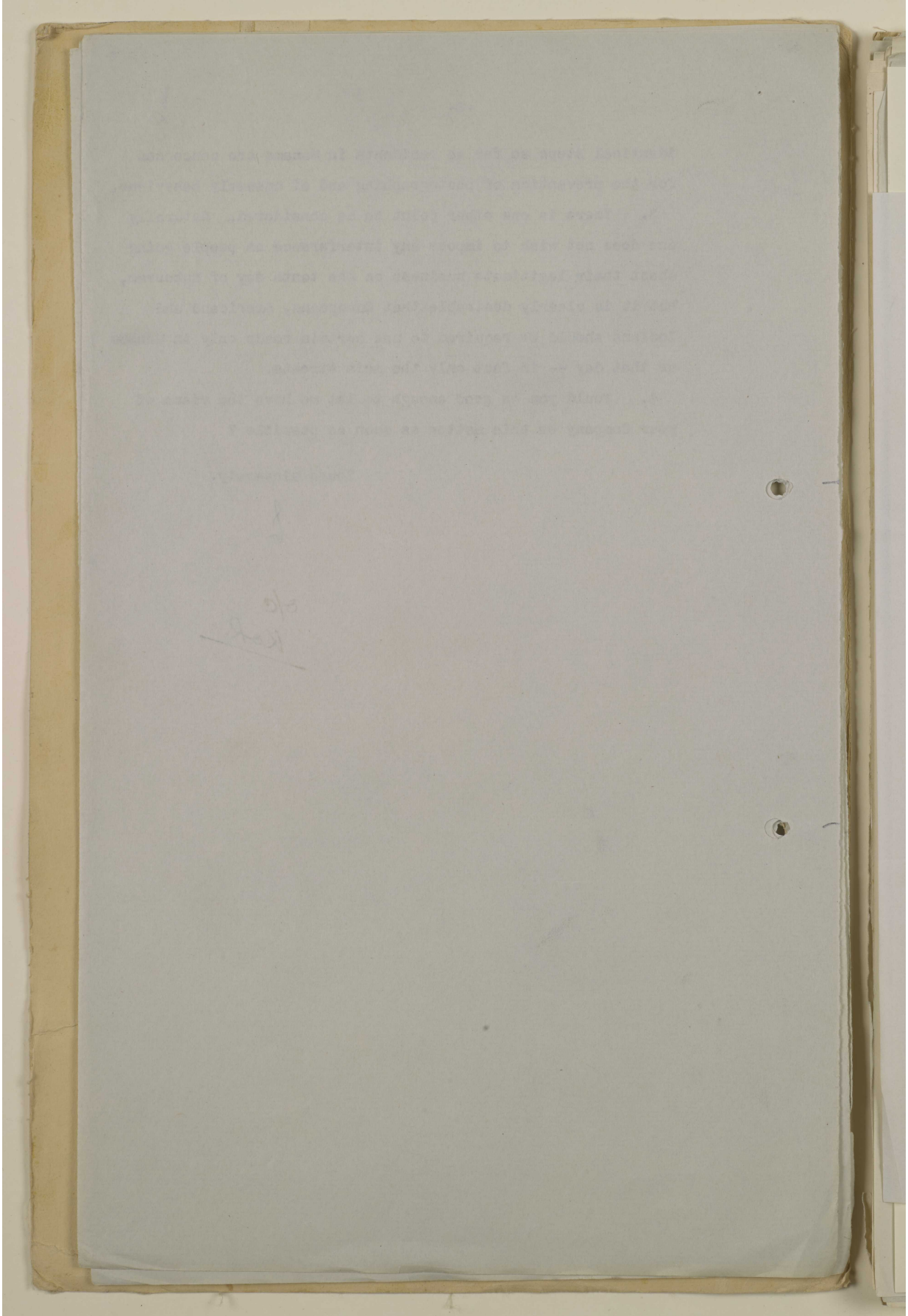
"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [ظ٧] (٩٠/١٤)



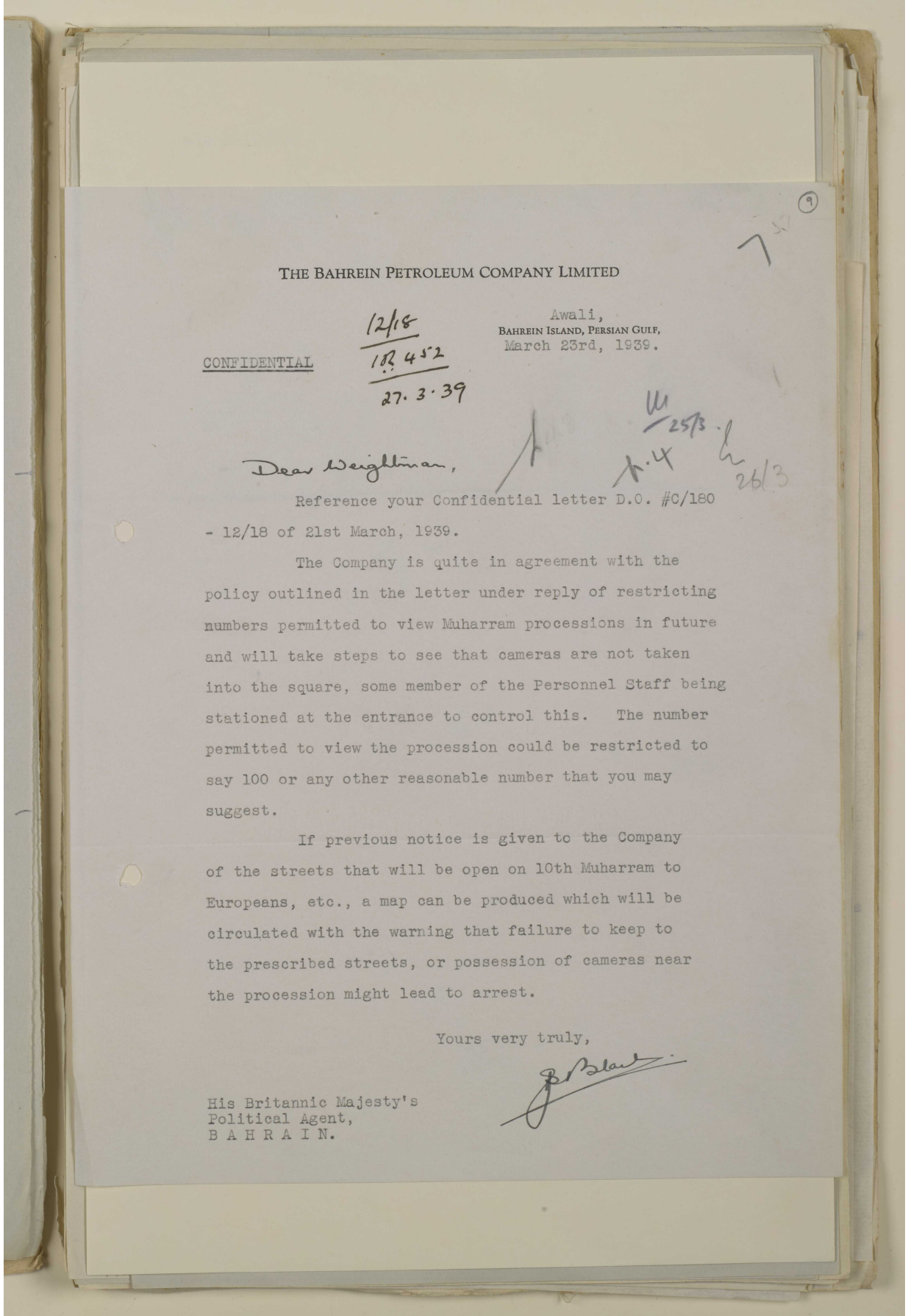
"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [و٨] (٩٠/١٥)



"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [ظ ٨] (٩٠/١٦)



"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [و٩] (٩٠/١٧)



THE BAHREIN PETROLEUM COMPANY LIMITED

Awali,
BAHREIN ISLAND, PERSIAN GULF,
March 23rd, 1939.

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Weighlinan,

Reference your Confidential letter D.O. #C/180

- 12/18 of 21st March, 1939.

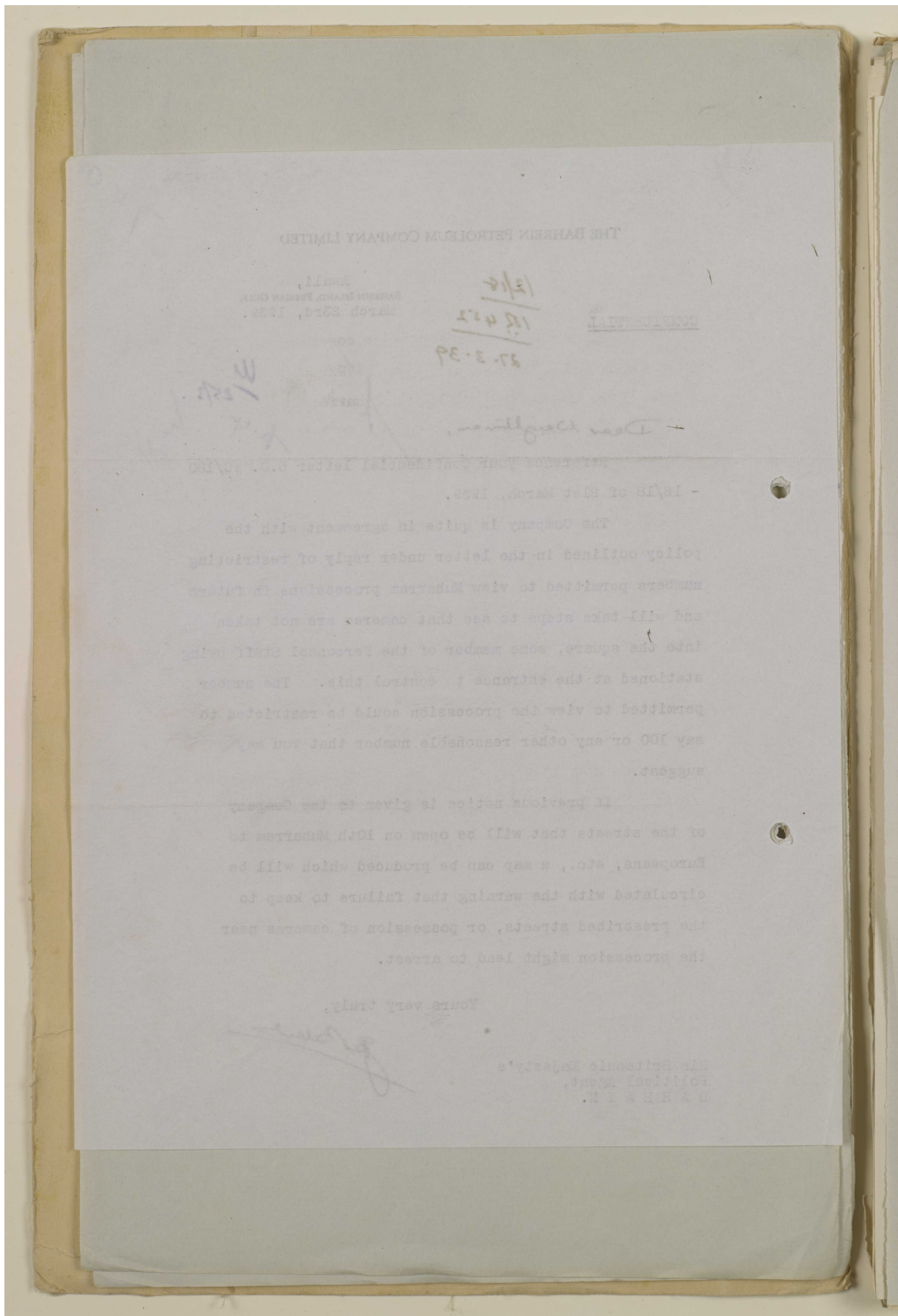
The Company is quite in agreement with the policy outlined in the letter under reply of restricting numbers permitted to view Muharram processions in future and will take steps to see that cameras are not taken into the square, some member of the Personnel Staff being stationed at the entrance to control this. The number permitted to view the procession could be restricted to say 100 or any other reasonable number that you may suggest.

If previous notice is given to the Company of the streets that will be open on 10th Muharram to Europeans, etc., a map can be produced which will be circulated with the warning that failure to keep to the prescribed streets, or possession of cameras near the procession might lead to arrest.

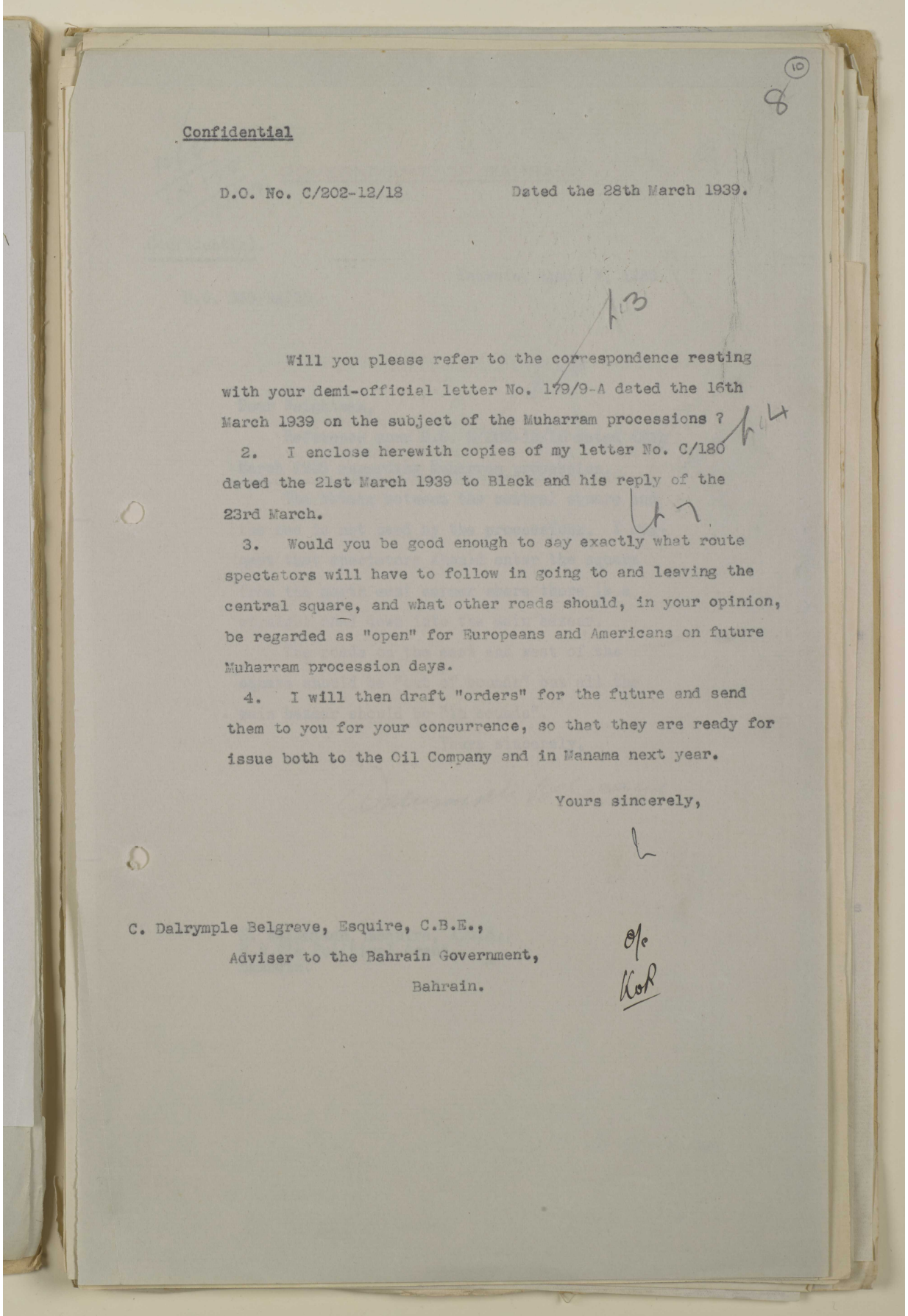
Yours very truly,

His Britannic Majesty's
Political Agent,
B A H R A I N.

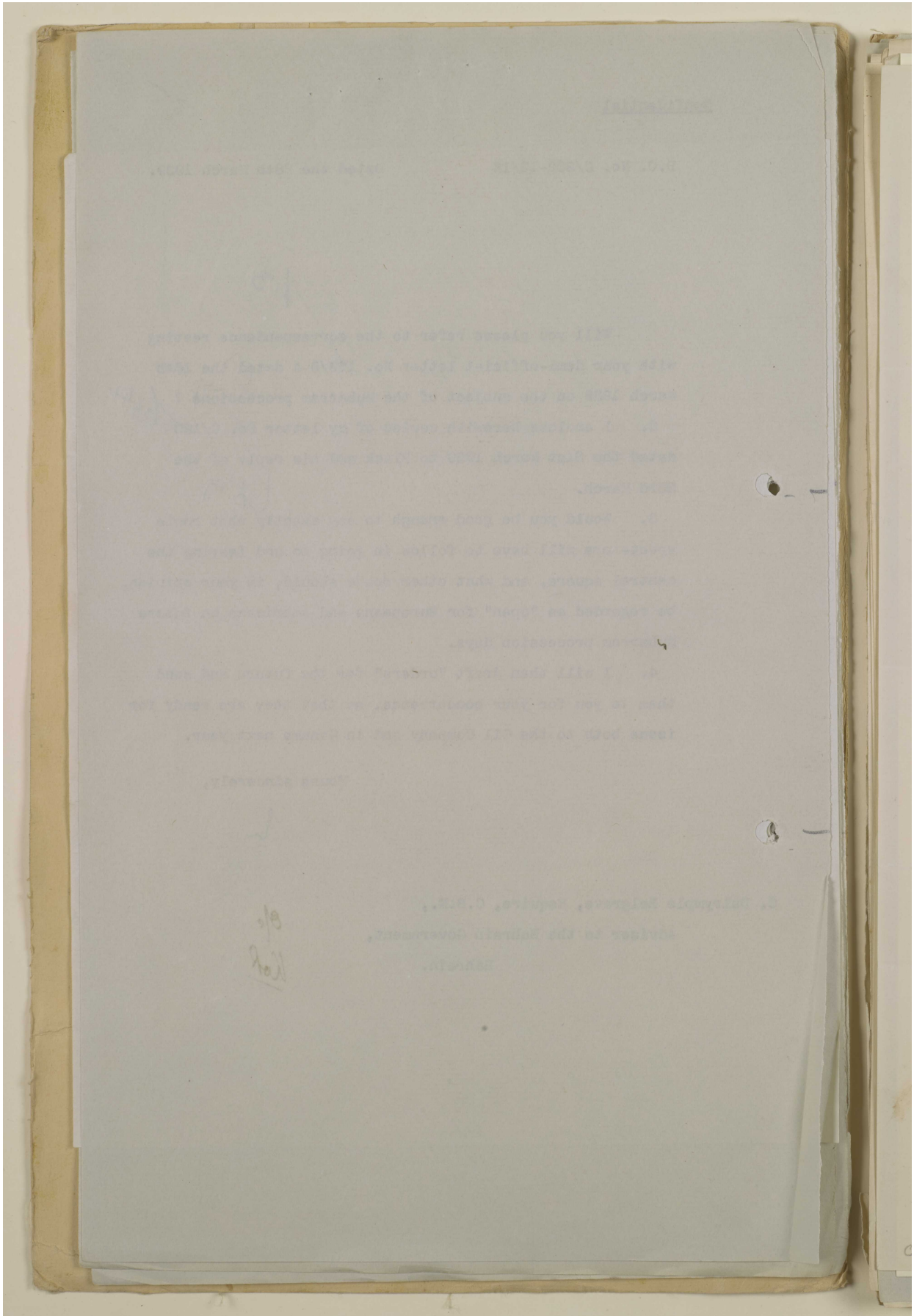
"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٩] (٩٠/١٨)

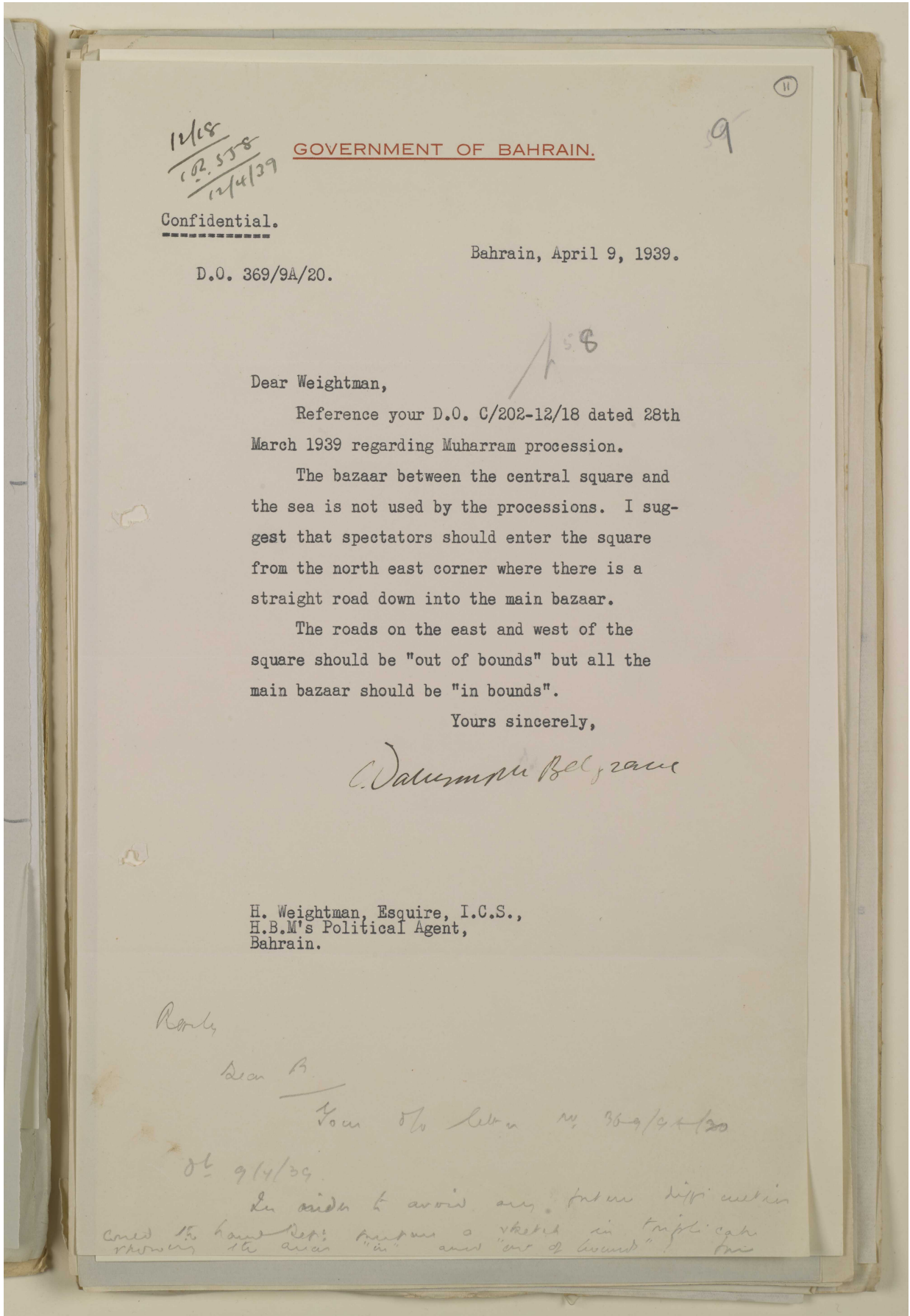


"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [١٠] [٩٠/١٩]

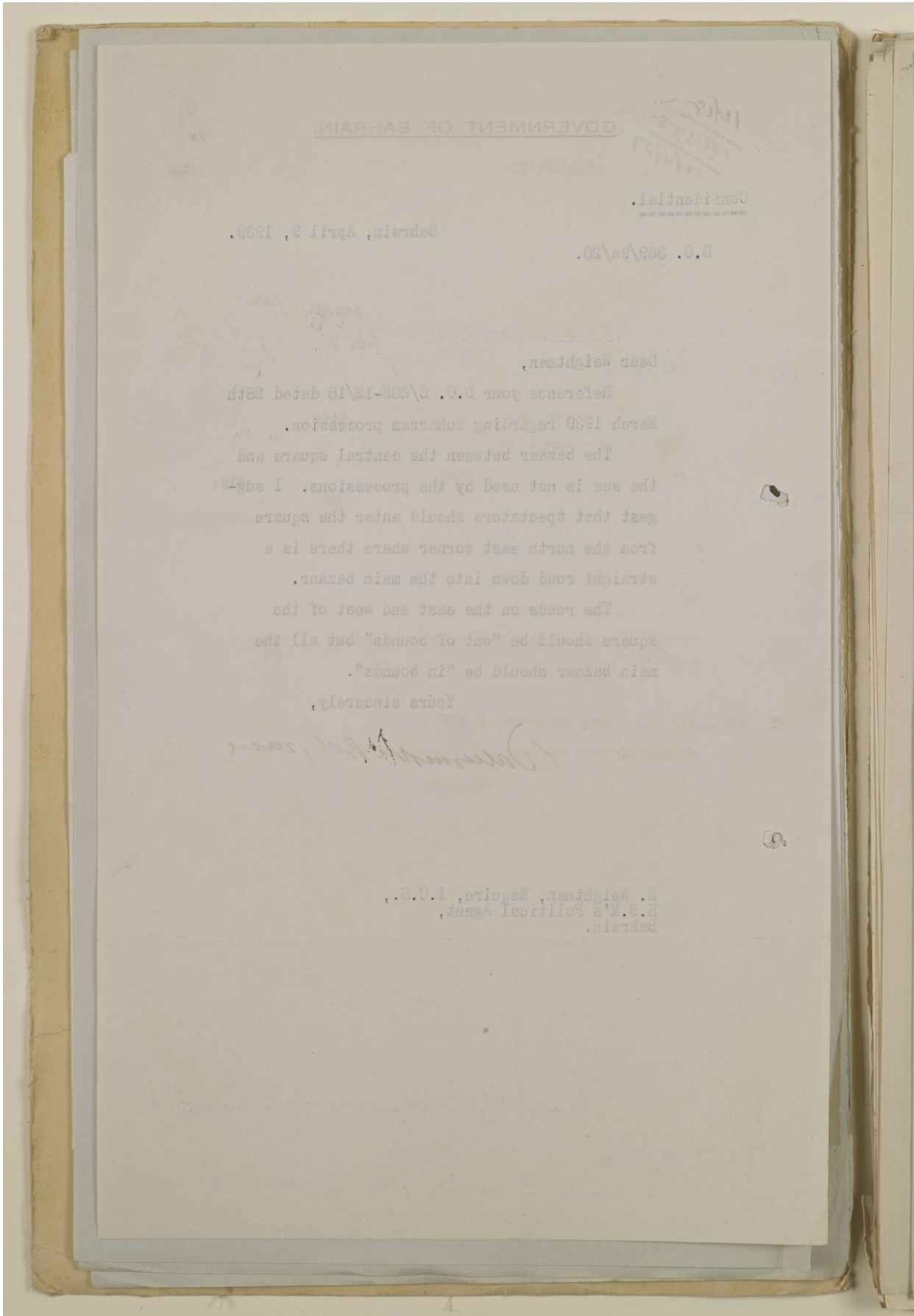


"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [١٠] [٩٠/٢٠]

