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Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.'

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	IOR/L/PS/12/2105
Date(s)	11 Apr 1931-13 Feb 1934 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 file (85 folios)
Copyright for document	<u>Unknown</u>



About this record

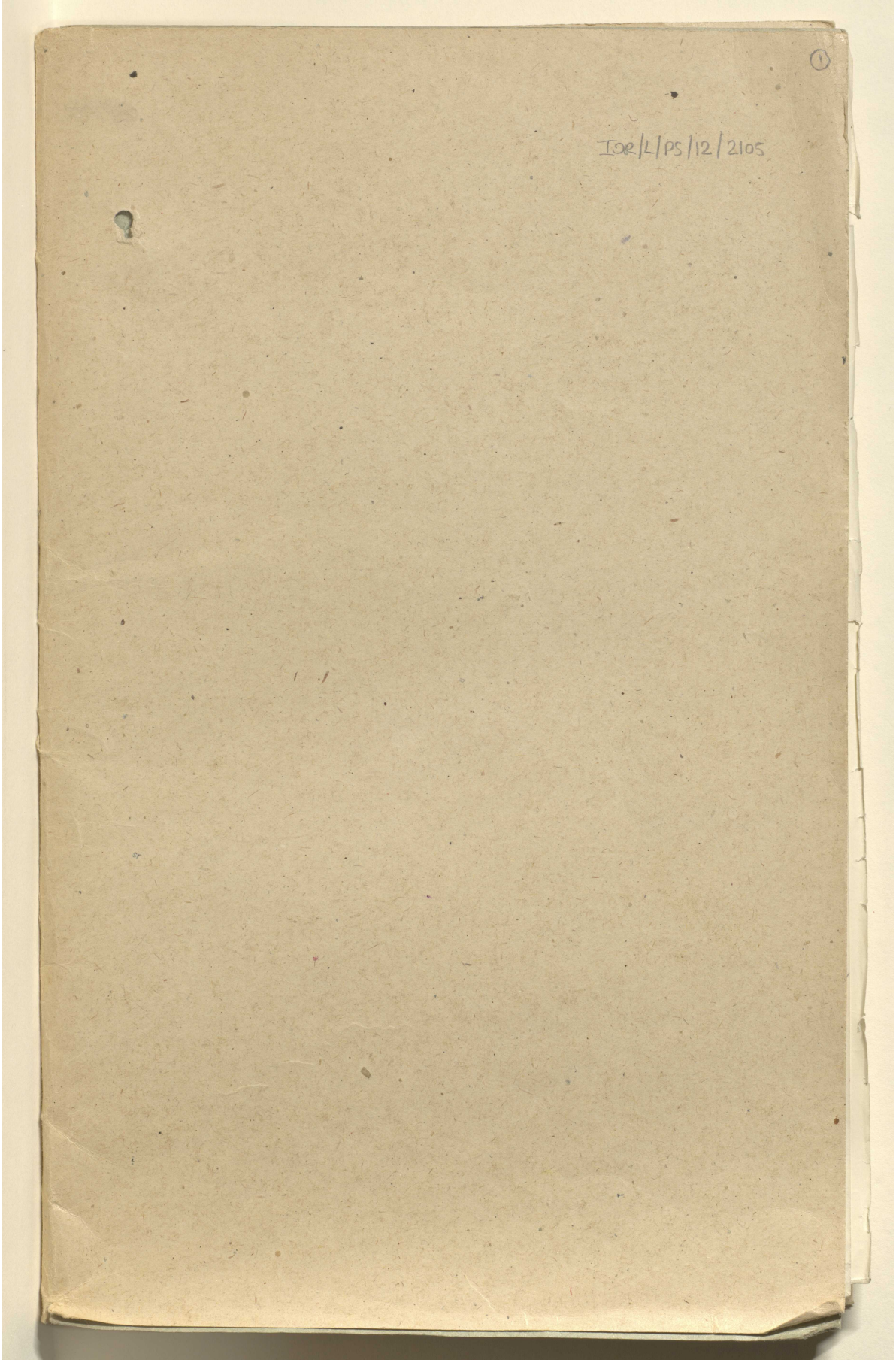
This file, which largely consists of copies of Foreign Office and Colonial Office correspondence, relates to the position and national status of British subjects and protected persons residing in the Kingdom of the Hejaz and Nejd (later Saudi Arabia). The correspondence includes discussion of the following:

- The treatment of foreign chauffeurs employed by the Hejazi Government.
- Details of a proposed census of all male inhabitants of Hejazi towns, and the possible implications for foreign residents.
- Reports that the authorities in Mecca are demanding that foreign residents produce documentary proof of their foreign nationality within fifteen days, with the alternatives being either to adopt Saudi nationality or to leave the country within three months.
- The status in Saudi Arabia of natives of the Hadramaut.
- Reports of British protected persons of African origin being pressured to leave the country within a period of ten days (or in certain cases, to enter military service).
- Reports that British Indian chauffeurs and mechanics working in Saudi Arabia have been

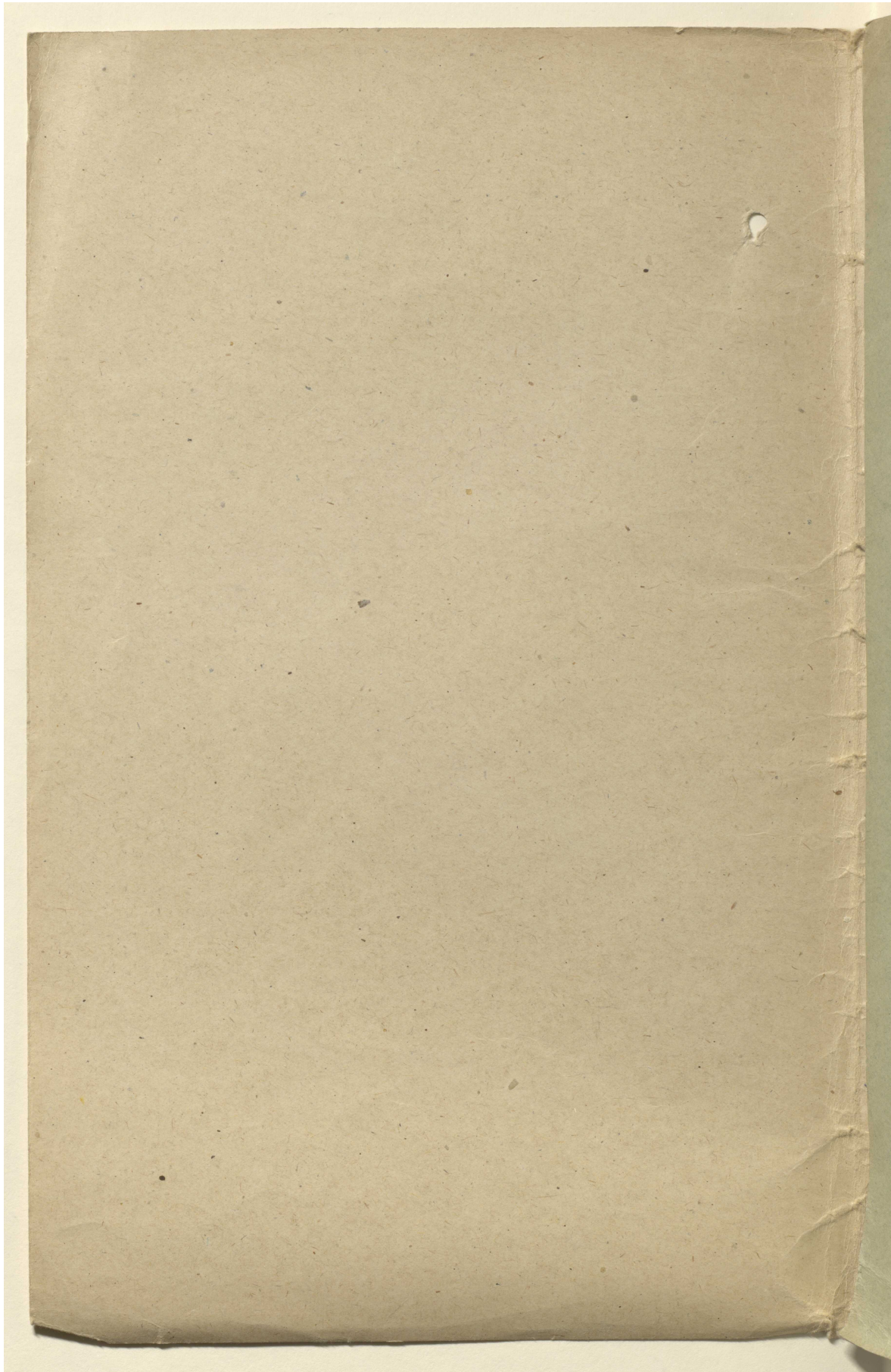
informed that they cannot continue working in their occupations unless they adopt Saudi nationality, on the grounds that cars which are engaged for military purposes cannot be driven or maintained by foreigners.

The file features the following correspondents: His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires to Jedda (Cecil Gervase Hope Gill, succeeded by Albert Spencer Calvert); His Majesty's Minister at Jedda (Sir Andrew Ryan); the Minister of Foreign Affairs for Saudi Arabia (Fayṣal bin 'Abd al-'Azīz Āl Sa'ūd); officials of the Foreign Office, the Colonial Office, and the Government of India's Foreign and Political Department.

The file includes a divider which gives a list of correspondence references contained in the file by year. This is placed at the back of the correspondence (folio 2).



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [front-i] (2/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [2r] (3/174)

Previous File: *B2261/31 (Inc)*

Next File:

IOR: *L/P05/12/2105*

No. *6*

File *38*

POLITICAL (EXTERNAL) DEPARTMENT.
COLLECTION.

GENERAL HEADING

Arabia.

Saudi-Arabia.

SUB-HEAD

*Position and National Status of
British subjects and protected persons.*

Notes:

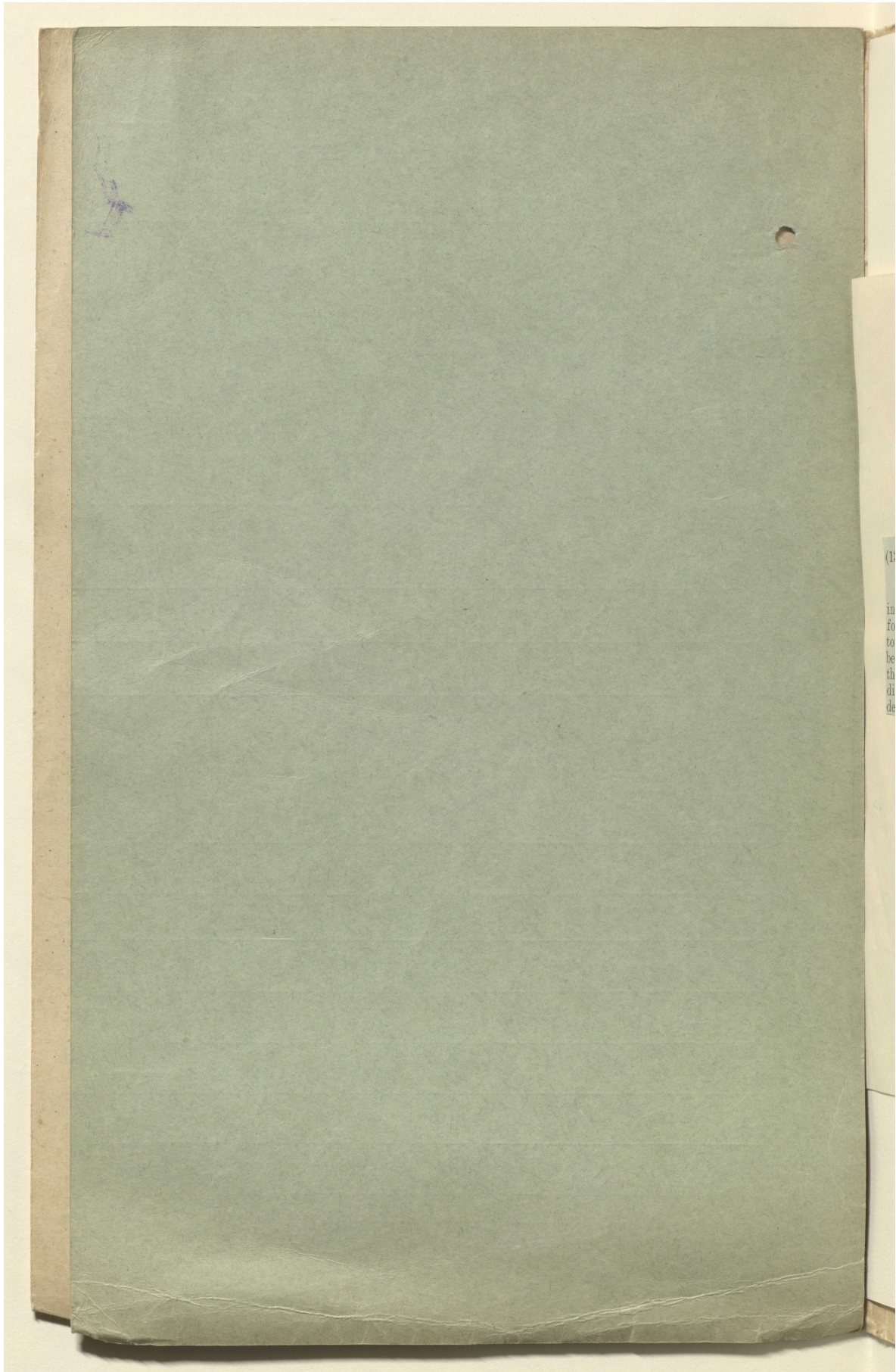
This File contains the following papers:—

YEAR.	P.Z.	2361	2858.	4556.			
1932.	P.Z.	<i>4341.</i>	<i>4666.</i>	<i>7112.</i>	<i>7227.</i>	<i>7424.</i>	<i>7895</i>
1933.	P.Z.	<i>4472</i>	<i>5201.</i>	<i>7874.</i>			
1934.	P.Z.	<i>71</i>	<i>253.</i>	<i>298.</i>			
19	.	P.					
19	.	P.					
19	.	P.					
19	.	P.					
19	.	P.					

Papers may be removed from or placed within this File only by the Political Registry.

4987B 1000 12.30

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [2v] (4/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [3r] (5/174)

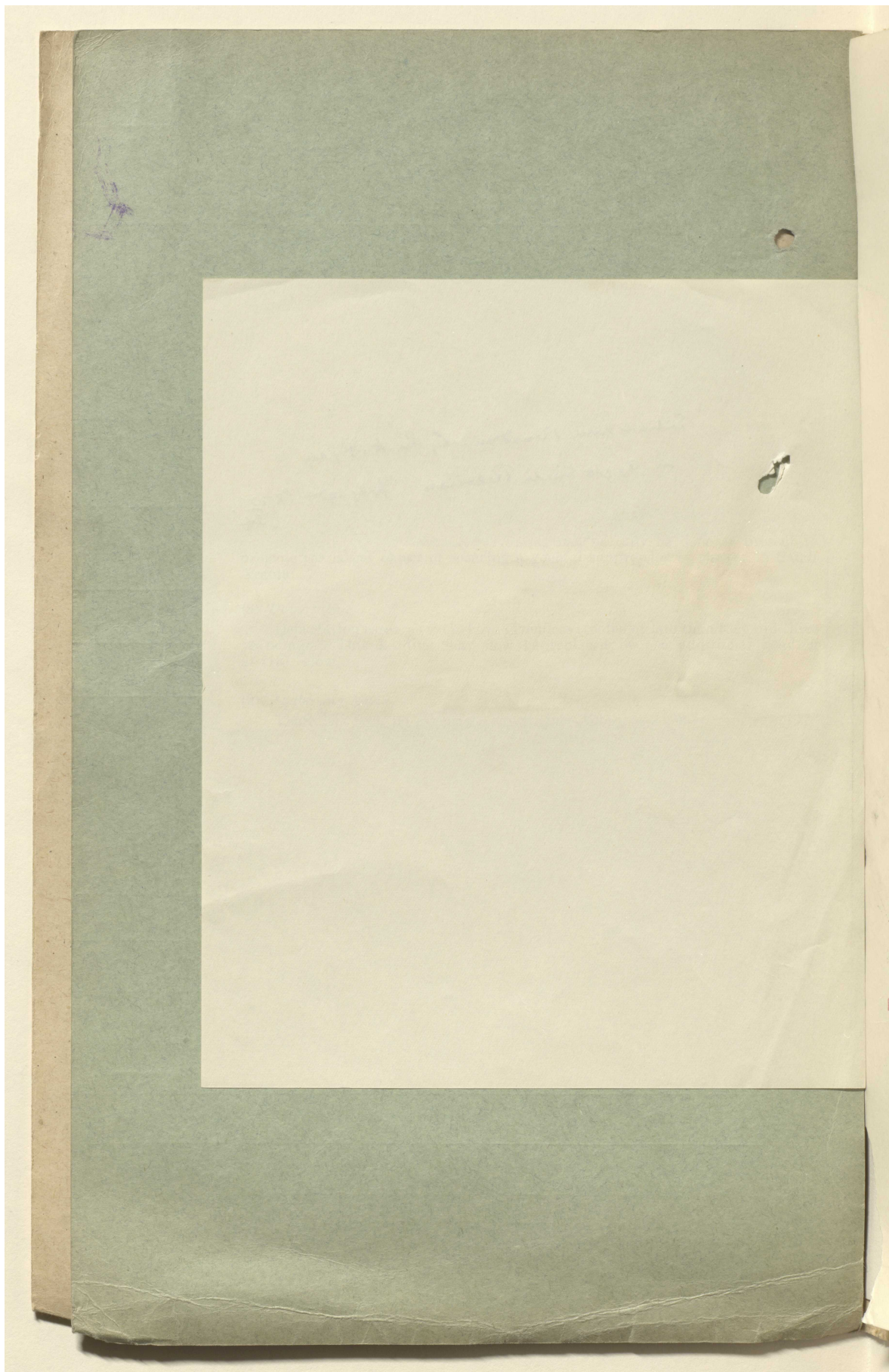
③ 1

Extract from London. by Sir A. Ryan
on Anglo-Saudi Relations: July 1937. P25025
34

(13) *Attitude of the Saudi Government towards Moslem British Subjects and Protected Persons.*

This problem has grown in importance since 1932, owing to the increasing indications of a drive on the part of the Saudi Government to reduce certain foreign elements in their country, especially such as tend to over-populate the towns, and, in particular, Mecca, with nondescripts. Broadly speaking, it may be said that their policy is less open to criticism than the methods employed in their spasmodic attempts to give effect to it. The growth of xenophobia, however, directs attention to the lack of any *droit d'établissement* whatsoever. I have dealt with the whole subject at length in a recent despatch to the Foreign Office.

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [3v] (6/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [4r] (7/174)

(4) 2

Notes.

Register No.

P. Z.

298/34

SECRET.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

Minute Paper.

Dated

193

Rec.

	Date.	Initials.	SUBJECT.
To			Saudi - Arabia.
Under Secretary			Position of British subjects and protected persons.
Secretary of State...			
Committee.....	9. 2.	...	
Under Secretary.....			
Secretary of State....			

Copy of

to

FOR INFORMATION.

Please see the submission at P.Z. 5209/33.
Pressure is again being brought to bear by the Saudi authorities on British subjects who are chauffeurs or motor-mechanics to adopt Saudi nationality or give up their profession. The Saudi excuse for this action is that they cannot have foreigners driving cars containing troops or military stores and since in view of the Saudi-Yemen situation every car is liable to be requisitioned for this purpose H.M. Charge d'Affaires found this principle difficult to combat. Some of these chauffeurs are Indians and most of them are now penniless having received ~~no~~ pay from their employers (the Govt. or others) for several months. It is doubtful whether they will ever be paid and the Govt. of India have agreed to

SEEN
POLITICAL COMMITTEE

13 FEB 1934

Previous papers :-

1743 1000 3.33

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [4v] (8/174)

the repatriation of the Indians concerned on the usual terms.

The F.O. are considering what action can be taken in respect of the virtual dismissal of these and other British chauffeurs without adequate notice.

This is but one more illustration of the unsatisfactory conditions of service for foreigners under the Saudi Govt.

H. Crombie

15/1/34

HTM

12 -

Rtk-

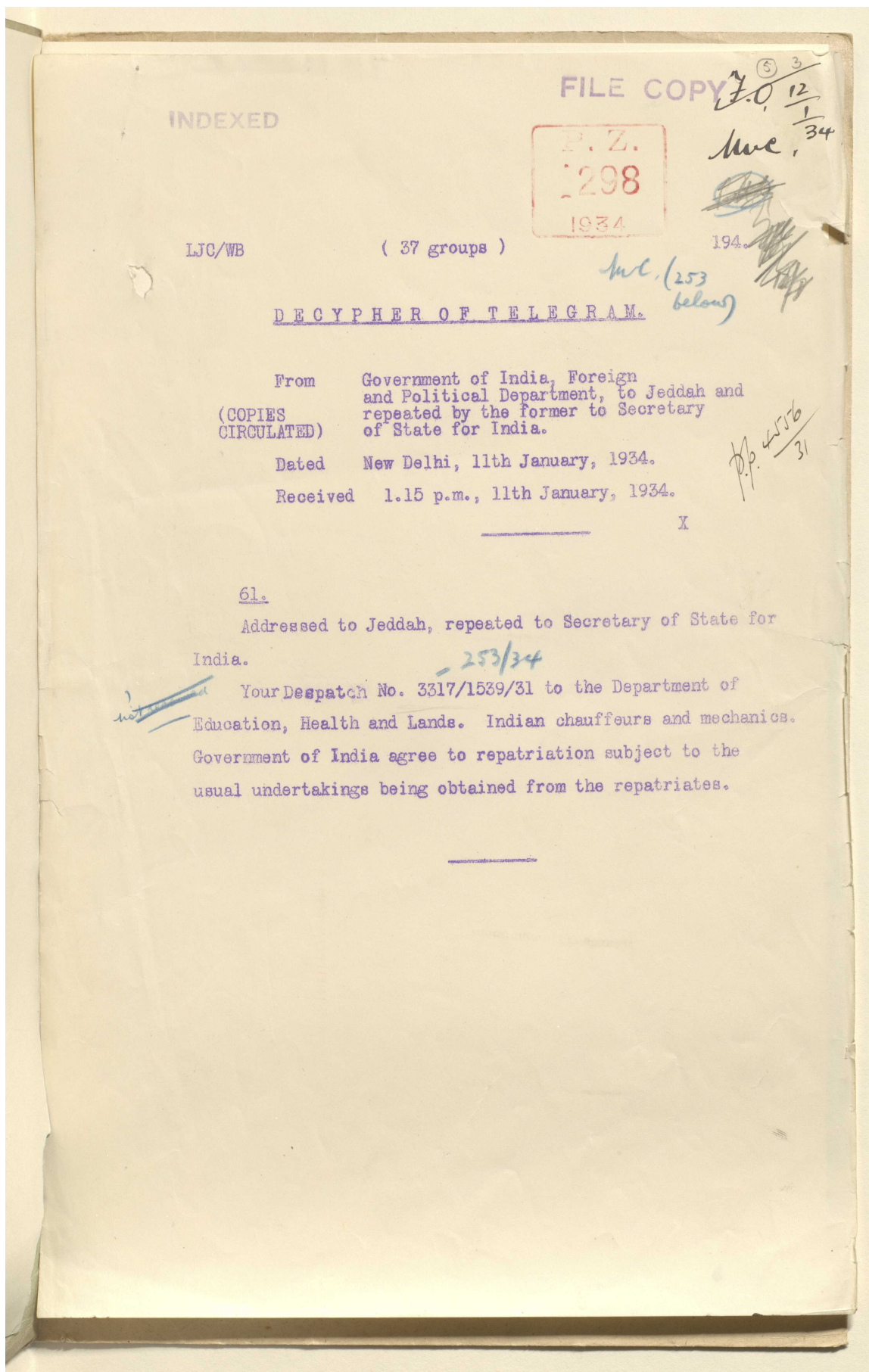
12/2

RM
13/2

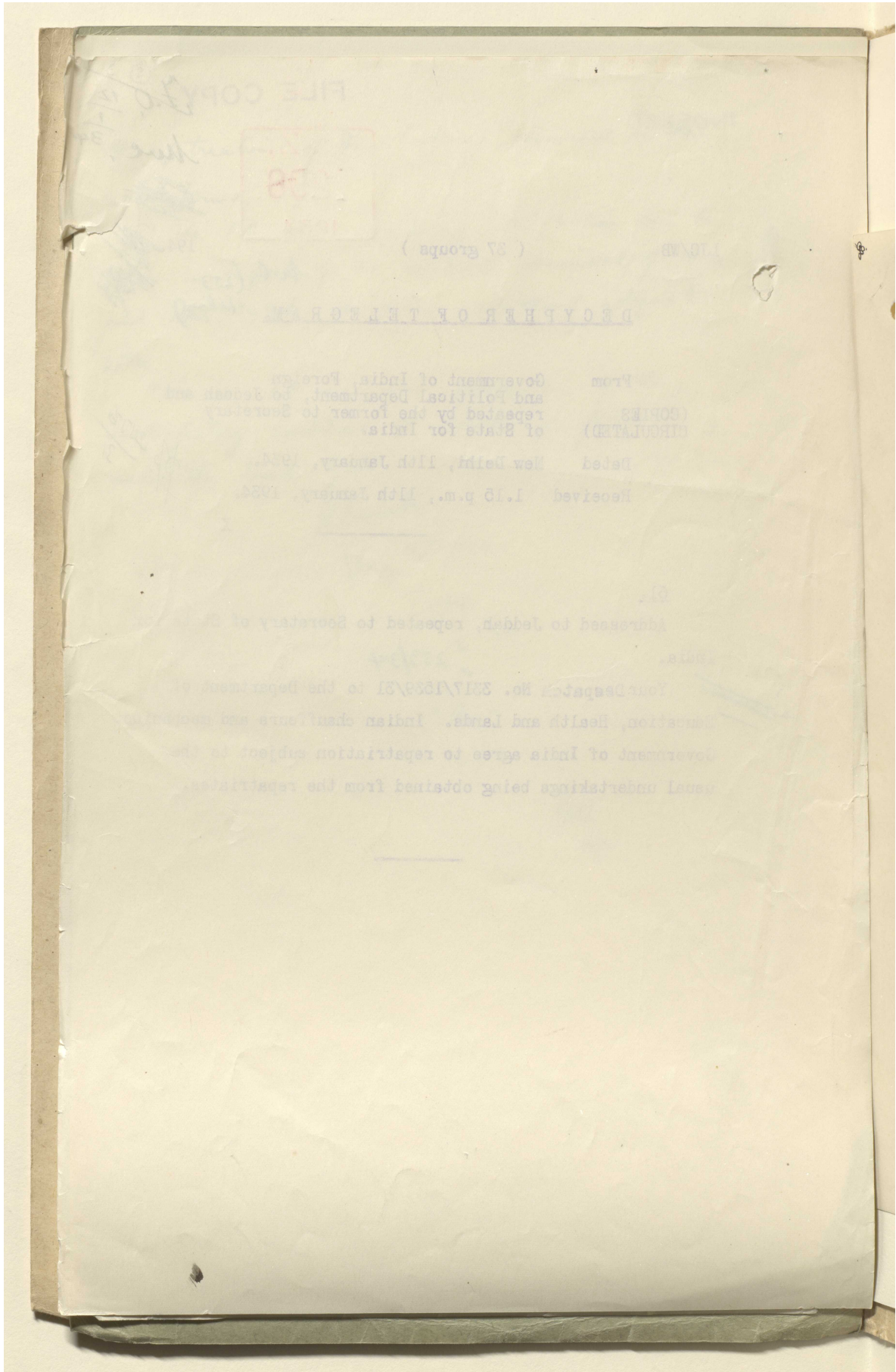
SEEN
POLITICAL COMMITTEE.

13 FEB 1934

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [5r] (9/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [5v] (10/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [6r] (11/174)

INDIA DIRECT
P. Z.
253
1934

Sub 4
6
JRC

INDEXED

In any further communication on this subject, please quote
No. T/020/3825/378
and address—not to any person by name, but to—
"The Under-Secretary of State," Foreign Office, London, S.W. 1.

THE Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his
compliments to *the Under-Secretary of State for India*
and, by direction of the Secretary of State,
transmits herewith copies of the under-mentioned paper. *bill*

Foreign Office,
Jan: 10th, 1934. *6/38*

Reference to previous correspondence:
Foreign Office letter No. T13909/3825/378, of Jan: 1st 1934.

Description of Enclosure.

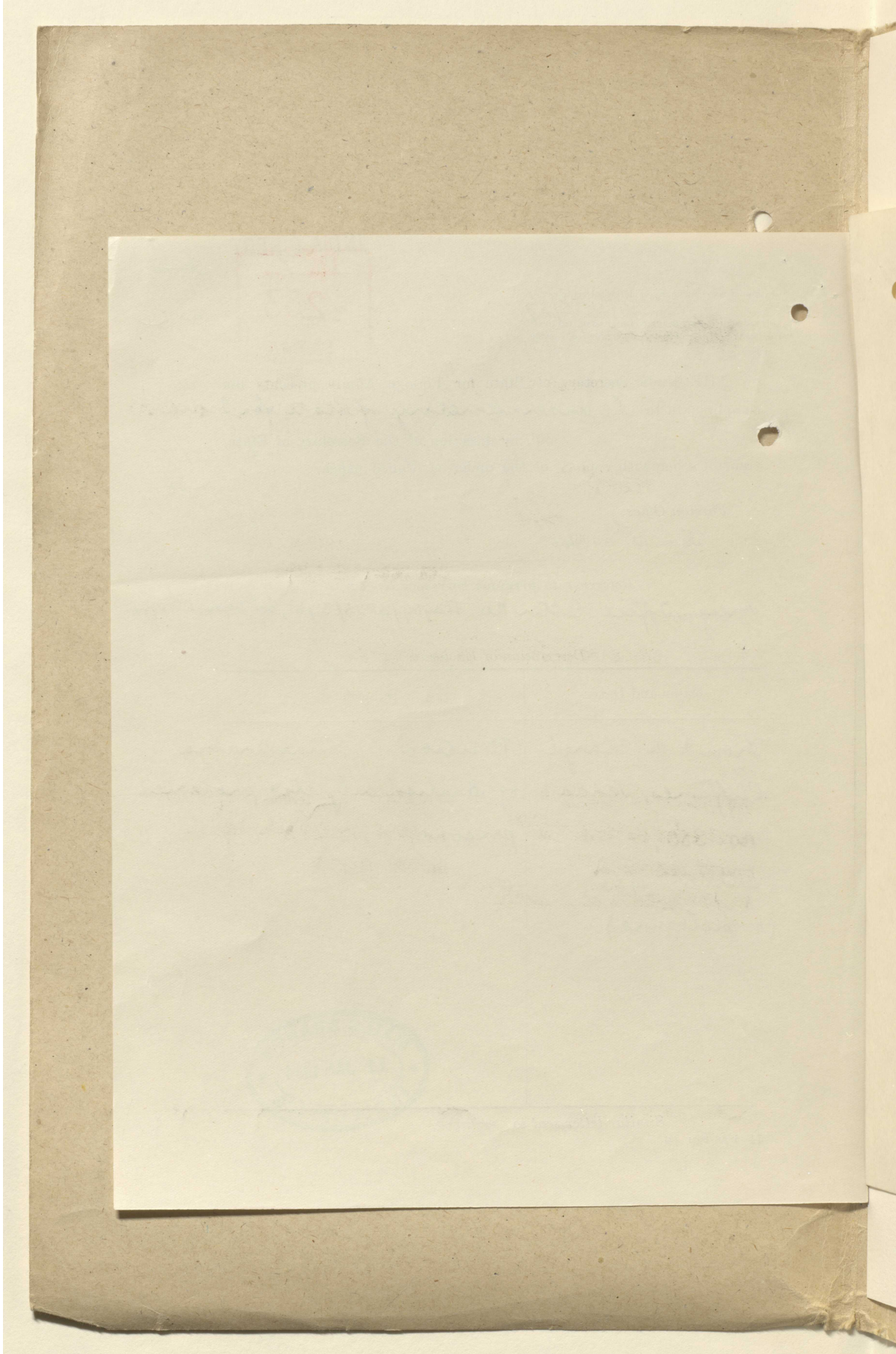
Name and Date.	Subject.
<i>From H. M. Chargé d'Affaires, Jedda. No. 350, Dec: 5th 1933 (+ enclosure)</i>	<i>Position in Saudi Arabia of British subjects & protected persons.</i>

71

MAILS BRANCH
11 JAN 1934
INDIA OFFICE

Similar letter sent to _____

14-6130 8931 (2)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [7r] (13/174)

5
⑦

No. 350.
(3319/1539/31)

P. Z.
253
1934

HIS Majesty's **Chargé d'Affaires** at **Jedda**
presents his compliments to **His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State**
and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned documents.
for Foreign Affairs.

British.....Legation,.....
.....Jedda.
.....

5th. December. 1933. 193....

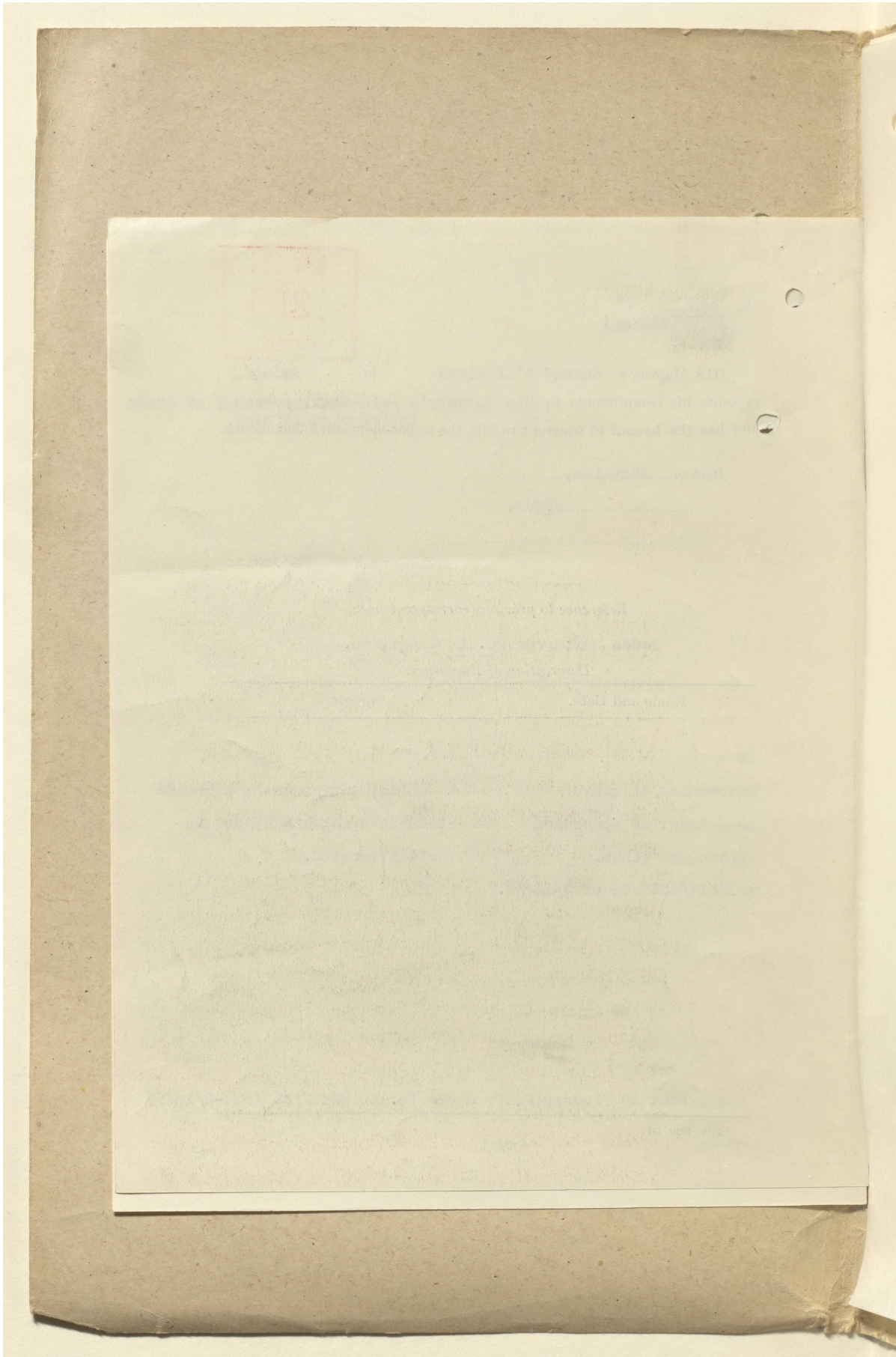
Reference to previous correspondence :
4/1
Jedda Savingram No.15 of 4/12/33.

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
<p>To :</p> <p>Government of India.</p> <p>Department of Education</p> <p>Health and Lands.</p> <p>No. <u>3317/1539/31</u> of 5/12/33.</p>	<p>Sa'udi Government's attitude</p> <p>towards British subjects in</p> <p>Sa'udi service.</p>

(Copy sent to Viceroy(F.&P) under No.120(3318/1539/31)-5/12/33

3479 7650 (2).



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [8r] (15/174)

No. 5317/1539/31

URGENT.

P. Z.
253
1934

British Legation,

Jedda.

5th December 1933.

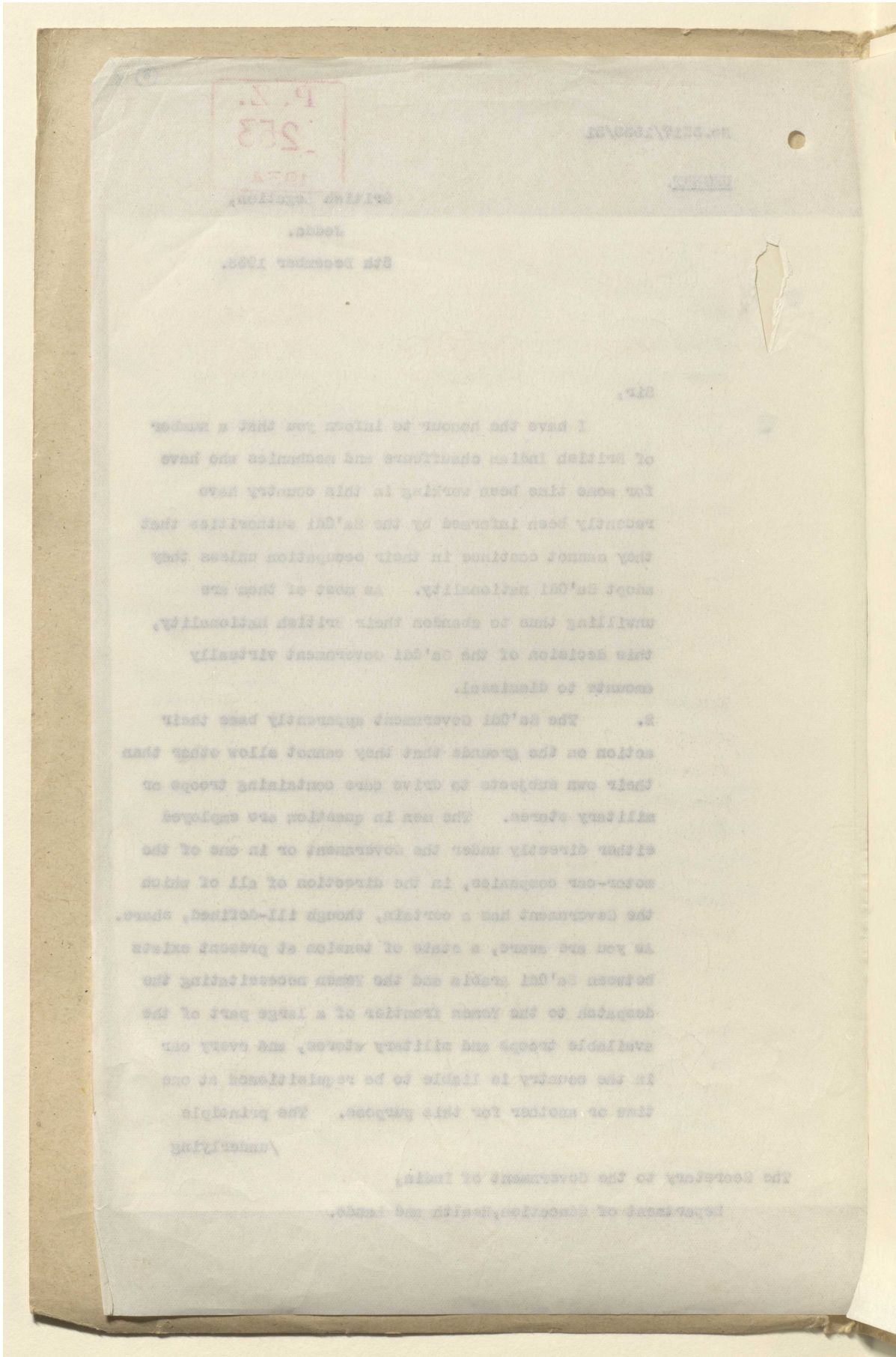
Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that a number of British Indian chauffeurs and mechanics who have for some time been working in this country have recently been informed by the Sa'udi authorities that they cannot continue in their occupation unless they adopt Sa'udi nationality. As most of them are unwilling thus to abandon their British nationality, this decision of the Sa'udi Government virtually amounts to dismissal.

2. The Sa'udi Government apparently base their action on the grounds that they cannot allow other than their own subjects to drive cars containing troops or military stores. The men in question are employed either directly under the Government or in one of the motor-car companies, in the direction of all of which the Government has a certain, though ill-defined, share. As you are aware, a state of tension at present exists between Sa'udi Arabia and the Yemen necessitating the despatch to the Yemen frontier of a large part of the available troops and military stores, and every car in the country is liable to be requisitioned at one time or another for this purpose. The principle
/underlying

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Department of Education, Health and Lands.

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [8v] (16/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [9r] (17/174)

9 7

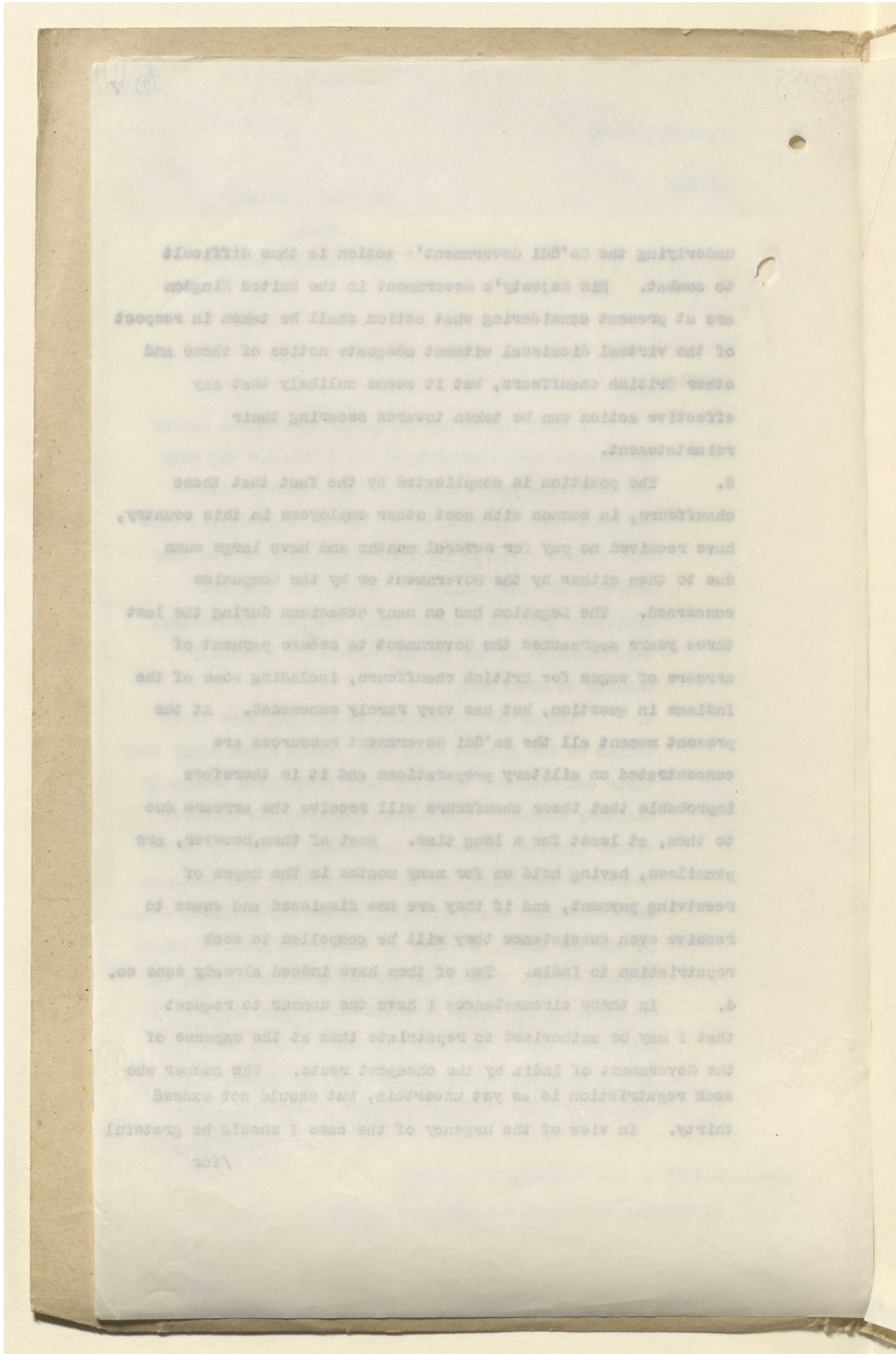
underlying the Sa'udi Government's action is thus difficult to combat. His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom are at present considering what action shall be taken in respect of the virtual dismissal without adequate notice of these and other British chauffeurs, but it seems unlikely that any effective action can be taken towards securing their reinstatement.

3. The position is complicated by the fact that these chauffeurs, in common with most other employees in this country, have received no pay for several months and have large sums due to them either by the Government or by the Companies concerned. The Legation has on many occasions during the last three years approached the Government to secure payment of arrears of wages for British chauffeurs, including some of the Indians in question, but has very rarely succeeded. At the present moment all the Sa'udi Government resources are concentrated on military preparations and it is therefore improbable that these chauffeurs will receive the arrears due to them, at least for a long time. Most of them, however, are penniless, having held on for many months in the hopes of receiving payment, and if they are now dismissed and cease to receive even subsistence they will be compelled to seek repatriation to India. Two of them have indeed already done so.

