



This PDF was generated on 13/01/2022 from online resources of
the **Qatar Digital Library**

The online record can be viewed at:

http://www.qdl.qa/en/archive/81055/vdc_100000000466.0x00034b

It contains extra information, high resolution zoomable views and transcriptions.

PZ 3220/40 'Detention by Persian authorities of Mirza Barkatali Ahmadi, British Indian subject'

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	IOR/L/PS/12/391
Date(s)	18 May 1940-22 Jun 1940 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English and Farsi in Latin and Arabic script
Extent and Format	1 file (10 folios)
Copyright for document	Open Government Licence



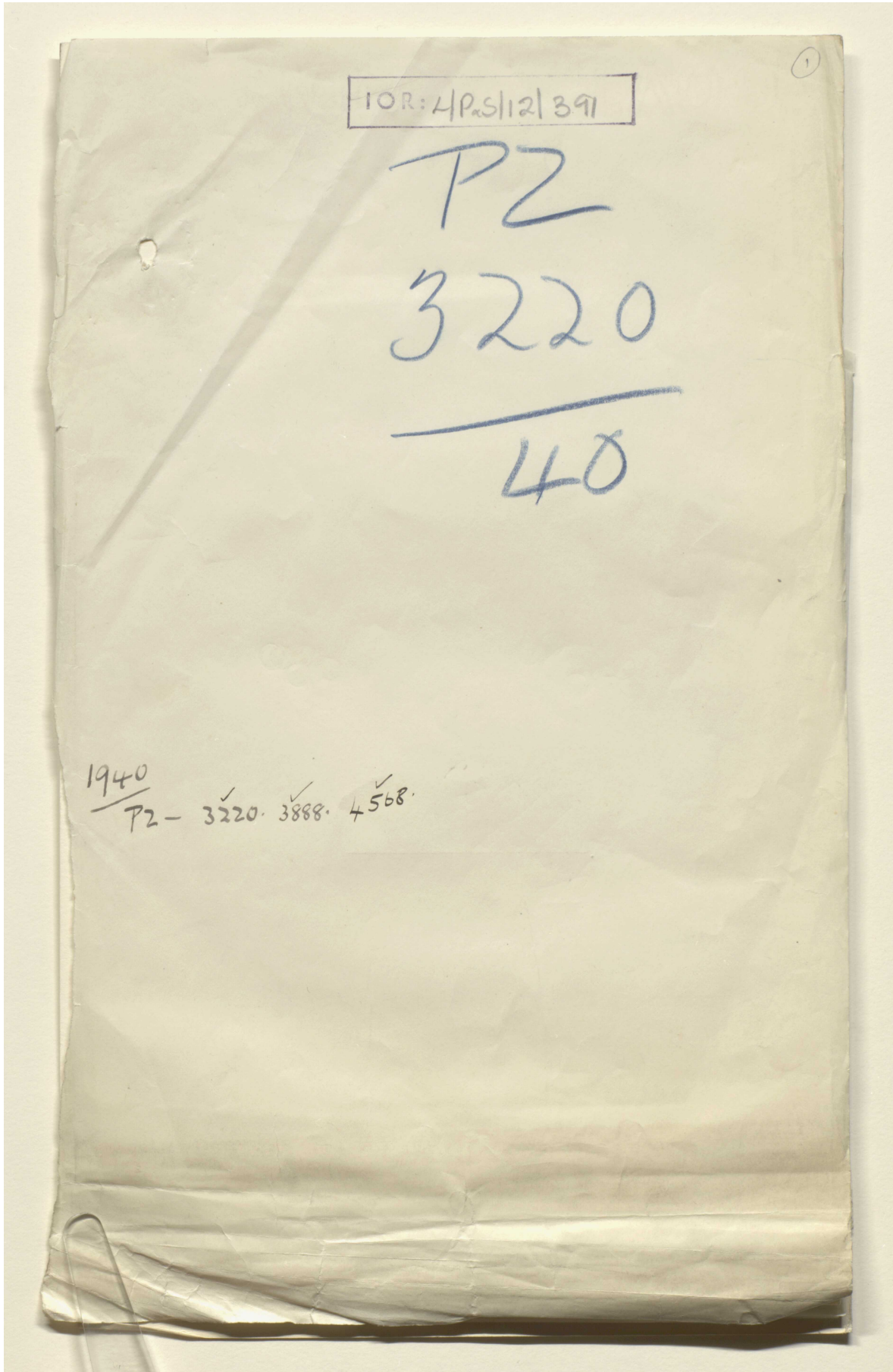
About this record

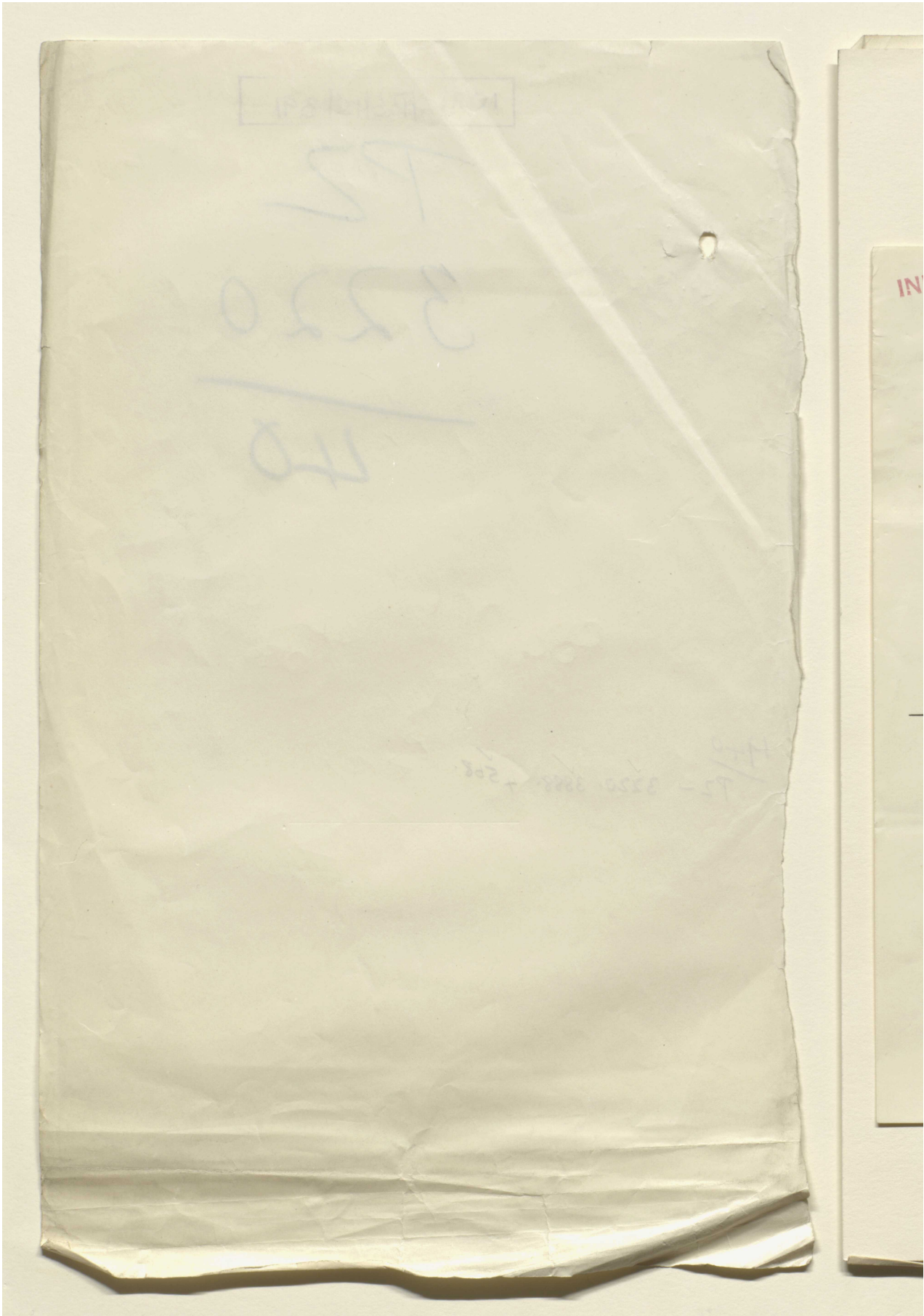
This file contains documents relating to the detention of Mirza Barkatali Ali Ahmadi, a British Indian subject from the SS Varsova, for his alleged failure to settle a debt with Yusuf Ali, a naturalised Persian subject and merchant in Abadan, Iran. The charges against Mirza Barkatali Ali Ahmadi were subsequently dismissed.

The main correspondents in the file are: Albert Napier Williamson Napier (HM Vice-Consul at Khorramshahr), A Danbrook (Master of the SS Varsova), and Major Naghdi of the Southern Naval Force.