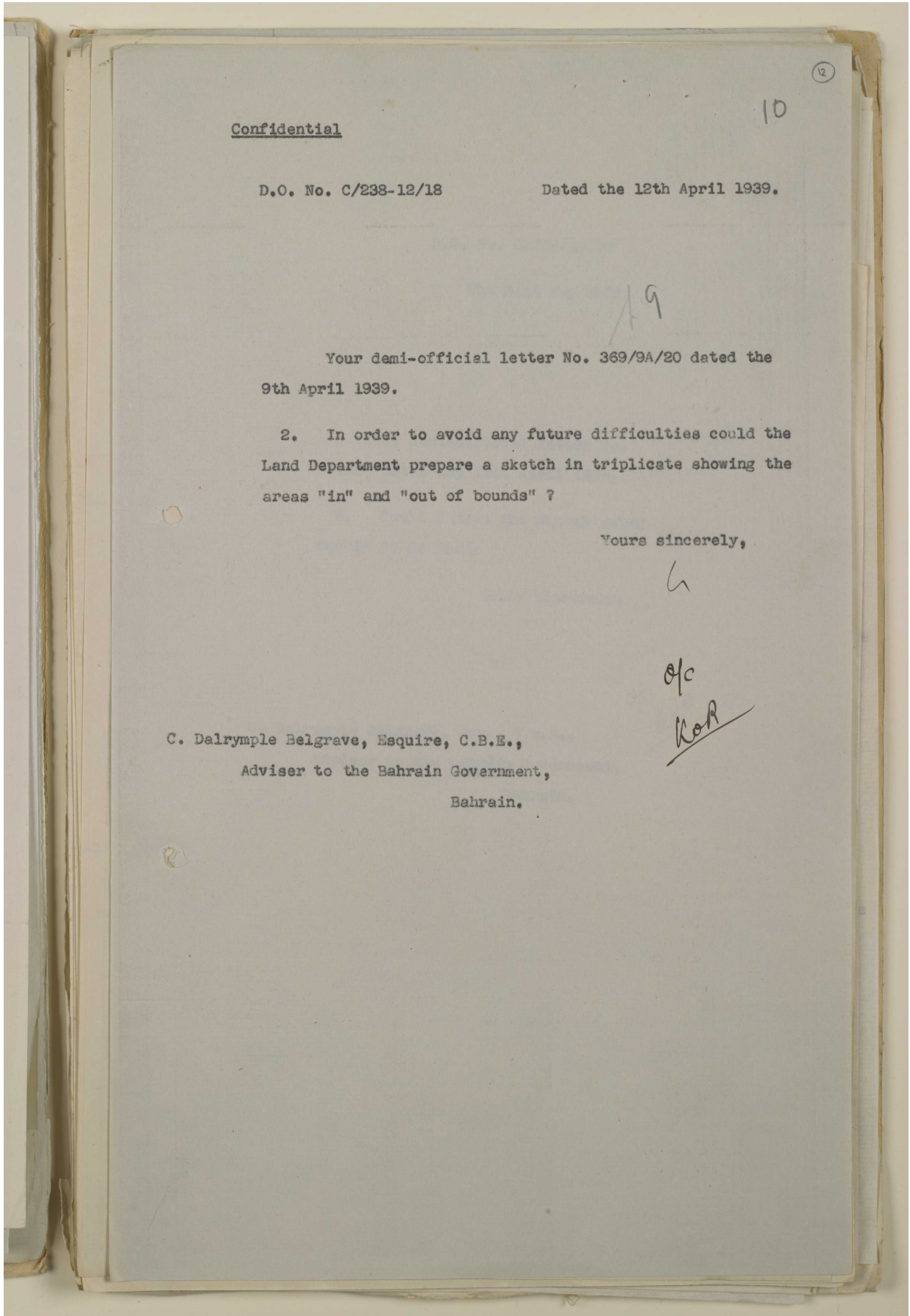




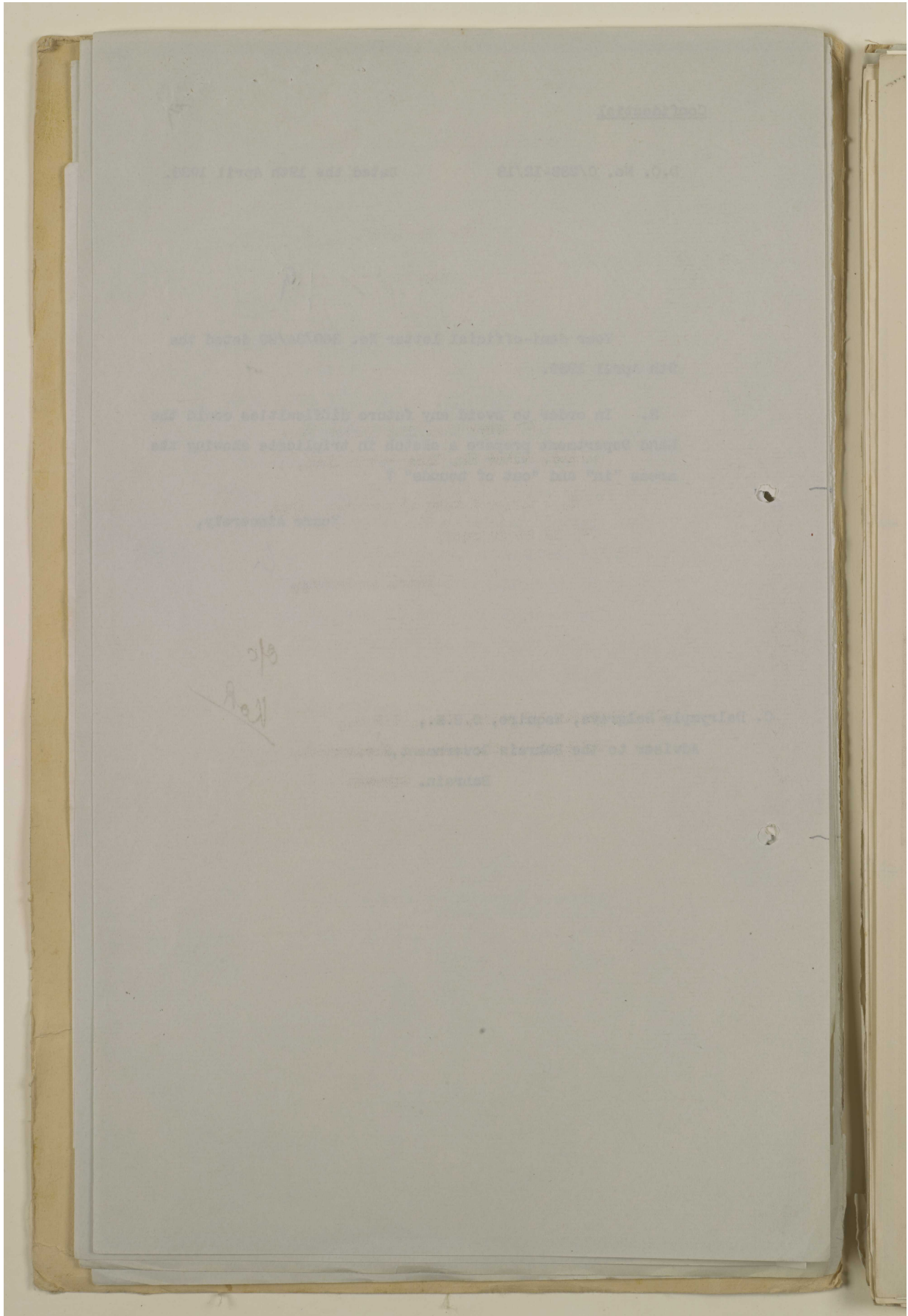
"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [١١ ظ] (٩٠/٢٢)



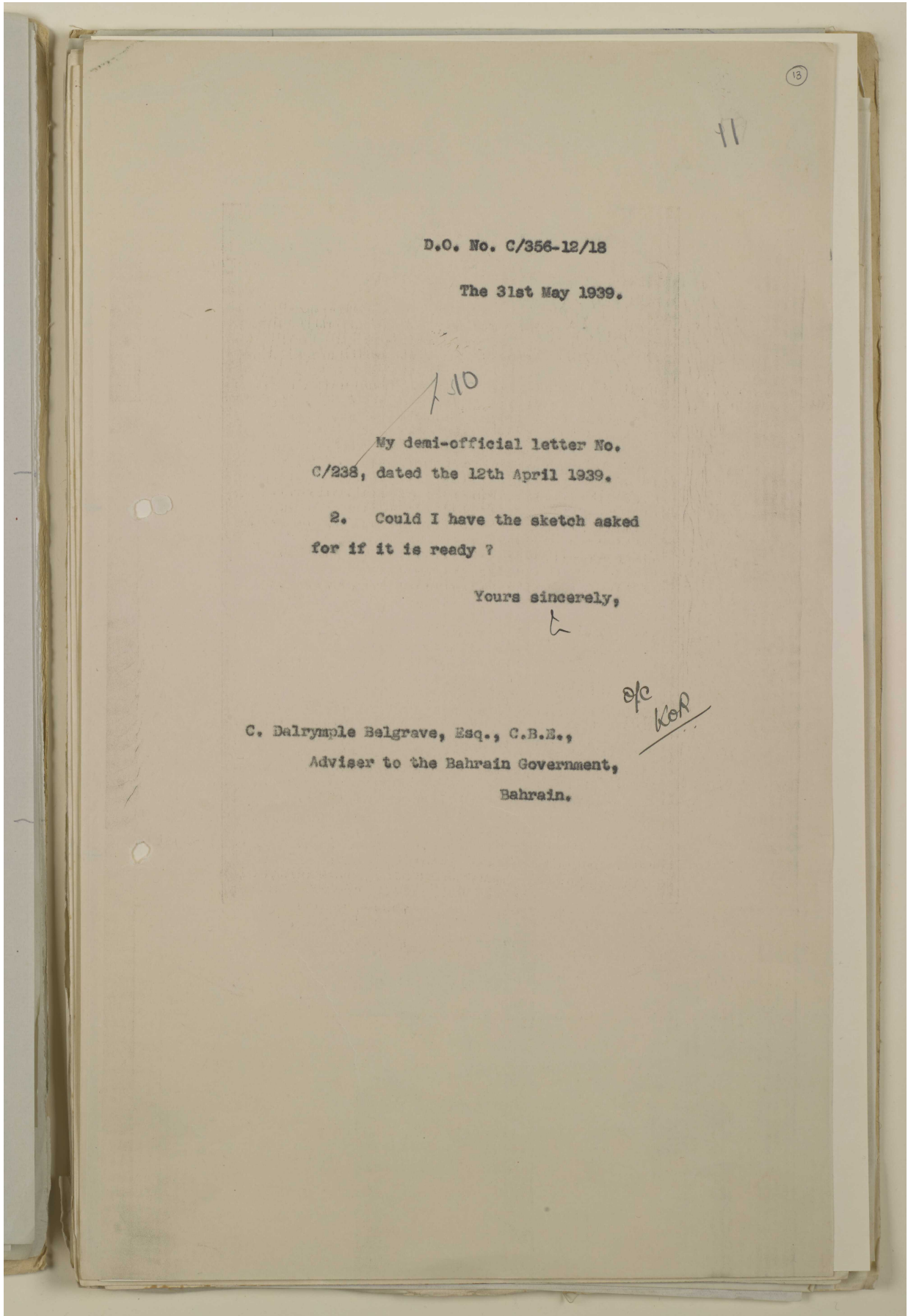
"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٢١ و] (٢٣/٩٠)



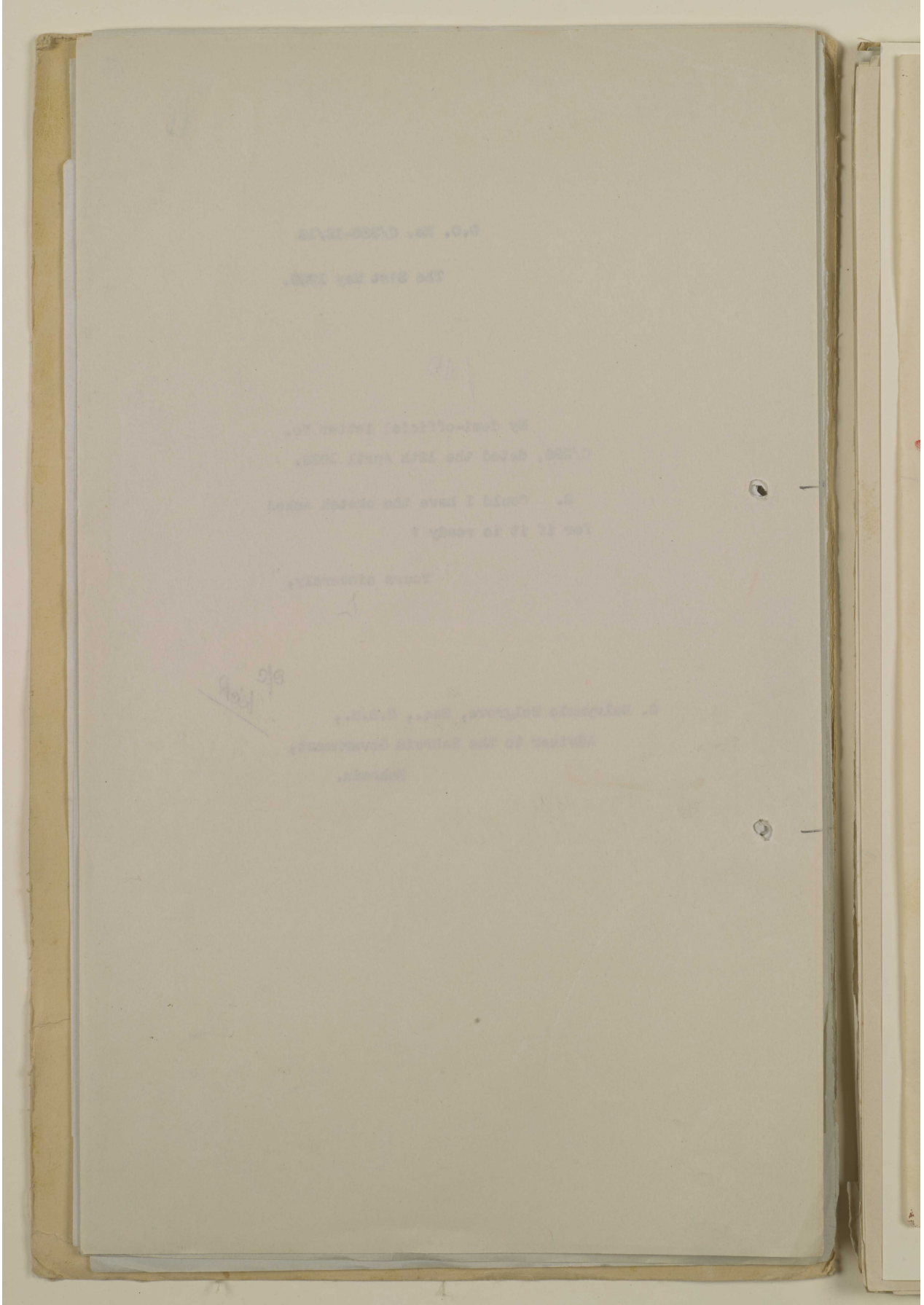
"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٢١ ظ] (٩٠/٢٤)



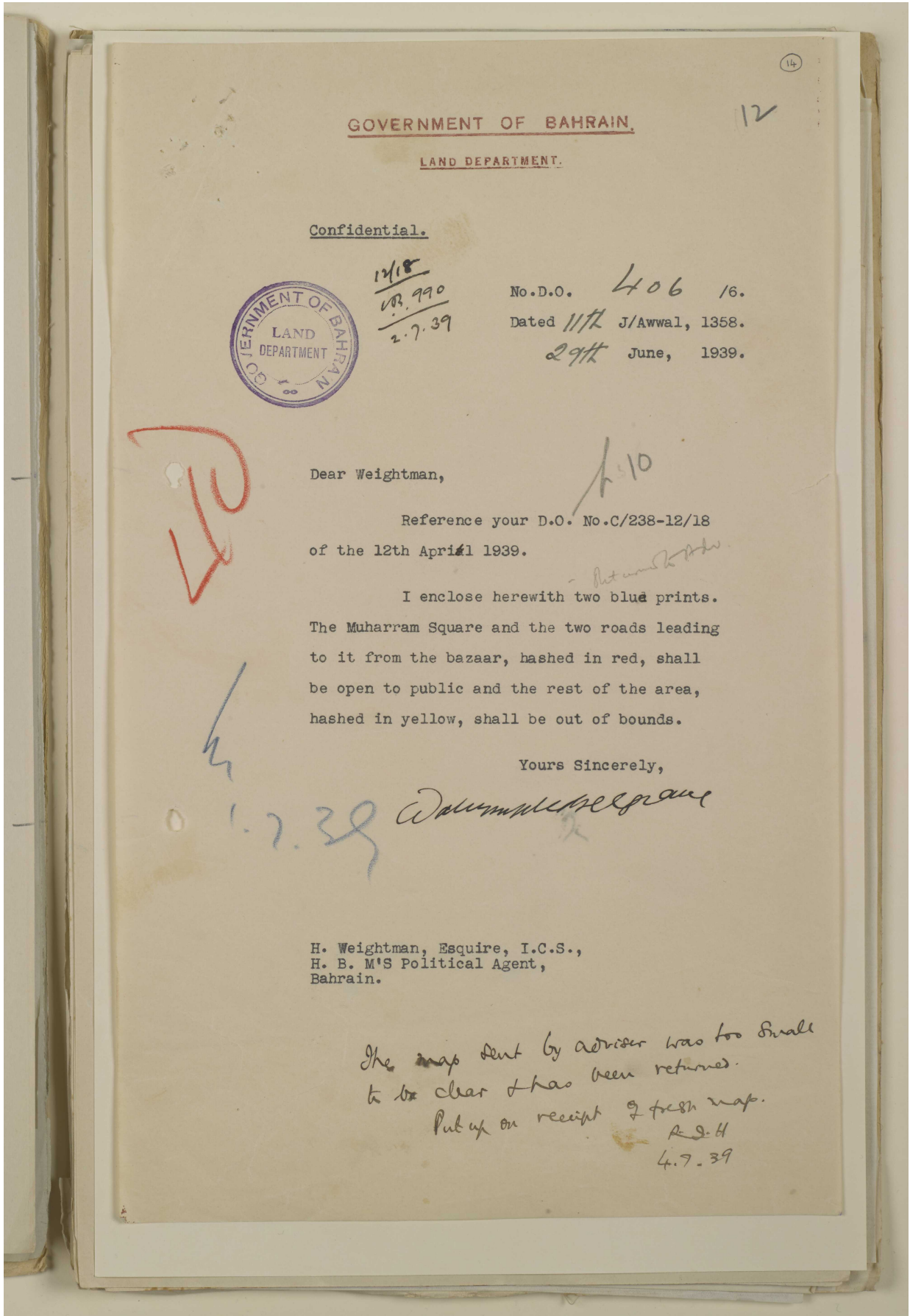
"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٣ او] (٩٠/٢٥)



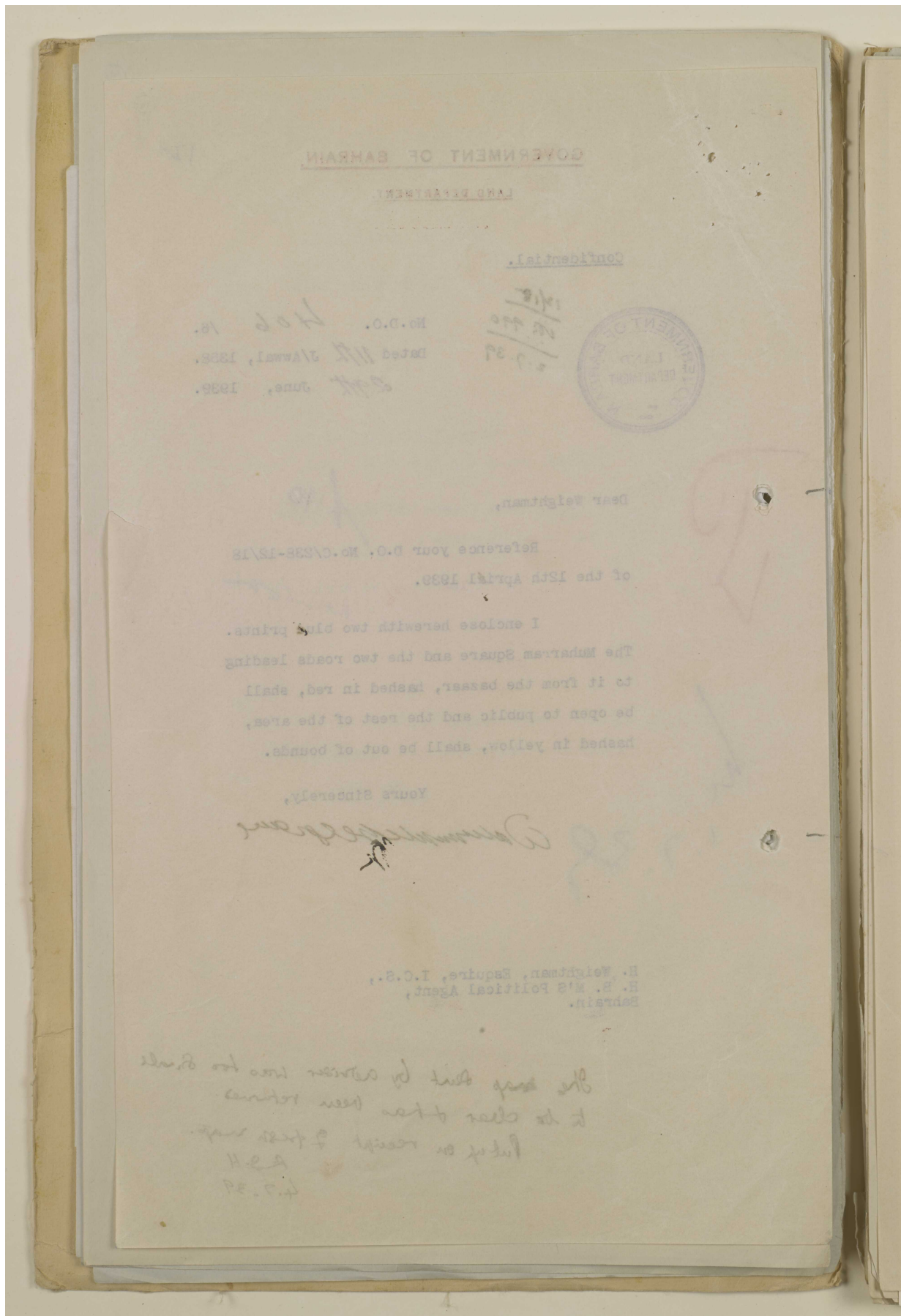
"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٣١ ظ] (٩٠/٢٦)



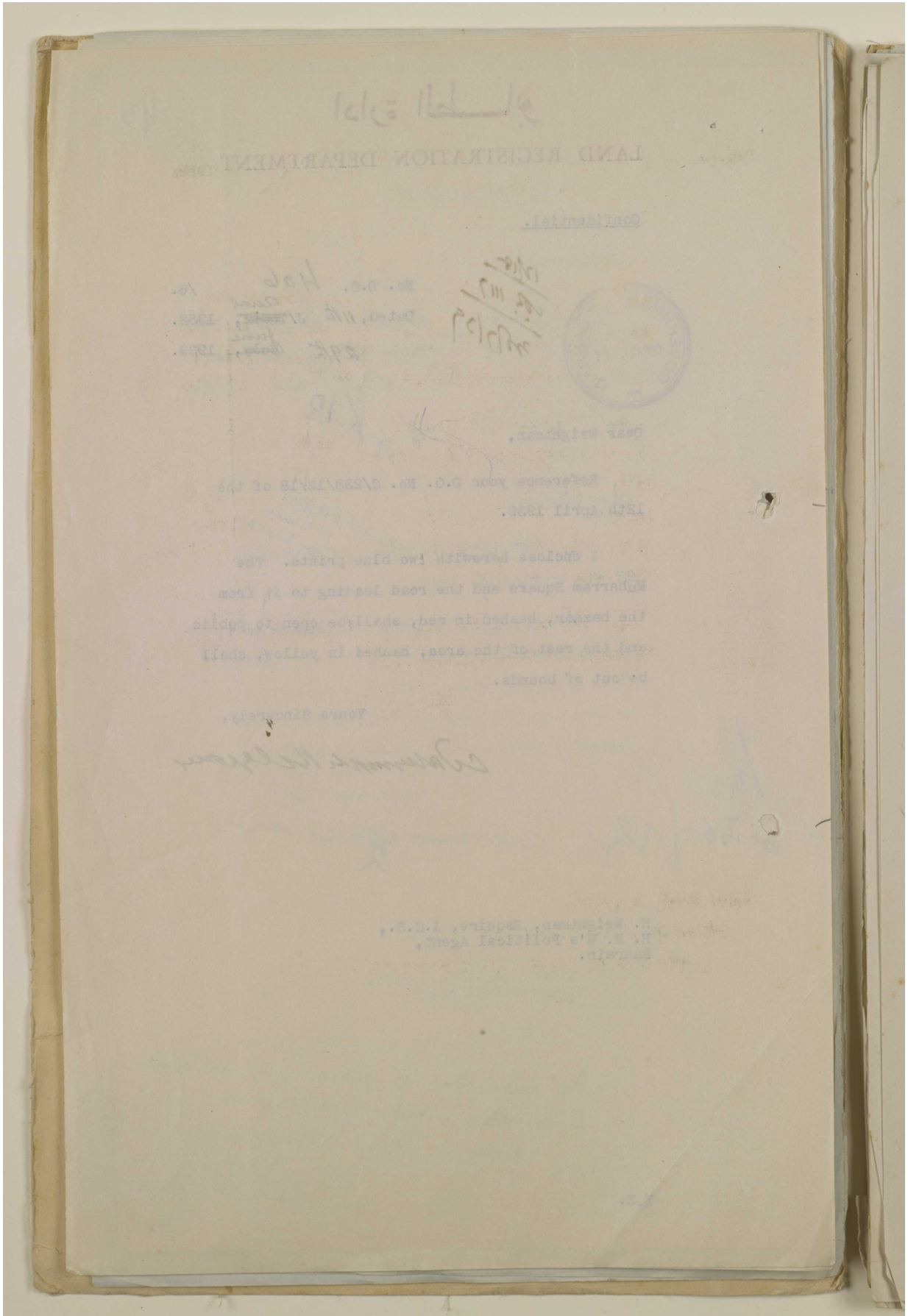
"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٤ او] (٩٠/٢٧)



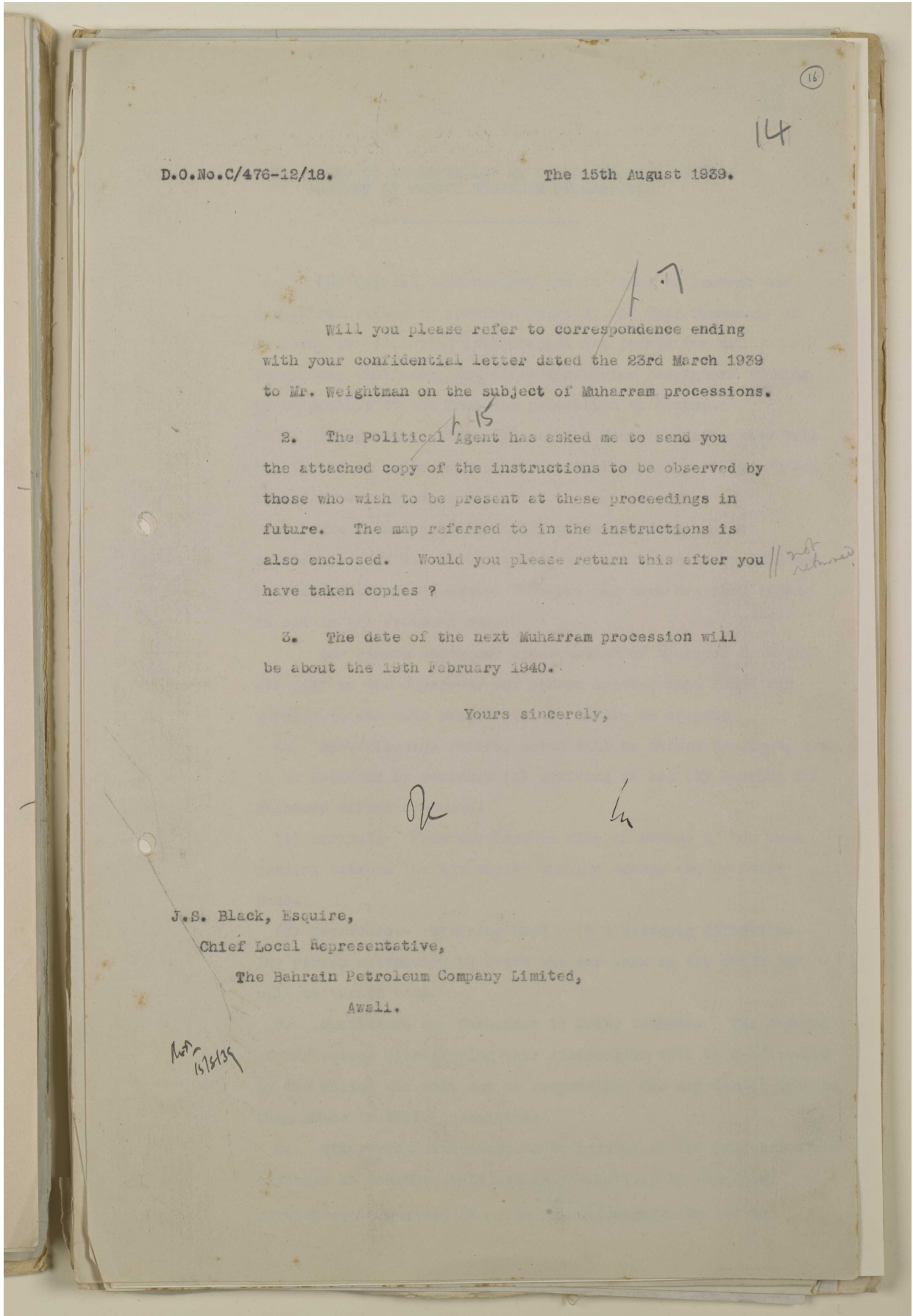
"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٤ اظ] (٩٠/٢٨)