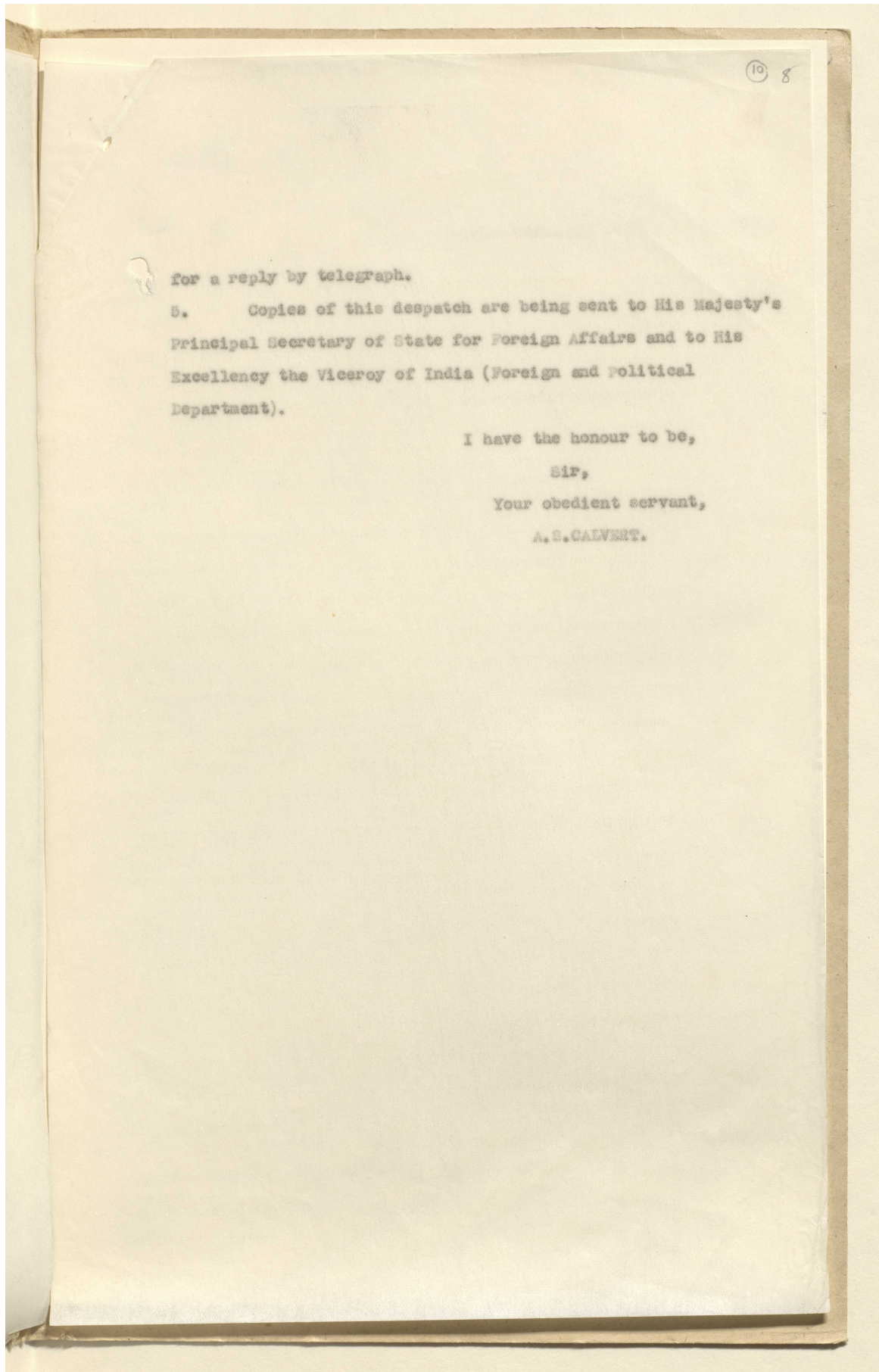
4. In these circumstances I have the honour to request that I may be authorised to repatriate them at the expense of the Government of India by the cheapest route. The number who seek repatriation is as yet uncertain, but should not exceed thirty. In view of the urgency of the case I should be grateful

/for

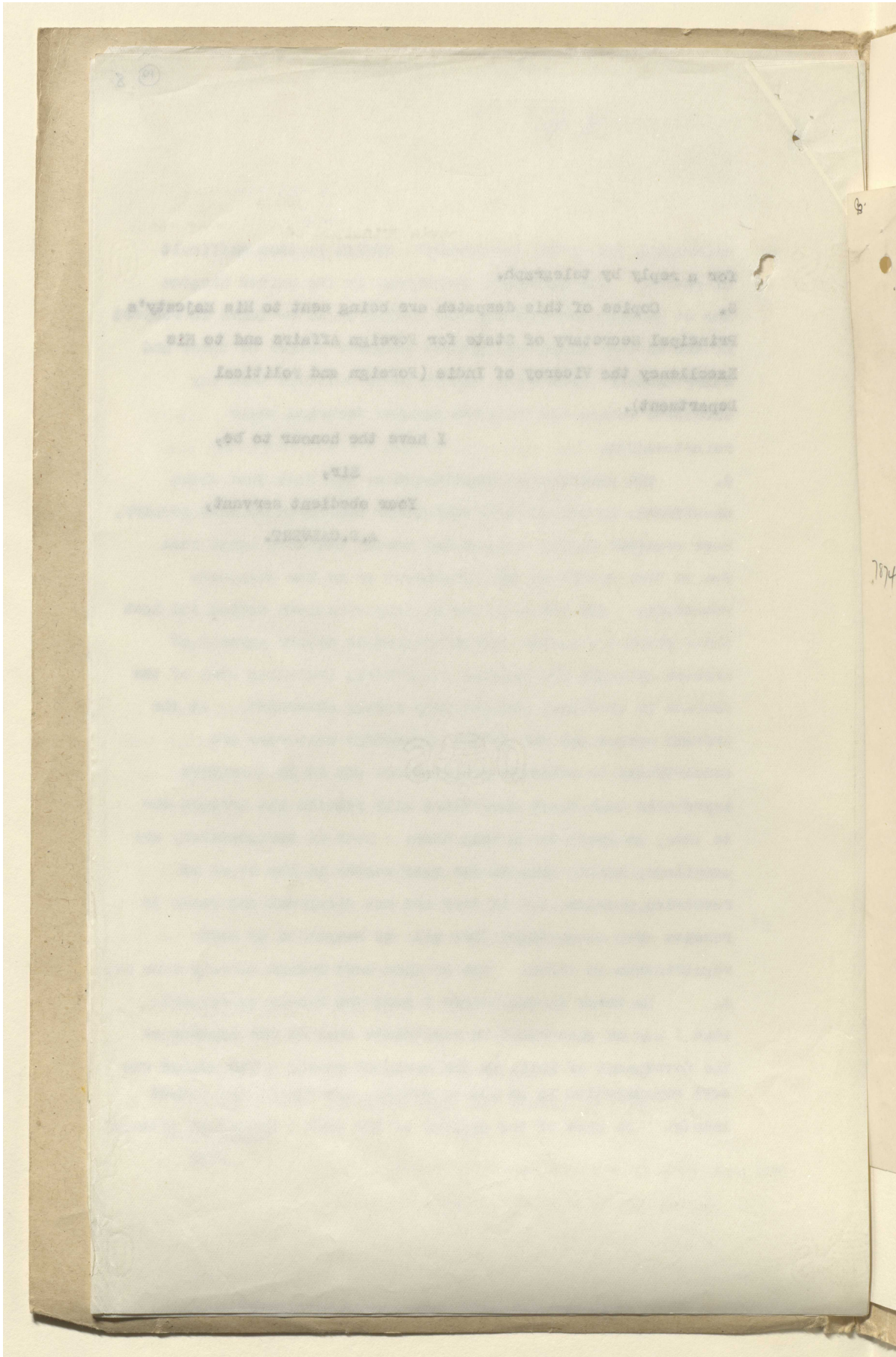
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [9v] (18/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [10r] (19/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [10v] (20/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [11r] (21/174)

8.

INDEXED

In any further communication on this subject, please quote
No. T13909/3825/378
and address—not to any person by name, but to—
"The Under-Secretary of State," Foreign Office, London, S.W. 1.

P. Z.
71
1934

① India
H.C.

THE Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for India, and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copies of the under-mentioned paper.

Foreign Office,
Jan: 1st, 1934.

Reference to previous correspondence:
Foreign Office letter No. T12887/3825/378 of Dec: 4th 1933.

7874

Keep
PP: 7874 4/1
33
bill 6/38
Box 1.

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Telegram from H. M. Chargé d'affaires, Jedda, No. 15 (Saving) Dec: 4 th 1933.	Position in Saudi Arabia of British subjects & protected persons.

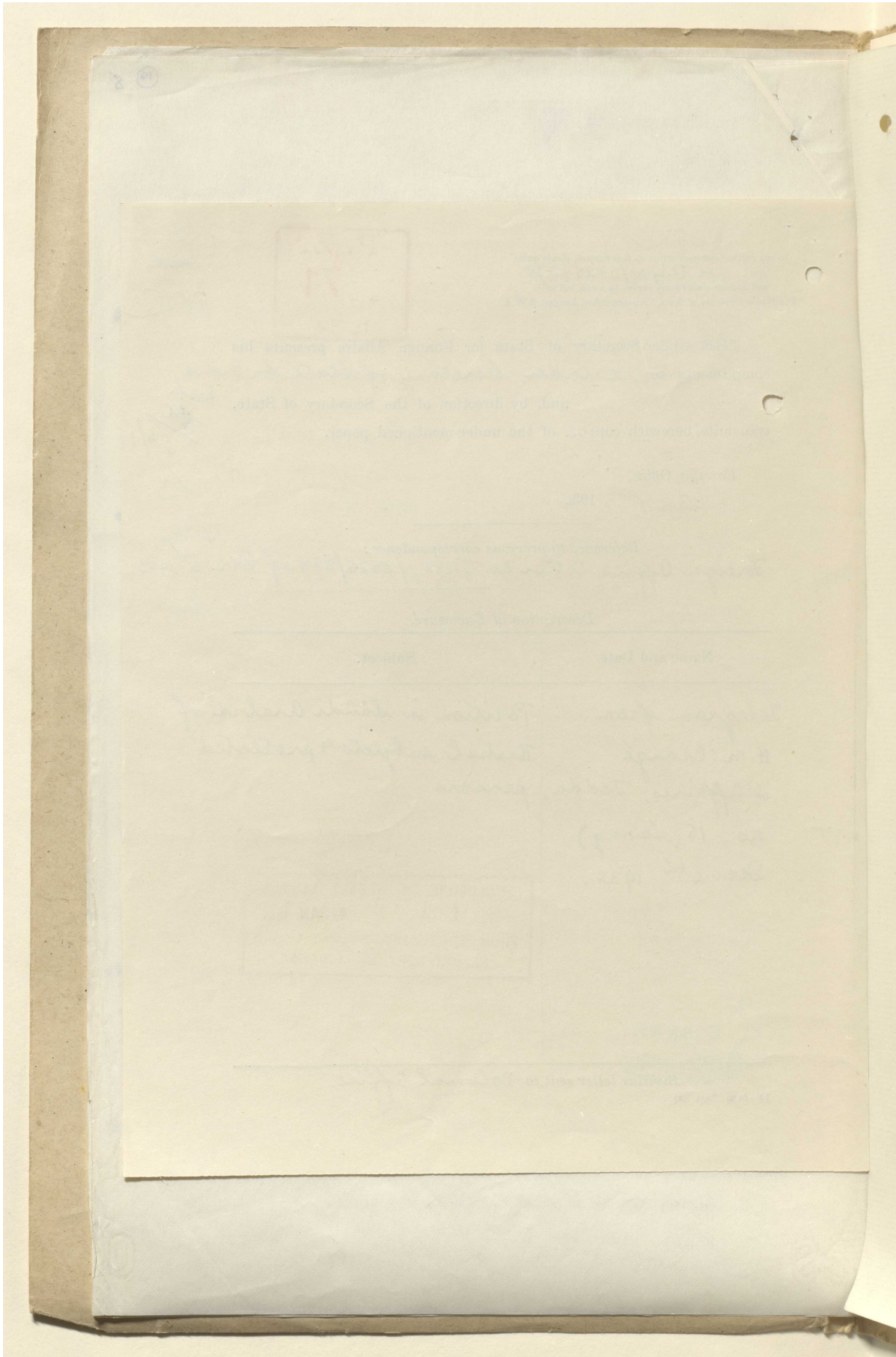
ENCLOSURE IN WEEKLY LETTER
No. 1 4 JAN. 1934
FROM SECRETARY, POLITICAL AND
SECRET DEPT. INDIA OFFICE

2 JAN 1934

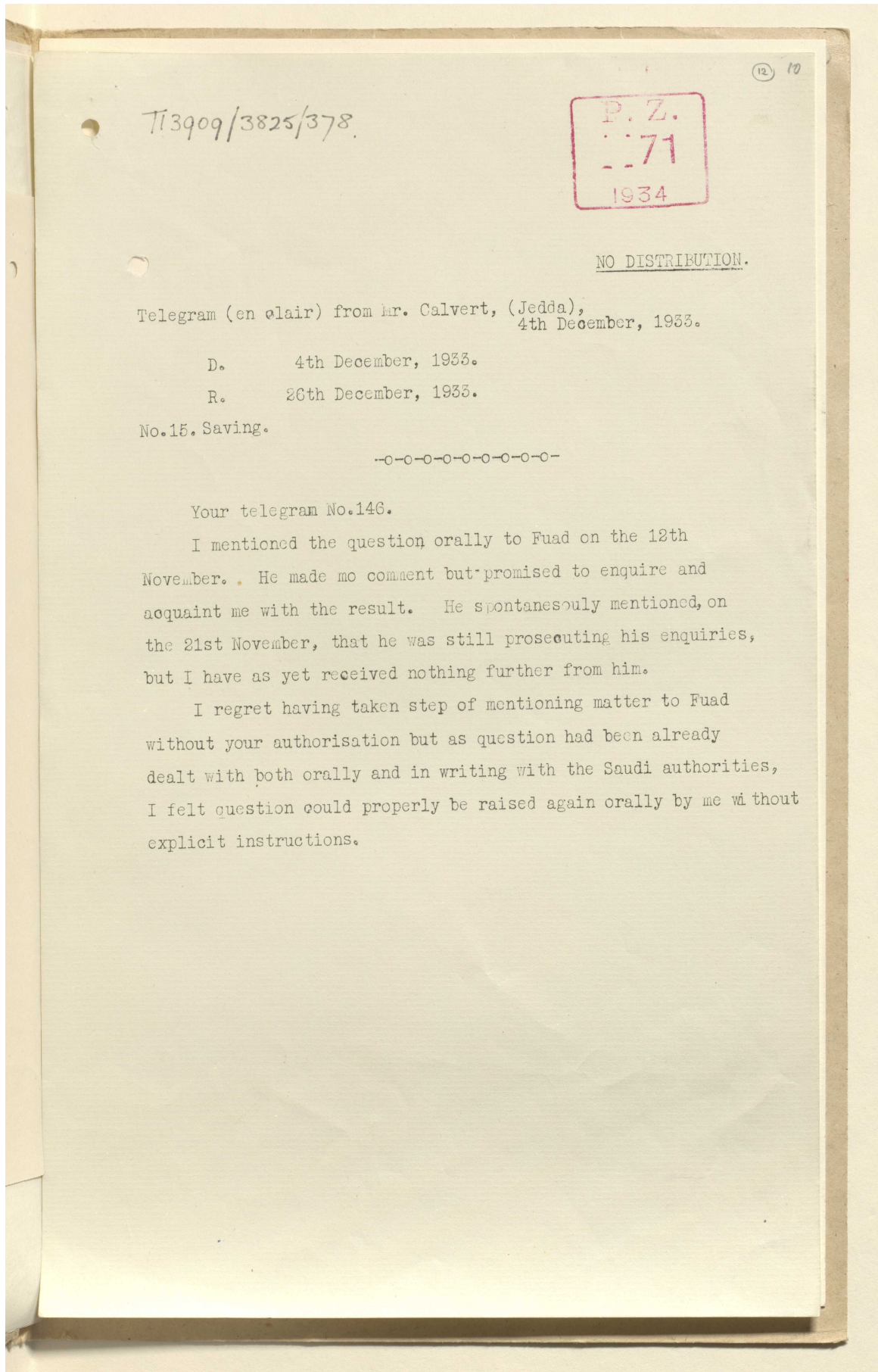
Similar letter sent to Colonial Office

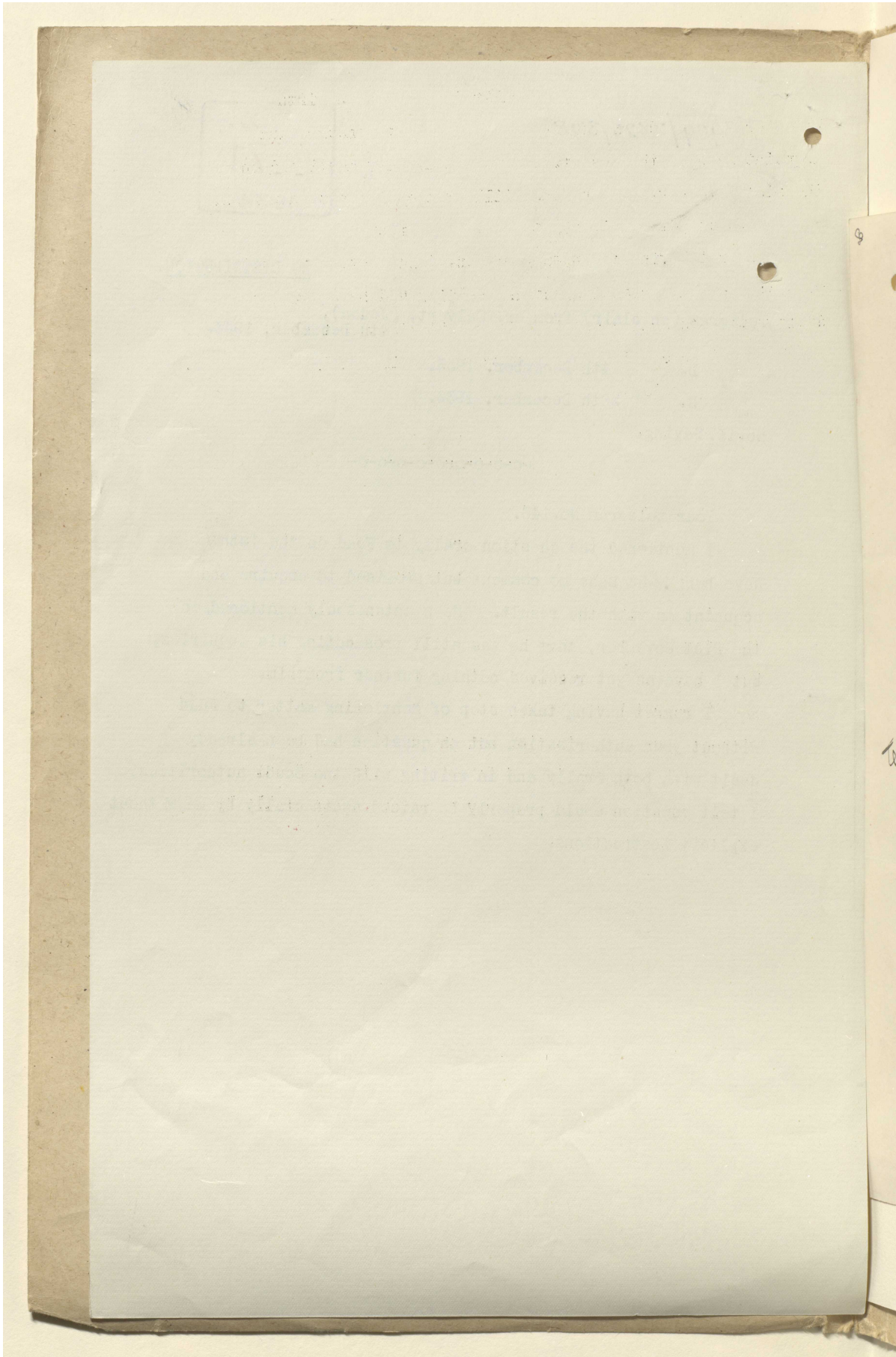
14-6130 8931 (2)

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [11v] (22/174)

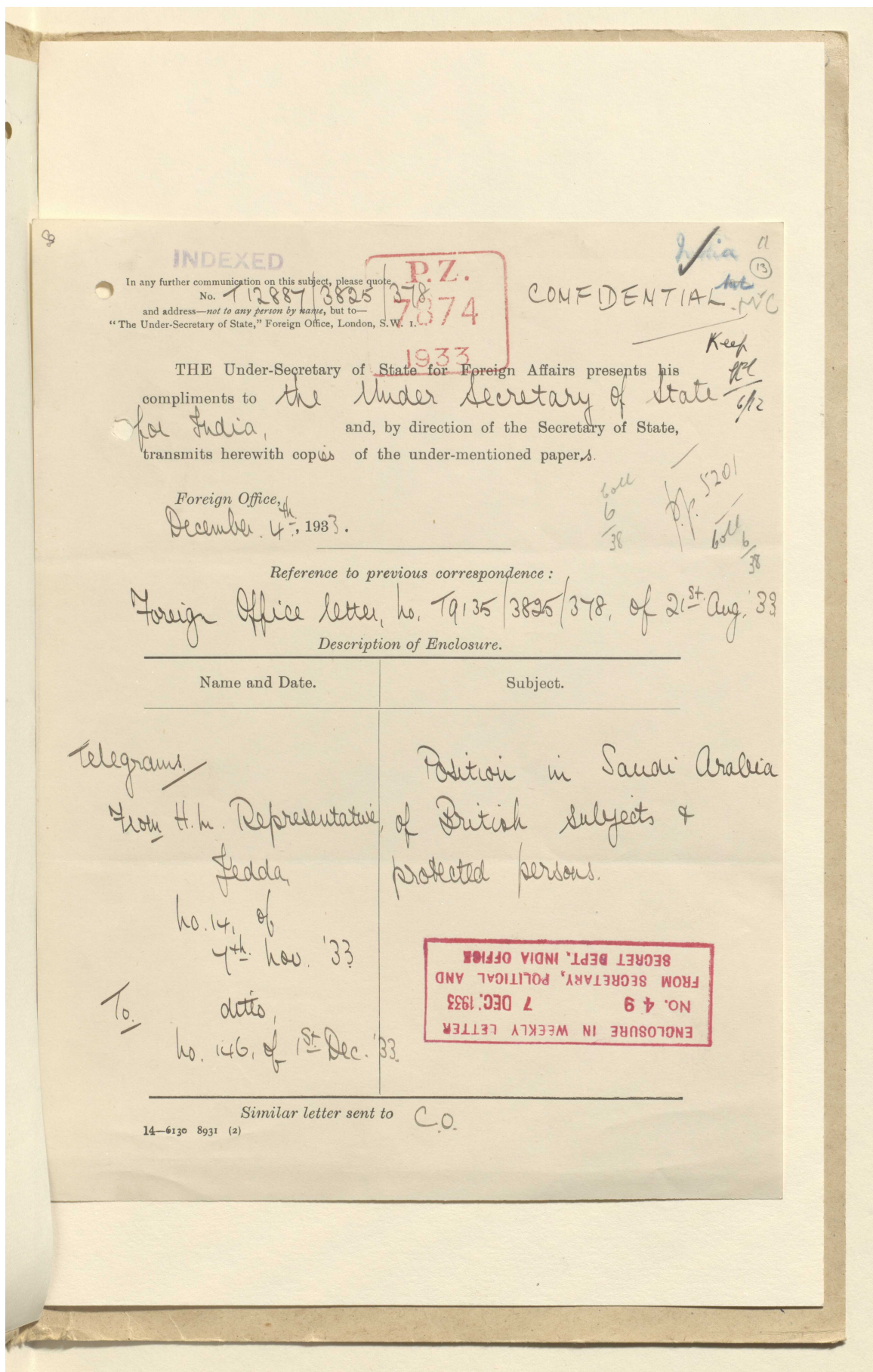


Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [12r] (23/174)





Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [13r] (25/174)



INDEXED

In any further communication on this subject, please quote,
No. 12887/3825/378
and address—not to any person by name, but to—
“The Under-Secretary of State,” Foreign Office, London, S.W. 1.

P.Z.
7874
1933

CONFIDENTIAL

India 11
13

THE Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Under Secretary of State for India, and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copies of the under-mentioned papers.

Foreign Office,
December 4th, 1933.

Keep
6/38
P.P. 5201
6/38

Reference to previous correspondence :

Foreign Office letter, no. T9135/3825/378, of 21st Aug. '33

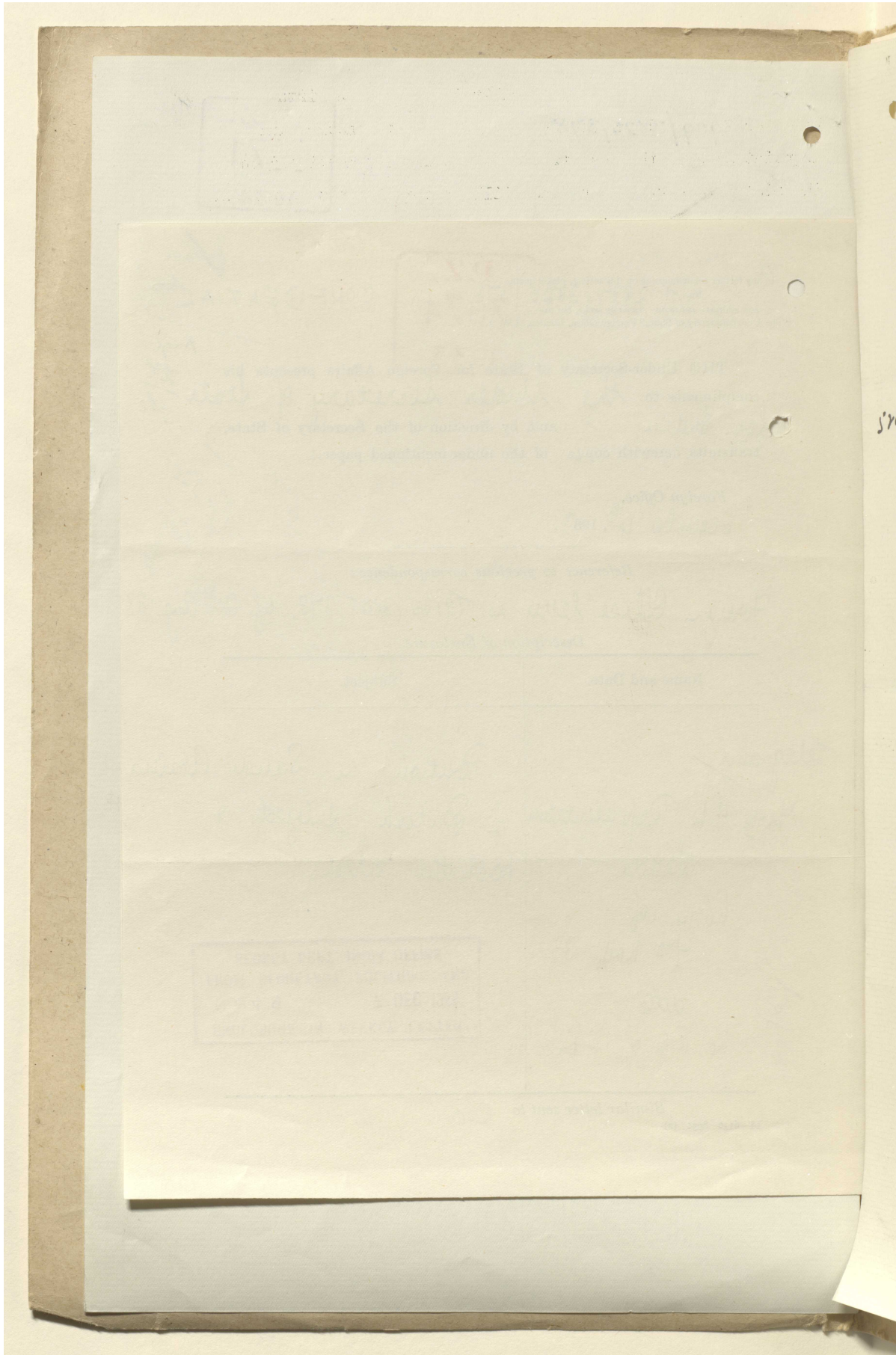
Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Telegrams from H.M. Representative of Jeddah no. 14, of 4 th Nov. '33 To: ditto, no. 146, of 1 st Dec. '33	Position in Saudi Arabia of British subjects & protected persons.

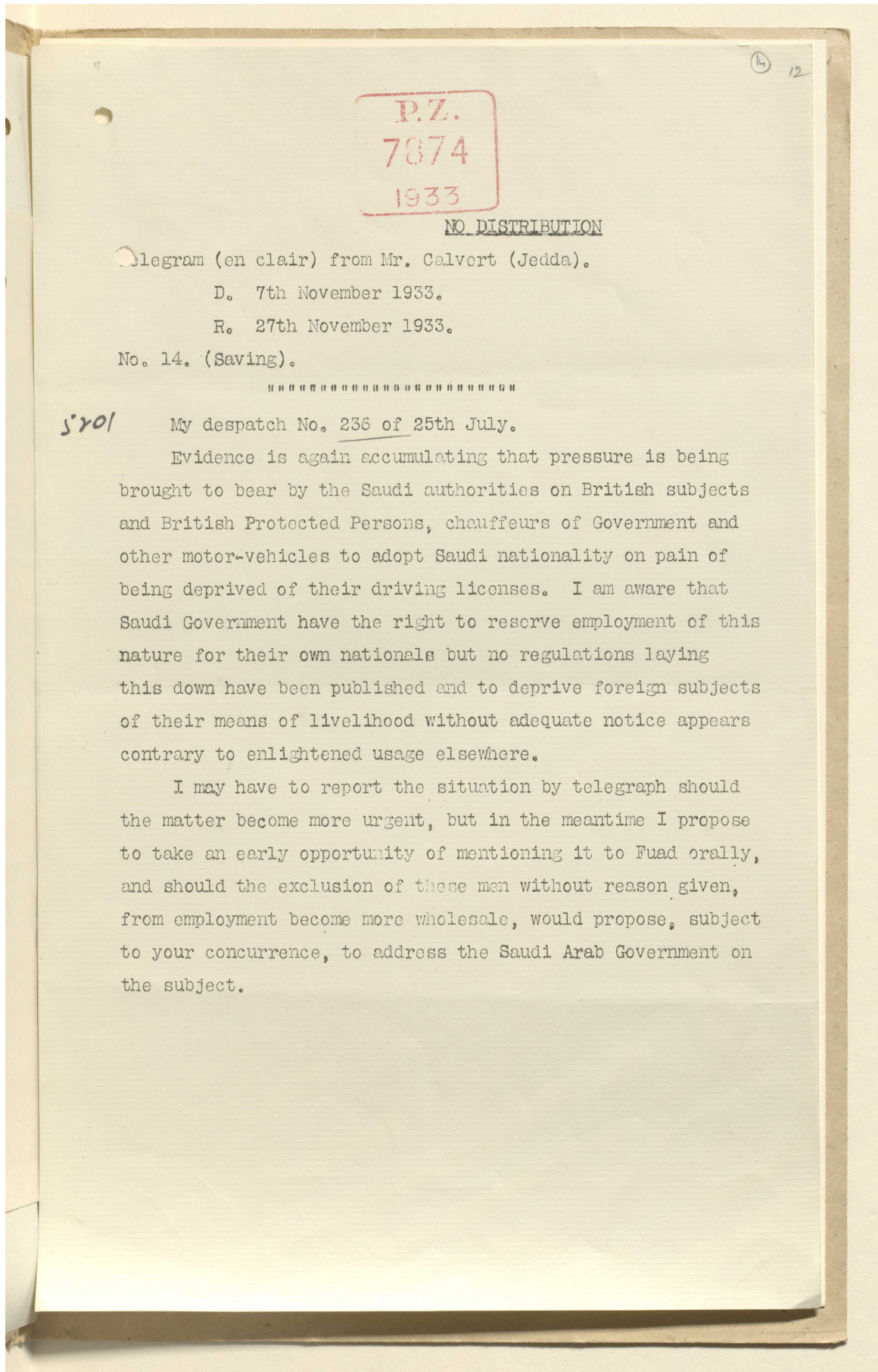
ENCLOSURE IN WEEKLY LETTER
NO. 49
7 DEC. 1933
FROM SECRETARY, POLITICAL AND
SECRET DEPT., INDIA OFFICE

Similar letter sent to C.O.

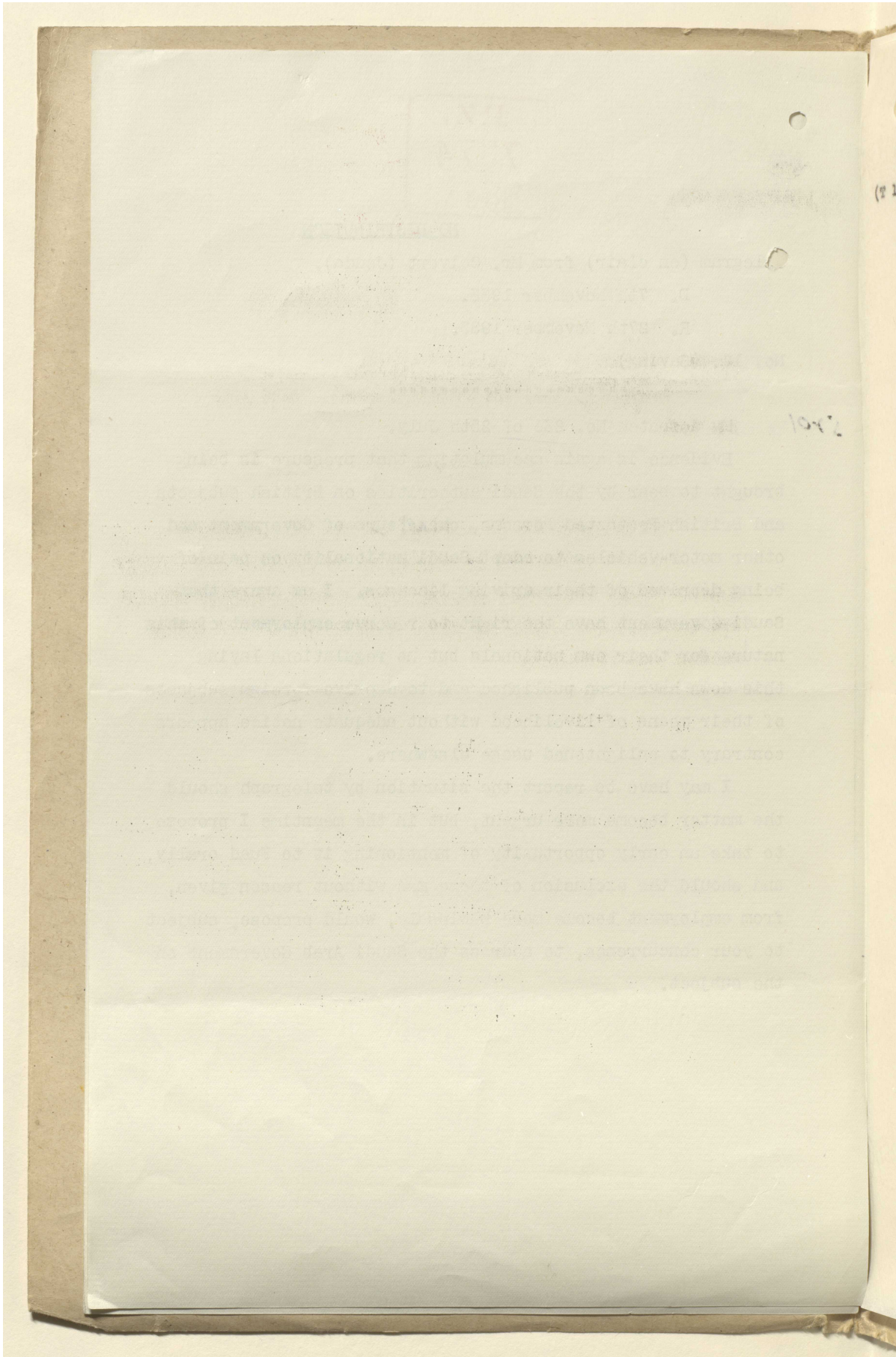
14-6130 8931 (2)



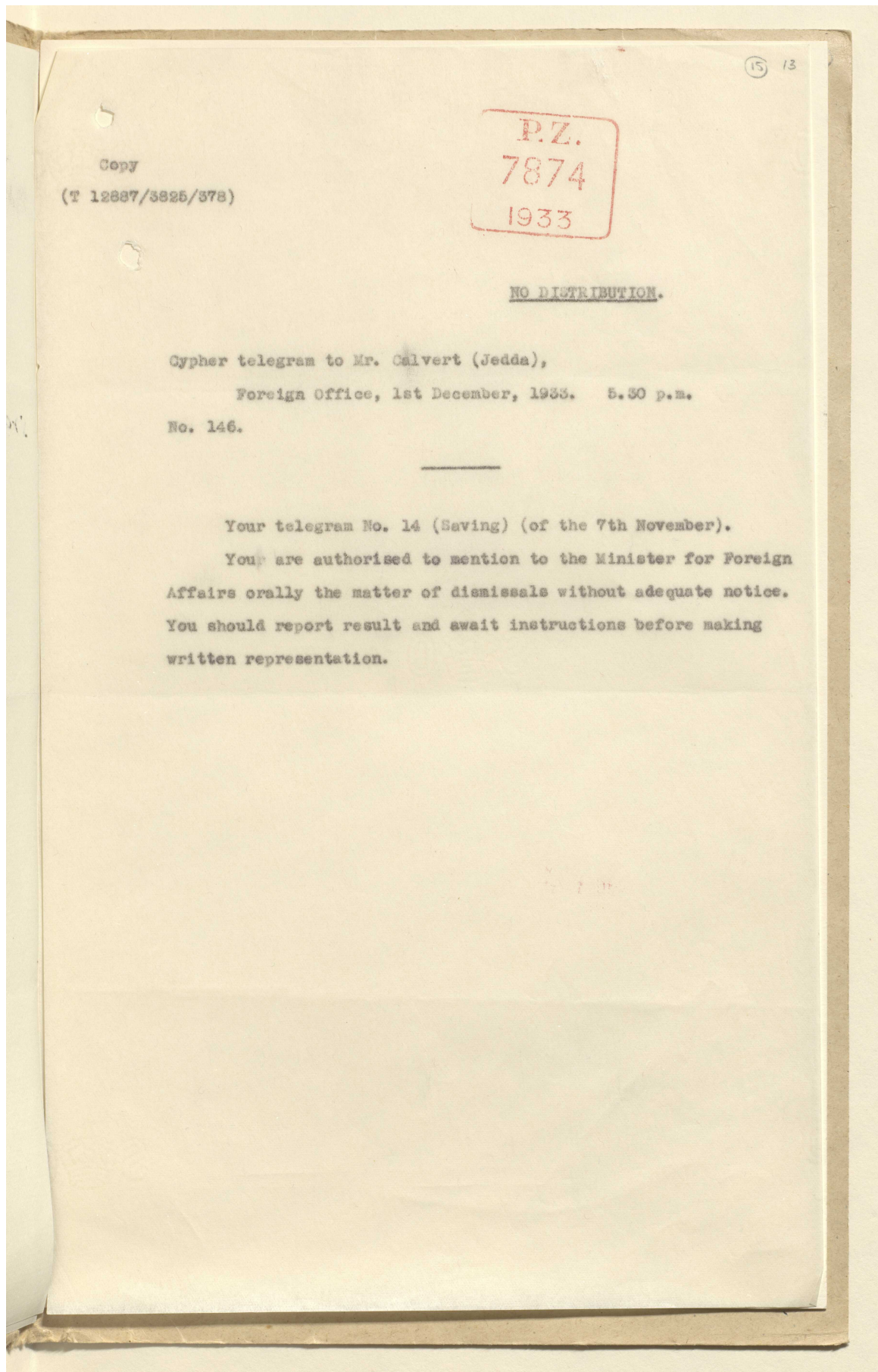
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [14r] (27/174)



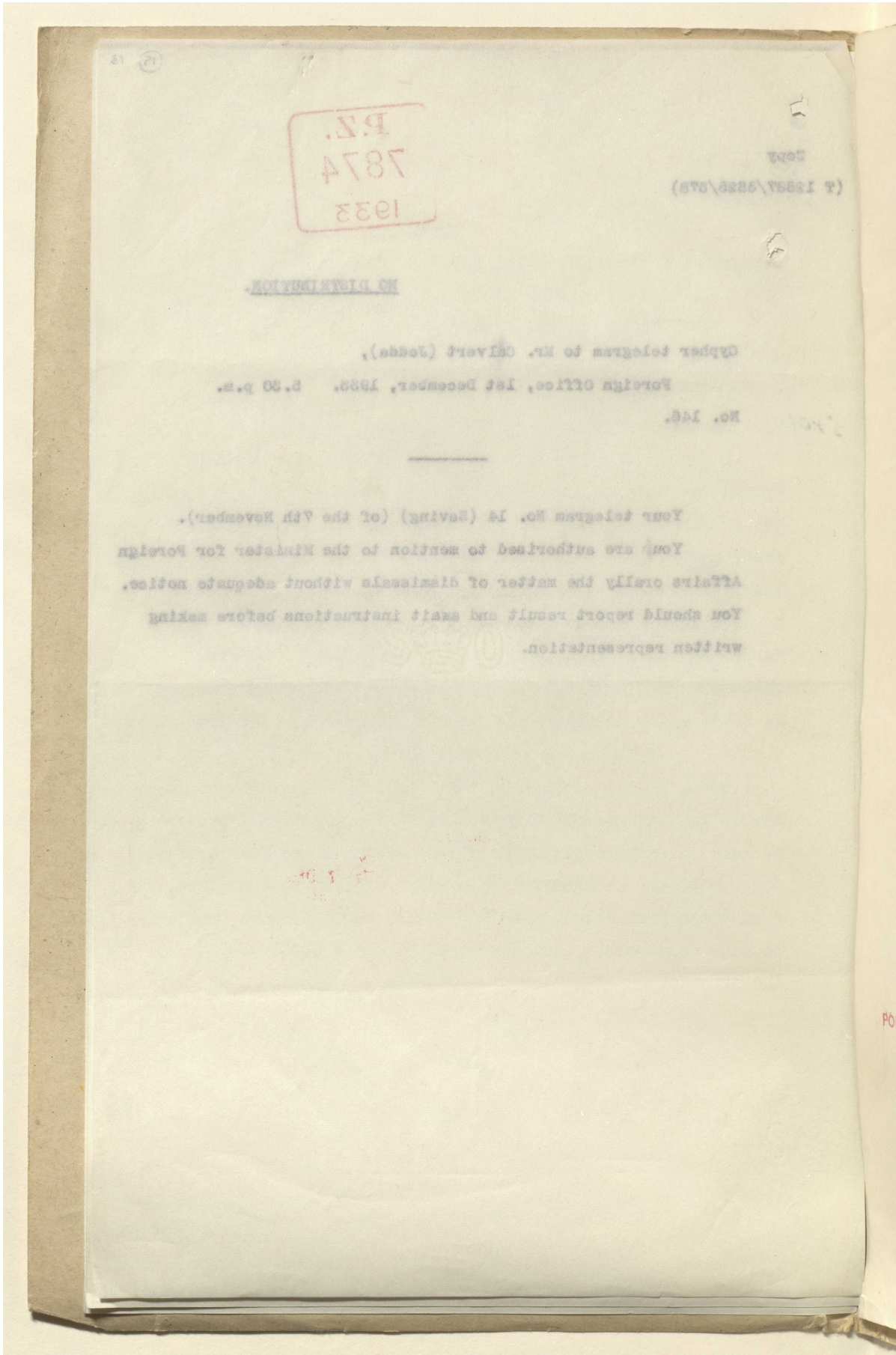
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [14v] (28/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [15r] (29/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [15v] (30/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [16r] (31/174)

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Notes.

Register No.
P.Z.
 5201/33

P.H.

SECRET.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

Dated _____ 193__

Rec. _____

	Date.	Initials.	SUBJECT.
To			Saudi - Arabia.
Under Secretary			
Secretary of State...			Position of British subjects and
Committee.....	30. P.	<i>[initials]</i>	Protected Persons.
Under Secretary.....			
Secretary of State....			

Copy of _____ to _____

FOR INFORMATION.

Please see P.Z. 7112/32 (Mr. Hope - Gills telegram)

In June and July of this year the Legation heard further reports of (1) pressure (including threats of expulsion) being brought to bear on British nationals to adopt Saudi nationality (2) recruitment of British nationals for service in the Saudi forces and (3) refusal to renew licences to drive motor cars unless the applicants adopted Saudi nationality. Further representations were accordingly made to the Saudi Govt. and a reply has now been received from the Minister for Foreign Affairs. (1) and (2) are categorically denied but it is explained with regard to (3) that "the cars which are engaged for military purposes cannot accept the services of foreigners," a statement which H.M. Charge d'Affaires

SEEN
POLITICAL COMMITTEE.
1 - SEP 1933

Previous papers :-

1743 1000 3.33

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [16v] (32/174)

regards as singular in view of the fact that the
Govt. have hitherto employed several foreign drivers
in connexion with their military operations. The
Saudi note adds that the Govt. have decided that
individuals of all nationalities who cannot secure their
own livelihood (i.e. in Mecca) will be ordered to return
to their original homes whether in the interior or
abroad. Mr. Calvert says that he will keep himself
informed of the operation of this proposal, which
he regards as unobjectionable in itself, in so far
as British nationals are affected.

It will be remembered that Sir Andrew Ryan
is not averse to a reduction in the number of
nomadic British subjects and protected persons in
the Hejaz.

H. Grombri
rec^d 28/8/33

WLL
1/9

SEEN
POLITICAL COMMITTEE.

1 - SEP 1933

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [17r] (33/174)

INDEXED

In any further communication on this subject, please quote
No. T9135/3825/378
and address—not to any person by name, but to—
"The Under-Secretary of State," Foreign Office, London, S.W.1.

3

P.Z.
5201
1933

THE Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for India and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copy of the under-mentioned paper.

Foreign Office,
21st August, 1933.

Reference to previous correspondence:
Loreign Office letter T8645/2825/378 of 5th August.

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
From H. M. Representative, Jedda, No. 236 of 25th July	Position in Saudi Arabia of British subjects and protected persons.