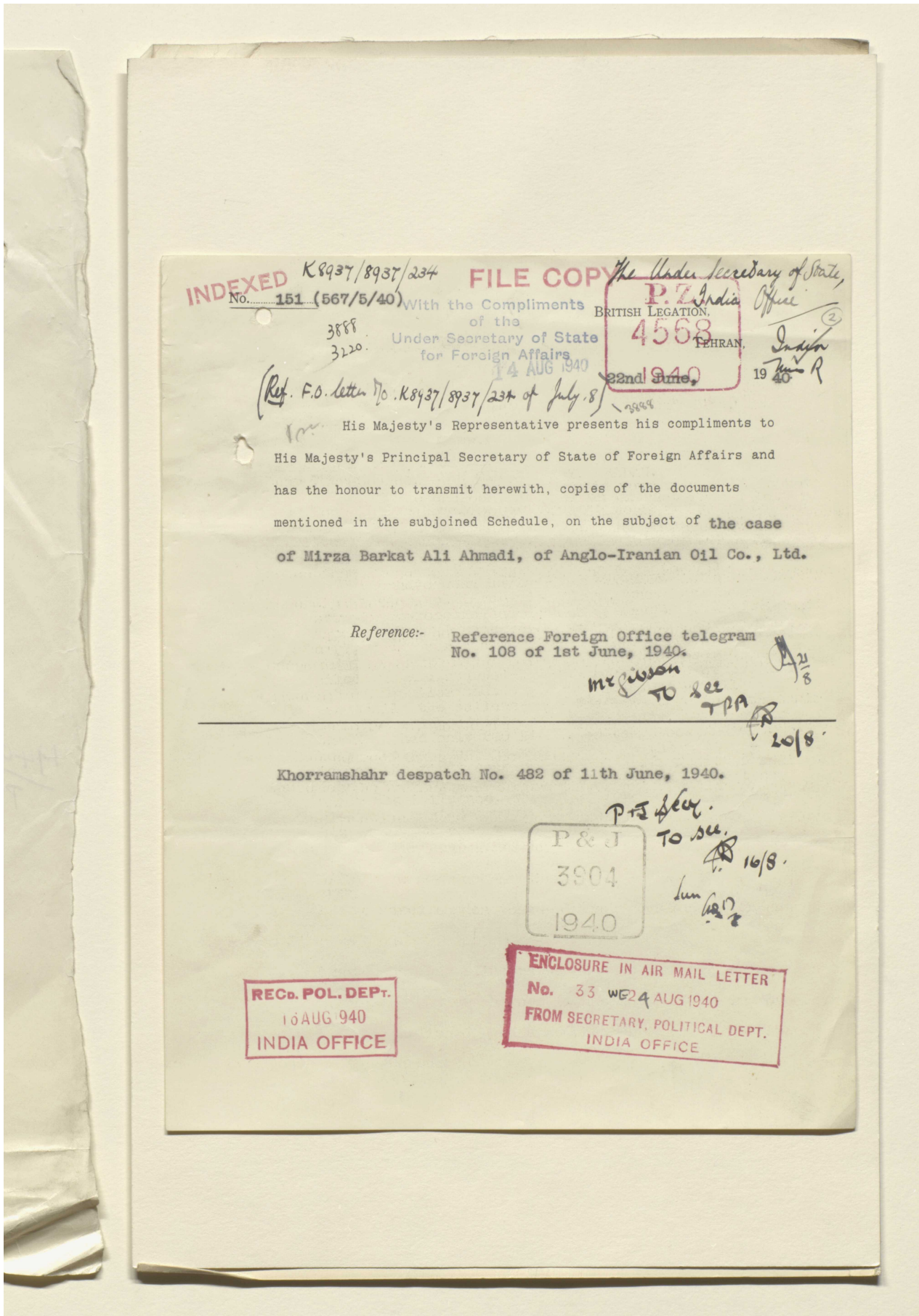
Folio 9 is an English translation of folio 8 which is written in Farsi.

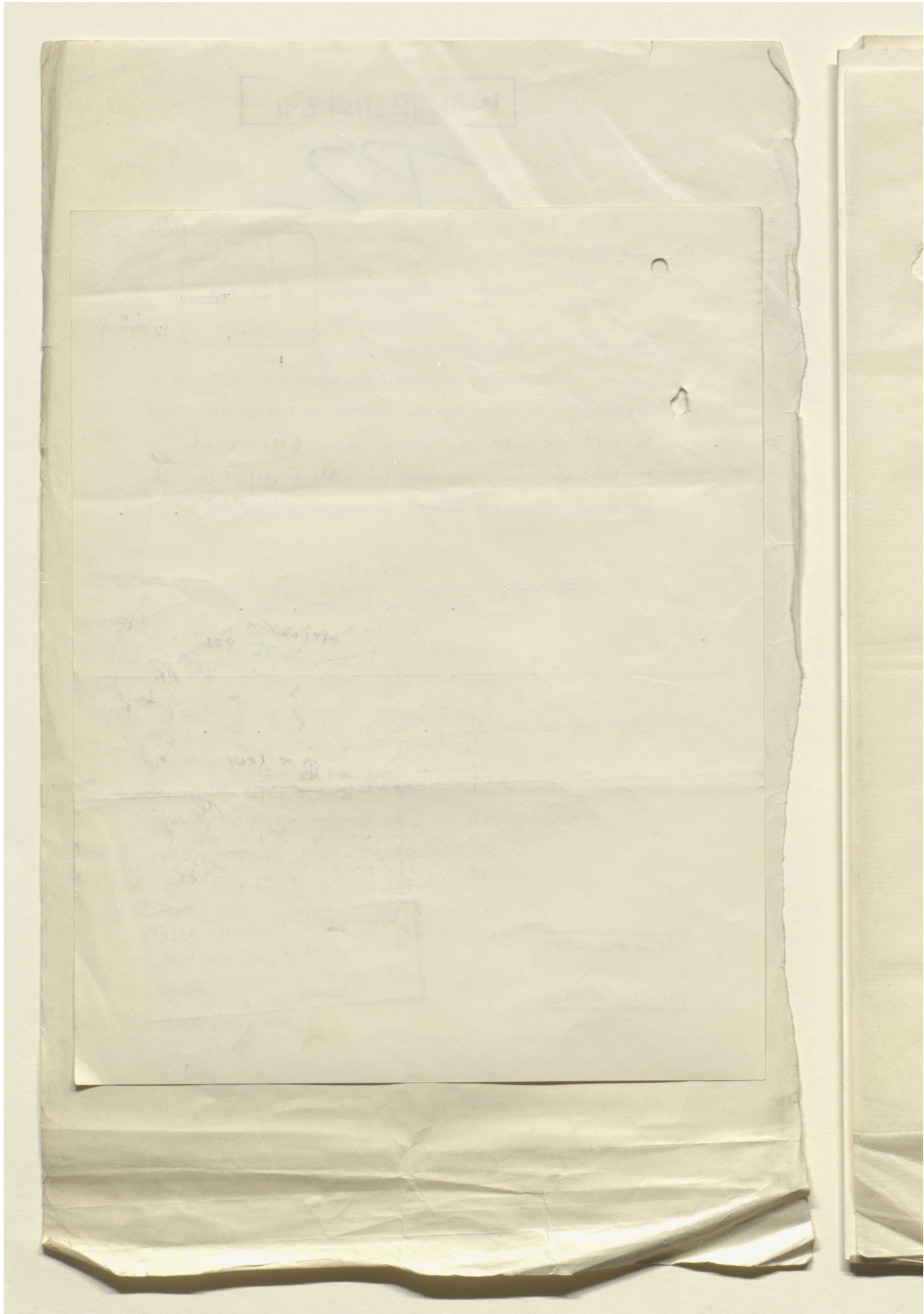
PZ 3220/40 'Detention by Persian authorities of Mirza Barkatali Ahmadi, British Indian subject' [front] (1/24)



