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Pol Ext 6943/49 'Brigadier Burrow's request for early history of the Faqir of Ipi'

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	IOR/L/PS/12/1393
Date(s)	25 Apr 1949-31 May 1949 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 file (7 folios)
Copyright for document	<u>Unknown</u>



About this record

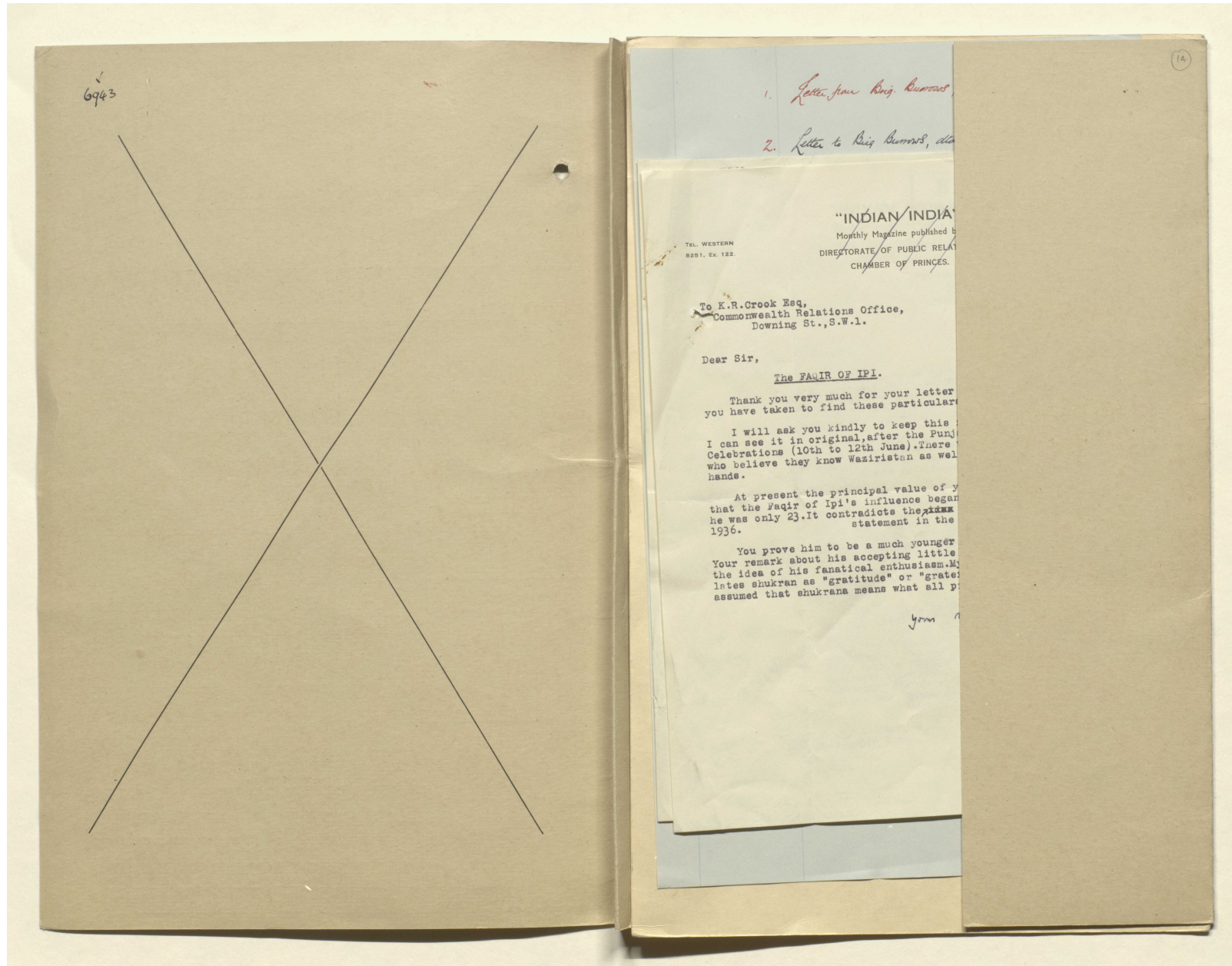
The file contains correspondence regarding a request by Brigadier Hollis Martin Burrows for information from prior to 1936 on Haji Mirzali Khan Wazir, known to the British as the Faqir of Ipi. As well as Burrows, the other primary correspondent is the Commonwealth Relations Office.

Pol Ext 6943/49 'Brigadier Burrow's request for early history of the Faqir of Ipi' [front] (1/18)