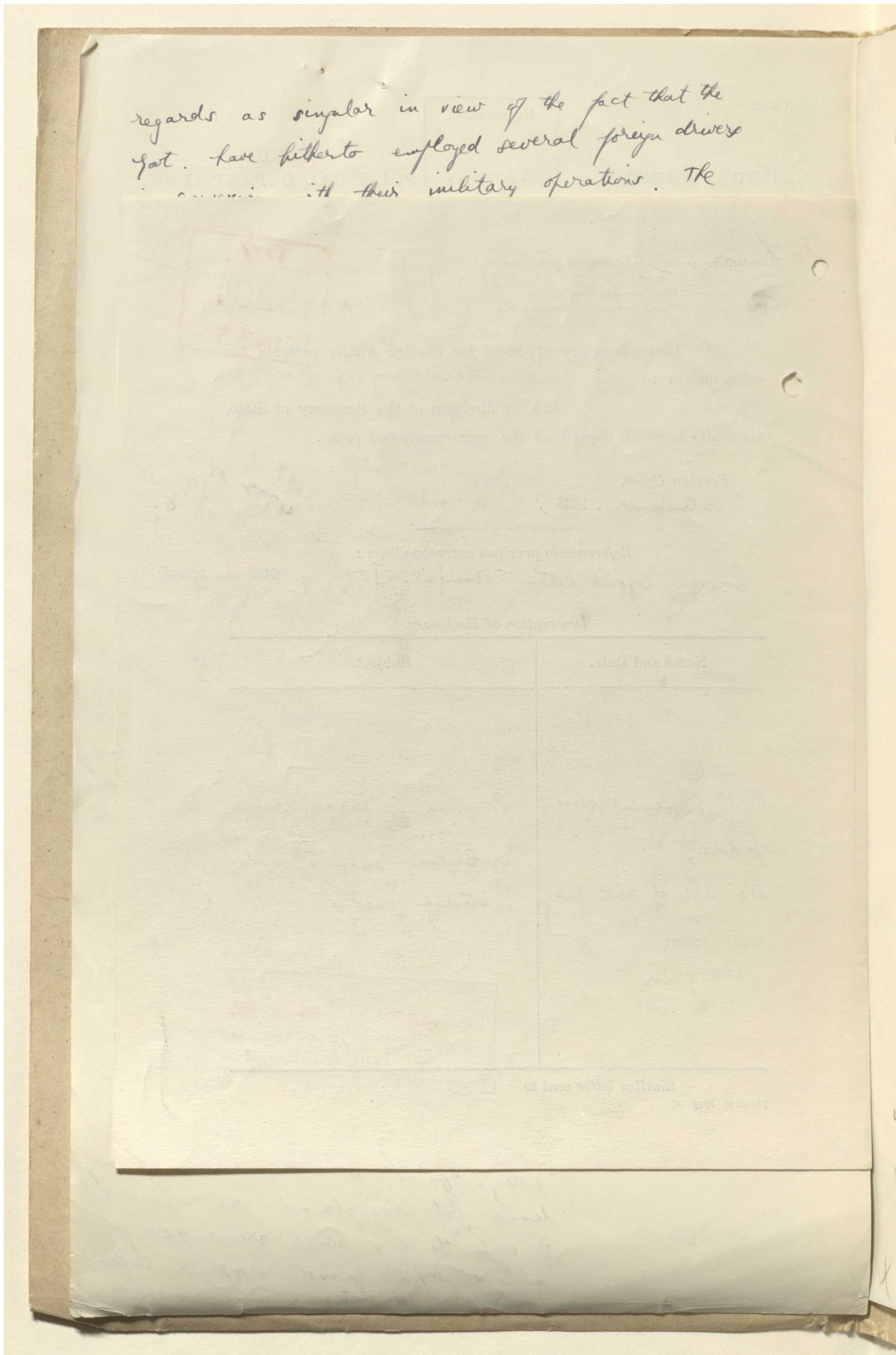
22 AUG 1933
INDIA OFFICE

ENCLOSURE IN WEEKLY LETTER
NO. 34. 24 AUG. 1933
FROM SECRETARY, POLITICAL AND
SECRET DEPT. INDIA OFFICE

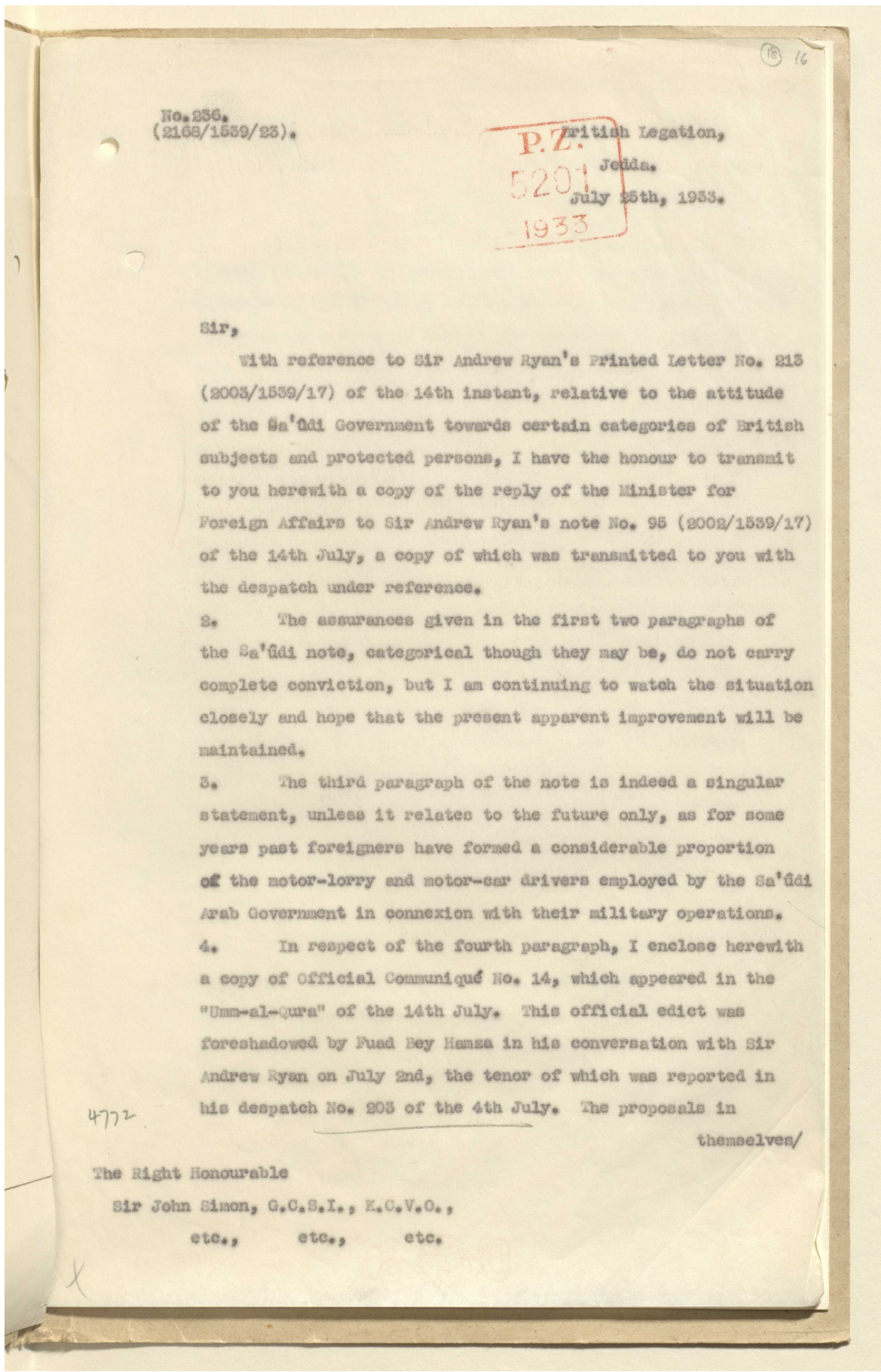
Similar letter sent to
14-6130 8755 (2)

X

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [17v] (34/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [18r] (35/174)



No. 236.
(2168/1539/23).

P.Z. British Legation,
Jeddah,
July 25th, 1933.
5201
1933

Sir,

With reference to Sir Andrew Ryan's Printed Letter No. 213 (2003/1539/17) of the 14th instant, relative to the attitude of the Sa'udi Government towards certain categories of British subjects and protected persons, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of the reply of the Minister for Foreign Affairs to Sir Andrew Ryan's note No. 95 (2002/1539/17) of the 14th July, a copy of which was transmitted to you with the despatch under reference.

2. The assurances given in the first two paragraphs of the Sa'udi note, categorical though they may be, do not carry complete conviction, but I am continuing to watch the situation closely and hope that the present apparent improvement will be maintained.

3. The third paragraph of the note is indeed a singular statement, unless it relates to the future only, as for some years past foreigners have formed a considerable proportion of the motor-lorry and motor-car drivers employed by the Sa'udi Arab Government in connexion with their military operations.

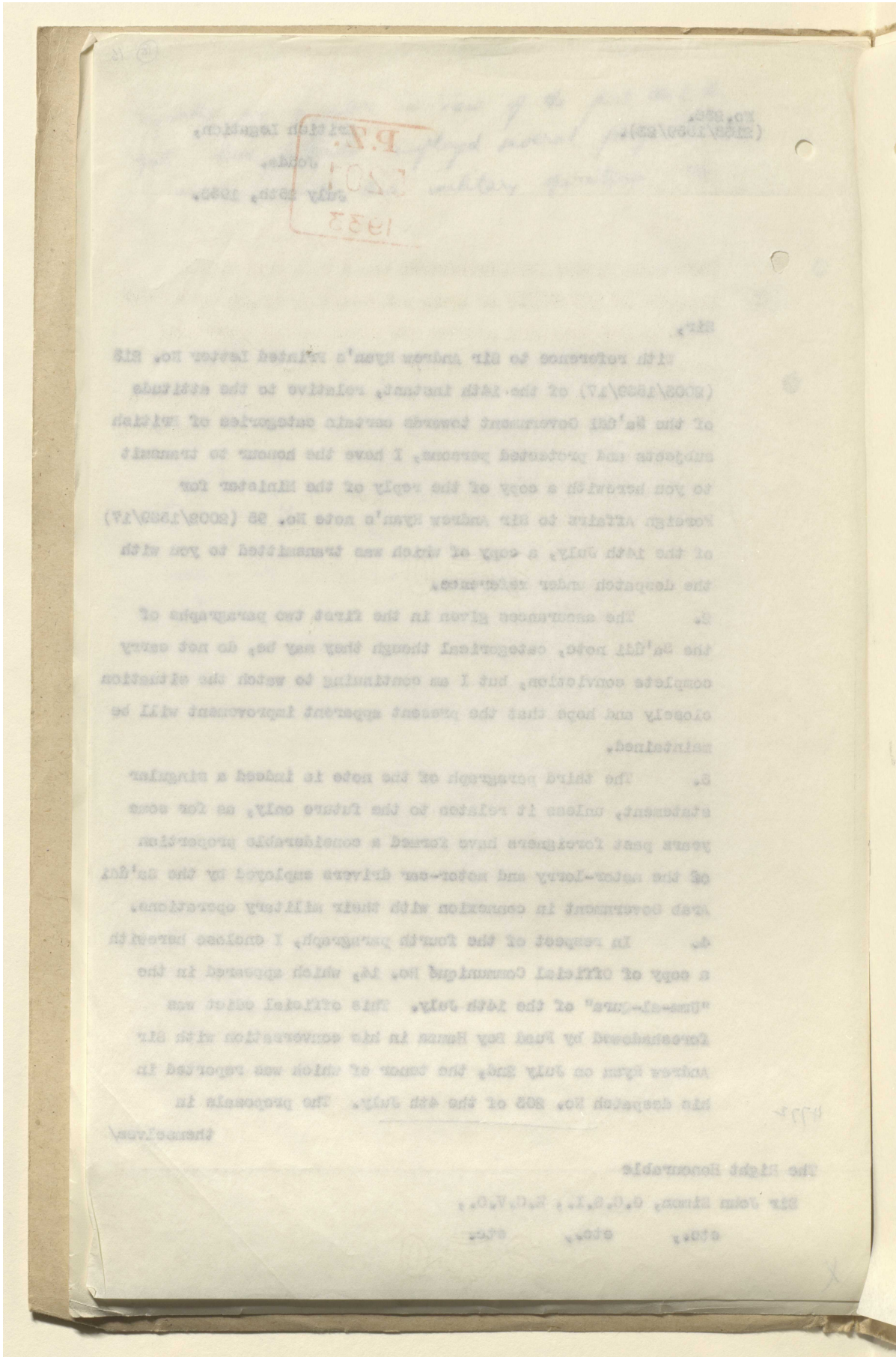
4. In respect of the fourth paragraph, I enclose herewith a copy of Official Communiqué No. 14, which appeared in the "Umm-al-Qura" of the 14th July. This official edict was foreshadowed by Fuad Bey Hamza in his conversation with Sir Andrew Ryan on July 2nd, the tenor of which was reported in his despatch No. 203 of the 4th July. The proposals in

themselves/

The Right Honourable

Sir John Simon, G.C.S.I., K.C.V.O.,
etc., etc., etc.

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [18v] (36/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [19r] (37/174)

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themselves appear unexceptionable but I will keep myself informed of the manner of their execution in so far as British subjects and protected persons are concerned in order that acts of manifest oppression, should they occur, may be suitably brought to the notice of the Sa'udi Arab Government.

I have the honour to be with the highest respects,

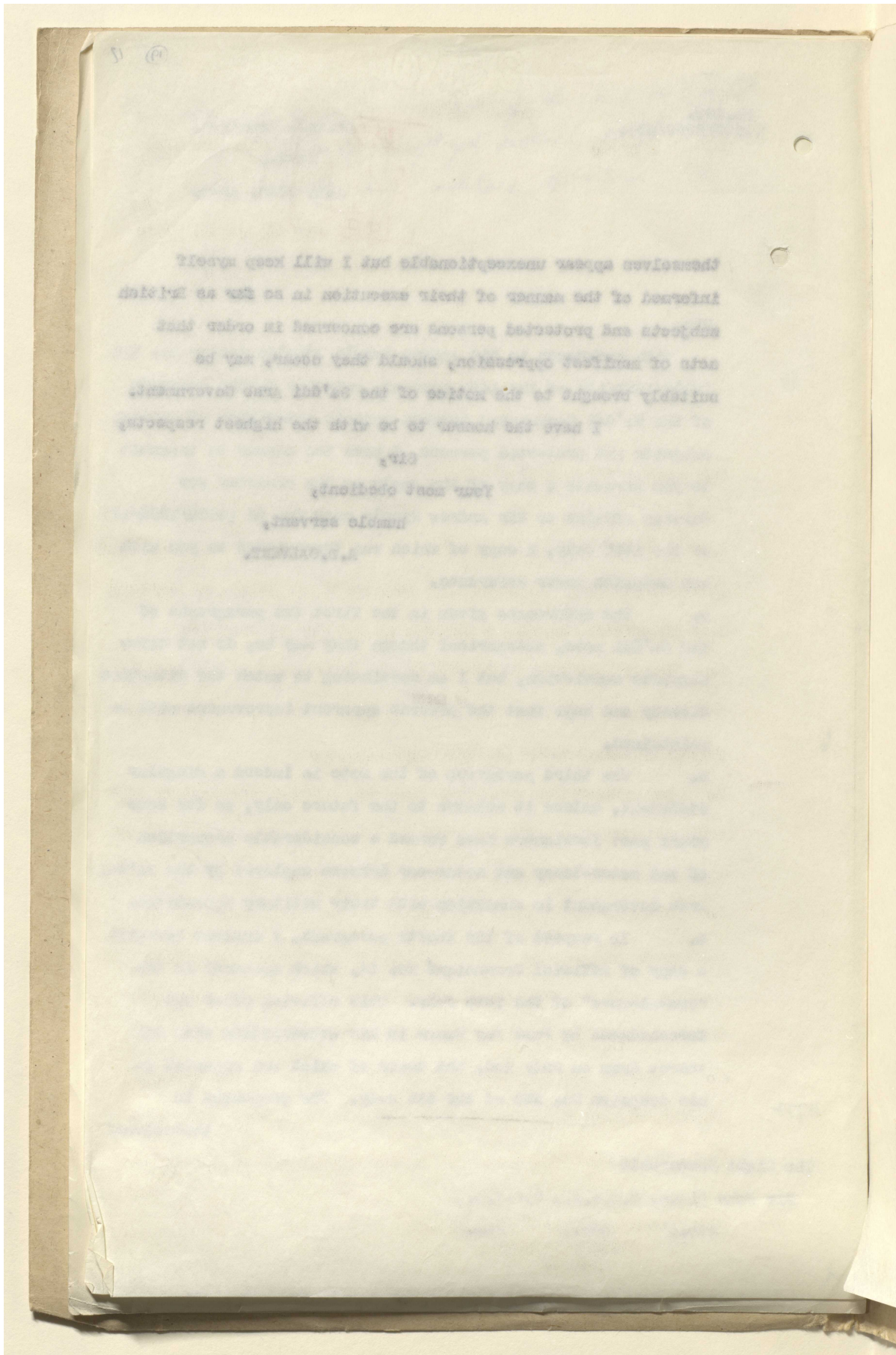
Sir,

Your most obedient,

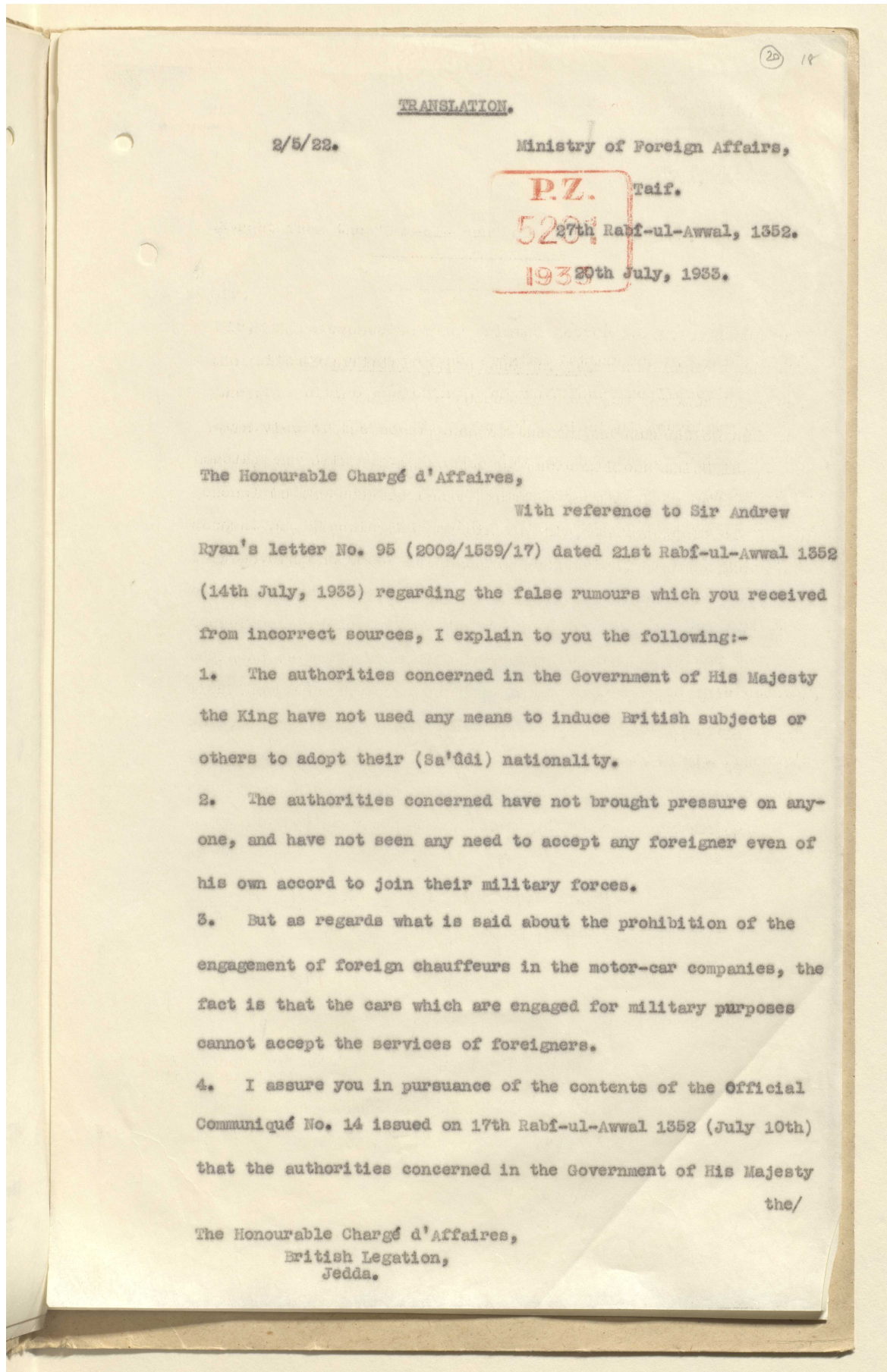
humble servant,

A. S. CALVERT.

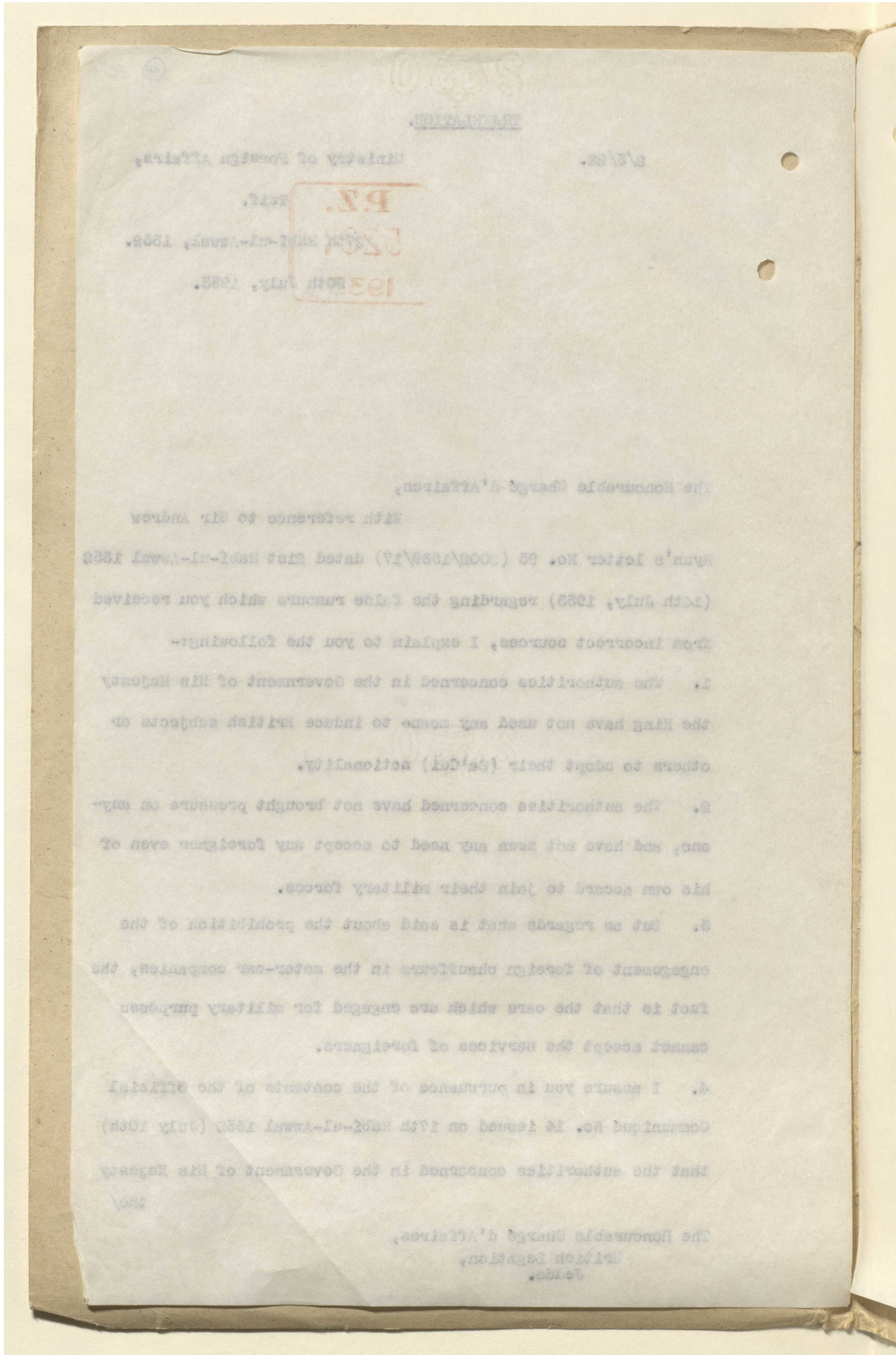
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [19v] (38/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [20r] (39/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [20v] (40/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [21r] (41/174)

(21)

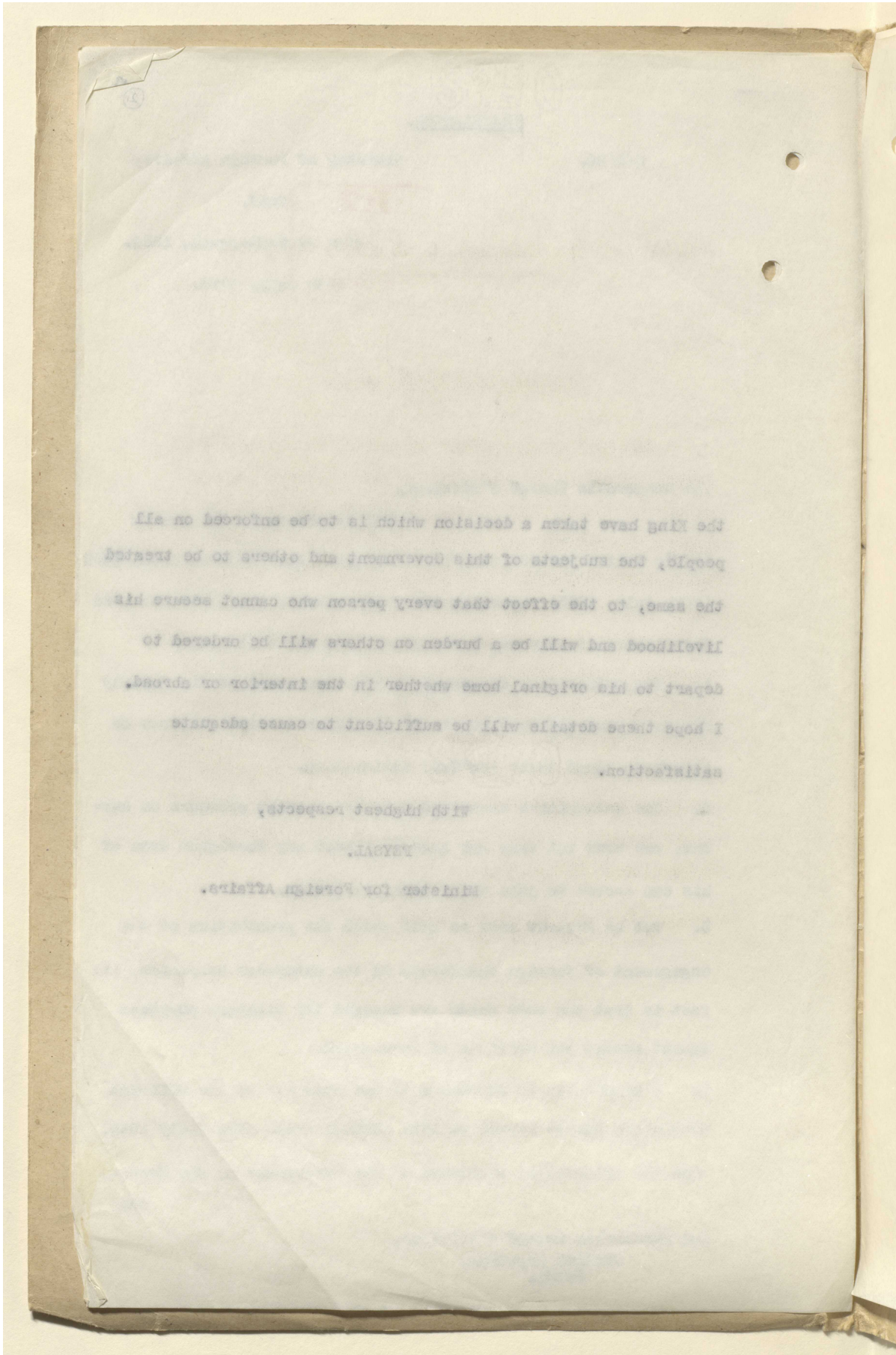
the King have taken a decision which is to be enforced on all people, the subjects of this Government and others to be treated the same, to the effect that every person who cannot secure his livelihood and will be a burden on others will be ordered to depart to his original home whether in the interior or abroad. I hope these details will be sufficient to cause adequate satisfaction.

With highest respects,

FEYSAL.

Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [21v] (42/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [22r] (43/174)

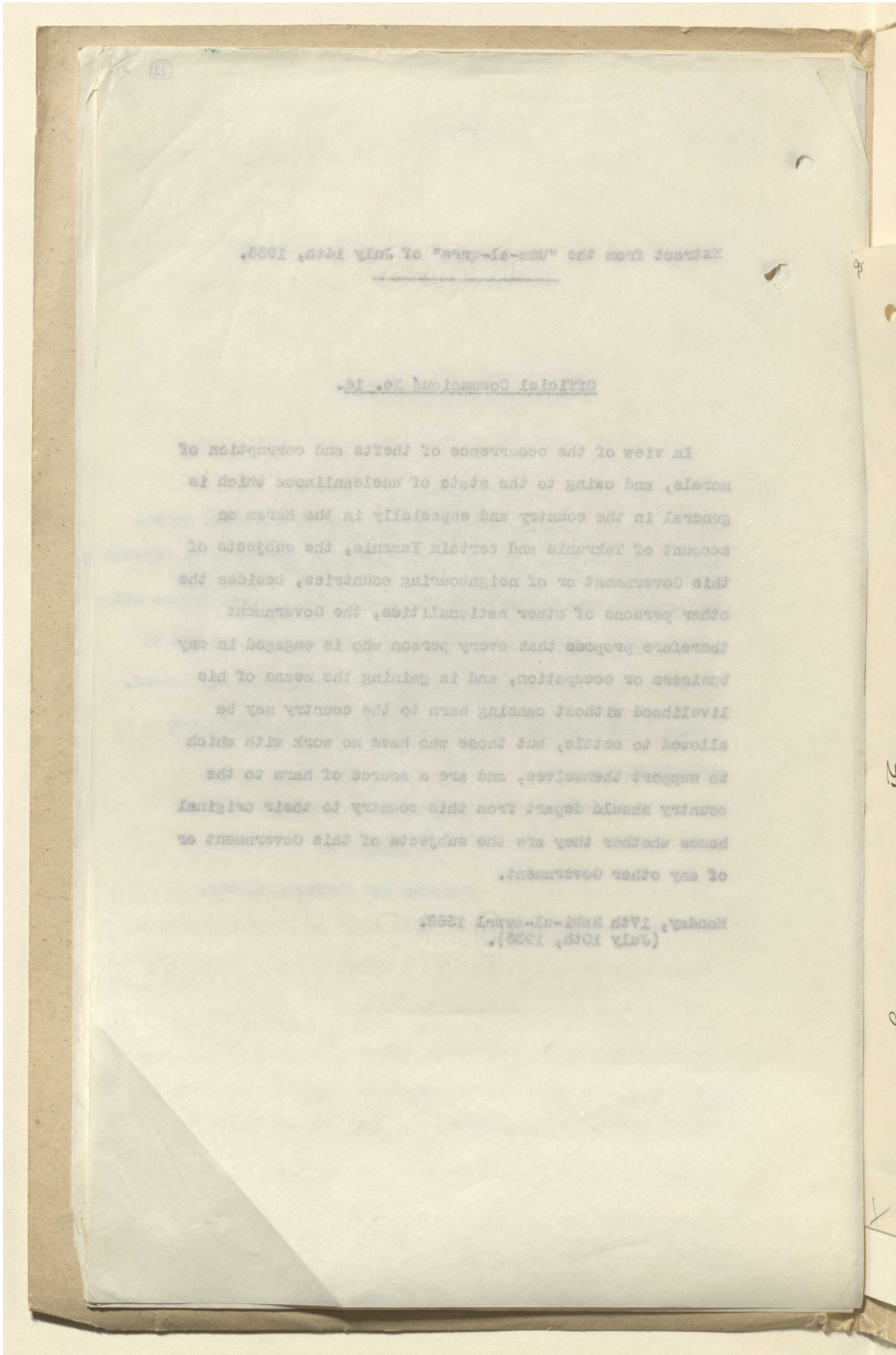
(22) 20
Extract from the "Umm-al-Qura" of July 14th, 1935.

Official Communiqué No. 14.

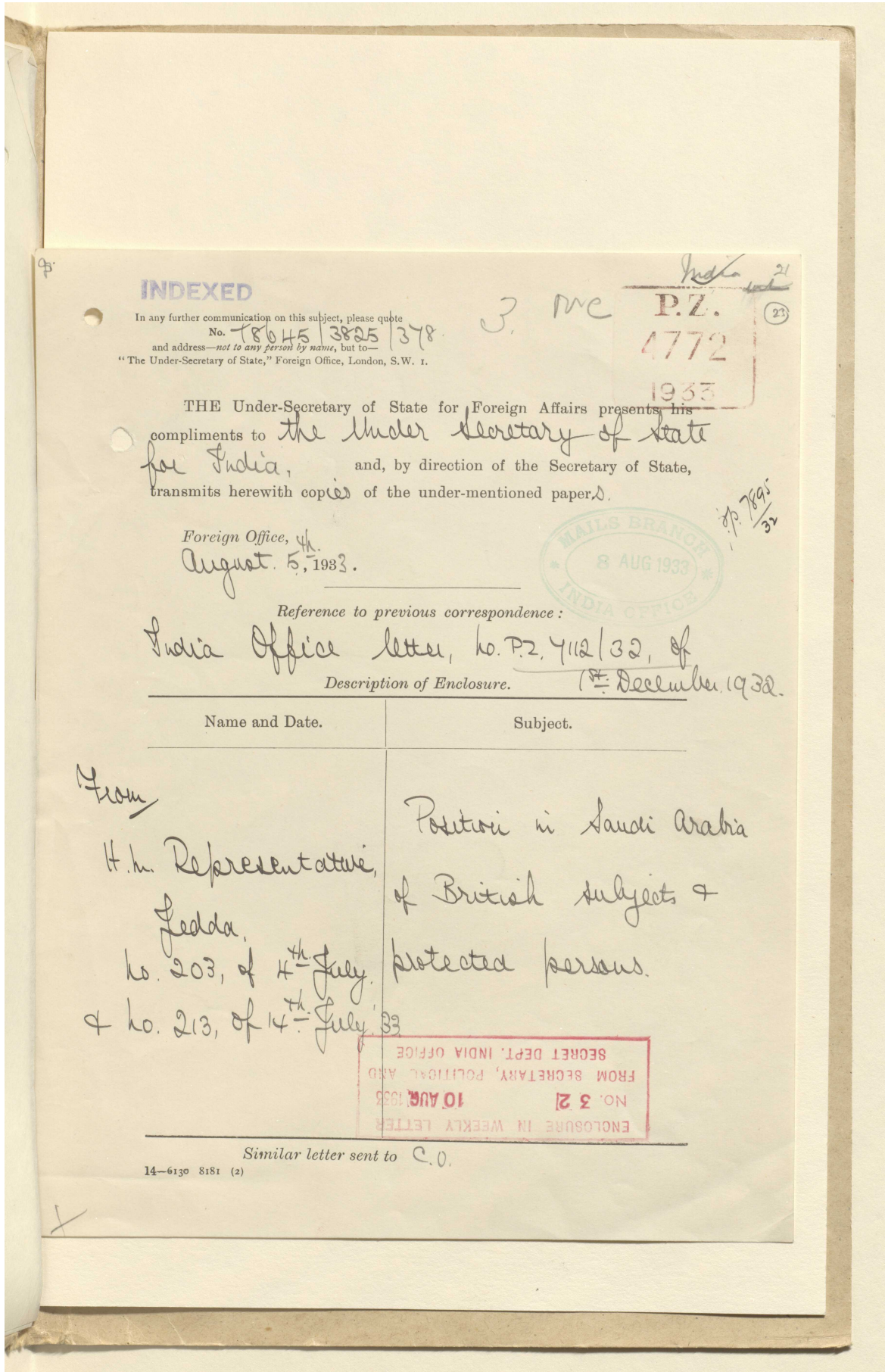
In view of the occurrence of thefts and corruption of morals, and owing to the state of uncleanness which is general in the country and especially in the Haram on account of Takrunis and certain Yamanis, the subjects of this Government or of neighbouring countries, besides the other persons of other nationalities, the Government therefore propose that every person who is engaged in any business or occupation, and is gaining the means of his livelihood without causing harm to the country may be allowed to settle, but those who have no work with which to support themselves, and are a source of harm to the country should depart from this country to their original homes whether they are the subjects of this Government or of any other Government.

Monday, 17th Rabi-ul-Awwal 1352.
(July 10th, 1935).

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [22v] (44/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [23r] (45/174)



INDEXED

In any further communication on this subject, please quote
No. 78645/3825/378
and address—not to any person by name, but to—
“The Under-Secretary of State,” Foreign Office, London, S.W. 1.

THE Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his
compliments to the Under Secretary of State
for India, and, by direction of the Secretary of State,
transmits herewith copies of the under-mentioned papers.

Foreign Office, ^{4th}
August 5, 1933.

Reference to previous correspondence:

India Office letter, no. P.2. 7112/32, of
Description of Enclosure. 17th December 1932.

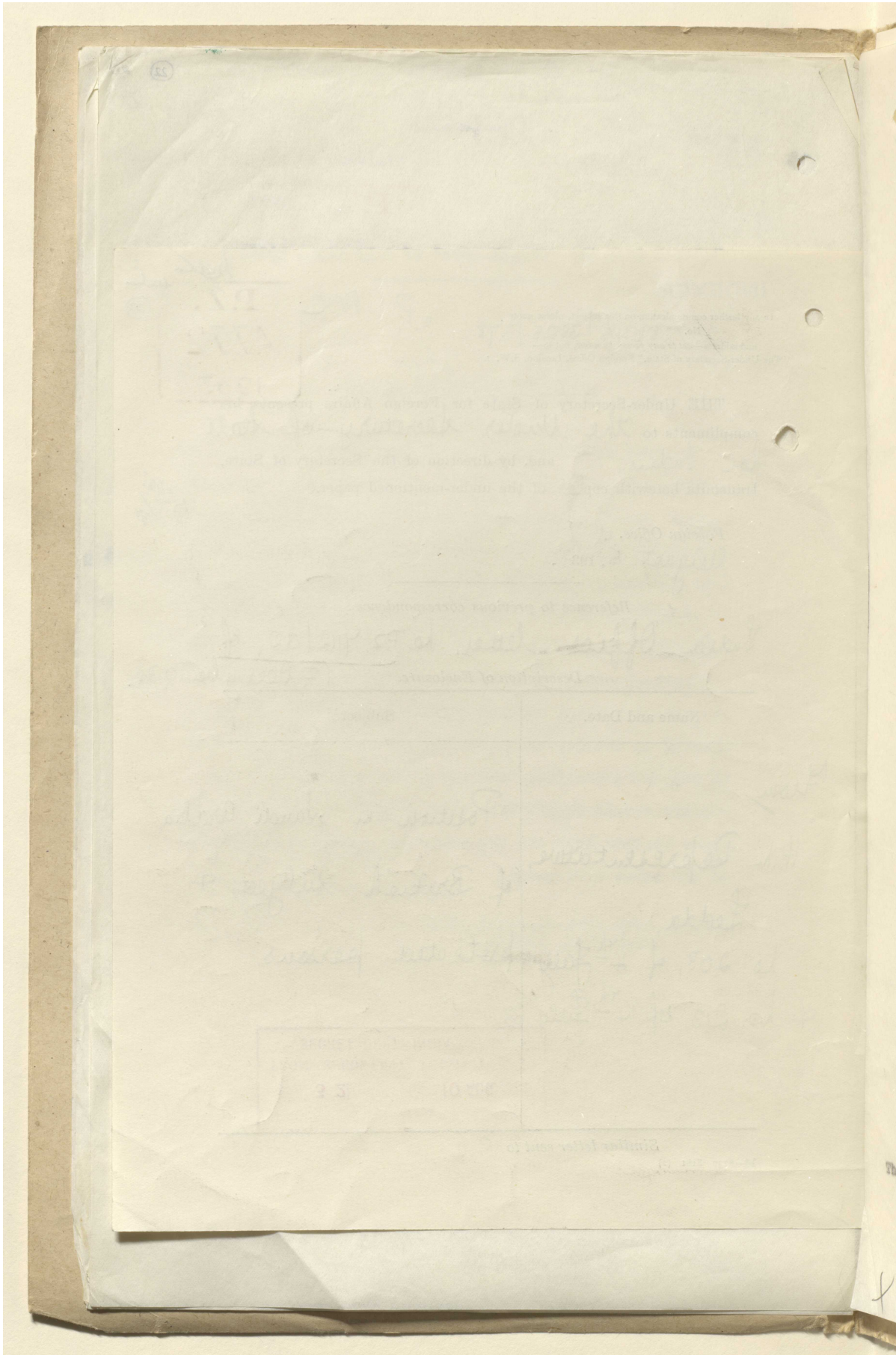
Name and Date.	Subject.
<u>From</u> H.M. Representative, Jeddah, no. 203, of 4 th July, & no. 213, of 14 th July '33	<u>Position in Saudi Arabia</u> <u>of British subjects &</u> <u>protected persons.</u>

ENCLOSURE IN WEEKLY LETTER
NO. 32
10 AUG 1933
FROM SECRETARY, POLITICAL AND
SECRET DEPT. INDIA OFFICE

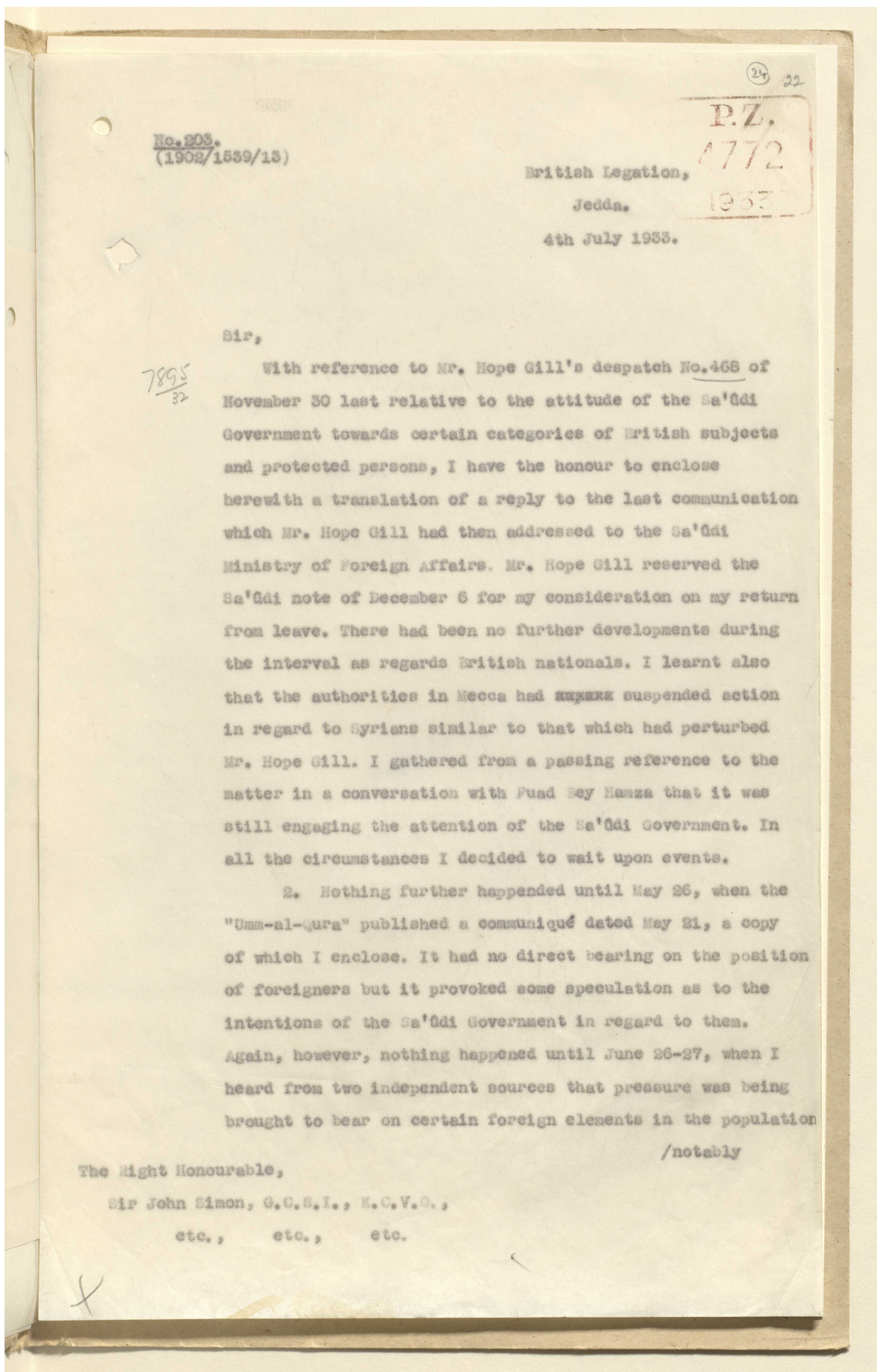
Similar letter sent to C.O.