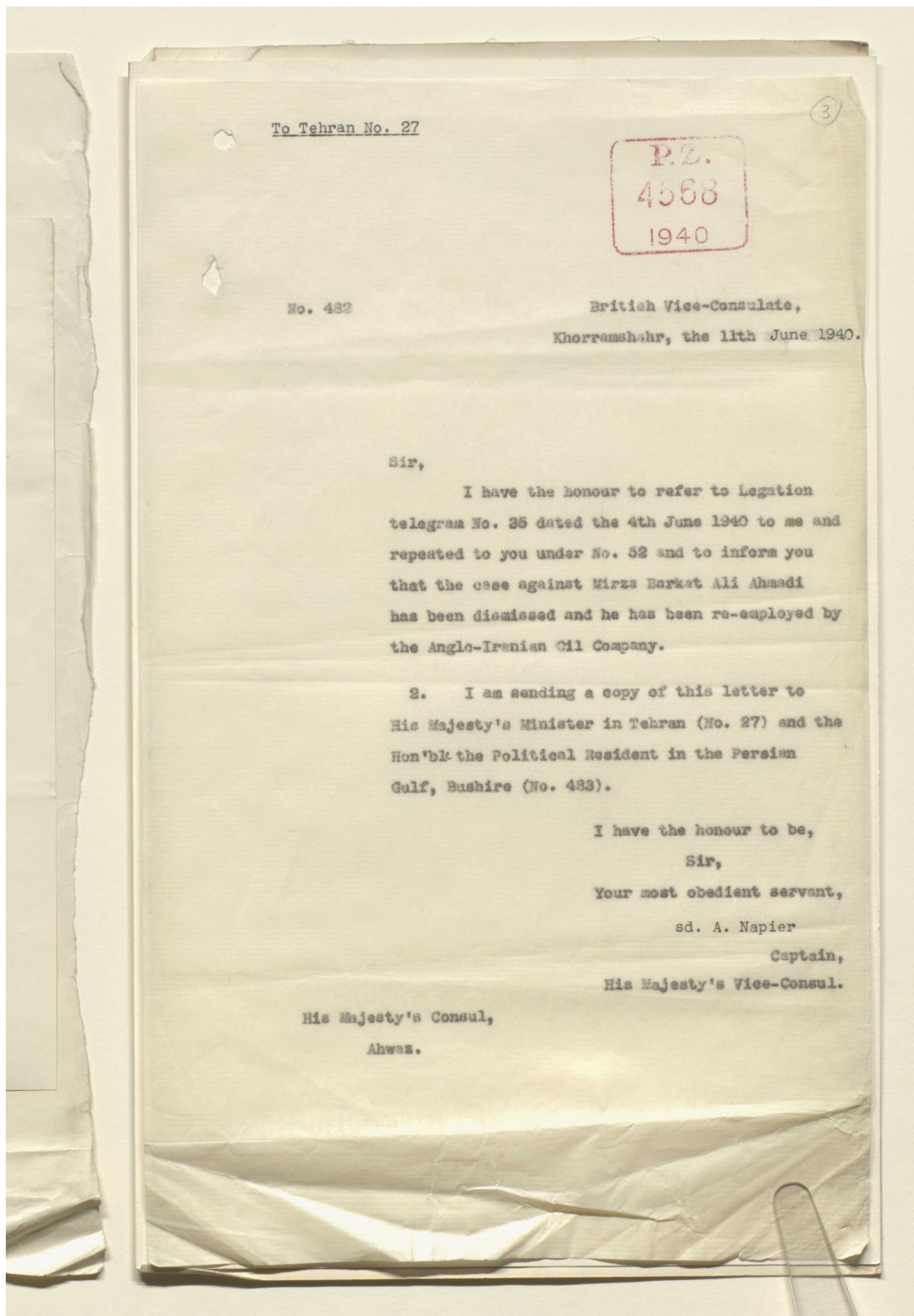


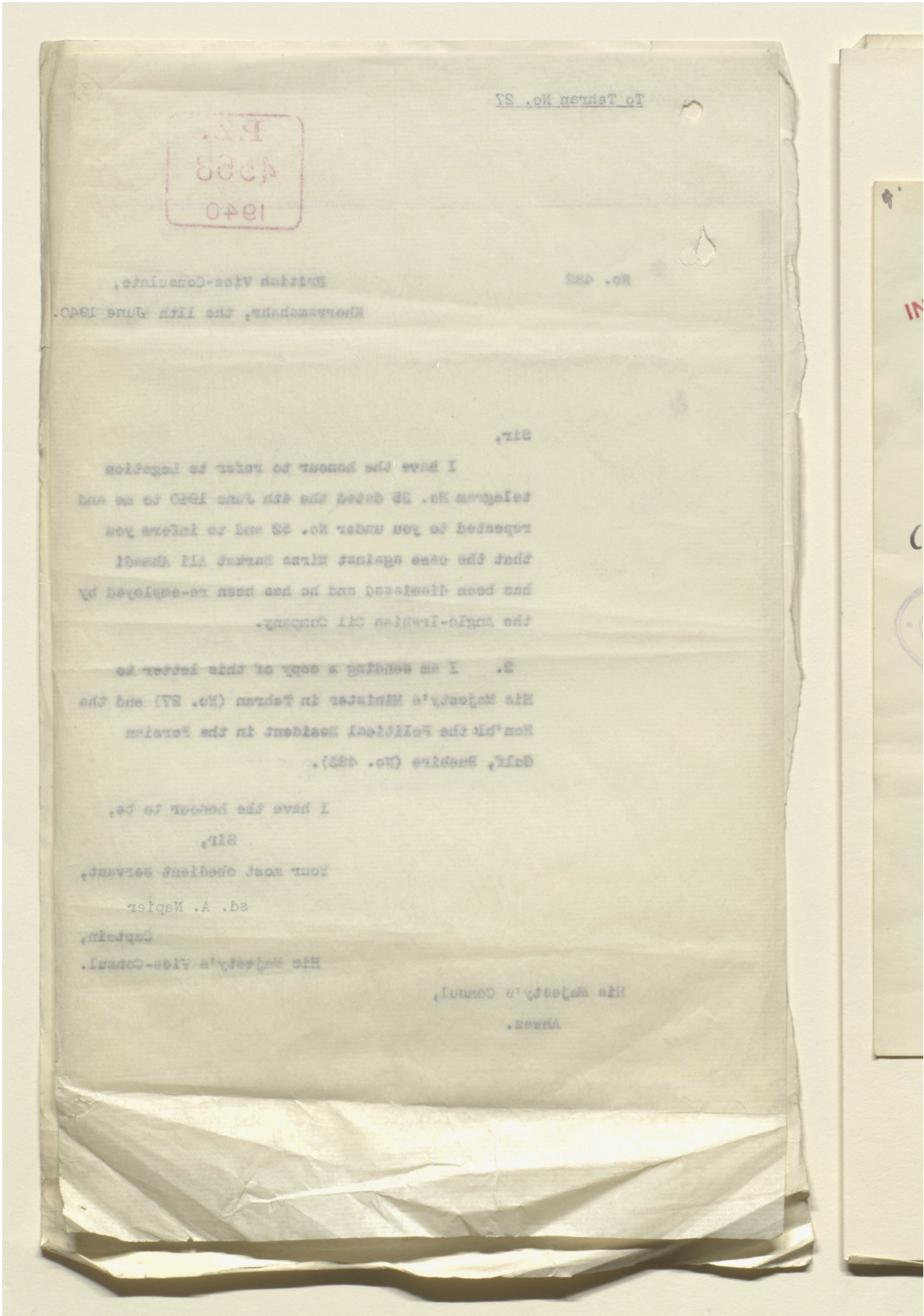
PZ 3220/40 'Detention by Persian authorities of Mirza Barkatali Ahmadi, British Indian subject' [2r] (3/24)



