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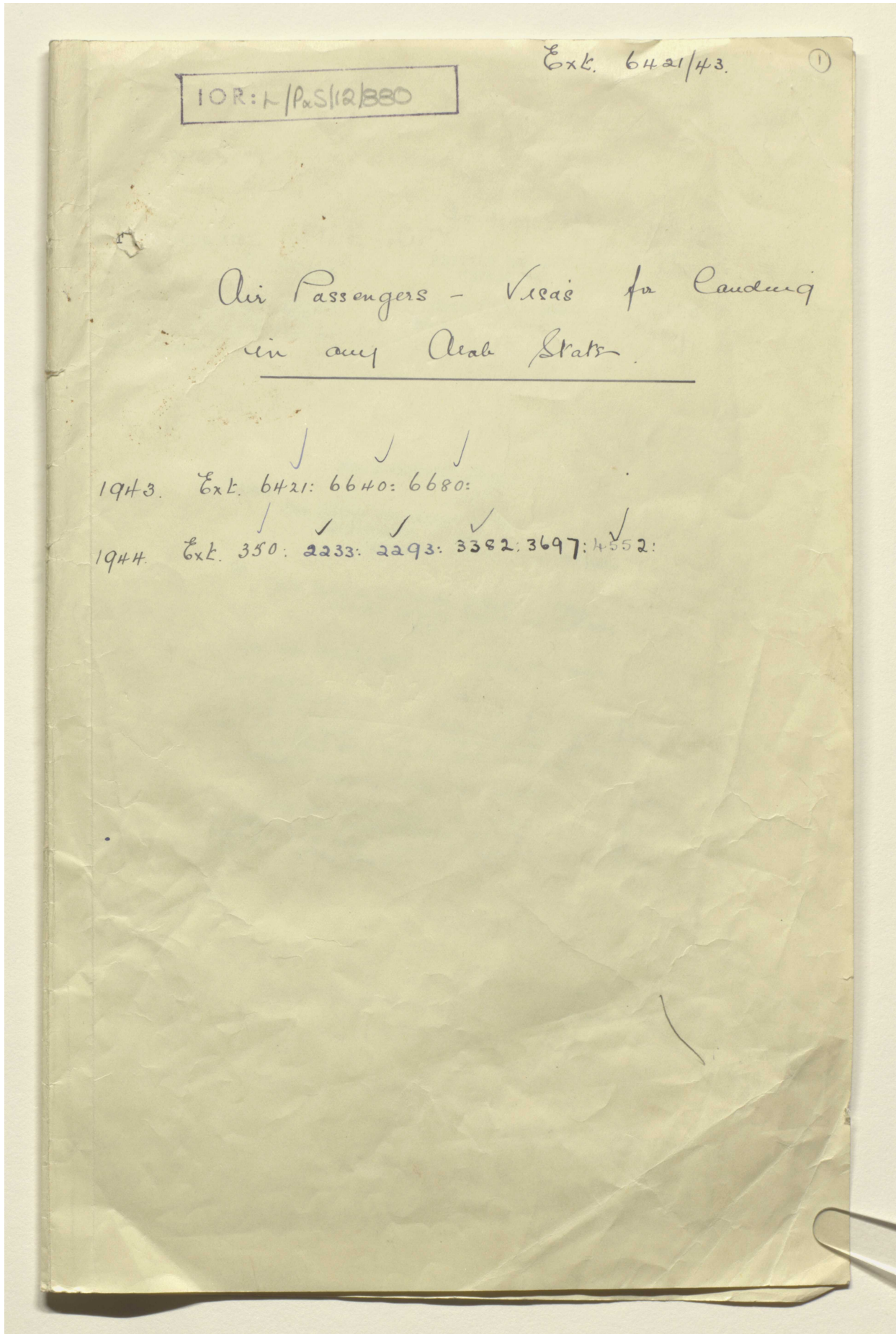
Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state'

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	IOR/L/PS/12/880
Date(s)	25 Nov 1943-18 Oct 1944 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 file (27 folios)
Copyright for document	<u>Unknown</u>

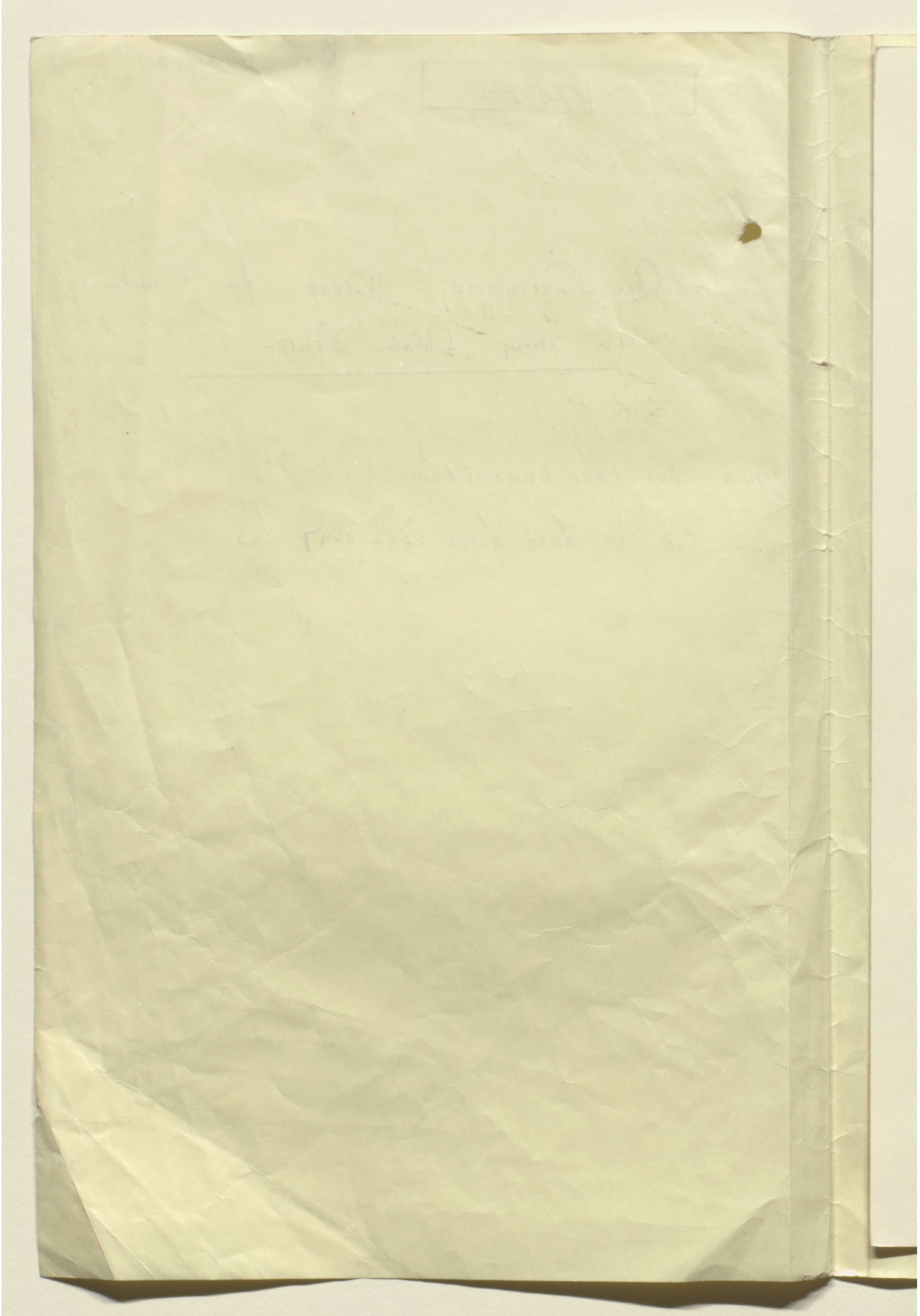


About this record

This file contains papers relating to visa requirements for air passengers transiting through Arab states, which include the principalities of the Persian Gulf. The majority of the papers are exchanges detailing the visa requirements of passengers travelling between south, east, and southeast Asia to Europe or vice versa, via the Middle East. Such transit visas were required by airlines, most of which had routes passing through the Persian Gulf at the time.



Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [front-i]
(2/58)



FILE COPY 778/2

No. D. 4935-G(P)/44.

INDEXED
From

The Under Secretary to the
Government of India in the
External Affairs Department.

To
M/s Indian National Airways, Ltd.,
Scindia House, Connaught Circus,
New Delhi.

Dated New Delhi, the 21st September 1944.

Dear Sirs,
I am desired to refer to your letter No. PPT/REG/434/DGH, dated the 13th September 1944, and to say that in the "Arab States" of the Persian Gulf only the following states are included:-
Muscat, Oman, Bahrain, Kuwait and Qatar.

2. Iraq and Palestine are not included in this category, and instructions regarding them are contained in this Department letter No. D. 2147-G(P)/44, dated the 9th May 1944.

Yours faithfully,
Sd/- I. S. Gonsalves.
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India.

3382

1. Mr. Harrison *fm* 13/10
2. Mr. Silver *bscc* 14/10
3. Copy to Mr. Pant **18 OCT 1944**
4. p.c. *(C.O. 13/10)*

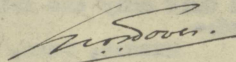
Copy.....

**REC'D. POL. DEPT.
12 OCT 1944
INDIA OFFICE**

Copy, together with a copy of the
letter under reply, forwarded to

1. the Government of Bombay,
 2. the Chancery, British Embassy,
Chungking,
 3. the China Relations Officer, Calcutta,
 4. India Office, (for Communications
Department, Foreign Office),
- in continuation of the endorsement from
the Government of India in the External
Affairs Department, No.D.4694-G(P)/44,
dated the 7th September 1944.

By order, etc.,



Assistant Secretary to the Govt. of India.

.....

B.M. 21/9/44.

(2.s.c. to follow by Sec. mail)

EXT
4552 (3)

INDIAN NATIONAL AIRWAYS, LIMITED.
Principal Agents for
BRITISH OVERSEAS AIRWAYS CORPORATION.

Ref: No. PPT/RBC/424/DGH. Scindia House,
Connaught Circus,
New Delhi, 13th Sept. '44.

The Assistant Secretary to the Govt. of India,
External Affairs Department,
New Delhi.

Dear Sir,

Passport Requirements - Bahrain.

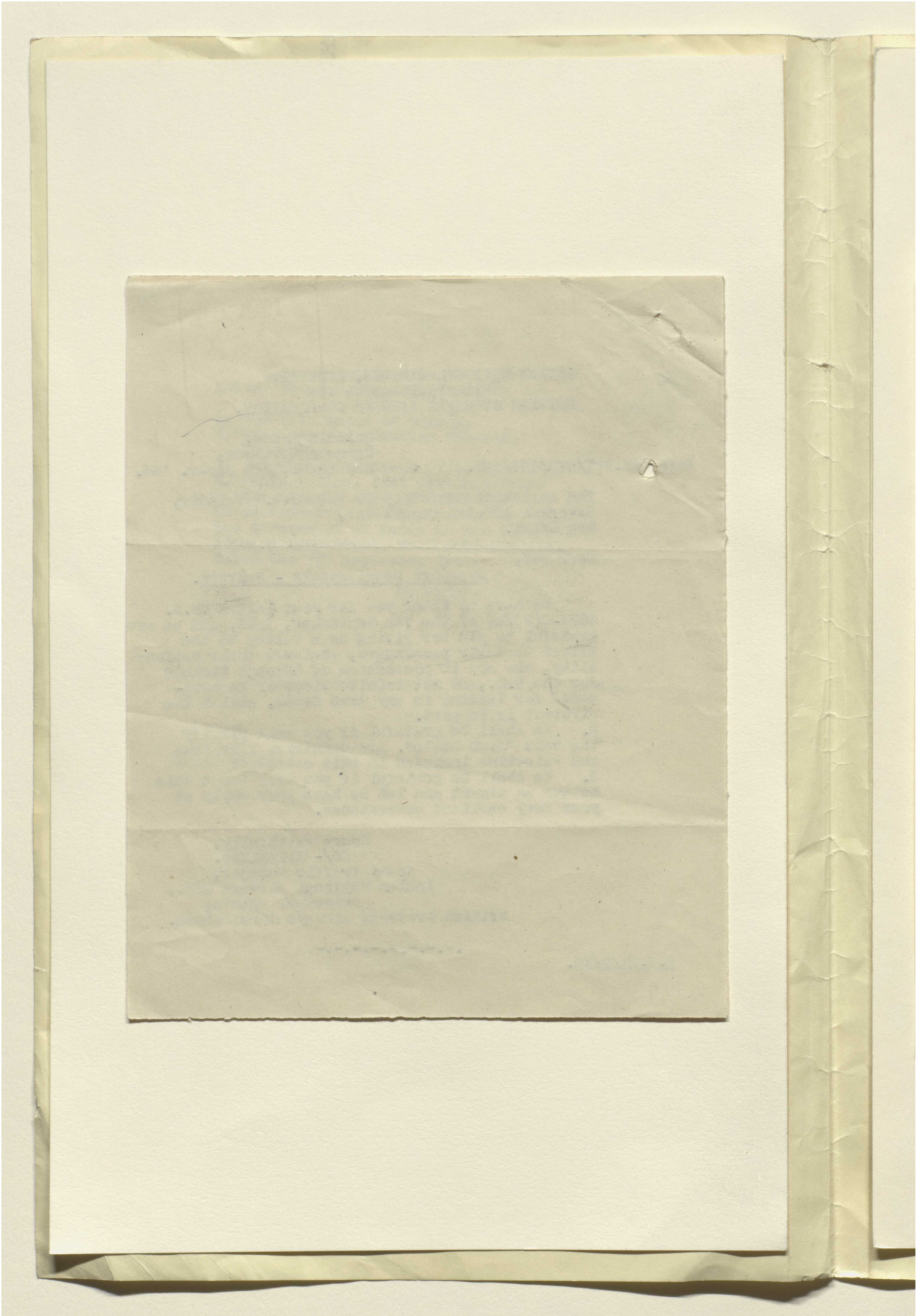
We have to thank you for your letter No. D. 4694-G(P)/44 of the 7th September, 1944, and we are grateful to you for giving us a ruling to the effect that air passengers, whatever their nationality, who are in possession of through tickets for the U.K., do not require visas or endorsements for landing in any Arab State, whilst the aircraft is in port.

2. We shall be grateful if you will clarify the term "Arab State". Are countries like Iraq and Palestine included in this category?

3. We shall be grateful if you will treat this matter as urgent and let us have your reply at your very earliest convenience.

Yours faithfully,
Sd/- Illegible.
Asst. Traffic Manager,
Indian National Airways Ltd.,
Principal Agents,
British Overseas Airways Corporation.

B.M. 21/9/44.



Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [4r] (7/58)

Copy.
(T 9950/499/378). **FILE COPY** *India Office* *from 24/8*
M^r Harrison
A sec
& p.a. *C.O.*

No. 163. **19 AUG 1944**
Copied to:- **INDEXED**
Communications Department,
Foreign Office No. 798.
China Relations Office No. 150.
Ref: Consulate-General Chungking *3350*
P. to Foreign Office No. 38 of Dec. 27, 1943. *15744/499/378*
and to China Relations Office
unnumbered despatch.
(without enclosures). *With the Compliments* **EXT**
of the
Under Secretary of State **3097**
for Foreign Affairs

Dear External Affairs Department *3350*

Not sent 16
1.0

We enclose copies of correspondence which we had towards the end of last year with the China Relations Office and the Foreign Office regarding the issue of transit visas for Arab States in the Middle East to travellers going by air from India to the United Kingdom.

Below
17/1/49
6X

You will see that the Foreign Office stated in their telegram of 22nd December to the Acting Consul-General that visas are not required for any passengers, whatever their nationality, who are in possession of through tickets.

We have, however, recently heard from Ford, our Assistant Chinese Secretary, who is on his way to England on leave that he and other official travellers (e.g. Thomas, our retiring Financial Counsellor) have had great difficulties with the B.O.A.C. office in Calcutta owing to the fact that the endorsements on their passports did not include Bahrein. Ford had to pay a special visit to the Passport Office of the Bengal Secretariat to get Bahrein included, as the B.O.A.C. refused to sell him a ticket without it. Ford adds that at first the B.O.A.C. wanted to make him get the whole endorsement again from the Passport Office, because the latter affix theirs by means of a rubber stamp headed "TRANSIT VISA" and that he only succeeded in getting round this eventually because of his official status. The B.O.A.C. apparently take the view that an "endorsement" is not adequate and that a "TRANSIT VISA" is essential.
/We

The External Affairs Department,
New Delhi.

REGD. POL
21 AUG 1944
INDIA OFFICE

FILE COPY

The External Affairs Department,
New Delhi.

We and the Consul-General have hitherto been giving visas for Iraq to all through passengers (although this is not strictly necessary) and we will now make all visas and endorsements valid for Bahrein in transit until the position is clarified. In the meantime we should be grateful if you could have the matter taken up with the B.O.A.C. so that they may cease making these unnecessary requirements. It might also be pointed out to the Bengal Secretariat Passport Office, after that matter has been cleared with the B.O.A.C., that it is inappropriate to issue visas for Bahrein to British subjects.

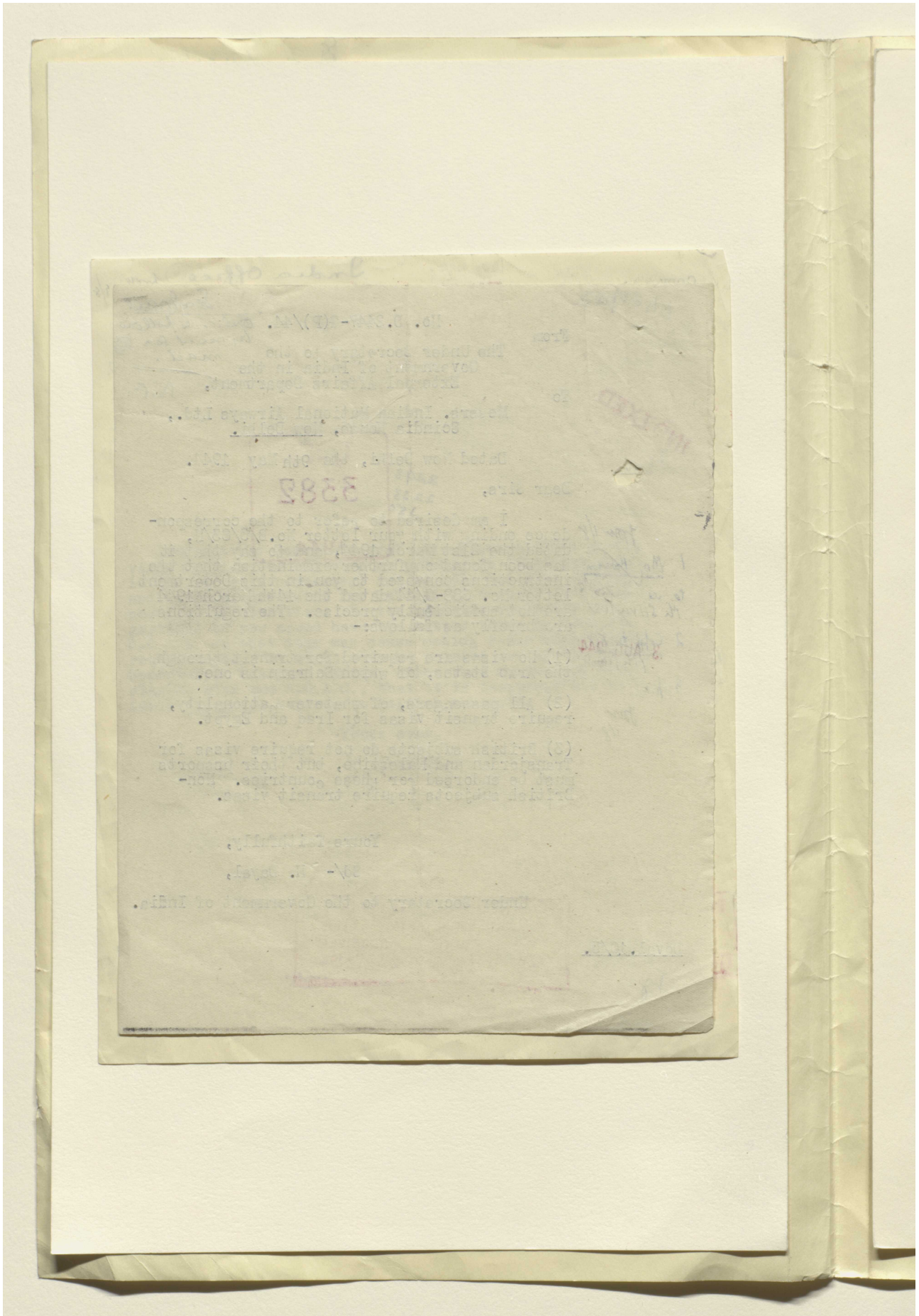
Yours ever,
Chancery.