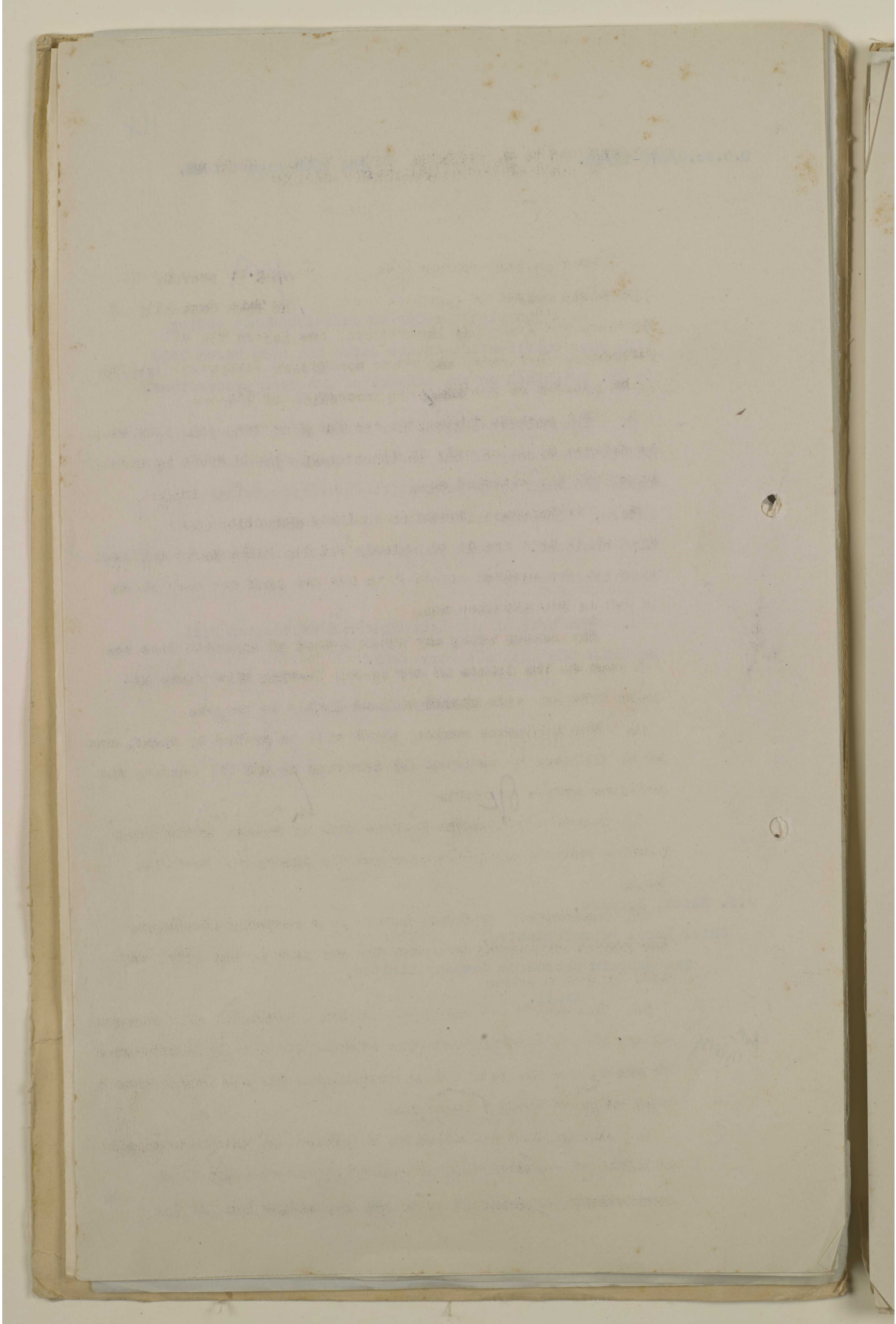
"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٥١ ظ] (٩٠/٣٠)

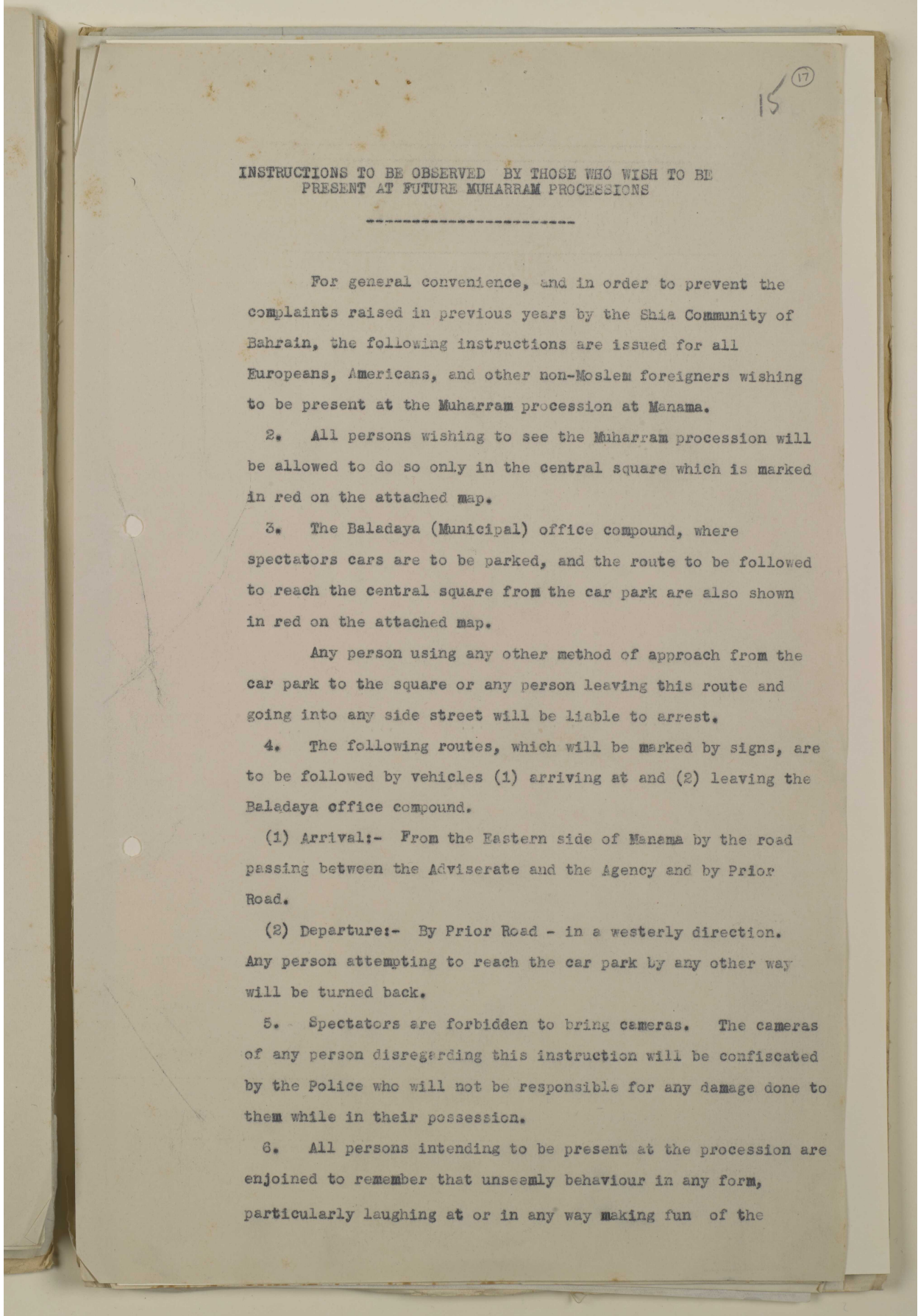


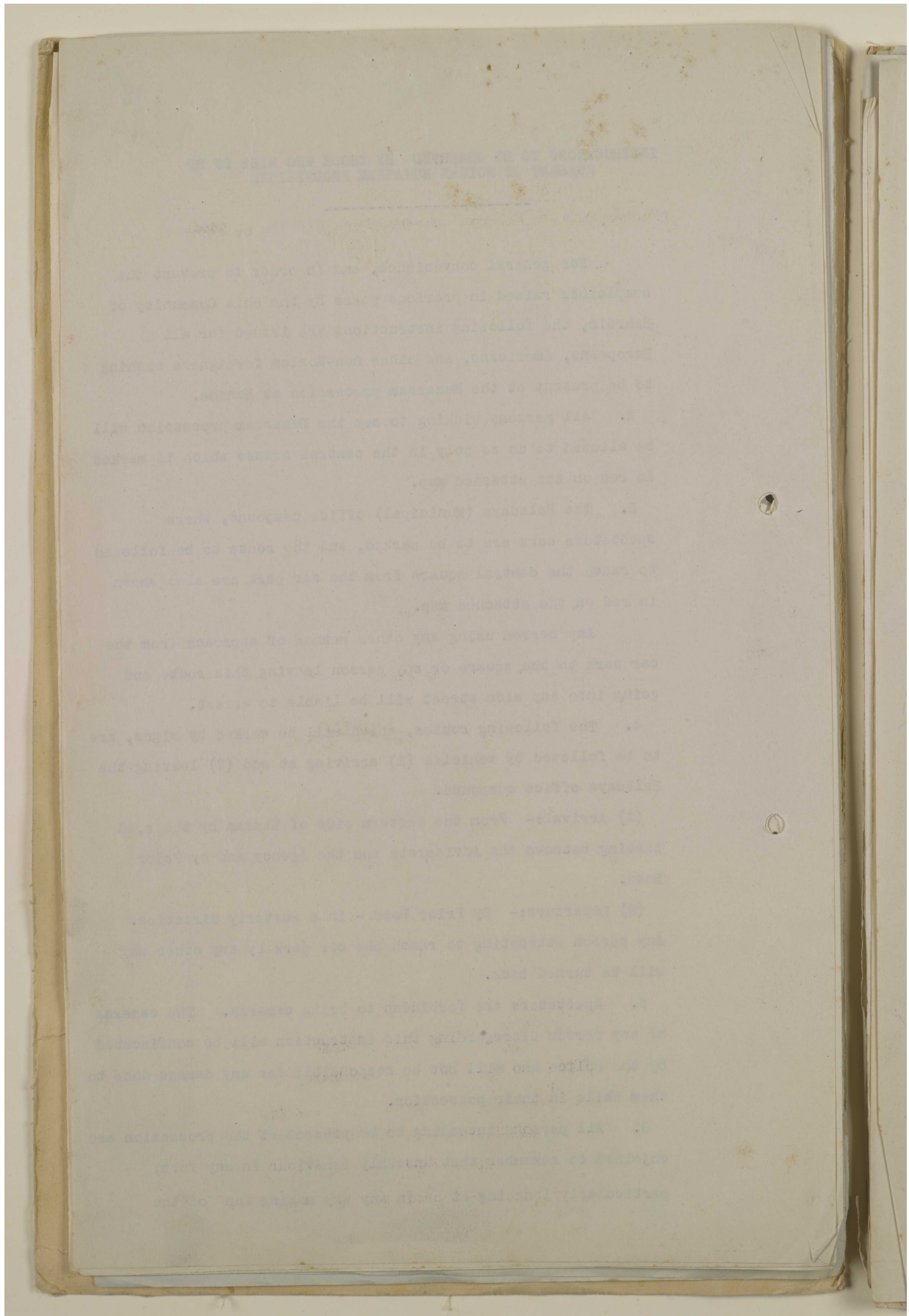
"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٦ او] (٩٠/٣١)



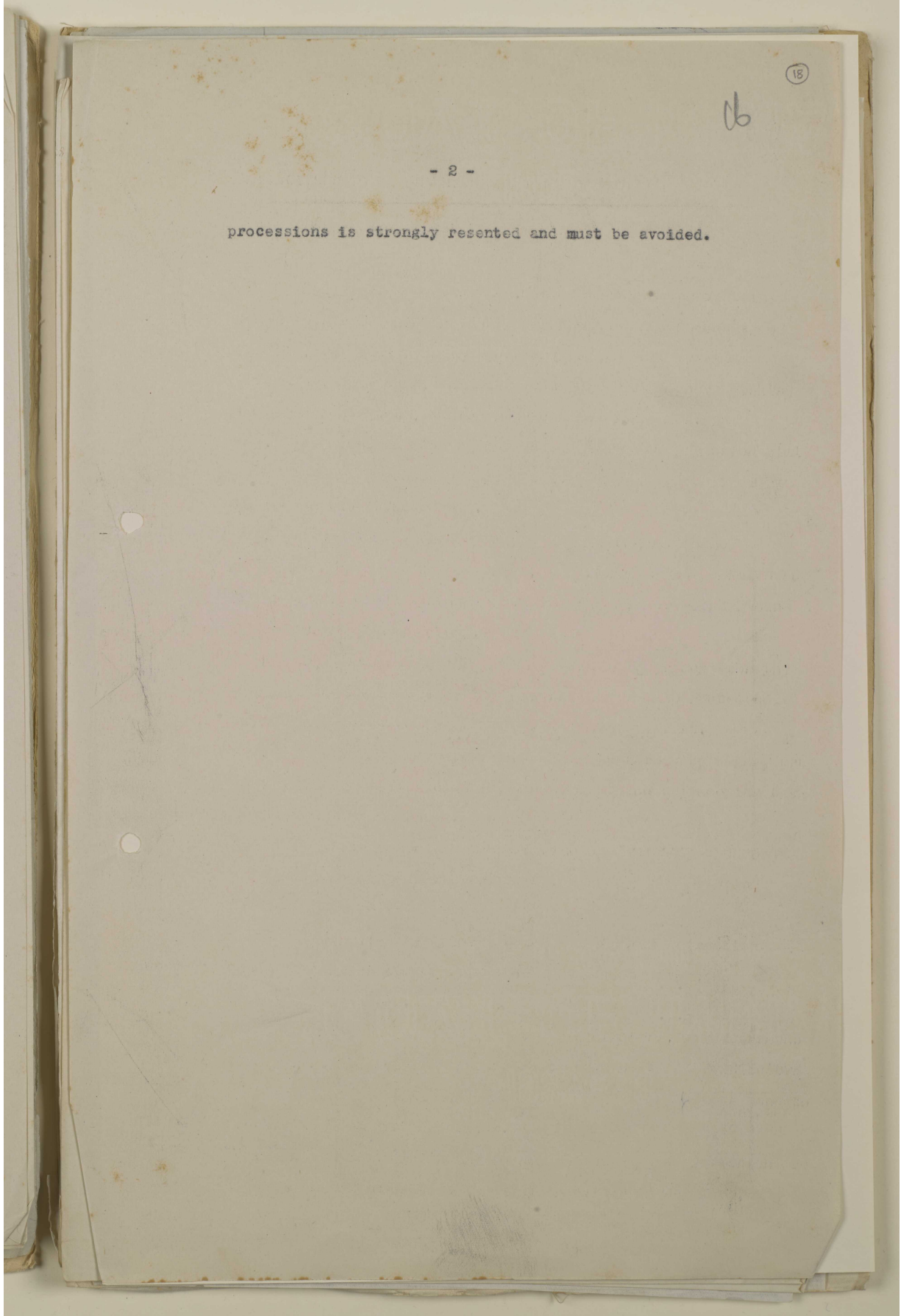
"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٦١ ظ] (٩٠/٣٢)



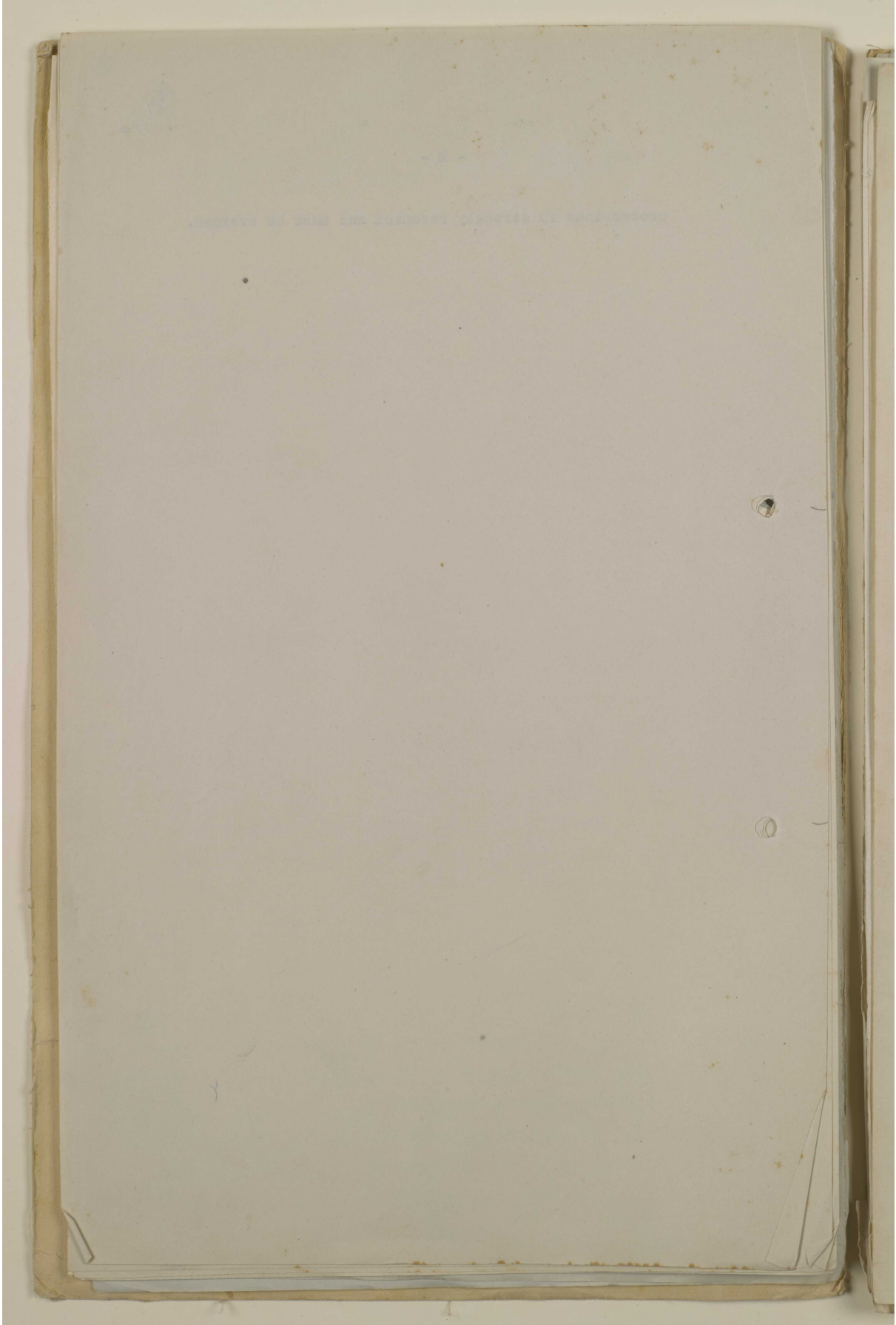




"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [١٨ و] (٩٠/٣٥)



"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [١٨ ظ] (٩٠/٣٦)



"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٩ و] (٩٠/٣٧)



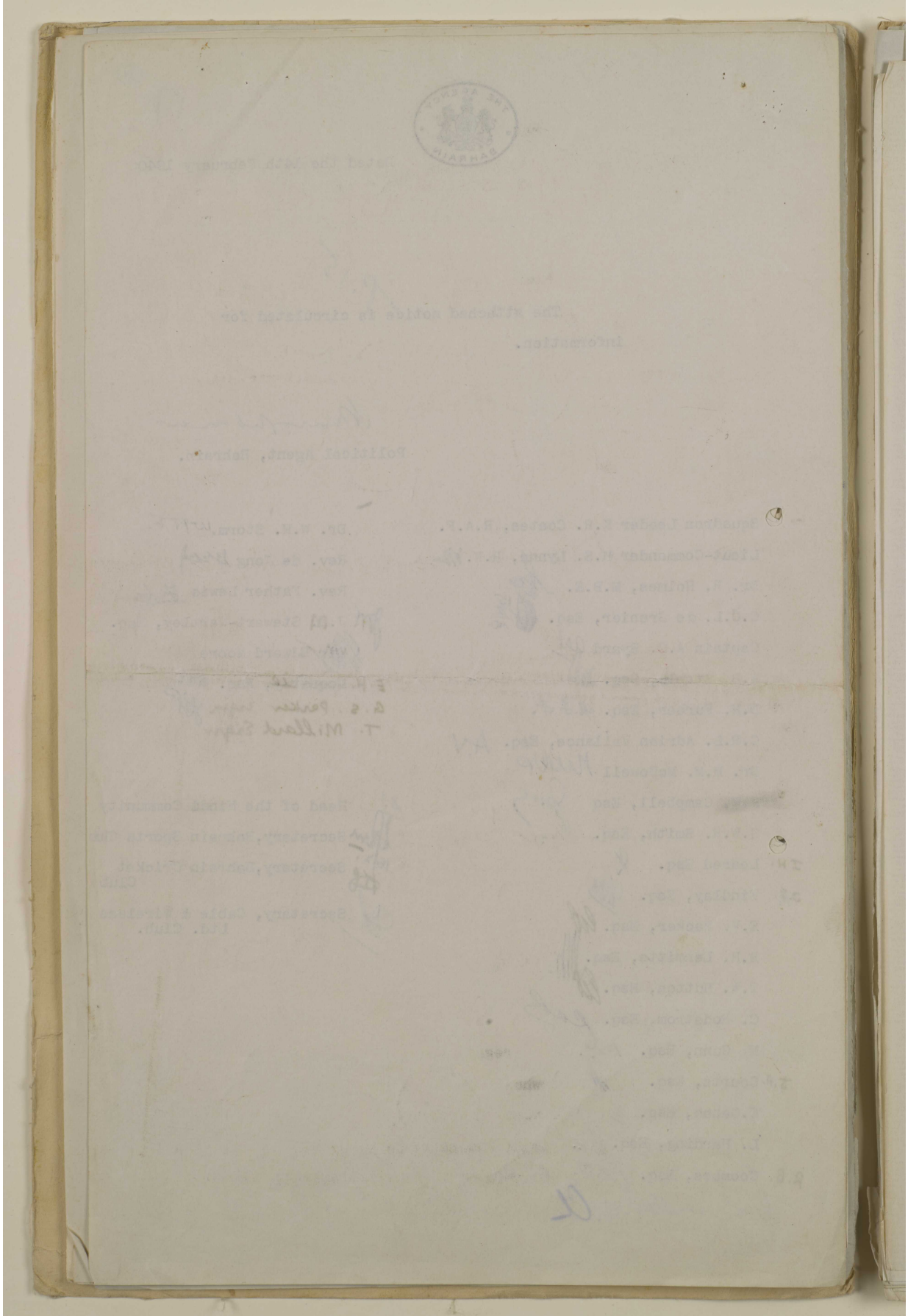
Dated the 14th February 1940

The attached notice is circulated for information.

Political Agent, Bahrain.

- Squadron Leader K.R. Coates, R.A.F.
Lieut-Commander H.S. Lynne, R.N.
Dr. R. Holmes, M.B.E.
C.C.L. de Grenier, Esq.
Captain A.C. Byard
W.B. Steele, Esq.
D.H. Furber, Esq.
C.R.L. Adrian Vallance, Esq.
Dr. M.M. McDowell
J.M. Campbell, Esq.
G.W.R. Smith, Esq.
J.H. Leared Esq.
J.A. Findlay, Esq.
E.V. Packer, Esq.
B.H. Lérmitte, Esq.
T.W. Hutton, Esq.
C. Rodstrom, Esq.
M. Gunn, Esq.
J.A. Courts, Esq.
C. Gahan, Esq.
L. Harding, Esq.
P.B. Coombes, Esq.
- Dr. W.H. Storm.
Rev. de Jong
Rev. Father Lewis
J. PA Stewart-Wartley, Esq.
Sir Edward Moore.
E.H. McQuarrie, Esq.
G.S. Parker Esq.
T. Millard Esq.
- Head of the Hindû Community
Secretary, Bahrain Sports Club
Secretary, Bahrain Cricket Club
Secretary, Cable & Wireless Ltd. Club.
- 17 (19)
- p.15
- 15/2/40
- A.V.
- W.W.P.
- J.H.
- 16/2/40
- CL

"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٩ ظ] (٩٠/٣٨)

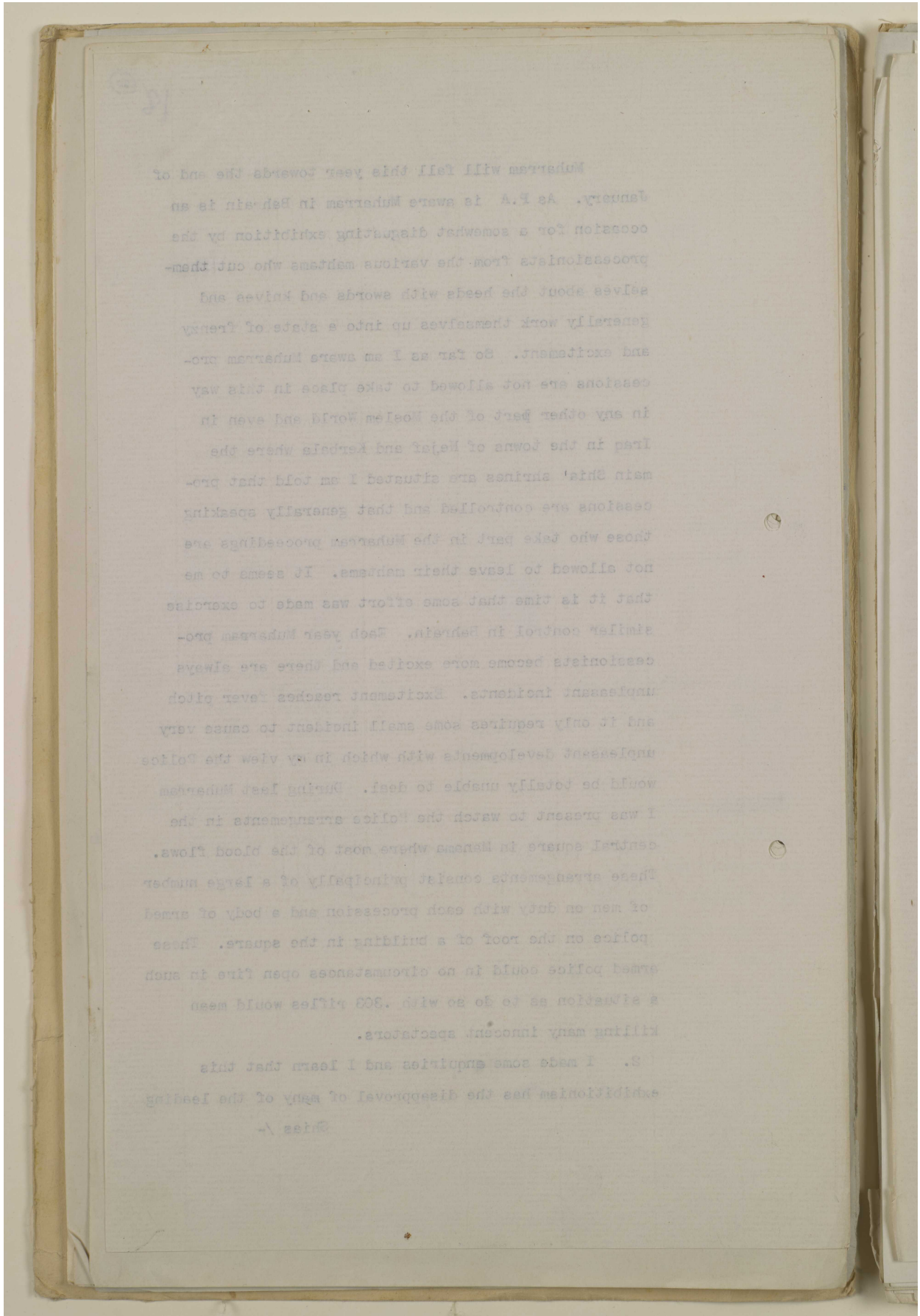


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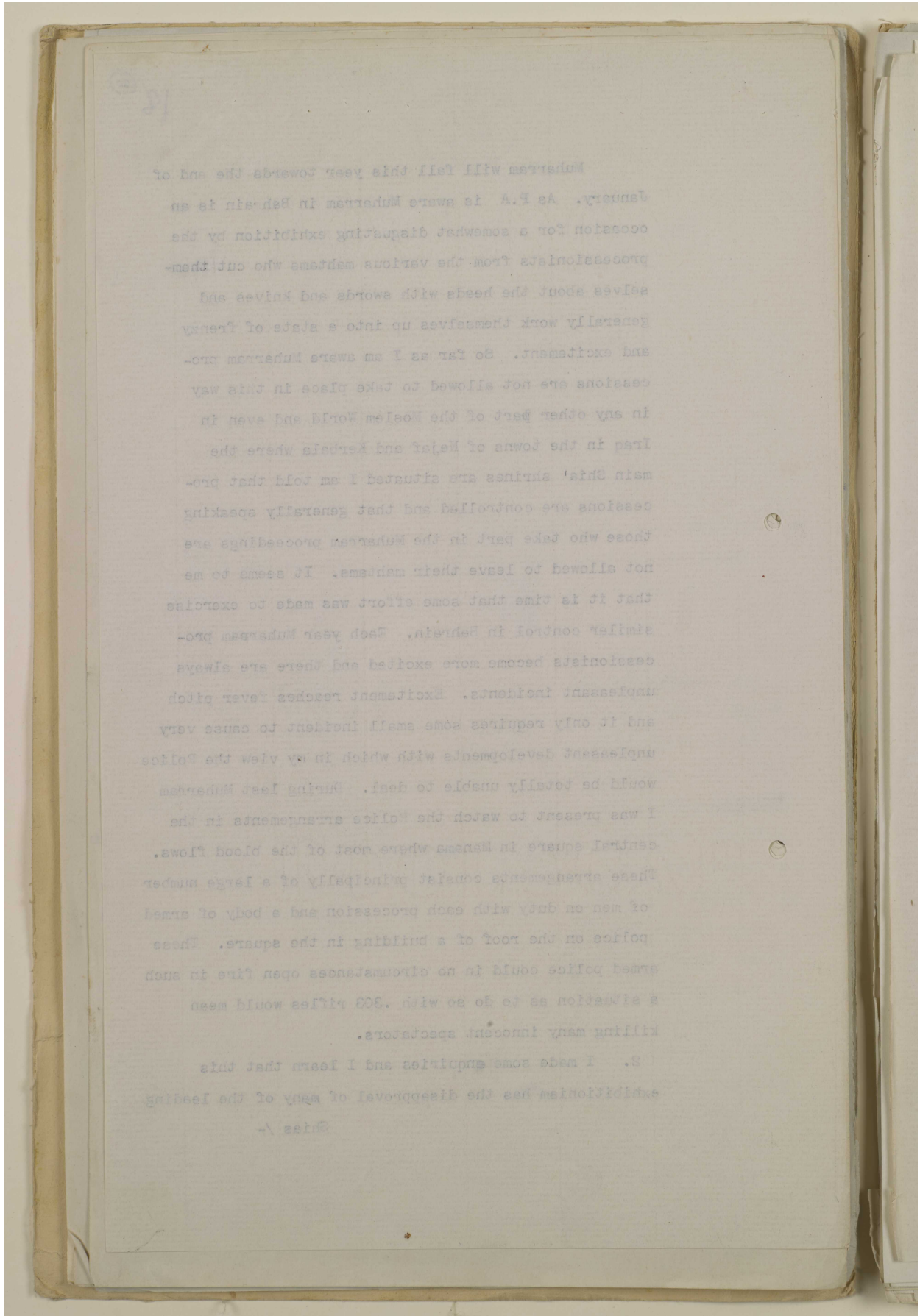
Muharram will fall this year towards the end of January. As P.A is aware Muharram in Bahrain is an occasion for a somewhat disgusting exhibition by the processionists from the various mahtams who cut themselves about the heads with swords and knives and generally work themselves up into a state of frenzy and excitement. So far as I am aware Muharram processions are not allowed to take place in this way in any other part of the Moslem World and even in Iraq in the towns of Nejaf and Kerbala where the main Shia' shrines are situated I am told that processions are controlled and that generally speaking those who take part in the Muharram proceedings are not allowed to leave their mahtams. It seems to me that it is time that some effort was made to exercise similar control in Bahrain. Each year Muharram processionists become more excited and there are always unpleasant incidents. Excitement reaches fever pitch and it only requires some small incident to cause very unpleasant developments with which in my view the Police would be totally unable to deal. During last Muharram I was present to watch the Police arrangements in the central square in Manama where most of the blood flows. These arrangements consist principally of a large number of men on duty with each procession and a body of armed police on the roof of a building in the square. These armed police could in no circumstances open fire in such a situation as to do so with .303 rifles would mean killing many innocent spectators.