14-6130 8181 (2)

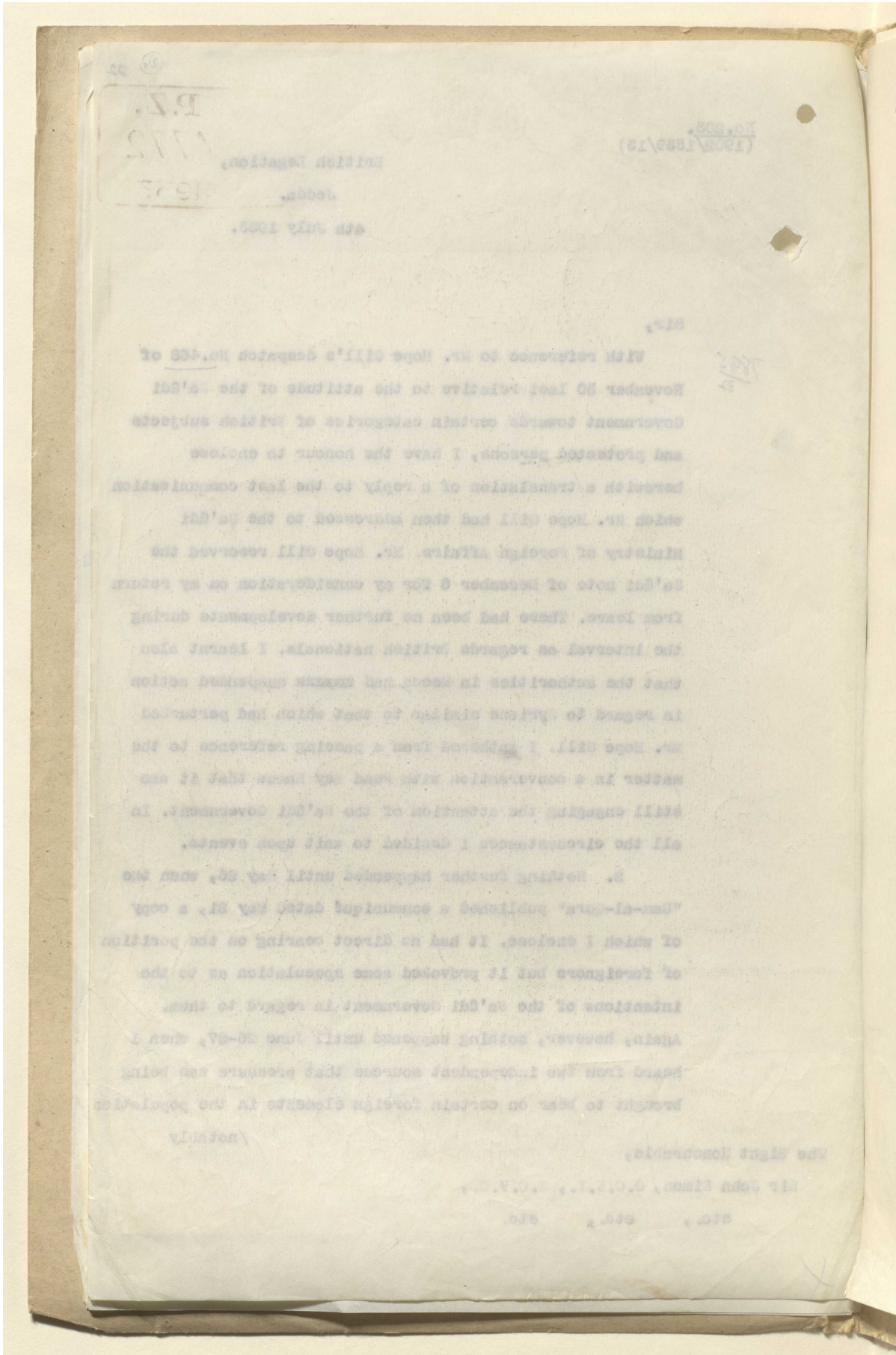
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [23v] (46/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [24r] (47/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [24v] (48/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [25r] (49/174)

(25) 23

notably those of African origin. Such information as I could elicit bore on four things, viz.,

- (a) Threats of expulsion within four days.
- (b) Pressure on the persons affected to adopt Sa'udi nationality.
- (c) Recruitment in the Sa'udi military forces.
- (d) Refusals to renew licences to drive cars unless the applicants adopted Sa'udi nationality.

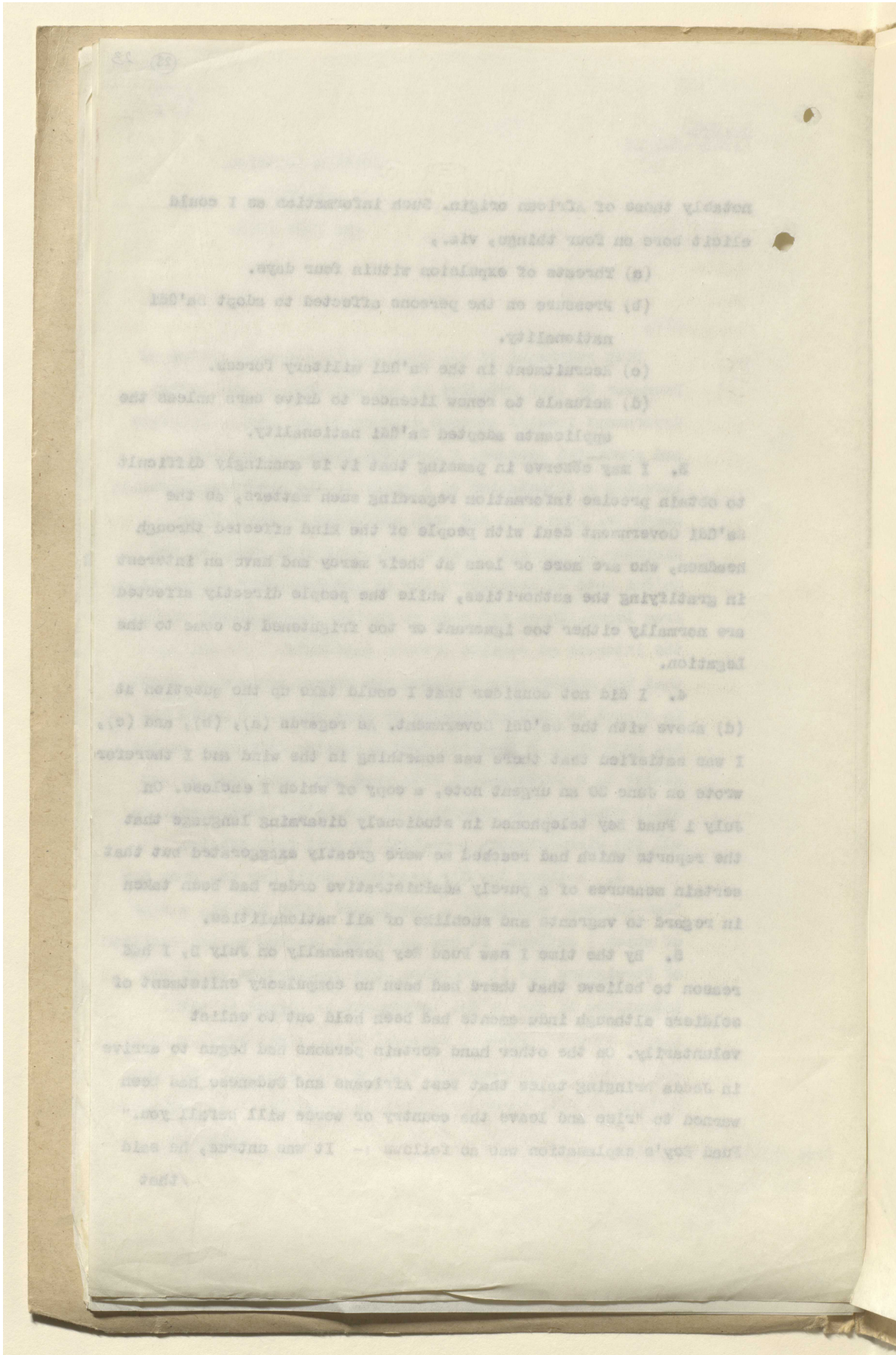
3. I may observe in passing that it is amazingly difficult to obtain precise information regarding such matters, as the Sa'udi Government deal with people of the kind affected through headmen, who are more or less at their mercy and have an interest in gratifying the authorities, while the people directly affected are normally either too ignorant or too frightened to come to the Legation.

4. I did not consider that I could take up the question at (d) above with the Sa'udi Government. As regards (a), (b), and (c), I was satisfied that there was something in the wind and I therefor wrote on June 30 an urgent note, a copy of which I enclose. On July 1 Fuad Bey telephoned in studiously disarming language that the reports which had reached me were greatly exaggerated but that certain measures of a purely administrative order had been taken in regard to vagrants and suchlike of all nationalities.

5. By the time I saw Fuad Bey personally on July 2, I had reason to believe that there had been no compulsory enlistment of soldiers although inducements had been held out to enlist voluntarily. On the other hand certain persons had begun to arrive in Jeddah bringing tales that West Africans and Sudanese had been warned to "rise and leave the country or worse will befall you." Fuad Bey's explanation was as follows :- It was untrue, he said

/that

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [25v] (50/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [26r] (51/174)

26 24

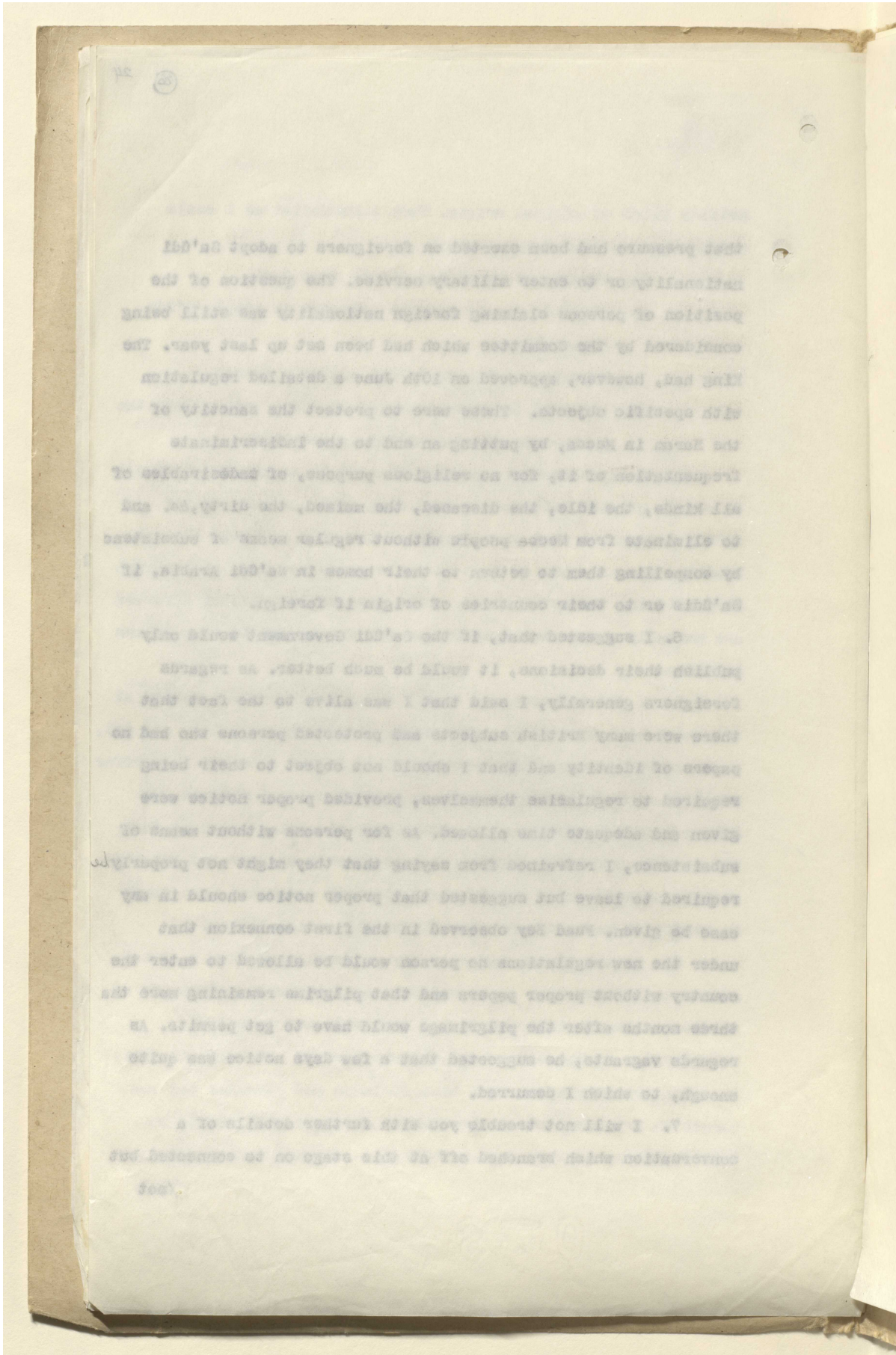
that pressure had been exerted on foreigners to adopt Sa'udi nationality or to enter military service. The question of the position of persons claiming foreign nationality was still being considered by the Committee which had been set up last year. The King had, however, approved on 10th June a detailed regulation with specific objects. These were to protect the sanctity of the Haram in Mecca, by putting an end to the indiscriminate frequentation of it, for no religious purpose, of undesirable of all kinds, the idle, the diseased, the maimed, the dirty, &c. and to eliminate from Mecca people without regular means of subsistence by compelling them to return to their homes in Sa'udi Arabia, if Sa'udis or to their countries of origin if foreign.

6. I suggested that, if the Sa'udi Government would only publish their decisions, it would be much better. As regards foreigners generally, I said that I was alive to the fact that there were many British subjects and protected persons who had no papers of identity and that I should not object to their being required to regularise themselves, provided proper notice were given and adequate time allowed. As for persons without means of subsistence, I refrained from saying that they might not properly be required to leave but suggested that proper notice should in any case be given. Fuad Bey observed in the first connexion that under the new regulations no person would be allowed to enter the country without proper papers and that pilgrims remaining more than three months after the pilgrimage would have to get permits. As regards vagrants, he suggested that a few days notice was quite enough, to which I demurred.

7. I will not trouble you with further details of a conversation which branched off at this stage on to connected but

/not

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [26v] (52/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [27r] (53/174)

(27) 25

not strictly relevant subjects. All that Fuad Bey told me sounds in principle sweetly reasonable. I should myself welcome a reduction of the number of nondescript British subjects and protected persons in this ill-organised and now impoverished country. In practice, however, such regulations as Fuad Bey described are certain to be either a dead letter or oppressive. It is possible that my note of June 30 may give the Sa'udi Government pause and that the trouble will blow over. If it does not I may have to take your instructions by telegraph. For the moment I am awaiting a written reply to my note and any further information from British sources.

I have the honour to be with the highest respect,

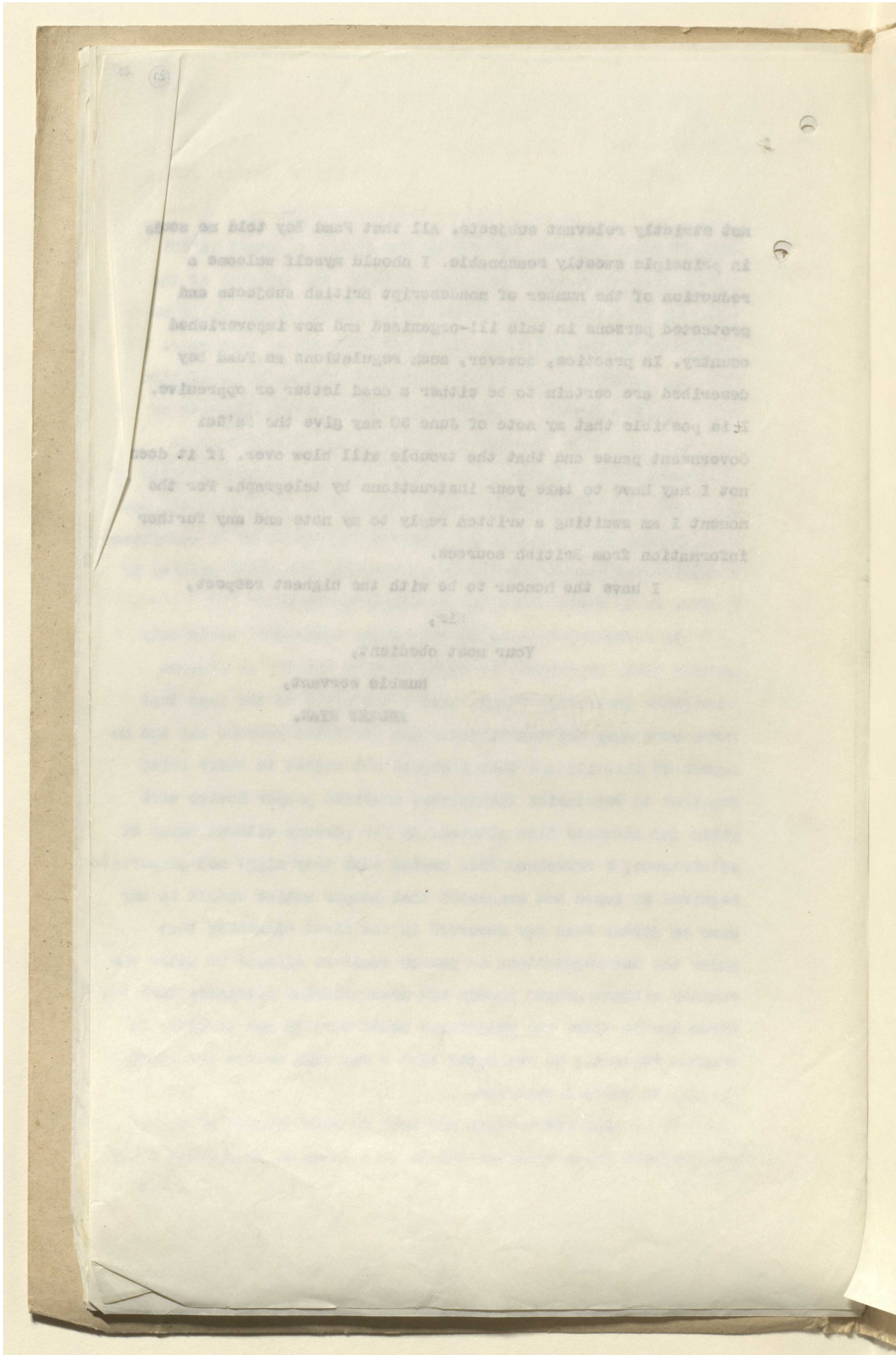
Sir,

Your most obedient,

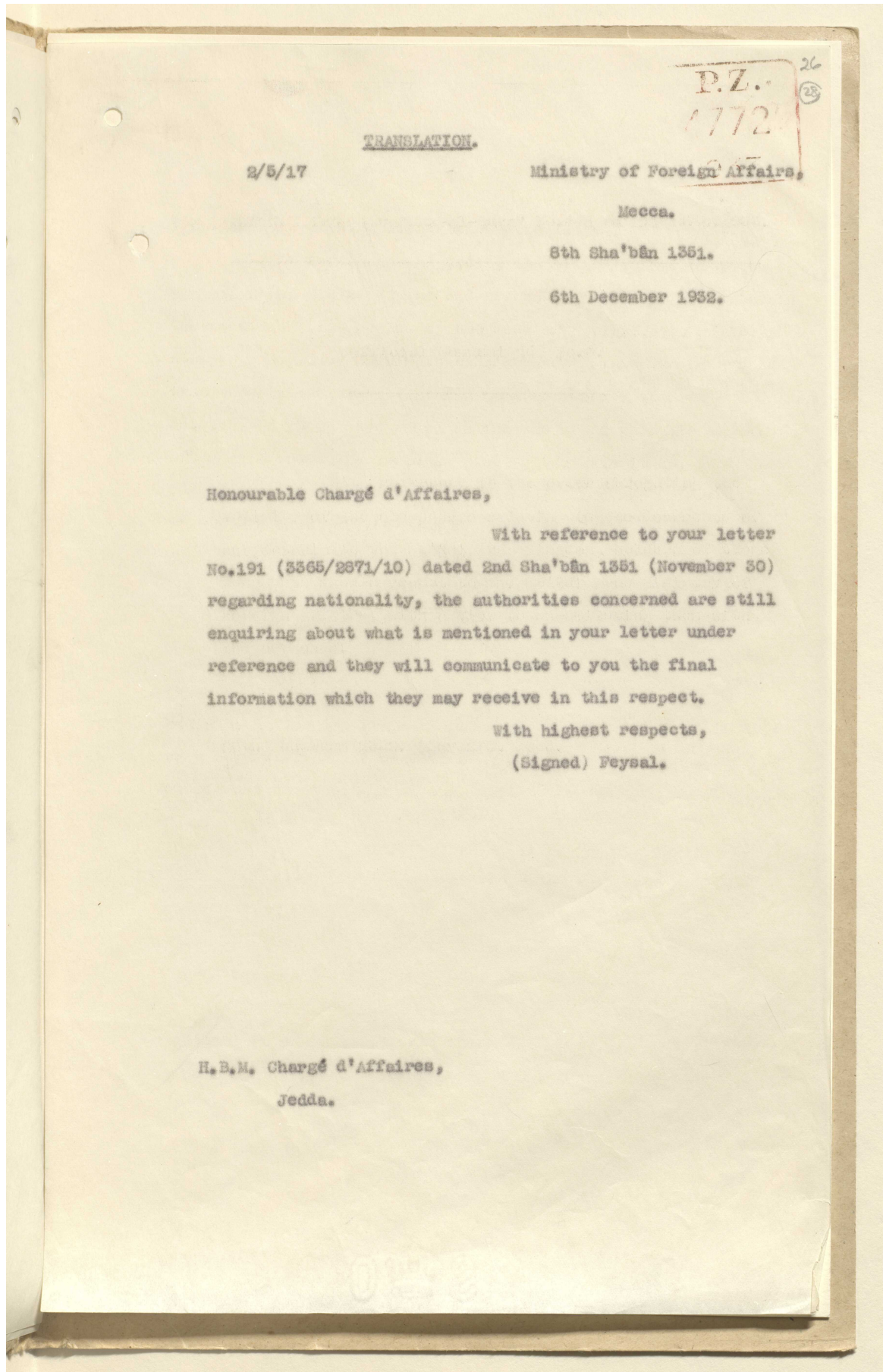
humble servant,

ANDREW STAN.

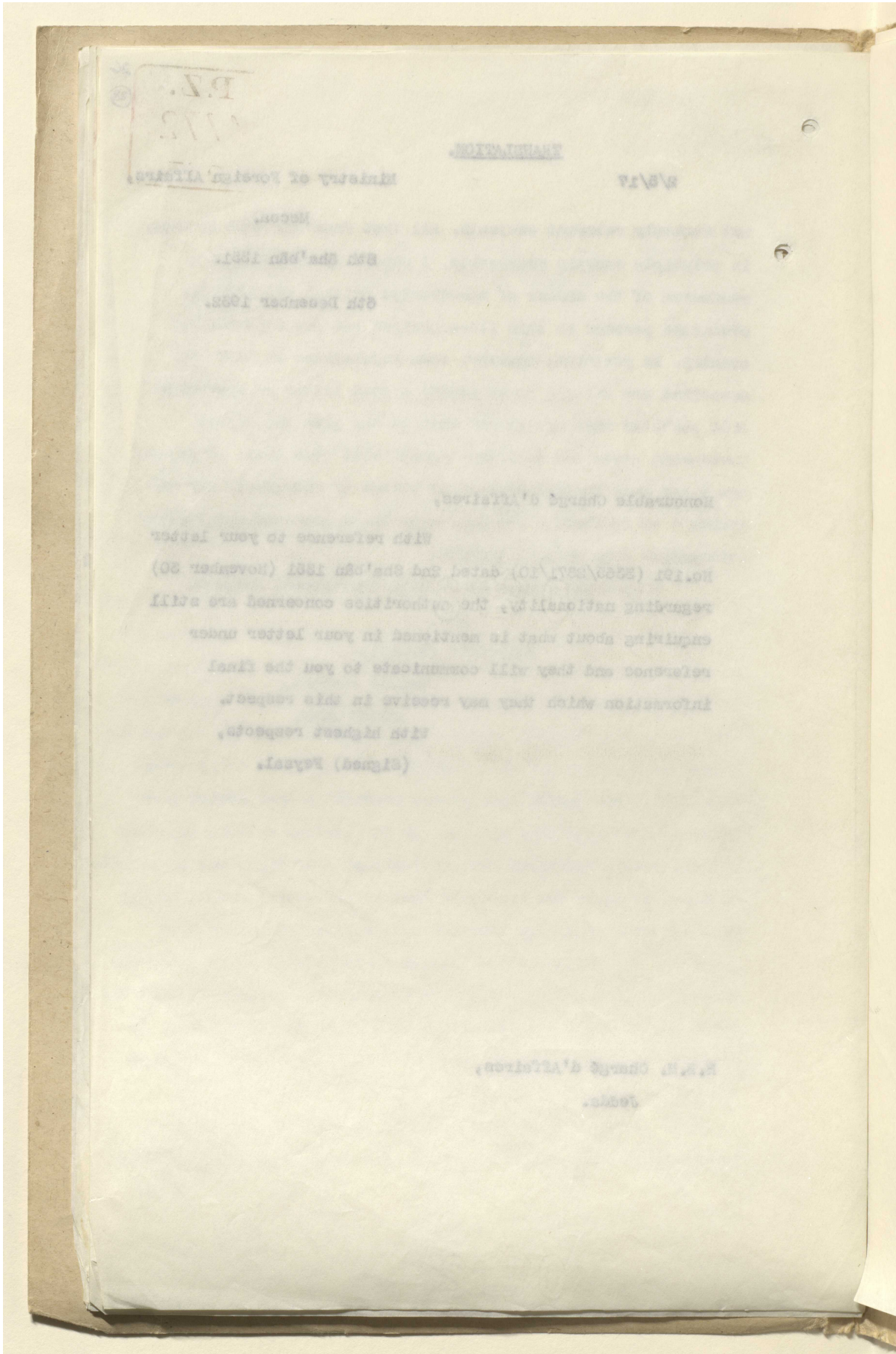
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [27v] (54/174)



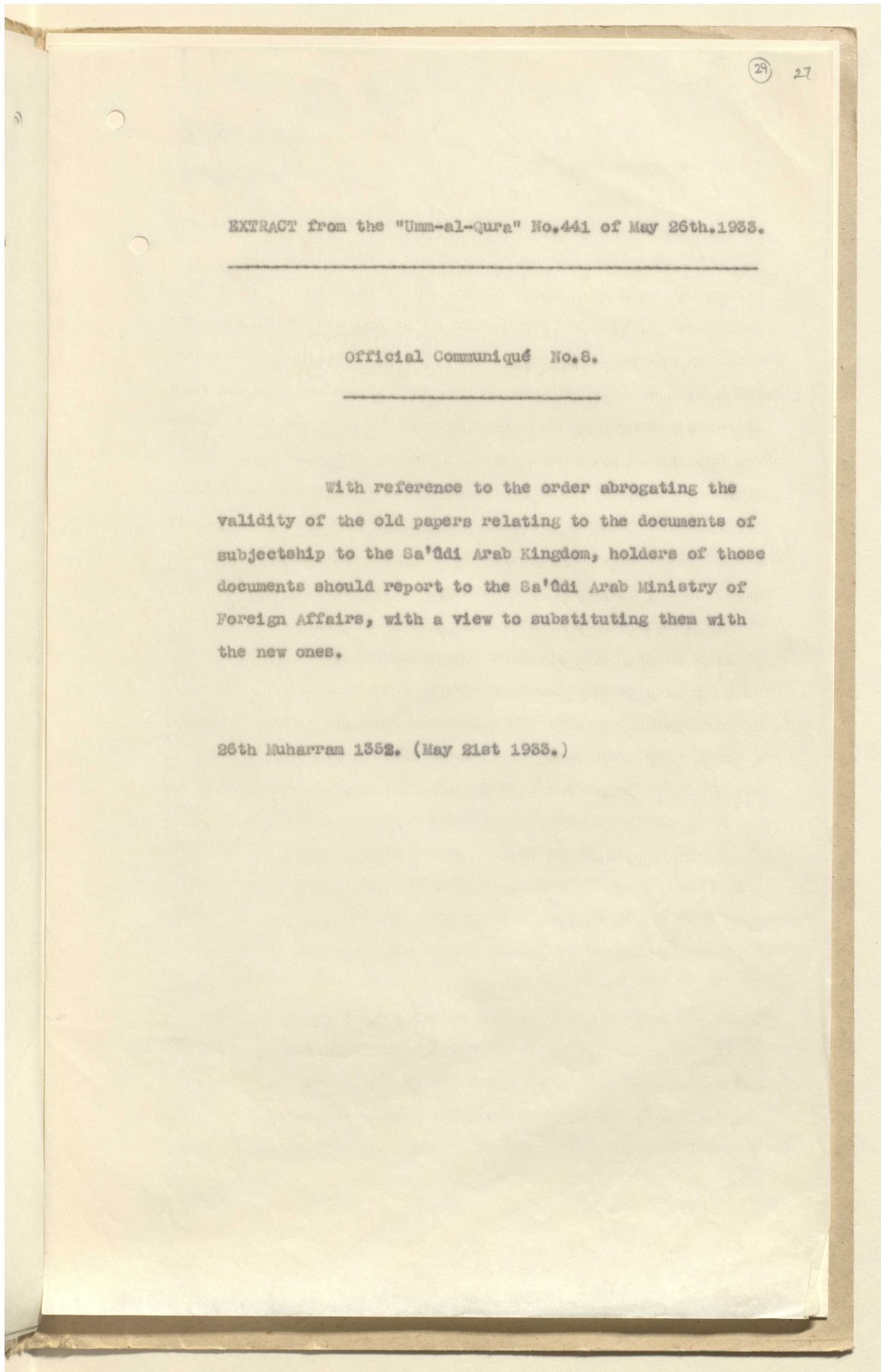
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [28r] (55/174)



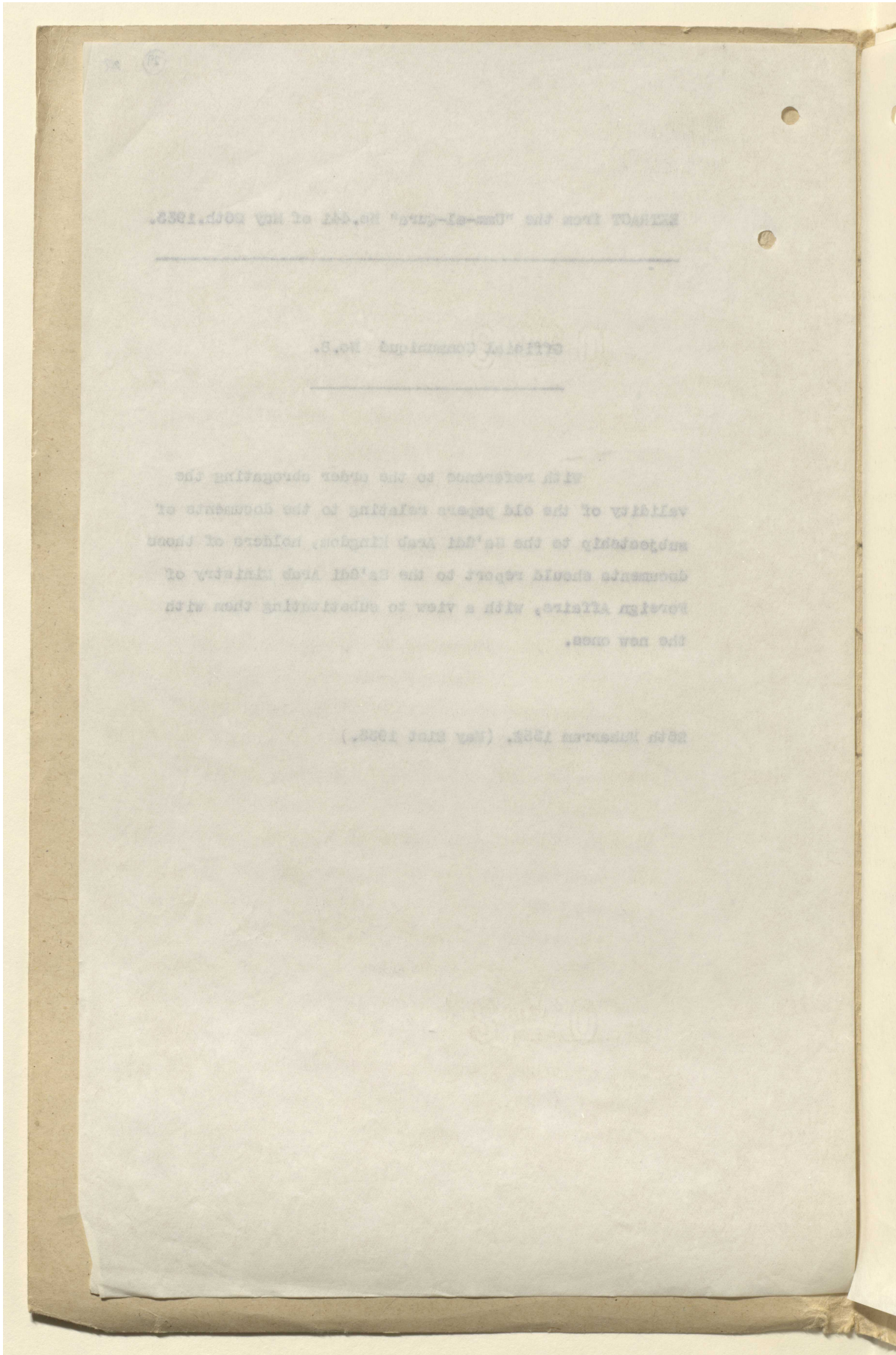
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [28v] (56/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [29r] (57/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [29v] (58/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [30r] (59/174)

No. 67.
(1655/1639/7)

MOSE BROSHY, s.

British Legation,
Jedda.

30th June 1953.

30 21
P.Z.
4772
1953

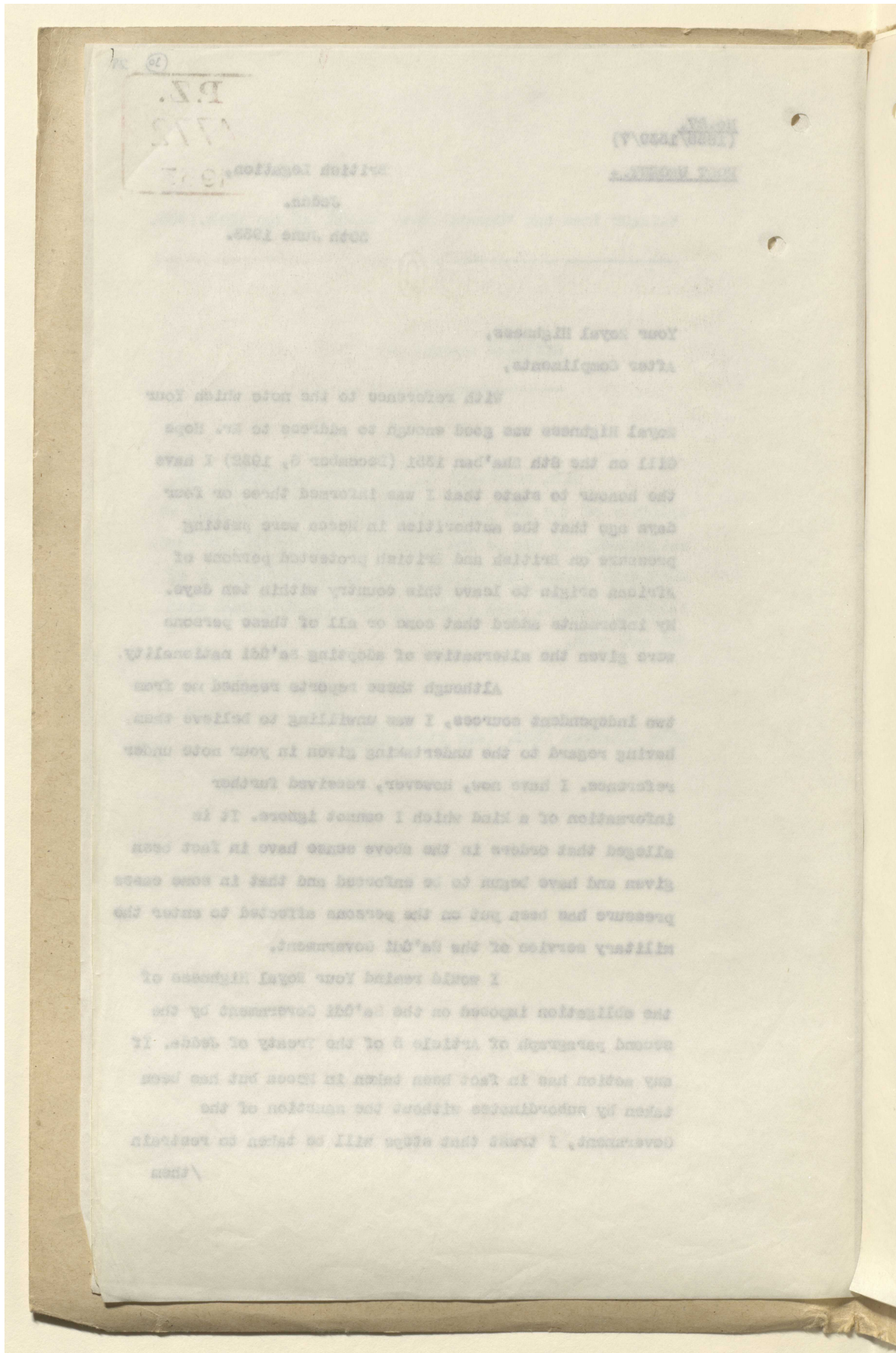
Your Royal Highness,
After Compliments,

With reference to the note which Your Royal Highness was good enough to address to Mr. Hope Gill on the 8th Sha'ban 1351 (December 6, 1952) I have the honour to state that I was informed three or four days ago that the authorities in Mecca were putting pressure on British and British protected persons of African origin to leave this country within ten days. My informants added that some or all of these persons were given the alternative of adopting Sa'udi nationality.

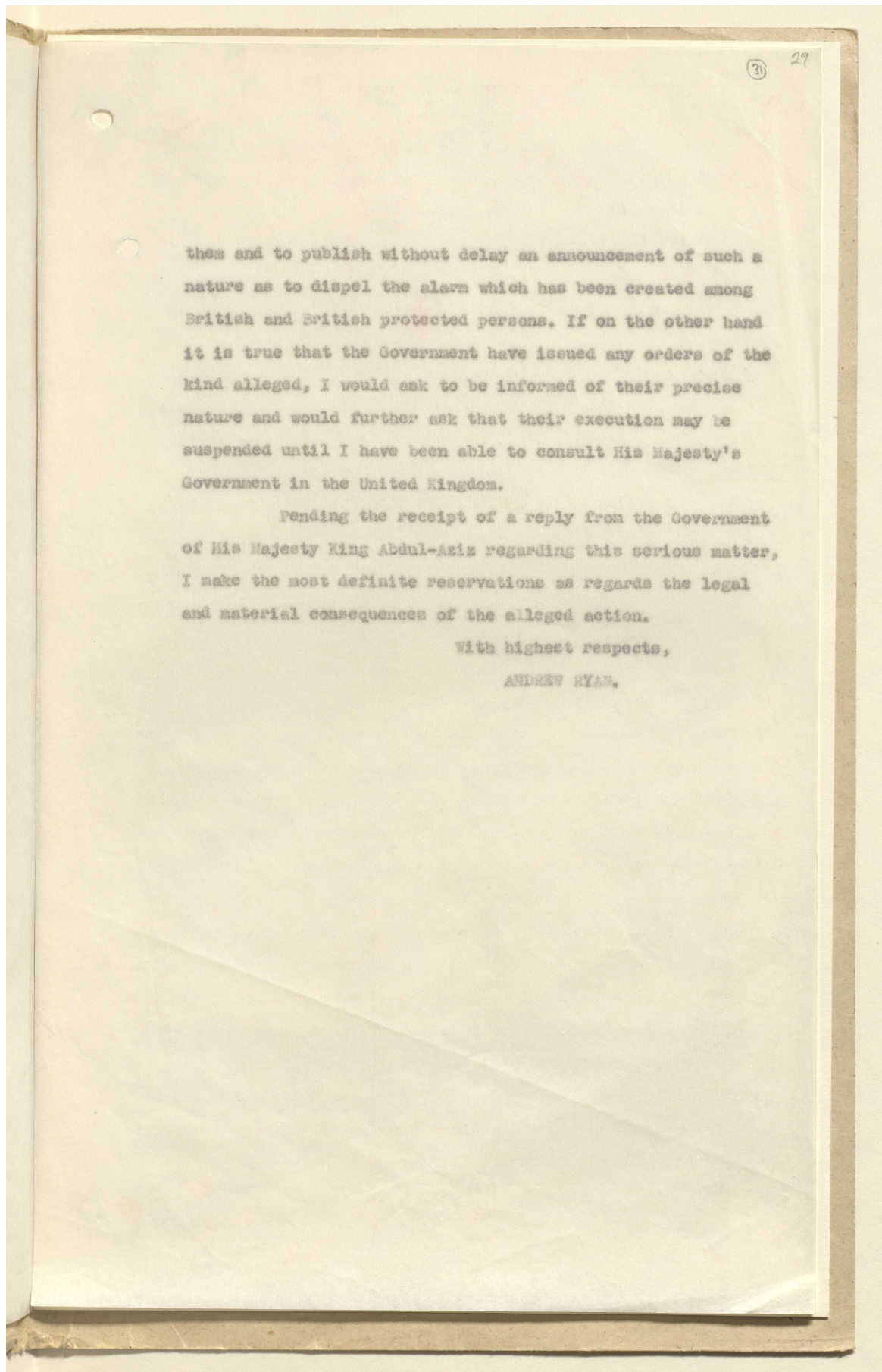
Although these reports reached me from two independent sources, I was unwilling to believe them, having regard to the undertaking given in your note under reference. I have now, however, received further information of a kind which I cannot ignore. It is alleged that orders in the above sense have in fact been given and have begun to be enforced and that in some cases pressure has been put on the persons affected to enter the military service of the Sa'udi Government.

I would remind Your Royal Highness of the obligation imposed on the Sa'udi Government by the second paragraph of Article 5 of the Treaty of Jedda. If any action has in fact been taken in Mecca but has been taken by subordinates without the sanction of the Government, I trust that steps will be taken to restrain
/them

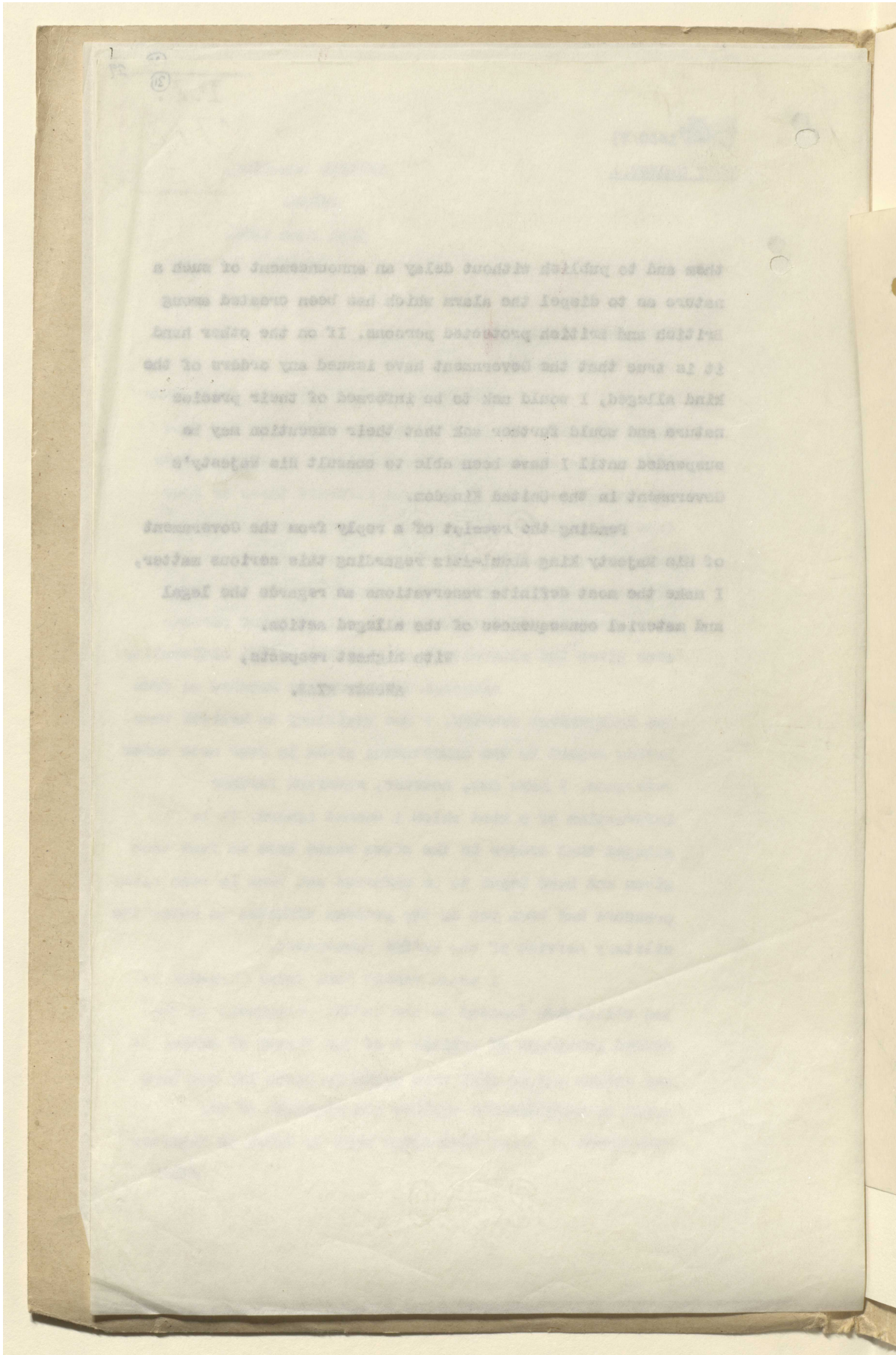
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [30v] (60/174)



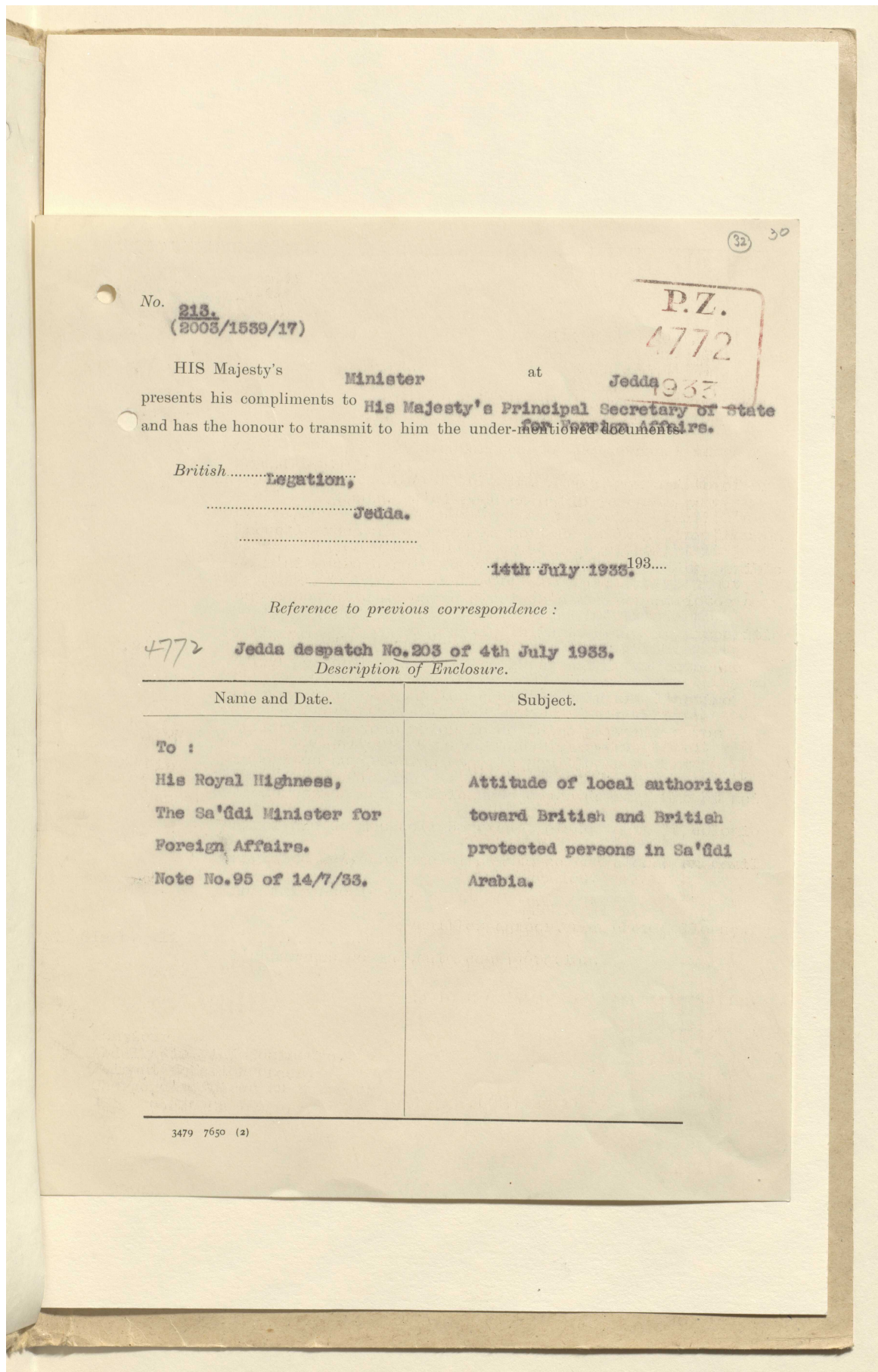
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [31r] (61/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [31v] (62/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [32r] (63/174)



No. 213.
(2003/1539/17)

P.Z.
4772
Jedda 1933

HIS Majesty's Minister at Jedda
presents his compliments to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State
and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned documents.