The External Affairs Department,
New Delhi.

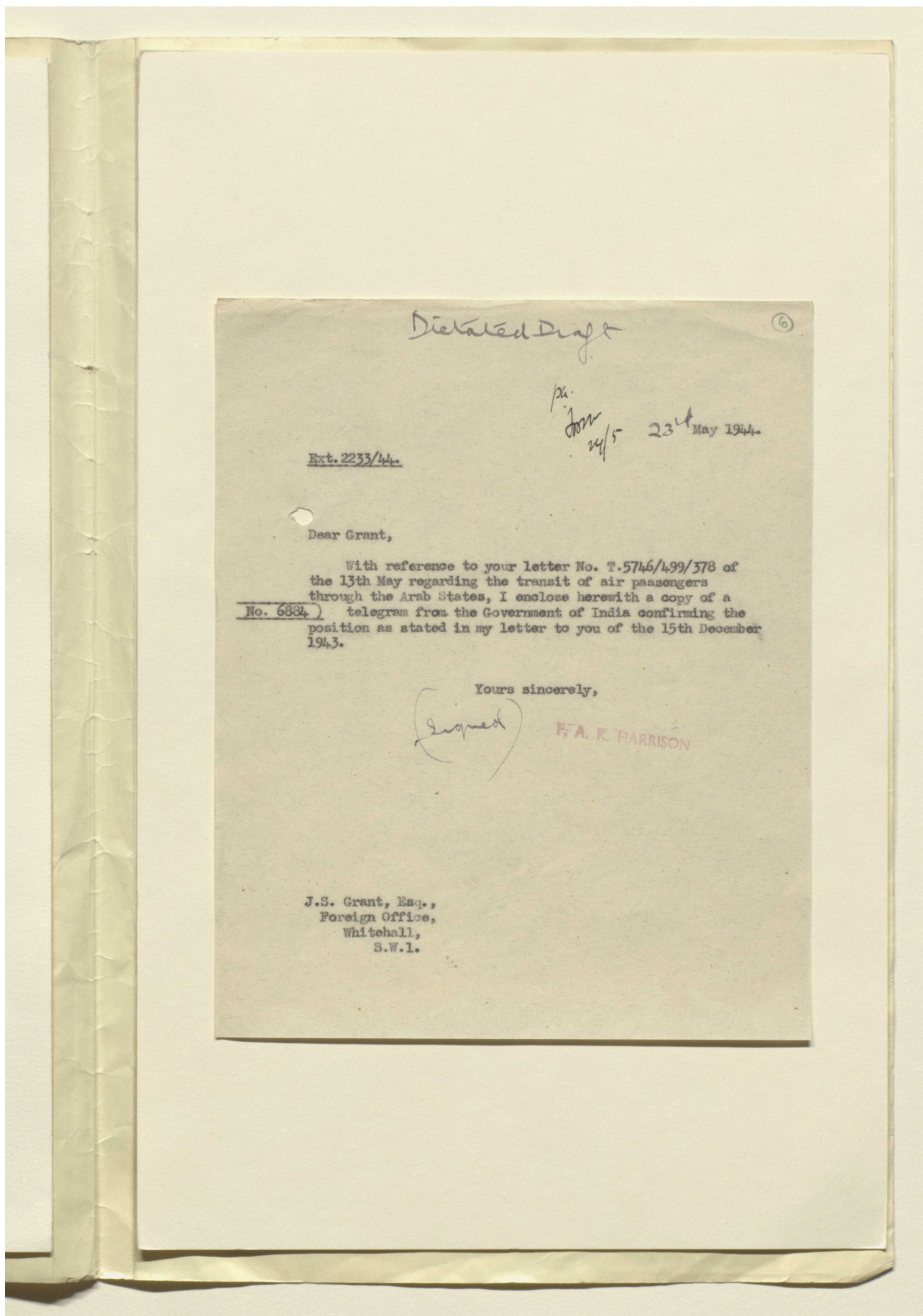
Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [5r] (9/58)

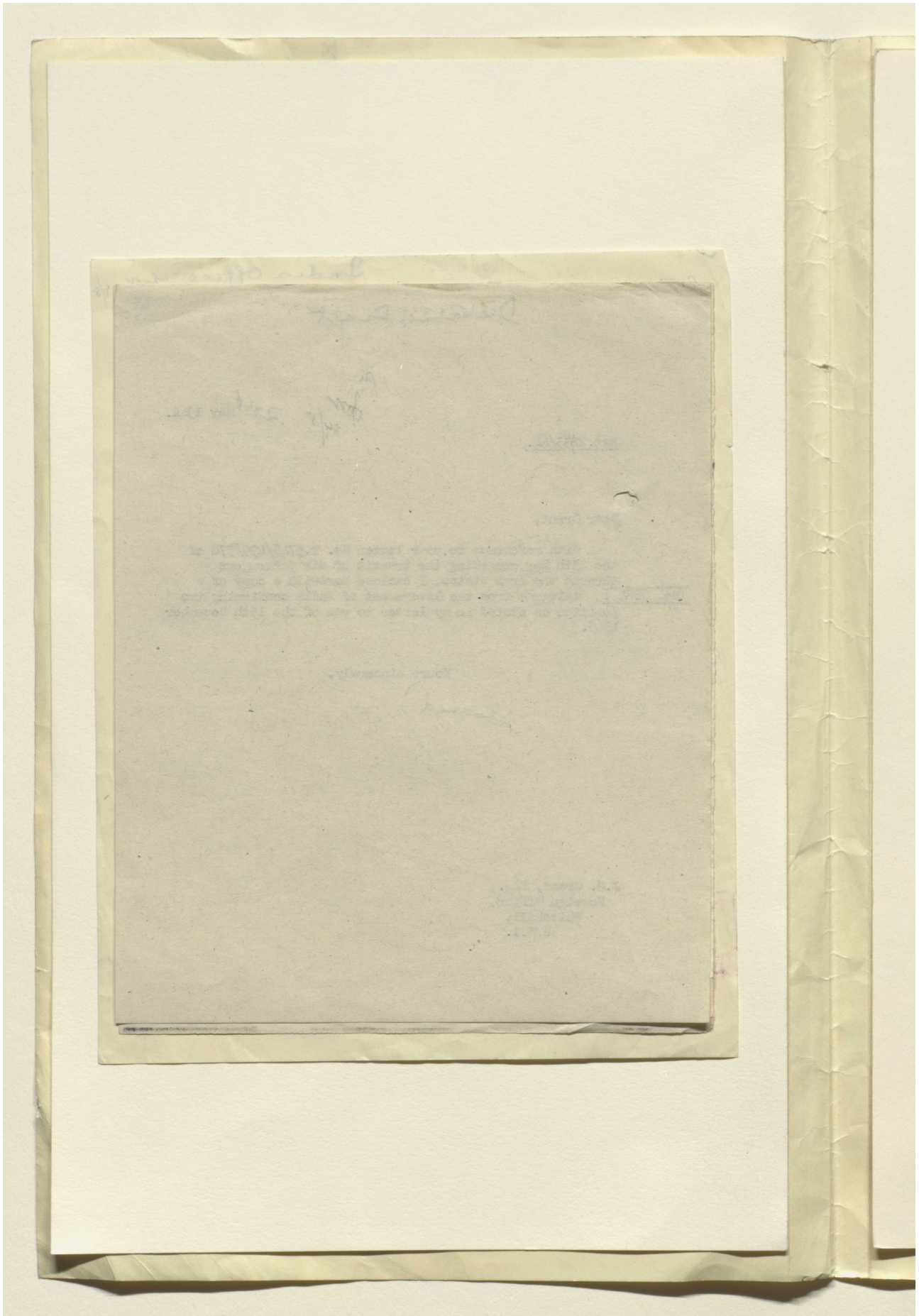
6421/43. 150 No. D.2447-G(P)/44. *2.0 Seamail*
cons. cr. to follow
by next sea mail. ⑤
From The Under Secretary to the Government of India in the External Affairs Department, *Mt*
To Messrs. Indian National Airways Ltd., Scindia House, New Delhi.
Dated New Delhi, the 9th May 1944.
Dear Sirs, *2293* **3382** *2233* *240*
I am desired to refer to the correspondence ending with your letter No. B/5/83/N, dated the 21st March 1944, and to say that it has been found on further examination that the instructions conveyed to you in this Department letter No. 688-G/44 dated the 14th March 1944 are not sufficiently precise. The regulations are briefly as follows:-
from 1/8
1 Mr Harrison
to see Mr. Silvestri
2 Mr. [unclear]
3 h.a. [unclear]
from 1/8
(1) No visas are required for transit through the Arab States, of which Bahrain is one.
(2) All passengers, of whatever nationality, require transit visas for Iraq and Egypt.
(3) British subjects do not require visas for Transjordan and Palestine, but their passports must be endorsed for these countries. Non-British subjects require transit visas.
Yours faithfully,
Sd/- H. Dayal,
Under Secretary to the Government of India.
Doval. 10/5.
Fr
ENCLOSURE IN INDIA
FOREIGN SECRETARY'S LETTER
NO. DATE RECEIVED
-8 15 4 28-7-1944

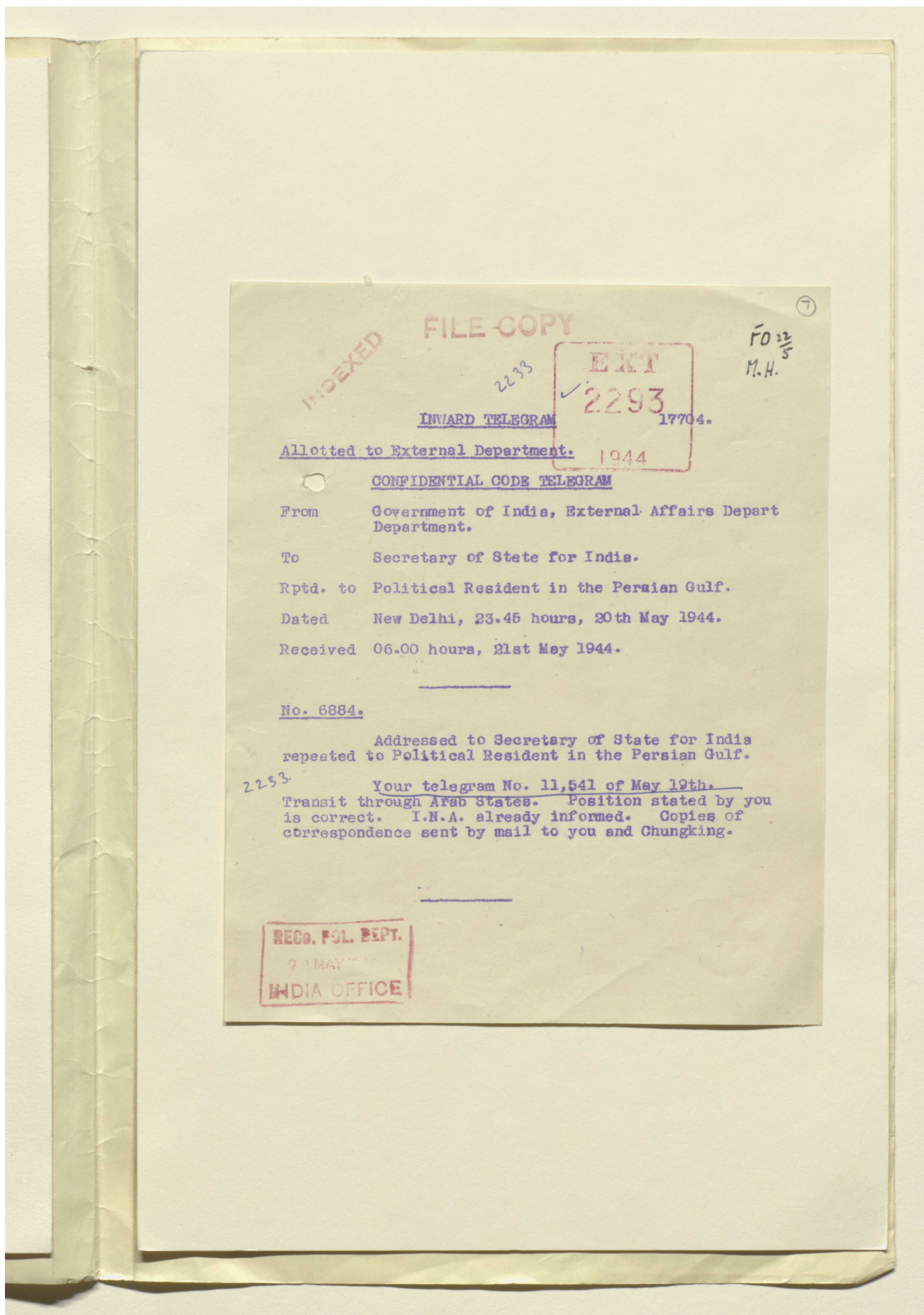
Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [5v] (10/58)



Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [6r] (11/58)







INDEXED

FILE COPY

2233

EXT
✓ 2293

FO 22/5
M.H.

INWARD TELEGRAM 17704.

Allotted to External Department. 1944

CONFIDENTIAL CODE TELEGRAM

From Government of India, External Affairs Department.

To Secretary of State for India.

Rptd. to Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

Dated New Delhi, 23.45 hours, 20th May 1944.

Received 06.00 hours, 21st May 1944.

No. 6884.

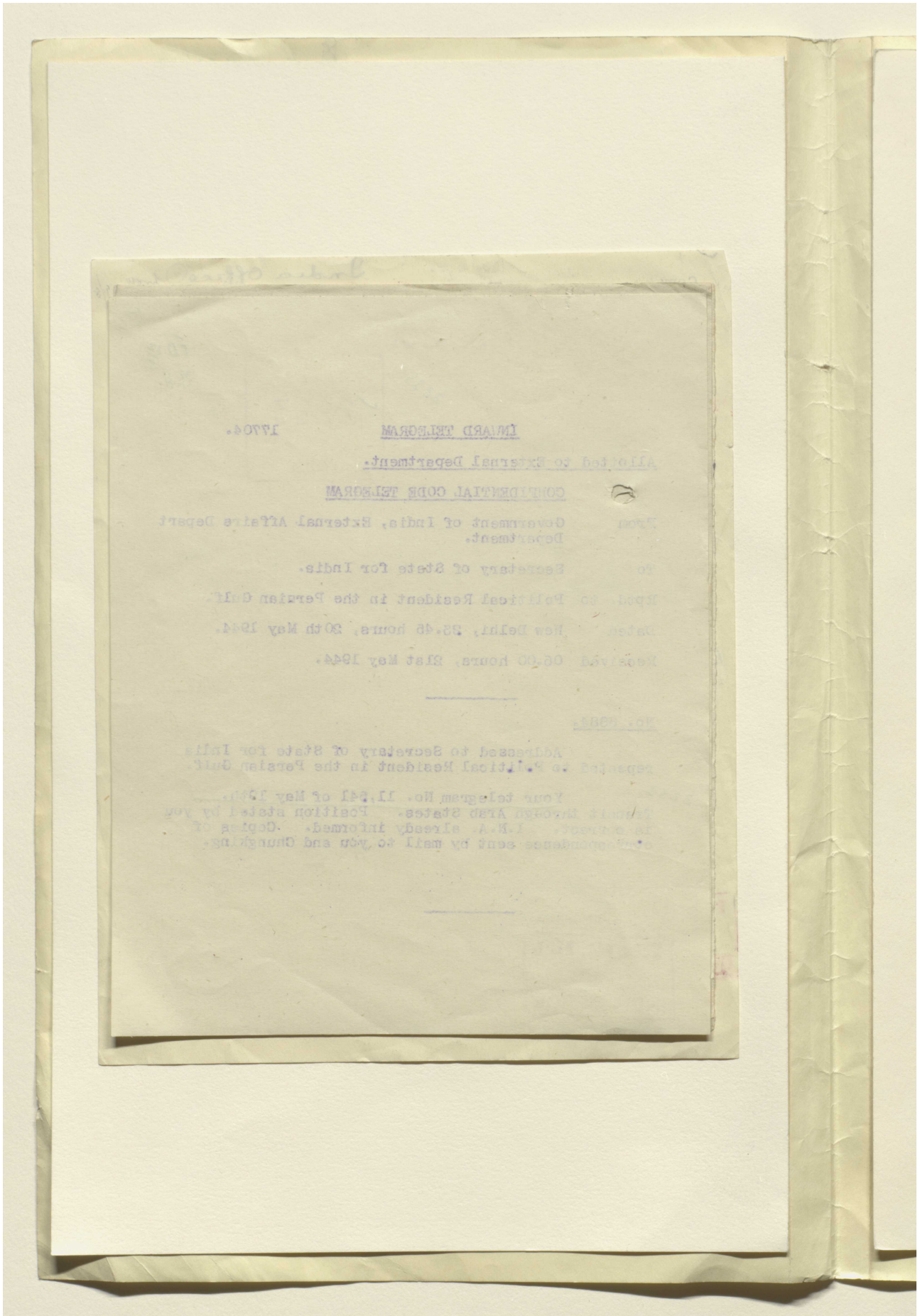
Addressed to Secretary of State for India repeated to Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

2233

Your telegram No. 11,541 of May 19th. Transit through Arab States. Position stated by you is correct. I.N.A. already informed. Copies of correspondence sent by mail to you and Chungking.