2. I made some enquiries and I learn that this exhibitionism has the disapproval of many of the leading Shias /-

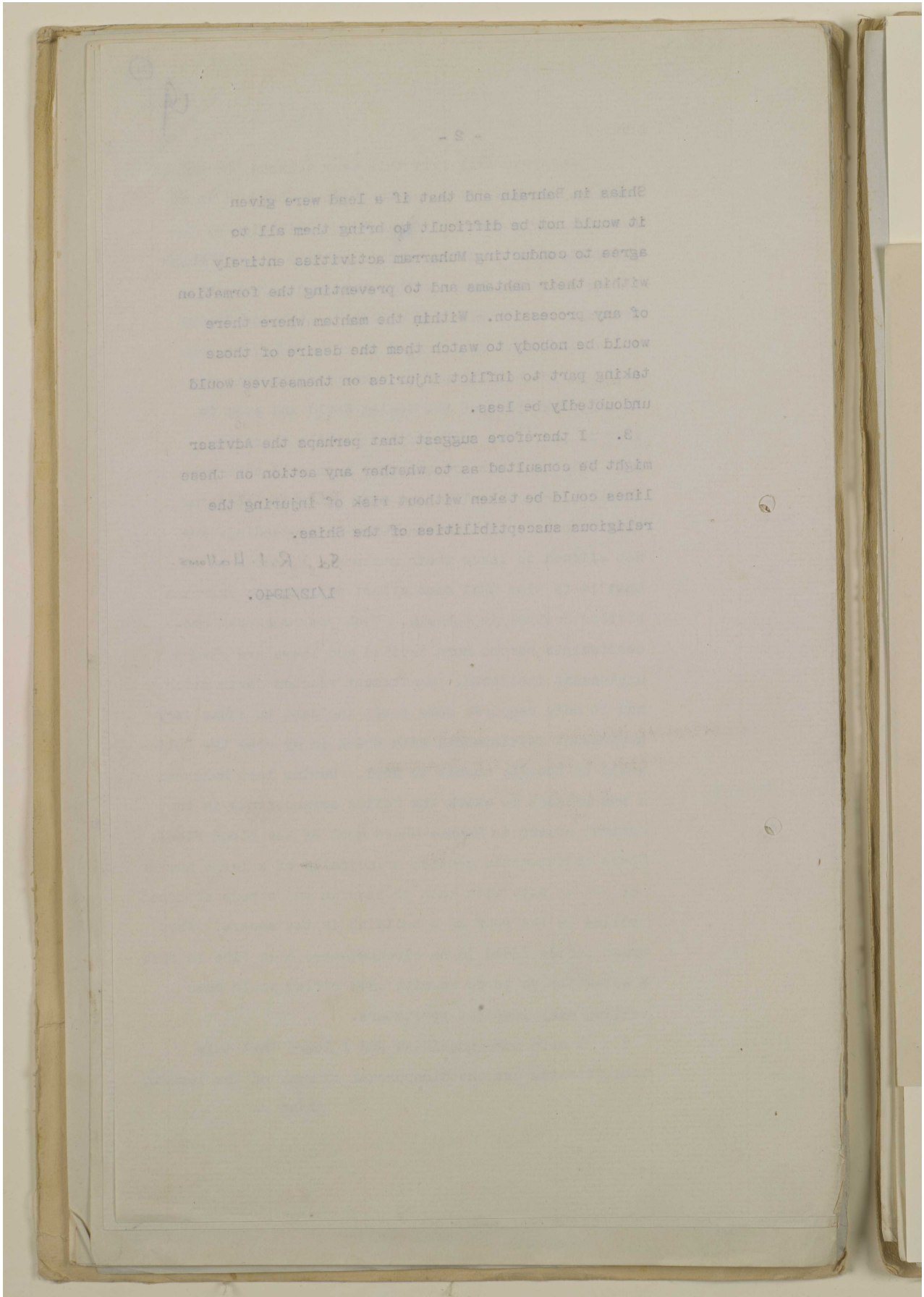
"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٢٠٠٠] (٩٠/٤٠)



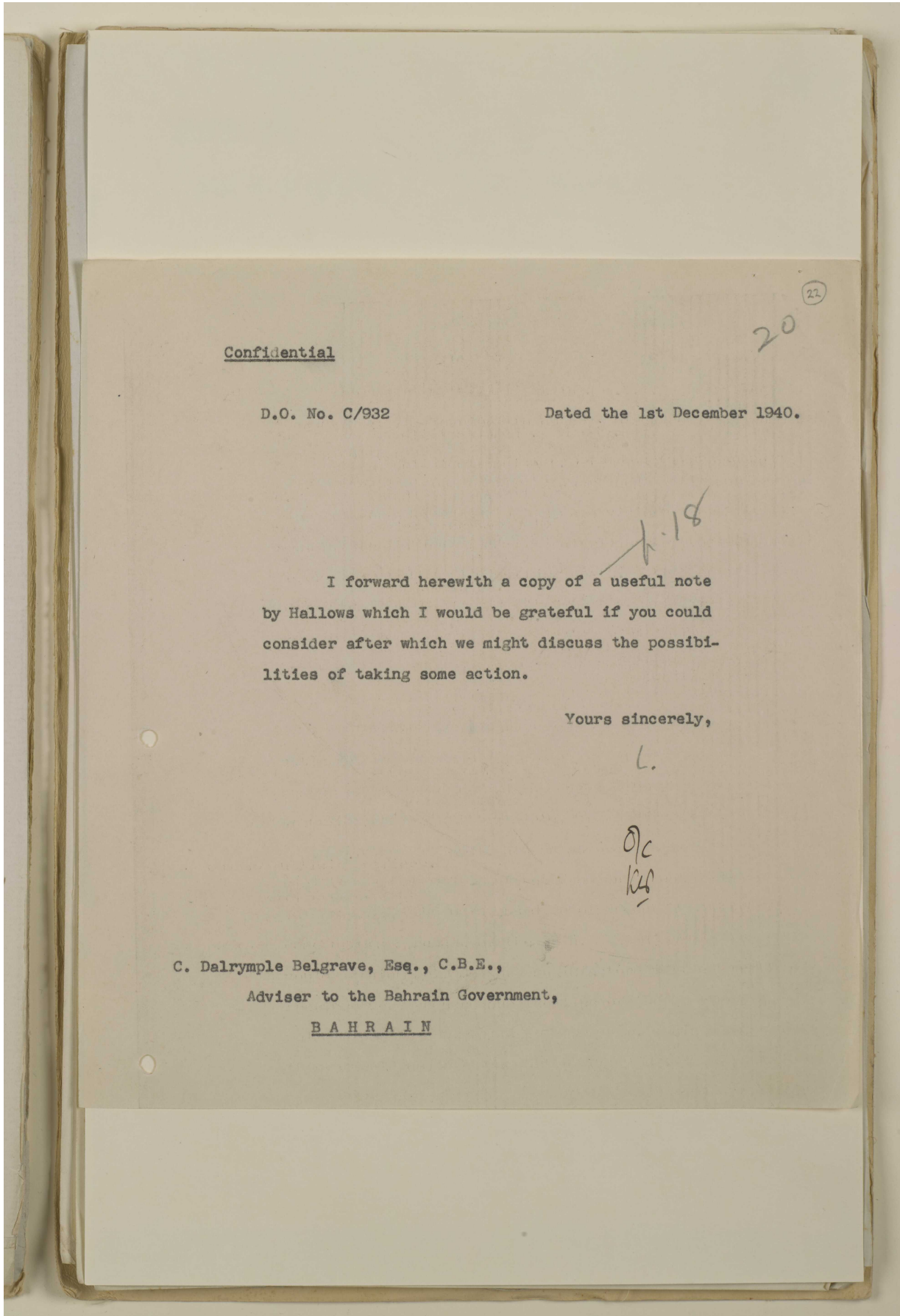
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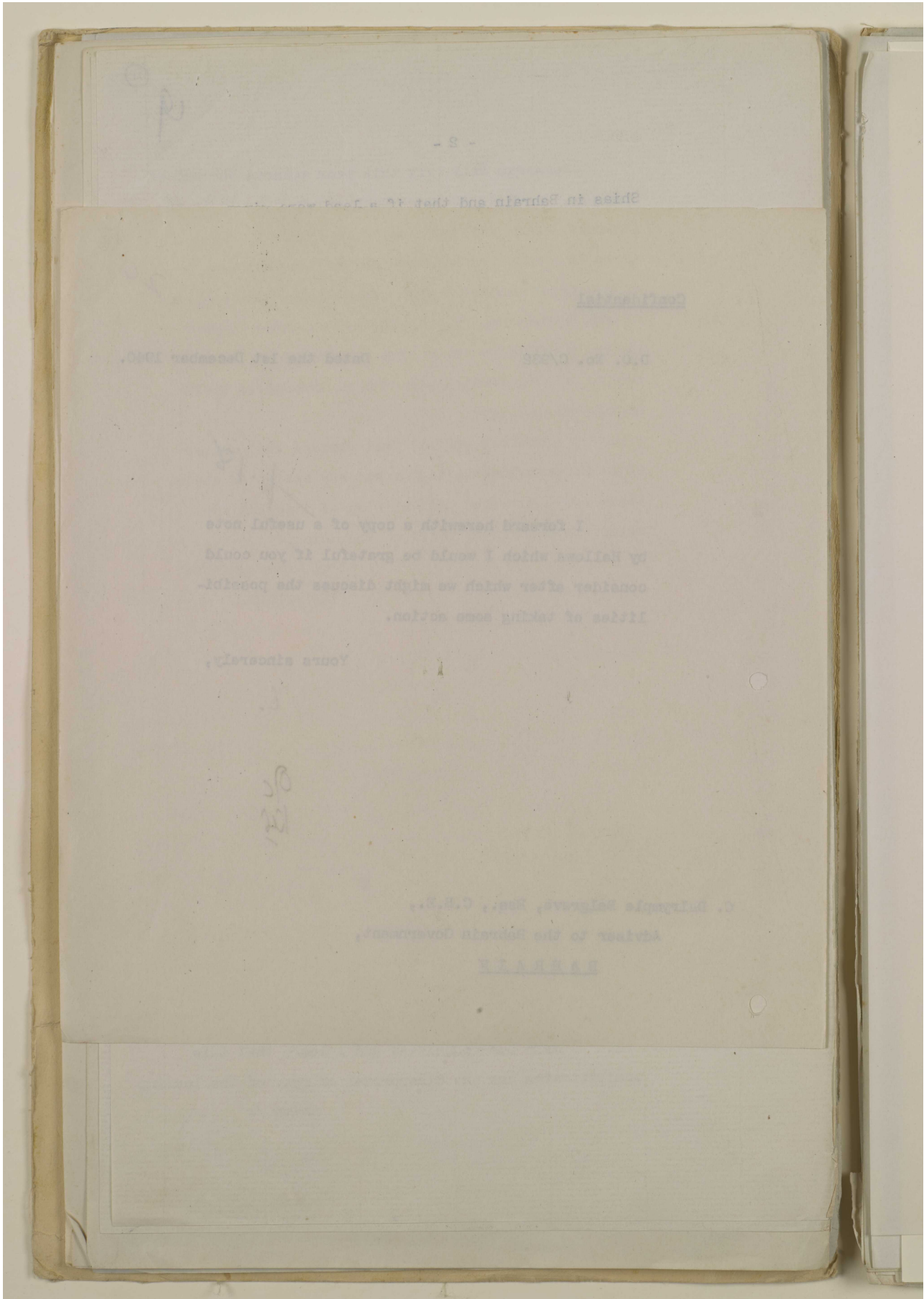
"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٢١ ظ] (٩٠/٤٢)



"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٢٢ و] (٩٠/٤٣)



"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٢٢ ظ] (٩٠/٤٤)



"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٢٣ و] (٩٠/٤٥)

Confidential.

D.O. No. C/1693-9A.

Bahrain, December 4, 1940.

Dear Alban,

Ref. your D.O. C/932 dated 1st December 1940.

Thank you for sending me Hallows's note on
Muharram processions.

The Shias taking part in it and most of the
spectators look upon it as a religious demonstra-
tion, many of them are intensely affected by the
sight. I quite agree that to our eyes it is an
unpleasant and senseless exhibition.

I suppose I have seen it about 14 times and
I always go down at night as well, and I have never
seen any serious incident take place.

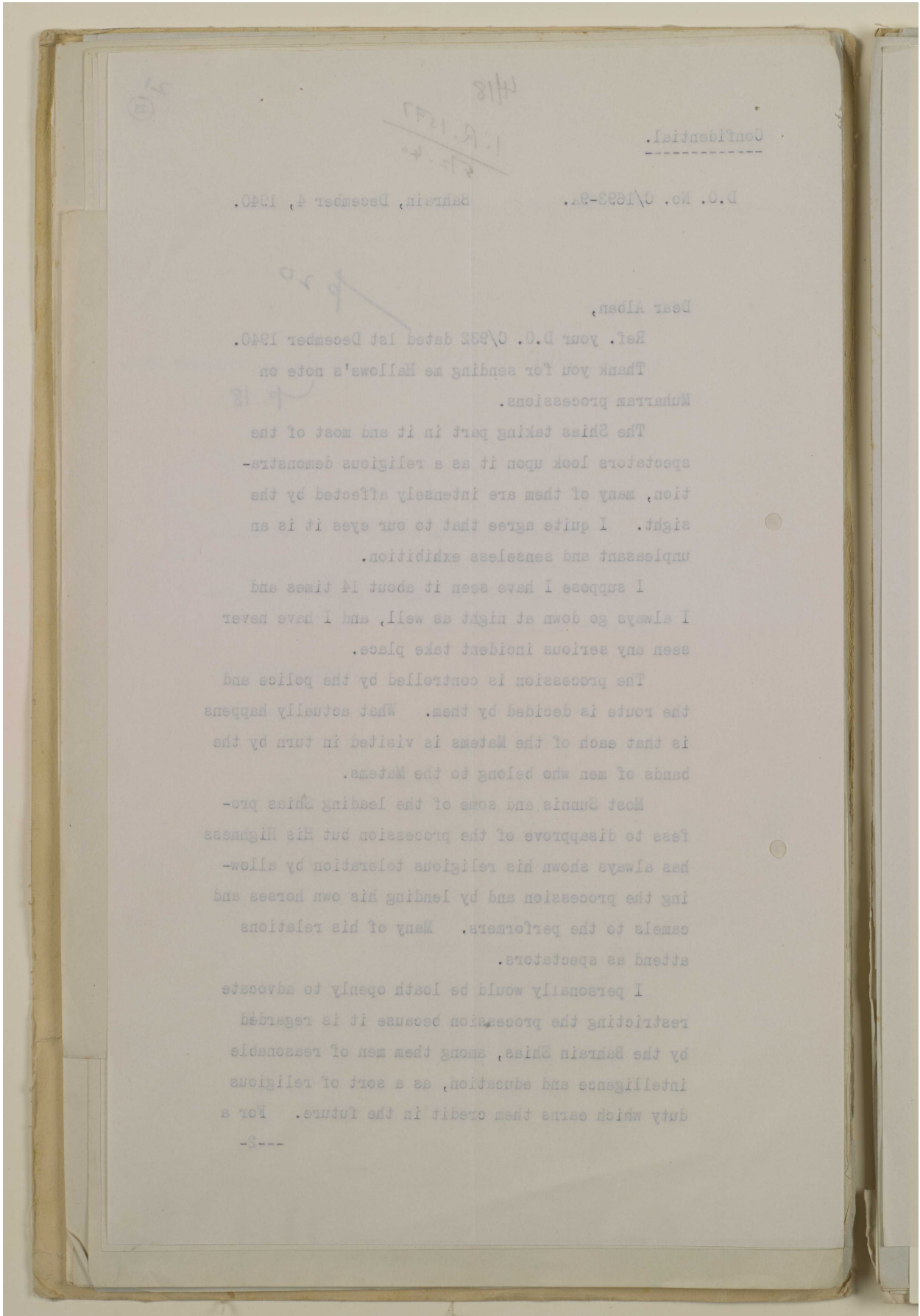
The procession is controlled by the police and
the route is decided by them. What actually happens
is that each of the Matems is visited in turn by the
bands of men who belong to the Matems.

Most Sunnis and some of the leading Shias pro-
fess to disapprove of the procession but His Highness
has always shown his religious toleration by allow-
ing the procession and by lending his own horses and
camels to the performers. Many of his relations
attend as spectators.

I personally would be loath openly to advocate
restricting the procession because it is regarded
by the Bahrain Shias, among them men of reasonable
intelligence and education, as a sort of religious
duty which earns them credit in the future. For a

---2-

"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٢٣ ظ] (٩٠/٤٦)



22-24

-2-

a non-Moslem or even a Sunni to try to confine this demonstration to inside the Matems might well be deliberately misinterpreted by mischief makers as interference in religious observances.

The people who might be able to effect some change are the Shia Qadis but I doubt whether they would be willing to incur the odium of the public.

Some of the Bahrain Matems do not join the procession in the day time though they process at night. The majority of the performers on the 10th Muharram are Persians and they are organised by the leading Persian merchants of Manamah, almost all of them foreign subjects. I do not know whether you would consider speaking to them about the matter. If the Persians were not in the procession I am sure our own people would be discouraged.

Yours sincerely,

Walter R. G. E. W. Alban

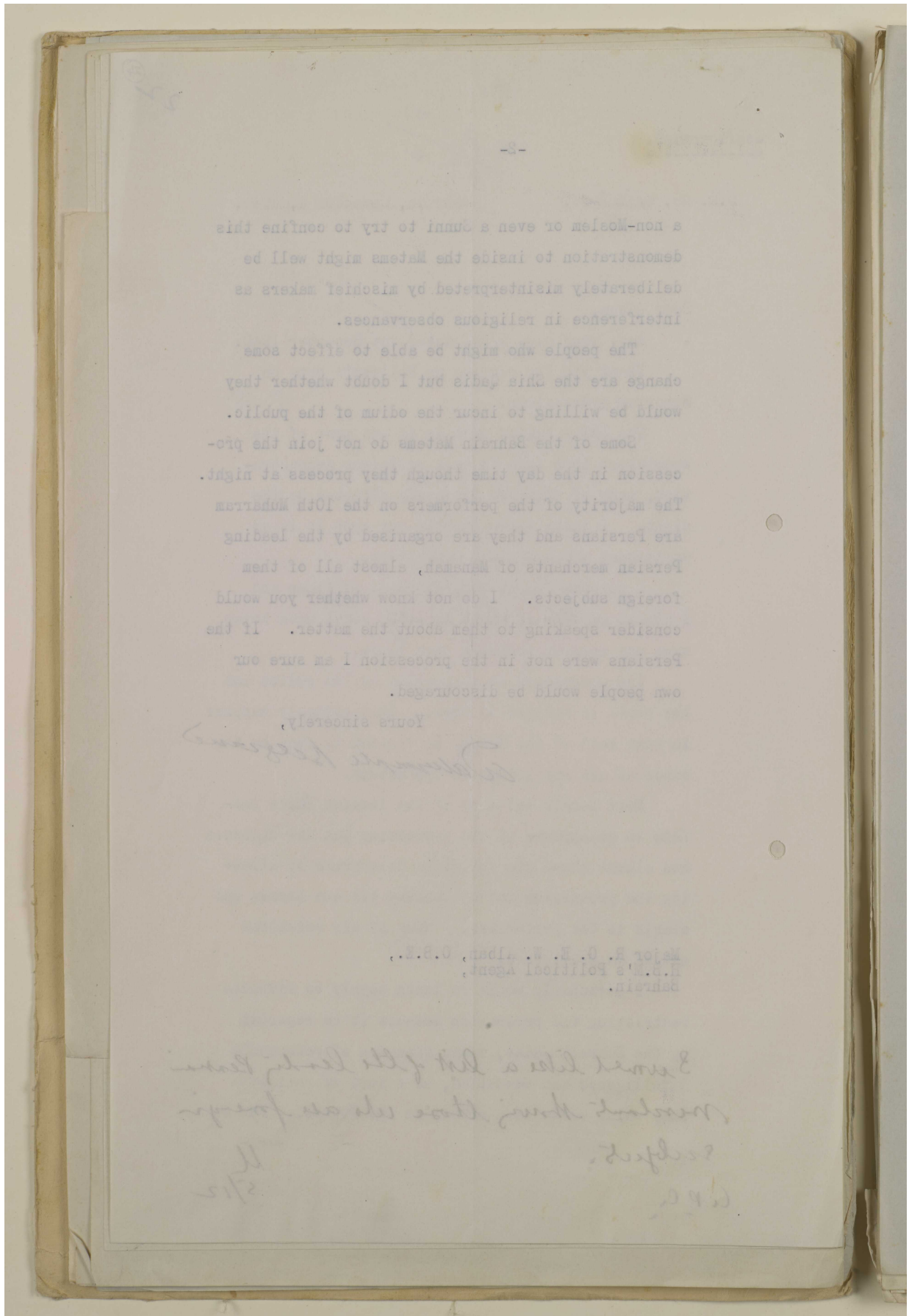
Major R. G. E. W. Alban, O.B.E.,
H.B.M.'s Political Agent,
Bahrain.

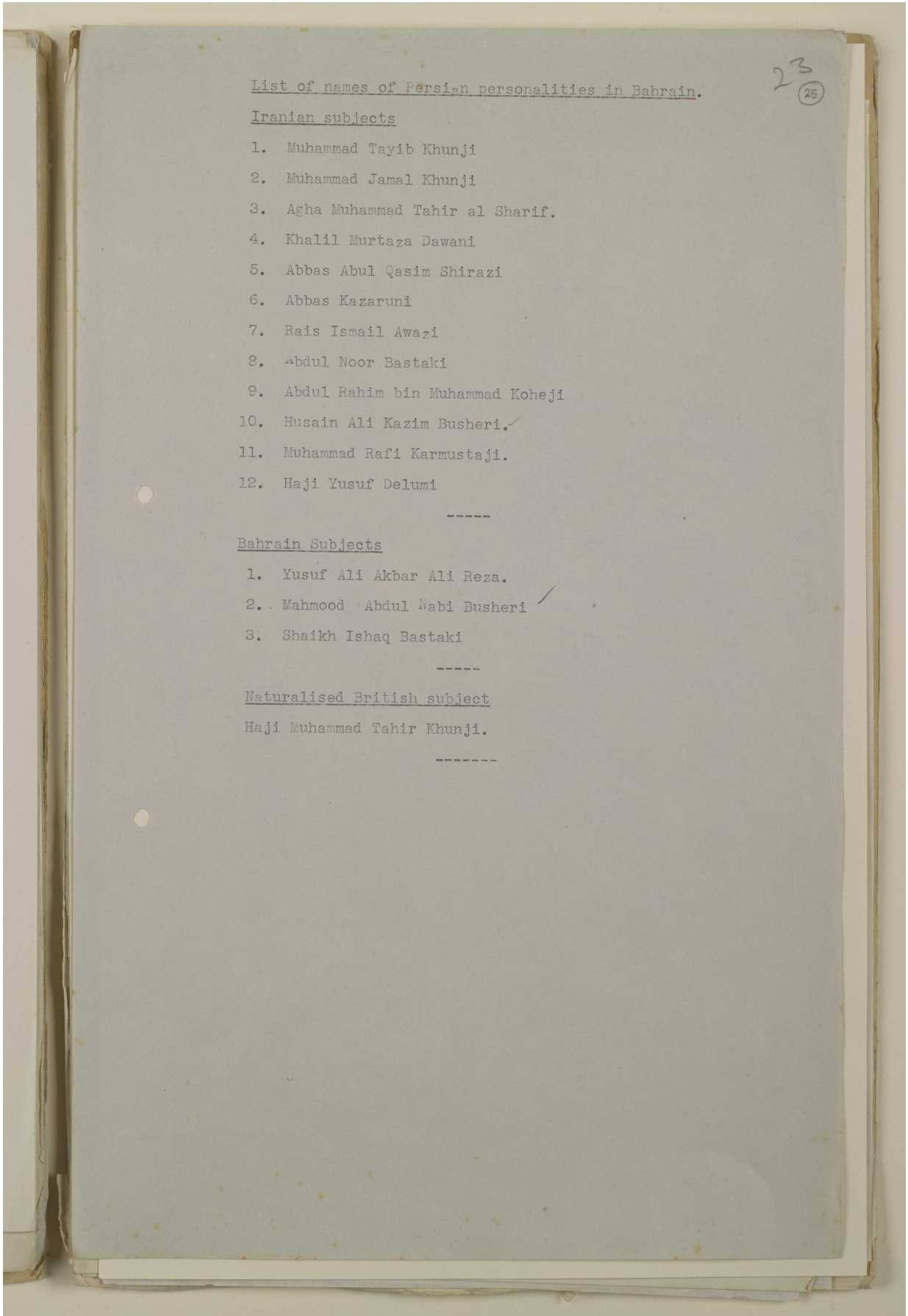
*I would like a list of the leading Persian
merchants showing those who are foreign
subjects.*

W.P.C.

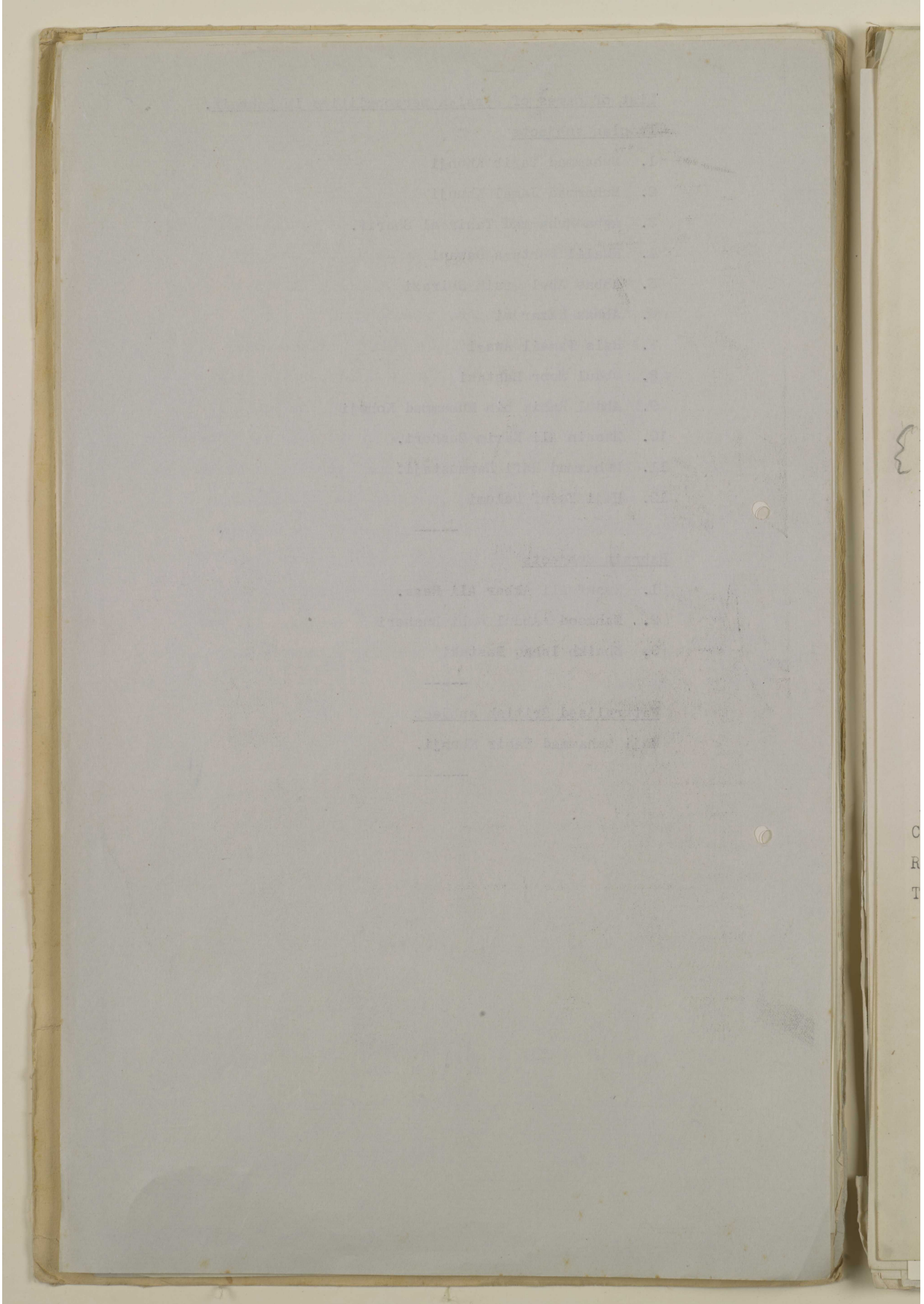
*U
5/12*

"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٢٤ظ] (٩٠/٤٨)





"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٢٥ ظ] (٩٠/٥٠)



"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٢٦ و] (٩٠/٥١)



Dated 1st February 1941.