British.....Legation,
.....Jedda.

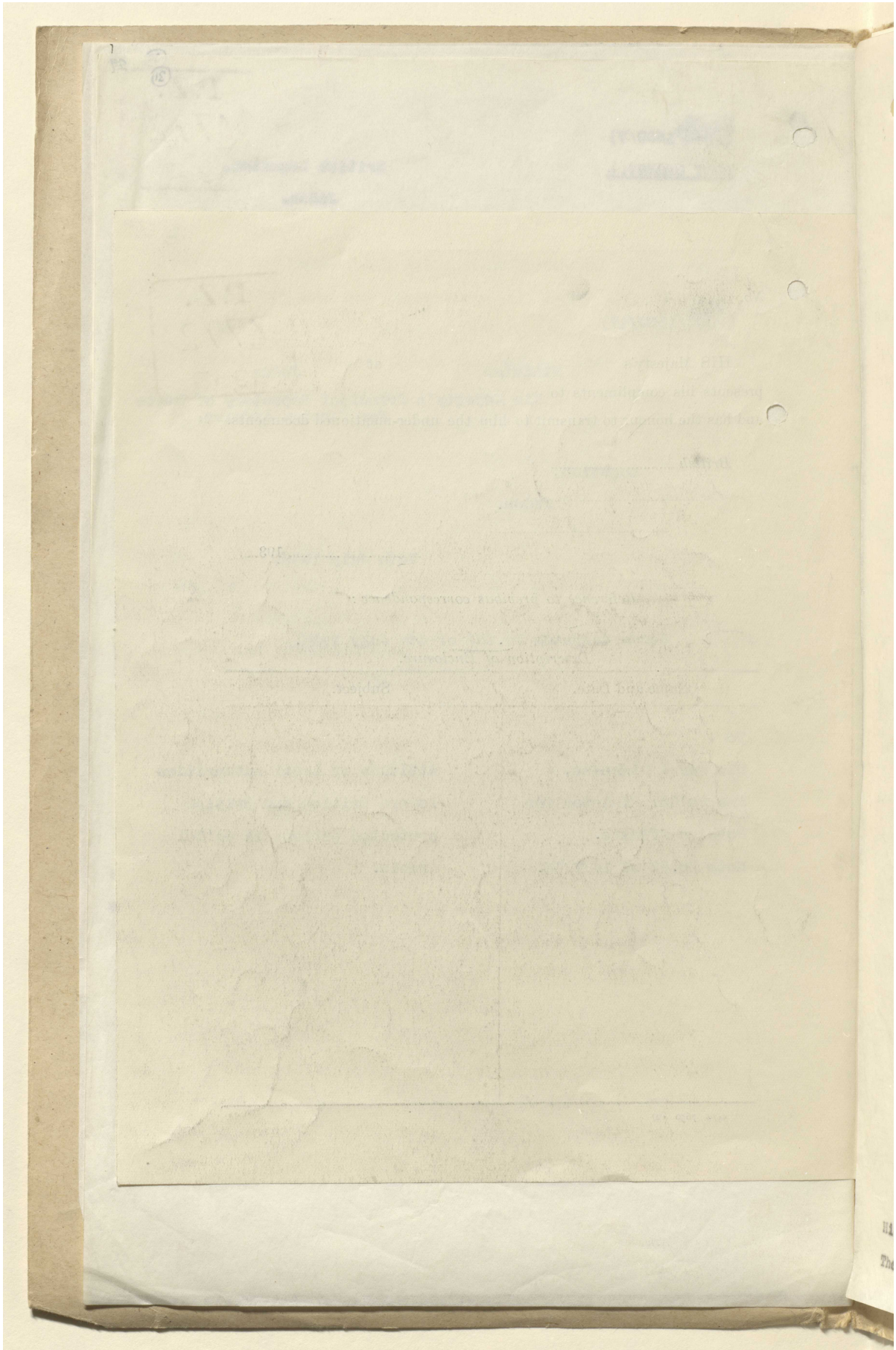
14th July 1933.¹⁹³....

Reference to previous correspondence :

4772 Jedda despatch No.203 of 4th July 1933.
Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
To : His Royal Highness, The Sa'udi Minister for Foreign Affairs. Note No.95 of 14/7/33.	Attitude of local authorities toward British and British protected persons in Sa'udi Arabia.

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [32v] (64/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [33r] (65/174)

No. 95.
(2002/1539/17)

British Legation,
Jedda.

14th July 1933.

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P.Z.
4772
1933

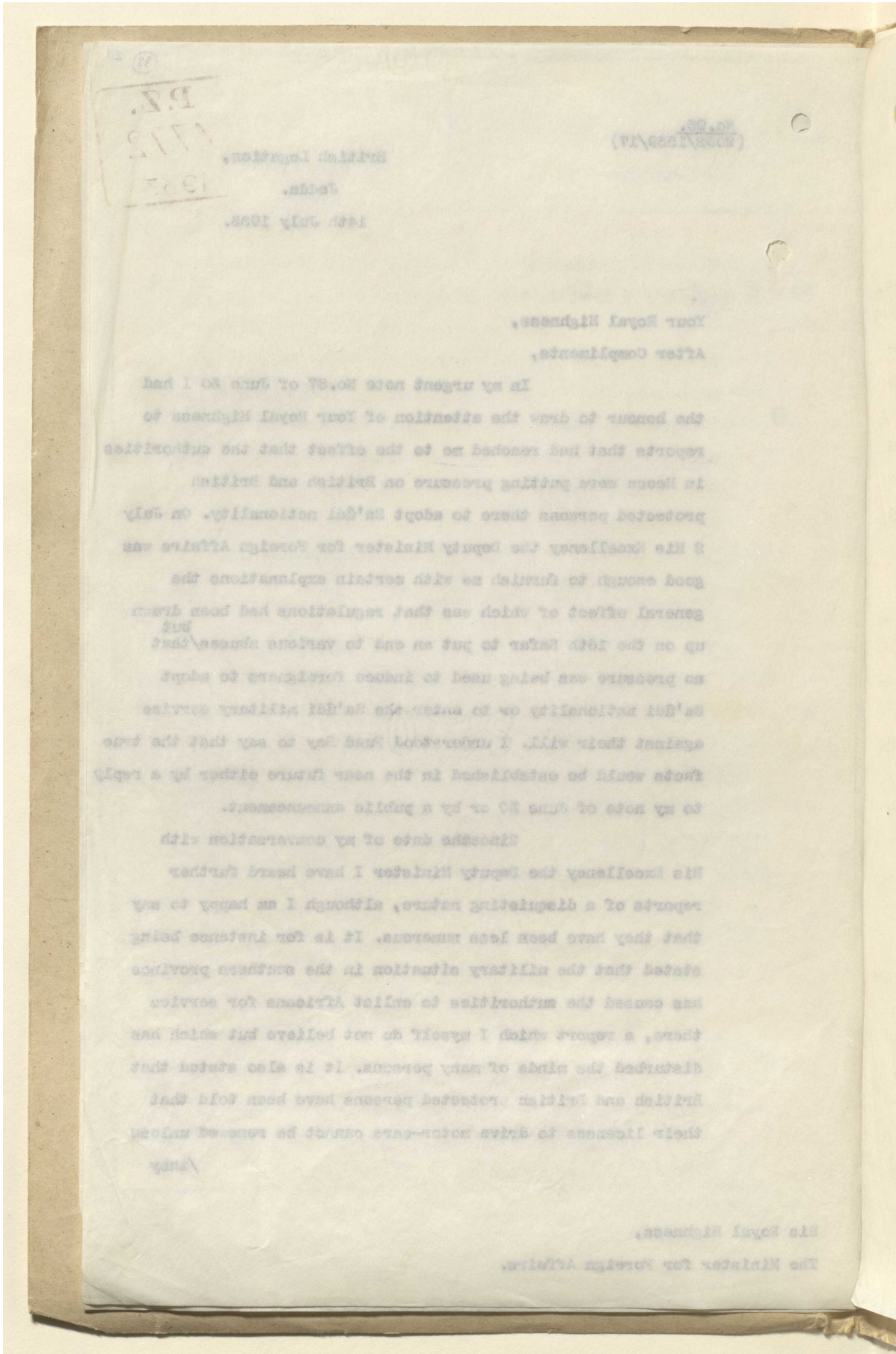
Your Royal Highness,
After Compliments,

In my urgent note No. 87 of June 30 I had the honour to draw the attention of Your Royal Highness to reports that had reached me to the effect that the authorities in Mecca were putting pressure on British and British protected persons there to adopt Sa'udi nationality. On July 2 His Excellency the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs was good enough to furnish me with certain explanations the general effect of which was that regulations had been drawn up on the 16th Safar to put an end to various abuses, but that no pressure was being used to induce foreigners to adopt Sa'udi nationality or to enter the Sa'udi military service against their will. I understood His Excellency to say that the true facts would be established in the near future either by a reply to my note of June 30 or by a public announcement.

Since the date of my conversation with His Excellency the Deputy Minister I have heard further reports of a disquieting nature, although I am happy to say that they have been less numerous. It is for instance being stated that the military situation in the southern province has caused the authorities to enlist Africans for service there, a report which I myself do not believe but which has disturbed the minds of many persons. It is also stated that British and British protected persons have been told that their licenses to drive motor-cars cannot be renewed unless
/they

His Royal Highness,
The Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [33v] (66/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [34r] (67/174)

(34) 32

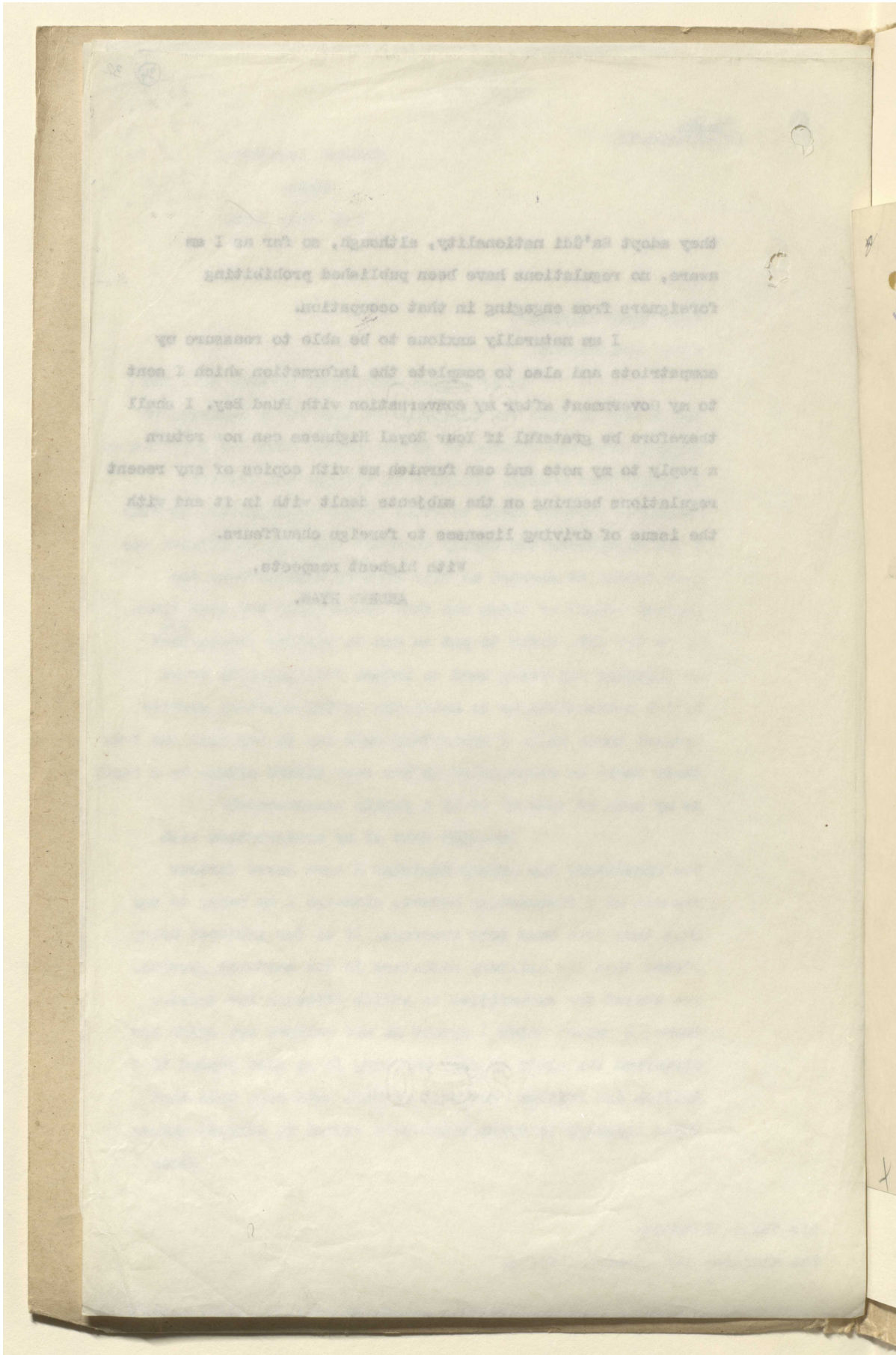
they adopt Sa'ūdi nationality, although, so far as I am aware, no regulations have been published prohibiting foreigners from engaging in that occupation.

I am naturally anxious to be able to reassure my compatriots and also to complete the information which I sent to my Government after my conversation with Fūd Bey. I shall therefore be grateful if Your Royal Highness can now return a reply to my note and can furnish me with copies of any recent regulations bearing on the subjects dealt with in it and with the issue of driving licenses to foreign chauffeurs.

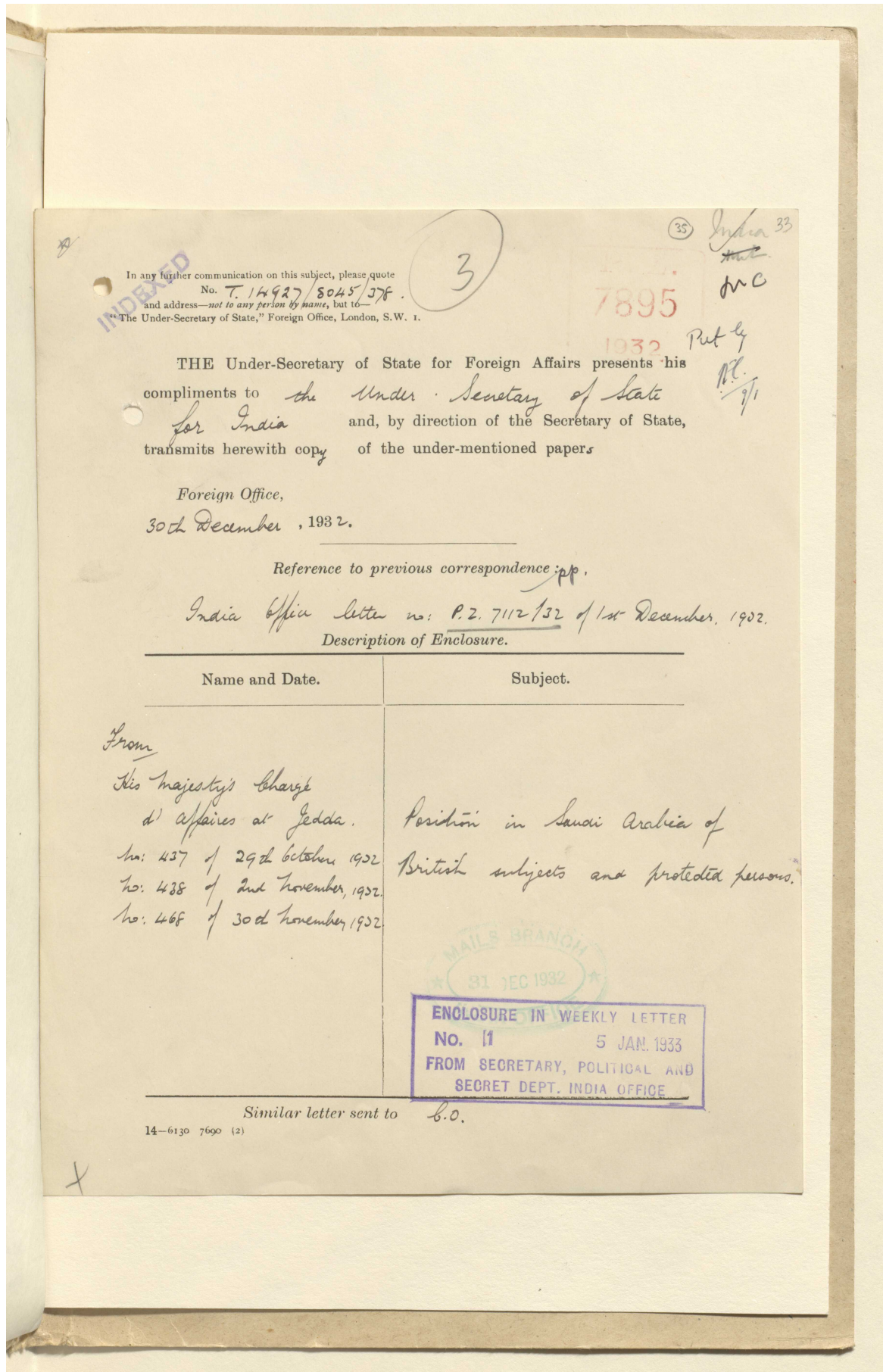
With highest respects,

ANDREW RYAN.

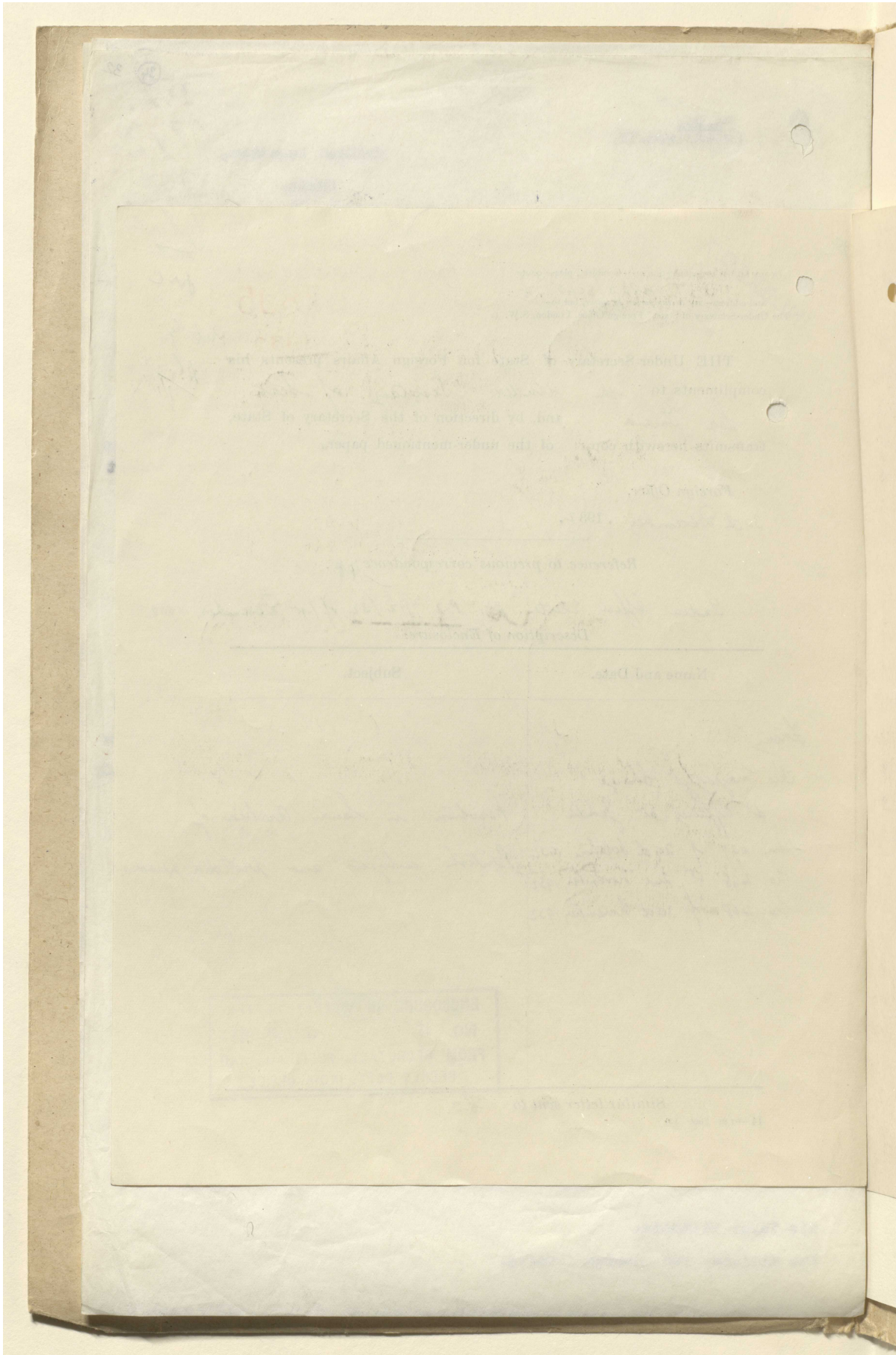
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [34v] (68/174)



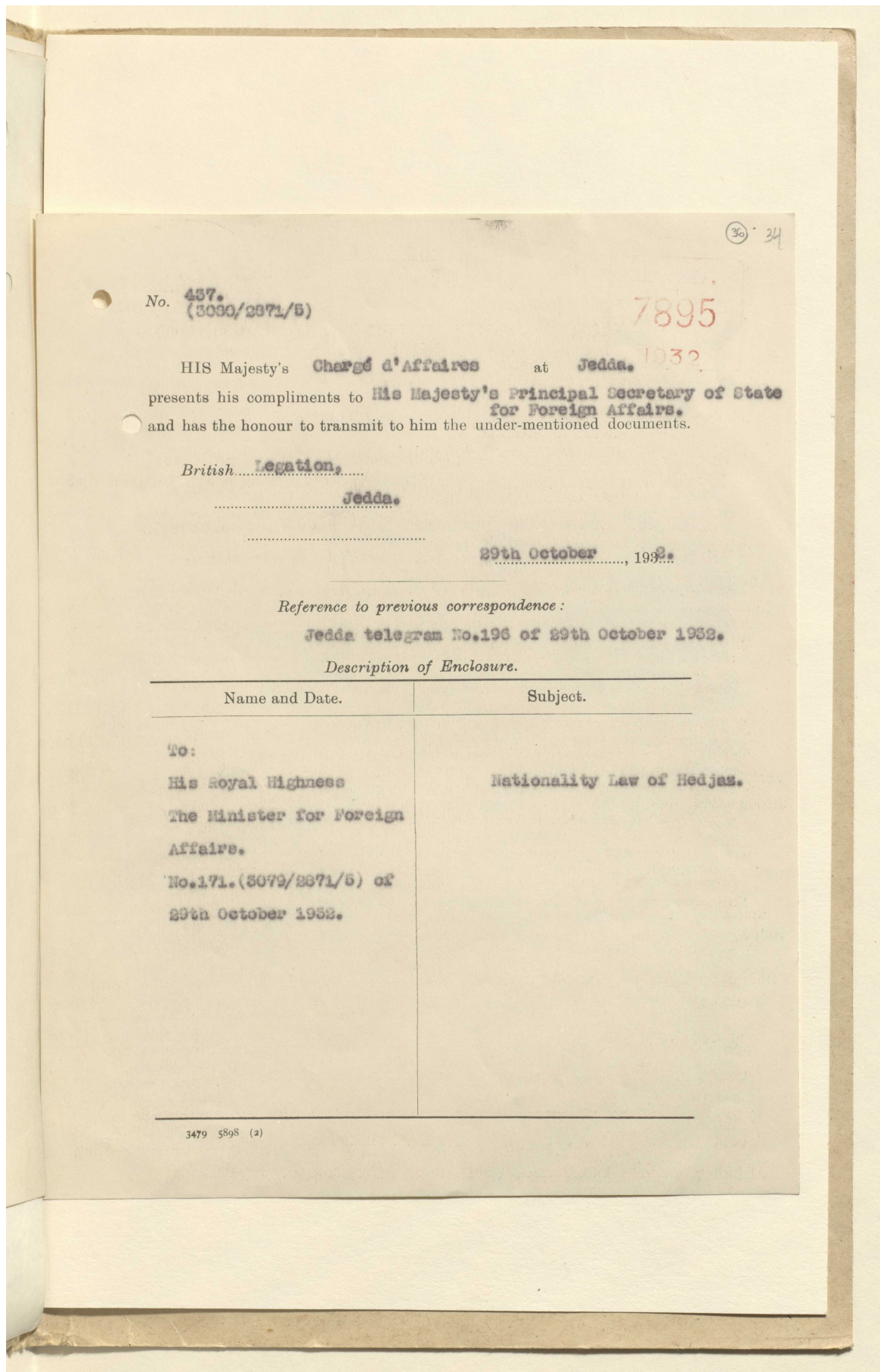
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [35r] (69/174)



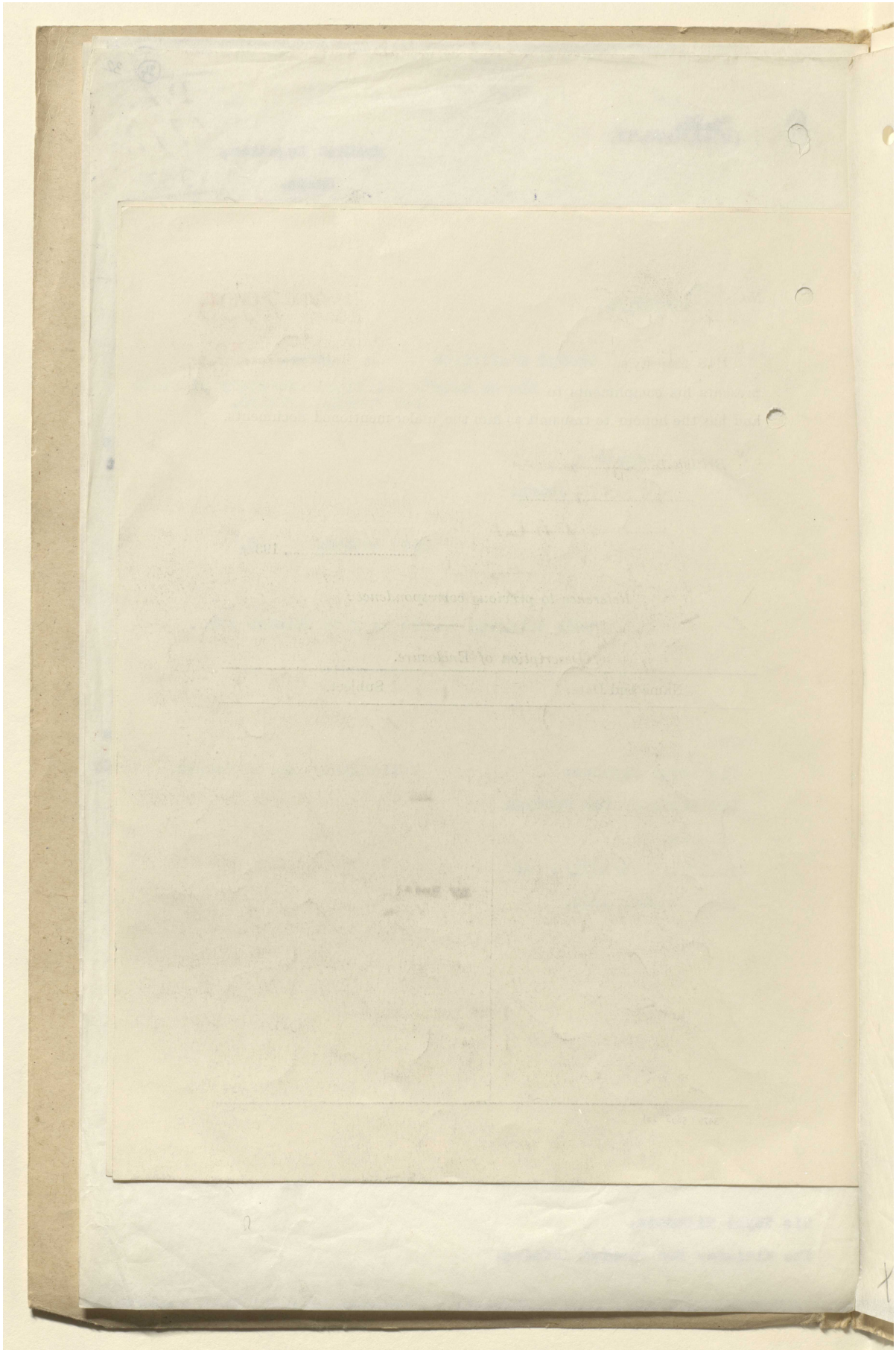
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [35v] (70/174)



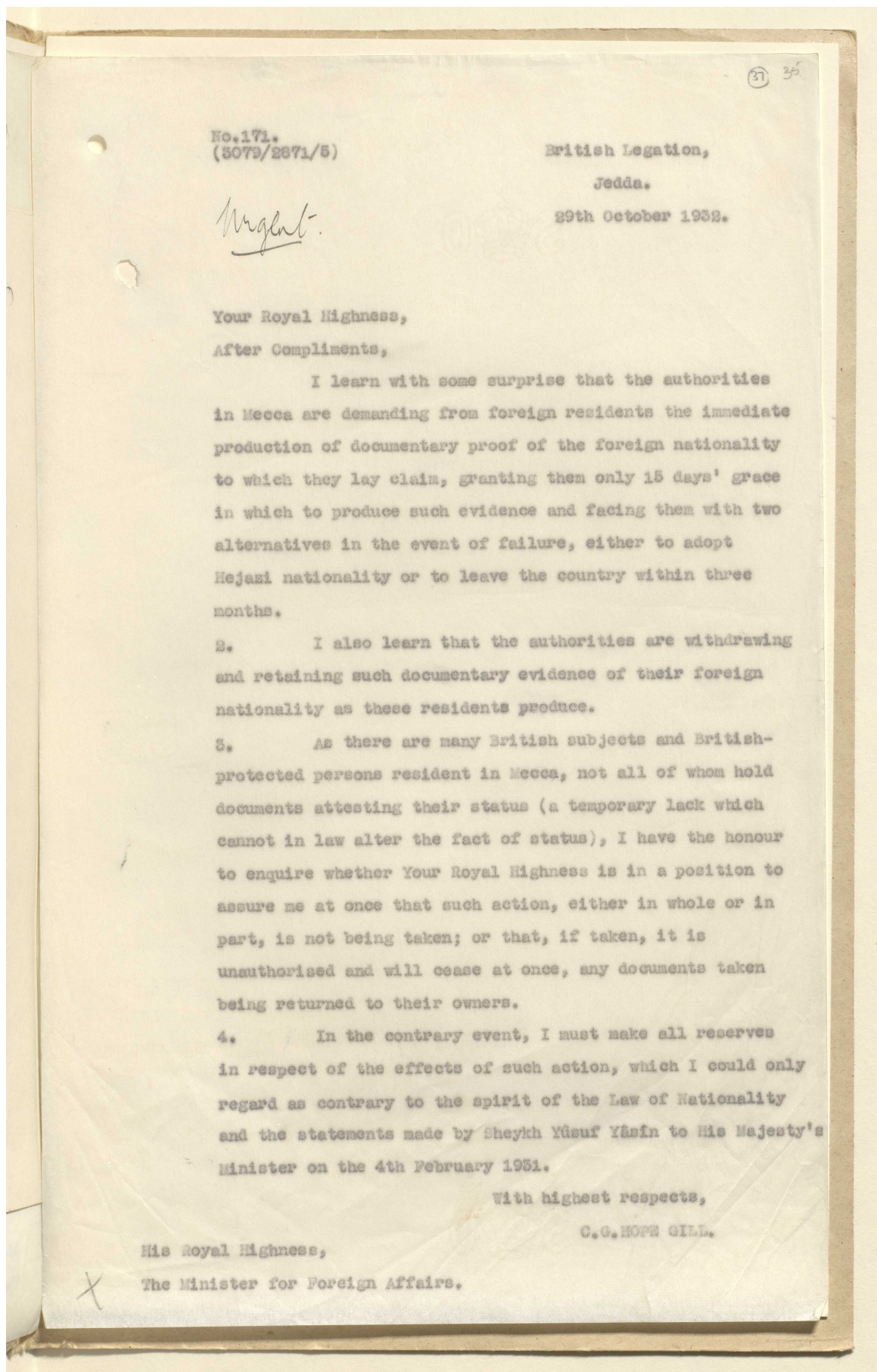
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [36r] (71/174)



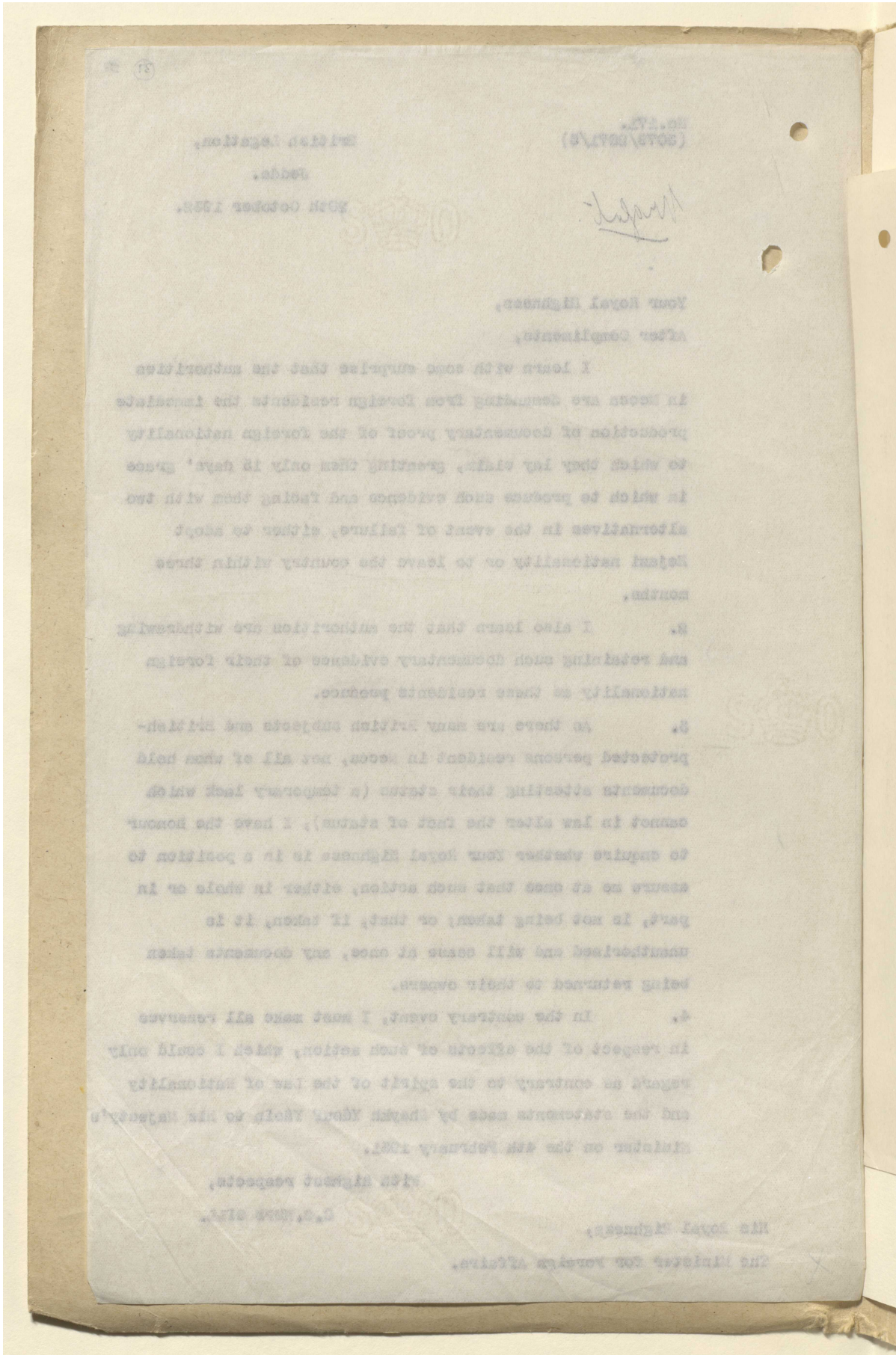
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [36v] (72/174)



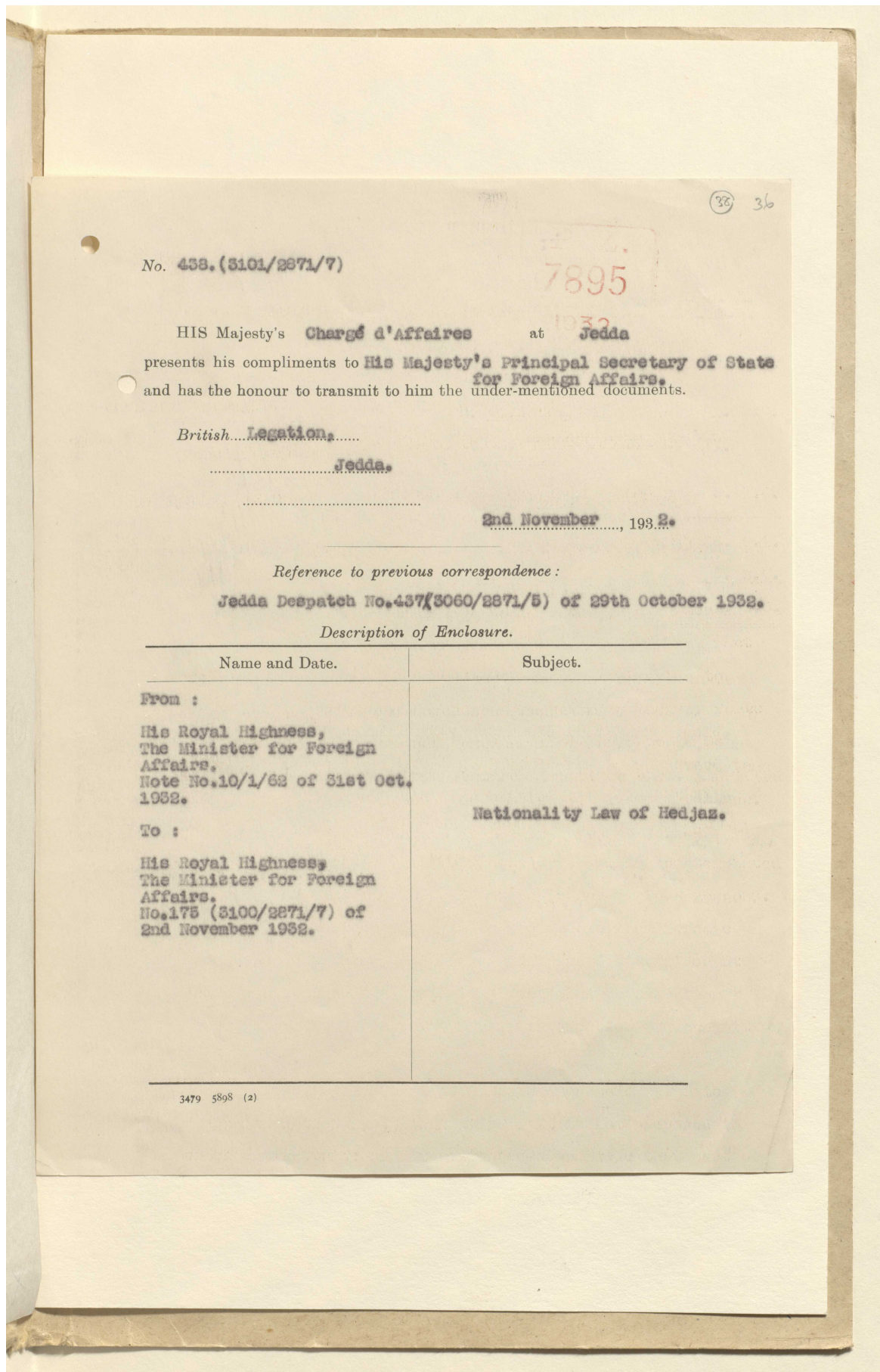
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [37r] (73/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [37v] (74/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [38r] (75/174)



No. 438. (3101/2871/7)

HIS Majesty's **Chargé d'Affaires** at **Jedda**
presents his compliments to **His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State**
for Foreign Affairs,
and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned documents.

British... **Legation,**.....
..... **Jedda,**

2nd November .., 1932.

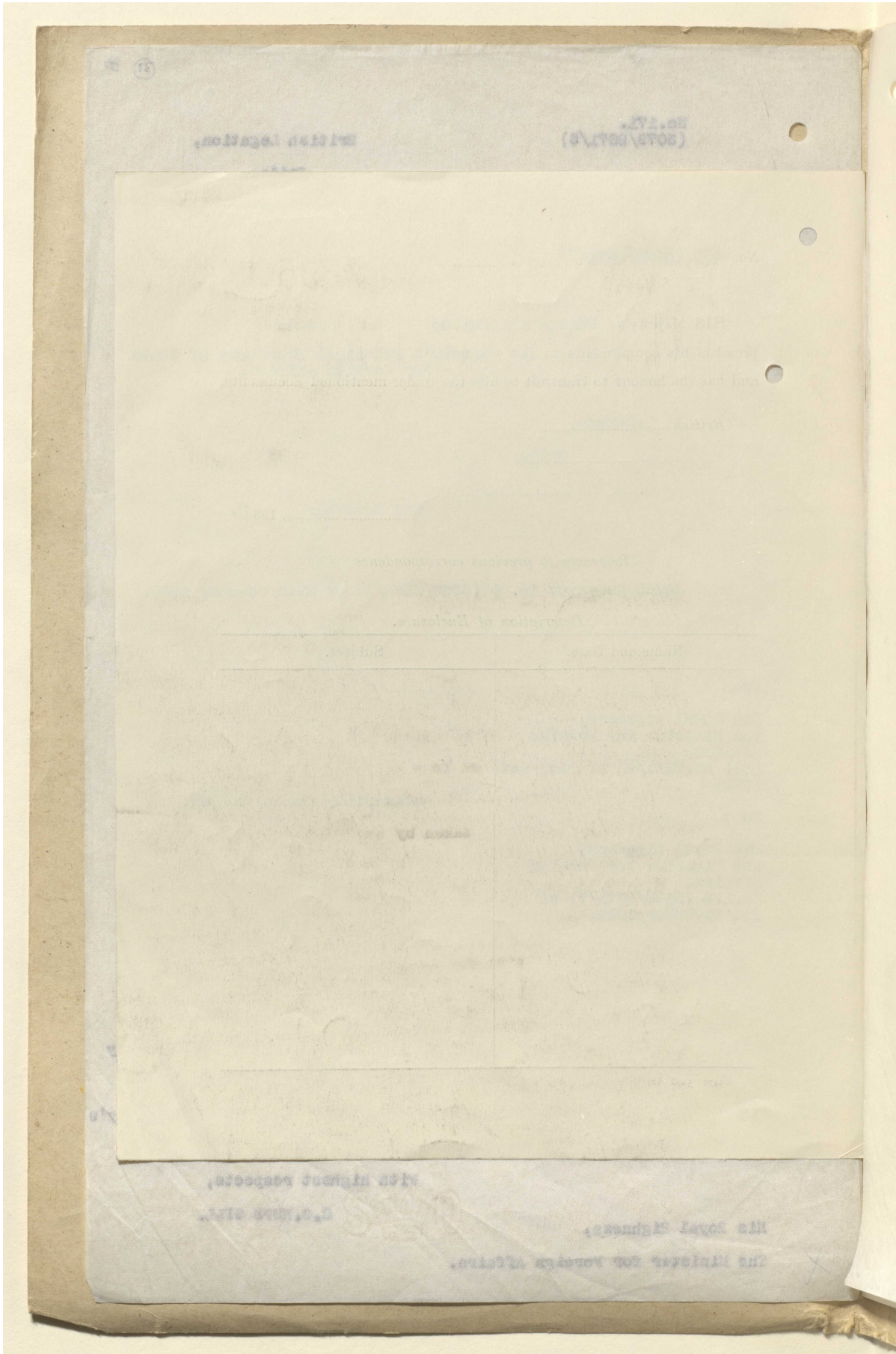
Reference to previous correspondence :

Jedda Despatch No. 437 (3060/2871/5) of 29th October 1932.

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
<p>From : His Royal Highness, The Minister for Foreign Affairs. Note No. 10/1/32 of 31st Oct. 1932.</p>	<p>Nationality Law of Hedjaz.</p>
<p>To : His Royal Highness, The Minister for Foreign Affairs. No. 175 (3100/2871/7) of 2nd November 1932.</p>	

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [38v] (76/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [39r] (77/174)

(39) 3021/2871/637

10/1/62

Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

Taif.

31st October 1932

1st Rajab 1351.

Honourable Chargé d'Affaires,

In reply to your urgent letter No.171 of 28th Jumad ath-Thâni 1351 (29th October 1932) concerning measures taken by the authorities concerned at Mecca in respect of residents there claiming (foreign) nationality, I inform Your Honour that I see no reason for the surprise expressed by you in your above mentioned letter at an action taken by the authorities concerned with a view to ascertaining the claims of people who allege themselves to be foreign nationals.