REC'D. POL. DEPT.
21 MAY 1944
INDIA OFFICE

Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [7v] (14/58)



Ext 2233/44 (8)

Draft Telegram. (25)

X
 From S. of S. in India
 To Govt. of India, Ext. Affs. Dept.
 Re: Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

11541

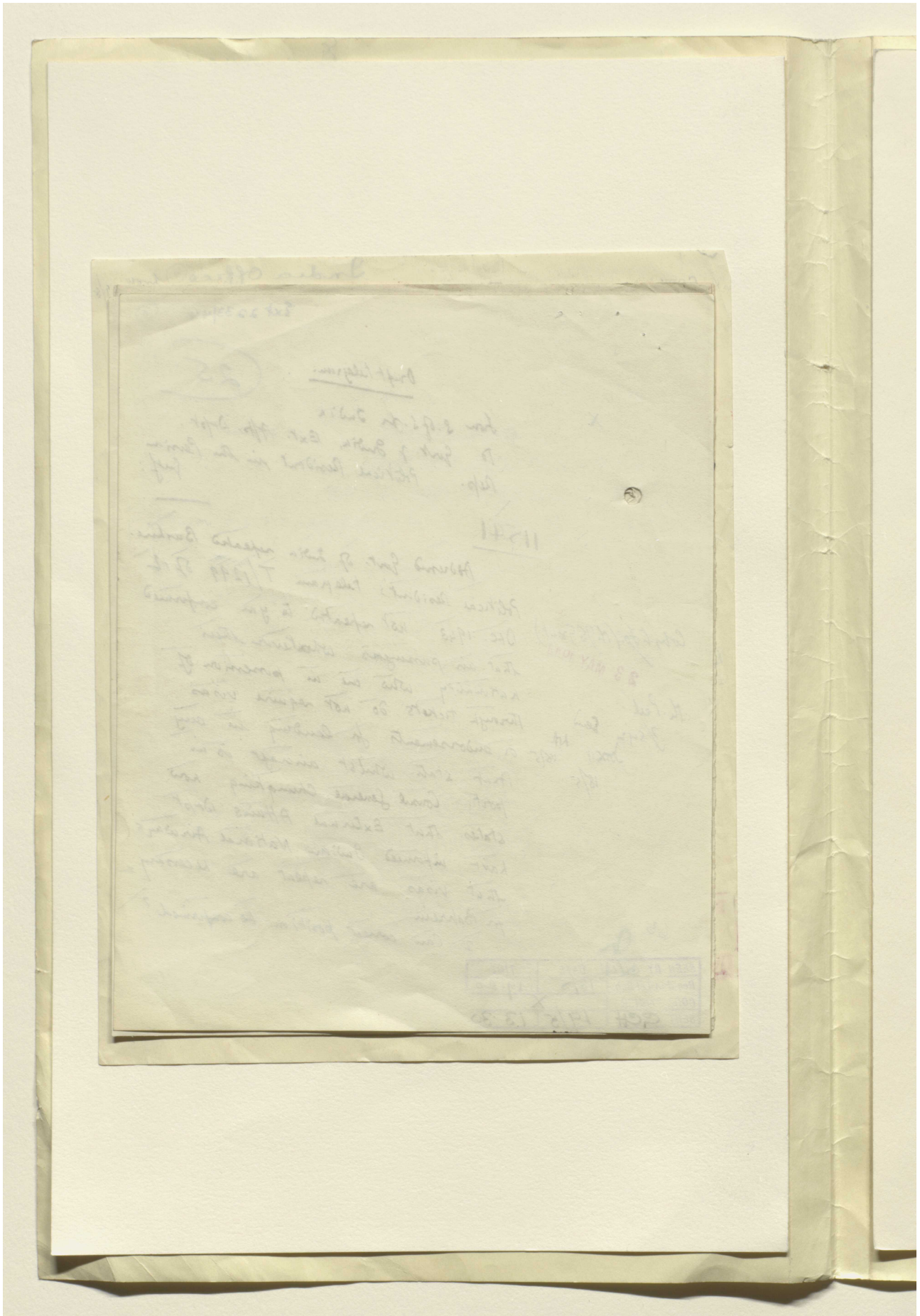
Address Govt. of India repeated Bahrain.
 Political Resident's telegram T/1299 of 12
 Dec. 1943 not repeated to you confirmed
 that air passengers whatever their
 nationality who are in possession of
 through tickets do not require visas
 or endorsements for landing in any
 port. Whilst aircraft is in
 states that External Affairs Dept
 have informed Indian National Airways
 that visas are repeat are necessary
 for Bahrain.

2. Can correct position be confirmed?

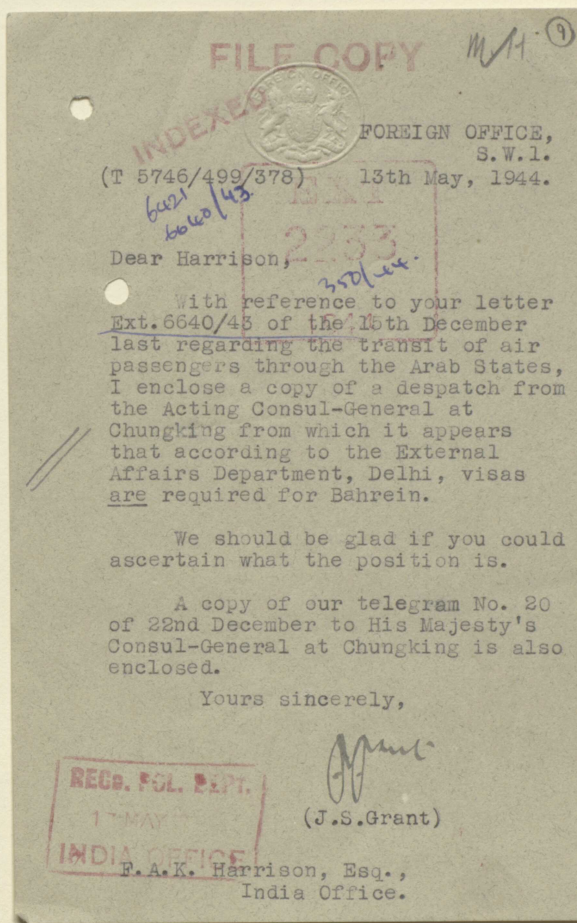
Copy to Mr. G.S. Grant
 23 MAY 1944
 Mr. Peel
 3/5/44 Sent
 J.M.C. 18/5
 18/5

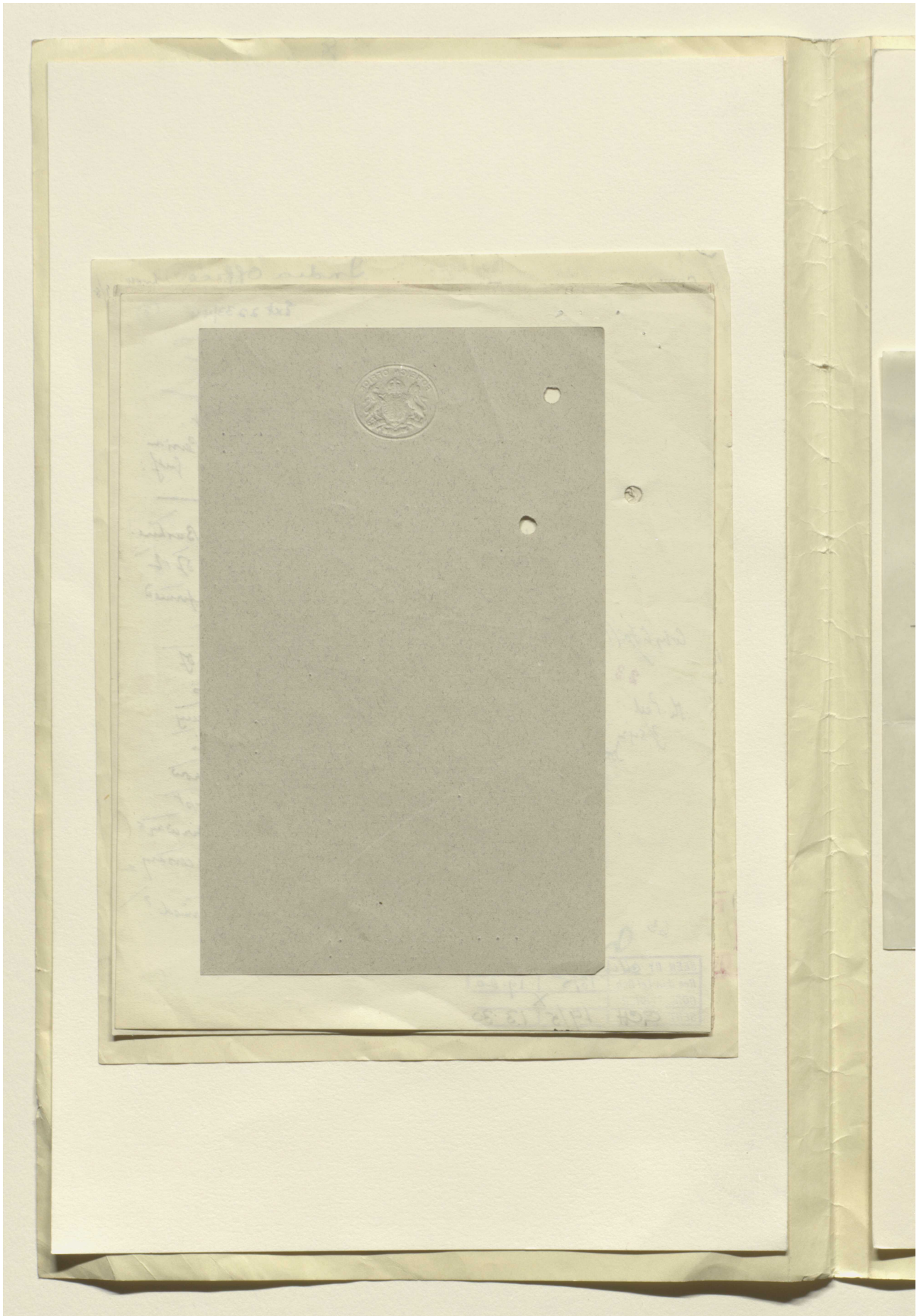
63

SEEN BY	DATE	TIME
Rec'd in Tel Bch.	18/5	19.00
CODE CYpher	X	
SENT	19/5	13.30

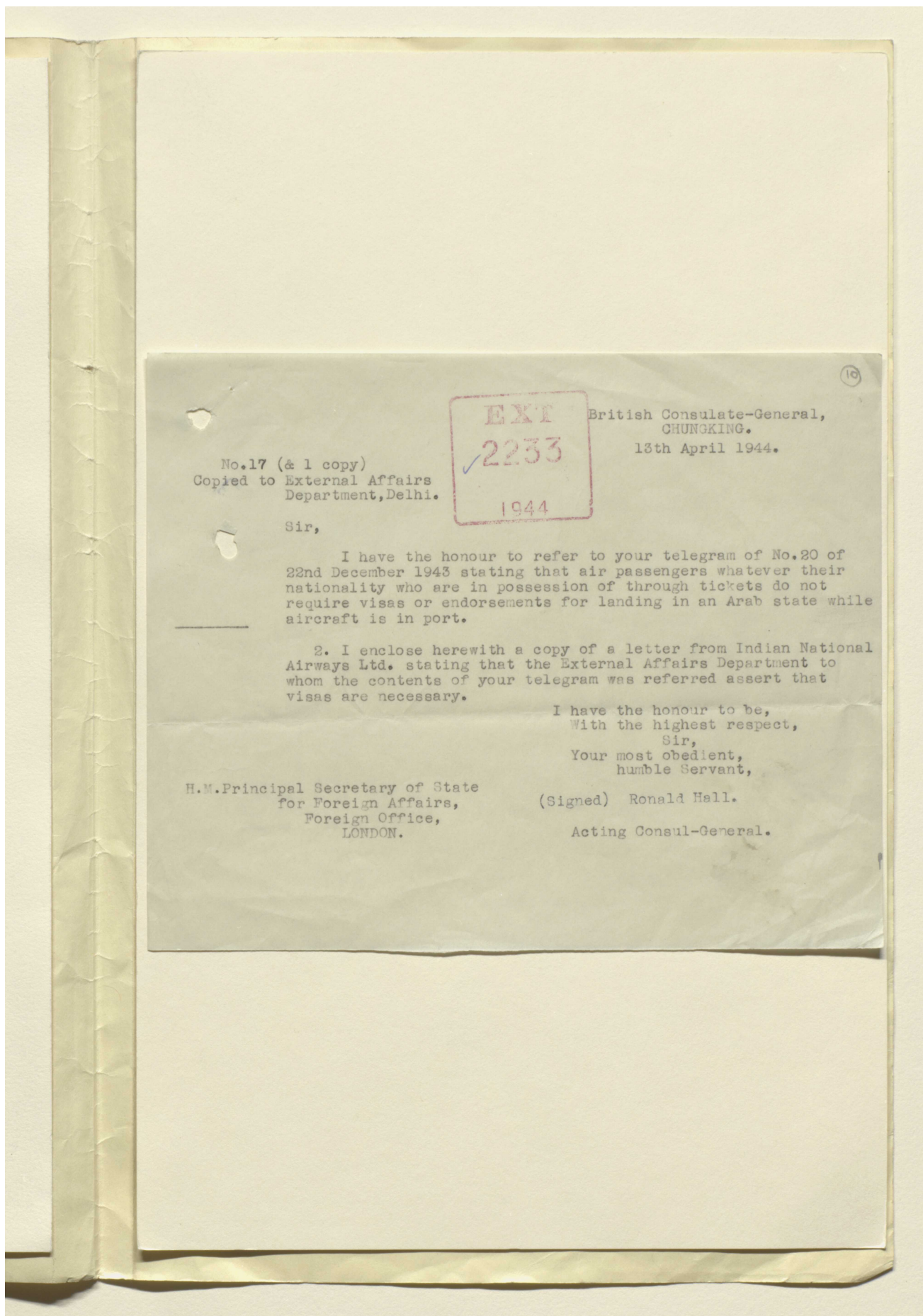


Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [9r] (17/58)

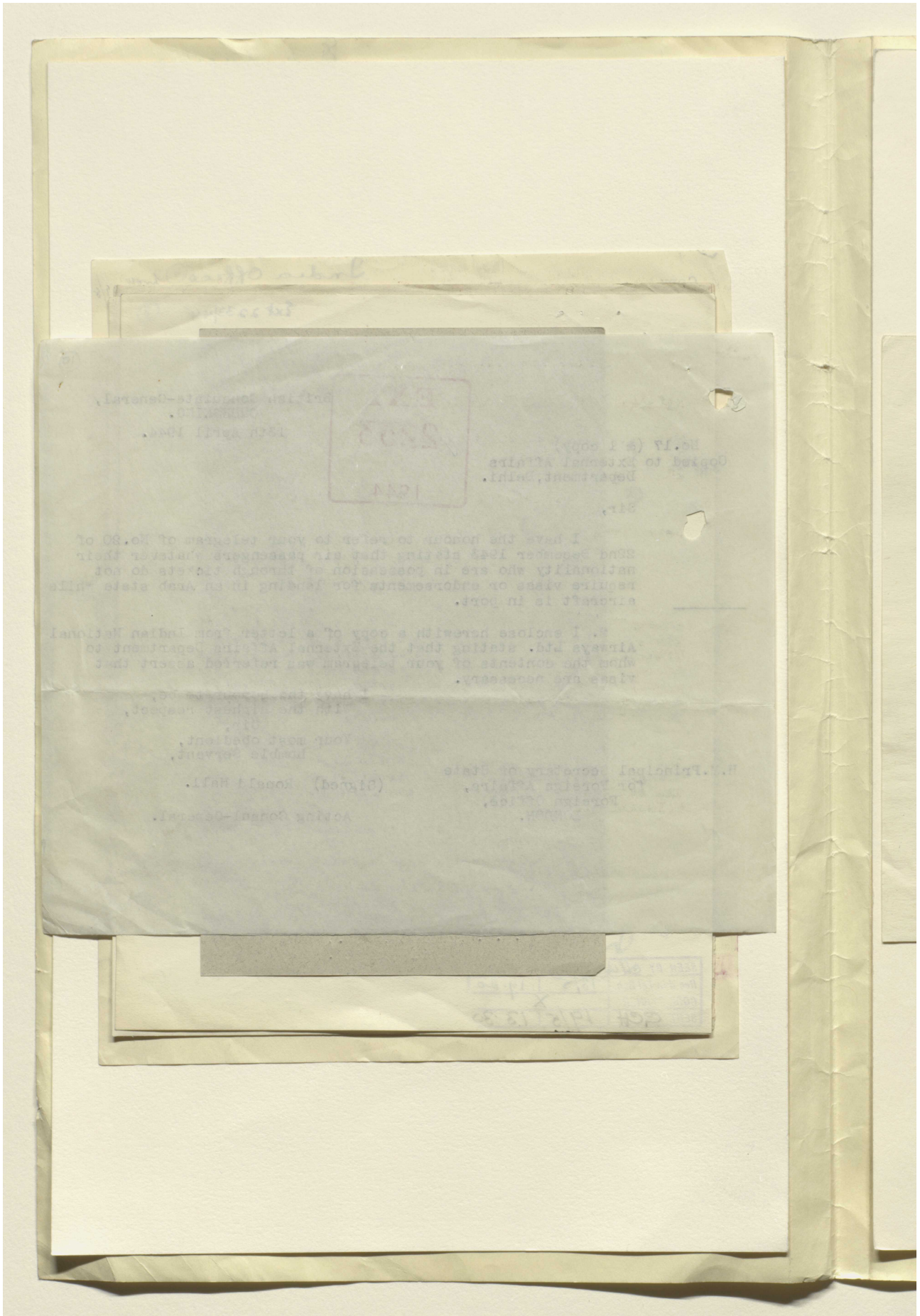




Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [10r] (19/58)



Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [10v] (20/58)



Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [11r] (21/58)

T15714/14128/378.

[CODE]

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO CHUNGKING (CONSUL GENERAL).

No. 20.

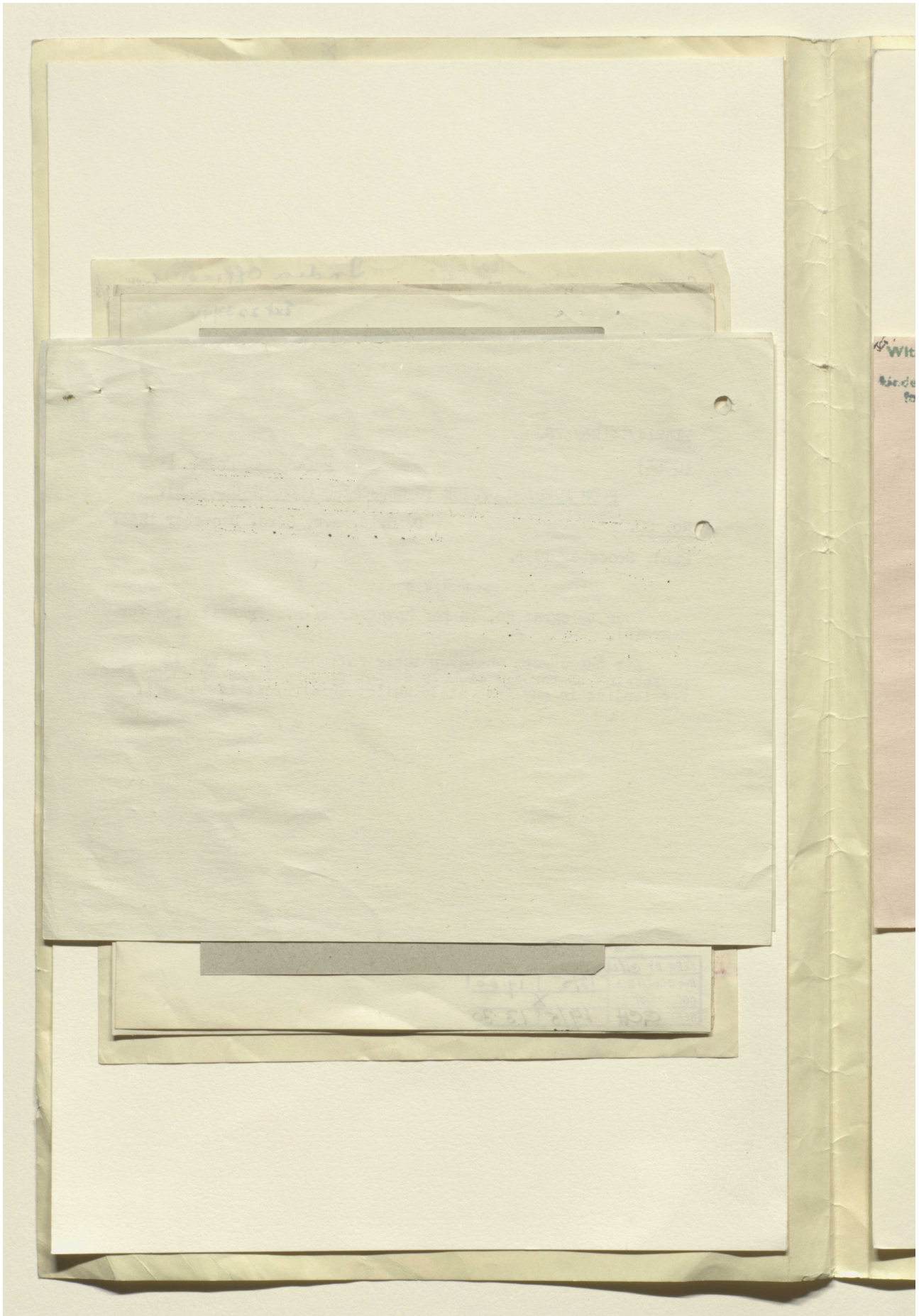
D. 6.15. a.m. 23rd. December 1945.