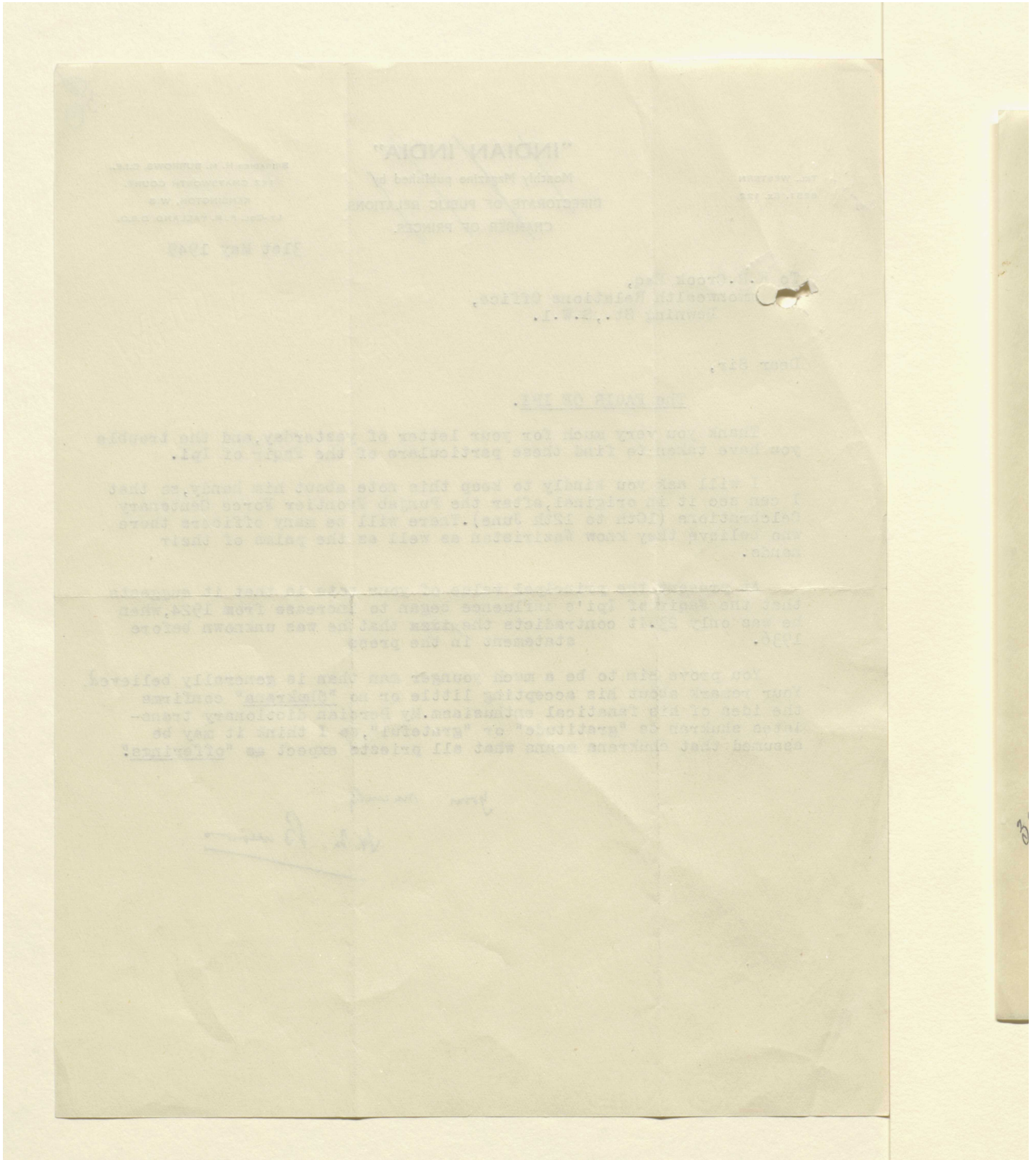
C.R.O.	POL.EXT. 6943/49	INDEX HEADINGS <i>Enquiries</i>
<p style="text-align: right;">IOR: L/PS/12/1393</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Brigadier Burrows' request for early history of the Faqir of Ipi</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">1393 MICROFILMED DOCUMENT DO NOT PHOTOCOPY USE IOR NEG 13571</p>		
<u>Previous Connected Papers</u>		
<u>Subsequent Connected Papers</u>		
<u>Printing Directions</u>		

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Pol Ext 6943/49 'Brigadier Burrow's request for early history of the Faqir of Ipi' [front-i] (2/18)



Pol Ext 6943/49 'Brigadier Burrow's request for early history of the Faqir of Ipi' [2v] (4/18)



Pol Ext 6943/49 'Brigadier Burrow's request for early history of the Faqir of Ipi' [3r] (5/18)

dictated draft

Commonwealth Relations Office,
Downing Street.

Pol. Ext. 6943/49

30th May, 1949.

Dear Brig Burrows.

With reference to your letter of 4th May about the Faqir of Ipi, it is much regretted that there should have been so much delay in replying; this was caused by the fact that the file containing the vital reference was not immediately available.

The information on record here about the Faqir prior to his becoming a public figure in 1935, is exceedingly scanty. In fact the only thing which might be of use to you is a note prepared in 1936 which runs as follows:-

Haji Mirza Ali Khan (35 in 1936), known as the Faqir of Ipi, son of Mullah Arsala Khan, Bangal Khel Maddi Khel Haibati Tori Khel Wazir of Khajuri. He was a pupil in religion (Talib) of Mullah Alam Khan of Ipi, and moved from Khajuri to Ipi about 1920, accompanied by his brother Sharzaman, who still lives with him. His proficiency in religious knowledge is said to be ~~below~~ below the usual standard as among Mullahs.

As a Faqir he is much respected in Lower Dawar, but has little influence in Upper Dawar or among the Wazirs. Prior to 1924 he was comparatively unknown, but after that year his influence began to increase gradually. His popularity may be partially due to the fact that he accepts little or no Shukran. He was the most important divine of North Waziristan to accompany the Wazir of Lashkar to Moghalgai, Khost, during the ~~disturbances~~ disturbances of 1935.