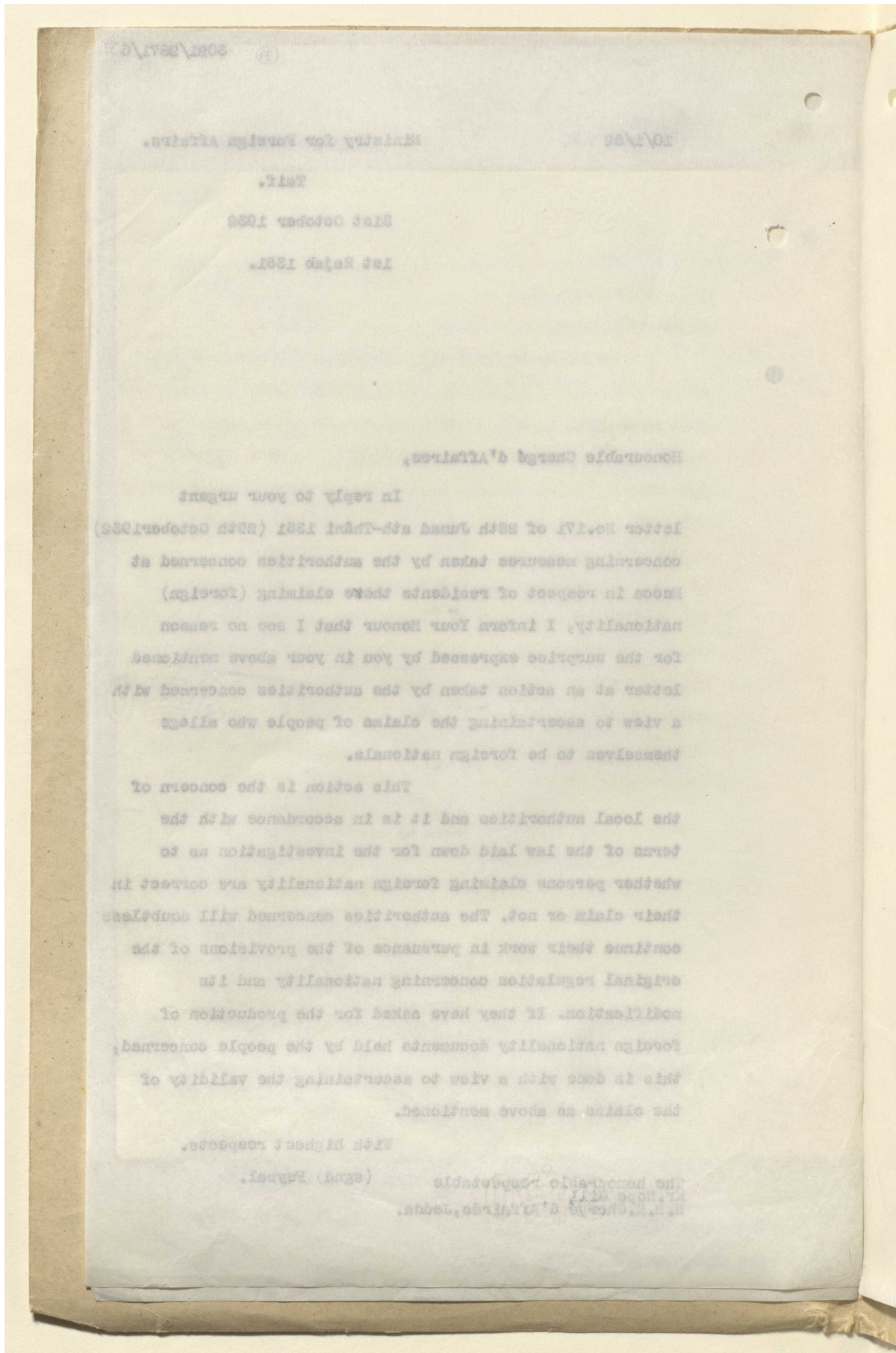
This action is the concern of the local authorities and it is in accordance with the terms of the law laid down for the investigation as to whether persons claiming foreign nationality are correct in their claim or not. The authorities concerned will doubtless continue their work in pursuance of the provisions of the original regulation concerning nationality and its modification. If they have asked for the production of foreign nationality documents held by the people concerned, this is done with a view to ascertaining the validity of the claims as above mentioned.

With highest respects.

The honourable respectable
Mr. Hope Gill
H. B. M. Chargé d'Affaires, Jedda.

(sgnd) Feysal.

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [39v] (78/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [40r] (79/174)

No.175.
(3100/2871/7)

British Legation,
Jedda.
2nd November 1932.

Your Royal Highness,
After Compliments,

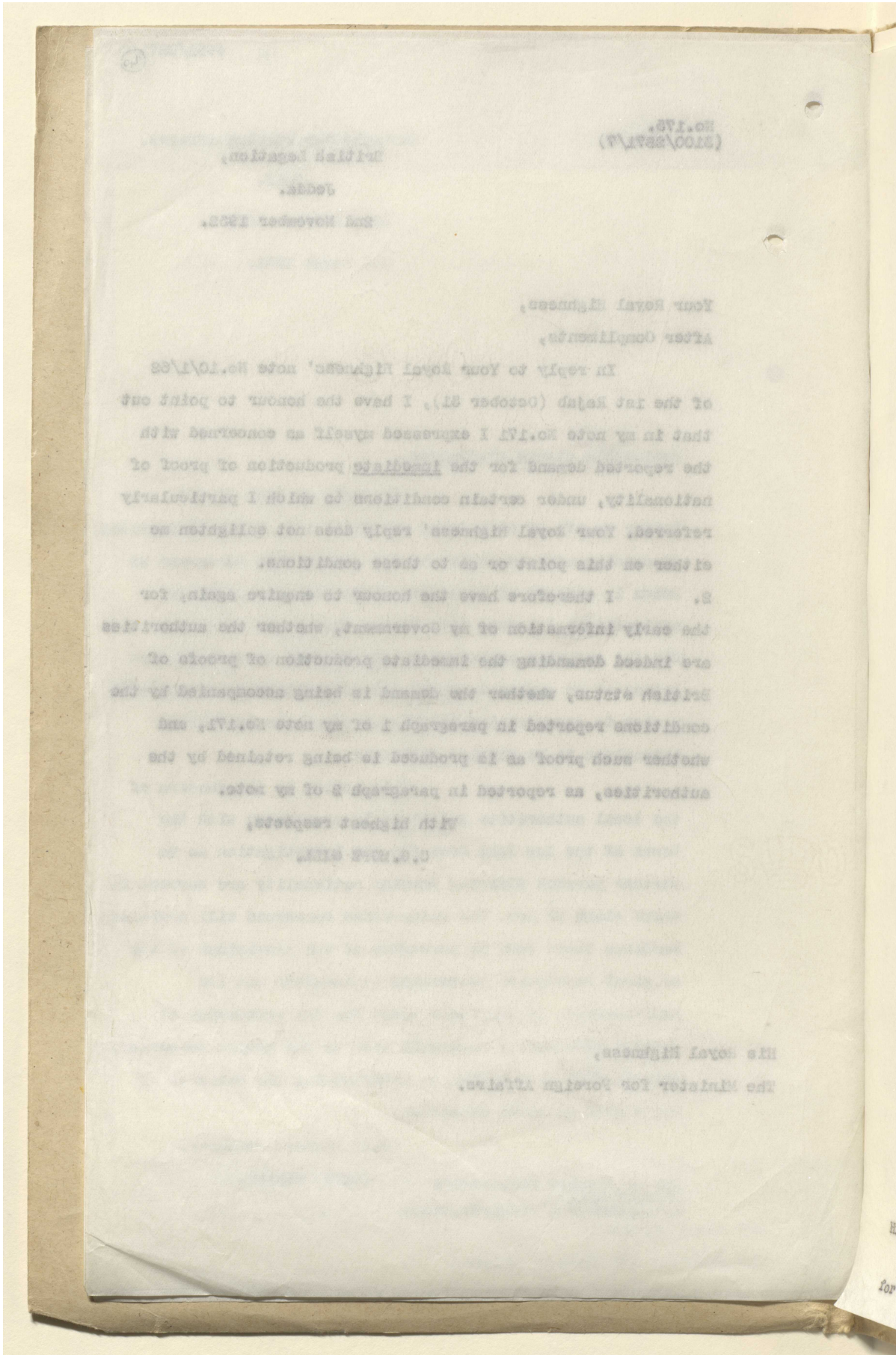
In reply to Your Royal Highness' note No.10/1/32 of the 1st Rajab (October 31), I have the honour to point out that in my note No.171 I expressed myself as concerned with the reported demand for the immediate production of proof of nationality, under certain conditions to which I particularly referred. Your Royal Highness' reply does not enlighten me either on this point or as to these conditions.

2. I therefore have the honour to enquire again, for the early information of my Government, whether the authorities are indeed demanding the immediate production of proofs of British status, whether the demand is being accompanied by the conditions reported in paragraph 1 of my note No.171, and whether such proof as is produced is being retained by the authorities, as reported in paragraph 2 of my note.

With highest respects,
C.C.HOPE GILL.

His Royal Highness,
The Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [40v] (80/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [41r] (81/174)

(4) 38

No.468.
(3366/2871/11)

JEDDA.

30th November 1932.

Sir,

7895
In my printed letter No.458 of the 2nd November I transmitted to you a translation of the Sa'udi Government's reply to my enquiry of the 29th October as to certain measures which were being taken in Mecca to apply the Hejaz Nationality Law. A copy of my further note of the 2nd November was attached.

2. Having received no reply, I took occasion of Fuad Bey Hamza's presence in Jeddah on November 16 to question him. He denied having seen my second note, explaining that it might well have missed him owing to his recent movements between Taif and Mecca. Though far from satisfied with this explanation, I did not labour the point, for Fuad Bey undertook to study my note on his return to Mecca and to ensure that it was answered. Meanwhile he gave me a verbal assurance that my information regarding the Nationality Committee's activities in Mecca was, so far as he knew, incorrect. I replied that I had withheld my first note until I had satisfied myself that my information was substantially accurate and that I should therefore be glad if he would look well into the matter before my note was answered, since my object was to keep my Government fully and accurately informed. This he promised to do. I am still however without a reply.

3. Nevertheless it seems that the Committee's activities ceased in the early days of this month, after it had completed its survey of the Mu'abda quarter of Mecca, in which almost the only foreign residents are Hadhramis. About the same time it was learned privately that the Amir of Jeddah had received orders to constitute a similar Committee and that the Mayor of Jeddah

/had

His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State

for Foreign Affairs.

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [41v] (82/174)

No. 488
(2886/287/11)

30th November 1938

Sir,

In my printed letter No. 488 of the 2nd November I transmitted to you a translation of the Sa'udi Government's reply to my enquiry of the 23rd October as to certain measures which were being taken in Mecca to apply the Hijaz Nationality Law. A copy of my further note of the 2nd November was attached.

2. Having received no reply, I took occasion of Had Hajj Haman's presence in Jeddah on November 18 to question him. He denied having seen my second note, explaining that it might well have missed him owing to his recent movements between Jeddah and Mecca. Though far from satisfied with this explanation, I did not labour the point, for Had Hajj undertook to study my note on his return to Mecca and to ensure that it was answered.

Meanwhile he gave me a verbal assurance that my information regarding the Nationality Committee's activities in Mecca was no far as he knew, incorrect. I replied that I had withheld my first note until I had satisfied myself that my information was substantially accurate and that I should therefore be glad if he would look well into the matter before my note was answered, since my object was to keep my Government fully and accurately informed. This he promised to do. I am still however without a reply.

3. Nevertheless it seems that the Committee's activities ceased in the early days of this month, after it had completed its survey of the Mu'abba quarter of Mecca, in which almost the only foreign residents are Bahramis. About the same time it was learned privately that the Amir of Jeddah had received orders to constitute a similar Committee and that the Mayor of Jeddah had

His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State
for Foreign Affairs.

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [42r] (83/174)

(42) 37

had advised his accountant, who happens to be a British subject, to naturalise himself an Hejazi. No effect has yet been given to these orders, however, and my latest information is to the effect that the whole matter has been referred to Riyâdh.

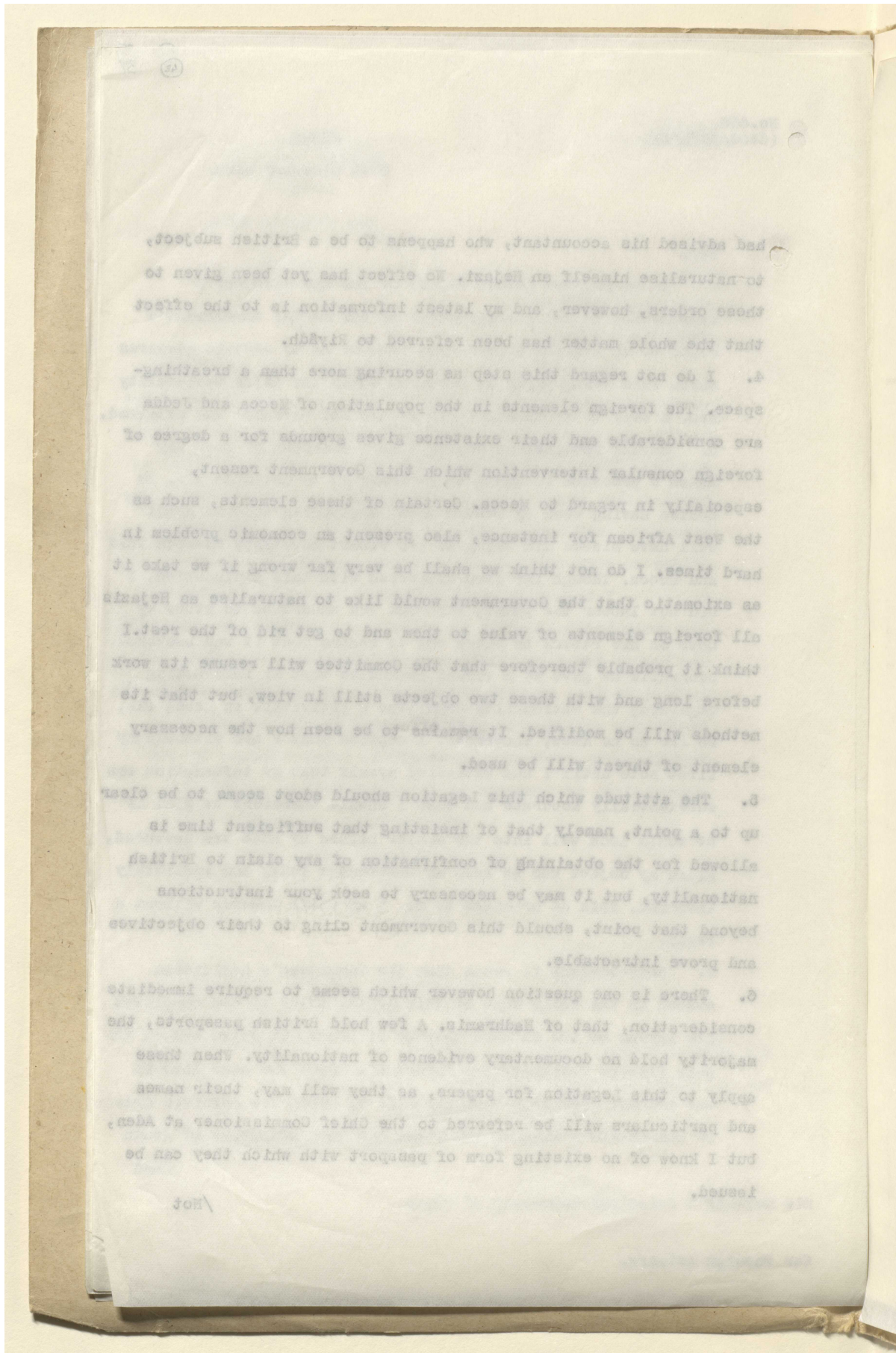
4. I do not regard this step as securing more than a breathing-space. The foreign elements in the population of Mecca and Jeddah are considerable and their existence gives grounds for a degree of foreign consular intervention which this Government resent, especially in regard to Mecca. Certain of these elements, such as the West African for instance, also present an economic problem in hard times. I do not think we shall be very far wrong if we take it as axiomatic that the Government would like to naturalise as Hejazis all foreign elements of value to them and to get rid of the rest. I think it probable therefore that the Committee will resume its work before long and with these two objects still in view, but that its methods will be modified. It remains to be seen how the necessary element of threat will be used.

5. The attitude which this Legation should adopt seems to be clear up to a point, namely that of insisting that sufficient time is allowed for the obtaining of confirmation of any claim to British nationality, but it may be necessary to seek your instructions beyond that point, should this Government cling to their objectives and prove intractable.

6. There is one question however which seems to require immediate consideration, that of Hadhramis. A few hold British passports, the majority hold no documentary evidence of nationality. When these apply to this Legation for papers, as they well may, their names and particulars will be referred to the Chief Commissioner at Aden, but I know of no existing form of passport with which they can be issued.

/Not

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [42v] (84/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [43r] (85/174)

43 40

Not only would an unsatisfactory local situation arise, in which some Hadhramis who happen to have obtained British passports in their travels would be regarded as foreign subjects or protected persons, while the rest would be classified by this Government as Hejazis, but political repercussions might also be felt if and when Ibn Sa'ûd begins to extend his sphere of influence to the Hadhramaut coast. I am not at all clear to what extent we control or "protect" that series of secluded valleys and petty sultanates, nor how, except in Egypt, the somewhat indeterminate status of its adventurous natives is regarded by other Governments in relation to His Majesty's Governments. Here, however, the question takes on a special character and possibly special importance. I shall be grateful, therefore, for guidance as to what attitude should be observed towards the Sa'ûdi Arab Government in dealing with unavoidable questions which involve Hadhrami nationality, and what effective documentary proof of such nationality can properly be given to those whom the Chief Commissioner at Aden certifies to be Hadhramis.

I have the honour to be with the
highest respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

C.G. HOPE GILL.

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [43v] (86/174)

Not only would an unsatisfactory local situation arise, in which
some individuals who happen to have obtained British passports in
their travels would be regarded as foreign subjects or protected
persons, while the rest would be classified by this Government
as aliens, but political repercussions might also be felt if
and when I.M. de la Bédoullière began to extend his sphere of influence to
the Hadramaut coast. I am not at all clear to what extent we
control or "protect" that section of secluded valleys and petty
villages, nor how, except in Egypt, the somewhat indeterminate
status of the adventurous natives is regarded by other
Governments in relation to His Majesty's Government. Here,
however, the question takes on a special character and possibly
special importance. I shall be grateful, therefore, for guidance
as to what attitude should be observed towards the Sa'udi Arab
Government in dealing with unavoidable questions which involve
Hadrami nationality, and what effective documentary proof of
such nationality can properly be given to those whom the United
Commissioner at Aden certifies to be Hadramis.

I have the honor to be with the
highest respect,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
Najib servant,
C. S. HOPE GILL.

INDEX

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [44r] (87/174)

INDEXED

In any further communication on this subject, please quote
No. T1481/8045/378
and address — not to any person by name, but to —
"The Under-Secretary of State," Foreign Office, London, S.W. 1.

7424
1932

THE Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Under Secretary of State for India and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copies of the under-mentioned paper.

Foreign Office,
December 7th 1932.

Reference to previous correspondence pp. 1
India Office letter, no. P2.7112/32, of December 1st '32

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44
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13/12

Name and Date.	Subject.
Telegram to H. M. Representative, Jedda, No. 152, of December 6 th '32.	Position of natives of the Hadramaut in Saudi Arabia.

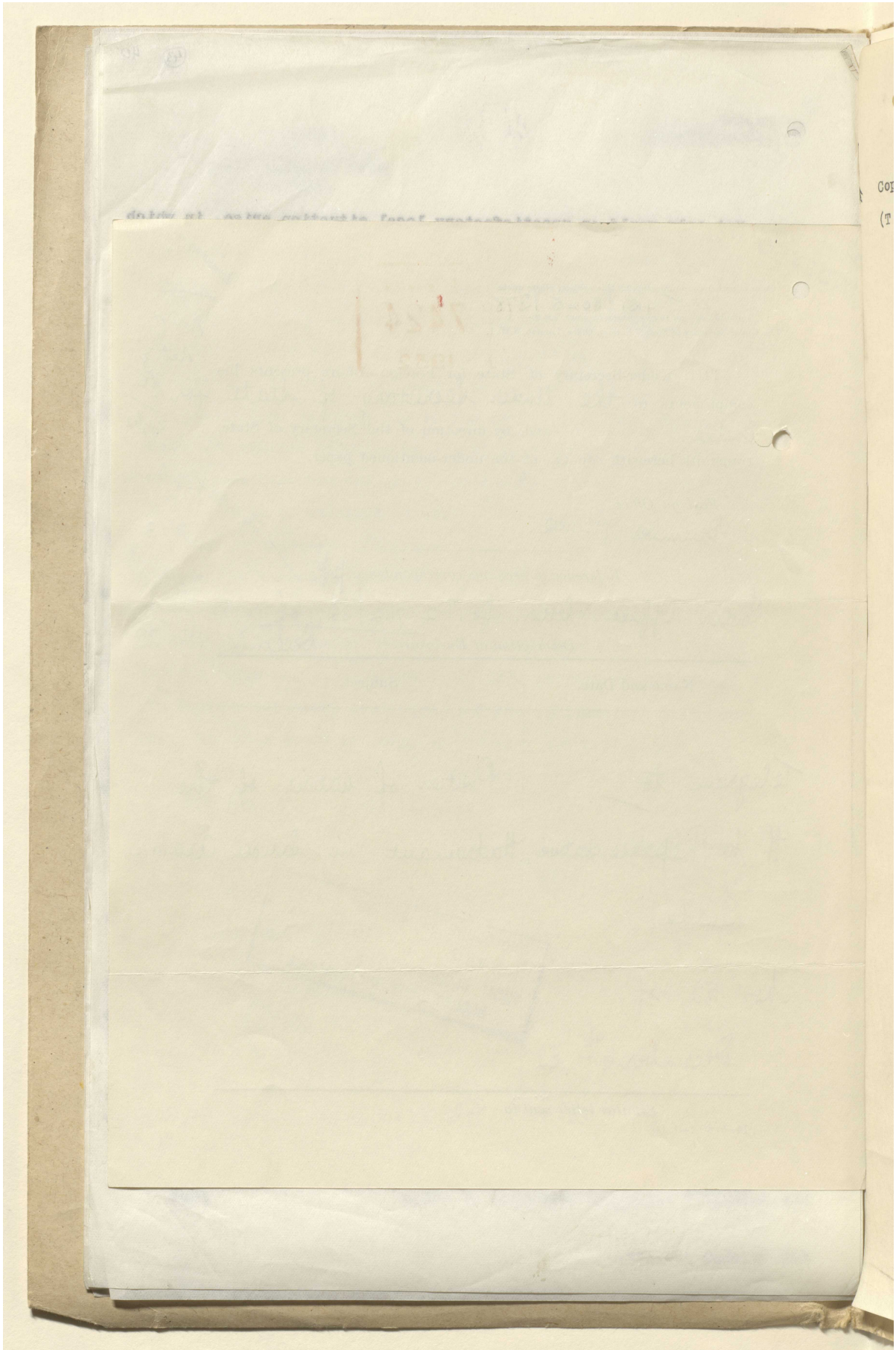
Similar letter sent to C.O.

14-6130 7441 (2)

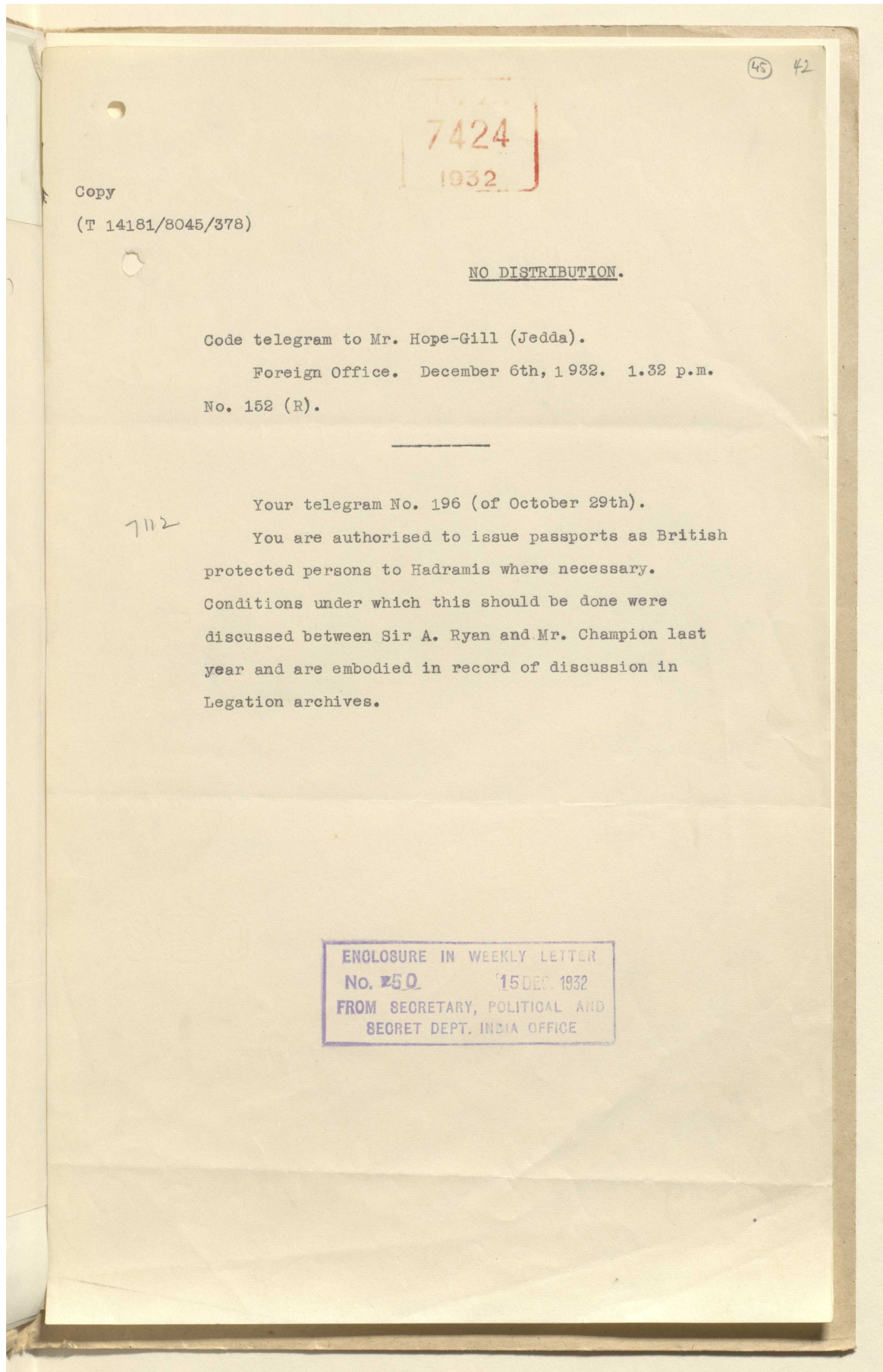
ENCLOSURE IN WEEKLY LETTER
No. 750
15 DEC 1932
FROM SECRETARY, POLITICAL AND
SECRET DEPT. INDIA OFFICE

3 DEC 1932
INDIA OFFICE

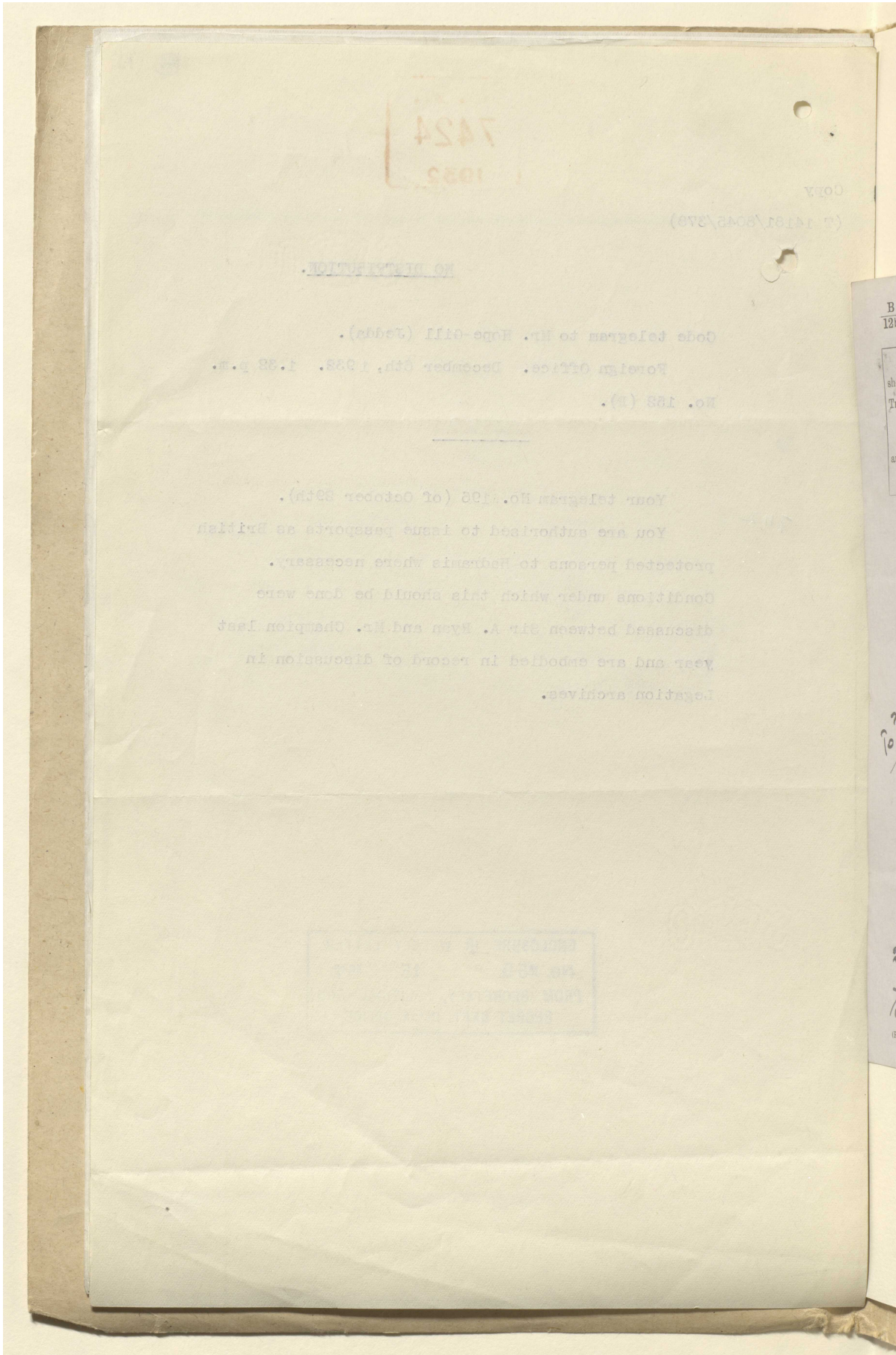
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [44v] (88/174)



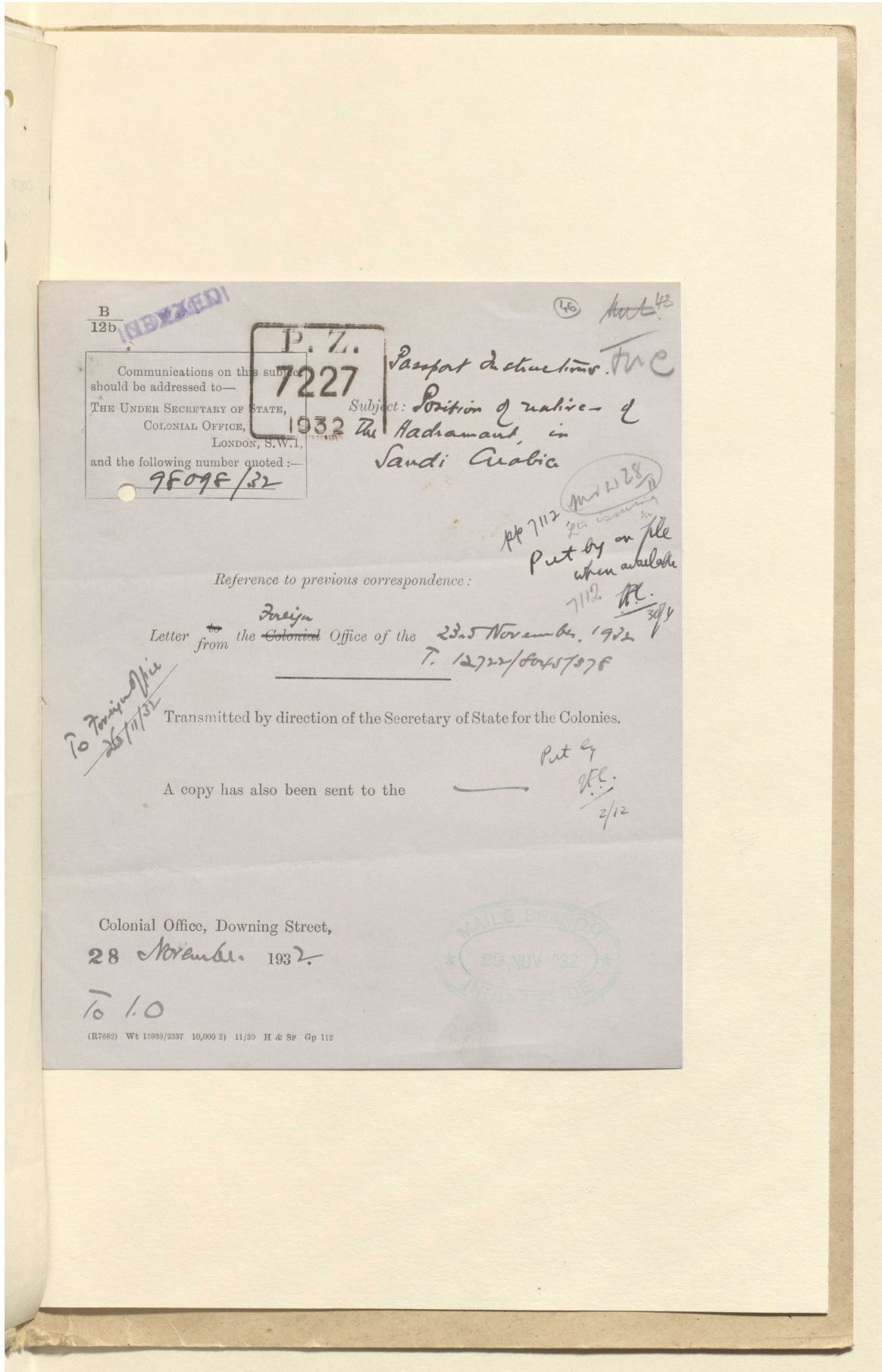
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [45r] (89/174)



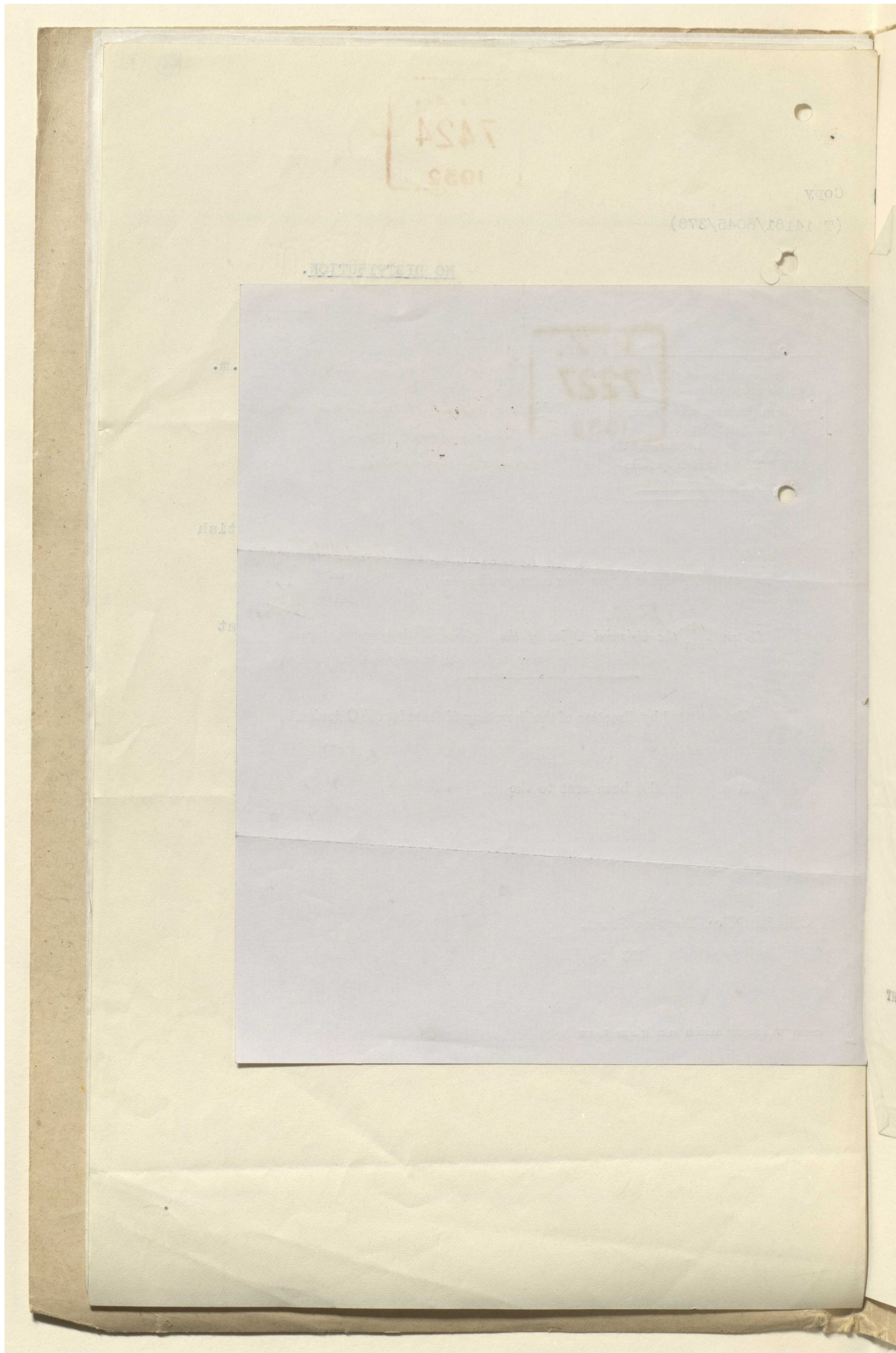
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [45v] (90/174)



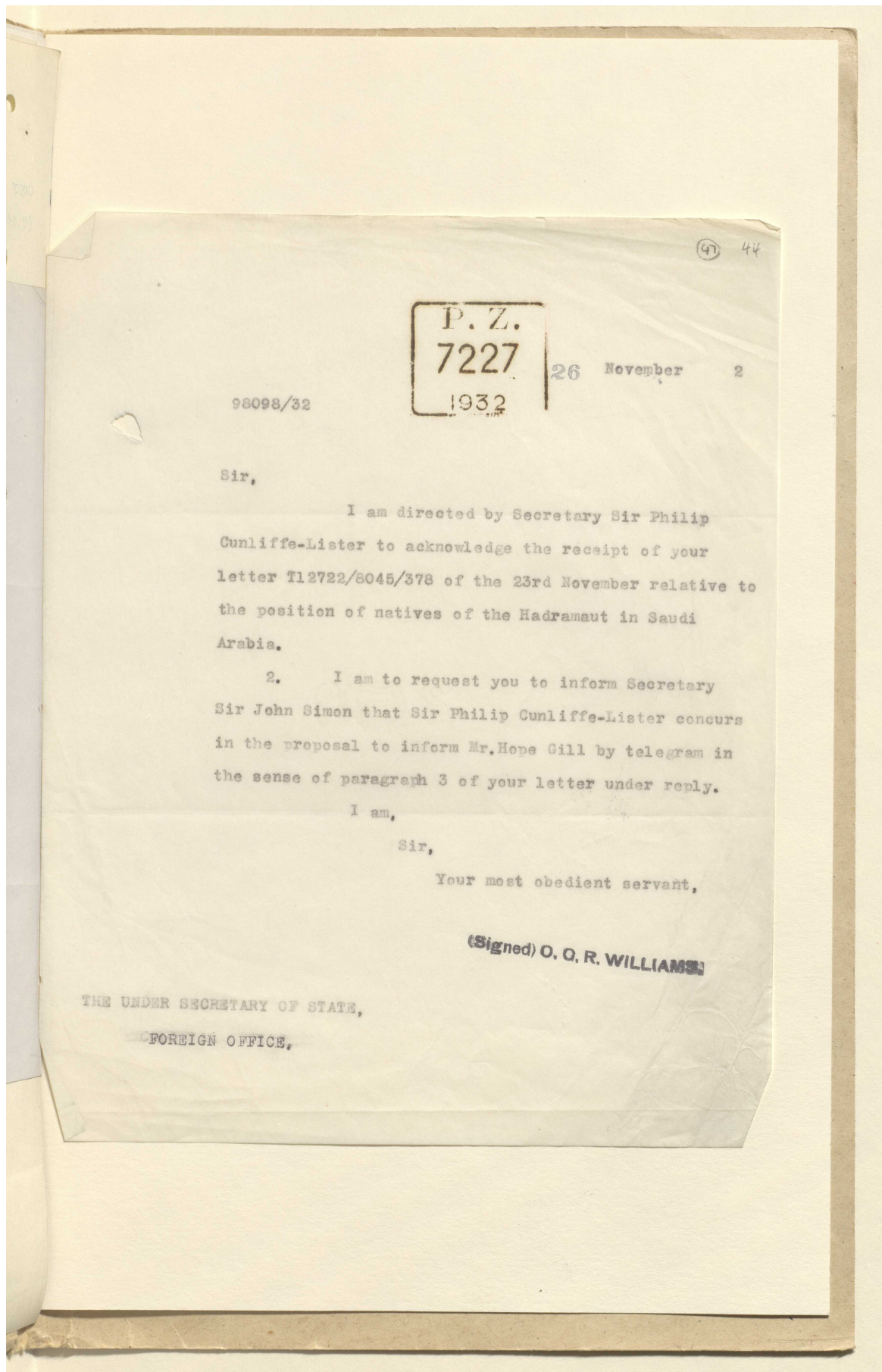
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [46r] (91/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [46v] (92/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [47r] (93/174)



98098/32

P. Z.
7227
1932

26 November 2

47 44

Sir,

I am directed by Secretary Sir Philip Cunliffe-Lister to acknowledge the receipt of your letter T12722/8045/378 of the 23rd November relative to the position of natives of the Hadramaut in Saudi Arabia.

2. I am to request you to inform Secretary Sir John Simon that Sir Philip Cunliffe-Lister concurs in the proposal to inform Mr. Hope Gill by telegram in the sense of paragraph 3 of your letter under reply.