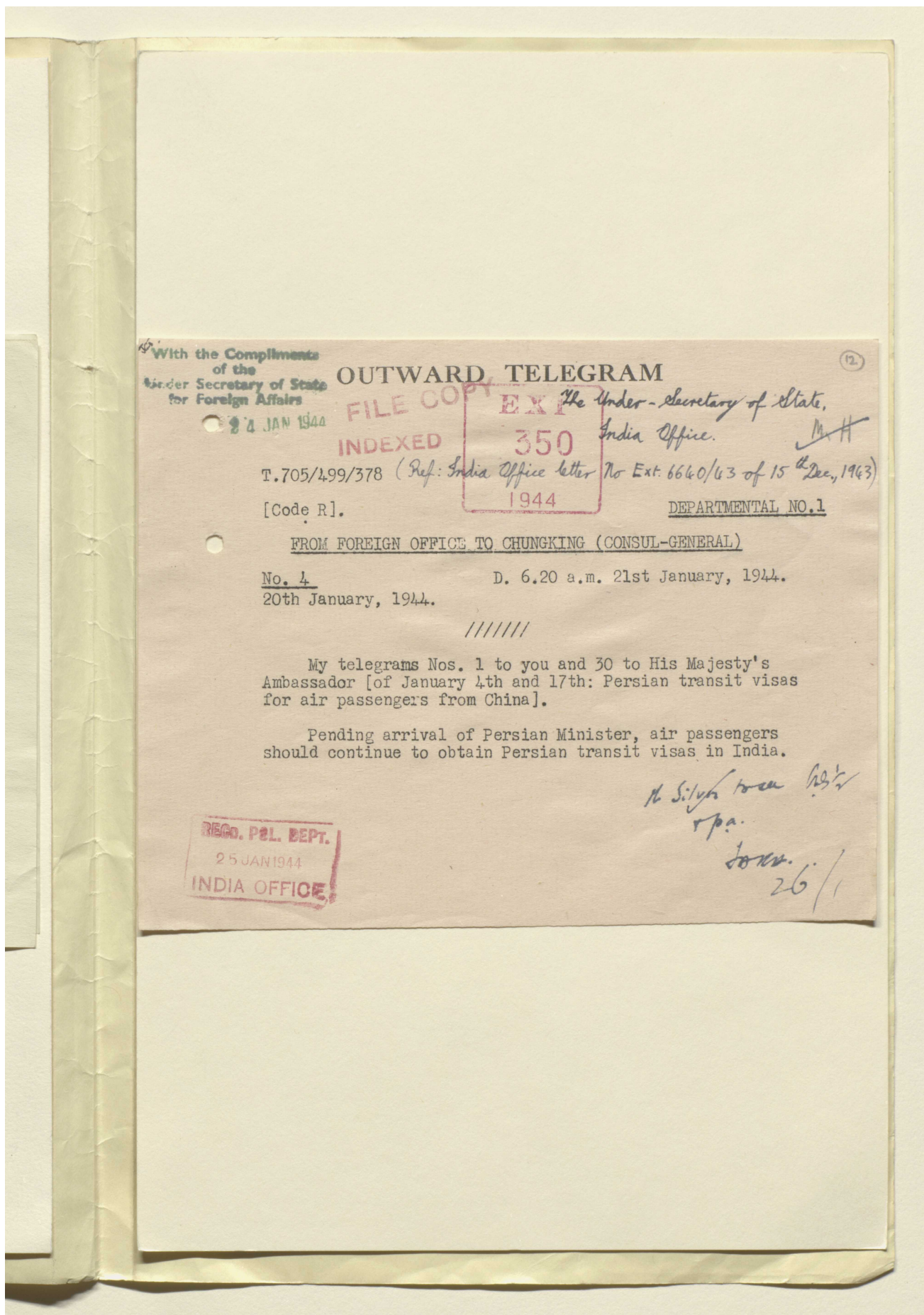
22nd. December 1943.

W W W W

Your telegram No. 13 [of November 11th.: Transit visas for Bahrein].

Air passengers whatever their nationality who are in possession of through tickets do not require visas or endorsements for landing in any Arab State whilst an aircraft is in port.





With the Compliments
of the
Under Secretary of State
for Foreign Affairs

OUTWARD TELEGRAM

(12)

8 JAN 1944

FILE COPY
INDEXED
350
1944

The Under-Secretary of State,
India Office. *M.H.*

T.705/499/378 (Ref: India Office letter No Ext: 6640/43 of 15th Dec., 1943)

[Code R]. DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO CHUNGKING (CONSUL-GENERAL)

No. 4 D. 6.20 a.m. 21st January, 1944.
20th January, 1944.

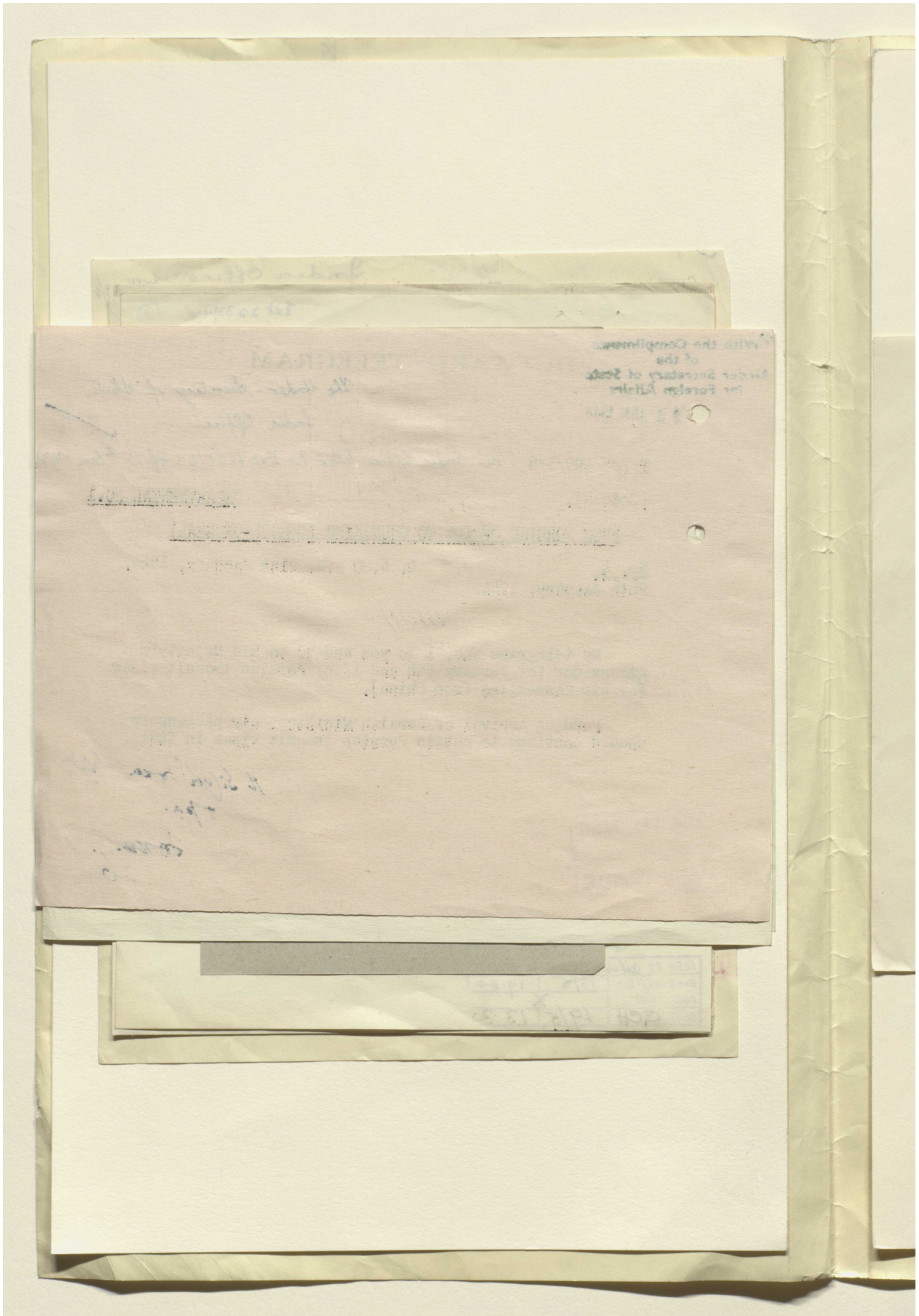
/////

My telegrams Nos. 1 to you and 30 to His Majesty's
Ambassador [of January 4th and 17th: Persian transit visas
for air passengers from China].

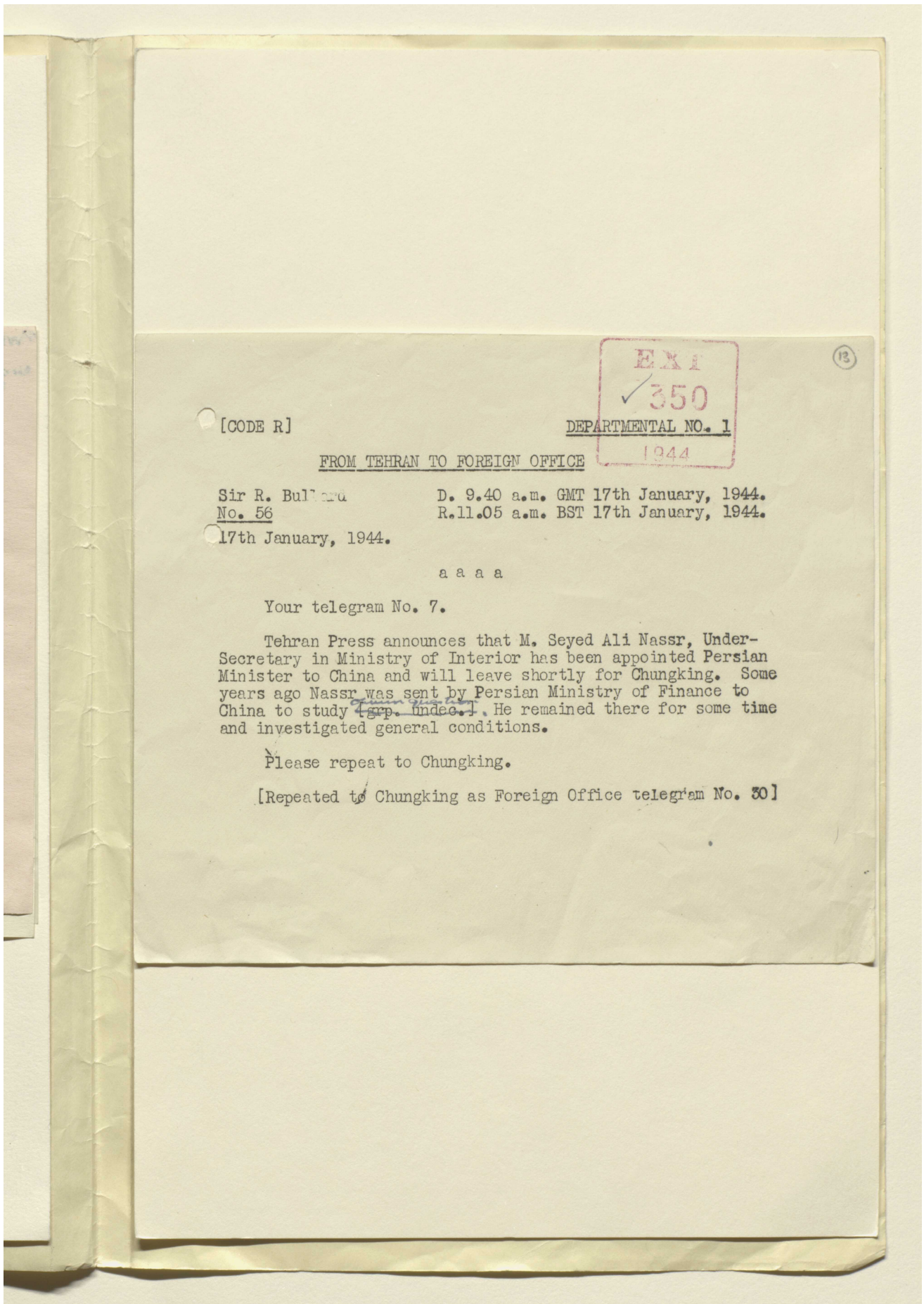
Pending arrival of Persian Minister, air passengers
should continue to obtain Persian transit visas in India.

REGD. P&L. DEPT.
25 JAN 1944
INDIA OFFICE

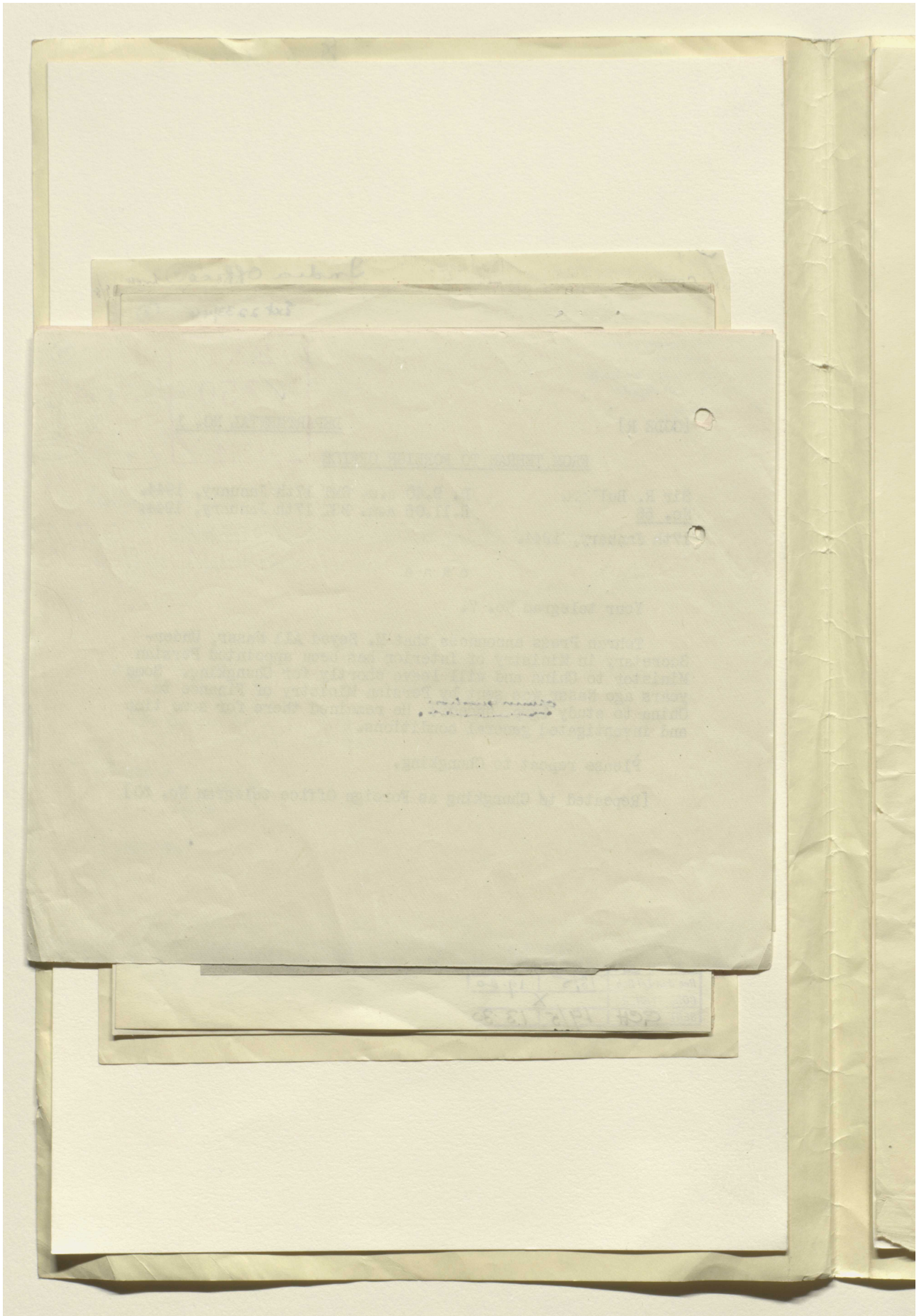
*The Under-Secretary of State
rpa.
Jana.
26/1*



Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [13r] (25/58)



Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [13v] (26/58)



Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [14r] (27/58)

COPY.

(T 499/499/378).

British Consulate-General,
CHUNGKING.

27th December, 1943.

Copied to Embassy No. 206
to China Relations Office, Calcutta
to Foreign Office No.38.

Copy of Correspondence Concerning transit visas for Bahrein etc.
for persons proceeding by air.

(I)

Copy of a letter from China Relations Office of 9th November to
Acting Consul-General.

----- BOAC have asked me to point out that Bahrein and Palestine
should figure on all transit visas for air-passages to the U.K.
I have added them to the Ambassador's visa accordingly and I hope
you will give this action your blessing if it is unconstitutional.
Perhaps you can add these places to the regular list in future
visas. -----

(II)

Copy of telegram No.13 of 11th November from Acting Consul-General
to Foreign Office.

May I give transit visas for Bahrein without reference to air
passengers?

(III)

Copy of letter from China Relations Office to Chancery of 20th
November 1943.

No.4058/15.

Dear Chancery,

It would be a great convenience if all travellers from China
to the United Kingdom could reach India provided with transit visas
not only for Iraq and Iran but also Egypt, Palestine, Bahrein and
Trans-Jordan.

B.O.A.C. say that this applies to diplomatic and ordinary visas
alike and suggest that we can save last minute applications to the
Bengal Passport Office if the necessary action is taken in China.

Yours ever,
CHINA RELATIONS OFFICE.

(IV)

Copy of telegram No.15 of 1st December from Acting Consul-General
to Foreign Office.

My telegram No.13. I am informed air passengers also require transit
visas for Iran and Transjordan. May I also give these without
reference ?

(V)

Copy of telegram No.19 of 14th December from Foreign Office to
Acting Consul-General.

Your telegram No.13 and 15.
India Office and Colonial Office are being consulted about Bahrein
and Transjordan respectively. Could not visas for Iran be obtained
in Delhi ?

Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

/ (VI)

Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [14v] (28/58)

(VI)

Copy of telegram No.17 of 24th December from Acting Consul-General to Foreign Office.

Your telegram No.19.
BOAC say it would be great convenience if these visas were given here.