The attached notice is circulated for information.



for Political Agent, Bahrain.

Lt. Commander E.A. May R.N.

Lt. Commander A.R.M. Baines

BAHRAIN GOVERNMENT.

C.D. Belgrave, C.B.E.

C.C.L. DeGrenier

W.B. Steele

H.D. Furber

Dr. R.H.B. Snow

Dr. M.M. McDowell

Miss N.M. Harbottle

C.R.L. Adrian Vallance

(and Staff)

CABLE & WIRELESS LTD.

C.E. Gahan

R.E. Coombes

T.J.P. Neely

(and Staff)

The EASTERN BANK LTD.

M. Gunn

J.A. Court

C.G.W. Miller

(and Staff)

B.O.A.C.

R.M.C. Dobbs

C.H.W. Rice

E.H. Macquarie

T.A. Millard
and staff.

C.A.S.O.C.S.

C.A. Rodstrom (and Staff)

P.C.L.

E.V. Packer

B.H. Lermite

MESSERS GRAY MACKENZIE.

G.W.R. Smith

J.H. Leared

W.C. Tilton

D.A. Findley (and staff)

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

Wing Commander K.R. Coates

OBSERVATORY.

Asrar Hussain Rizvi and staff

POST OFFICE.

Kanwar Singh and staff.

VICTORIA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.

Captain R. Holmes M.P.E.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Bahrain General Merchants' Assn.

Bahrain Sports Club.

Bahrain Cricket Club,

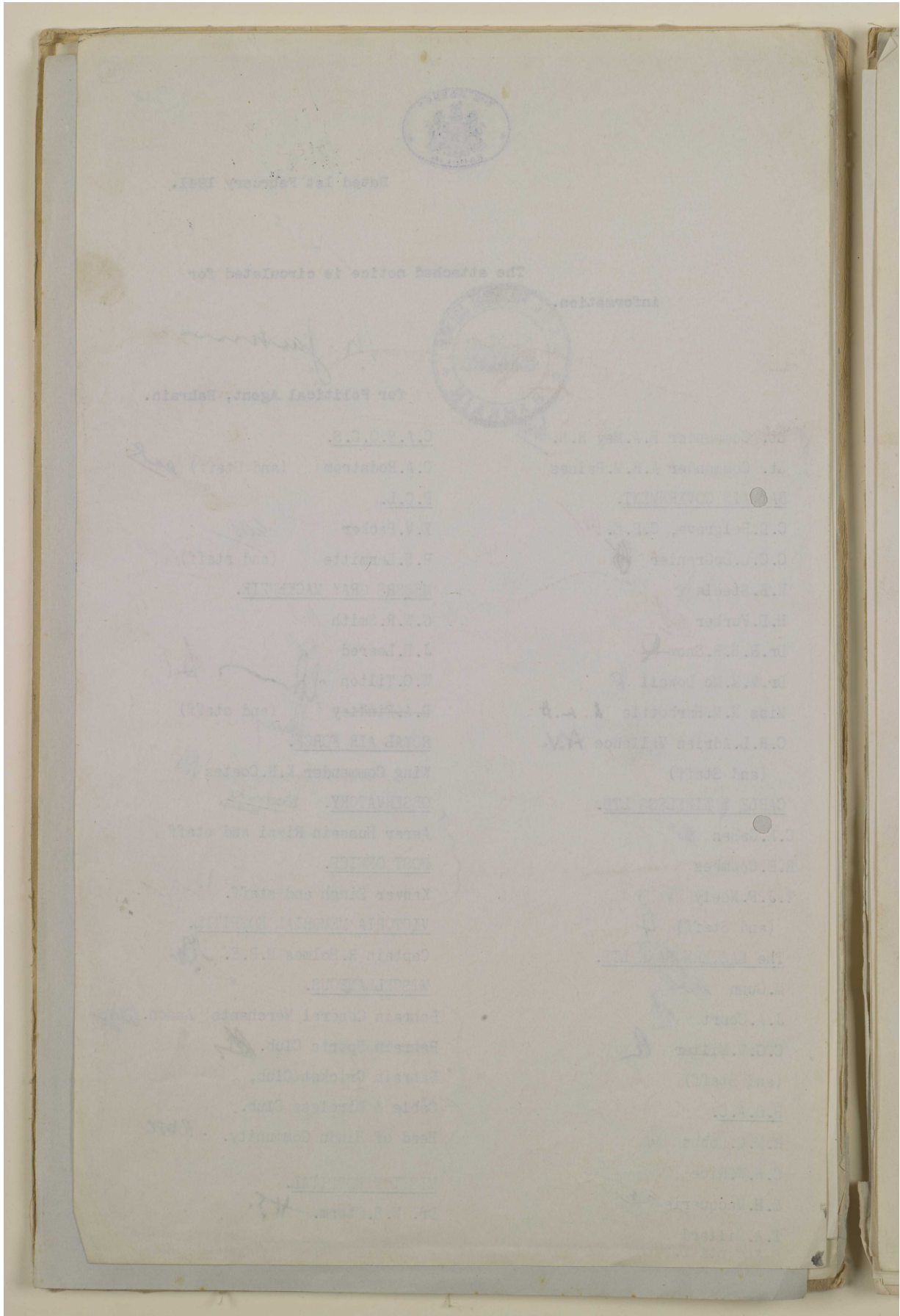
Cable & Wireless Club.

Head of Hindu Community.

MISSION HOSPITAL.

Dr. W.H. Storm.

"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٢٦ ظ] (٩٠/٥٢)



"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٢٧ و] (٩٠/٥٣)



Dated 24th January, 1942.

The attached notice is circulated for information.

M. J. ...
for Political Agent, Bahrain.

BAHRAIN GOVERNMENT

Mr. C.D. Belgrave, C.B.E., *M*
Mr. C.C.L. de Grenier. *22/1/42*
Mr. W.B. Steele. *D*
Mrs. Steele. *Bin*
Dr. R.H.B. Snow. *R.S.*
Mrs. Snow. *R*
Miss N.M. Harbottle. *L.L.H*
Mr. F.J. Wakelin. *F.J.W*
Mr. G.E. Hutchings.

CABLE & WIRELESS.

Mr. C.E. Gahan. *G*
Mr. J.W. Milleste. *R*
Mr. L.L. Harding. *H*
Mr. G.W. Watson.

EASTERN BANK LTD.

Mr. M. Gunn. *M.G.*
Mrs. Gunn. *H.G.*
Mr. J.A. Court. *C*

BRITISH OVERSEAS AIRWAYS CORPORATION

Mr. A.B. Ginns. *ABG*
Mr. E.B. Rowcliffe. *ER*
Mr. L.G. Wadsley. *L.G.W*
Mrs. Wadsley.

CALIFORNIA ARABIAN STANDARD OIL CO.,

Mr. C.A. Rodstrom. *R.P.R*

PETROLEUM CONCESSIONS LTD.?

Mr. E.V. Packer. *E.V.P*
Mr. B.H. Lermite. *B.H.L*

GRAY MACKENZIE & CO.,

Mr. J.M. Campbell. *J.M.C*
Mr. J.H. Leared. *J.H.L*
Mrs. Leared.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

Major H.T. Hewitt.

VICTORIA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Dr. M.L.A. Steele. *M.L.A.S*
Mrs. Steele. *M.S*

AMERICAN MISSION.

Rev. G.D. Van Peurseem

Mrs. Van Peurseem.

Dr. P.W. Harrison.

Mrs. Harrison.

Dr. E.I. Barney.

Miss R. Jackson.

Miss Bakker.

Dr. Naikerk.

Mrs. Naikerk.

OBSERVATORY.

Mr. Haldar & staff.

POST OFFICE.

Mr. Kanwar Singh and staff. *Kanwar Singh*

MISCELLANEOUS.

Bahrain General Merchants' Assen.

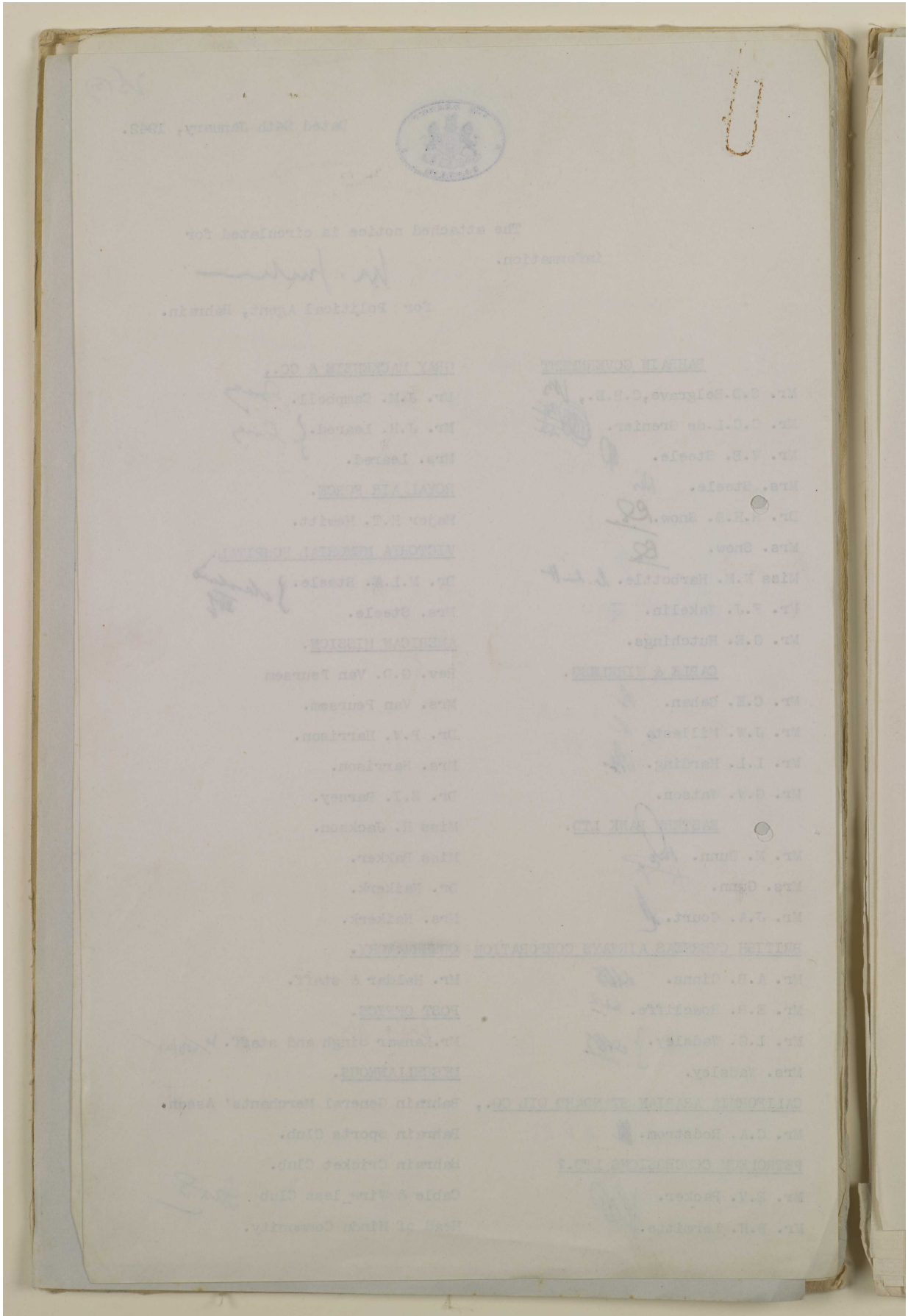
Bahrain Sports Club.

Bahrain Cricket Club.

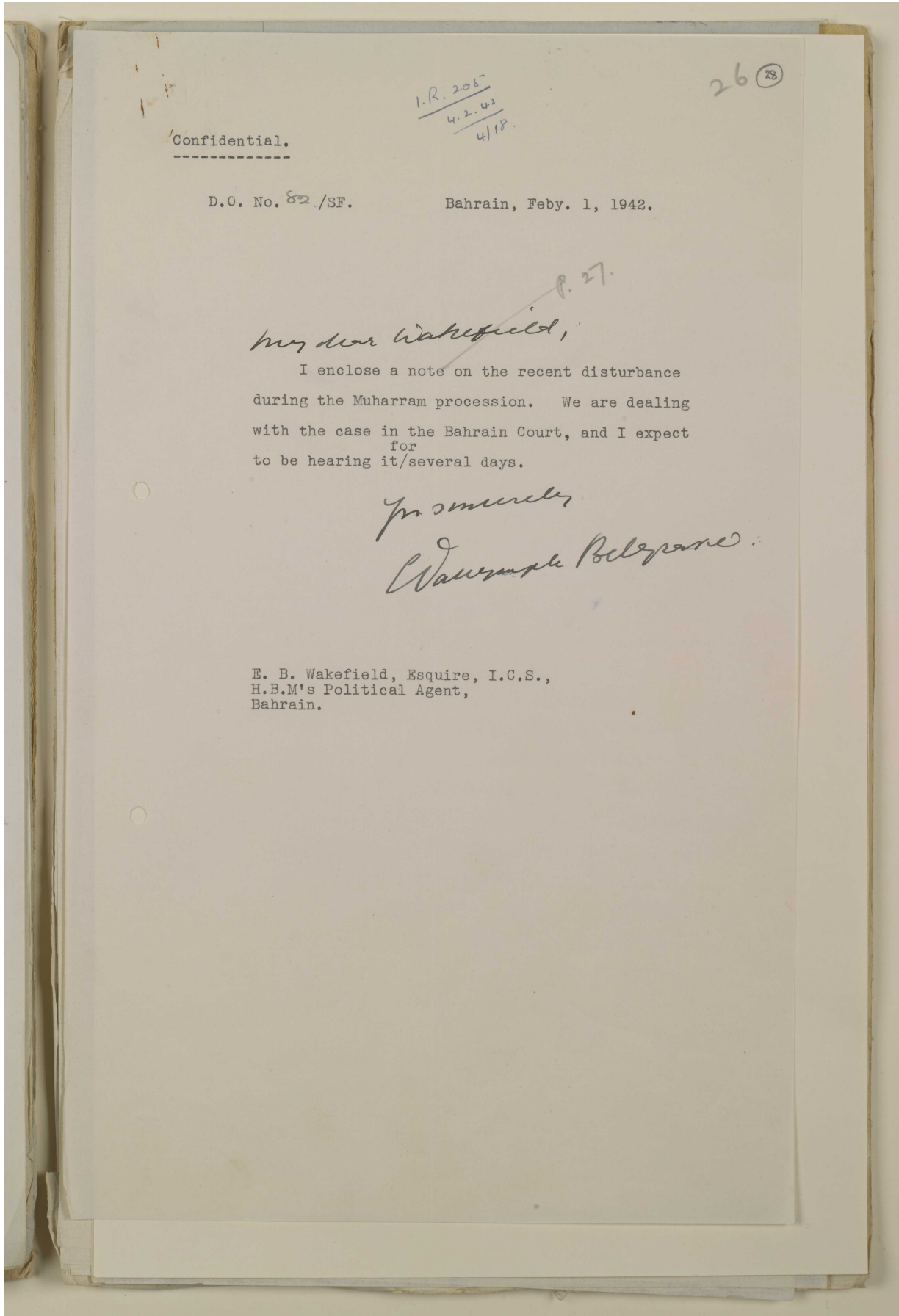
Cable & Wireless Club *Jax*

Head of Hindu Community.

"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٢٧ظ] (٩٠/٥٤)



"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٢٨ و] (٩٠/٥٥)



Confidential.

D.O. No. 82/SF.

Bahrain, Feby. 1, 1942.

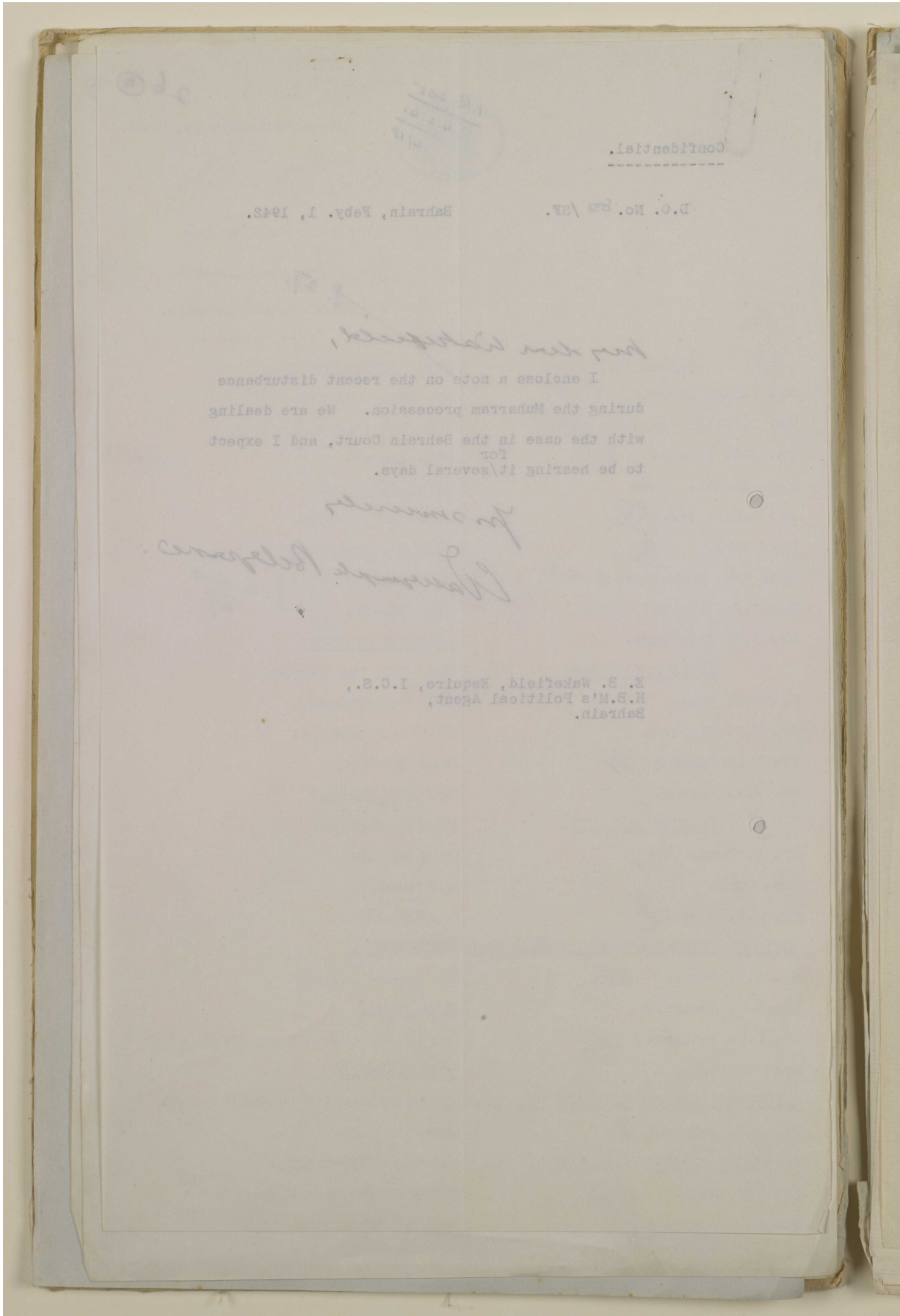
My dear Wakefield,

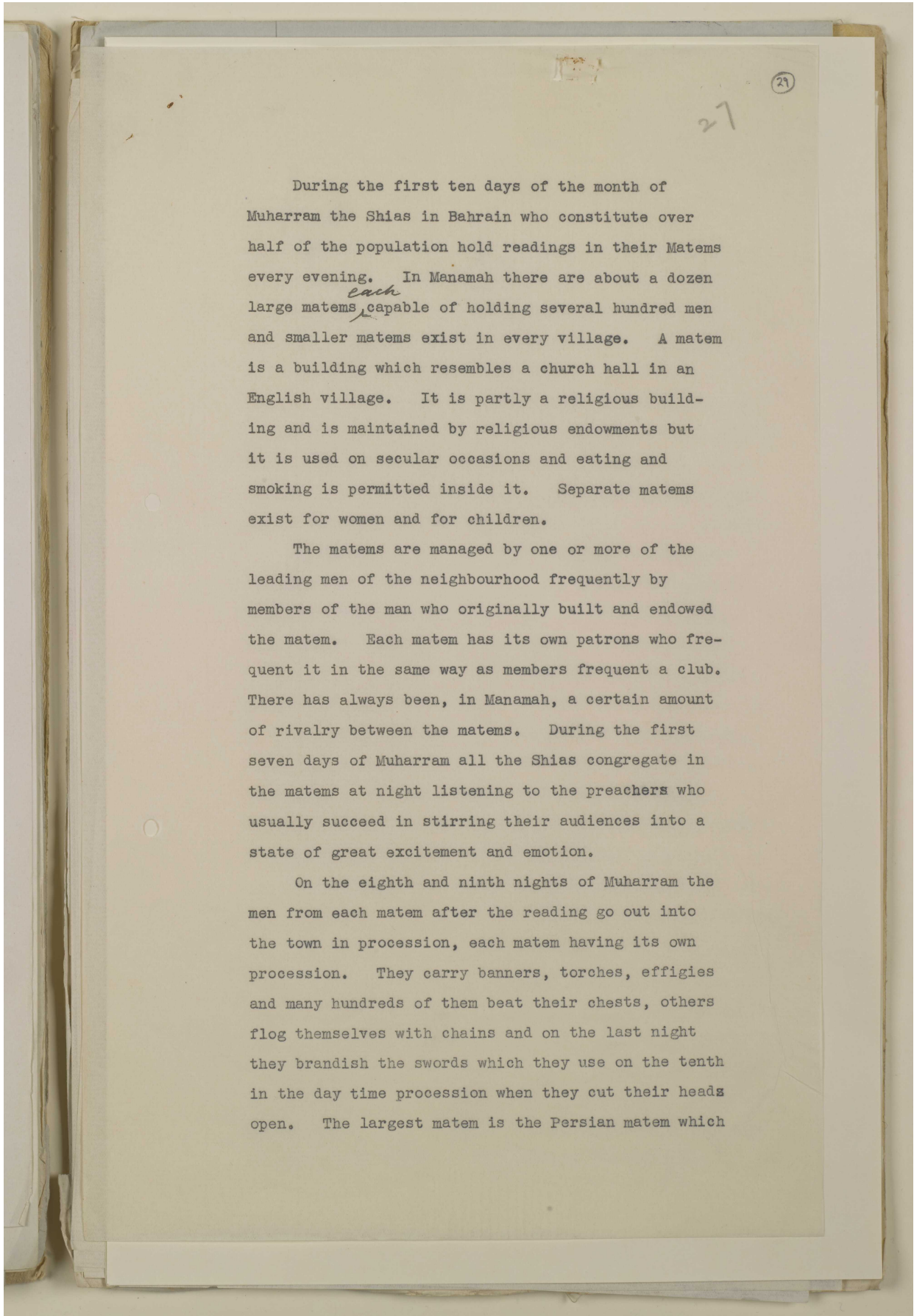
I enclose a note on the recent disturbance during the Muharram procession. We are dealing with the case in the Bahrain Court, and I expect for to be hearing it/several days.

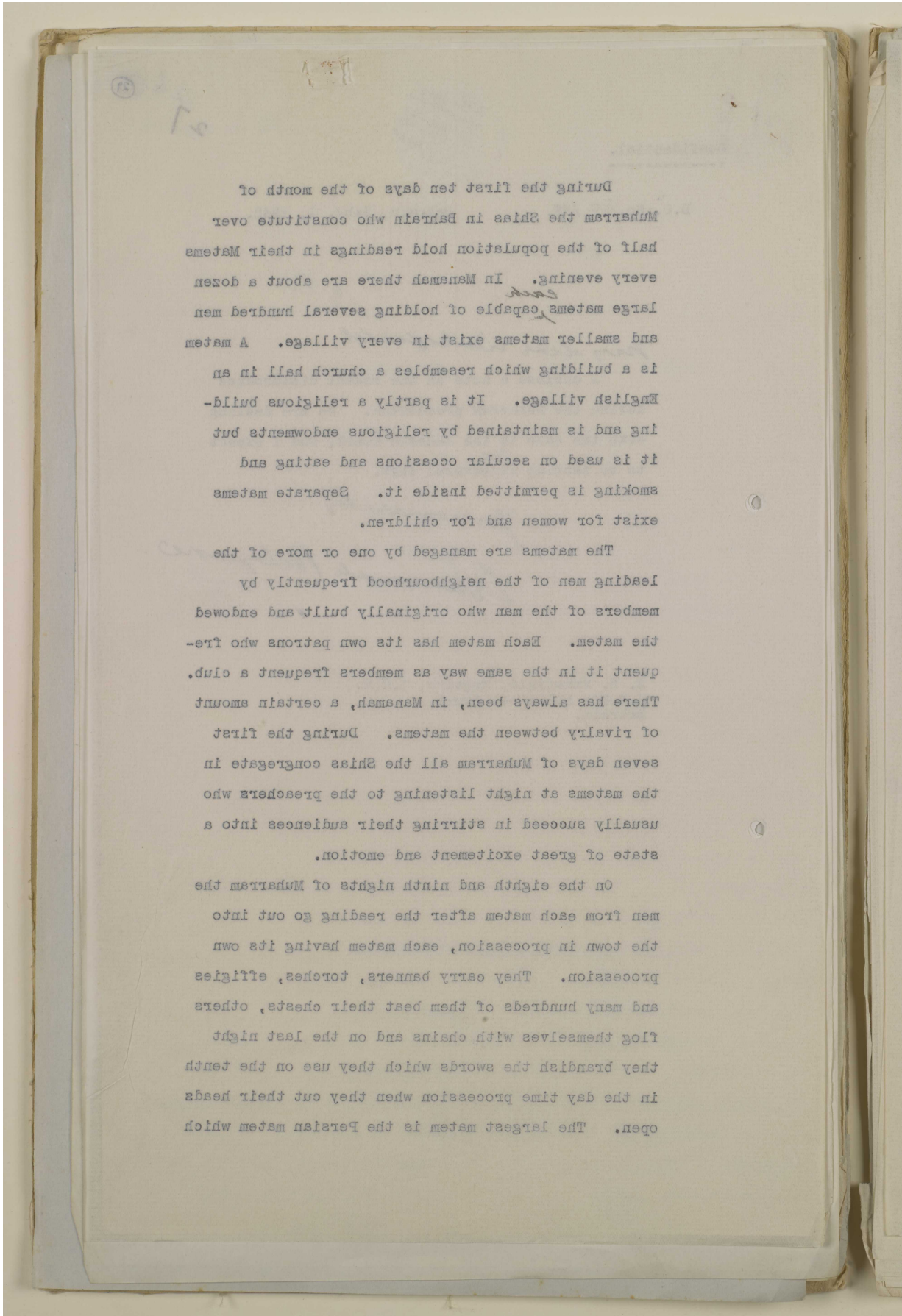
Yours sincerely,
C. Lawrence Pollepane.