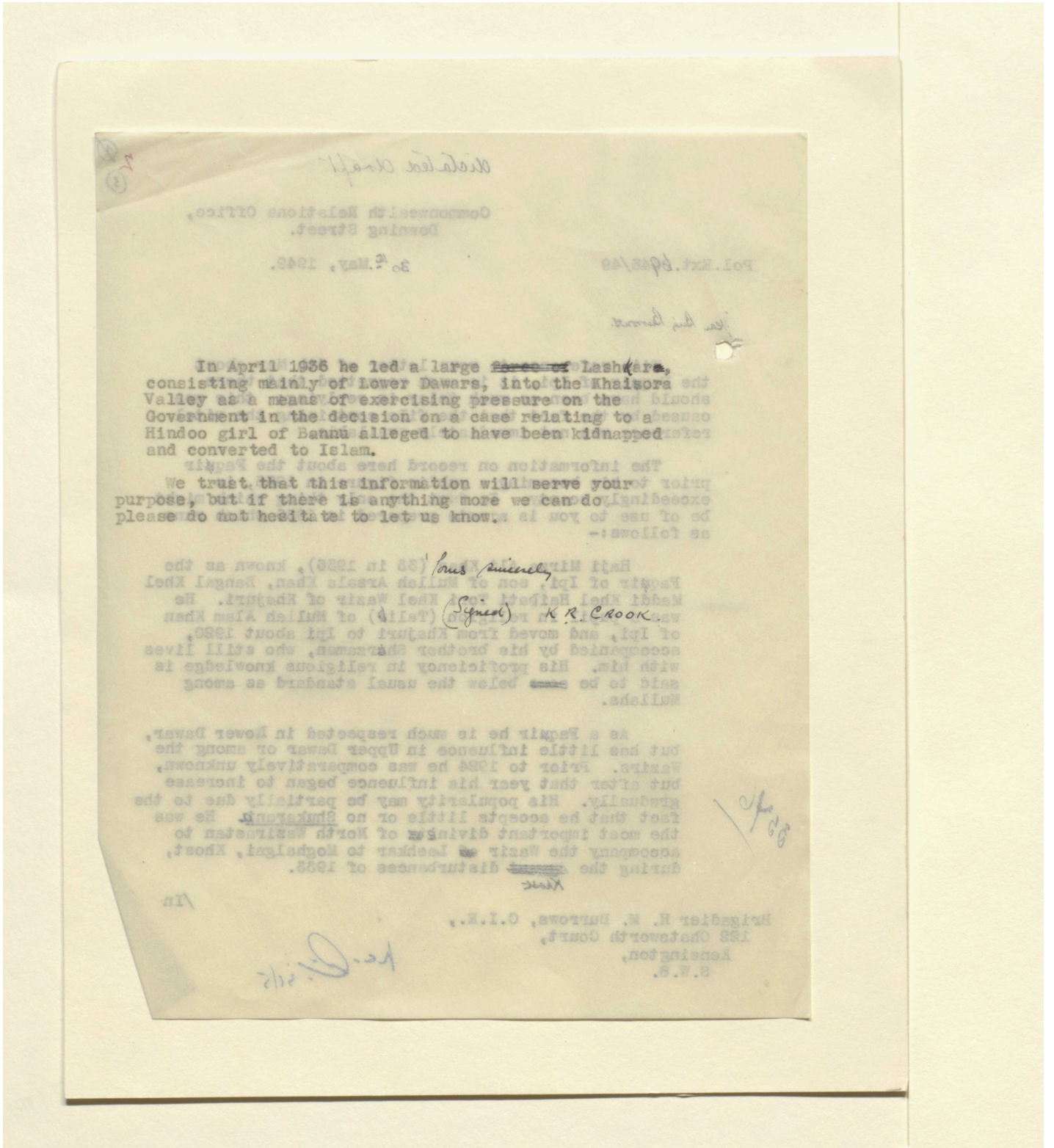
Khadk

/In

Brigadier H. M. Burrows, C.I.E.,
122 Chatsworth Court,
Kensington,
S.W.8.

h.c. Q. 5/15

Pol Ext 6943/49 'Brigadier Burrow's request for early history of the Faqir of Ipi' [3v] (6/18)



Commonwealth Relations Office,
Downing Street,
30th May, 1949.

Pol. Ext. 6943/49

In April 1936 he led a large ~~force~~ ^{band} of ~~Lashkars~~, consisting mainly of Lower Dawars, into the Khaisora Valley as a means of exercising pressure on the Government in the decision on a case relating to a Hindoo girl of Bahau alleged to have been kidnapped and converted to Islam.