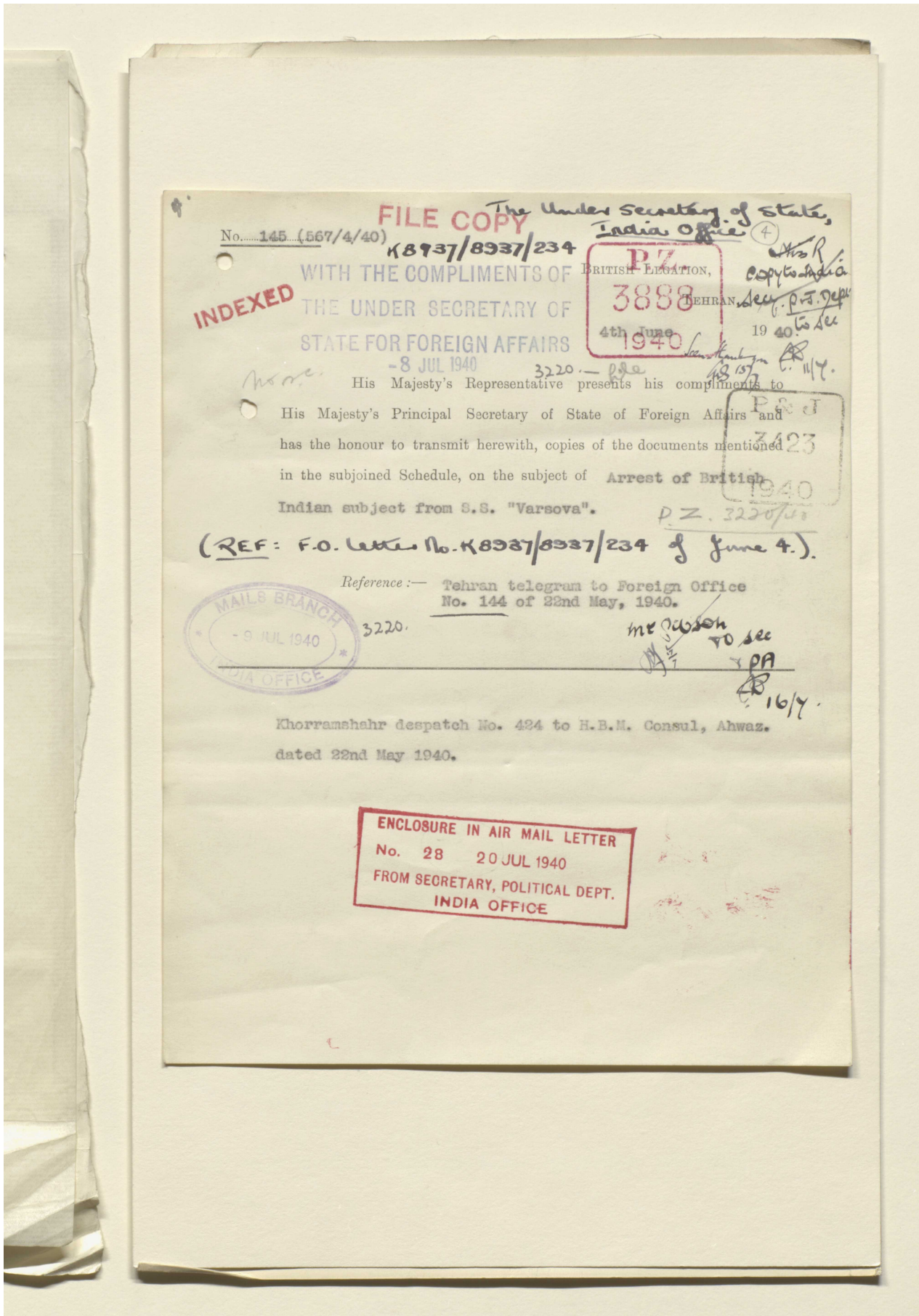


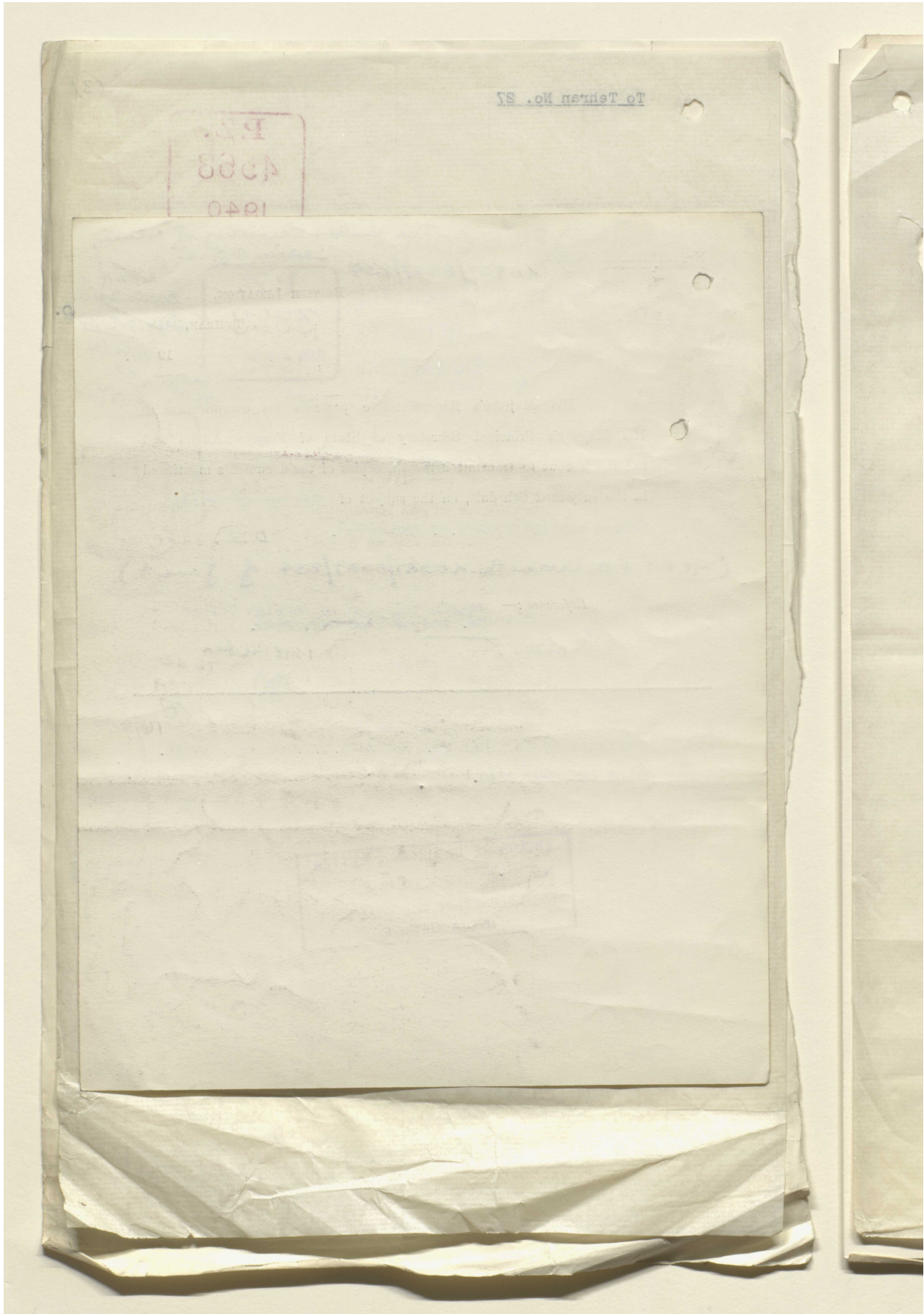
PZ 3220/40 'Detention by Persian authorities of Mirza Barkatali Ahmadi, British Indian subject' [3r] (5/24)



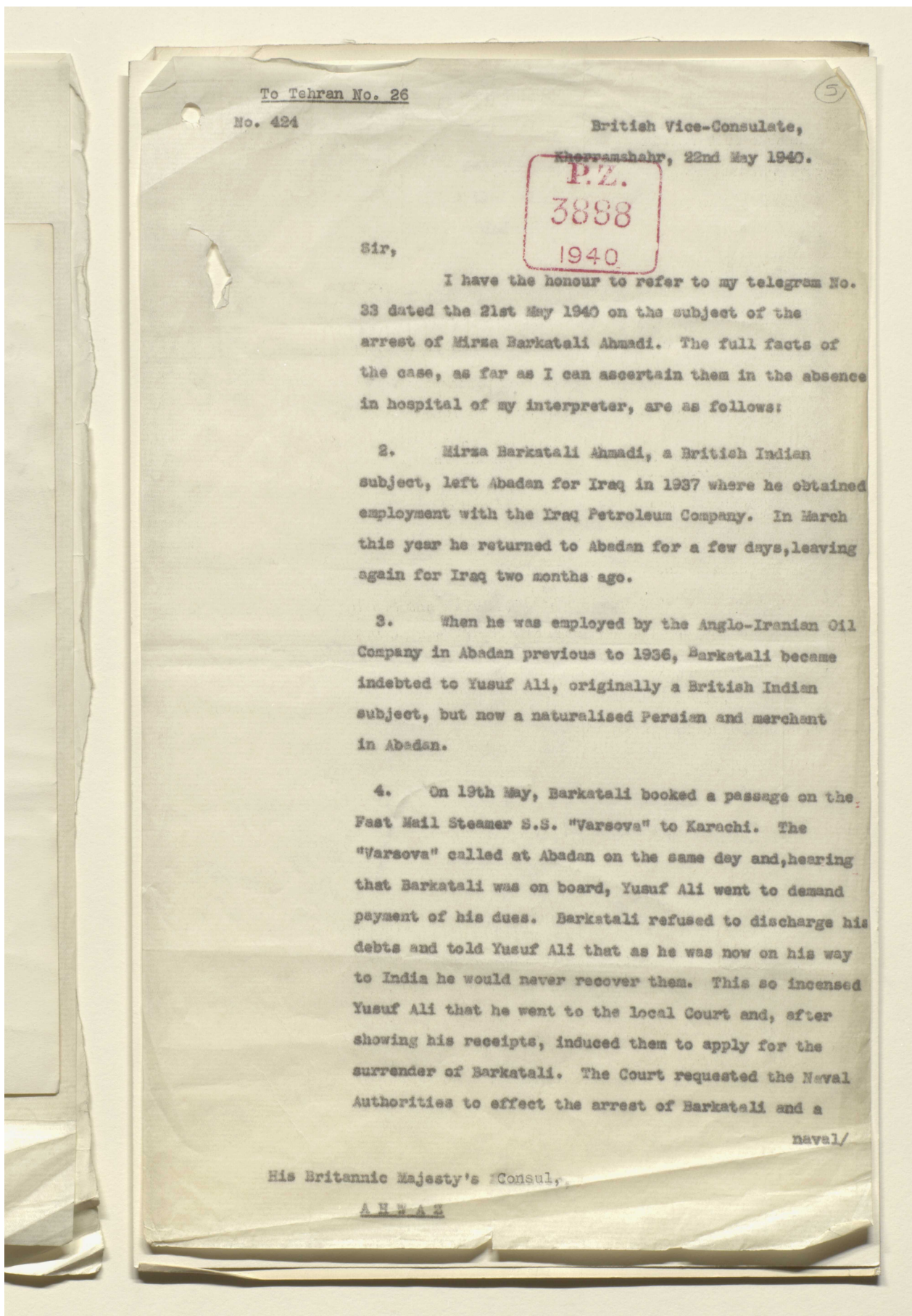


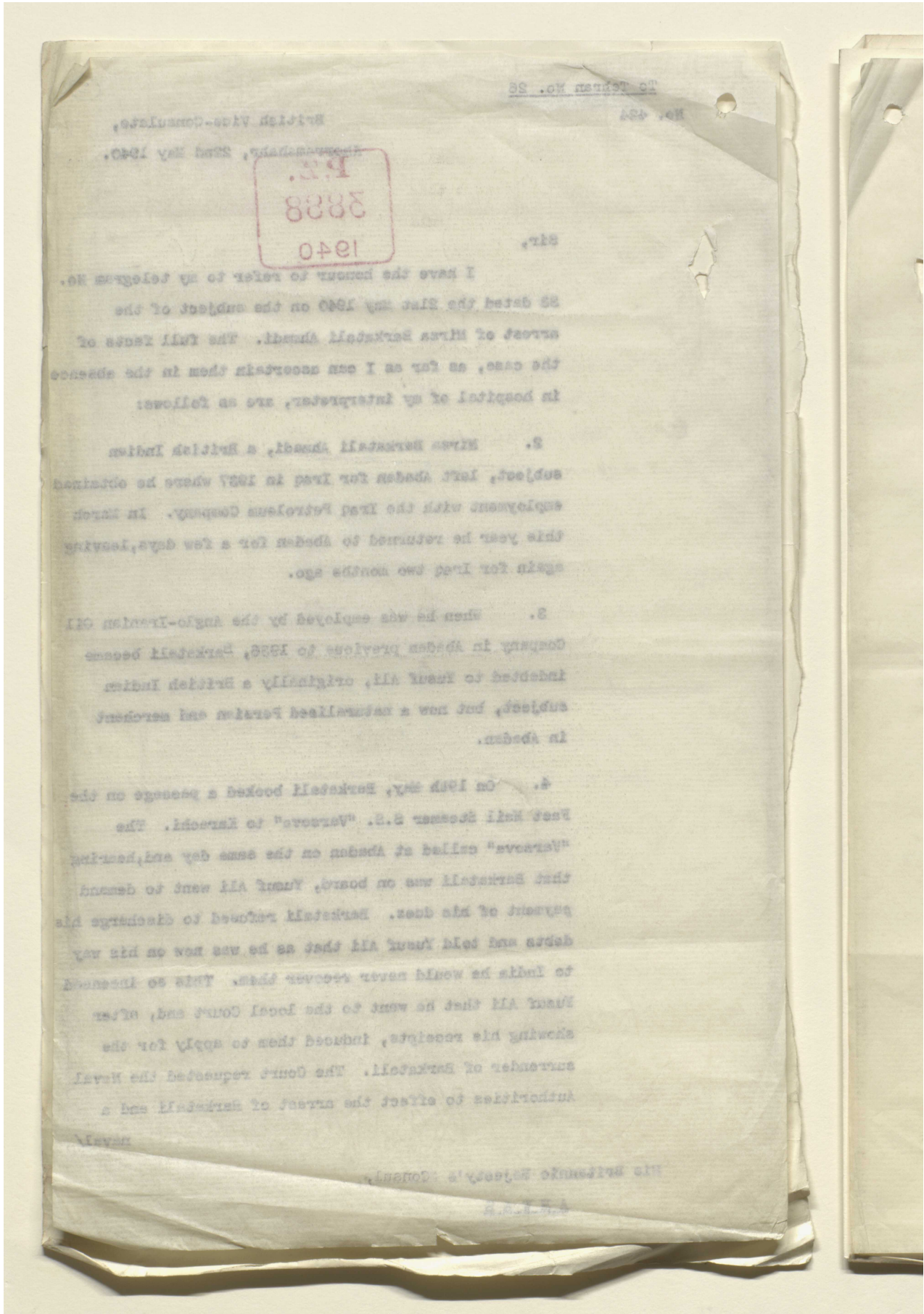
PZ 3220/40 'Detention by Persian authorities of Mirza Barkatali Ahmadi, British Indian subject' [4r] (7/24)