E. B. Wakefield, Esquire, I.C.S.,
H.B.M.'s Political Agent,
Bahrain.

"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٢٨ظ] (٩٠/٥٦)





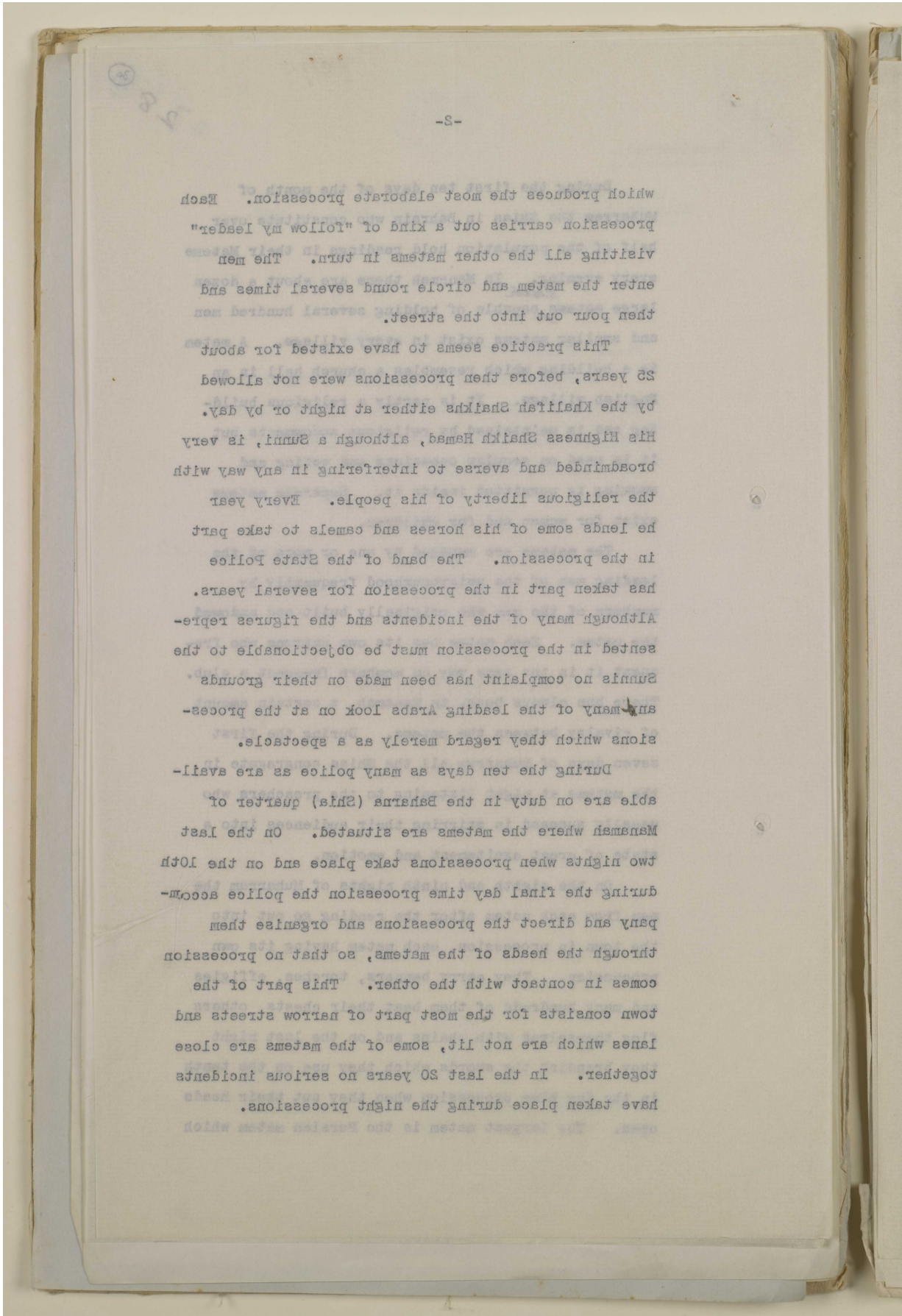


-2-

which produces the most elaborate procession. Each procession carries out a kind of "follow my leader" visiting all the other matems in turn. The men enter the matem and circle round several times and then pour out into the street.

This practice seems to have existed for about 25 years, before then processions were not allowed by the Khalifah Shaikhs either at night or by day. His Highness Shaikh Hamad, although a Sunni, is very broadminded and averse to interfering in any way with the religious liberty of his people. Every year he lends some of his horses and camels to take part in the procession. The band of the State Police has taken part in the procession for several years. Although many of the incidents and the figures represented in the procession must be objectionable to the Sunnis no complaint has been made on their grounds and many of the leading Arabs look on at the processions which they regard merely as a spectacle.

During the ten days as many police as are available are on duty in the Baharna (Shia) quarter of Manamah where the matems are situated. On the last two nights when processions take place and on the 10th during the final day time procession the police accompany and direct the processions and organise them through the heads of the matems, so that no procession comes in contact with the other. This part of the town consists for the most part of narrow streets and lanes which are not lit, some of the matems are close together. In the last 20 years no serious incidents have taken place during the night processions.

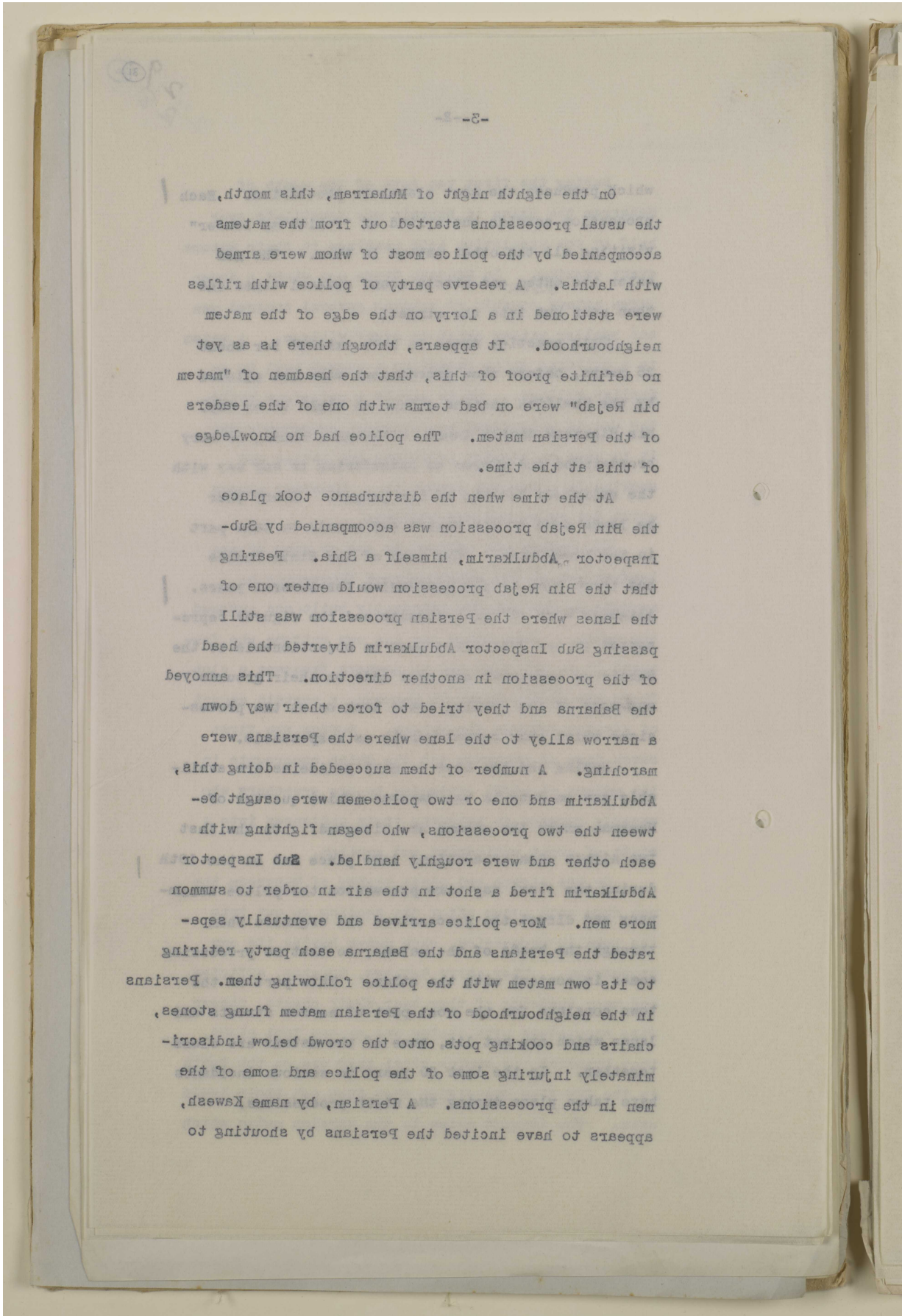


-3-

On the eighth night of Muharram, this month, the usual processions started out from the matems accompanied by the police most of whom were armed with lathis. A reserve party of police with rifles were stationed in a lorry on the edge of the matem neighbourhood. It appears, though there is as yet no definite proof of this, that the headmen of "matem bin Rejab" were on bad terms with one of the leaders of the Persian matem. The police had no knowledge of this at the time.

At the time when the disturbance took place the Bin Rejab procession was accompanied by Sub-Inspector Abdulkarim, himself a Shia. Fearing that the Bin Rejab procession would enter one of the lanes where the Persian procession was still passing Sub Inspector Abdulkarim diverted the head of the procession in another direction. This annoyed the Baharna and they tried to force their way down a narrow alley to the lane where the Persians were marching. A number of them succeeded in doing this, Abdulkarim and one or two policemen were caught between the two processions, who began fighting with each other and were roughly handled. Sub Inspector Abdulkarim fired a shot in the air in order to summon more men. More police arrived and eventually separated the Persians and the Baharna each party retiring to its own matem with the police following them. Persians in the neighbourhood of the Persian matem flung stones, chairs and cooking pots onto the crowd below indiscriminately injuring some of the police and some of the men in the processions. A Persian, by name Kawesh, appears to have incited the Persians by shouting to

"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٣١ ظ] (٩٠/٦٢)



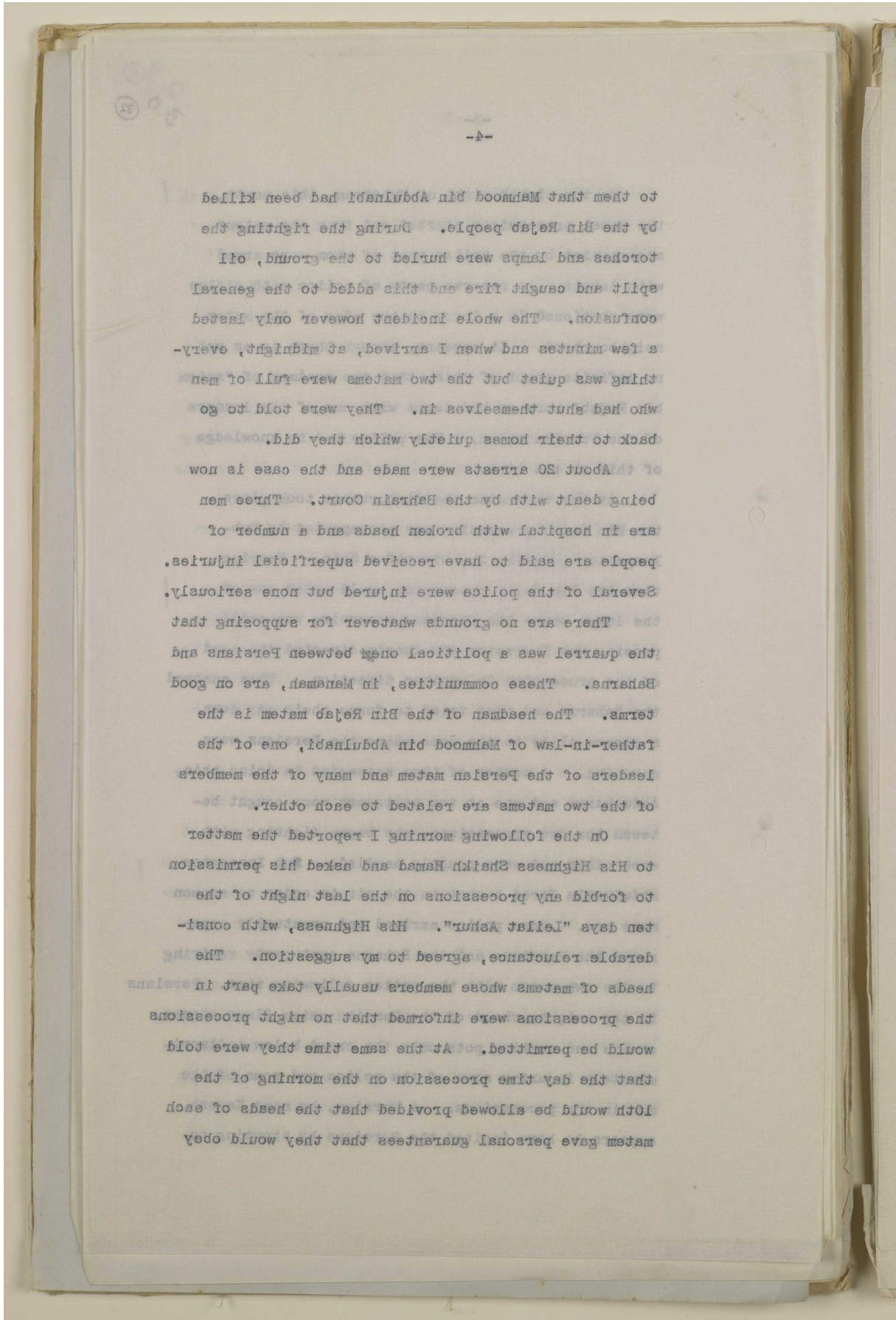
-4-

to them that Mahmood bin Abdulnabi had been killed by the Bin Rejab people. During the fighting the torches and lamps were hurled to the ground, oil spilt and caught fire and this added to the general confusion. The whole incident however only lasted a few minutes and when I arrived, at midnight, everything was quiet but the two matems were full of men who had shut themselves in. They were told to go back to their homes quietly which they did.

About 20 arrests were made and the case is now being dealt with by the Bahrain Court. Three men are in hospital with broken heads and a number of people are said to have received superficial injuries. Several of the police were injured but none seriously.

There are no grounds whatever for supposing that the quarrel was a political one between Persians and Baharna. These communities, in Manamah, are on good terms. The headman of the Bin Rejab matem is the father-in-law of Mahmood bin Abdulnabi, one of the leaders of the Persian matem and many of the members of the two matems are related to each other.

On the following morning I reported the matter to His Highness Shaikh Hamad and asked his permission to forbid any processions on the last night of the ten days "Leilat Ashur". His Highness, with considerable reluctance, agreed to my suggestion. The heads of matems whose members usually take part in the processions were informed that no night processions would be permitted. At the same time they were told that the day time procession on the morning of the 10th would be allowed provided that the heads of each matem gave personal guarantees that they would obey



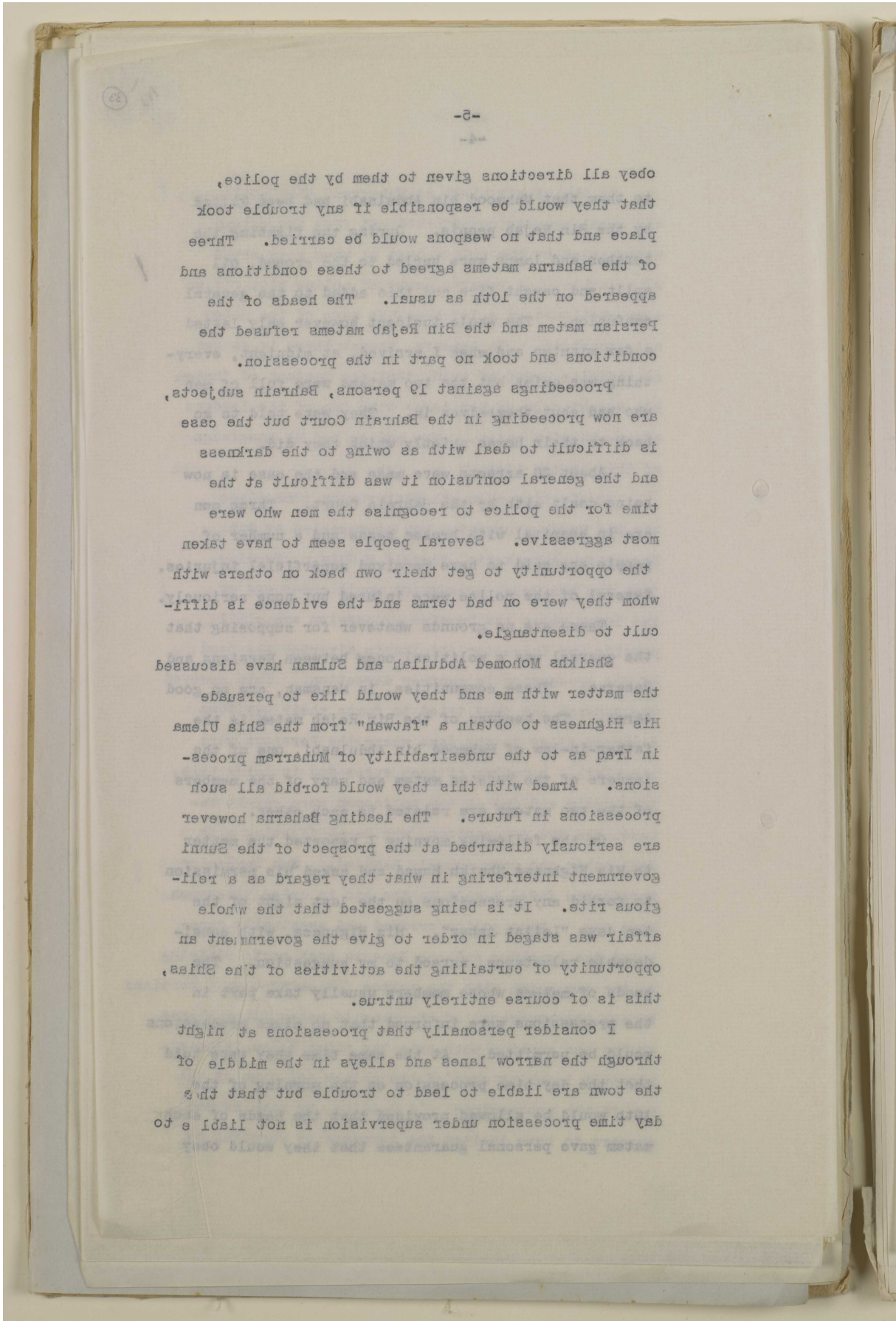
-5-

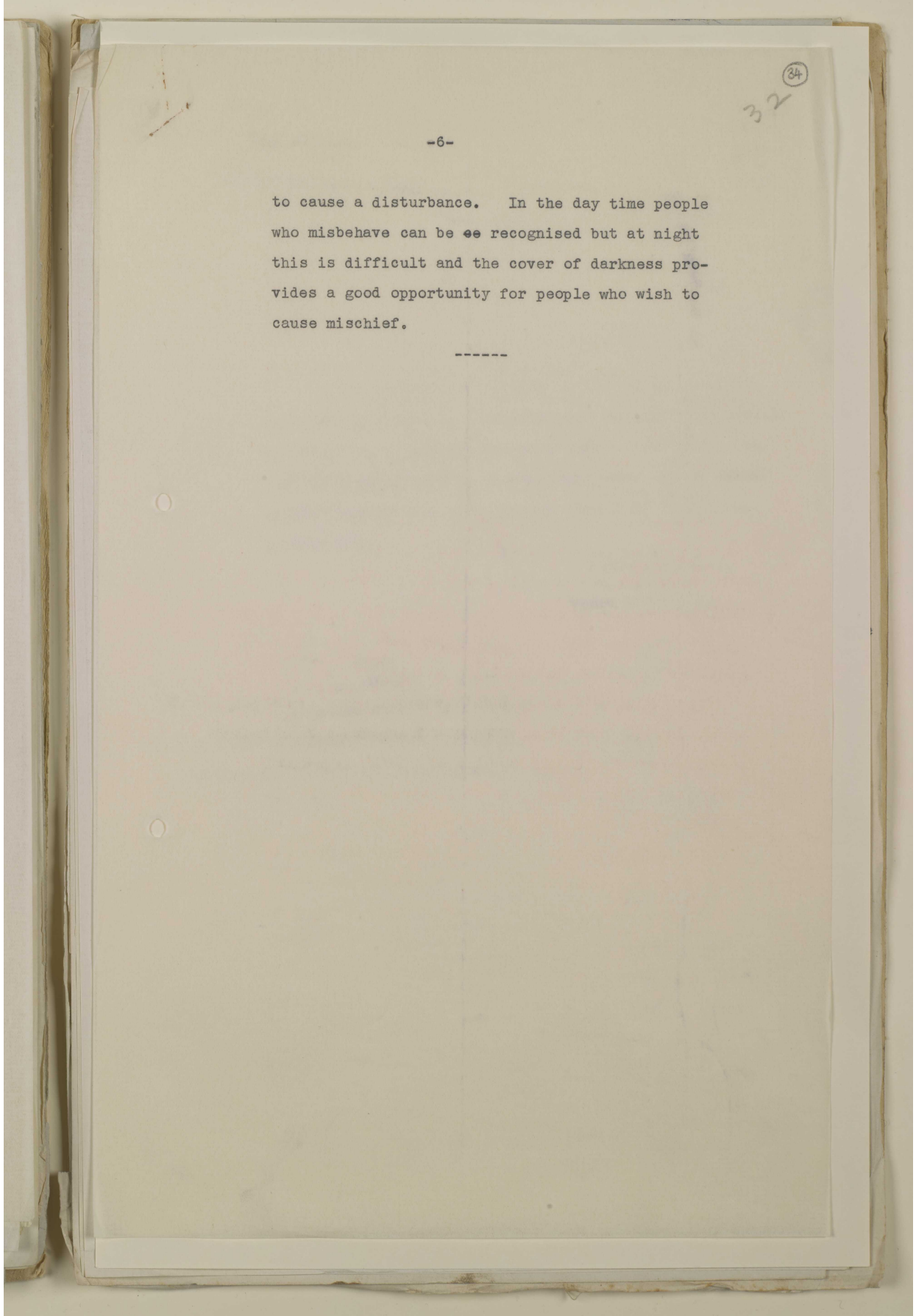
obey all directions given to them by the police, that they would be responsible if any trouble took place and that no weapons would be carried. Three of the Baharna matems agreed to these conditions and appeared on the 10th as usual. The heads of the Persian matem and the Bin Rejab matems refused the conditions and took no part in the procession.

Proceedings against 19 persons, Bahrain subjects, are now proceeding in the Bahrain Court but the case is difficult to deal with as owing to the darkness and the general confusion it was difficult at the time for the police to recognise the men who were most aggressive. Several people seem to have taken the opportunity to get their own back on others with whom they were on bad terms and the evidence is difficult to disentangle.

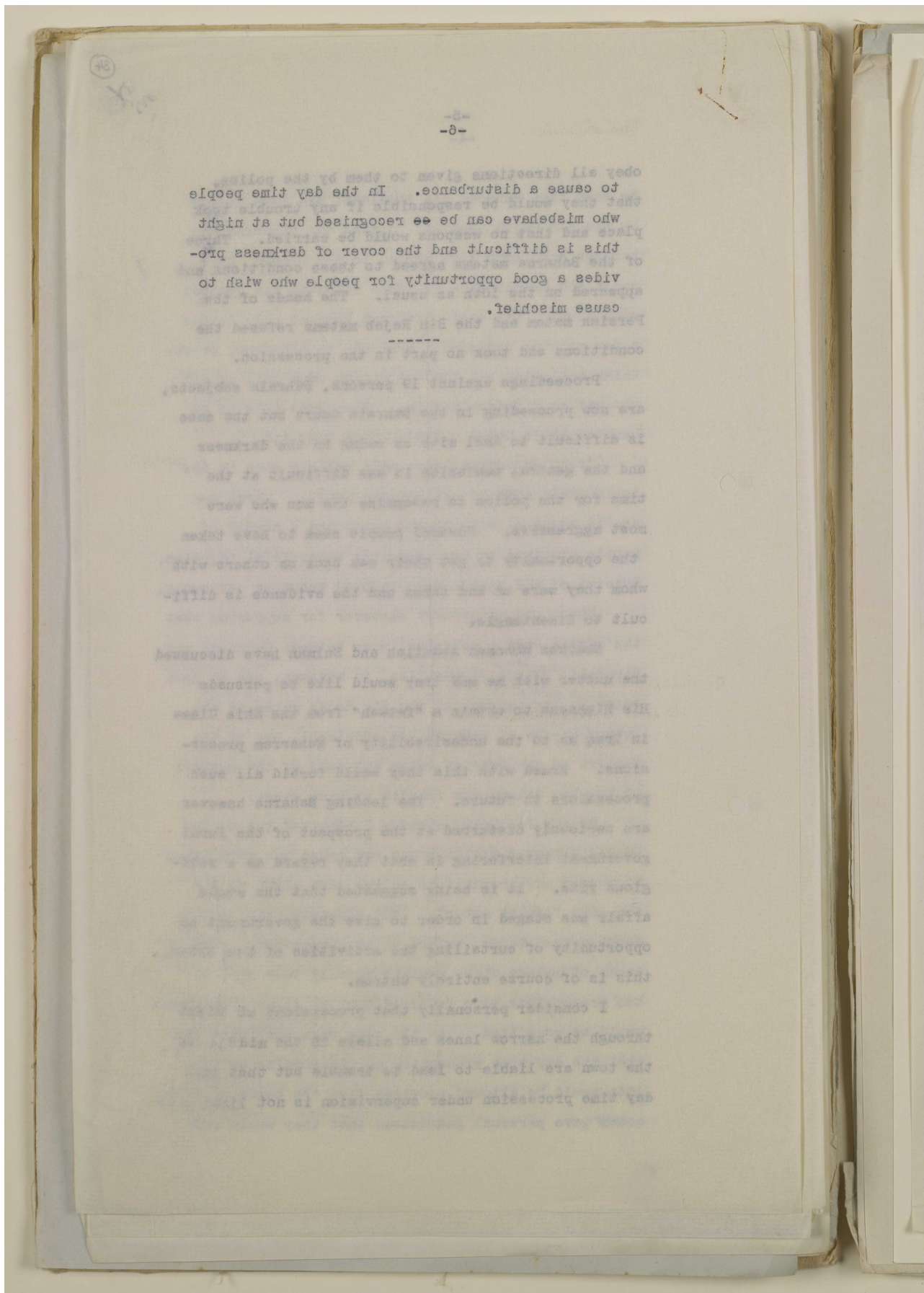
Shaikhs Mohomed Abdullah and Sulman have discussed the matter with me and they would like to persuade His Highness to obtain a "fatwah" from the Shia Ulema in Iraq as to the undesirability of Muharram processions. Armed with this they would forbid all such processions in future. The leading Baharna however are seriously disturbed at the prospect of the Sunni government interfering in what they regard as a religious rite. It is being suggested that the whole affair was staged in order to give the government an opportunity of curtailing the activities of the Shias, this is of course entirely untrue.