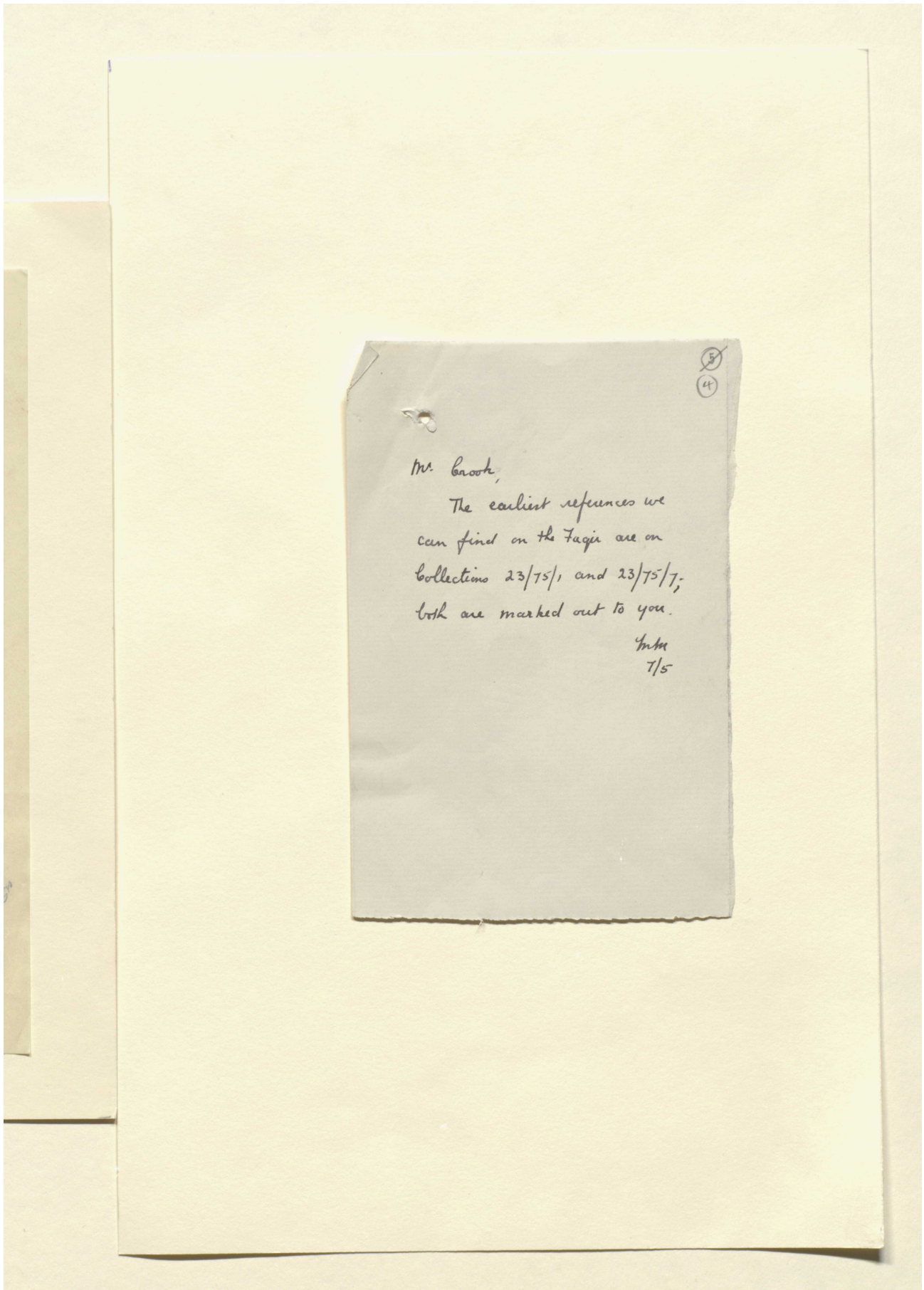
The information on record here about the Faqir is that we trust that this information will serve your purpose, but if there is anything more we can do please do not hesitate to let us know as soon as possible.

His name is *Haft Nizam Khan* (born *minutely* in 1880), known as the Faqir of Ipi, son of *Mullah Ahsan Khan, Bangal Khol*. He was *(Signed) K.R. Crook* a *(Taliq)* of *Mullah Ahsan Khan* and moved from *Rahat* to *Ipi* about 1930, accompanied by his brother *Shahman*, who still lives with him. His proficiency in religious knowledge is said to be below the usual standard as among *Mullahs*.