PZ 3220/40 'Detention by Persian authorities of Mirza Barkatali Ahmadi, British Indian subject' [5r] (9/24)





- 2 -

6

naval officer went on board the "Varsova" and demanded his surrender, verbally, from the Master. The latter refused to comply with this order until the naval officer said that the ship would not be allowed to sail, on which the Master asked for a written demand for Barkatali. The Naval Officer later produced a letter signed by Major Naghdi, a copy of which is attached, also a translation, and a letter from the Master reporting the incident to me. No Court Order or document with the Court Seal on it was shown to the Master. Barkatali was removed in custody and the "Varsova" sailed.

5. Barkatali, on arrival in Abadan, was released on bail by the police, the bail being produced by Yusuf Ali, his accuser. The Abadan police are justifiably puzzled at this action of Yusuf Ali's.

6. The case between Yusuf Ali and Barkatali is presumably a civil one to be decided in Court, but, as stated in my telegram, I am not clear whether the local Court and the Naval Authorities were justified in removing a British subject by force from a British ship, even though that ship was tied up to the jetty in Abadan and therefore presumably within the jurisdiction of the local Court, when the charge against him was only one of debt and not a criminal charge. Even if this was legal, the procedure seems irregular as the surrender was demanded on the production of an ordinary letter from a Naval Officer and not on an official document from the Local Court.

PZ 3220
40

7. I am sending copy of this to His Majesty's Minister, Tehran (No. 26) and the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, Bushire (No. 425).

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

sd. A. Napier

Captain,
His Majesty's Vice - Consul

- 3 -

naval officer went on board the "Yarsova" and demanded his
passports, verbally, from the Master. The latter refused
to comply with this order until the naval officer said
that the ship would not be allowed to sail, on which the
Master asked for a written demand for Barkatali. The
Naval Officer later produced a letter signed by Major
Barkatali, a copy of which is attached, also a proclamation,
and a letter from the Master reporting the incident to me.
The Court Order or document with the Court seal on it was
shown to the Master. Barkatali was removed in custody
and the "Yarsova" sailed.

6. Barkatali, on arrival in Abadan, was released on
bail by the police, the bail being produced by Yusuf Ali,
his accuser. The Abadan police are justifiably puzzled at
this action of Yusuf Ali's.

7. The case between Yusuf Ali and Barkatali is
presumably a civil one to be decided in Court, but, as
stated in my telegram, I am not clear whether the local
Court and the Naval authorities were justified in removing
a British subject by force from a British ship, even
though that ship was tied up to the jetty in Abadan and
therefore presumably within the jurisdiction of the local
Court, when the charge against him was only one of debt
and not a criminal charge. Even if this was legal, the
procedure seems irregular as the surrender was demanded on
the production of an ordinary letter from a Naval Officer
and not on an official document from the local Court.

8. I am sending copy of this to His Majesty's
Minister, Tehran (No. 28) and the Hon'ble the Political
Resident in the Persian Gulf, Bombay (No. 28).

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
Ed. A. Kester
His Majesty's Agent - Consular

PZ 3220/40 'Detention by Persian authorities of Mirza Barkatali Ahmadi, British Indian subject' [7r] (13/24)

COPY

7

S.S. "Varsova" Voyage No. 395

Abadan, 19th May 1940.

H.B.M's Vice-Consul,
Khorramshahr.



Dear Sir,

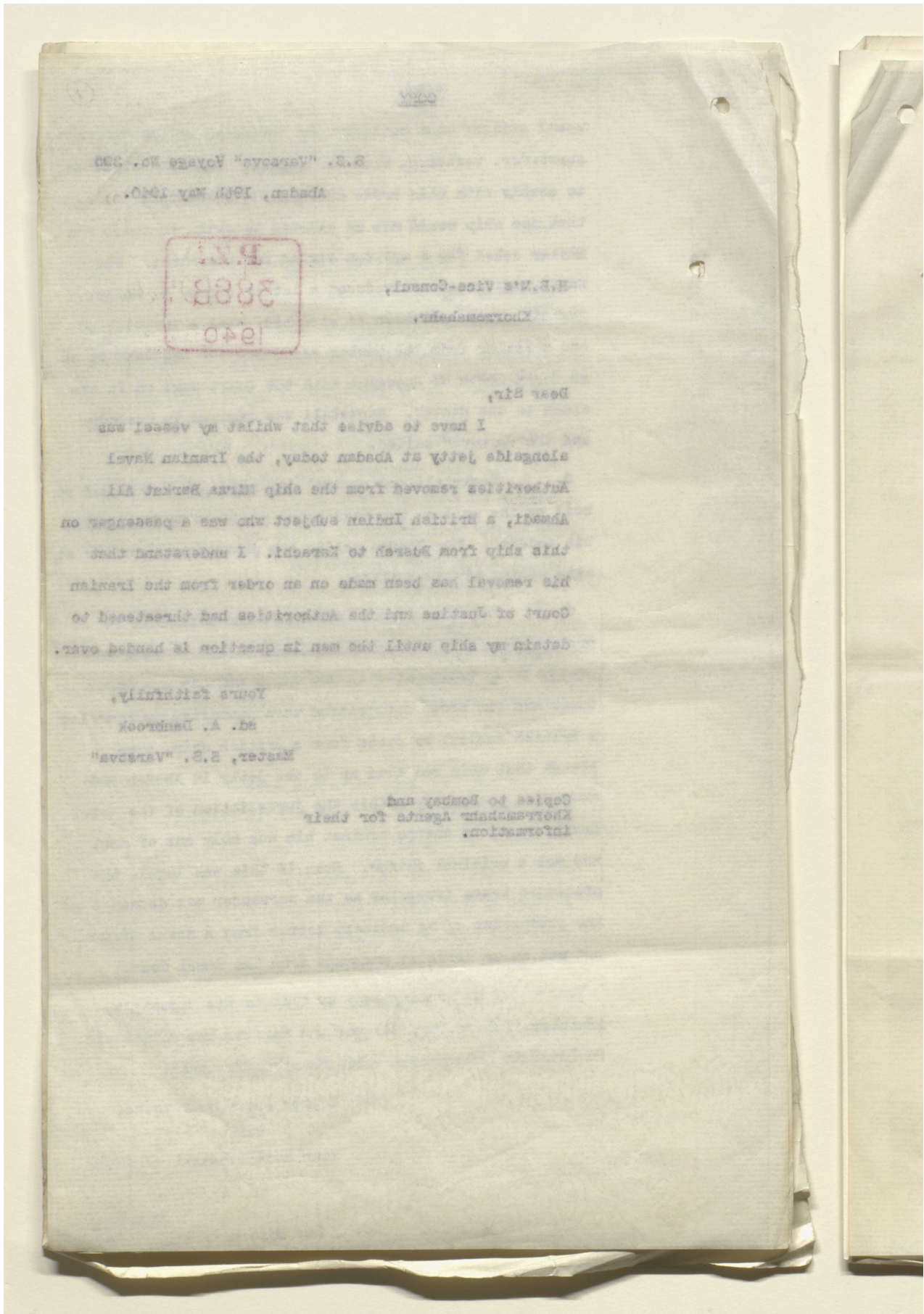
I have to advise that whilst my vessel was alongside jetty at Abadan today, the Iranian Naval Authorities removed from the ship Mirza Barkat Ali Ahmadi, a British Indian subject who was a passenger on this ship from Busreh to Karachi. I understand that his removal has been made on an order from the Iranian Court of Justice and the Authorities had threatened to detain my ship until the man in question is handed over.

Yours faithfully,

sd. A. Danbrook

Master, S.S. "Varsova"

Copies to Bombay and
Khorramshahr Agents for their
information.



PZ 3220/40 'Detention by Persian authorities of Mirza Barkatali Ahmadi, British Indian subject' [8r] (15/24)

COPY

Ministry of War
Southern Naval Force
Date 29/2/19 (18/5/40)

URGENT

The Master,
S.S. "Varsova"
at Abadan.