I consider personally that processions at night through the narrow lanes and alleys in the middle of the town are liable to lead to trouble but that the day time procession under supervision is not liable to

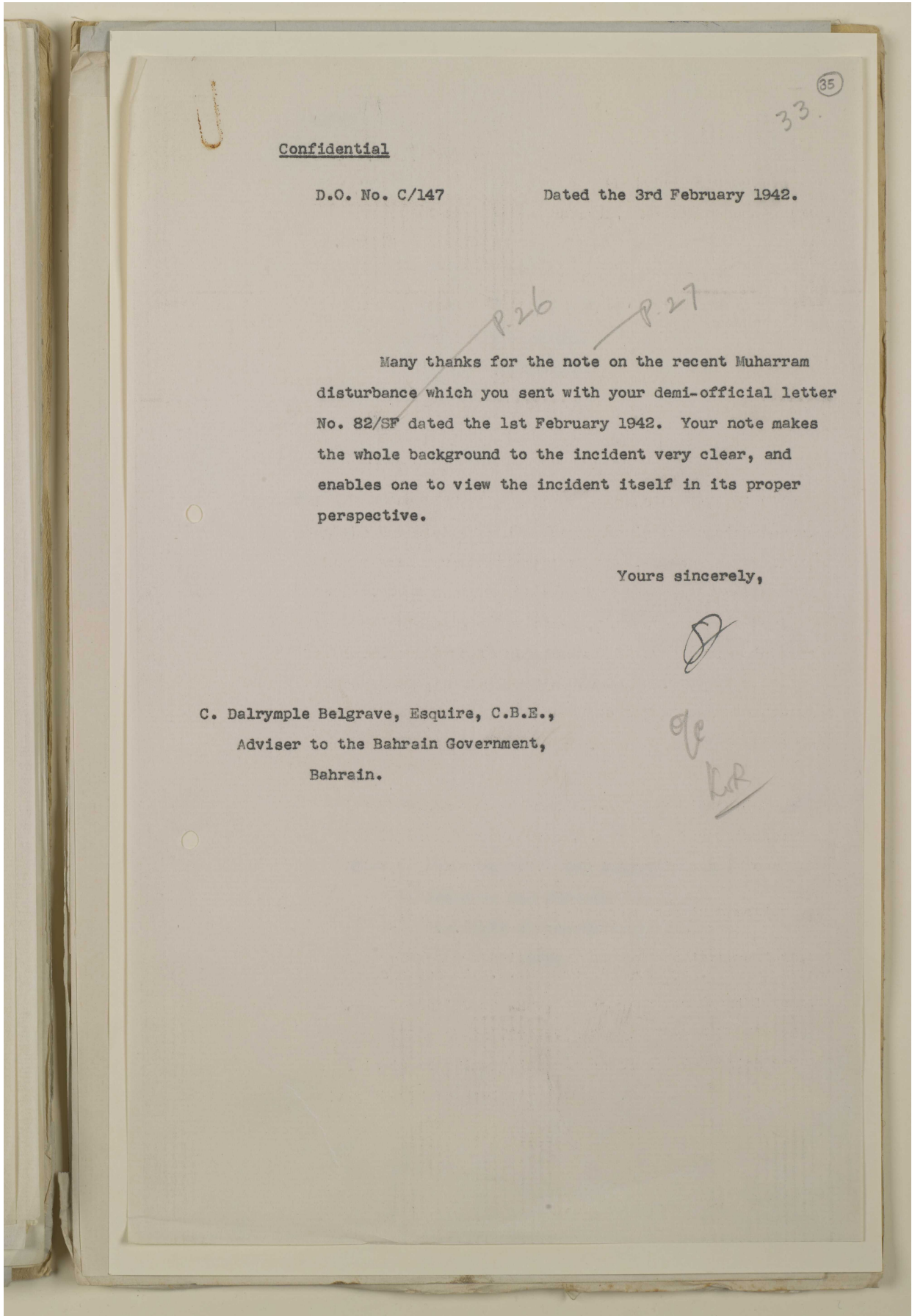




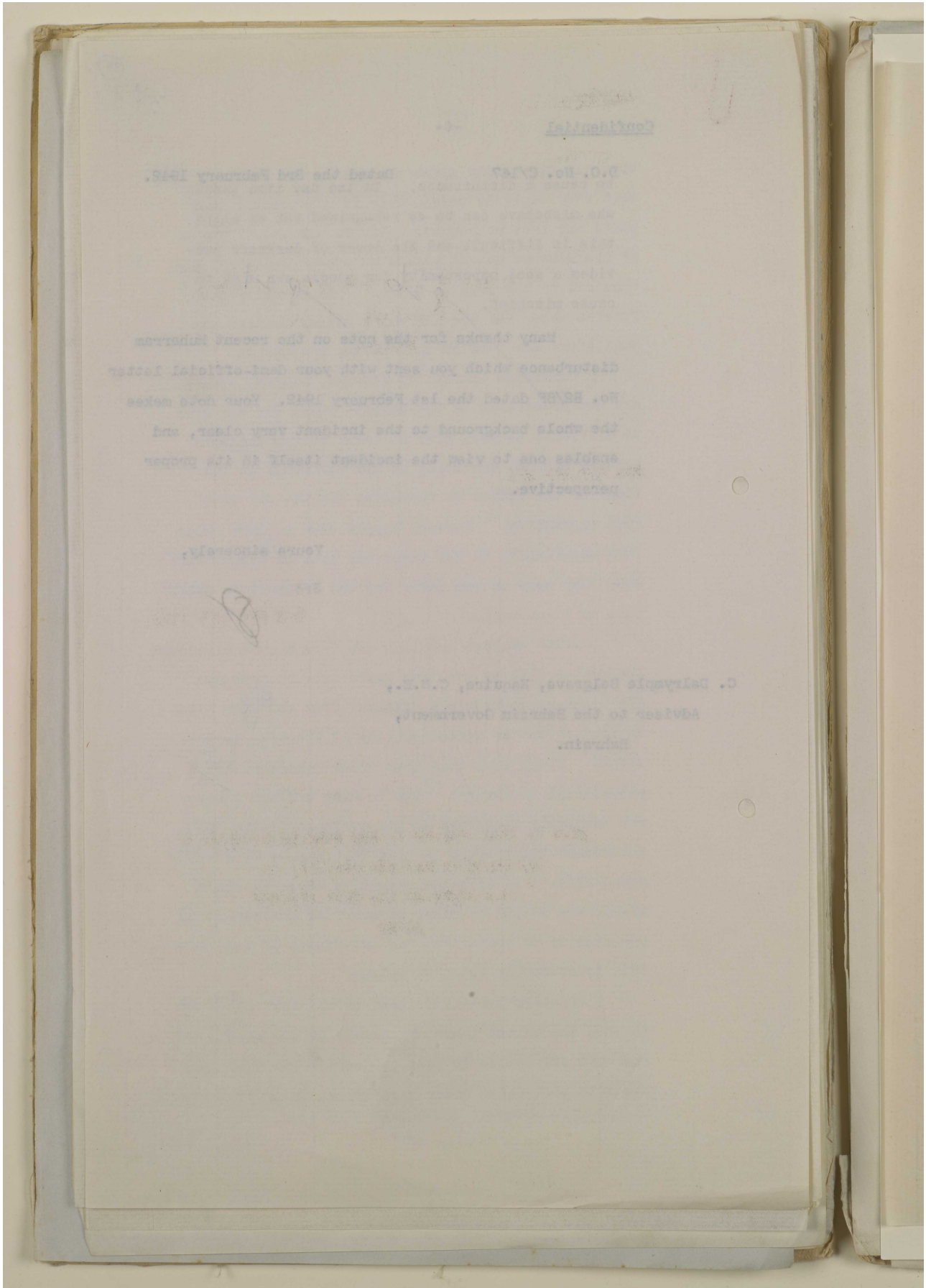
"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٤:٣ ظ] (٩٠/٦٨)



"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٣٥ و] (٩٠/٦٩)



"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٣٥ ظ] (٩٠/٧٠)



"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٣٦ و] (٩٠/٧١)

324 (36)

Confidential
No.

C/148

The Political Agent, Bahrain, Presents his compliments to :-

The Honourable the Political Resident
in the Persian Gulf,
Bushire,

and has the honour to send him a copy of the undermentioned document (s)
for information.

THE AGENCY,
BAHRAIN, PERSIAN GULF


Dated 3rd February 1942.

Reference to previous correspondence :

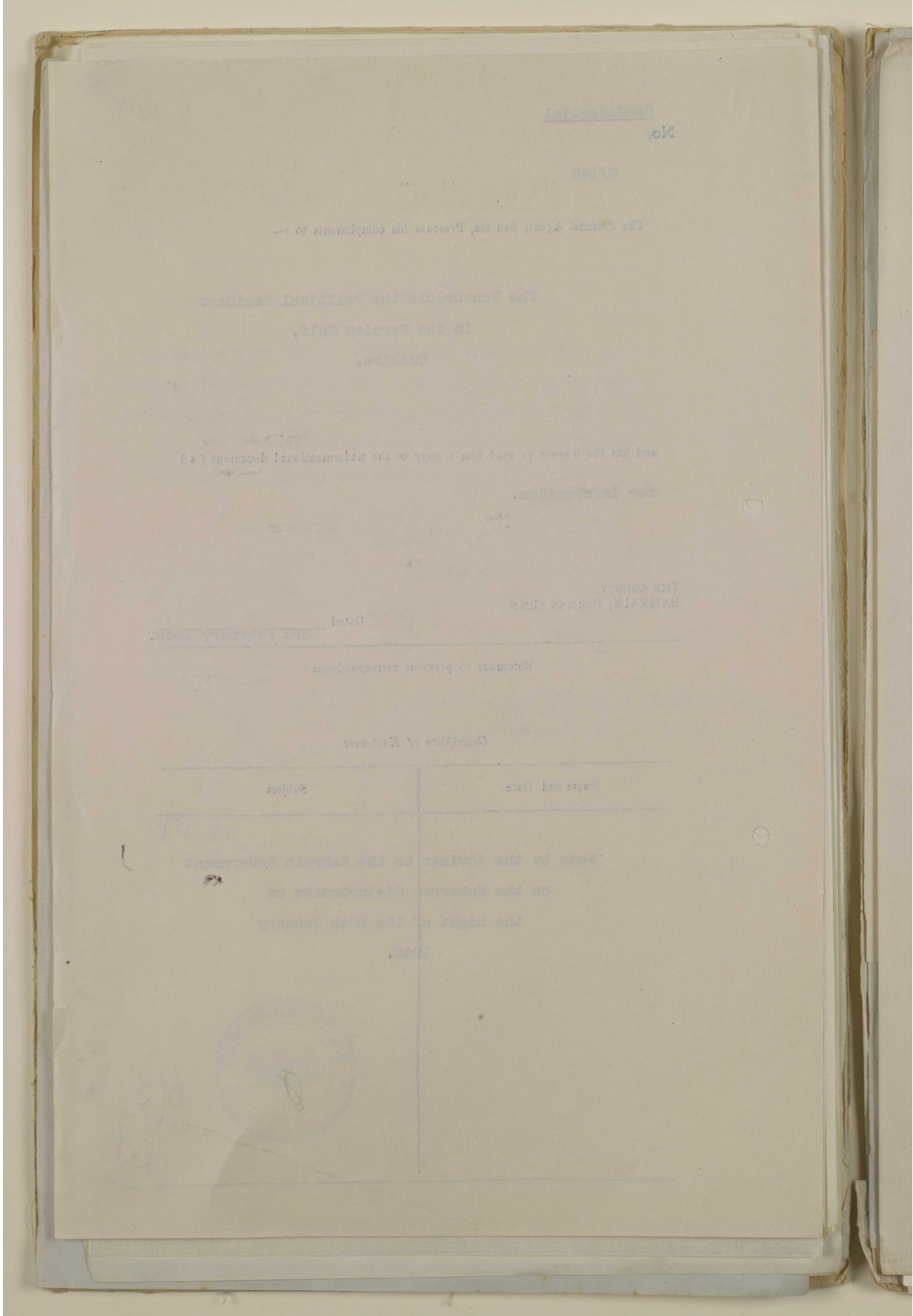
Description of Enclosure

Name and Date.	Subject
	Note by the Adviser to the Bahrain Government on the Muharram disturbances on the night of the 26th January 1942.

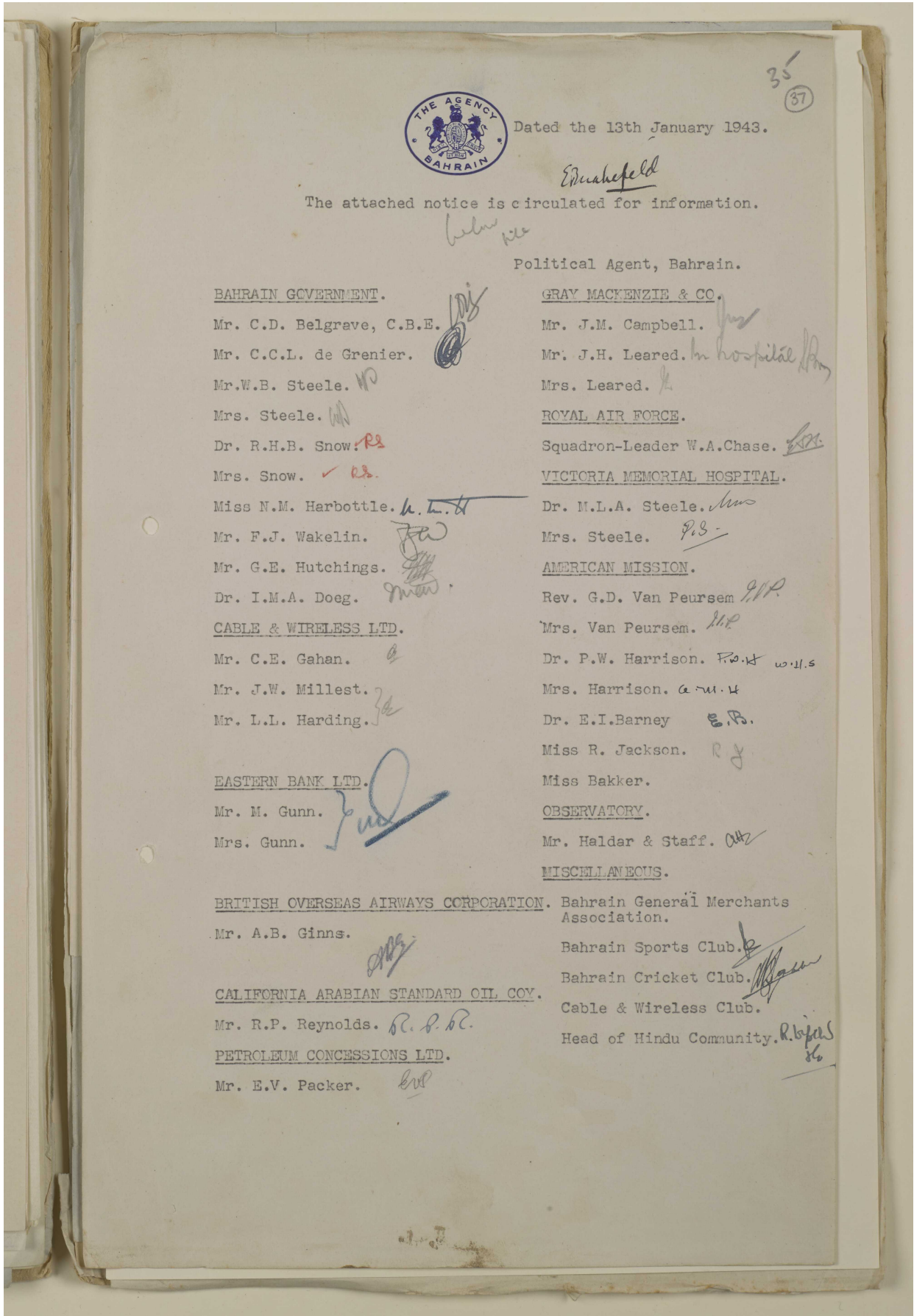
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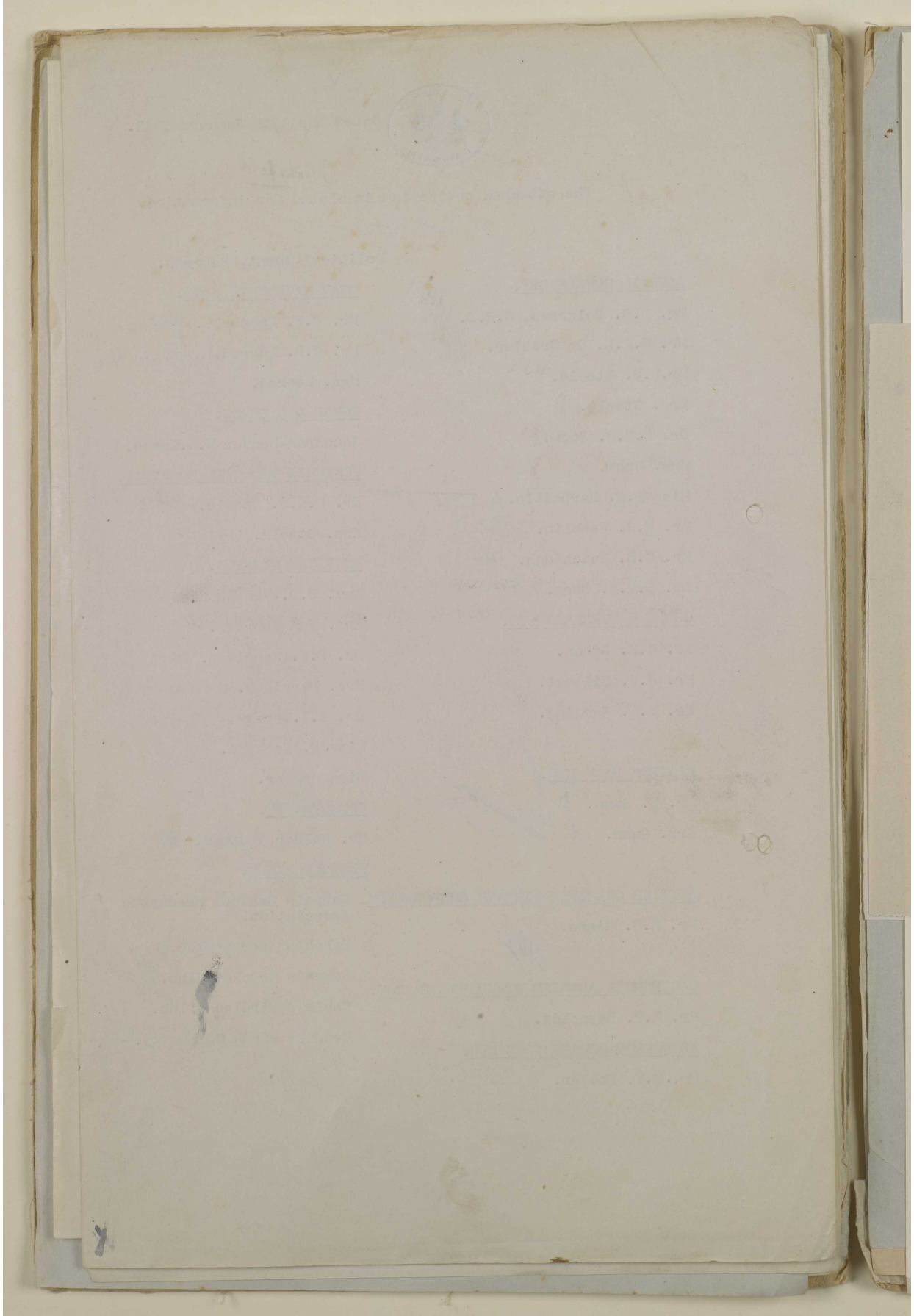
"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٣٦ ظ] (٩٠/٧٢)



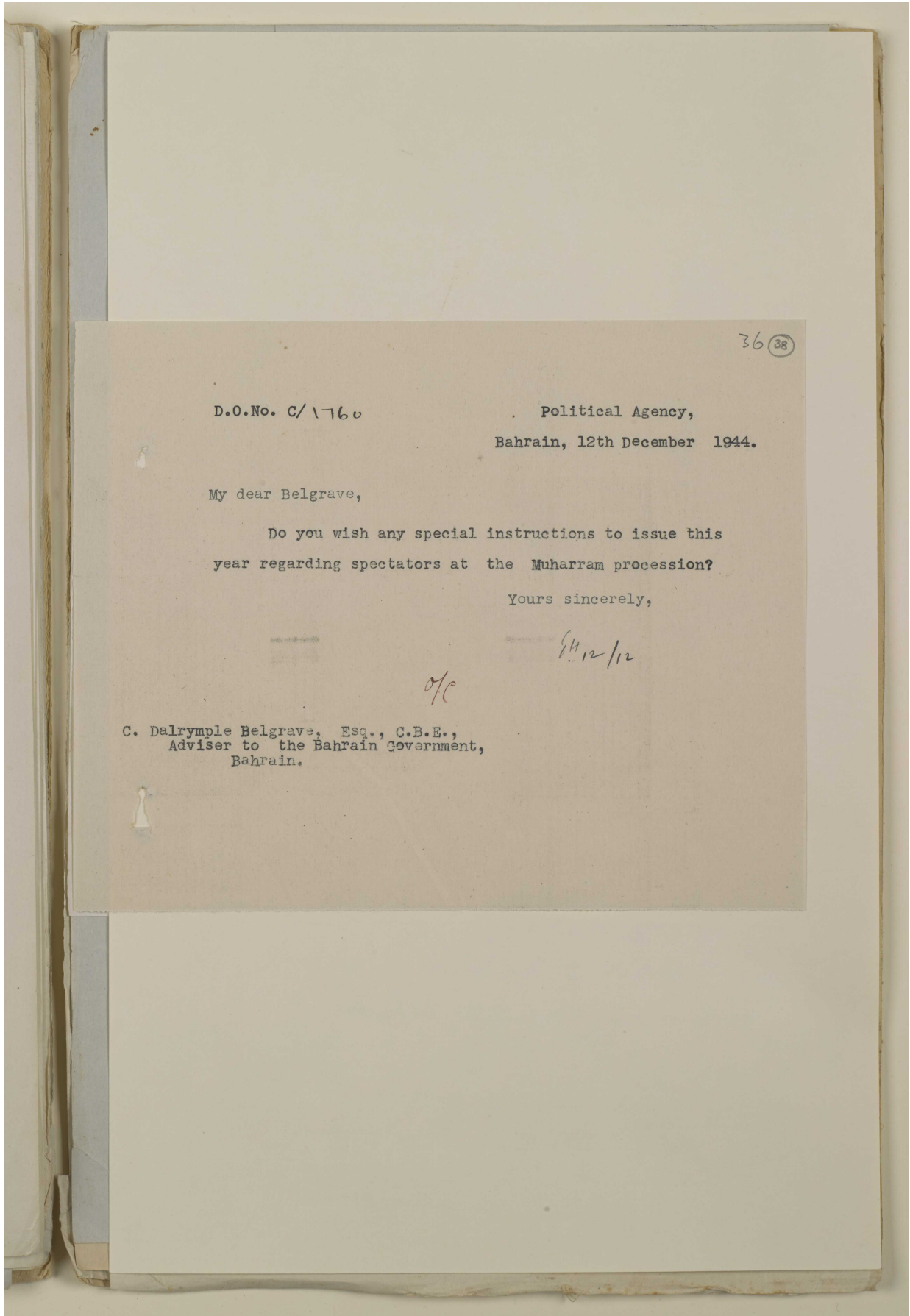
"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٣٧ و] (٩٠/٧٣)



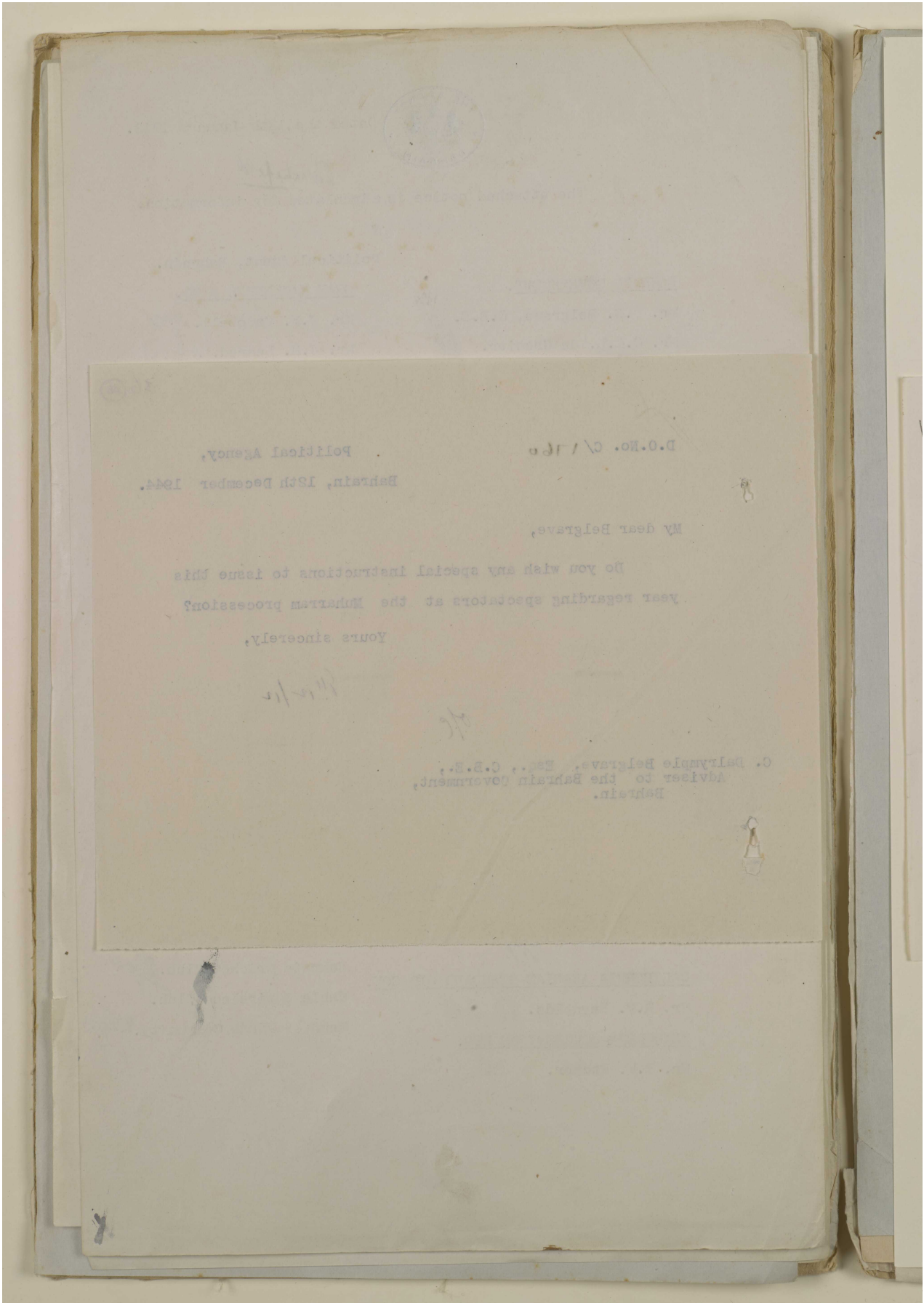
"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٣٧ظ] (٩٠/٧٤)



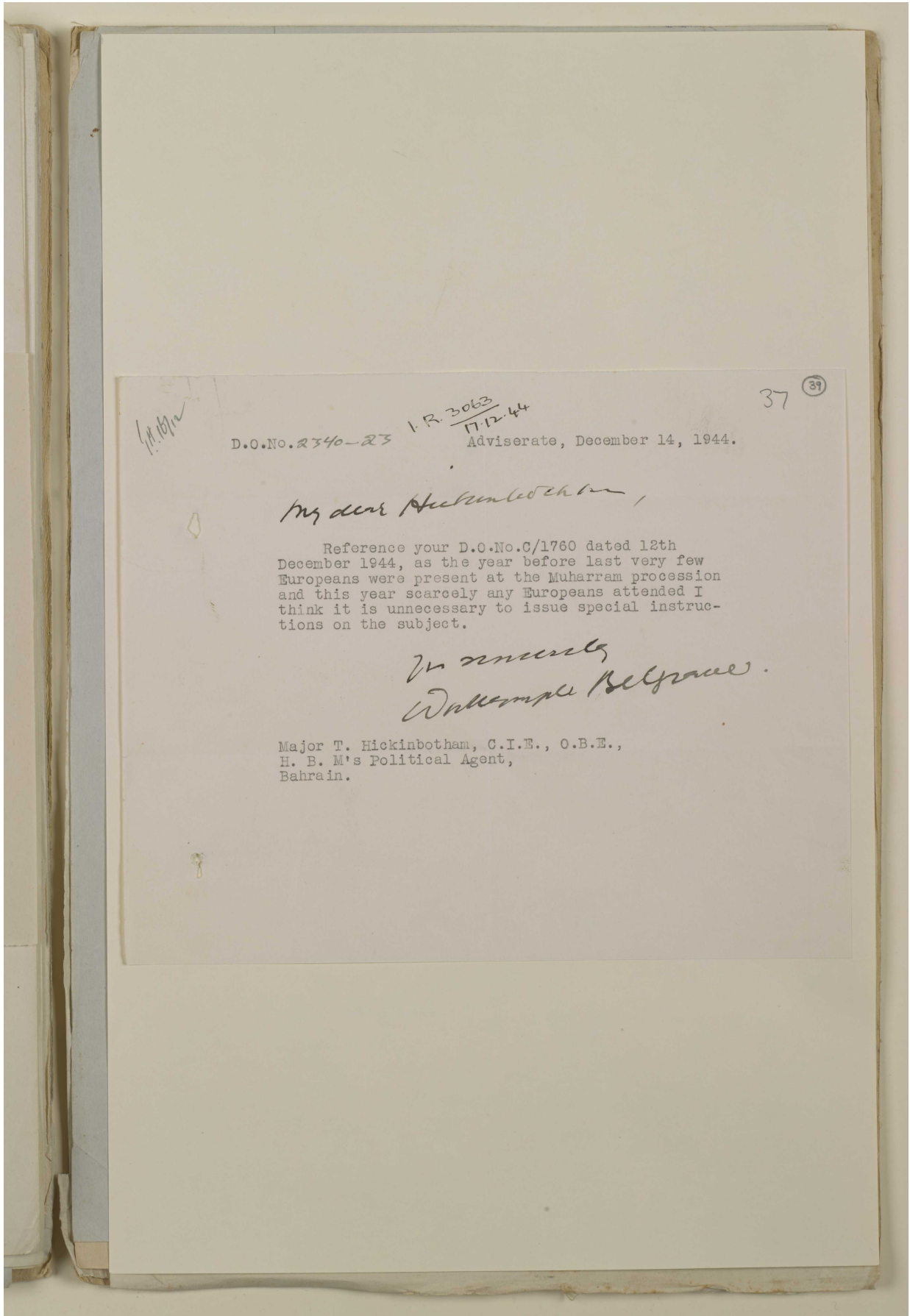
"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرم" [و٣٨] (٩٠/٧٥)