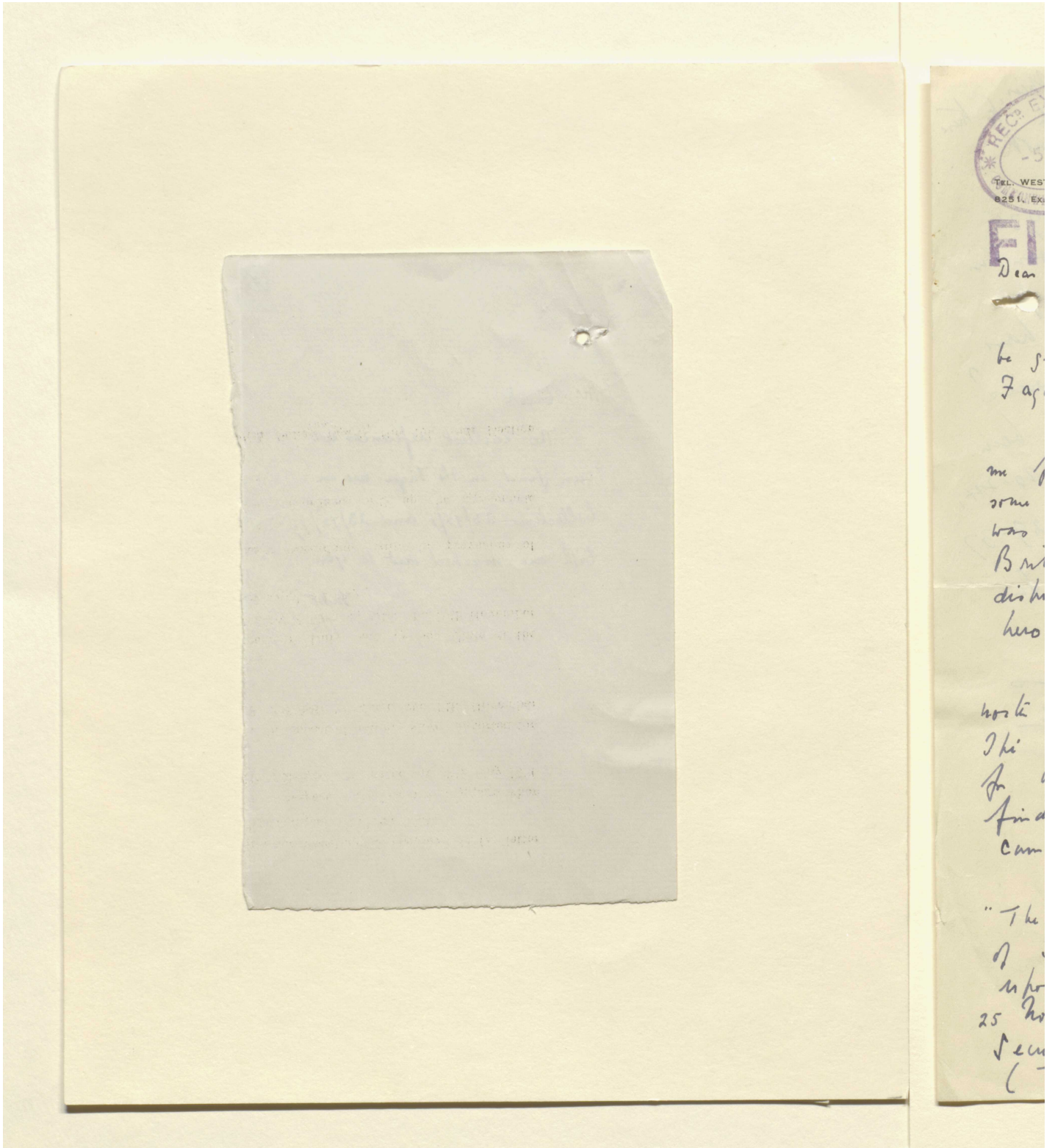
As a Faqir he is much respected in Lower Dawar, but has little influence in Upper Dawar or among the *Wazirs*. Prior to 1936 he was comparatively unknown, but after that year his influence began to increase gradually. His popularity may be partially due to the fact that he accepts little or no *Shahman*. He was the most important *diviner* of North Waziristan to accompany the *Wazir* *as* *leader* to *Nohatal, Khost*, during the *disturbances* of 1938.

Brigadier H. W. Burrow, D.I.E.,
122 Chatsworth Court,
Kensington,
S.W.8.

K.R. Crook



Pol Ext 6943/49 'Brigadier Burrow's request for early history of the Faqir of Ipi' [4v] (8/18)



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- 5 MAY 1949
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EX 6943
"INDIAN INDIA"
Monthly Magazine published by
DIRECTORATE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS,
CHAMBER OF PRINCES, 1949

BRIGADIER H. M. BURROWS, C.I.E.,
122 CHATSWORTH COURT,
KENSINGTON, W.8
LT.-COL. R. R. YALLAND, D.S.O.

4 May '49 (5)

Dear Sir,

The Faqir of Ipi.

With reference to my telephone call last week, I should be grateful for particulars of the early activities of the Faqir of Ipi.

Lt. Gen R. B. Gale, D. S. M. T., War Office has asked me for my comments on an extract from "The Observer" some Sunday ago :- "Mirza Ali Khan, Faqir of Ipi, was an obscure village mullah in 1936 when a British Court decision in a minor Muslim-Hindu dispute gave him a chance to appear as a rebel hero against the infidel British."

How like others, who served 30 years or more north of Delhi, I feel that I read of the Faqir of Ipi in Q. I. I. Intelligence Summaries a newspaper for many years before 1936, and am surprised not to find him mentioned in the report on the 1919-20 Campaign.

A visit to your library shows me when "The Observer" sets their idea from that the Faqir of Ipi first was heard of in 1936 for the report on the Tribal Disturbances in Waziristan 25 Nov 1936-37 presented to Parliament by the Secretary of State quite gives that impression. (The Spinney hazrat tell a story of him? last of Mahmuds & Wazir)

Indeed in brochure by the Political Officer,
Lt-Col C. E. Blain on the work leading up to these
disturbances were 1922-36, in which Ipi is not
mentioned, or does not appear to be.

Now General Gale left India in 1935
or like many others known Ipi was a known in
the Government's flesh for many years before
1936. Will you very kindly let me have
some facts or dates to refresh my memories?

I am, of course, retired, but have been
attached to as I was in Kohat 1920-24,
Mardan 1924-29, & Lahore District 1929-37.

I have to know to be, Sir

Yr. m. Burrows
Brigadier

Pol Ext 6943/49 'Brigadier Burrow's request for early history of the Faqir of Ipi' [6r] (11/18)

Mr Crook

Brigadier Burrows, 122 Chesham Court,
Kensington W8 (written 8/25/122) telephoned from
the Records Dept to ask if we could let him know
anything about the Faqir of Ipi's history prior to
1936. He has got all the information he needs
for the period subsequent to '36.

That is an informal piece of research which he
is doing for a Simsdal in the W.O.