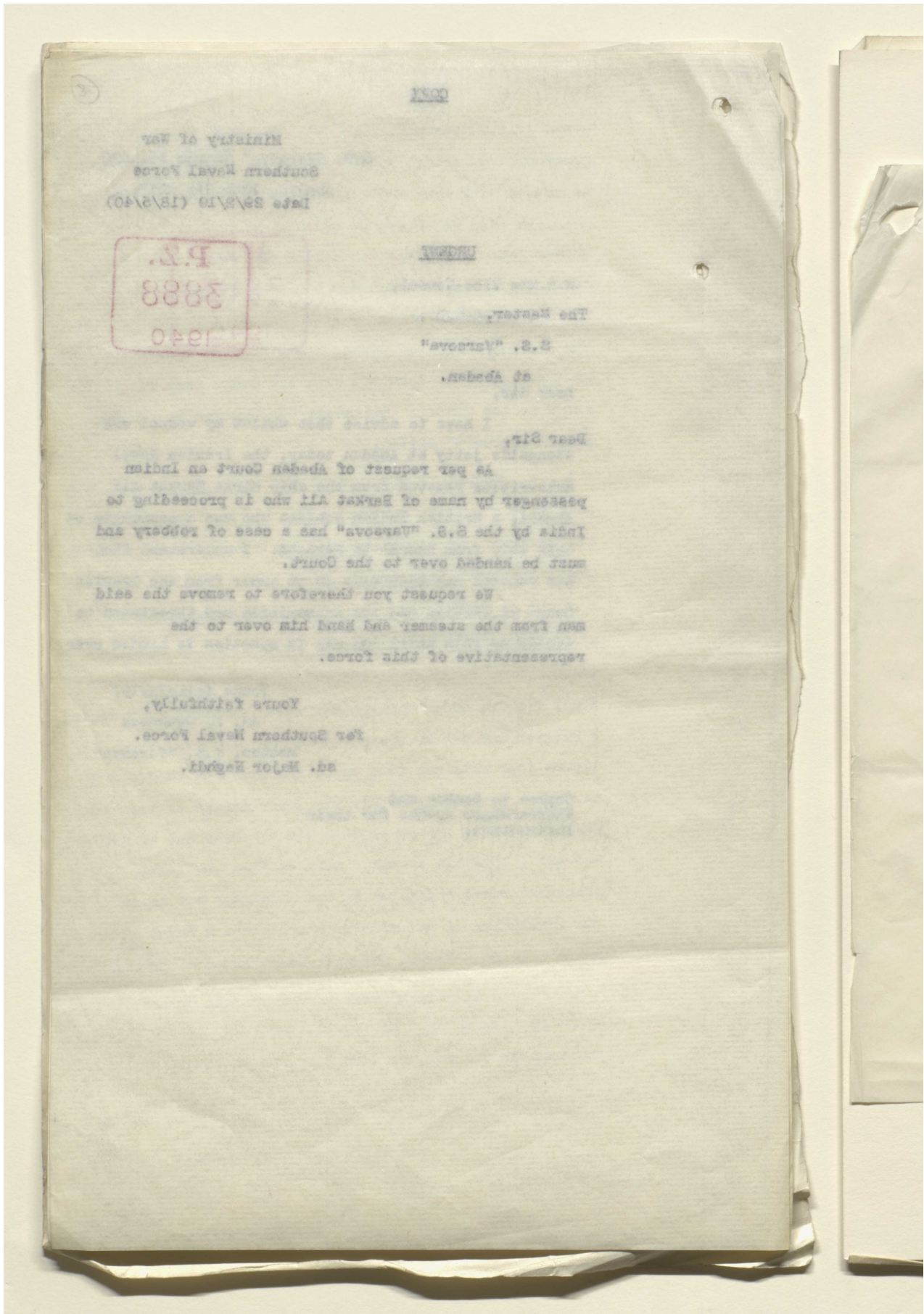
P.Z.
3888
1940

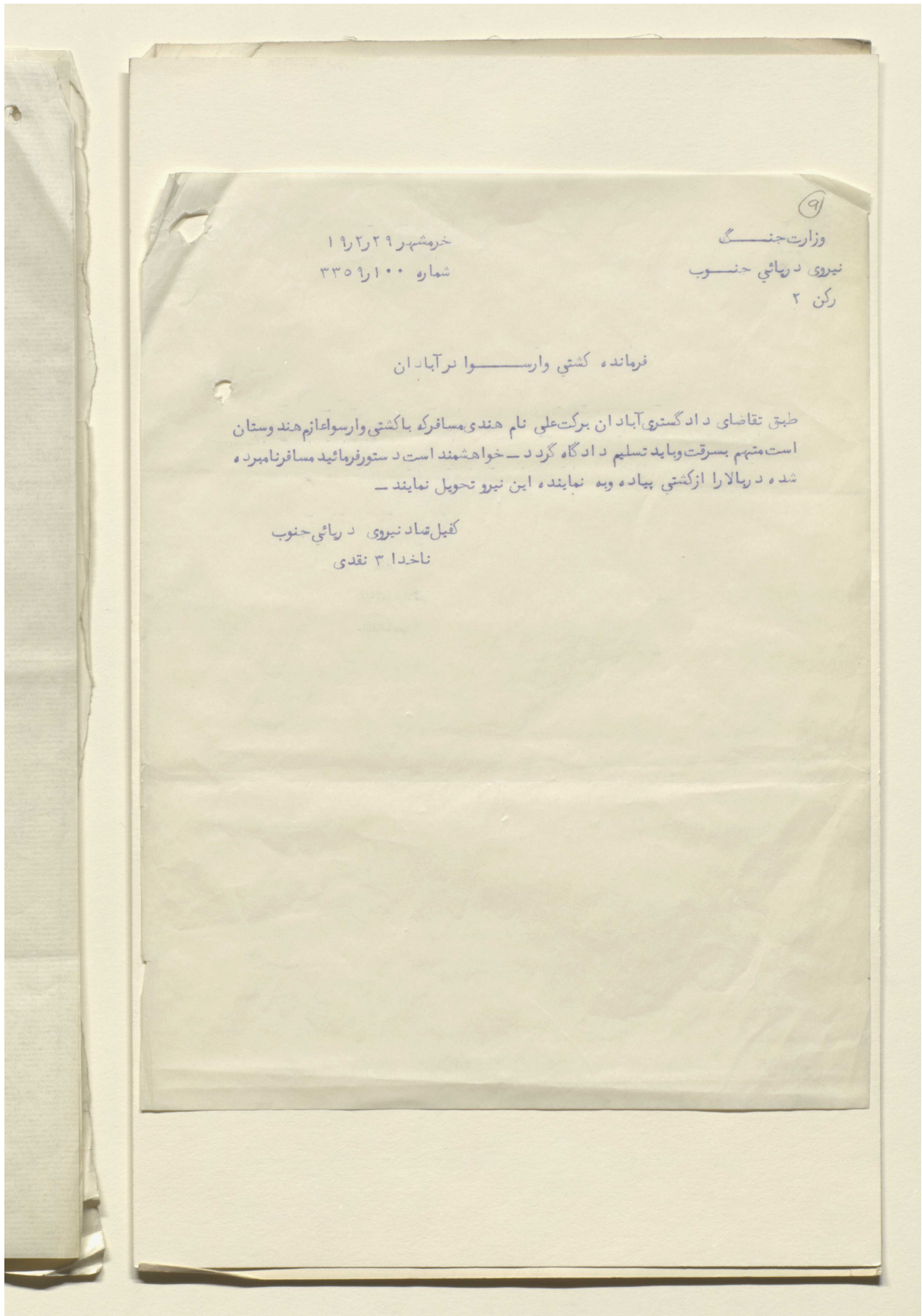
Dear Sir,

As per request of Abadan Court an Indian passenger by name of Barkat Ali who is proceeding to India by the S.S. "Varsova" has a case of robbery and must be handed over to the Court.

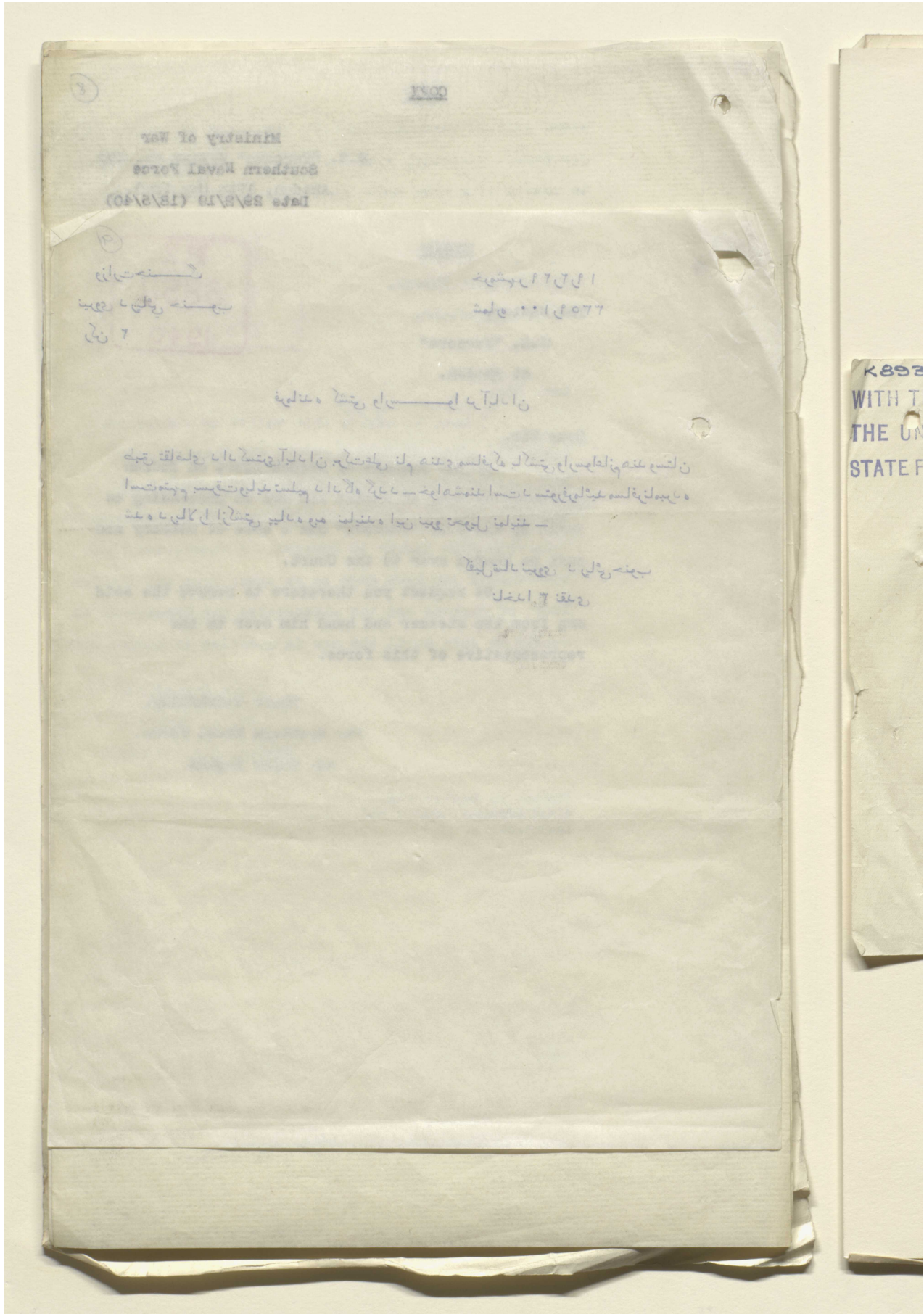
We request you therefore to remove the said man from the steamer and hand him over to the representative of this force.