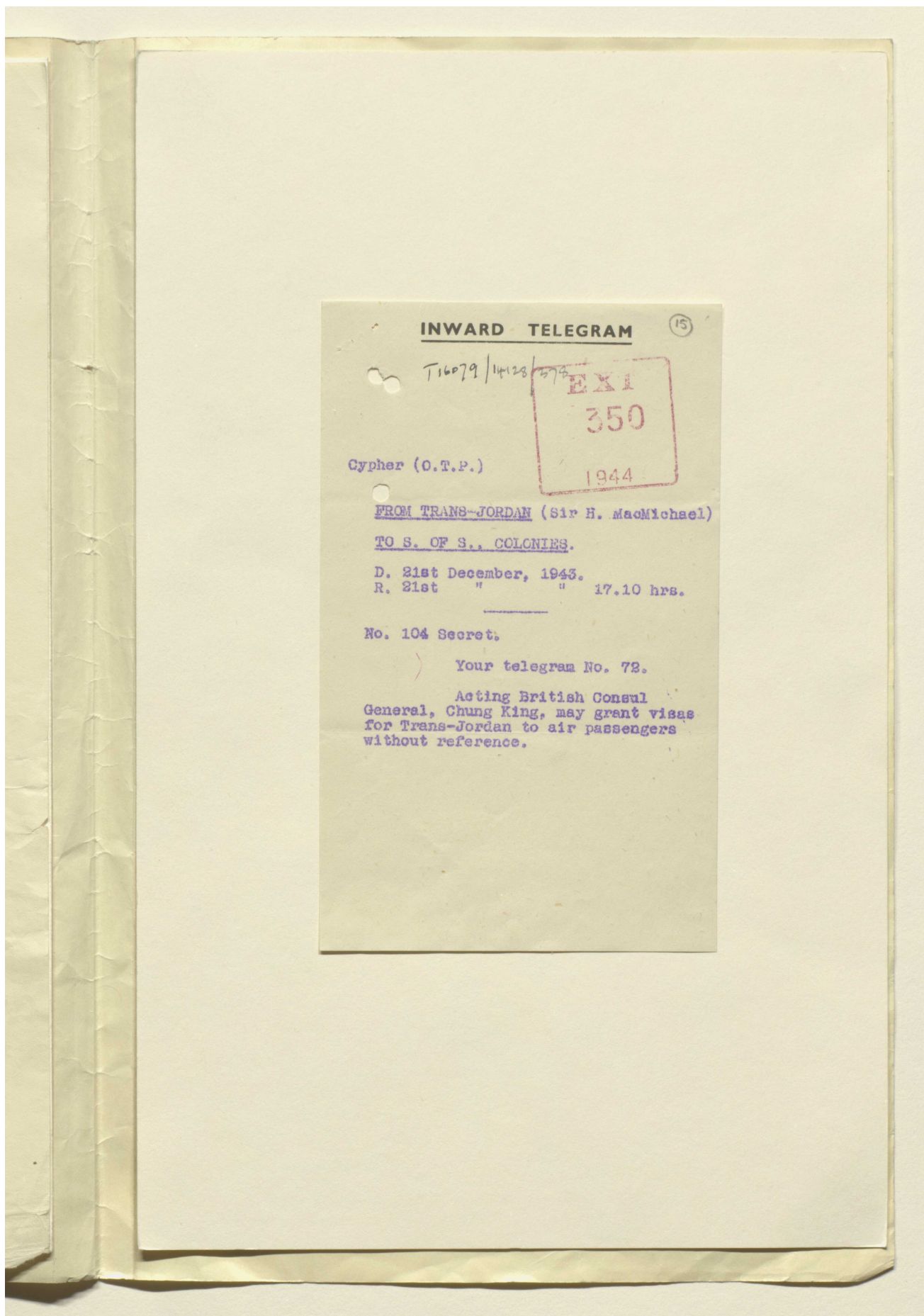
(VII)

Copy of telegram No.20 of 22nd December from Foreign Office to Acting Consul-General.

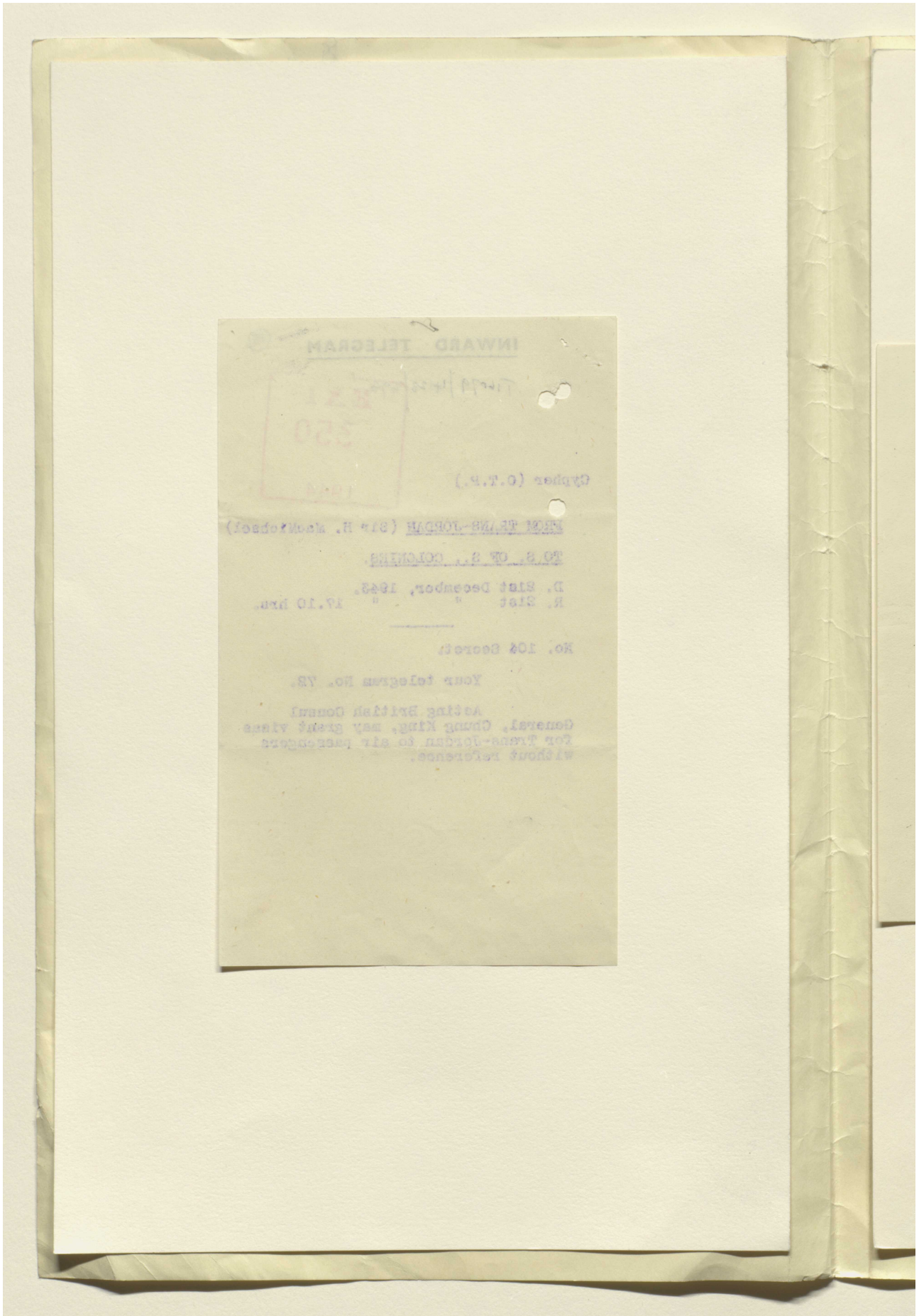
Following for Consul-General. Your telegram No.13.
Air passengers whatever their nationality who are in possession of through tickets do not require visas or endorsements for landing in any Arab State while air-craft is in port.

EDEN.

Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [15r] (29/58)



Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [15v] (30/58)



OUTWARD TELEGRAM

[This Document is the Property of His Britannic Majesty's Government, and should be kept under Lock and Key.]

T. 15976/14128/378
[CODE R]

350
DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO TEHRAN

No. 7
4th January, 1944.

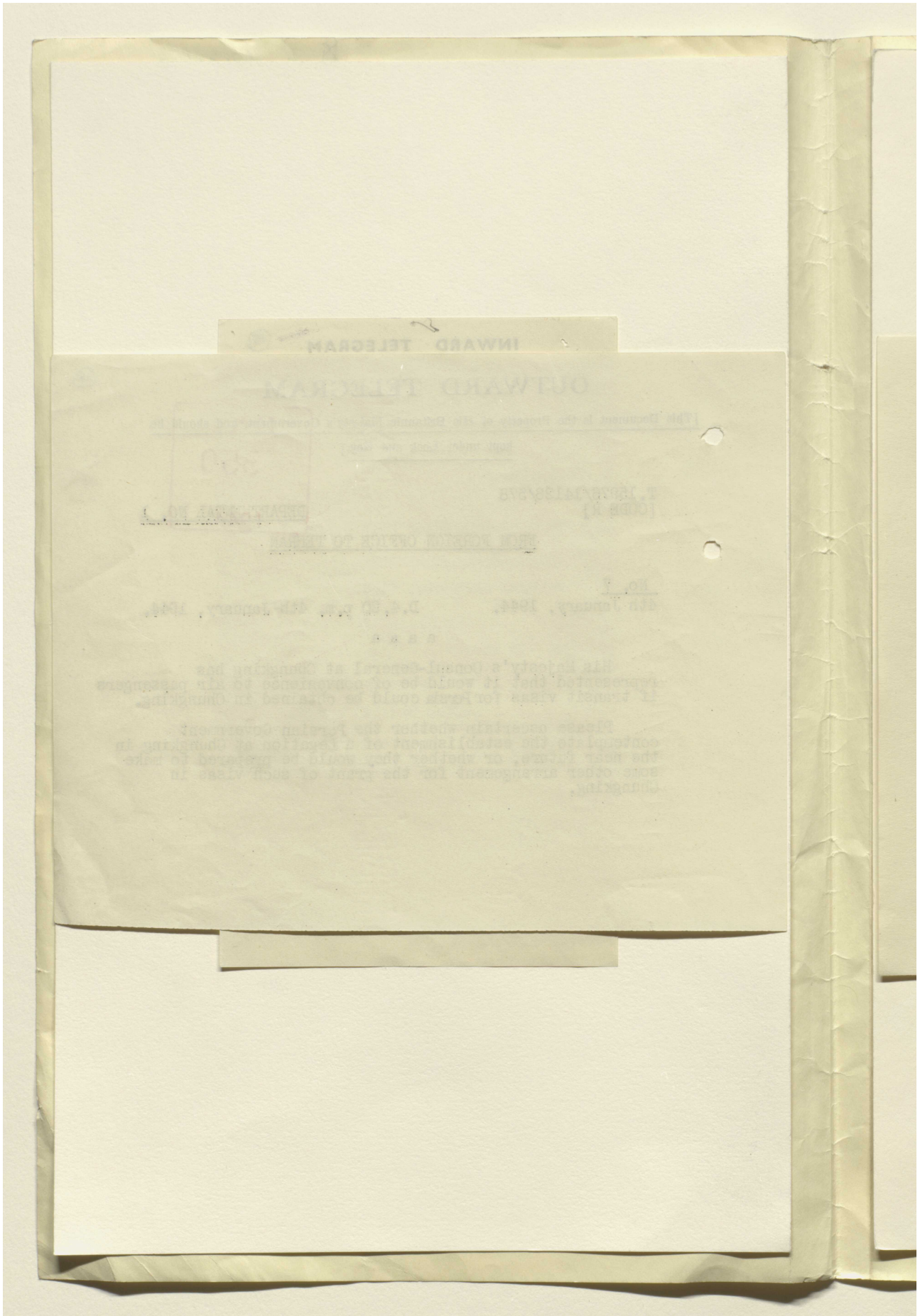
D. 4.20 p.m. 4th January, 1944.

a a a a

His Majesty's Consul-General at Chungking has represented that it would be of convenience to air passengers if transit visas for Persia could be obtained in Chungking.

Please ascertain whether the Persian Government contemplate the establishment of a Legation at Chungking in the near future, or whether they would be prepared to make some other arrangement for the grant of such visas in Chungking.

Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [16v] (32/58)



OUTWARD TELEGRAM

[This Document is the Property of His Britannic Majesty's Government, and should be kept under Lock and Key.]

T.15976/14128/378

[CODE]

EX 350
1944
DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO CHUNGKING (CONSUL-GENERAL)

No. 1

D. 1.00 a.m. 5th January, 1944.

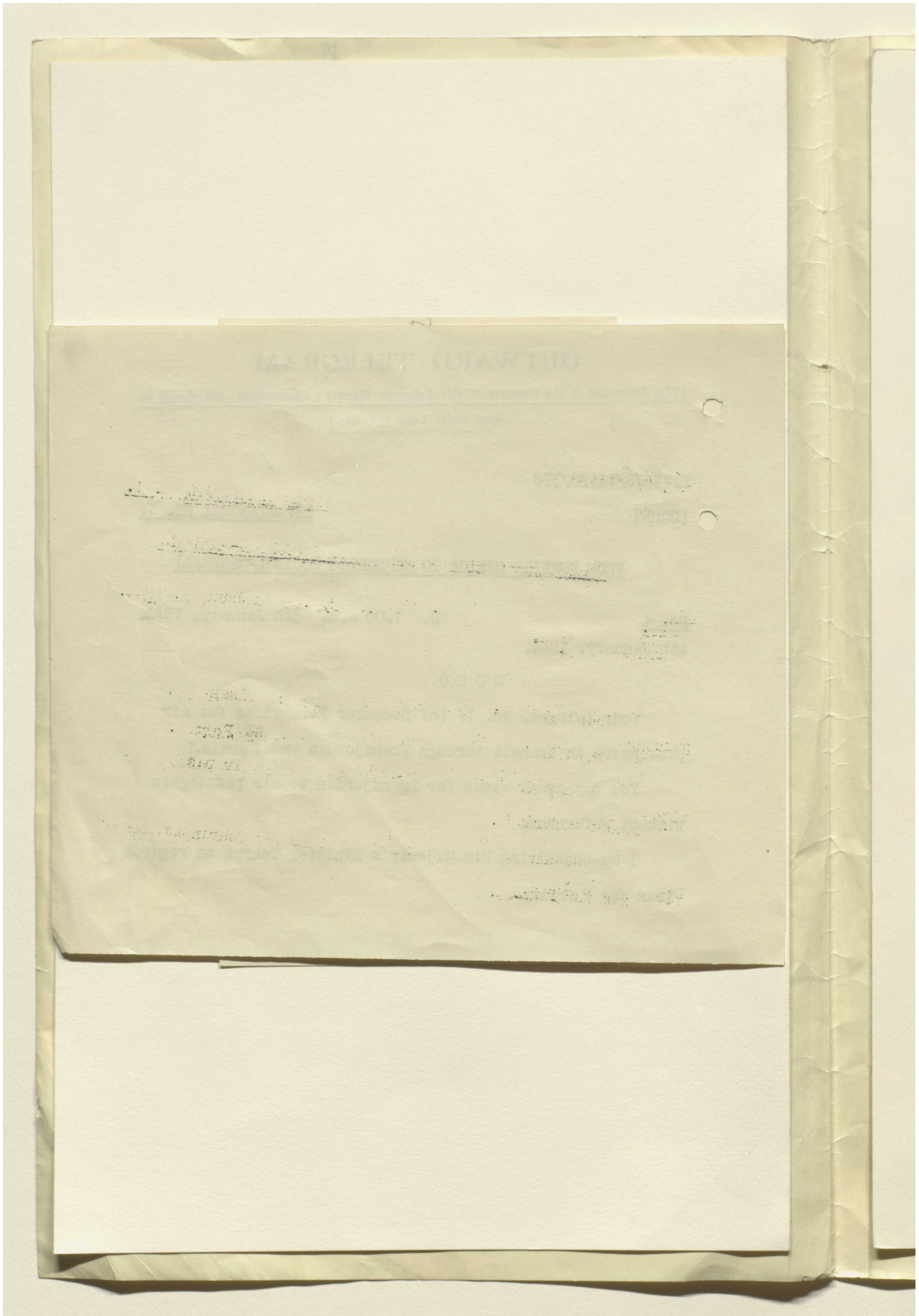
4th January, 1944.

0 0 0 0

Your telegram No. 17 [of December 24: visas for air passengers in transit through Transjordan and Persia.]

You may grant visas for Transjordan to air passengers without reference.

I am consulting His Majesty's Minister Tehran as regards visas for Persia.



J.S. Grant Esq.
To.

Sigin
Joclt
14/12.

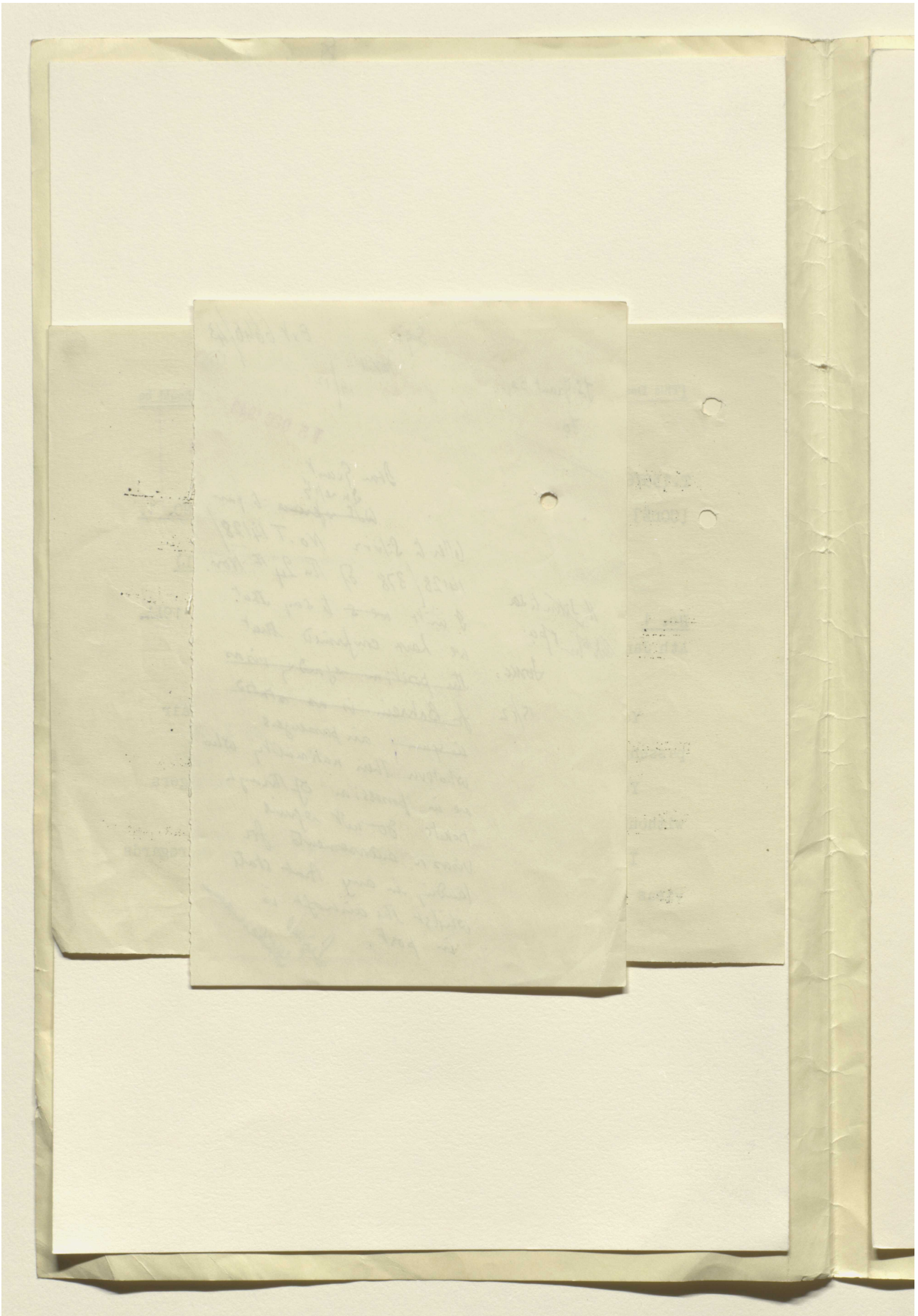
Ext 6646/43 (18)

15 DEC 1943

Dear Grant
In reply
with reference to your
letter to Sirvor No. T 14128/
14128/378 of the 24th Nov.
I write ~~to~~ to say that
we have confirmed that
the position ~~regarding~~ visas
for Bahrain is as stated
in your air passengers
whatev^r their nationality who
are in possession of through
tickets do not require
visas or endorsements for
landing in any Arab state
whilst the aircraft is
in port.

He Sirvor to Sir
Ad Sirvor rpa.
Joclt.
15/12

Signed
W. H. H. H. H.



Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [19r] (37/58)

INDEXED FILE COPY
EXT 6680
6421
6640
19
FO14/12
M.H.

INWARD TELEGRAM
194345995.
Allotted to External Department.

CONFIDENTIAL CODE TELEGRAM

From Political Resident in
Persian Gulf.
To Secretary of State for India.