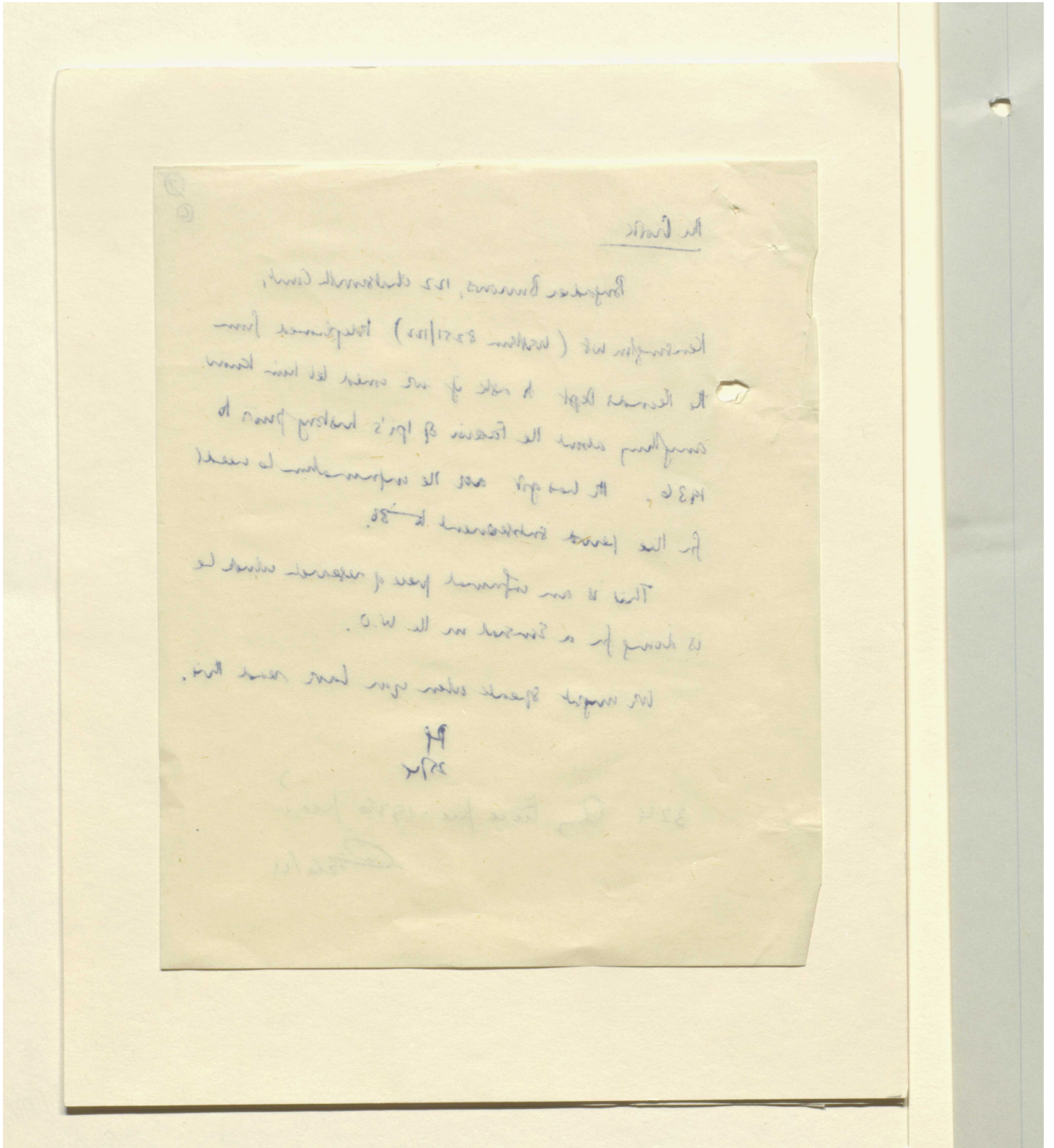
We might speak when you have read this.

RF
25/4

324. Any trace pre-1936 pre.

C. 26/11

Pol Ext 6943/49 'Brigadier Burrow's request for early history of the Faqir of Ipi' [6v] (12/18)