I am,

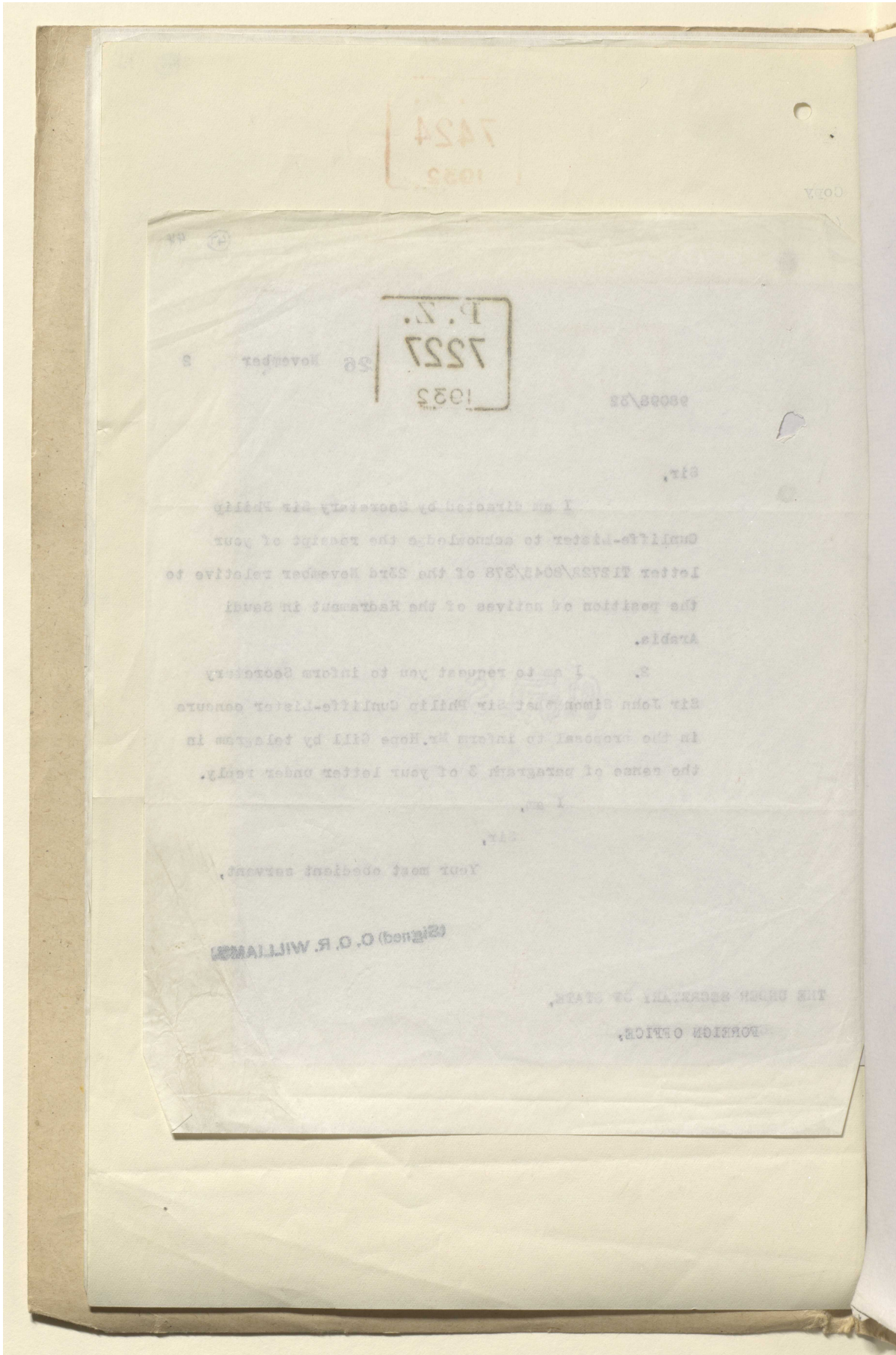
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) O. Q. R. WILLIAMS

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,
FOREIGN OFFICE,

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [47v] (94/174)

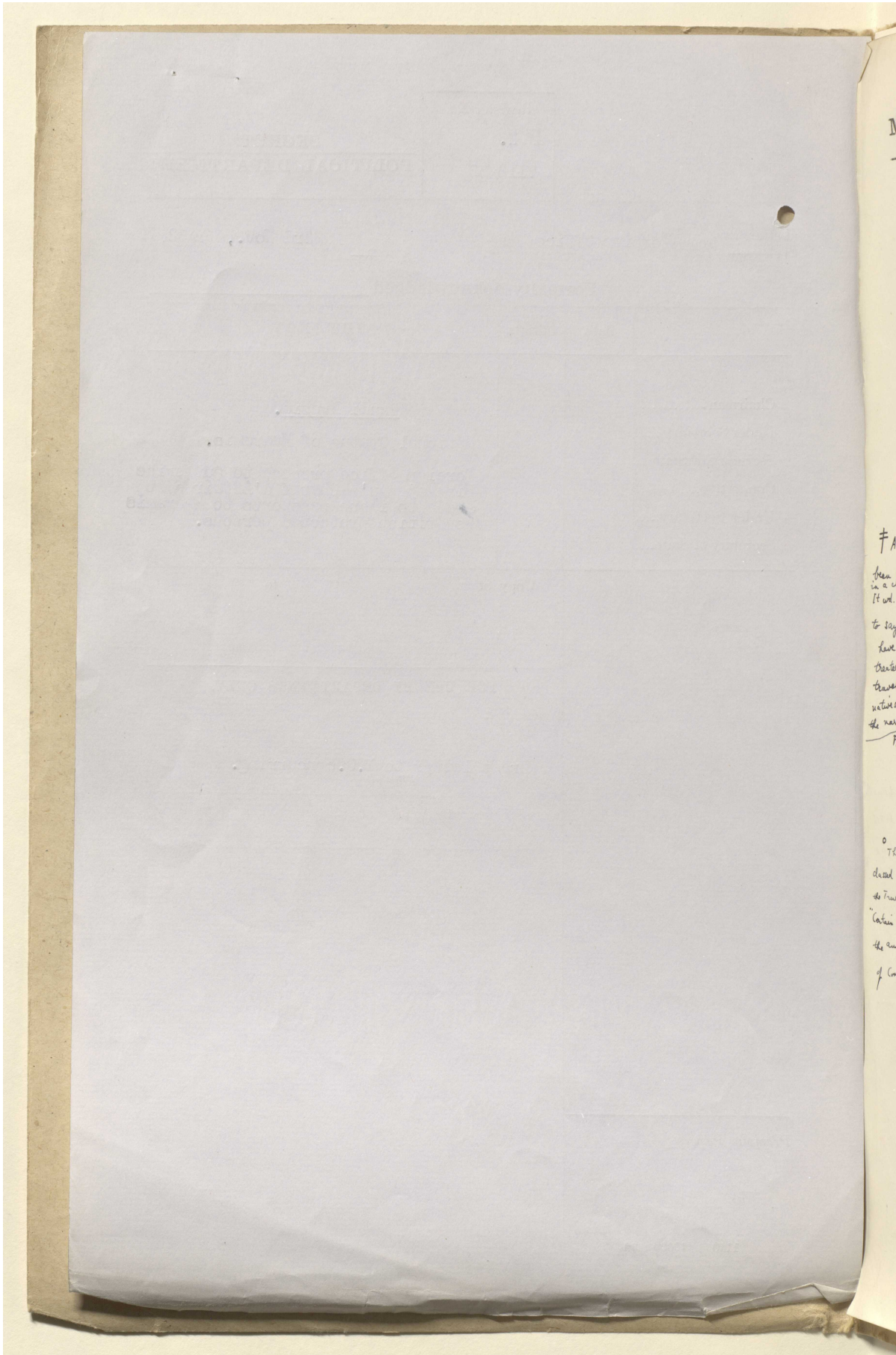


Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [48r] (95/174)

48 45

Register No. P.Z. 7112/32	SECRET. POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.		
Letter from Foreign Office Telegram	Dated 23rd Nov., 1932. Rec:		
Formally acknowledged _____			
	Date.	Initials.	SUBJECT.
To Chairman..... Under Secretary Secretary of State... Committee..... Under Secretary.... Secretary of State...			<u>Saudi Arabia.</u> National Status of Hadramis in Saudi-Arabia Foreign Office propose to authorise His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Jeddah to issue passports to Hadramis as British protected persons.
H.D. Sayer 30.11	Copy of _____ to C.O. India		
FOR USE BY DEPARTMENTS ONLY.			
Draft letter to F.O. concurring.			
-1 DEC 1932 Letter to F.O.			
Previous Papers :—			
1140 1000 8.32			

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [48v] (96/174)



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Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [49r] (97/174)

(4) 46

P.Z.7112/32

Minute Paper.

Department.

Please refer to P.Z.4666/32 relating to Census of male inhabitants of the Hedjaz.

The question of the national status of Hadramis in the Hedjaz has been raised in an acute form by the action of the Saudi Government at Mecca who are demanding from all resident foreigners documentary proof of nationality, giving those foreigners who are unable to produce such proof within 15 days the option between adopting Hedjazi nationality and leaving the country within three months.

Since 1929 natives of the Hadramaut have not been treated as British protected persons[†] in the same way as natives of the other Dependencies of Aden on the ground that the territories to which they belong are not "British Protectorates" but "States under British protection";^o but, as the Resident at Aden has recently pointed out, the treaties between His Majesty's Government and the Chiefs in the Aden political sphere who are under British protection are all similar in form and intention, and there appears to be no justification for a distinction between the "Aden Protectorate" and the "Hadramaut". These treaties contain a clause conferring on the Chief and his dependencies "Gracious favour and protection", and although there are chiefs in the Hadramaut with whom we have no treaties, most of the territory^{and the more important tribes} are in this relationship to His Majesty's Government. Actually, since neither the Hadramaut nor the other dependencies of Aden are administered territories, both are strictly speaking rather "under "British protection" than "British Protectorates"/

† Actually they have been classed as B.P. but in a class by themselves. It wd. have been more correct to say simply that they have been differently treated in regard to travel facilities etc. from natives of the Protectorate in the narrower sense. ^{see P.Z. 1875/32 or 1728/32}
P.Z. 6406/32 in attached file.

^o The Hadramaut is classed along with Muscat & Trucial States etc. under "Certain Other Territories" in the annex to Chap. XXII of Consular Instructions.

1212 5000 9.32

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [49v] (98/174)

Protectorates", but it is desirable and has become customary to treat natives of the Aden Protectorate as British protected persons, and it is fair that Hadramis should be similarly treated.

Subject to the views of the Colonial Office and of this Office, the Foreign Office propose to authorise His Majesty's Charge d'Affaires at Jedda by telegram to issue passports to Hadramis, where required, as British protected persons. Before the appearance of the Foreign Office circular of 10th March last which laid down separate regulations for the ^{treatment of} natives of the "Aden Protectorate" and of the Hadramaut, a direct arrangement had been made between the Resident at Aden and the Minister at Jedda that His Majesty's Legation should issue such passports where proper and necessary, and full details of the procedure to be followed have been arranged locally.

It may be mentioned that in 1914 ^(P. 680/1472) it was considered desirable to treat natives of all the Aden dependencies as British protected persons and, about the same time and for political reasons arising out of the war, even natives of the Yemen.

* This was before the distinction was made between "British protectorates" and "states under British protection."

Subject to the views of the Colonial Office, ^{which is the department chiefly interested in the affairs of the Aden Protectorate,} we may concur ~~with~~ the Foreign Office proposal and a draft letter to the Foreign Office in this sense is submitted.

H. F. Grouble.

28/4/32
P.L. 28/4

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [50r] (99/174)

50 47

P.Z.7112/32

Draft Paper. 9 Department.

- 1 DEC 1932

U.S.S.
F.O.

Sir,

With reference to F.O. letter No. T 12722/8045/378 of 23rd November, 1932, relative to the position of natives of the Hadramaut in Saudi Arabia, I am directed by the Secretary of State for India to say that, subject to the views of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, he concurs in the proposal of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to inform His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Jedda by telegram that he is authorised where required to issue passports to natives of the Hadramaut as British protected persons.

2. A copy of this letter is being sent to the Colonial Office.

(sd.) J. C. WALTON.

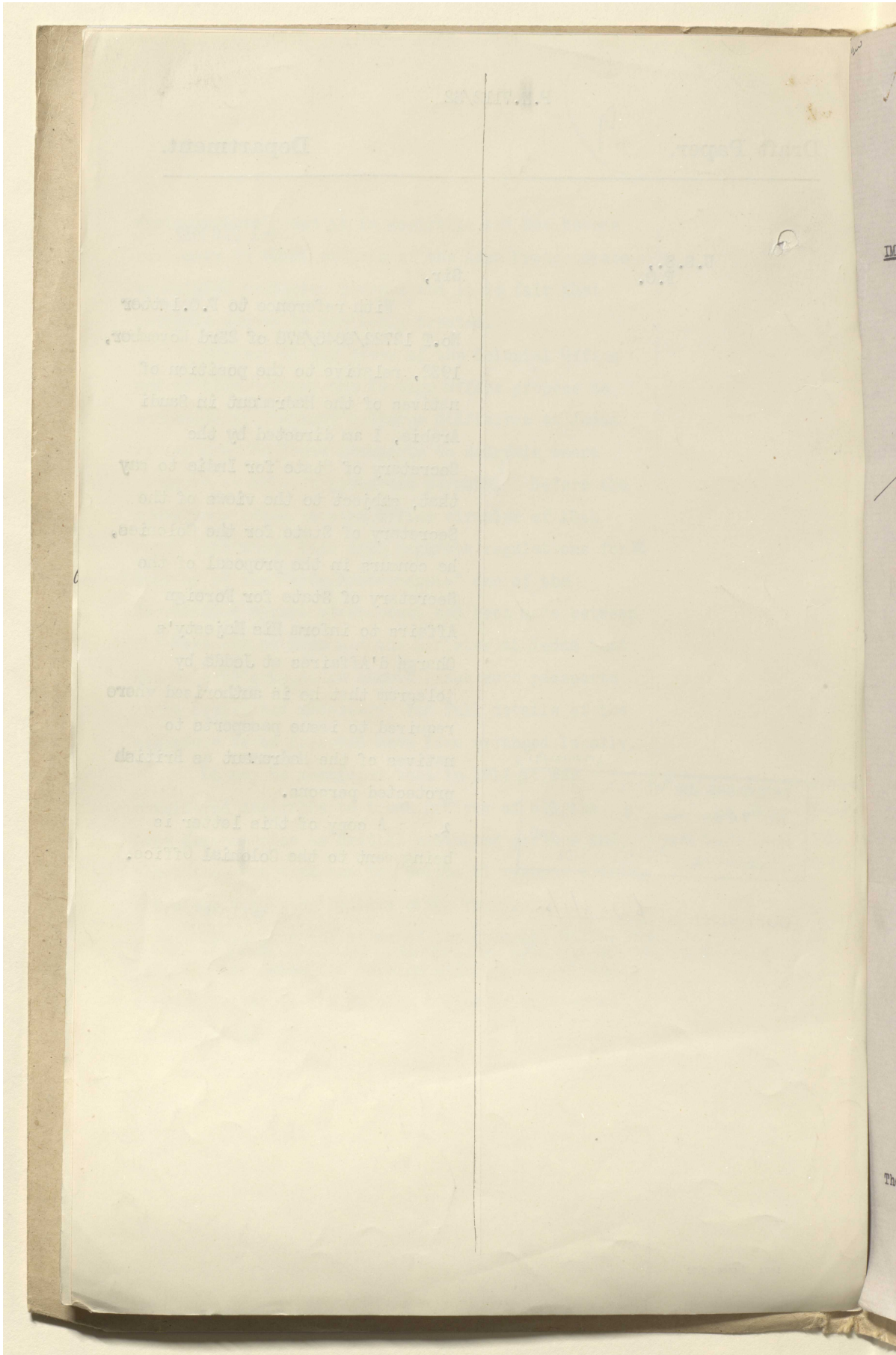
ENCLOSURE IN WEEKLY LETTER
NO 249 3 DEC 1932
FROM SECRETARY, POLITICAL AND
SECRET DEPT. INDIA OFFICE

COPY SENT TO b.O. 4/1/32

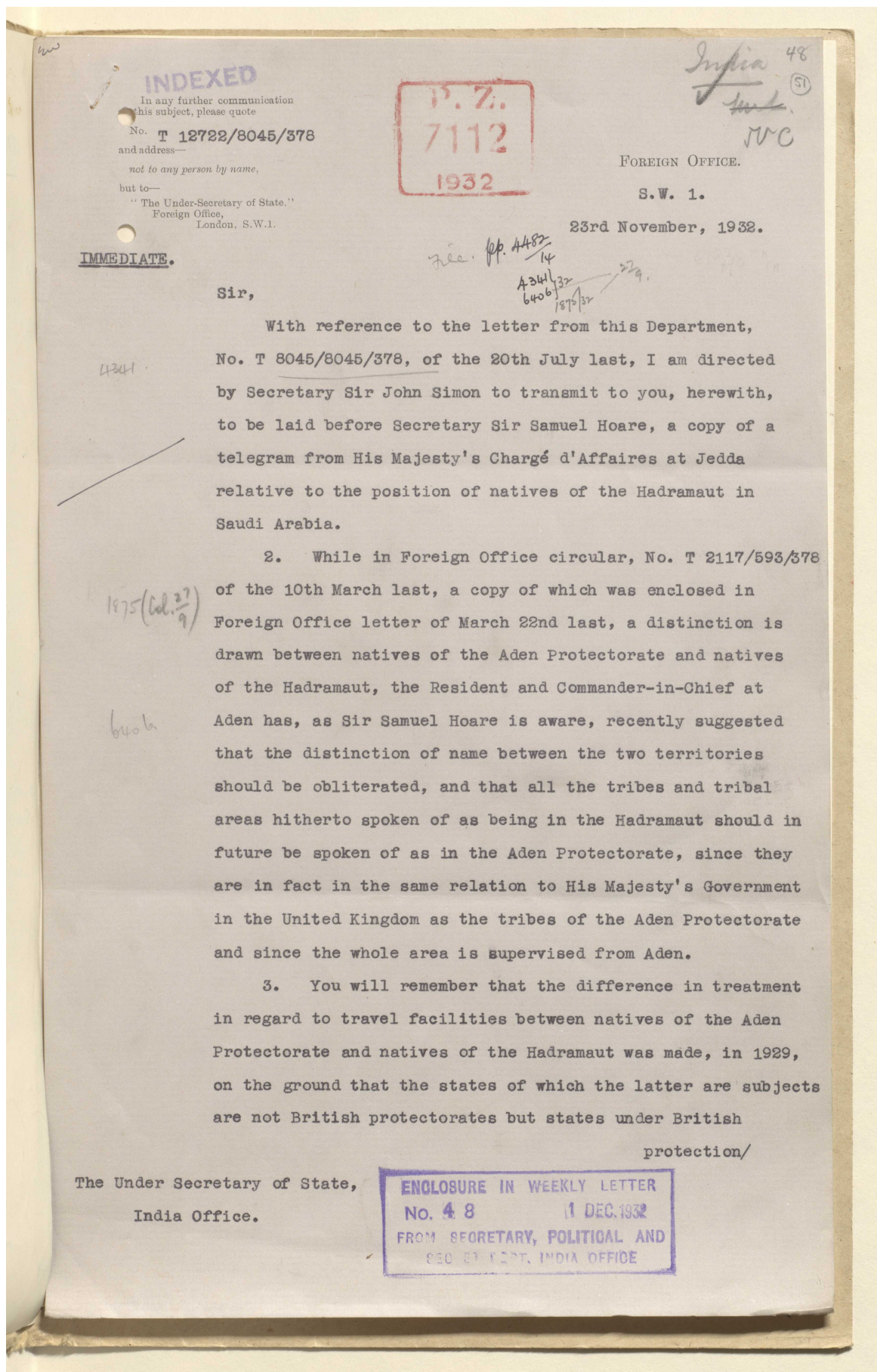
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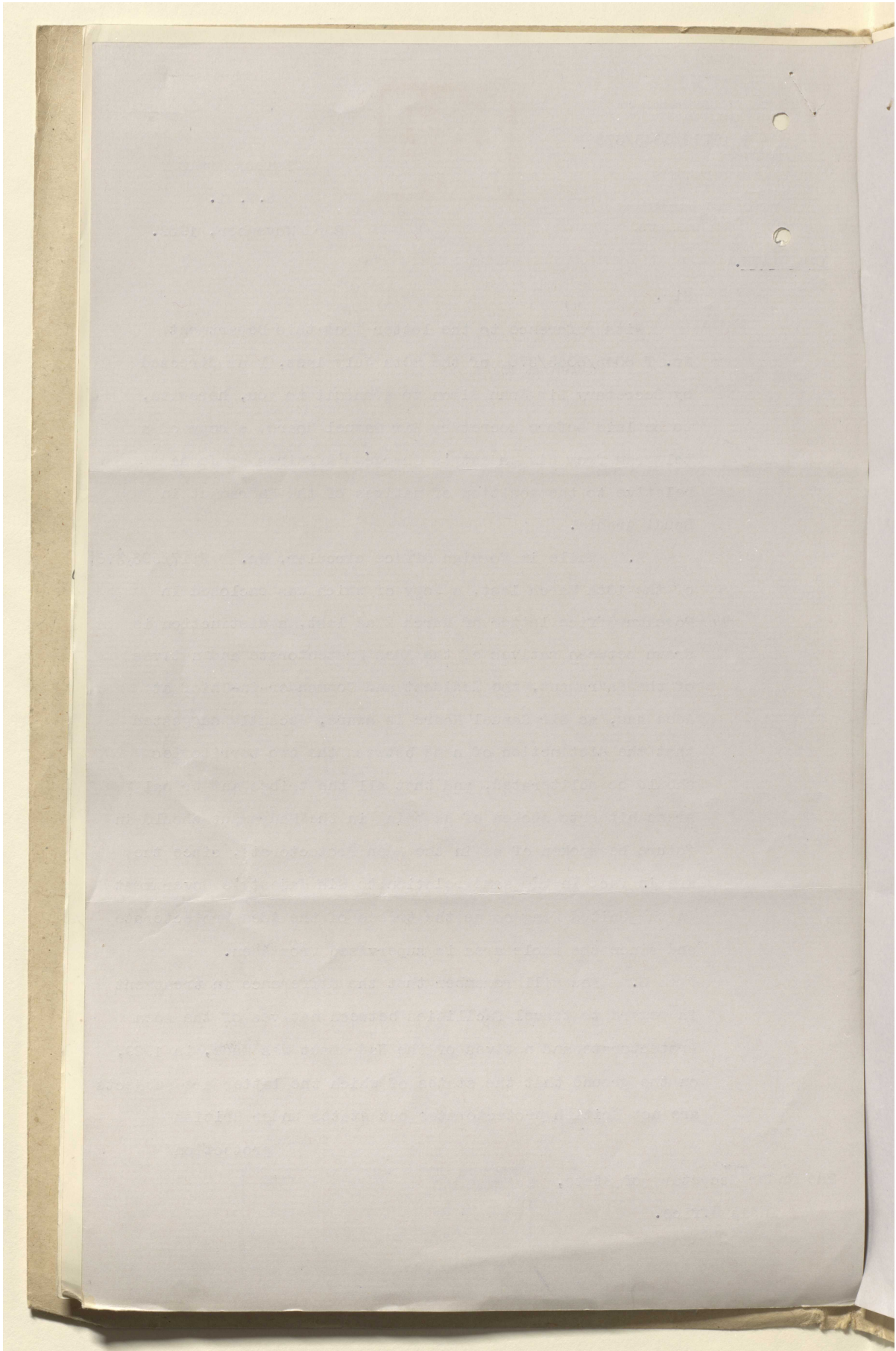
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Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [50v] (100/174)

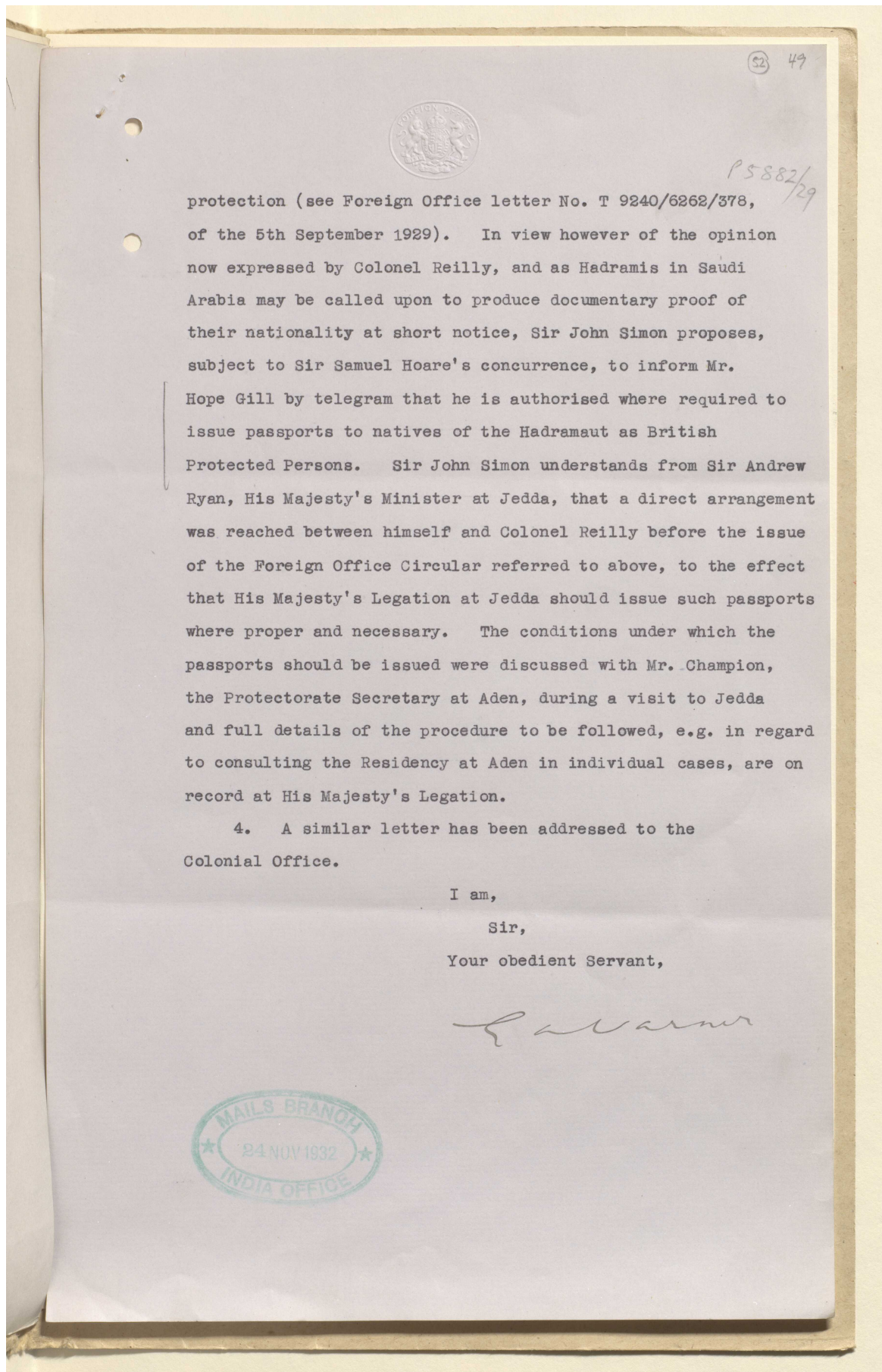


Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [51r] (101/174)

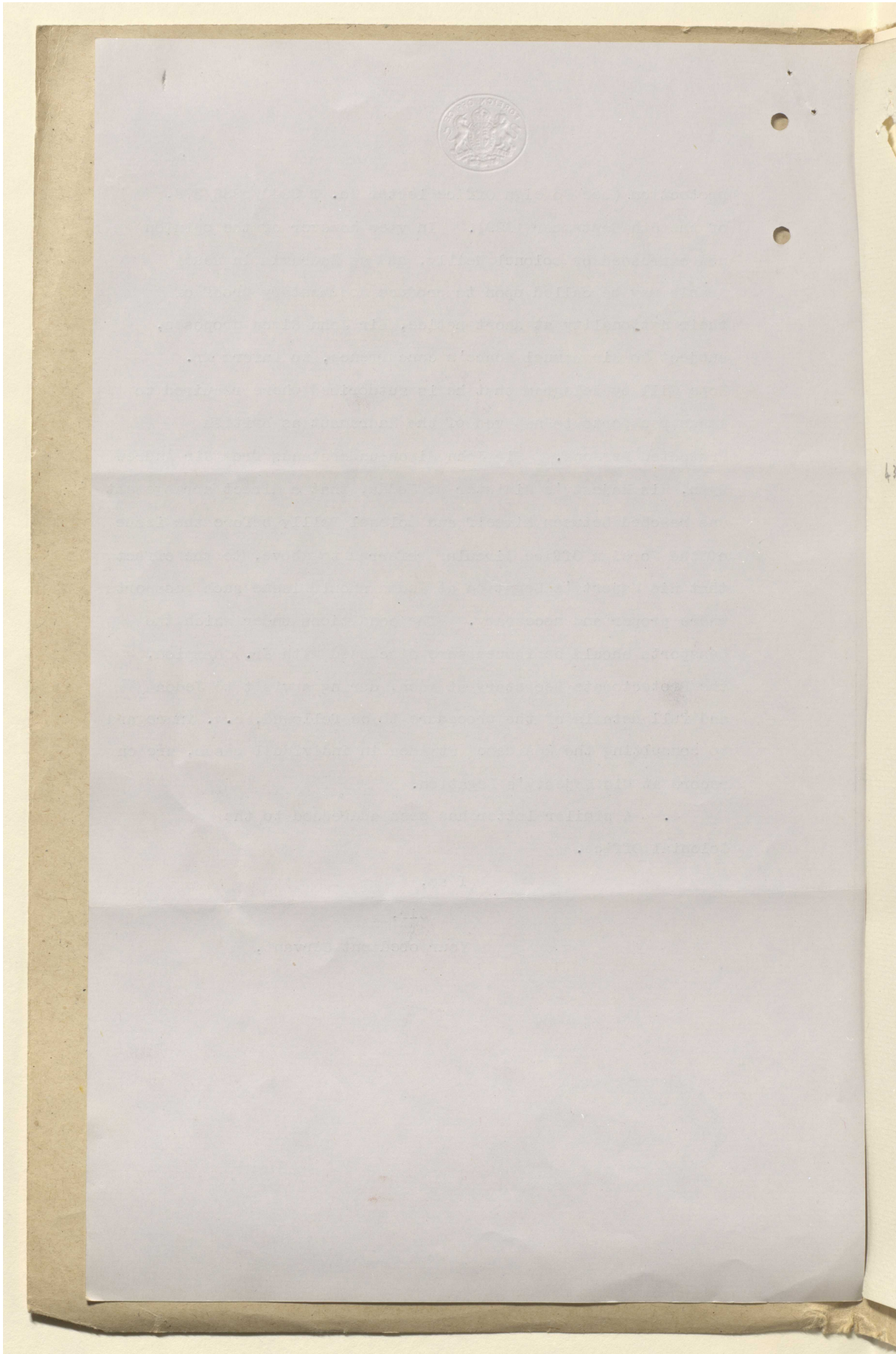




Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [52r] (103/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [52v] (104/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [53r] (105/174)

P. Z.
7112
1932

53 50

NO DISTRIBUTION.

Decode. H.M's. Chargé d'Affaires, (Jedda),
29th October, 1932.

D. 9.00 a.m. 29th October, 1932.

R. 9.30 a.m. 29th October, 1932.

No.196. (R).

-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-

Your telegram No.86.

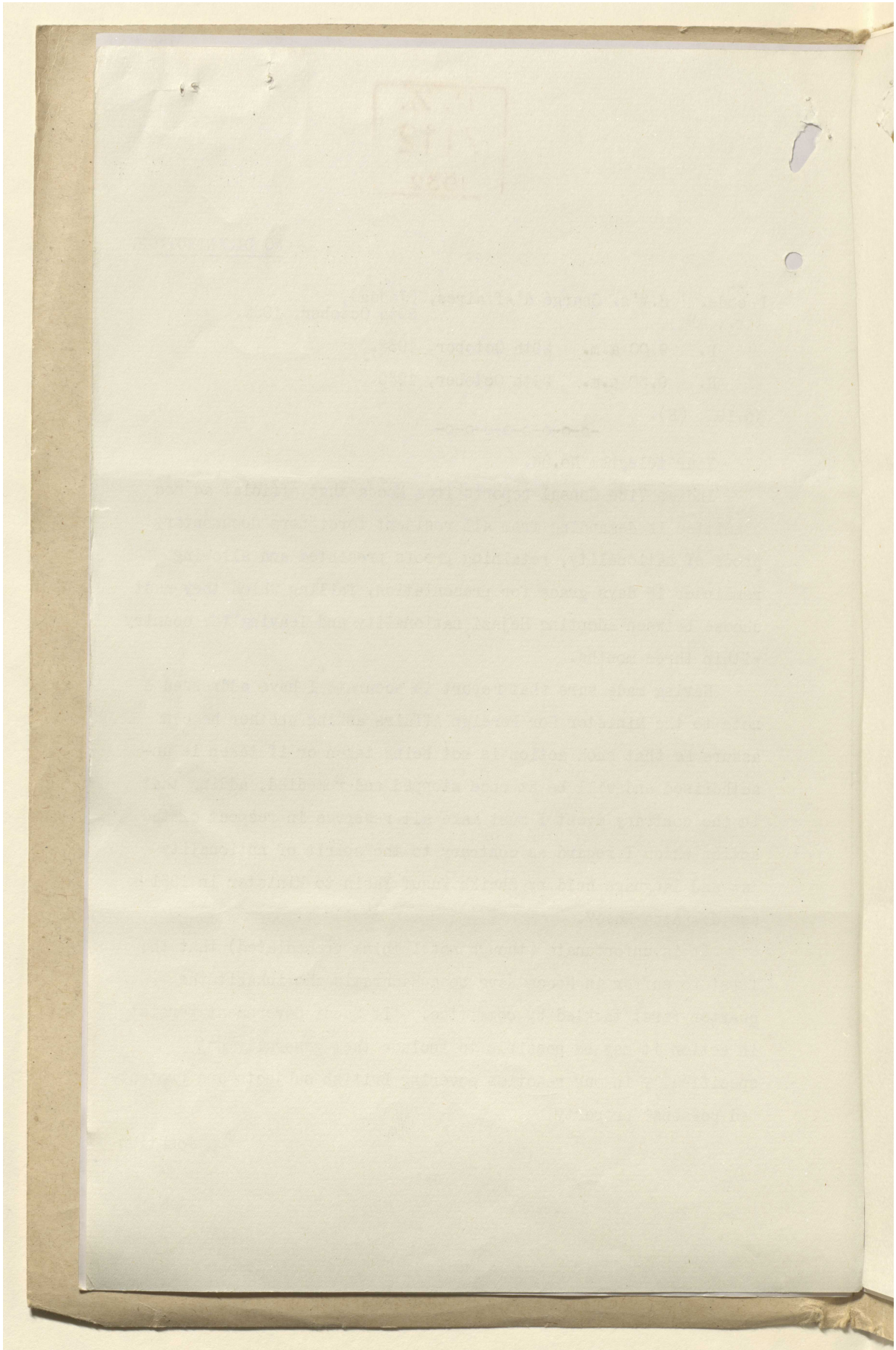
4341

Indian Vice Consul reports from Mecca that official ad hoc committee is demanding from all resident foreigners documentary proof of nationality, retaining proofs presented and allowing remainder 15 days grace for presentation, failing which they must choose between adopting Hejazi nationality and leaving the country within three months.

Having made sure that report is accurate I have addressed a note to the Minister for Foreign Affairs asking whether he can assure me that such action is not being taken or if taken is unauthorised and will be at once stopped and remedied, adding that in the contrary event I must make all reserves in respect of the action which I regard as contrary to the spirit of nationality law and language held by Sheikh Yusuf Yasin to Minister in 1931 - see despatch No.47.

It is unfortunate (though not I think premediated) that the first to suffer in Mecca have been Hadhramis who inhabit the quarter first tackled by committee. If Saudi Government persist in action it may be possible to include them generally not specifically in our reaction covering British subjects and protected persons' property.

Position



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [54r] (107/174)

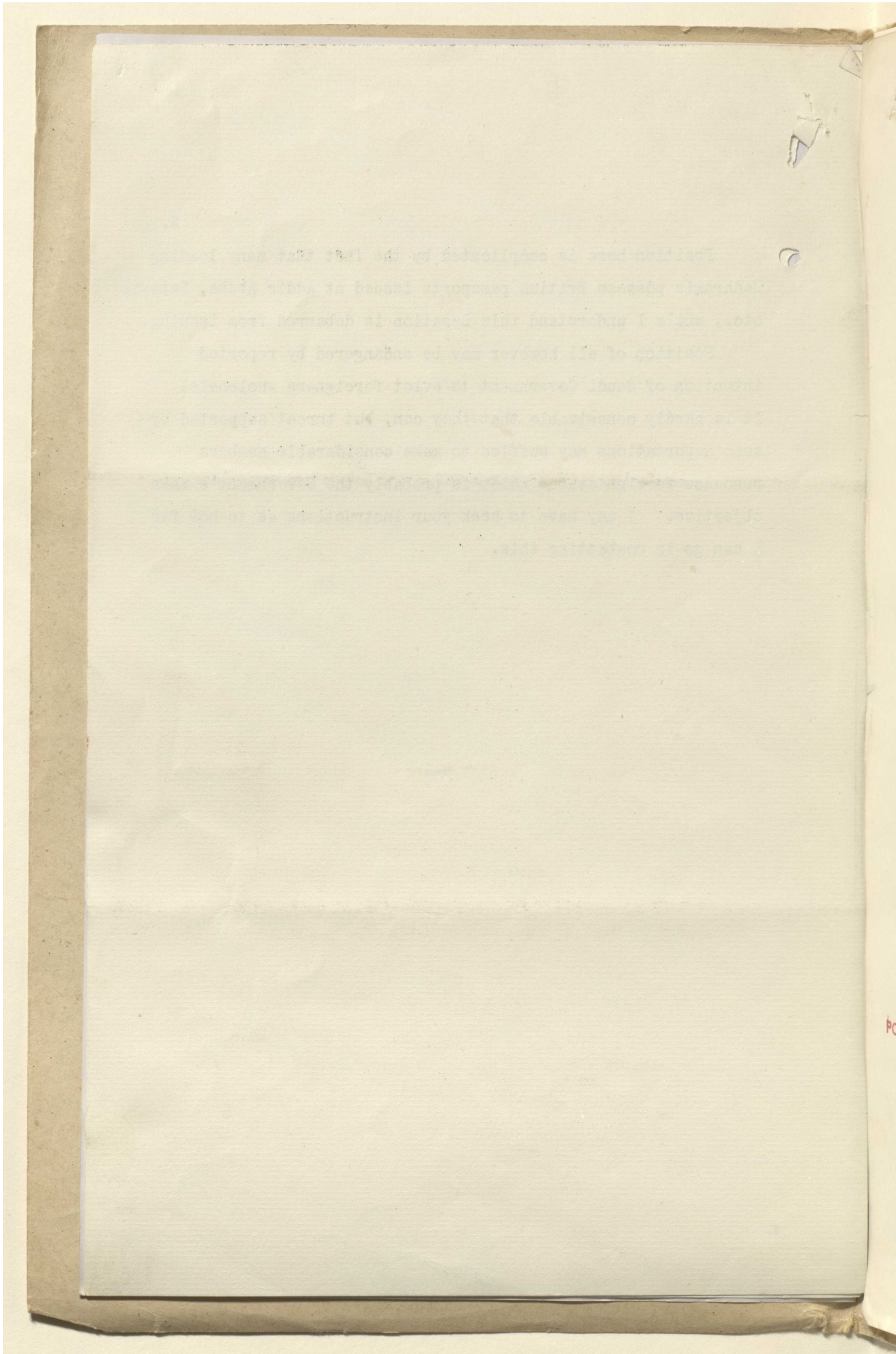
(54) 51

2.

Position here is complicated by the fact that many leading Hadhramis possess British passports issued at Addis Ababa, Batavia etc., while I understand this Legation is debarred from issuing.

Position of all however may be endangered by reported intention of Saudi Government to evict foreigners wholesale. It is hardly conceivable that they can, but threat supported by some deportations may suffice to make considerable numbers renounce foreign status which is probably the Government's main objective. I may have to seek your instructions as to how far I can go in combatting this.

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [54v] (108/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [55r] (109/174)

55 52

Notes.

Register No.
P. Z.
 4666/32

SECRET.
POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

Minute Paper.

Dated _____ 19 ____
Rec. _____

	Date.	Initials.	SUBJECT.
To			
Under Secretary	6.8.	JWS	<u>Hejaz</u>
Secretary of State...			
Committee.....	14	W	Census of Male Inhabitants of
Under Secretary.....			Cities.
Secretary of State...			

Copy of _____ to _____

FOR INFORMATION.

One of the main objects in taking this Census is to determine the proportion of foreigners residing in the Hejaz. This may lead later to evictions. Sir A. Ryan remarks in his despatch of June 21st. (P.Z. 4341) that he would "not be sorry to see in the final result a considerable diminution of the semi-settled population of various British origins in a country that has so little to recommend it as a place of sojourn."

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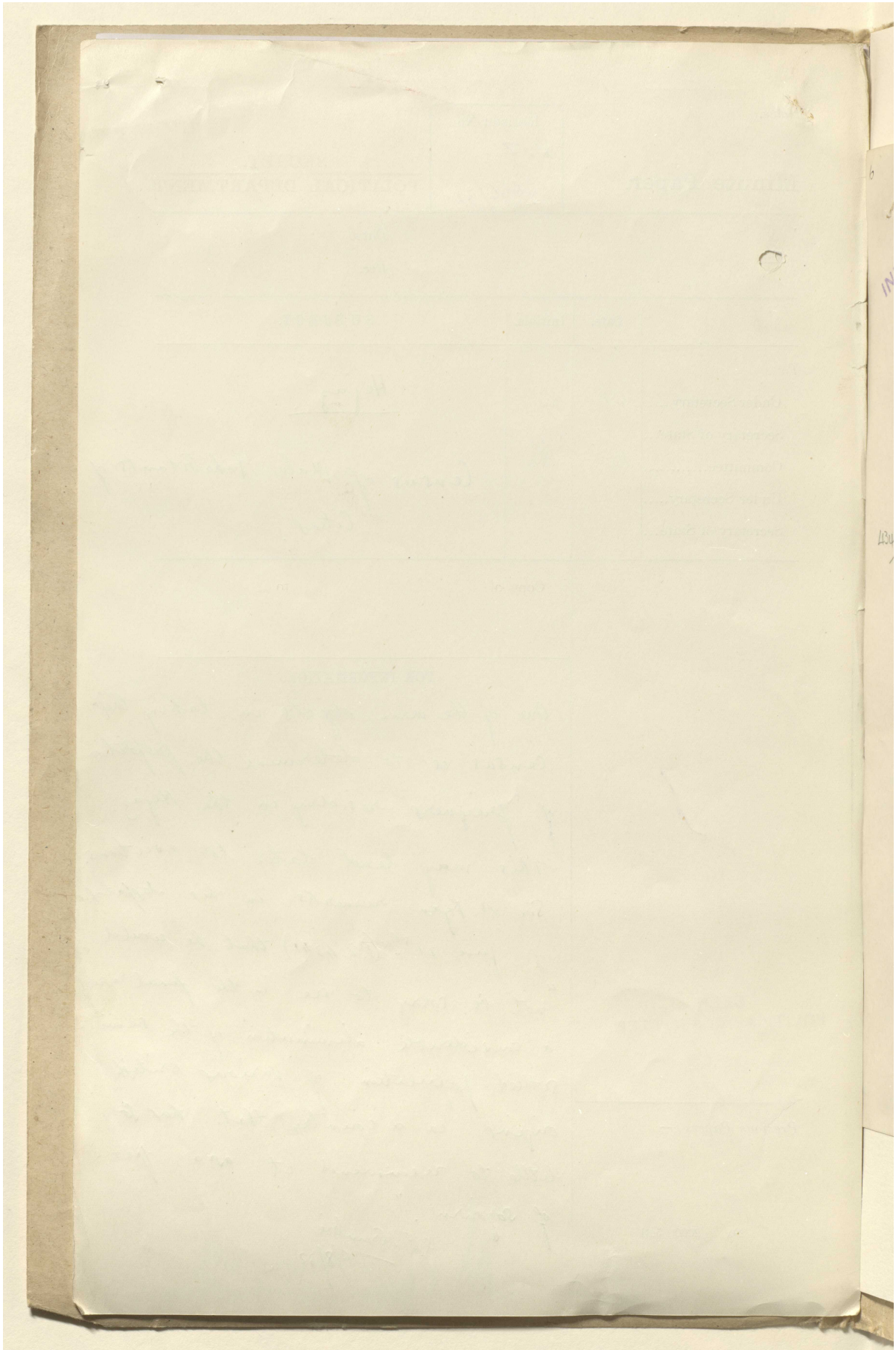
SEEN
POLITICAL COMMITTEE.

18 AUG 1932

Previous Papers:—

29A 2000 5.31

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [55v] (110/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [56r] (111/174)

6

In any further communication on this subject, please quote
No. T. 8724/8045/378
and address—not to any person by name, but to—
"The Under-Secretary of State," Foreign Office, London, S.W. 1.

P. Z. 4666 1932

INDIA DIRECT 53 (56)
of Dec 282 only.
India Dec 281.

INDEXED

THE Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to *the Under Secretary of State for India* and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copies of the under-mentioned papers

Foreign Office,
2nd August, 1932.

Reference to previous correspondence:
Foreign Office letter no: T. 8045/8045/378 of 20th July, 1932.

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
From His Majesty's Minister at Jeddah. nos. 281 and 282. 5th July, 1932.	census of male inhabitants of cities in the Hijaz.

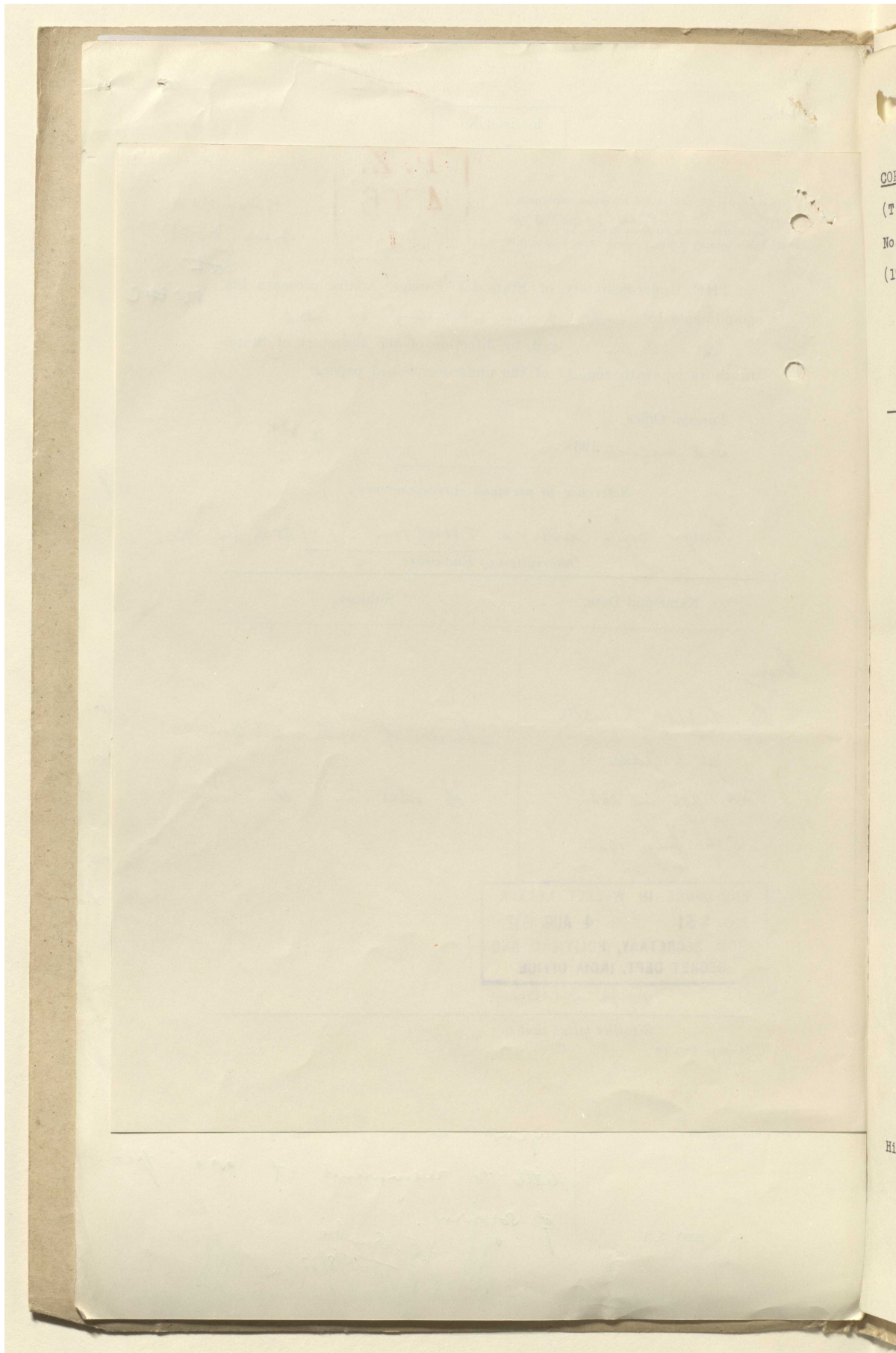
ENCLOSURE IN WEEKLY LETTER
No. 31 4 AUG. 1932
FROM SECRETARY, POLITICAL AND
SECRET DEPT. INDIA OFFICE

of Dec 281 only.

Similar letter sent to *b.o.*

14-6130 6353 (2)

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [56v] (112/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [57r] (113/174)

(57) 54

P. Z.
4666
1932

COPY.

(T 8742/8045/378)

No.281.

(196/1748/5)

JEDDA,

July 5th, 1932.

Sir,

With reference to my despatch No.261 of June 21, I have the honour to enclose herewith in translation extracts from a regulation regarding the proposed census of the male inhabitants of the Hejaz towns which was published in the Umm-al-Qura of June 24. The regulation is, as usual, undated but it is stated to have been sanctioned by high decree in pursuance of a decision of the Legislative Council of June 13 and a minute by the Political section of the Royal Diwan of June 16.