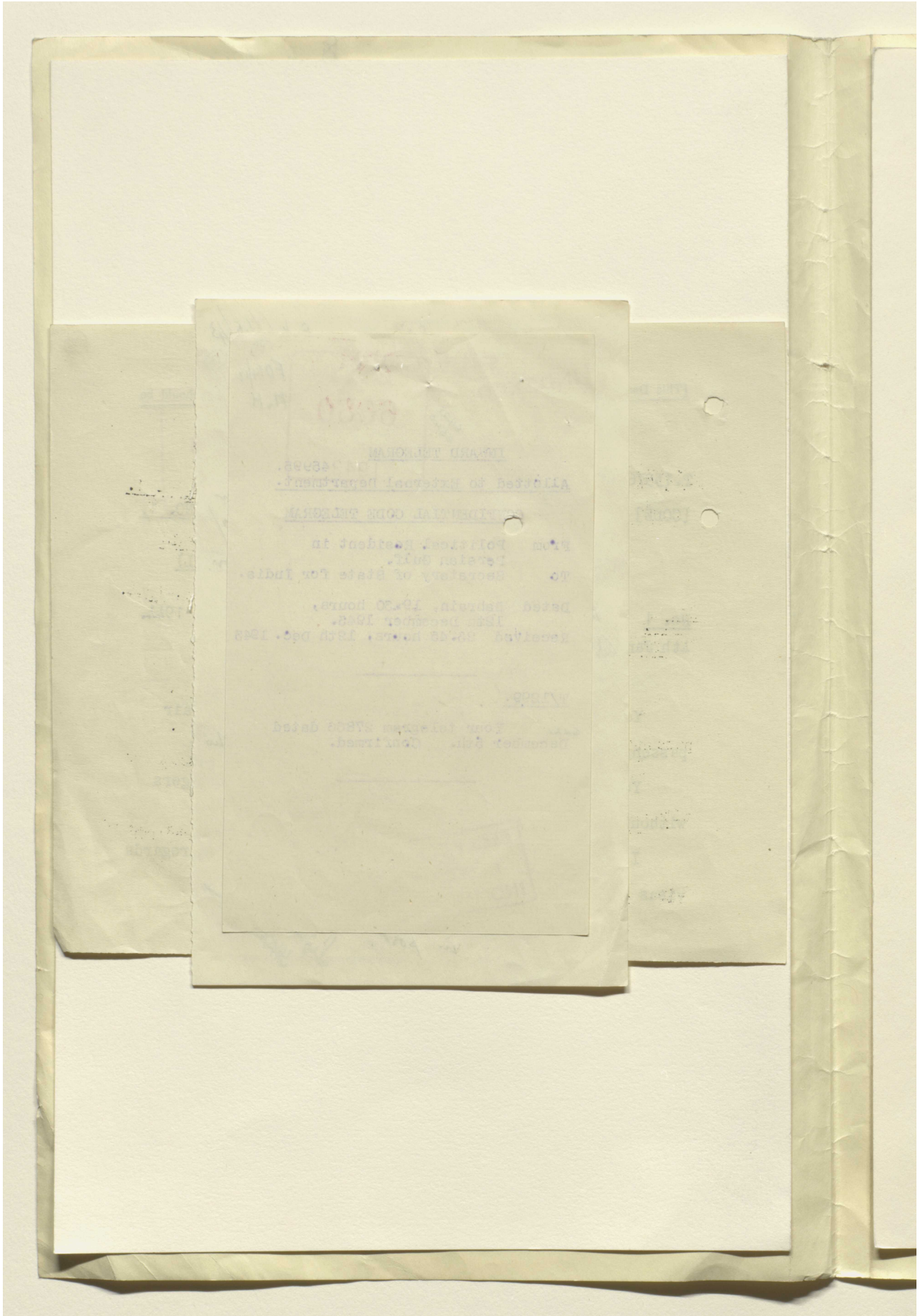
Dated Bahrain, 19.30 hours,
12th December 1943.
Received 23.45 hours, 12th Dec. 1943

T/1299.

6421 Your telegram 27866 dated
December 5th. Confirmed.

REC'D. P.S.L. INDIA
1 DEC 1943
INDIA

Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [19v] (38/58)



Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [20r] (39/58)

150. With the Compliments *India Office (20)*
of the *FILE COPY*
Under Secretary of State *(via Silver)*
for Foreign Affairs *M.H.*

9 DEC 1943 FOREIGN OFFICE,
(T 14128/14128/378) *6640* S.W.1.
9th December, 1943.

INDEXED *Ref. v. letter of*
Dear Poynton, *29th November*
14128/14128/378

The Acting British Consul-General at Chungking has enquired, by telegram, whether he may grant visas for Bahrein, Persia and Transjordan, without reference, to air passengers.

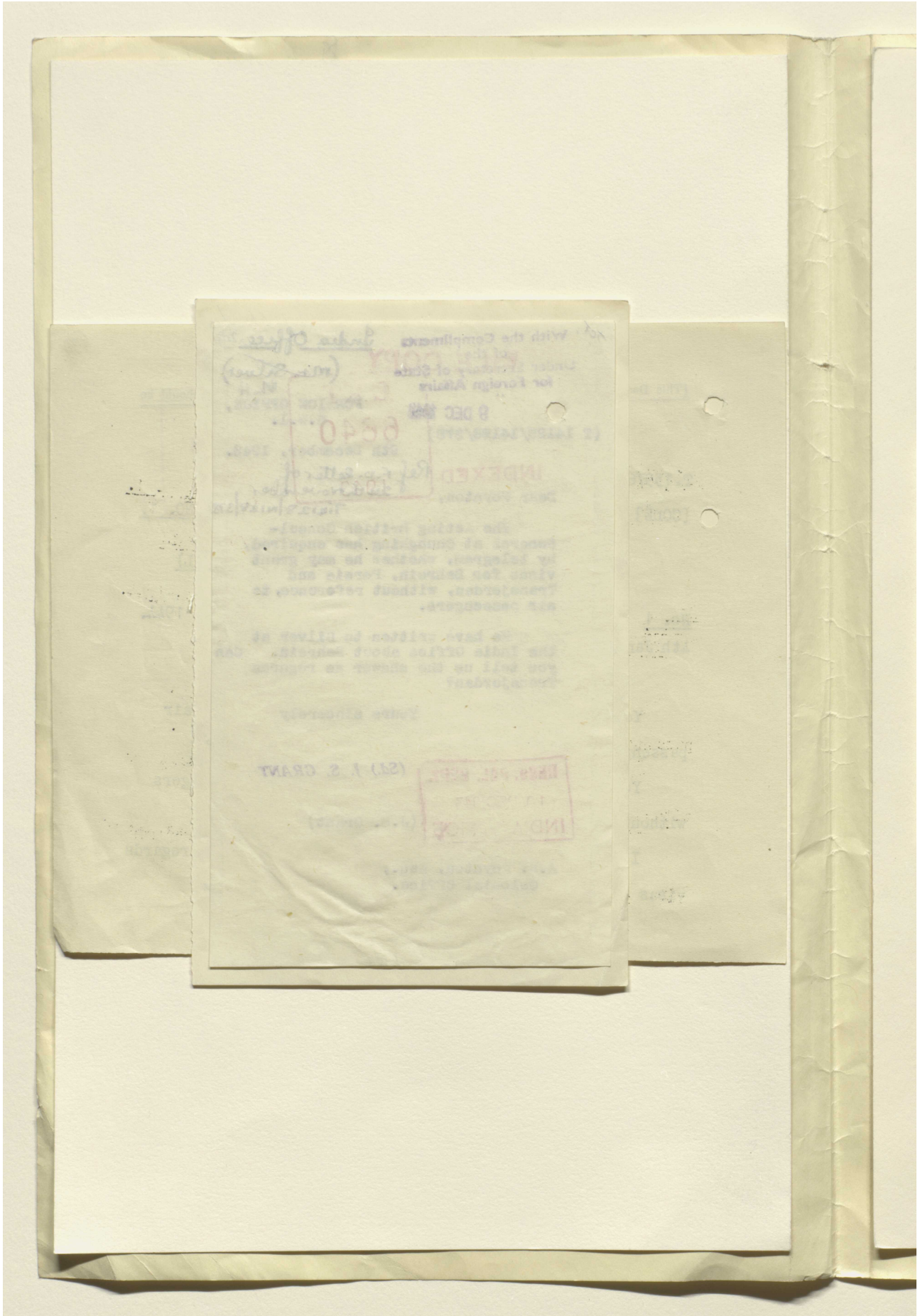
We have written to Silver at the India Office about Bahrein. Can you tell us the answer as regards Transjordan?

Yours sincerely

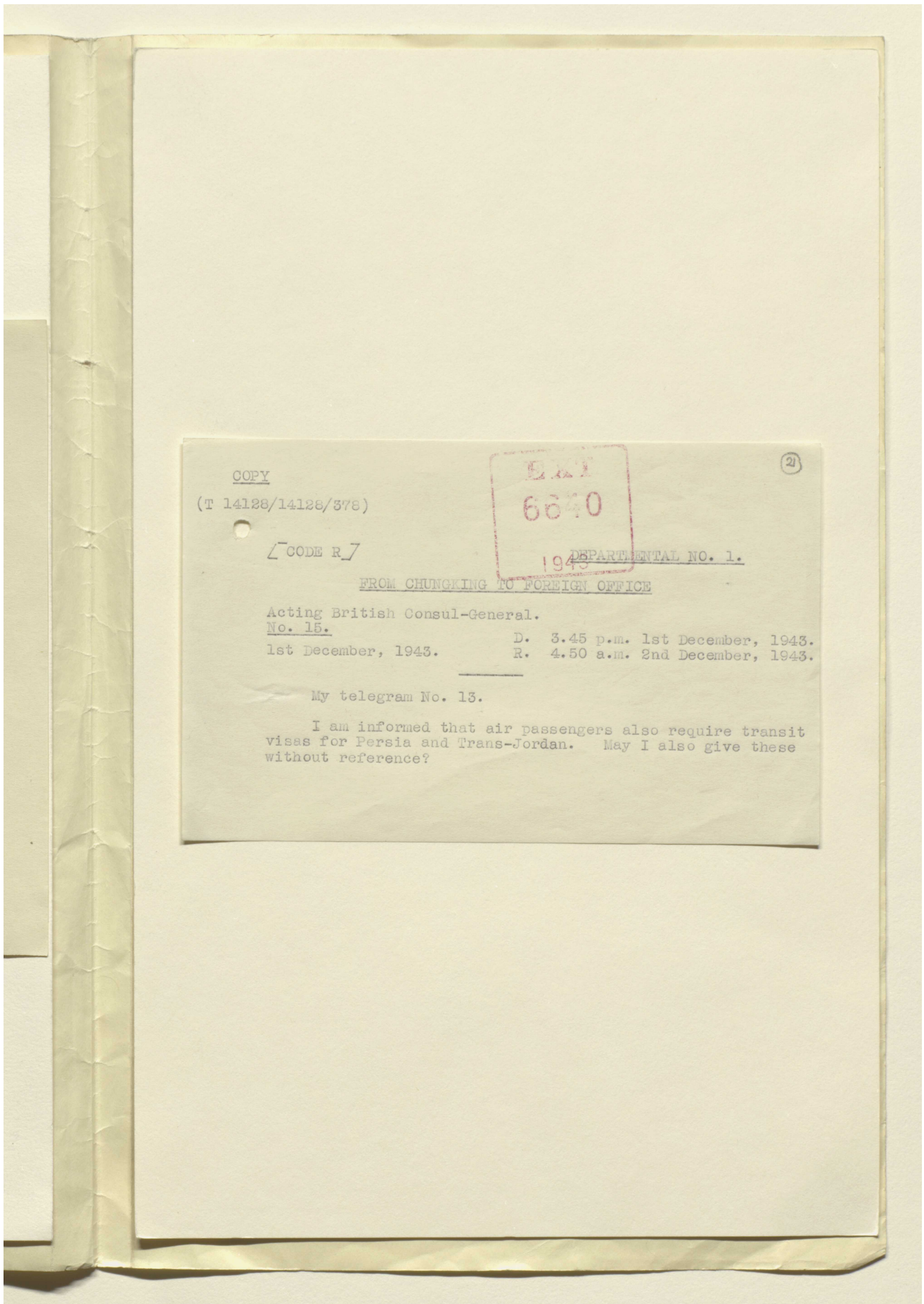
RECS. P.S.L. DEPT. (Sd.) J. S. GRANT
11 DEC 1943
INDIA OFFICE (J.S. Grant)

A.H. Poynton, Esq.,
Colonial Office.

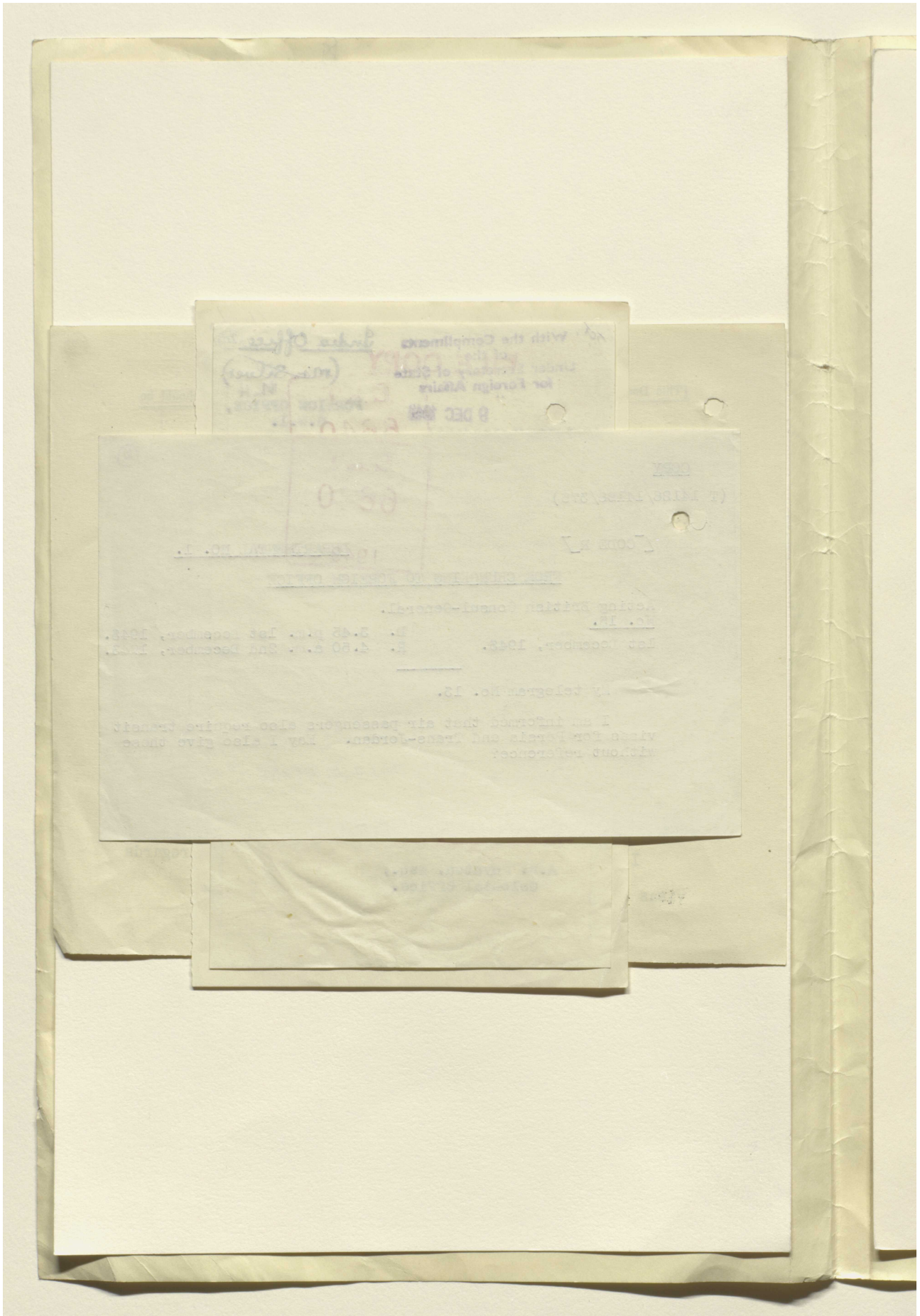
Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [20v] (40/58)