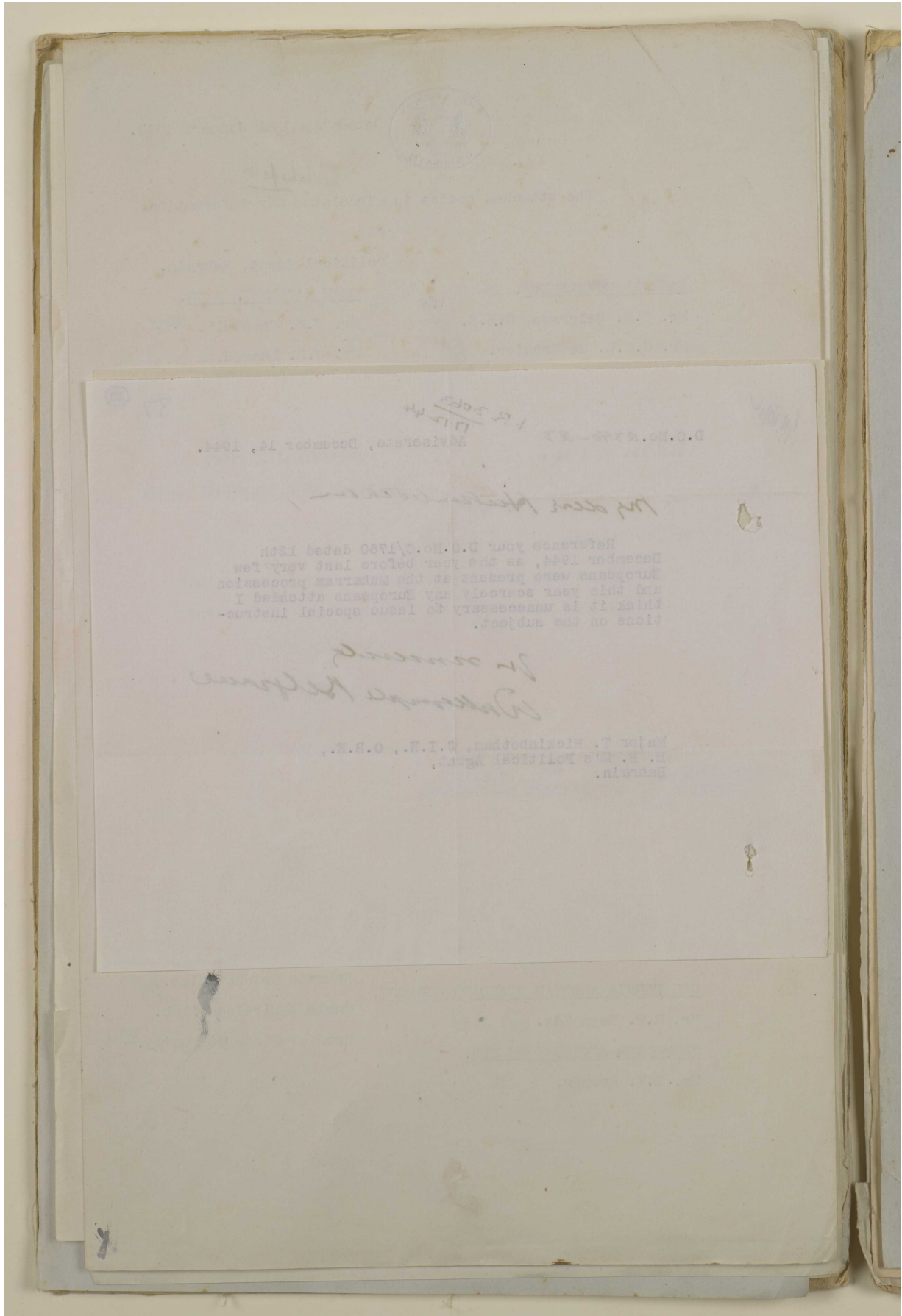
"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [ظ 38] (٩٠/٧٦)

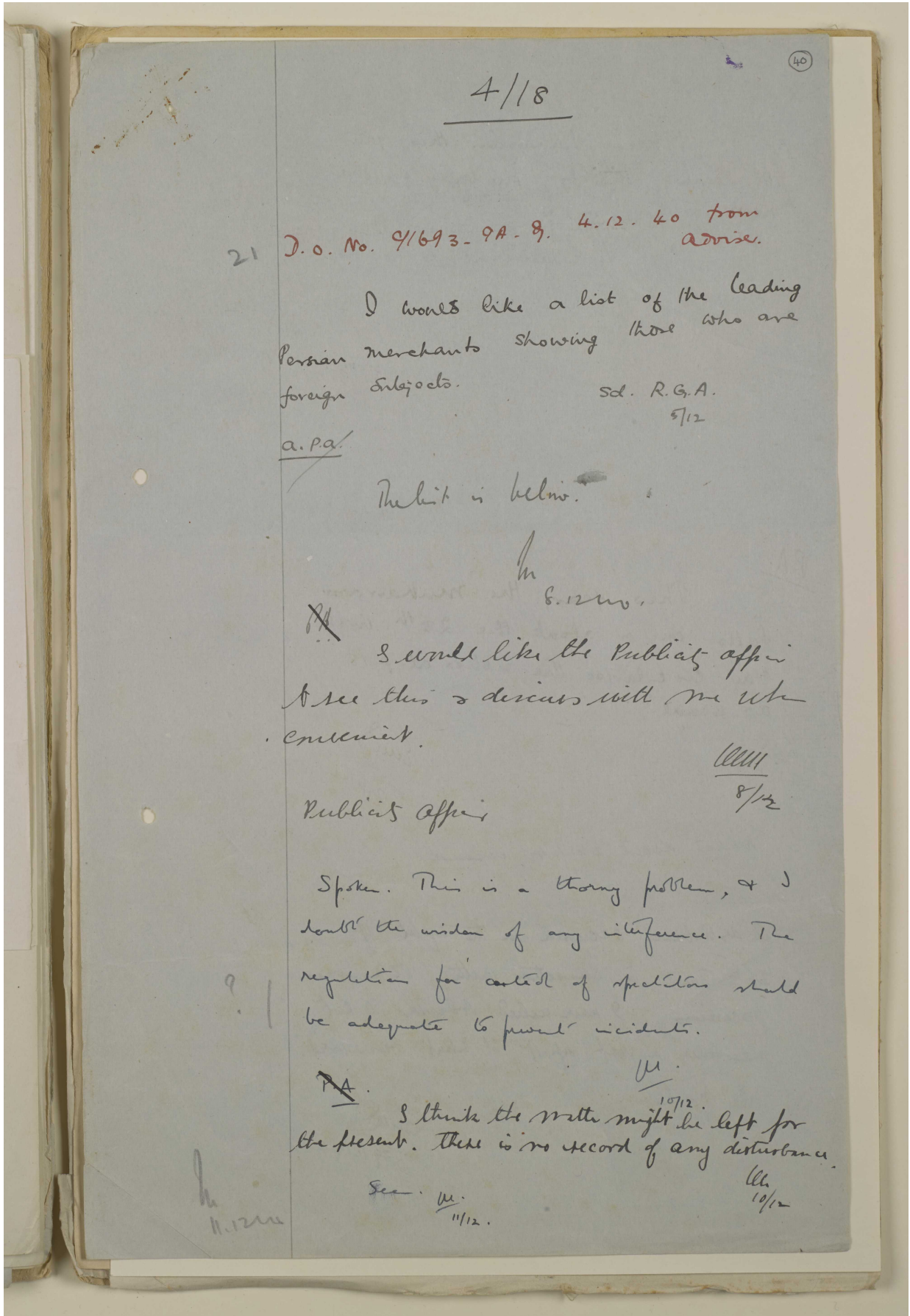


"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٣٩ و] (٩٠/٧٧)



"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٣٩ ظ] (٩٠/٧٨)





"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرم" [٤٠ ظ] (٩٠/٨٠)

P.A.

The Muharrem falls on the 6th Feb. May
circularise the notice at p. 15 as usual ?

KOR.
30/1/41

Wm
7/2/41
W

Issued notice 8. 1.2.41.

P.A.

This year, the Muharrem
falls on or about the 28th inst.
May circularise the notice at p. 15
as usual ?

KOR
21.1.42

Emed
21/1/42

Notice dated 24.1.42 issued.

A disturbance occurred on the night of
26th Jan^y in connection with Muharrem
processions. I have asked Adviser to let
me have a brief report of what occurred.
File pro tem.

Emed
29/1/42

(41)

26

Adviser's Can. Do. No 82/5F. 9/12/42

Donee Do. below to Adviser.

Send copies of the note & P.R. under P.L.
for information.

E. M. S.

3/1/42

33 Issued D.O. No. C/147. D. 3.2.42 to Adviser

34 Donee P.L. No. C/148. D. 3.2.42 to P.R.

Muharram

PR. issue for circulation the usual
notice. This should be done at once.

E. M. S.

13/1/43.

Notice issued for circulation.

PR.

13/1/43.

35 Donee notice D. 13.1.43.

P.A.

Muharram

This Agency used to issue a circular for the information
of the public on muharram during previous years. However,
last year it did not issue. May issue this year?

The circular issued in 1943 is submitted for perusal.

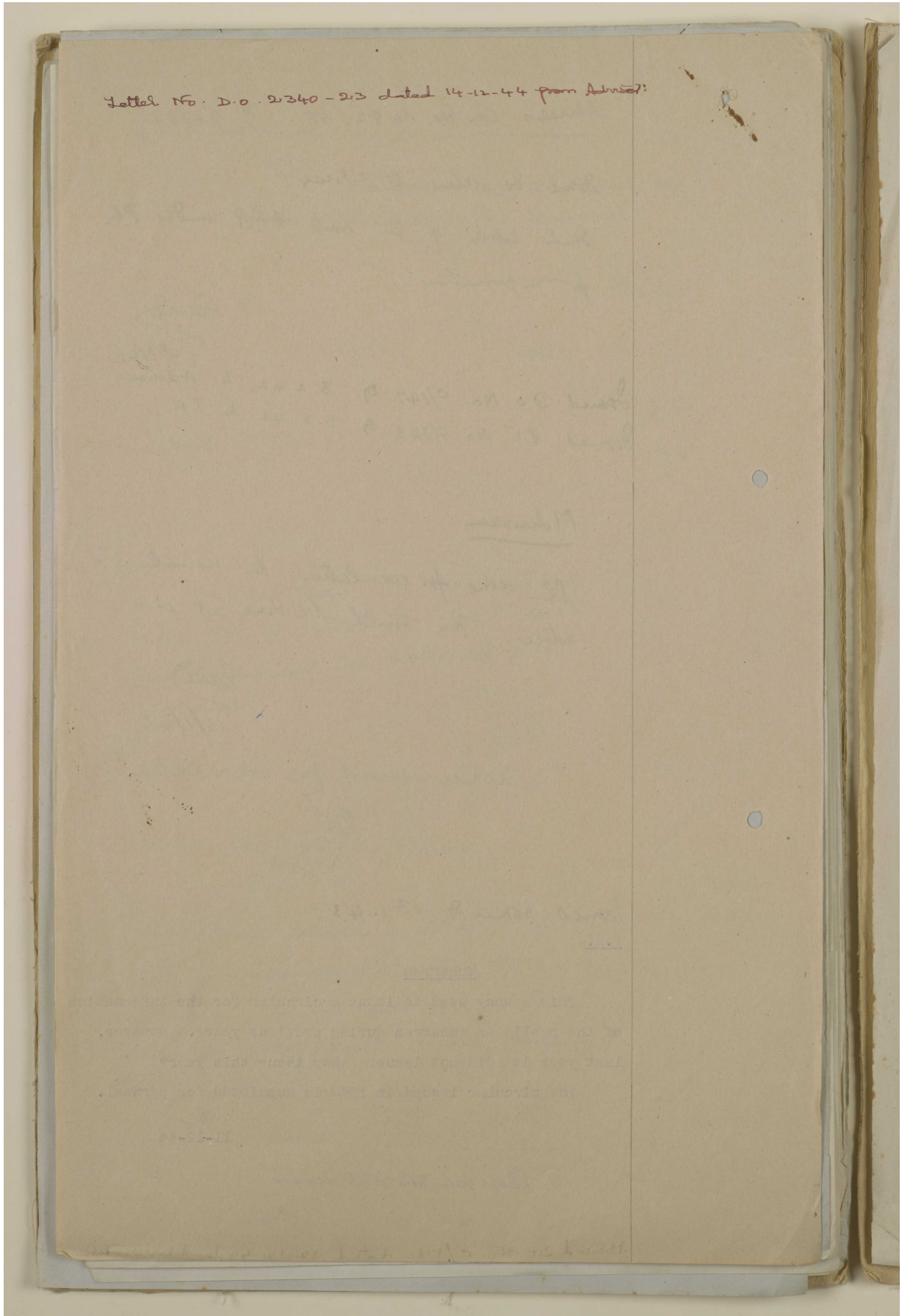
E. M. S.
11-12-44

Please find letter to the Adviser

11/1/42

Issued D.O. No. C/1760 dated 12-12-44 to Adviser P.R.

"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٤١ظ] (٩٠/٨٢)



INSTRUCTIONS TO BE OBSERVED BY THOSE WHO WISH TO BE
PRESENT AT FUTURE MUHARRAM PROCESSIONS.

For general convenience, and in order to prevent the complaints raised in previous years by the Shia Community of Bahrain, the following instructions are issued for all Europeans, Americans, and other non-Moslem foreigners wishing to be present at the Muharram procession at Manama.

2. All persons wishing to see the Muharram procession will be allowed to do so only in the central square which is marked in red on the attached map.

3. The Baladaya (Municipal) office compound, where spectators' cars are to be parked, and the route to be followed to reach the central square from the car park are also shown in red on the attached map.

Any person using any other method of approach from the car park to the square or any person leaving this route and going into any side street will be liable to arrest.

4. The following routes, which will be marked by signs, are to be followed by vehicles (1) arriving at and (2) leaving the Baladaya office compound.

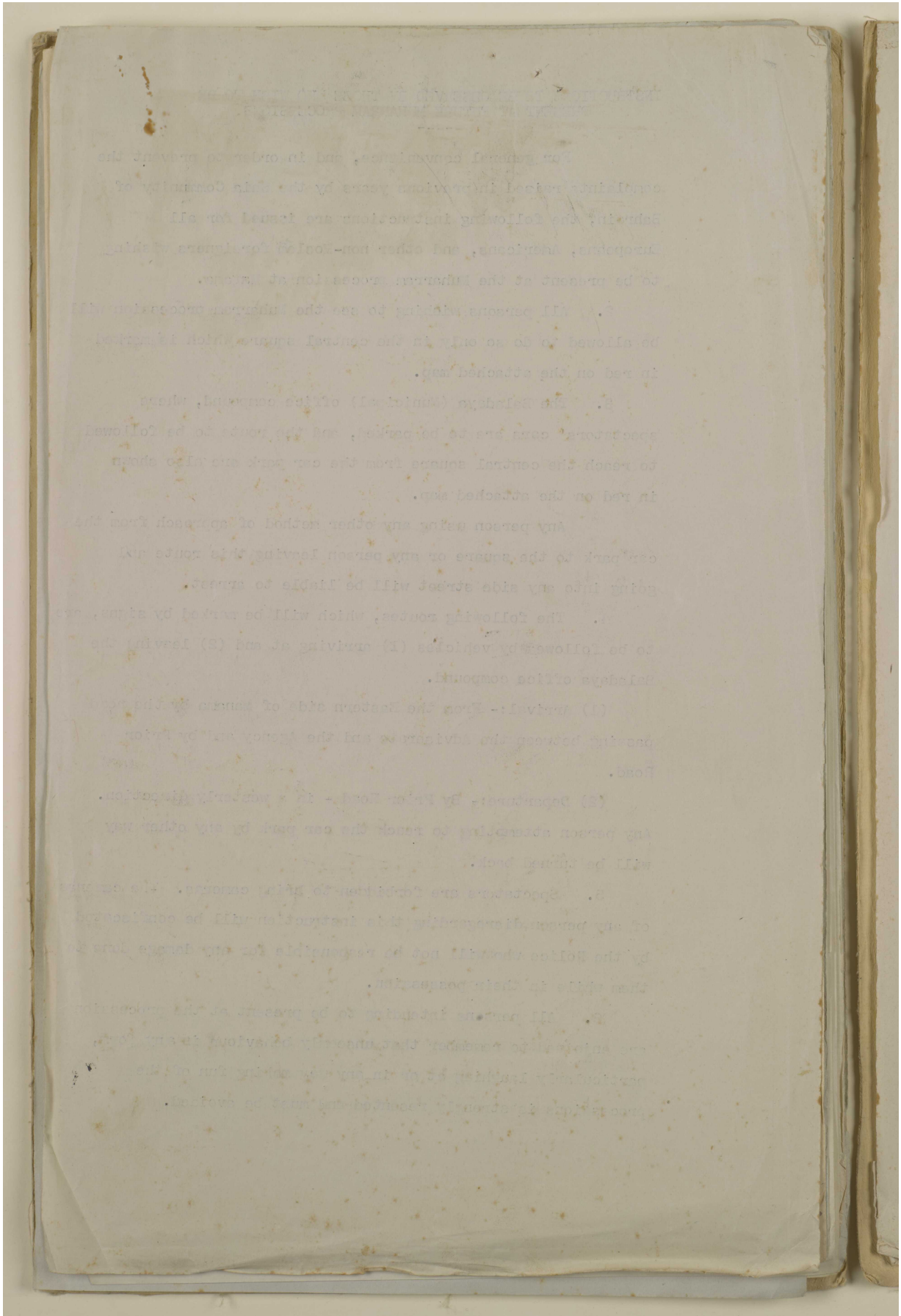
(1) Arrival:- From the Eastern side of Manama by the road passing between the Adviserate and the Agency and by Prior Road.

(2) Departure:- By Prior Road - in a westerly direction. Any person attempting to reach the car park by any other way will be turned back.

5. Spectators are forbidden to bring cameras. The cameras of any person disregarding this instruction will be confiscated by the Police who will not be responsible for any damage done to them while in their possession.

6. All persons intending to be present at the procession are enjoined to remember that unseemly behaviour in any form, particularly laughing at or in any way making fun of the processions is strongly resented and must be avoided.

"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [٢٤ ظ] (٩٠/٨٤)



"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرم" [٣ و٤] (٩٠/٨٥)

INSTRUCTIONS TO BE OBSERVED BY THOSE WHO WISH TO BE
PRESENT AT FUTURE MUHARRAM PROCESSIONS. (43)

For general convenience, and in order to prevent the complaints raised in previous years by the Shia Community of Bahrain, the following instructions are issued for all Europeans, Americans, and other non-Moslem foreigners wishing to be present at the Muharram procession at Manama.

2. All persons wishing to see the Muharram procession will be allowed to do so only in the central square which is marked in red on the attached map.

3. The Baladaya (Municipal) office compound, where spectators' cars are to be parked, and the route to be followed to reach the central square from the car park are also shown in red on the attached map.

Any person using any other method of approach from the car park to the square or any person leaving this route and going into any side street will be liable to arrest.

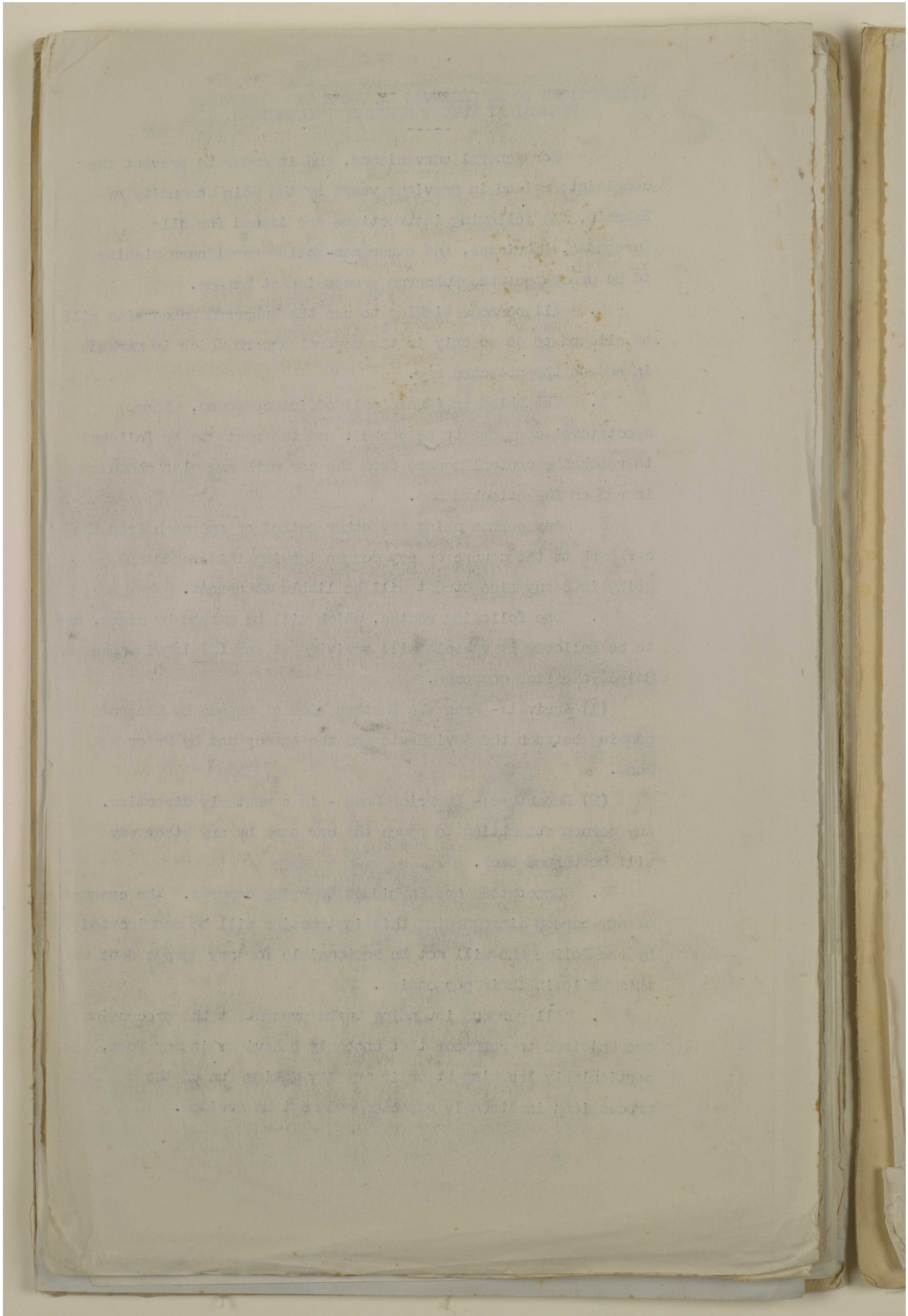
4. The following routes, which will be marked by signs, are to be followed by vehicles (1) arriving at and (2) leaving the Baladaya office compound.

(1) Arrival:- From the Eastern side of Manama by the road passing between the Adviserate and the Agency and by Prior Road.

(2) Departure:- By Prior Road - in a westerly direction. Any person attempting to reach the car park by any other way will be turned back.

5. Spectators are forbidden to bring cameras. The cameras of any person disregarding this instruction will be confiscated by the Police who will not be responsible for any damage done to them while in their possession.

6. All persons intending to be present at the procession are enjoined to remember that unseemly behaviour in any form, particularly laughing at or in any way making fun of the processions is strongly resented and must be avoided.



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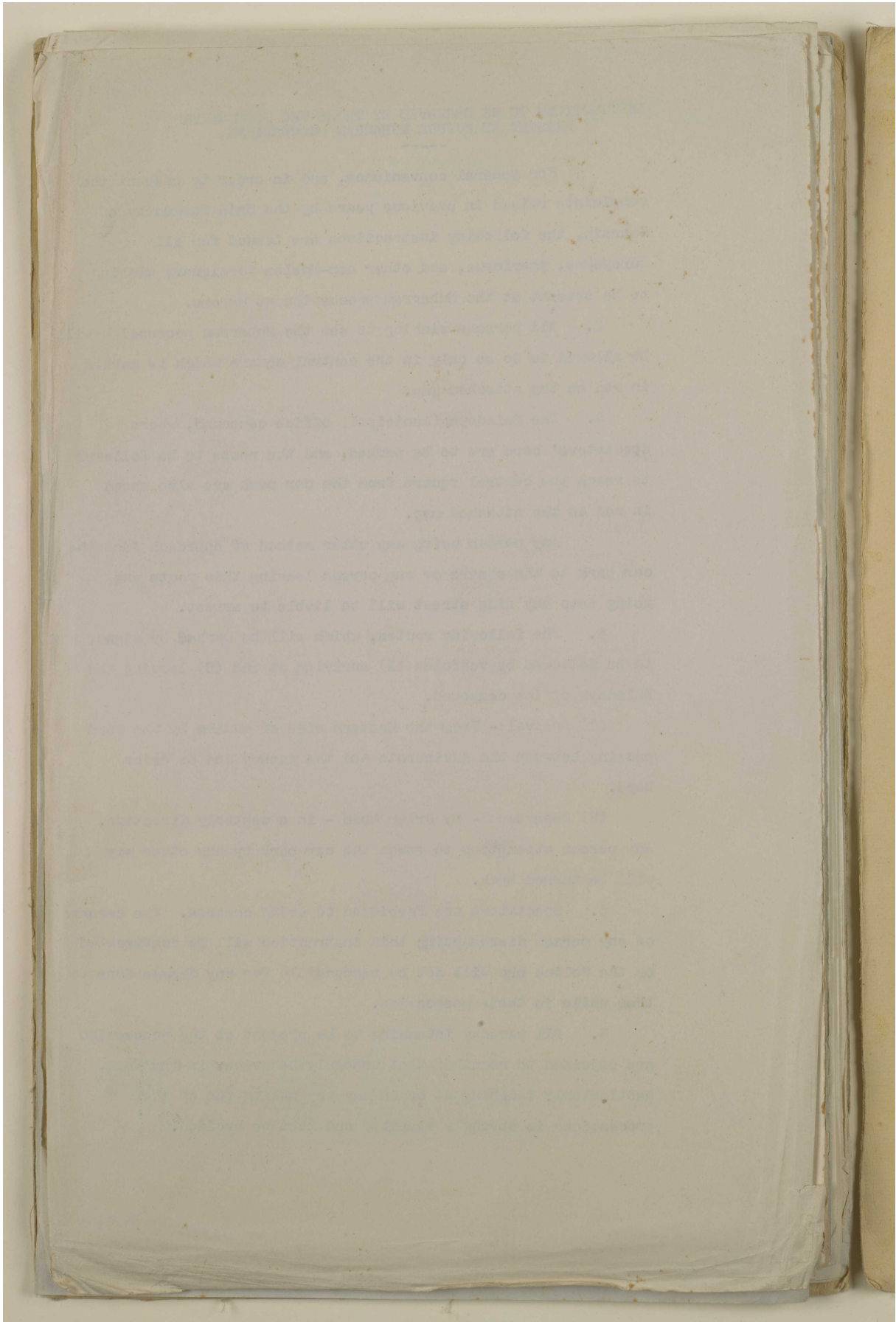
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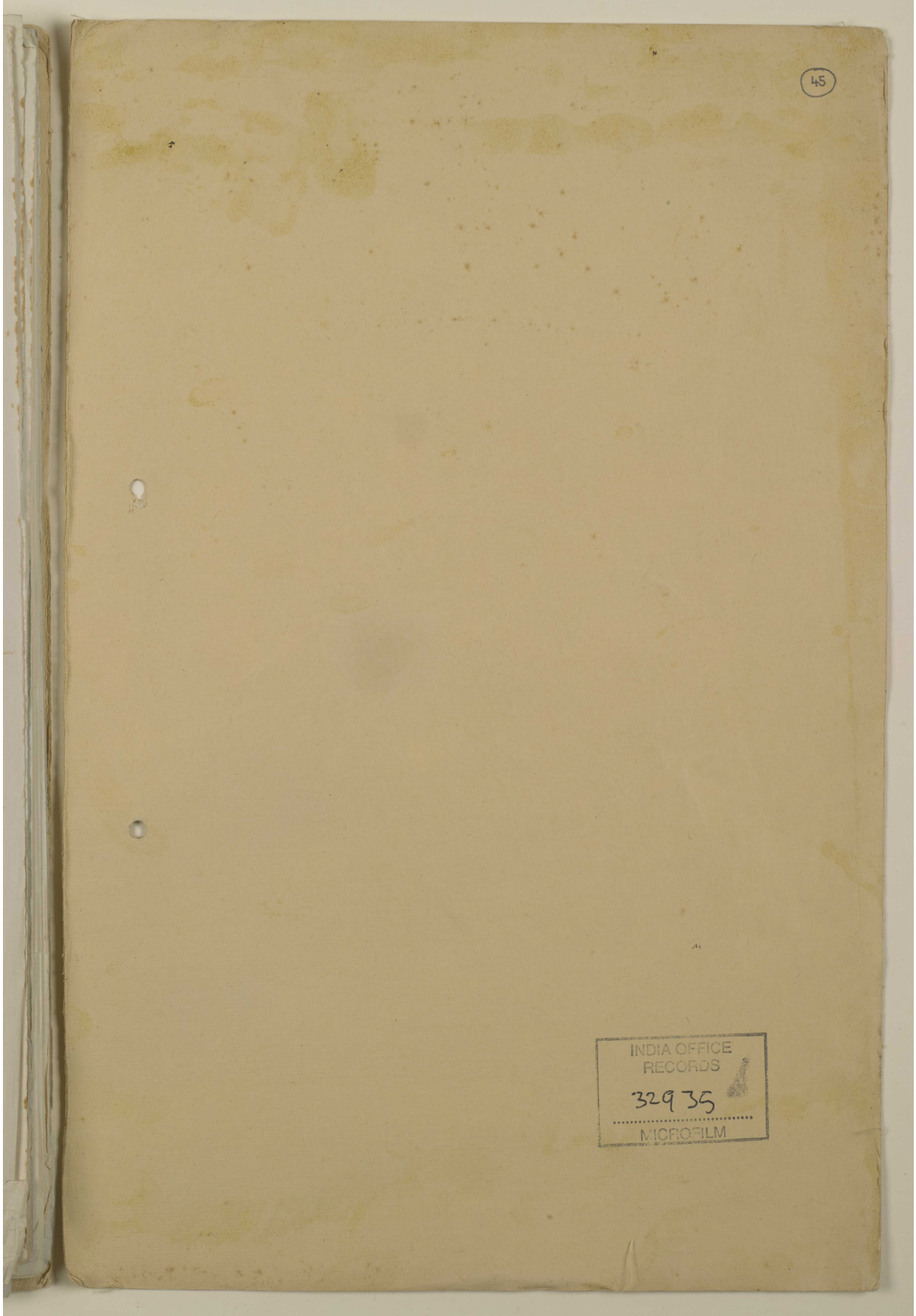
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"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [خلفي-داخلي] (٩٠/٨٩)



"ملف 32/10 (4/18) ممارسات إحياء ذكرى محرّم" [خلفي] (٩٠/٩٠)