Yours faithfully,
for Southern Naval Force.
sd. Major Naghdi.

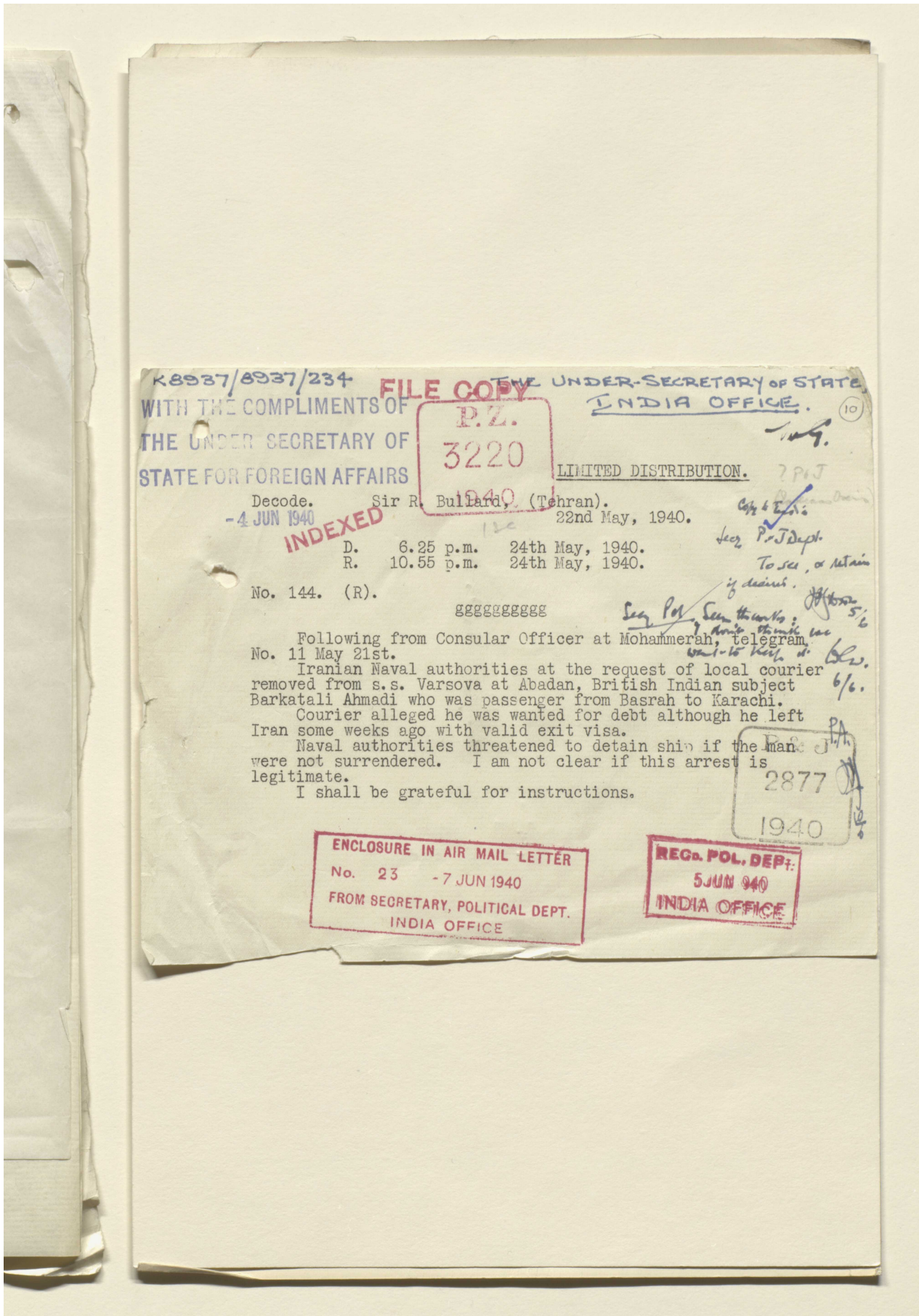




PZ 3220/40 'Detention by Persian authorities of Mirza Barkatali Ahmadi, British
Indian subject' [9v] (18/24)



PZ 3220/40 'Detention by Persian authorities of Mirza Barkatali Ahmadi, British Indian subject' [10r] (19/24)



K8937/8937/234
WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF
THE UNDER SECRETARY OF
STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
Decode. Sir R. Bullard, (Tehran).
-4 JUN 1940 22nd May, 1940.
D. 6.25 p.m. 24th May, 1940.
R. 10.55 p.m. 24th May, 1940.
No. 144. (R).
XXXXXXXXXXXX

Following from Consular Officer at Mohammerah, telegram
No. 11 May 21st.
Iranian Naval authorities at the request of local courier
removed from s.s. Varsova at Abadan, British Indian subject
Barkatali Ahmadi who was passenger from Basrah to Karachi.
Courier alleged he was wanted for debt although he left
Iran some weeks ago with valid exit visa.
Naval authorities threatened to detain ship if the man
were not surrendered. I am not clear if this arrest is
legitimate.
I shall be grateful for instructions.

2877
1940

ENCLOSURE IN AIR MAIL LETTER
No. 23 -7 JUN 1940
FROM SECRETARY, POLITICAL DEPT.
INDIA OFFICE

REGD. POL. DEPT.
5 JUN 1940
INDIA OFFICE

FILE COPY
P.Z.
3220
1940

THE UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
INDIA OFFICE.

LIMITED DISTRIBUTION.

10

7 P.M.T.

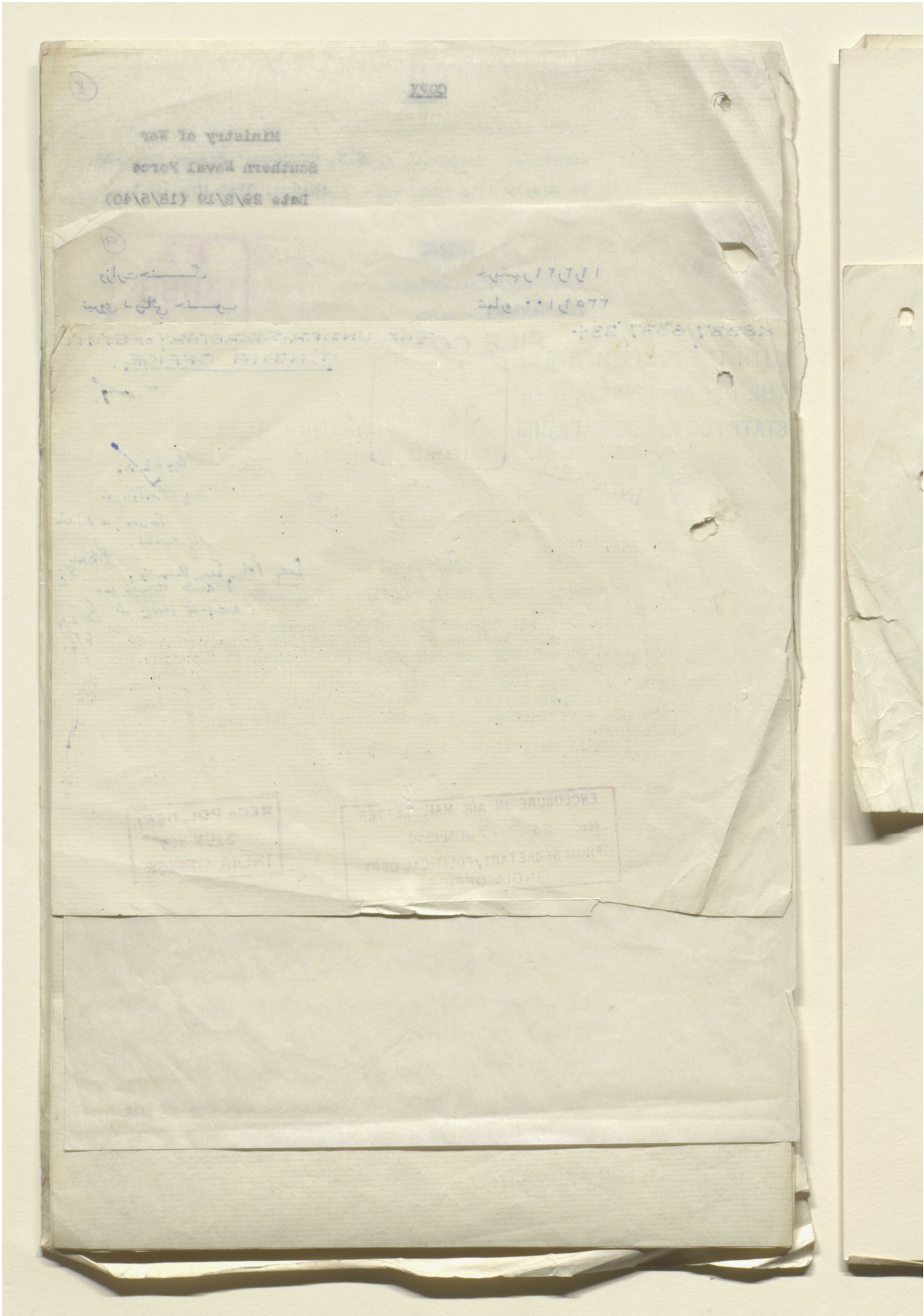
Copy to Secy. P. Dept.