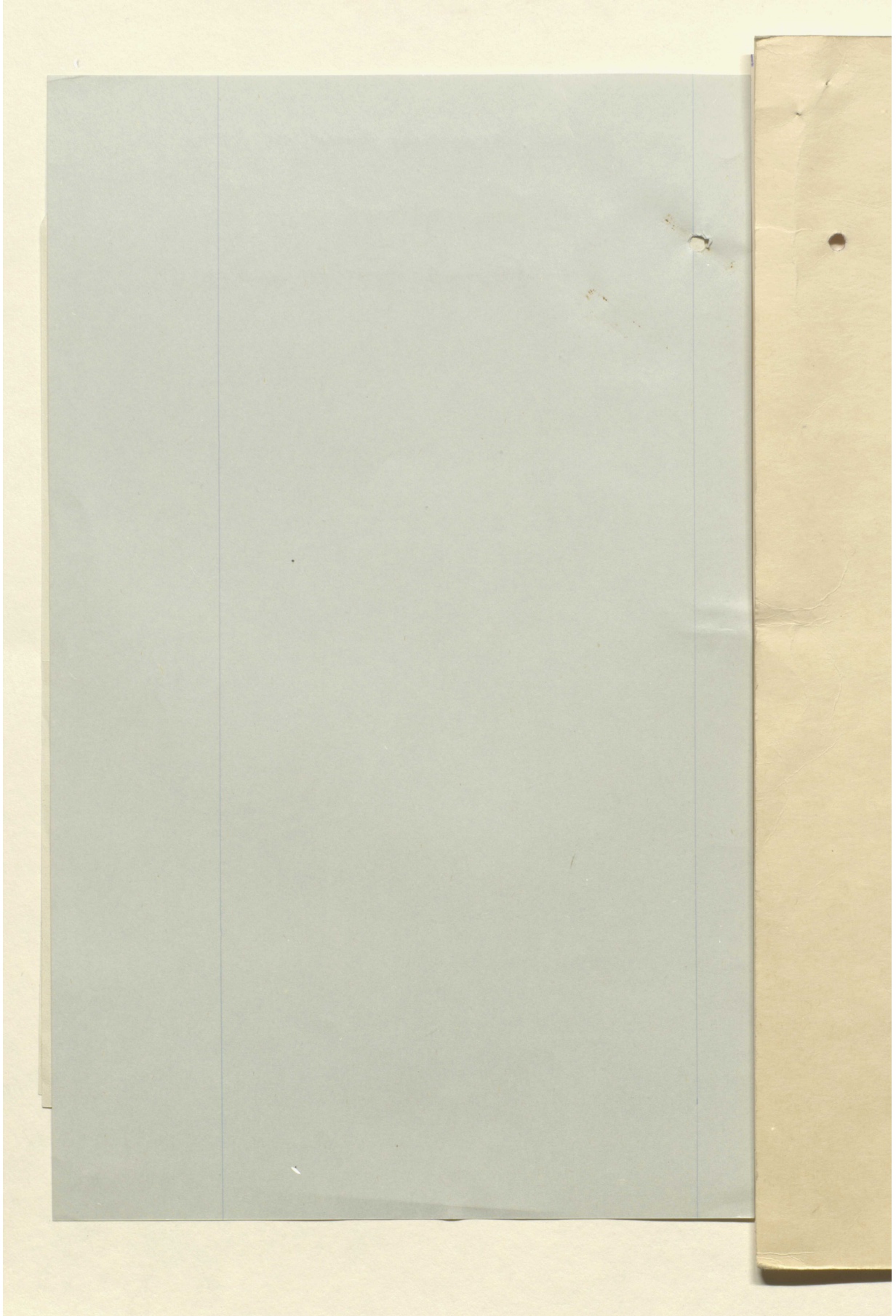


Pol Ext 6943/49 'Brigadier Burrow's request for early history of the Faqir of Ipi' [7r] (13/18)

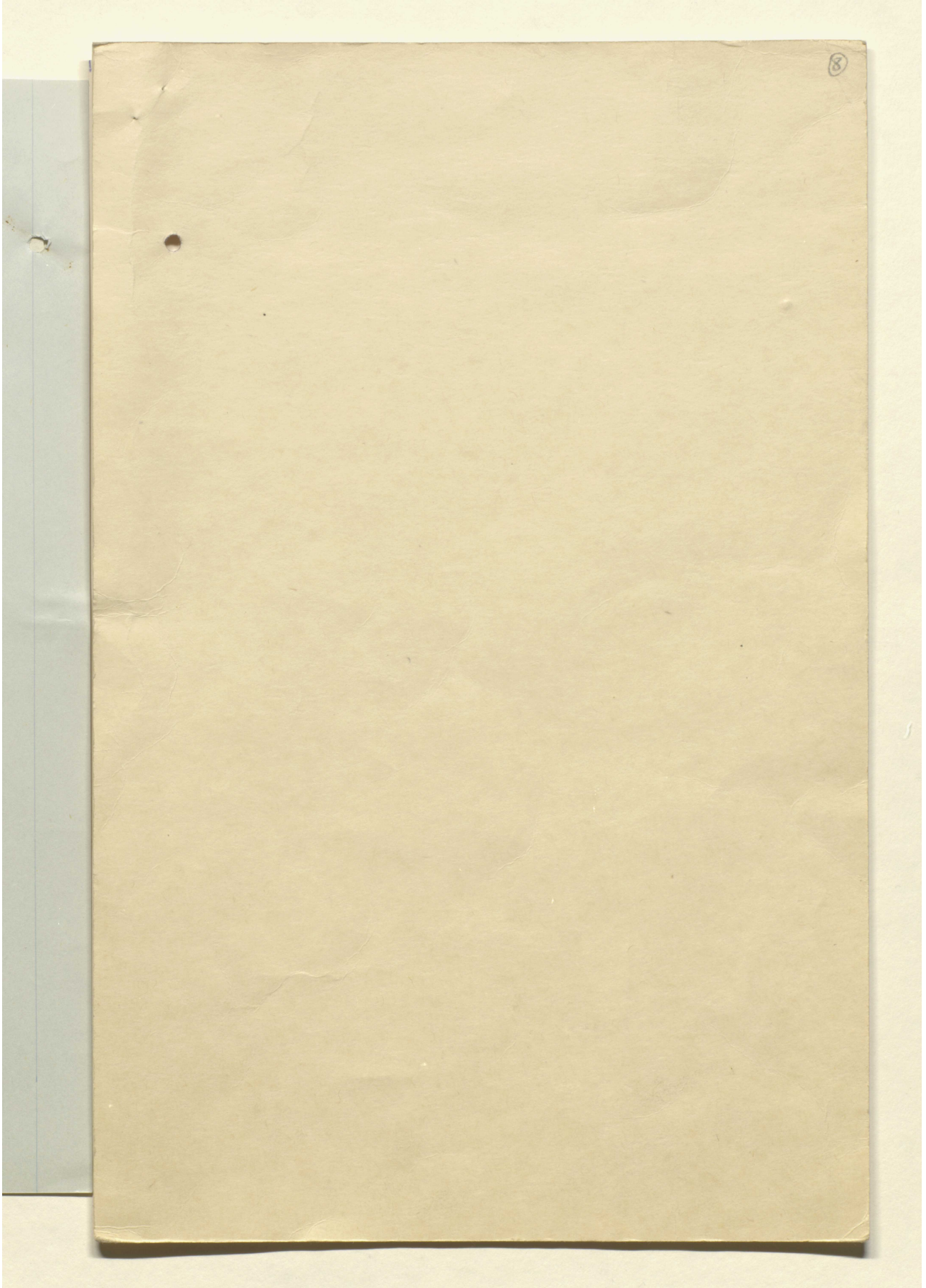
1. Letter from Brig. Burrows, dtd 4.5.49.
2. Letter to Brig Burrows, dtd 30.5.49.
3. Letter from Brig Burrows, dtd 31.5.49.