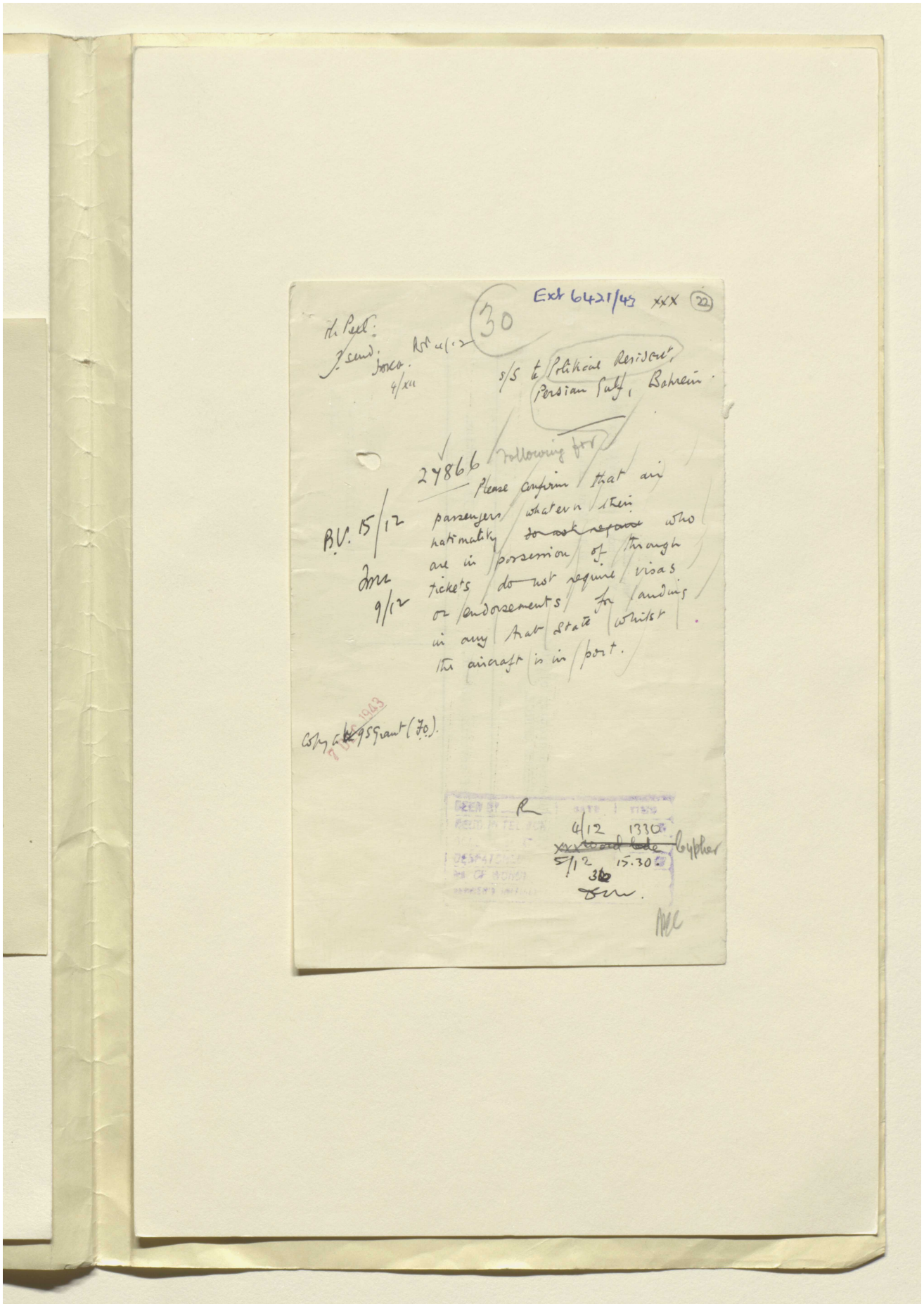


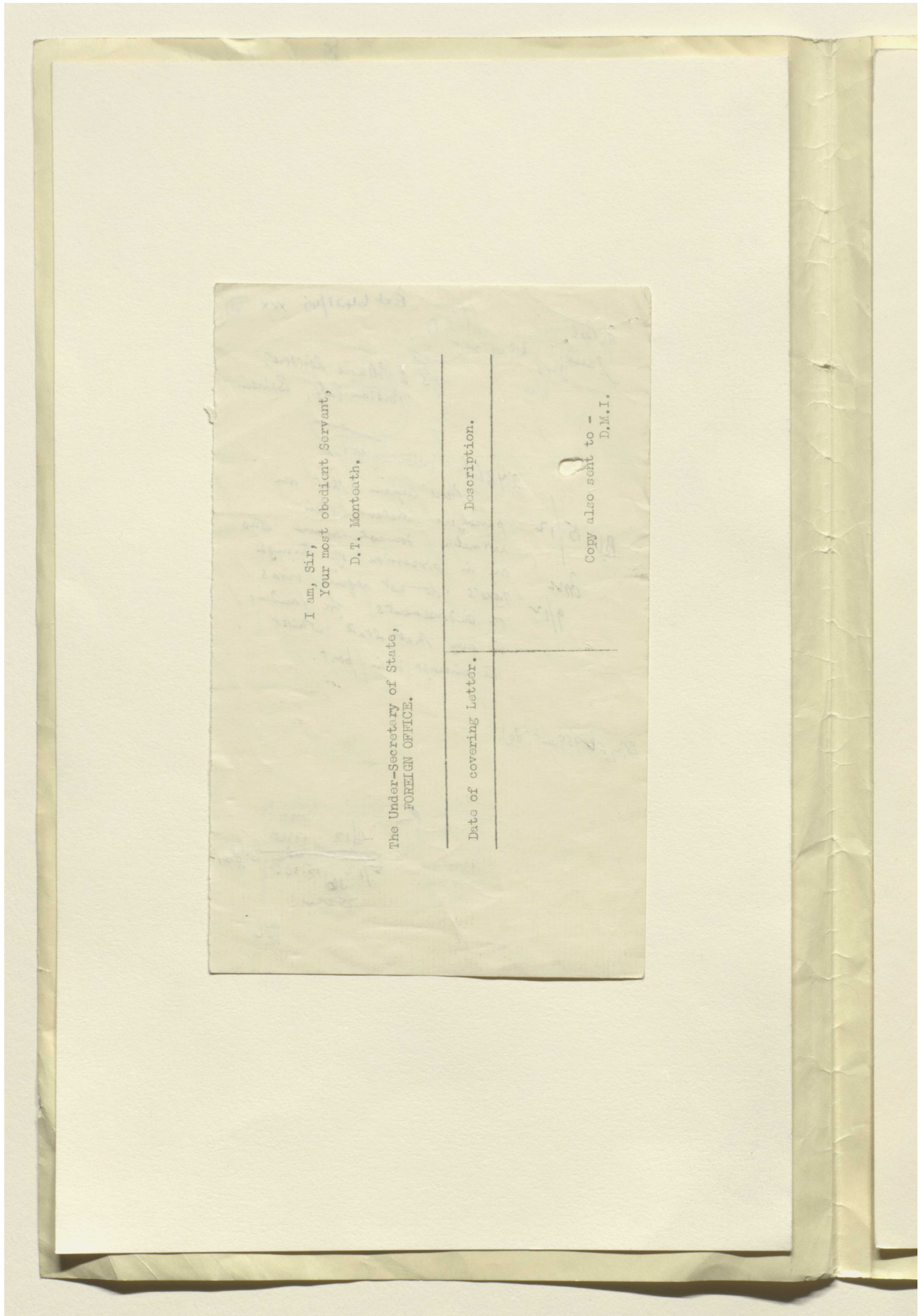
Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [21r] (41/58)



Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [21v] (42/58)

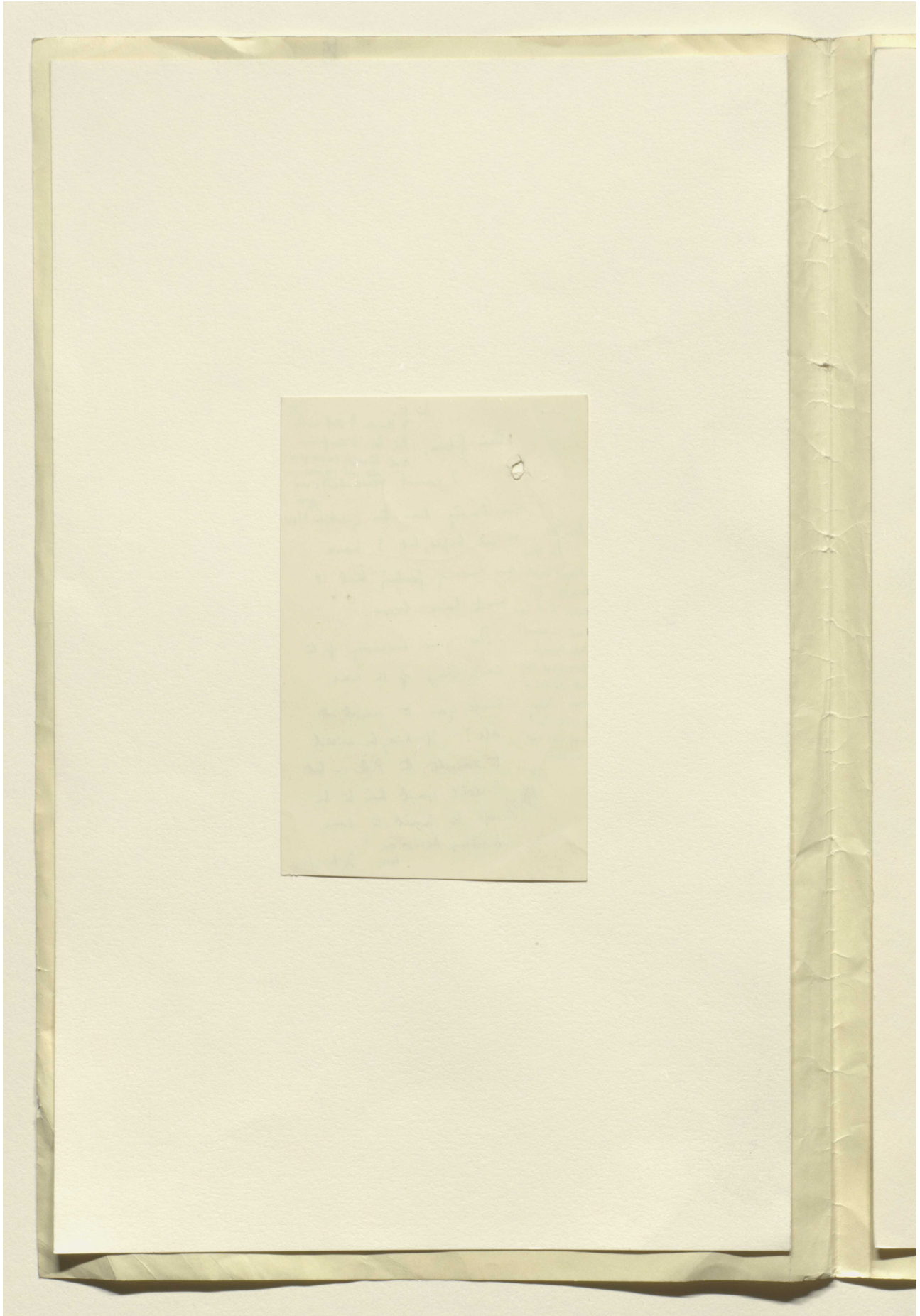


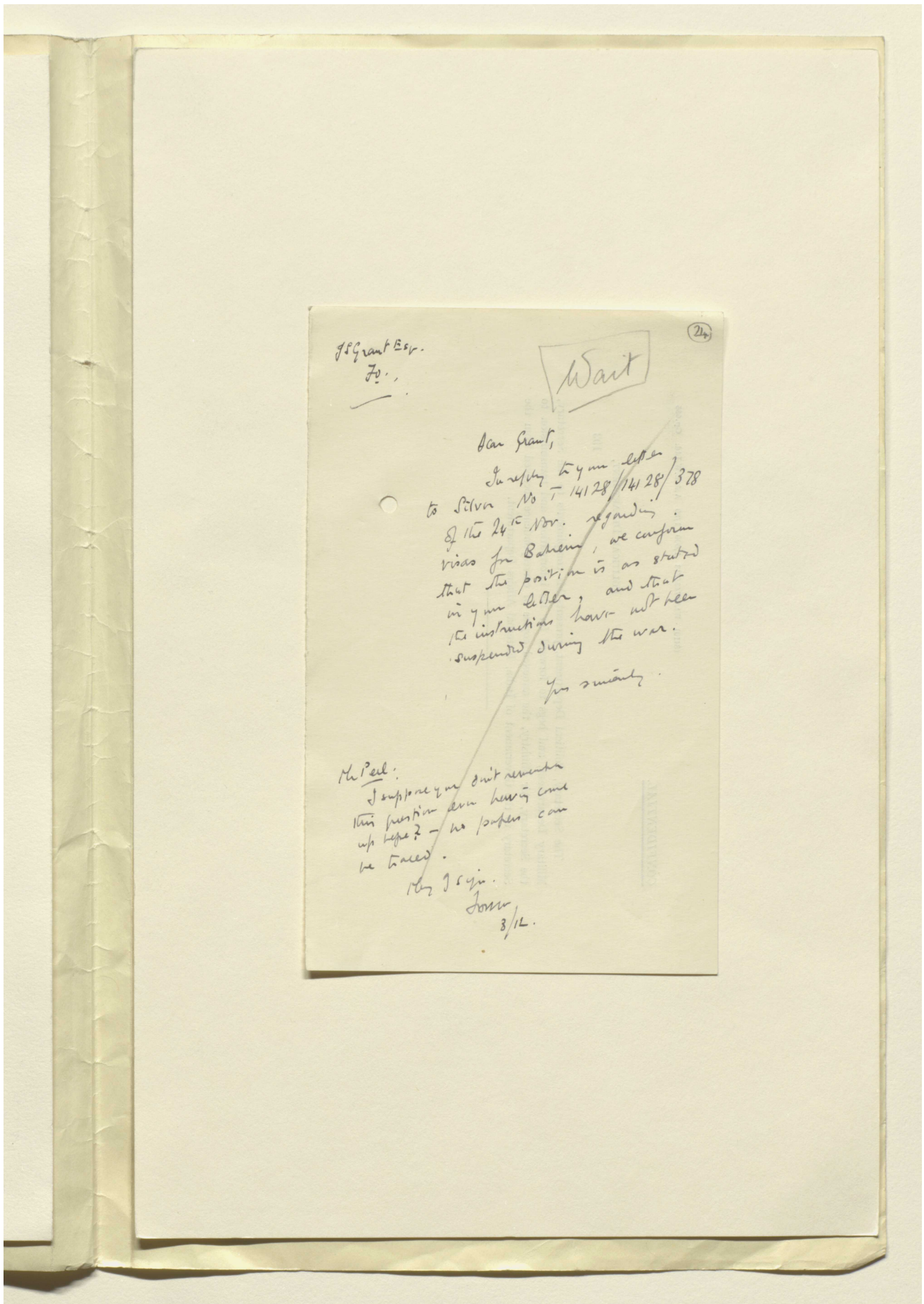




Dear Fred,
I can't recall an uneasy feeling that it
must have been.
Does your memory of the
early days of the war
enable you to assist at
all? It may be wisest
to consult the P.R. - but
I don't want him to be
able to point to some
previous decision!
Yours,
A.H.
4/2 Act 3/12

Mr. H.
I think I don't ask
Mr. Res. to confirm
that through passengers
do not require
I can't remember
even having seen this question
raised before, but I have
an uneasy feeling that it
must have been.
Does your memory of the
early days of the war
enable you to assist at
all? It may be wisest
to consult the P.R. - but
I don't want him to be
able to point to some
previous decision!
Yours,
A.H.
4/2 Act 3/12





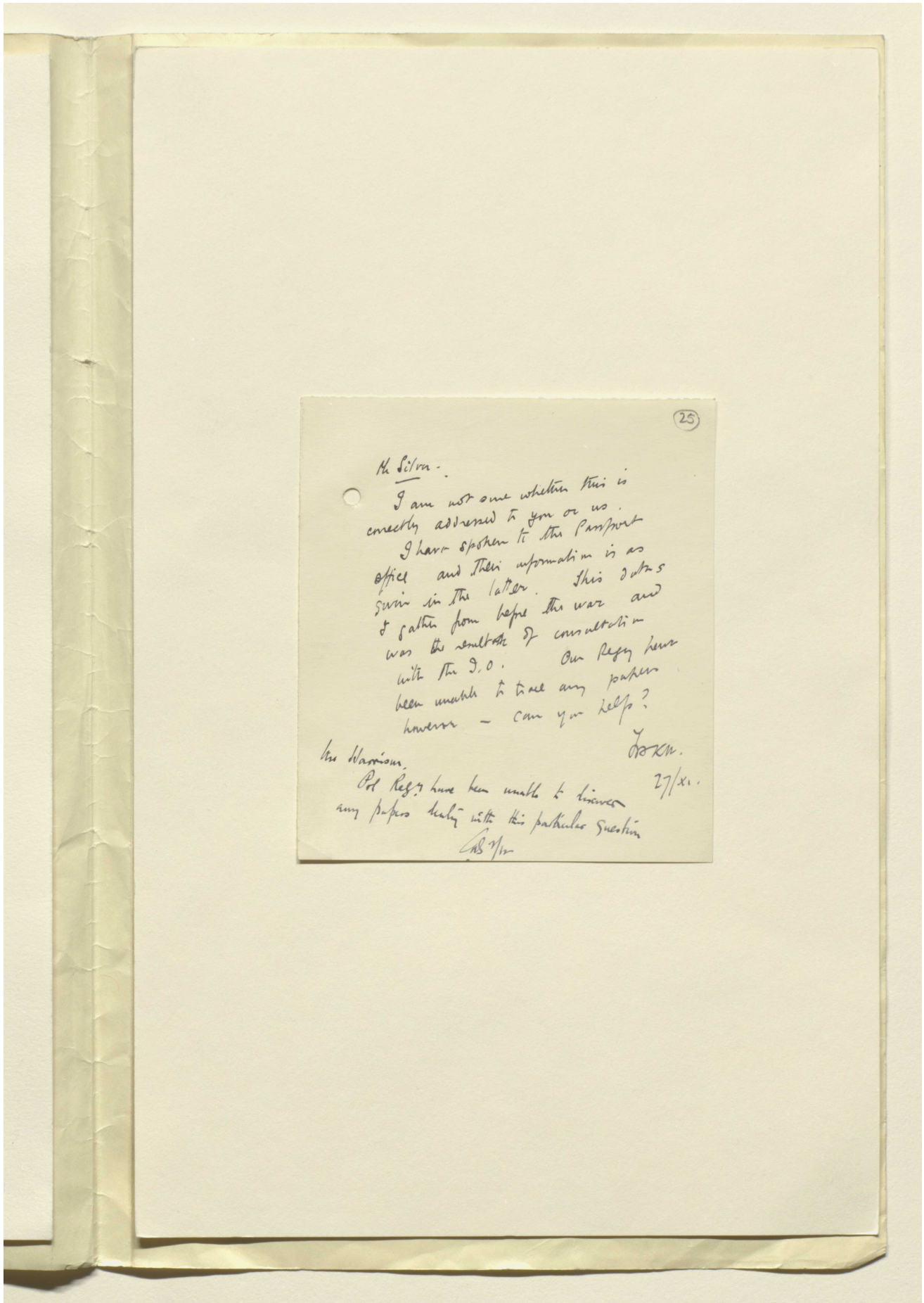
(6410) WL.39743/PT3 1,000 1/39 A.&E.V.Ltd. Gp.685