To see, or retain
if desired.

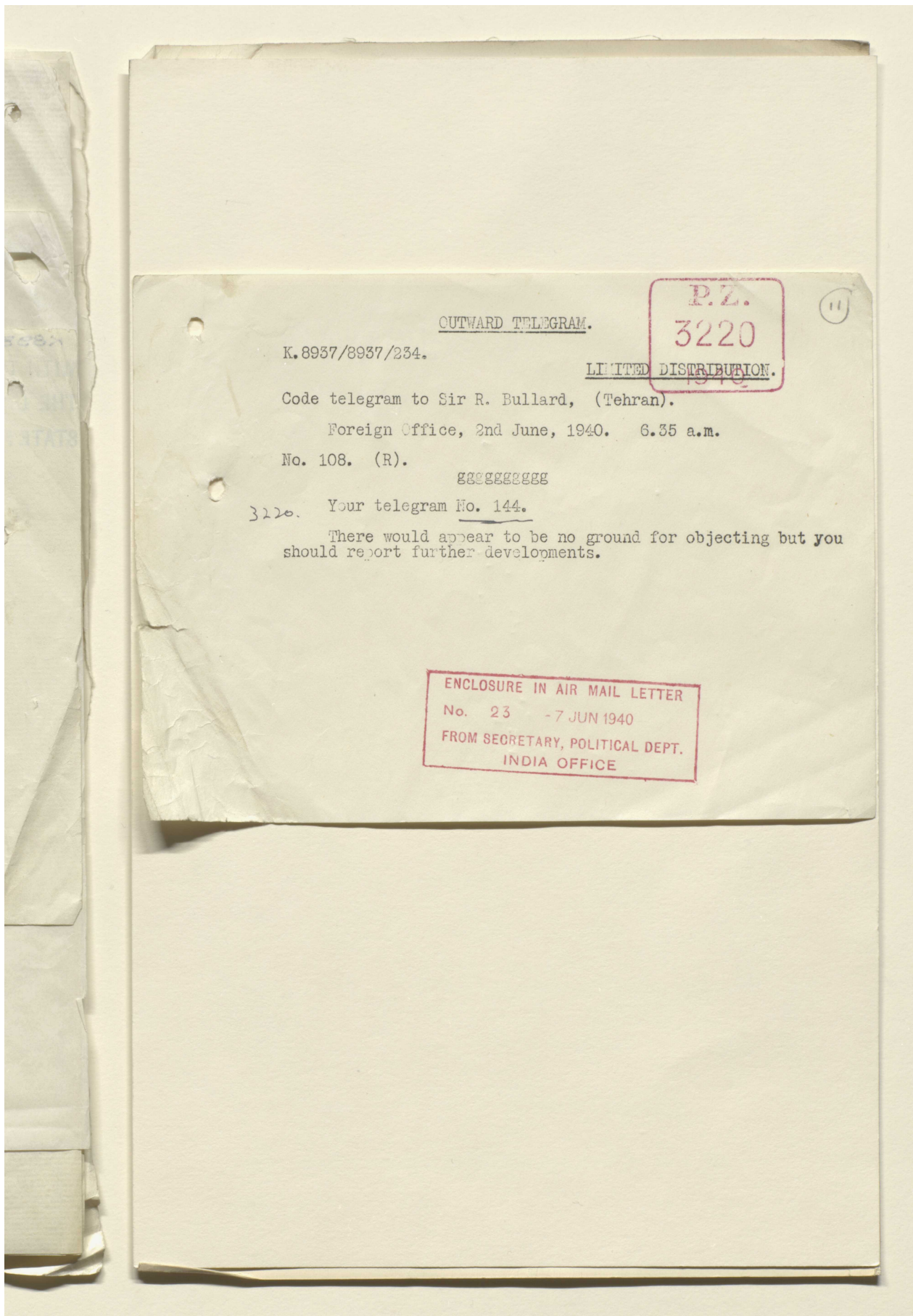
Secy. Pol. Secy. P. Dept.

5/6
6/6

PZ 3220/40 'Detention by Persian authorities of Mirza Barkatali Ahmadi, British
Indian subject' [10v] (20/24)



PZ 3220/40 'Detention by Persian authorities of Mirza Barkatali Ahmadi, British Indian subject' [11r] (21/24)



OUTWARD TELEGRAM.

K. 8937/8937/234.

LIMITED DISTRIBUTION.

Code telegram to Sir R. Bullard, (Tehran).

Foreign Office, 2nd June, 1940. 6.35 a.m.

No. 108. (R).

EEEEEEEEEE

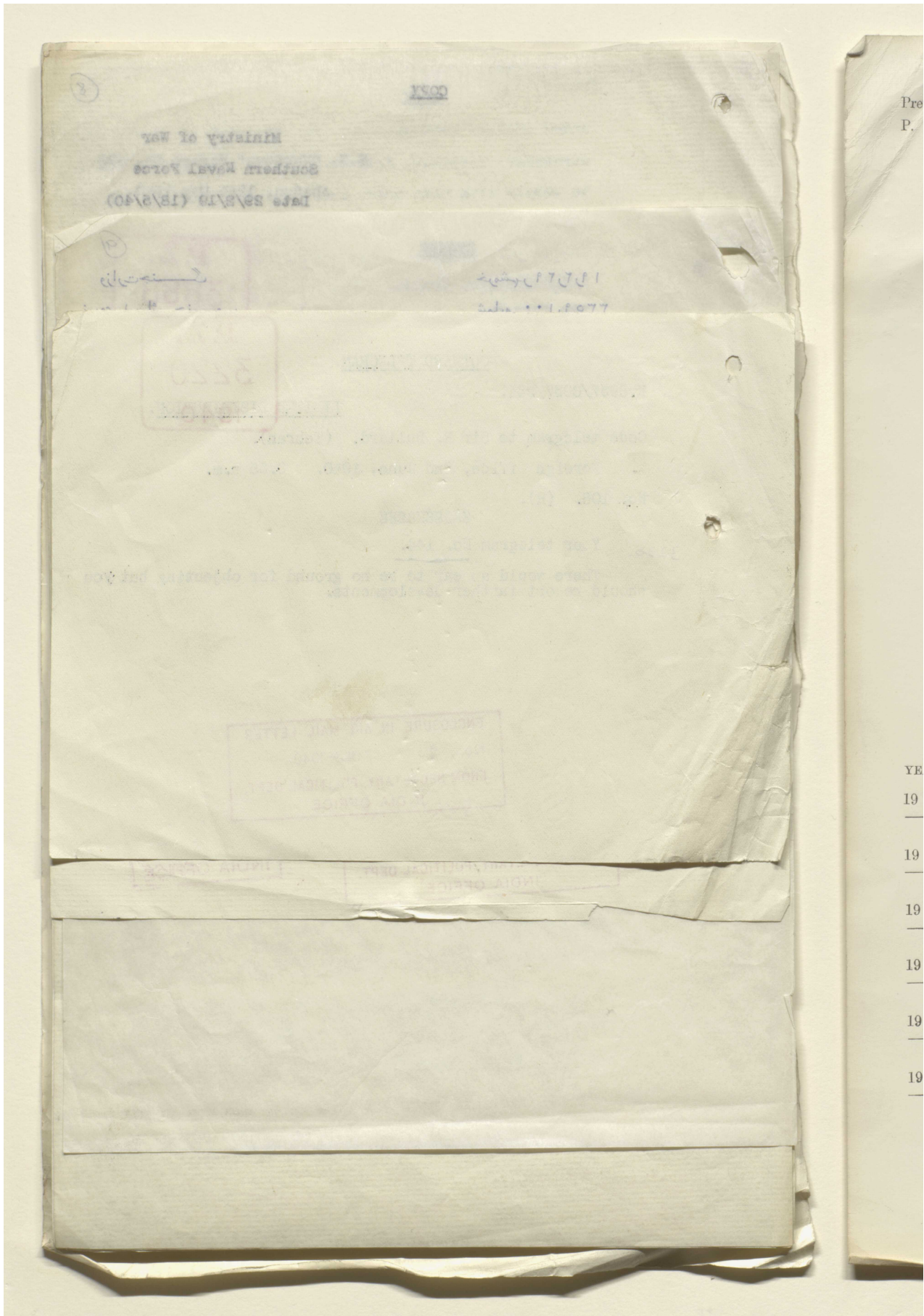
3220. Your telegram No. 144.

There would appear to be no ground for objecting but you should report further developments.

ENCLOSURE IN AIR MAIL LETTER

No. 23 - 7 JUN 1940

FROM SECRETARY, POLITICAL DEPT.
INDIA OFFICE



PZ 3220/40 'Detention by Persian authorities of Mirza Barkatali Ahmadi, British Indian subject' [back-i] (23/24)

(12)

Previous File.
P.

POLITICAL AND SECRET DEPARTMENT.

P.

19 .

SUBJECT :

This file contains the following papers :—

YEAR.

19 . P. _____

19 . P. _____

19 . P. _____

19 . P. _____

19 . P. _____

19 . P. _____

☞ If any papers are removed from this File, please inform the Political Registry.

6696B 1000 10.23