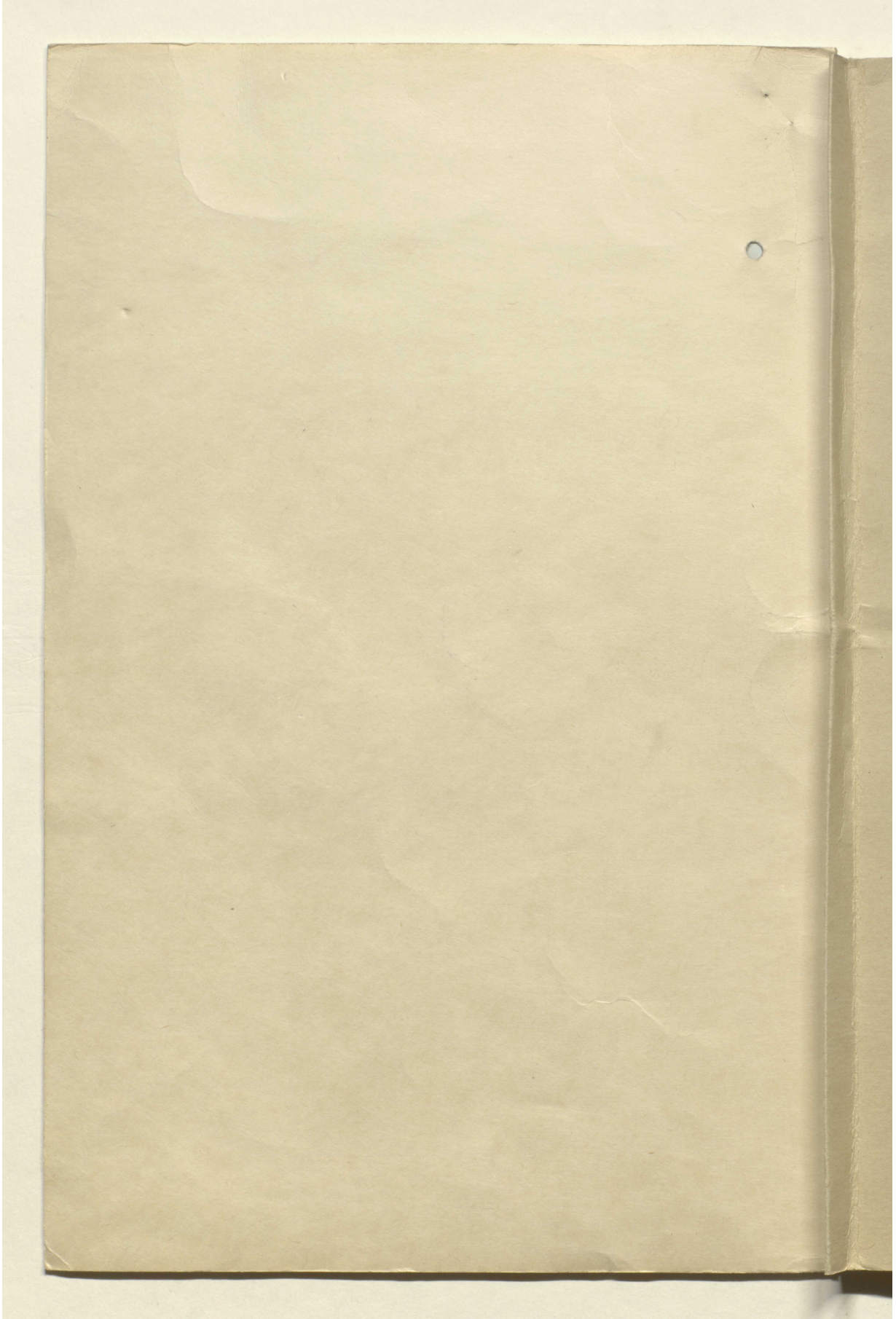
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Pol Ext 6943/49 'Brigadier Burrow's request for early history of the Faqir of
Ipi' [7v] (14/18)



Pol Ext 6943/49 'Brigadier Burrow's request for early history of the Faqir of Ipi' [8r] (15/18)





Pol Ext 6943/49 'Brigadier Burrow's request for early history of the Faqir of
Ipi' [back-i] (17/18)