CONFIDENTIAL.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT,

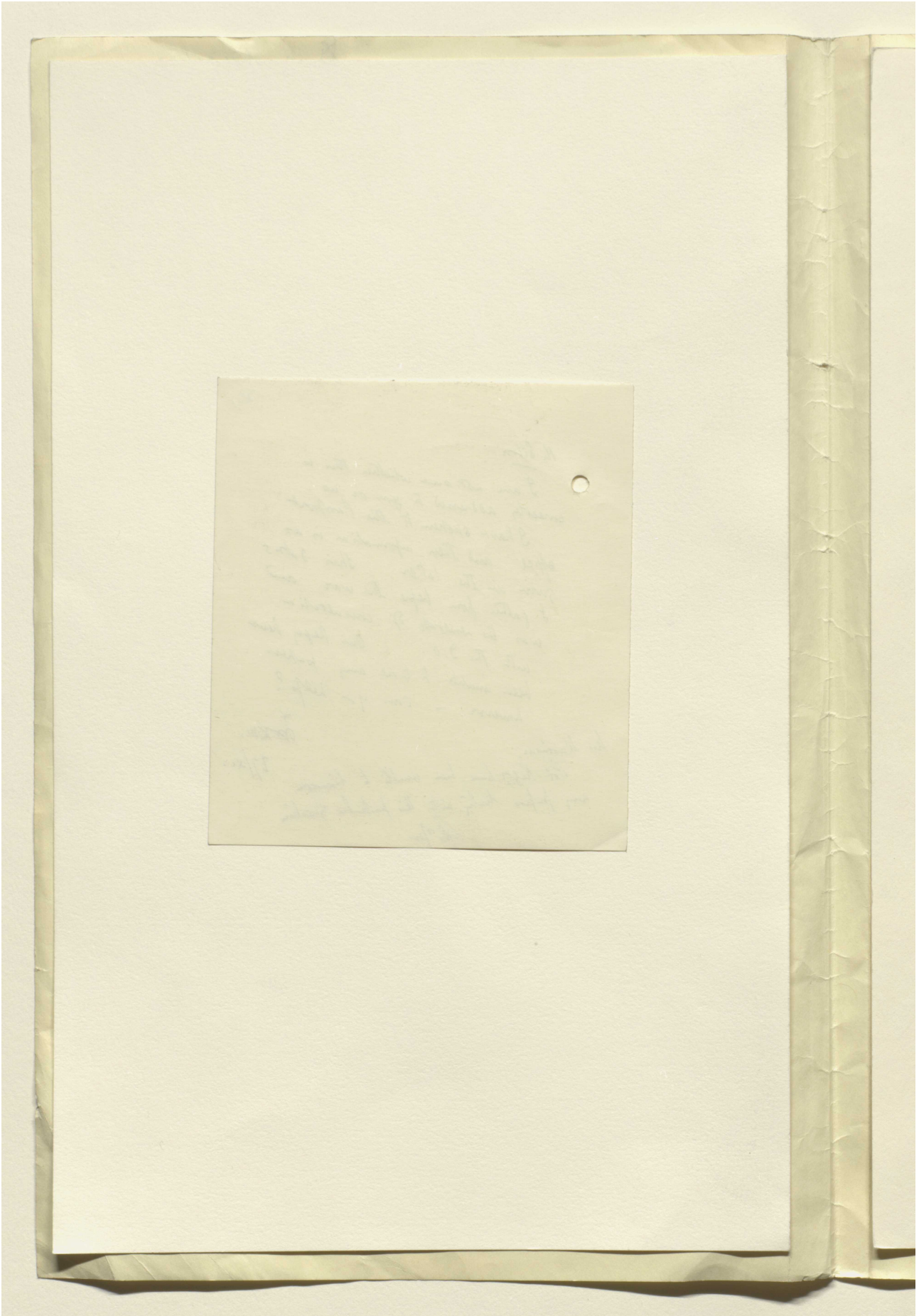
193

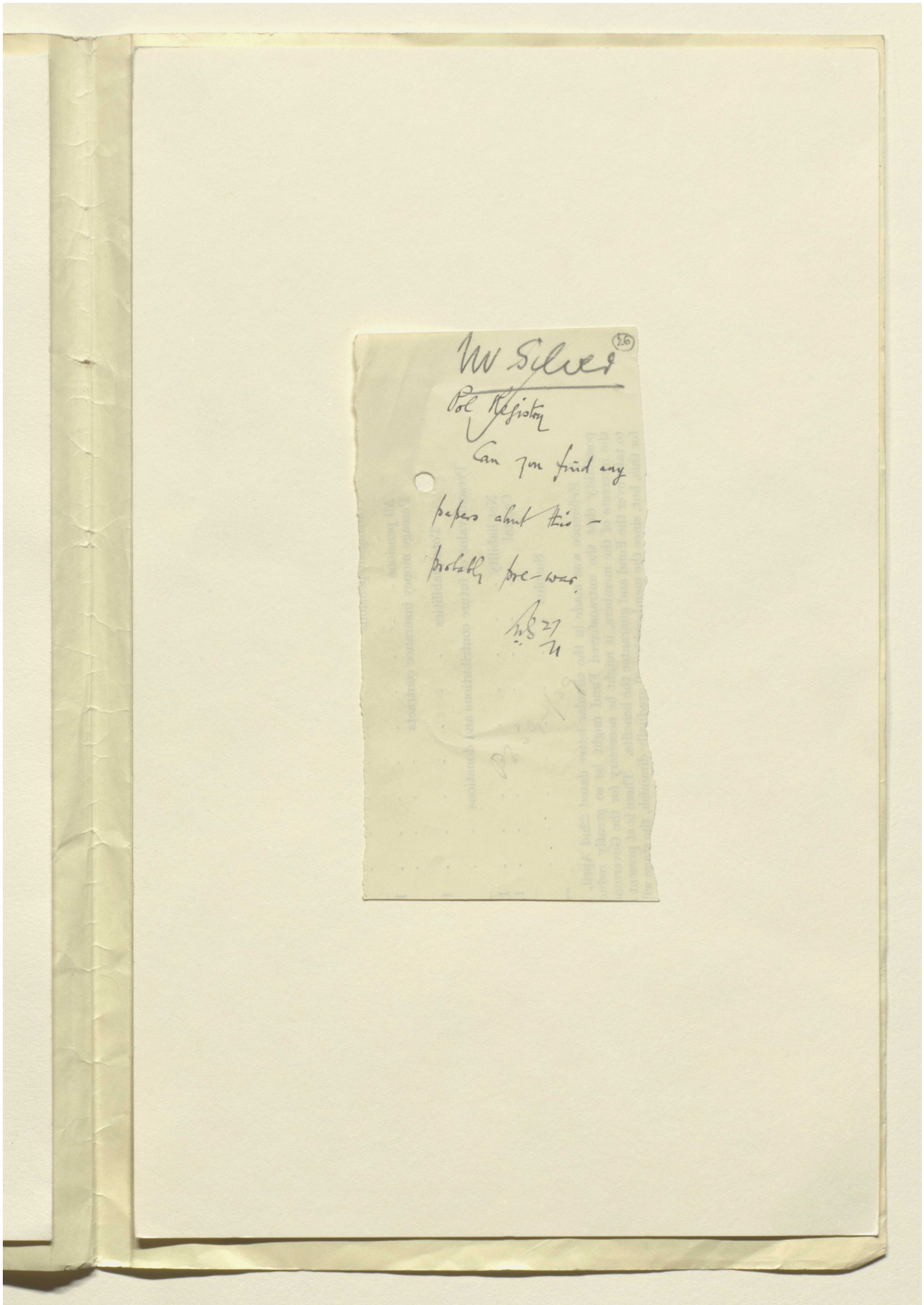
The Secretary, Political Department, presents his compliments to the Secretary, Military Department, and begs to forward for his information, and transmission to the Secretary, Air Ministry, the annexed copies of correspondence received from the Secretary to the Government of India, External Affairs Department.

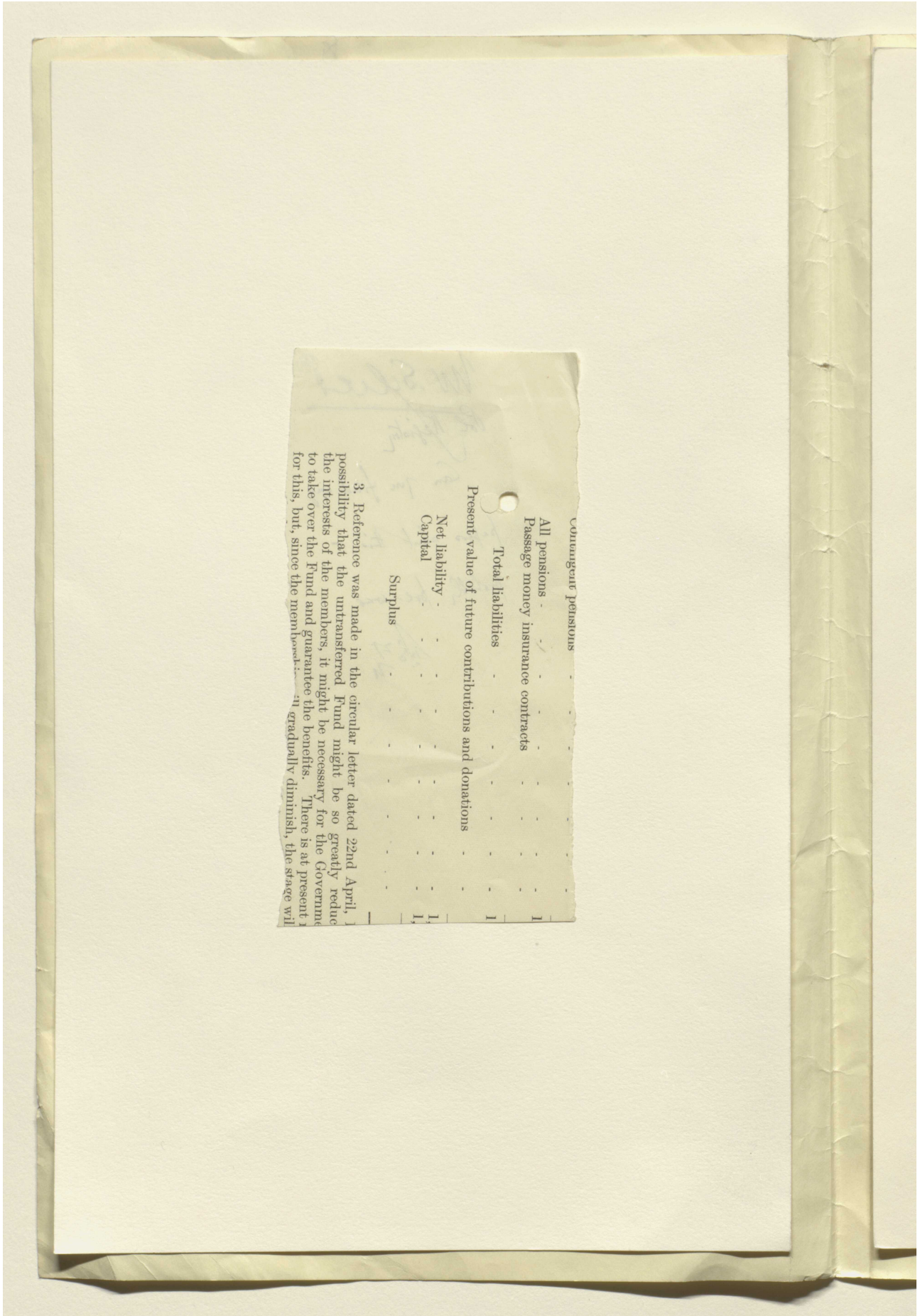


(25)

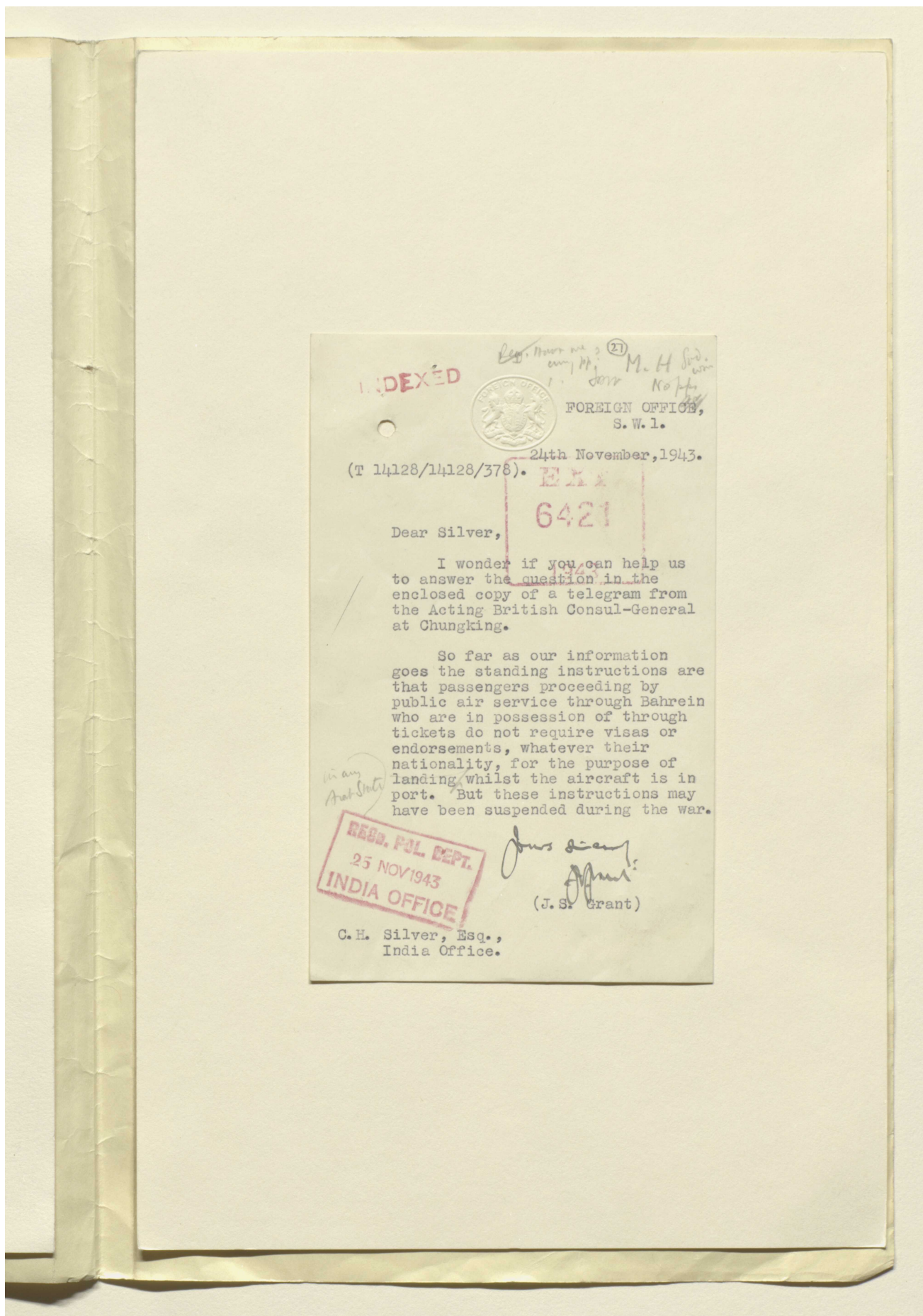
Mr. Simon -
I am not sure whether this is
correctly addressed to you or us.
I have spoken to the Passport
office and their information is as
given in the letter. This dates
& gather from before the war and
was the result of consultation
with the D.O. Our Regy have
been unable to trace any papers
however - can you help?
Yours,
J. S. M.
27/xi.
Mr. Harrison,
Our Regy have been unable to trace
any papers dealing with this particular question
J. S. M.







Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [27r] (53/58)



INDEXED



FOREIGN OFFICE,
S. W. 1.

24th November, 1943.

(T 14128/14128/378).

6421

Dear Silver,

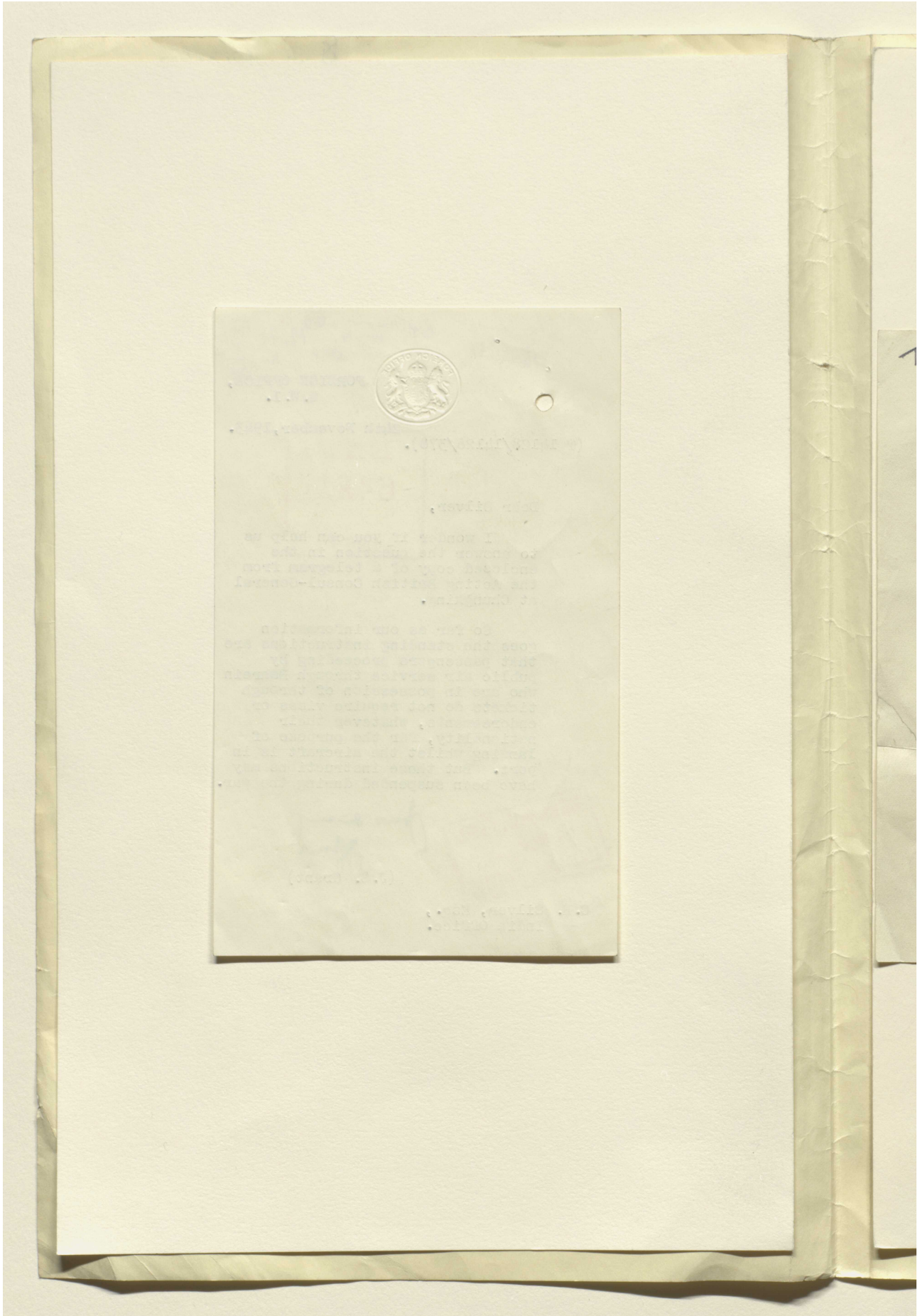
I wonder if you can help us to answer the question in the enclosed copy of a telegram from the Acting British Consul-General at Chungking.

So far as our information goes the standing instructions are that passengers proceeding by public air service through Bahrein who are in possession of through tickets do not require visas or endorsements, whatever their nationality, for the purpose of landing whilst the aircraft is in port. But these instructions may have been suspended during the war.

REGD. POL. DEPT.
25 NOV 1943
INDIA OFFICE

J. S. Grant
(J. S. Grant)

C. H. Silver, Esq.,
India Office.



T14128 | 14128 | 378

EXT
6421
1943

[CODE]. (R).

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1

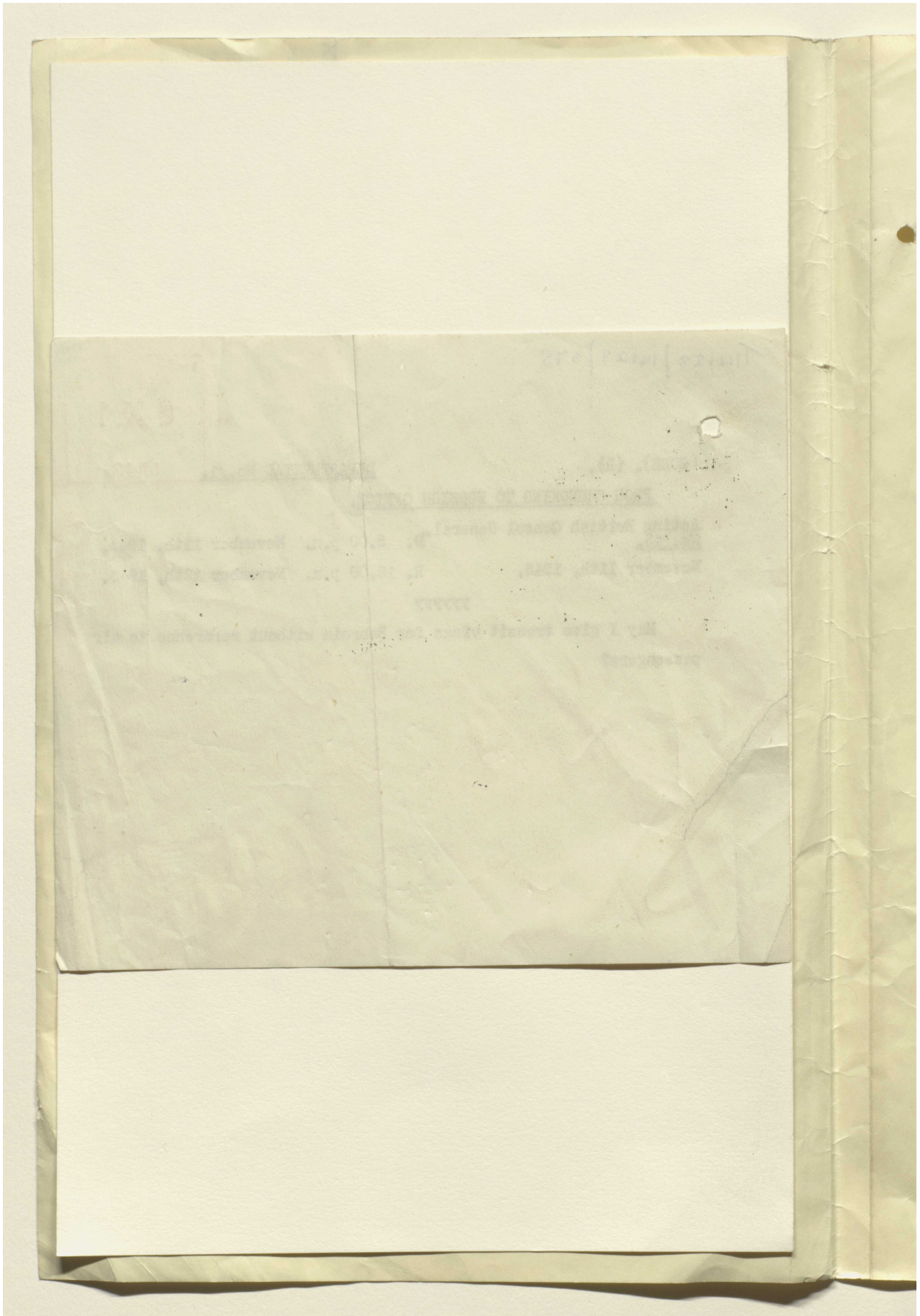
FROM CHUNGKING TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Acting British Consul General. D. 5.00 p.m. November 11th, 1943.
No. 13.
November 11th, 1943. R. 12.00 p.m. November 12th, 1943.

YYYYYY

May I give transit visas for Bahrein without reference to air
passengers?

Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [28v] (56/58)



Ext 6421/43 'Air passengers visas for landing in any Arab state' [back-i]
(57/58)

21

SECRET

Cover for Enclosures in Weekly Letter No. P.Z.....
dated.....from Secretary, Political and
Secret Department (External), India Office, to
Secretary to the Government of India, External
Affairs Department.

6448 Wt 21725/P 139 1000 9.37