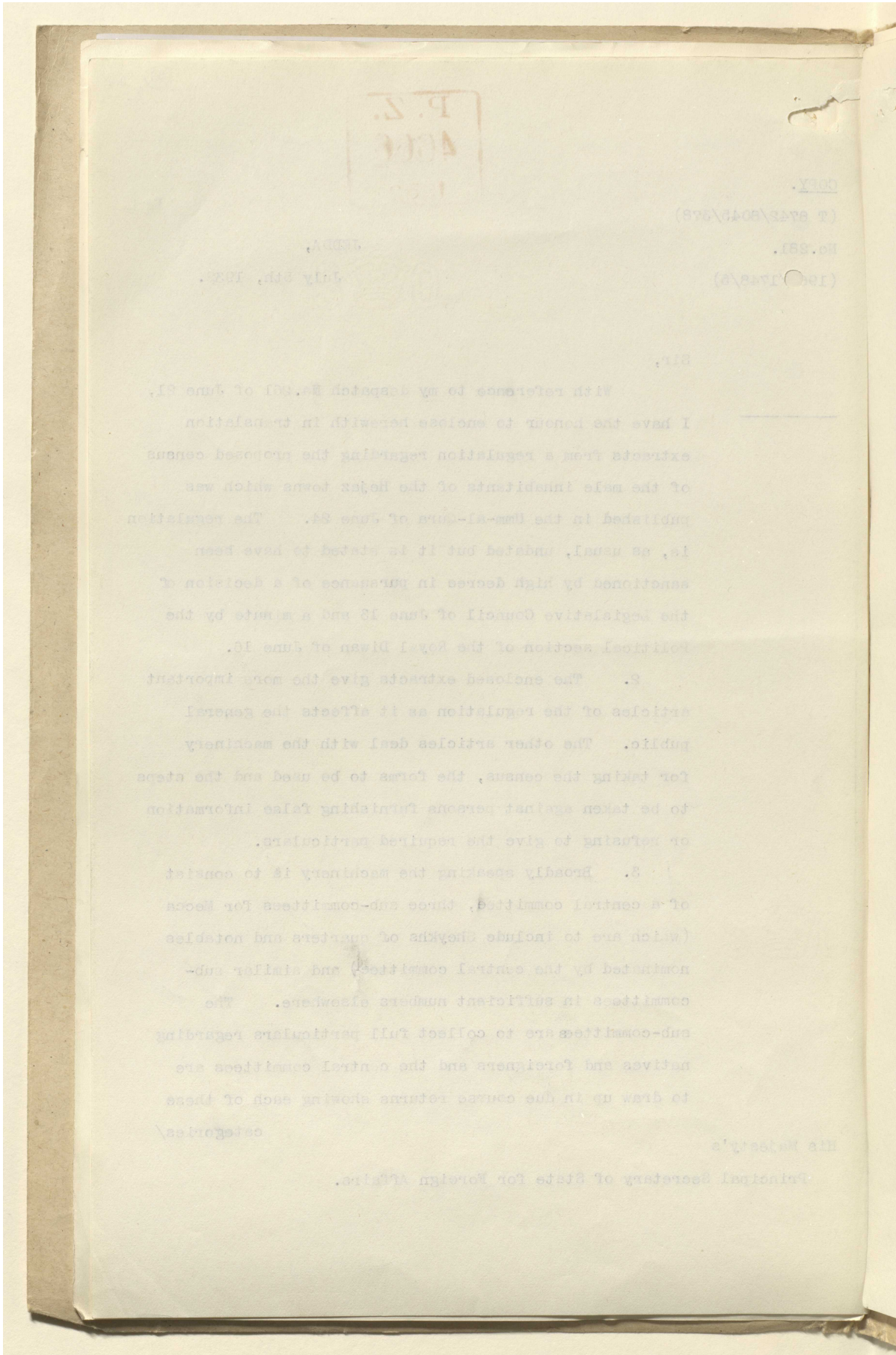
2. The enclosed extracts give the more important articles of the regulation as it affects the general public. The other articles deal with the machinery for taking the census, the forms to be used and the steps to be taken against persons furnishing false information or refusing to give the required particulars.

3. Broadly speaking the machinery is to consist of a central committee, three sub-committees for Mecca (which are to include Sheykh's of quarters and notables nominated by the central committee) and similar sub-committees in sufficient numbers elsewhere. The sub-committees are to collect full particulars regarding natives and foreigners and the central committees are to draw up in due course returns showing each of these categories/

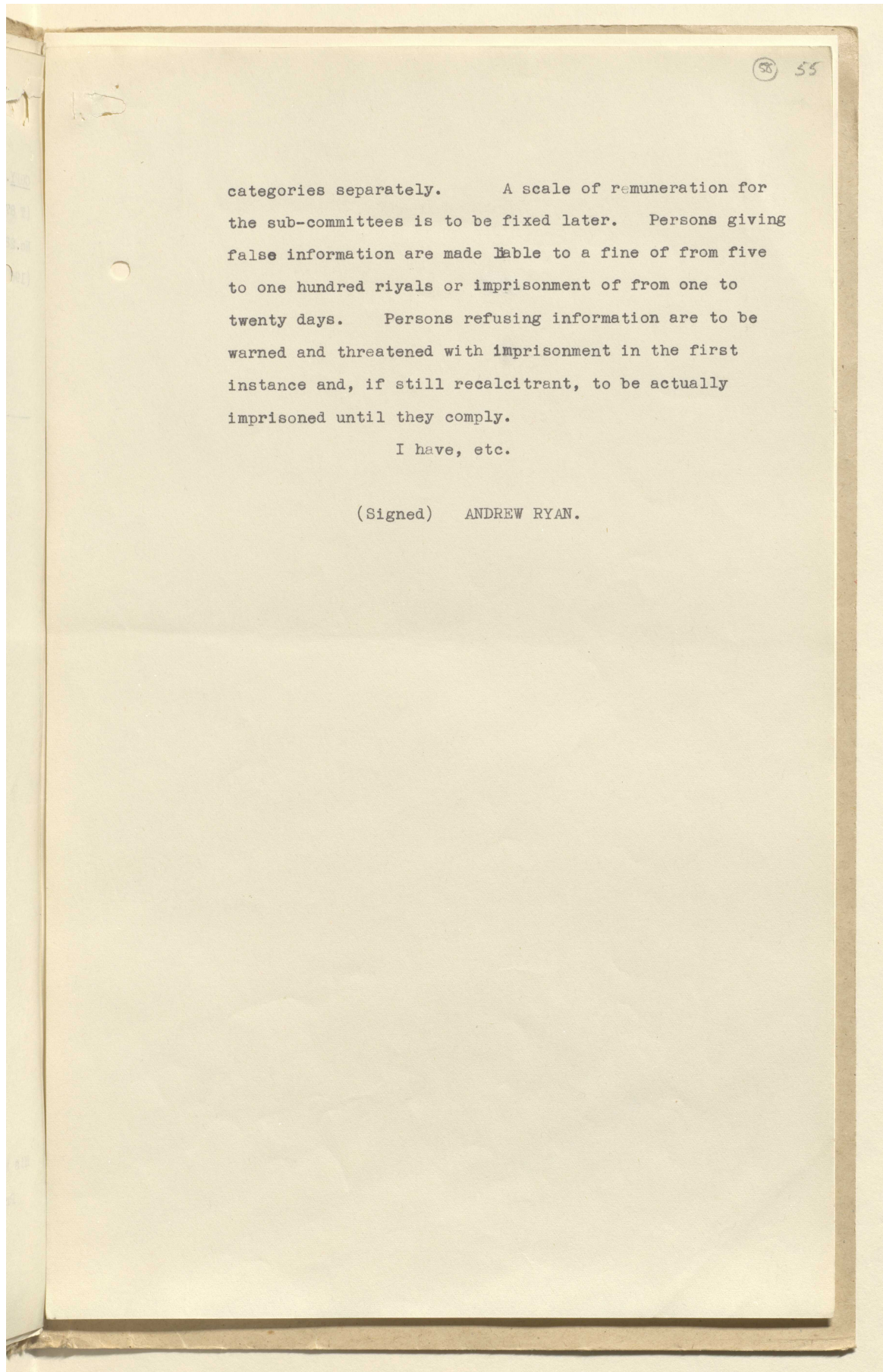
His Majesty's

Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [57v] (114/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [58r] (115/174)

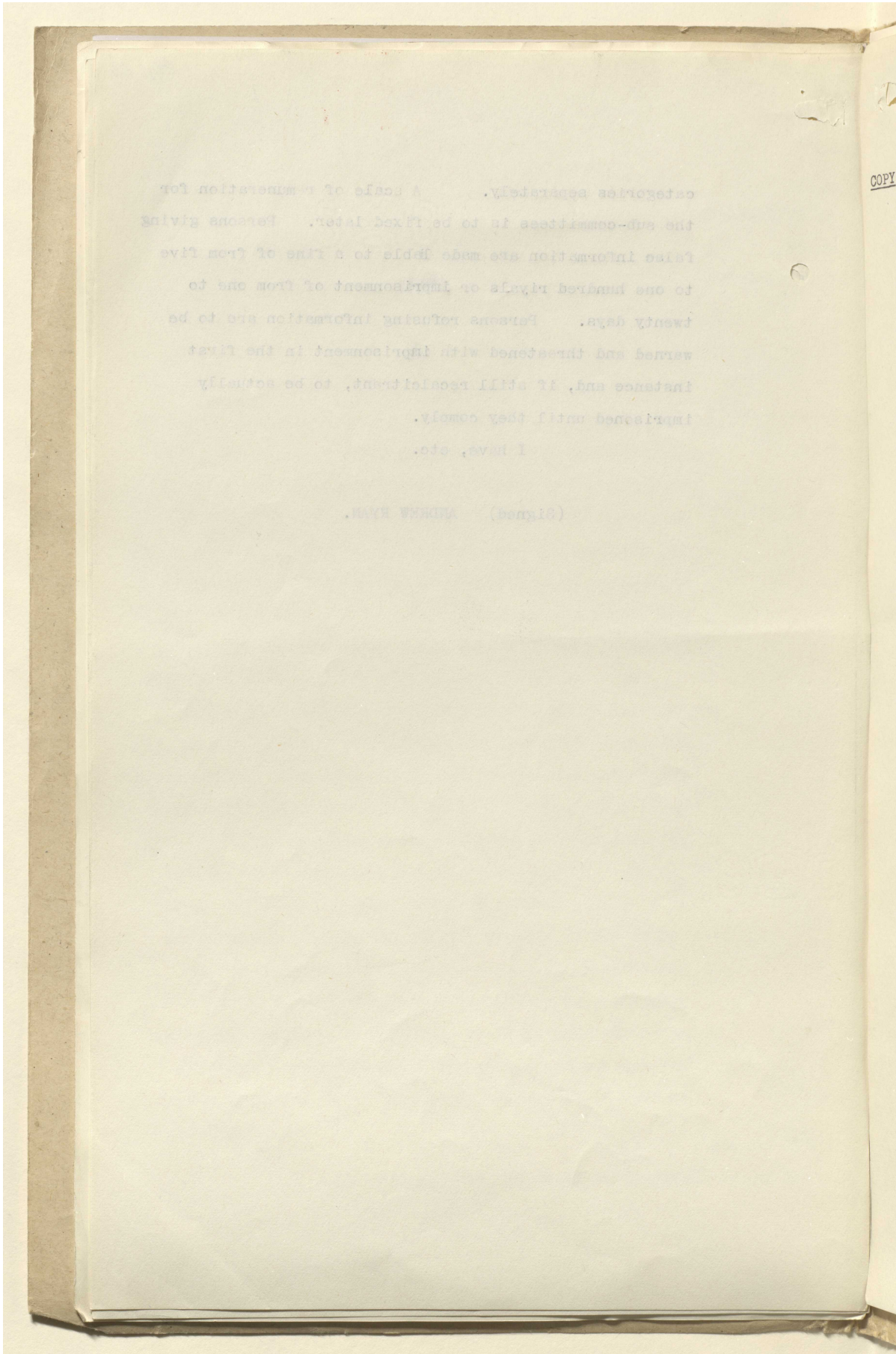


categories separately. A scale of remuneration for the sub-committees is to be fixed later. Persons giving false information are made liable to a fine of from five to one hundred riyals or imprisonment of from one to twenty days. Persons refusing information are to be warned and threatened with imprisonment in the first instance and, if still recalcitrant, to be actually imprisoned until they comply.

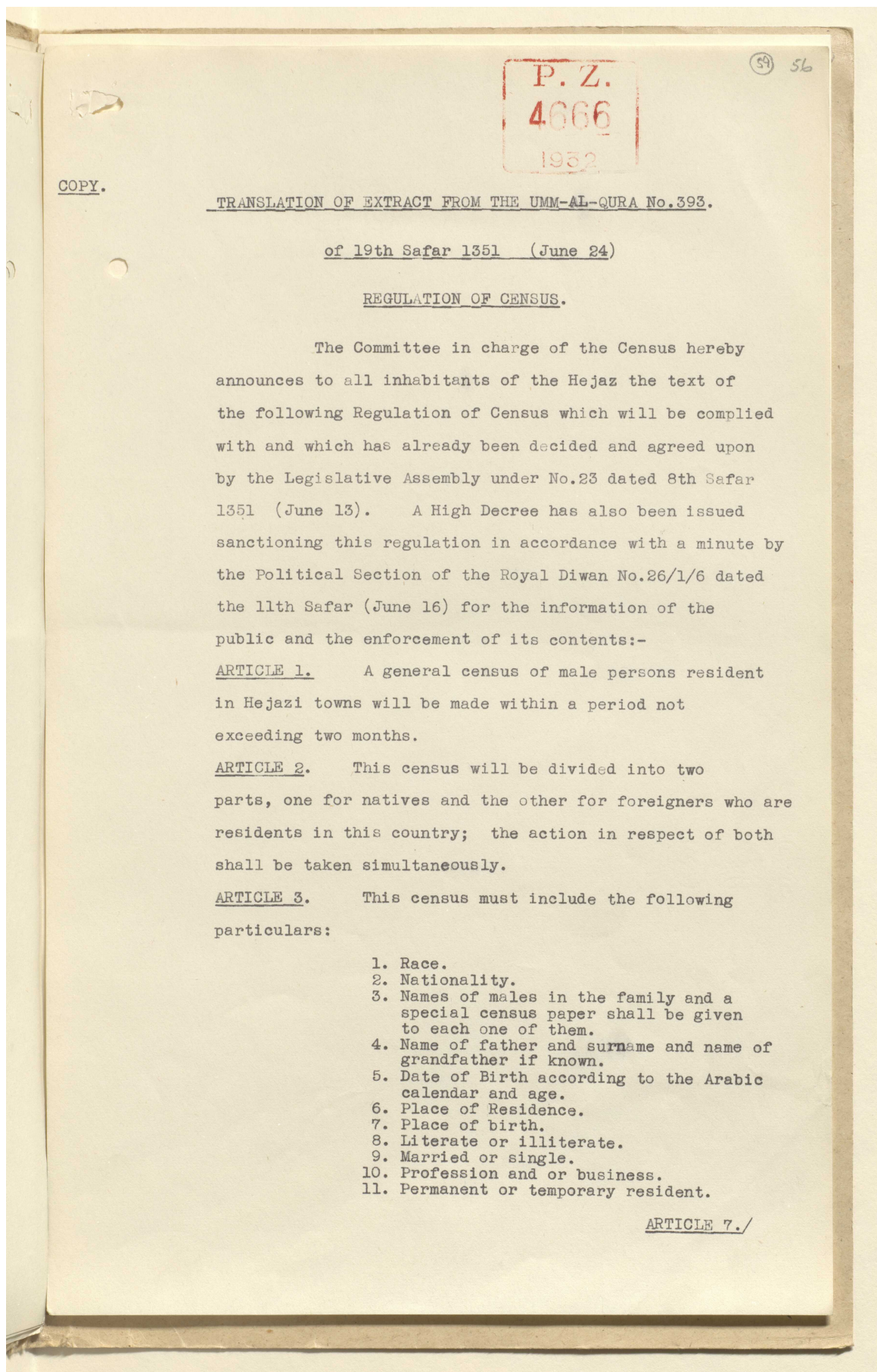
I have, etc.

(Signed) ANDREW RYAN.

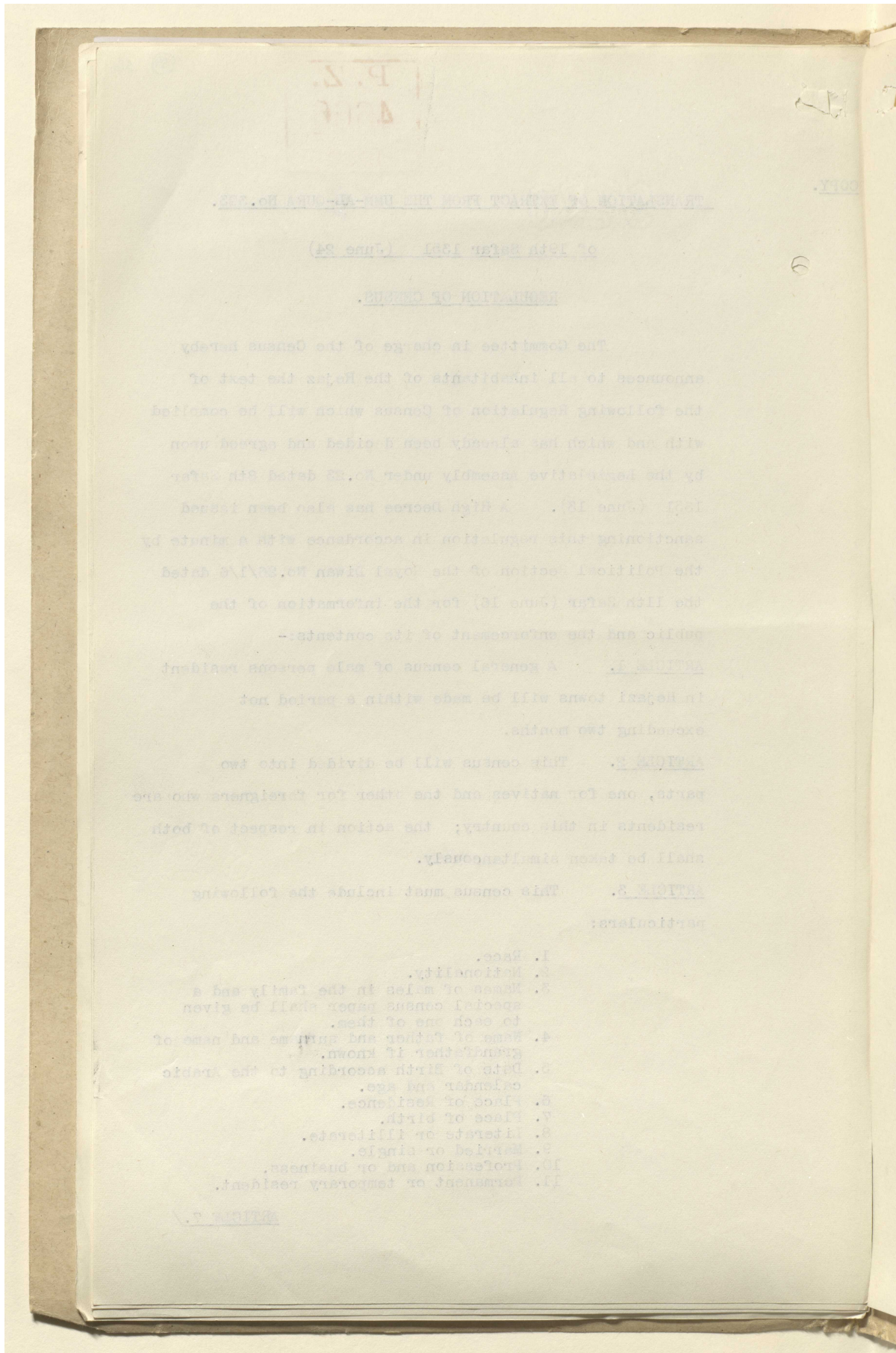
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [58v] (116/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [59r] (117/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [59v] (118/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [60r] (119/174)

60 57

ARTICLE 7. The Sheykh of the quarter will distribute these forms amongst the heads of families and the persons residing in his quarter and the people concerned shall fill in these forms within a period of three days at latest.

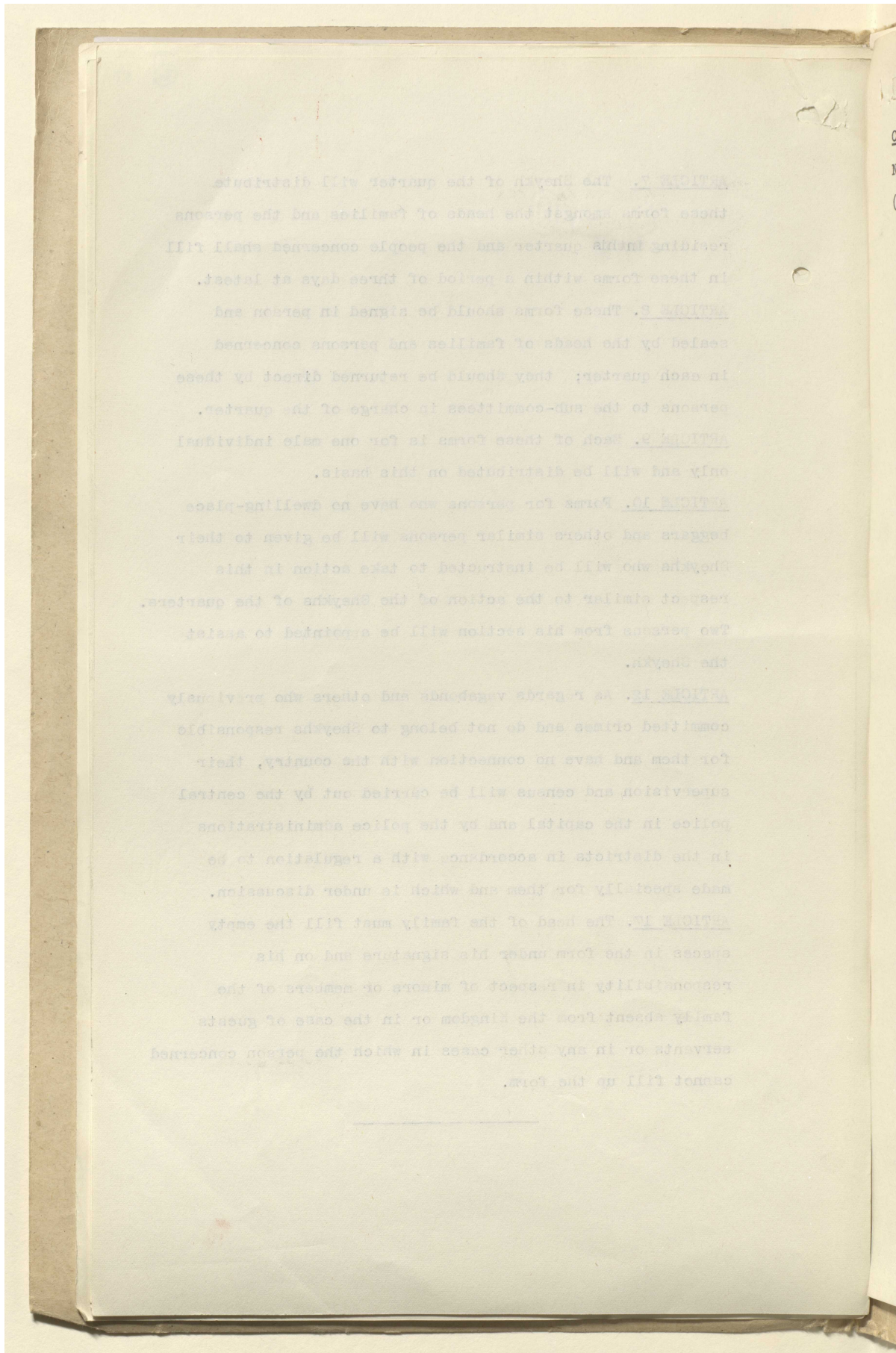
ARTICLE 8. These forms should be signed in person and sealed by the heads of families and persons concerned in each quarter; they should be returned direct by these persons to the sub-committees in charge of the quarter.

ARTICLE 9. Each of these forms is for one male individual only and will be distributed on this basis.

ARTICLE 10. Forms for persons who have no dwelling-place beggars and others similar persons will be given to their Sheykhs who will be instructed to take action in this respect similar to the action of the Sheykhs of the quarters. Two persons from his section will be appointed to assist the Sheykh.

ARTICLE 12. As regards vagabonds and others who previously committed crimes and do not belong to Sheykhs responsible for them and have no connection with the country, their supervision and census will be carried out by the central police in the capital and by the police administrations in the districts in accordance with a regulation to be made specially for them and which is under discussion.

ARTICLE 17. The head of the family must fill the empty spaces in the form under his signature and on his responsibility in respect of minors or members of the family absent from the Kingdom or in the case of guests servants or in any other cases in which the person concerned cannot fill up the form.



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [61r] (121/174)

61 59

P. Z.
4666
1932

COPY.
No.282 (1961/1748/6).
(T.8725/8045/378)

His Majesty's Minister at Jedda presents his compliments to H.M.Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned documents.

British Legation,
Jedda,
Hejaz.

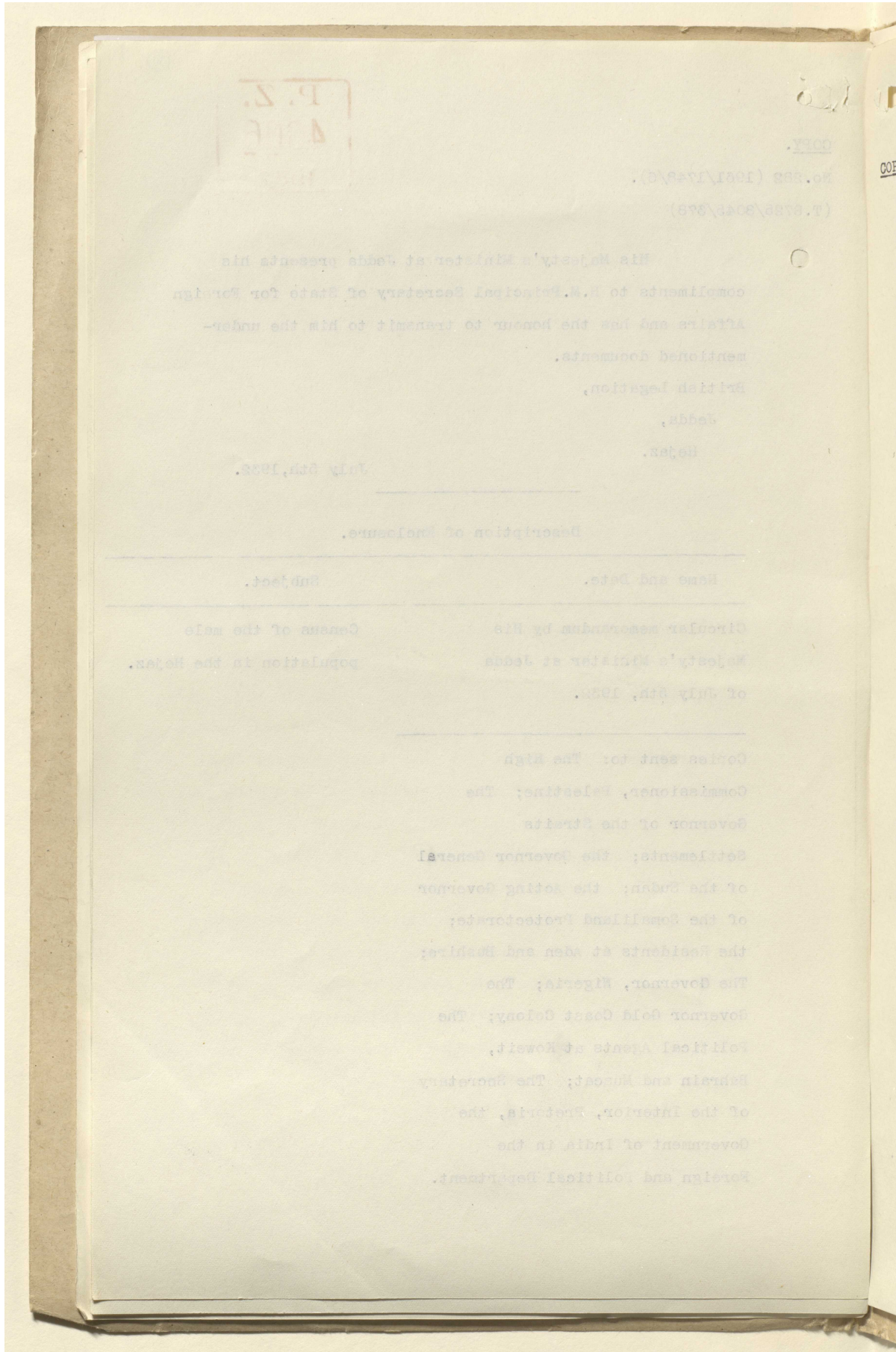
July 5th, 1932.

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Circular memorandum by His Majesty's Minister at Jedda of July 5th, 1932.	Census of the male population in the Hejaz.

Copies sent to: The High Commissioner, Palestine; The Governor of the Straits Settlements; the Governor General of the Sudan; the Acting Governor of the Somaliland Protectorate; the Residents at Aden and Bushire; The Governor, Nigeria; The Governor Gold Coast Colony; The Political Agents at Koweit, Bahrain and Muscat; The Secretary of the Interior, Pretoria, the Government of India in the Foreign and Political Department.

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [61v] (122/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [62r] (123/174)

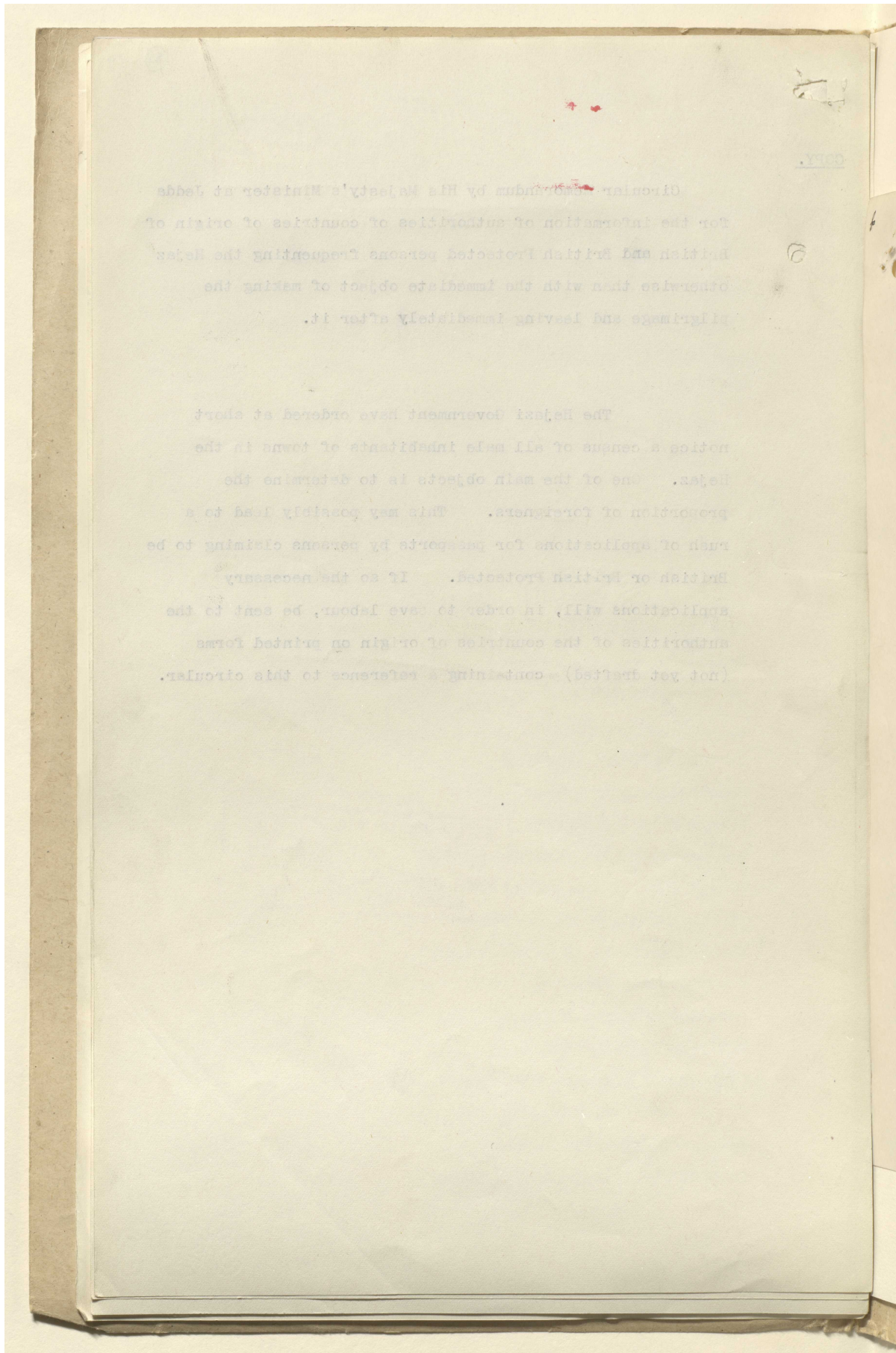
COPY.

62 59

Circular Memorandum by His Majesty's Minister at Jedda for the information of authorities of countries of origin of British and British Protected persons frequenting the Hejaz otherwise than with the immediate object of making the pilgrimage and leaving immediately after it.

The Hejazi Government have ordered at short notice a census of all male inhabitants of towns in the Hejaz. One of the main objects is to determine the proportion of foreigners. This may possibly lead to a rush of applications for passports by persons claiming to be British or British Protected. If so the necessary applications will, in order to save labour, be sent to the authorities of the countries of origin on printed forms (not yet drafted) containing a reference to this circular.

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [62v] (124/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [63r] (125/174)

INDEXED
In any further communication on this subject, please quote
No. T. 8045/8045/378.
and address—not to any person by name, but to—
"The Under-Secretary of State," Foreign Office, London, S.W. 1.

P. Z.
4341
1932

Jydia 60
Int. (63)
MM

THE Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to *the Under Secretary of State for India* and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copies of the under-mentioned papers

Keep
afm
1/27

Foreign Office,
20th July, 1932.

Reference to previous correspondence :

Description of Enclosure.

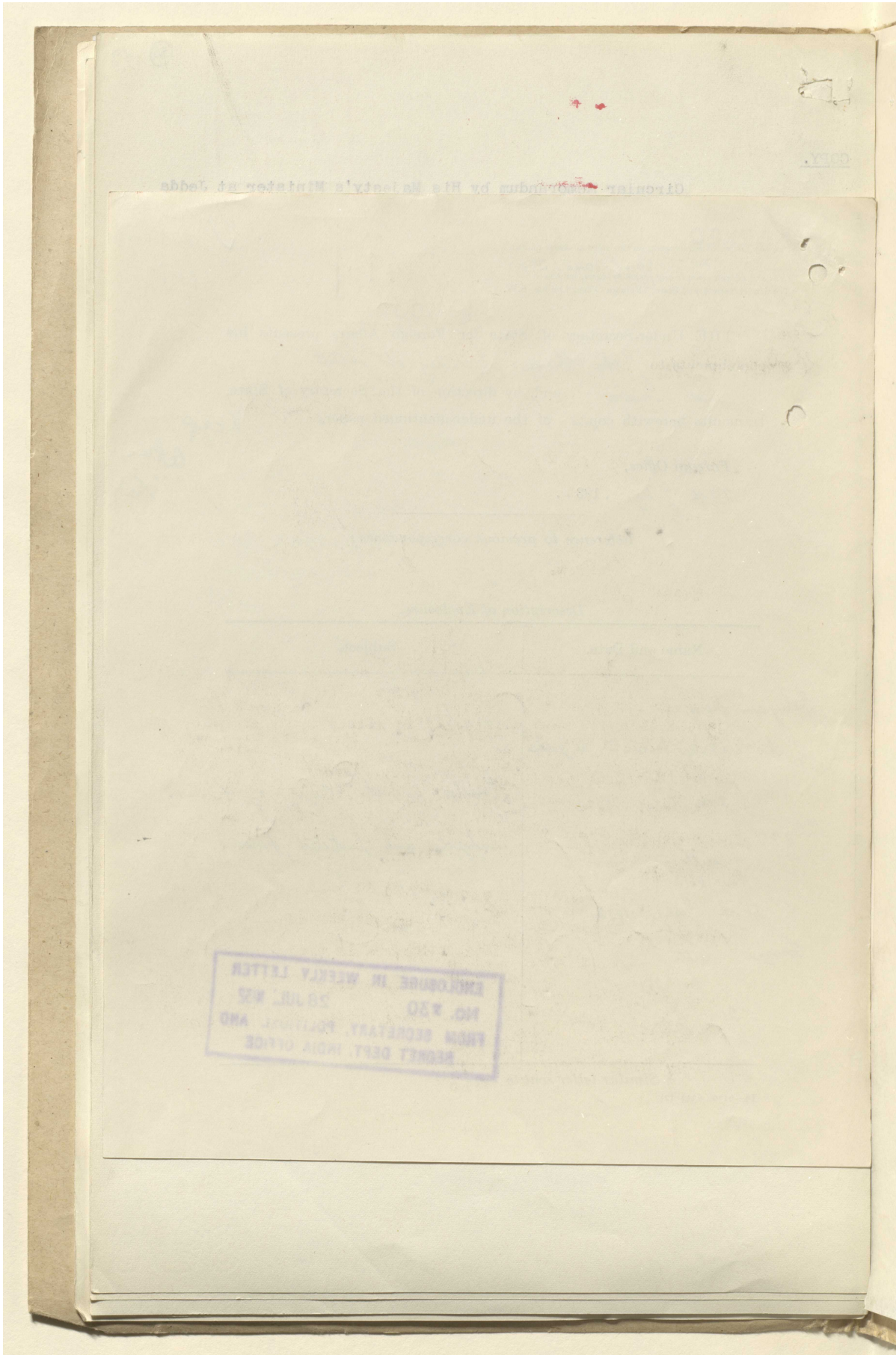
Name and Date.	Subject.
<i>Telegram from His Majesty's Minister at Jeddah no. 114 5th July, 1932</i>	<i>Position in the Hijaz of British subjects and protected persons.</i>
<i>Telegram to ditto. no. 86. 16th July, 1932</i>	
<i>From ditto. no. 261 21st June, 1932</i>	

Similar letter sent to *b.o.*

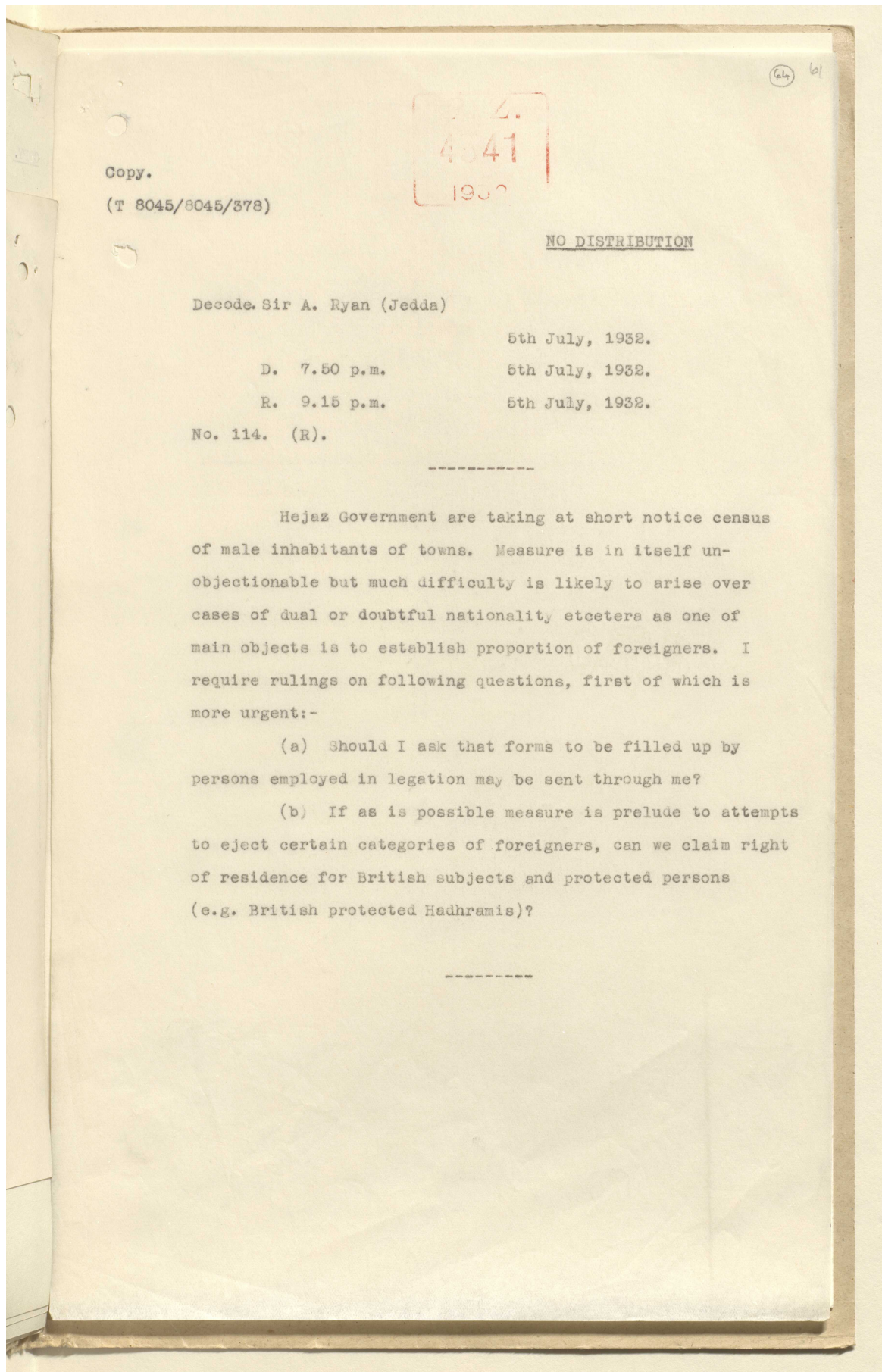
14-6130 6353 (2)

ENCLOSURE IN WEEKLY LETTER
NO. 30 28 JUL 1932
FROM SECRETARY, POLITICAL AND
SECRET DEPT. INDIA OFFICE

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [63v] (126/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [64r] (127/174)



Copy.

(T 8045/8045/378)

NO DISTRIBUTION

Decode. Sir A. Ryan (Jedda)

5th July, 1932.

D. 7.50 p.m.

5th July, 1932.

R. 9.15 p.m.

5th July, 1932.

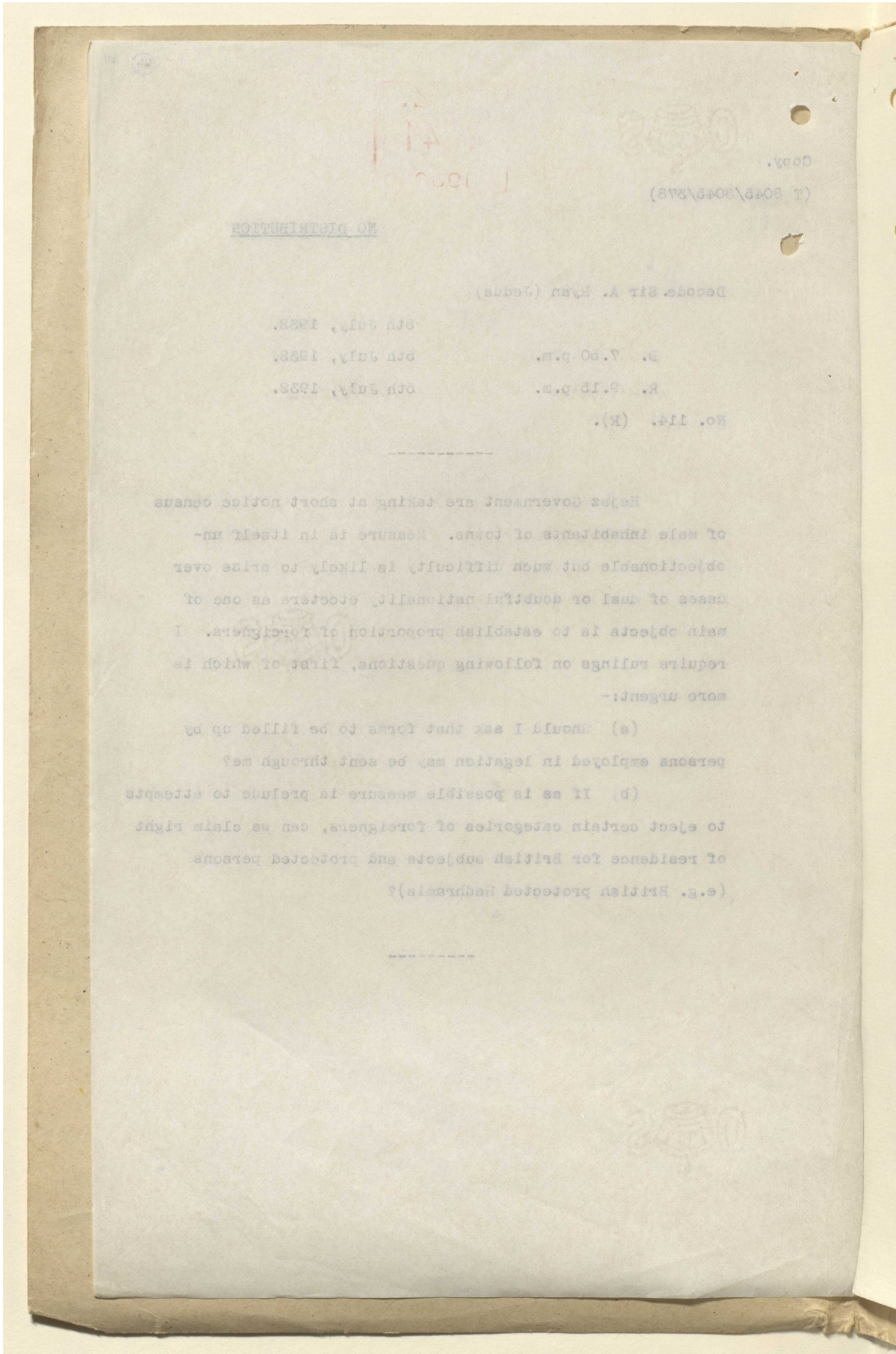
No. 114. (R).

Hejaz Government are taking at short notice census of male inhabitants of towns. Measure is in itself unobjectionable but much difficulty is likely to arise over cases of dual or doubtful nationality etcetera as one of main objects is to establish proportion of foreigners. I require rulings on following questions, first of which is more urgent:-

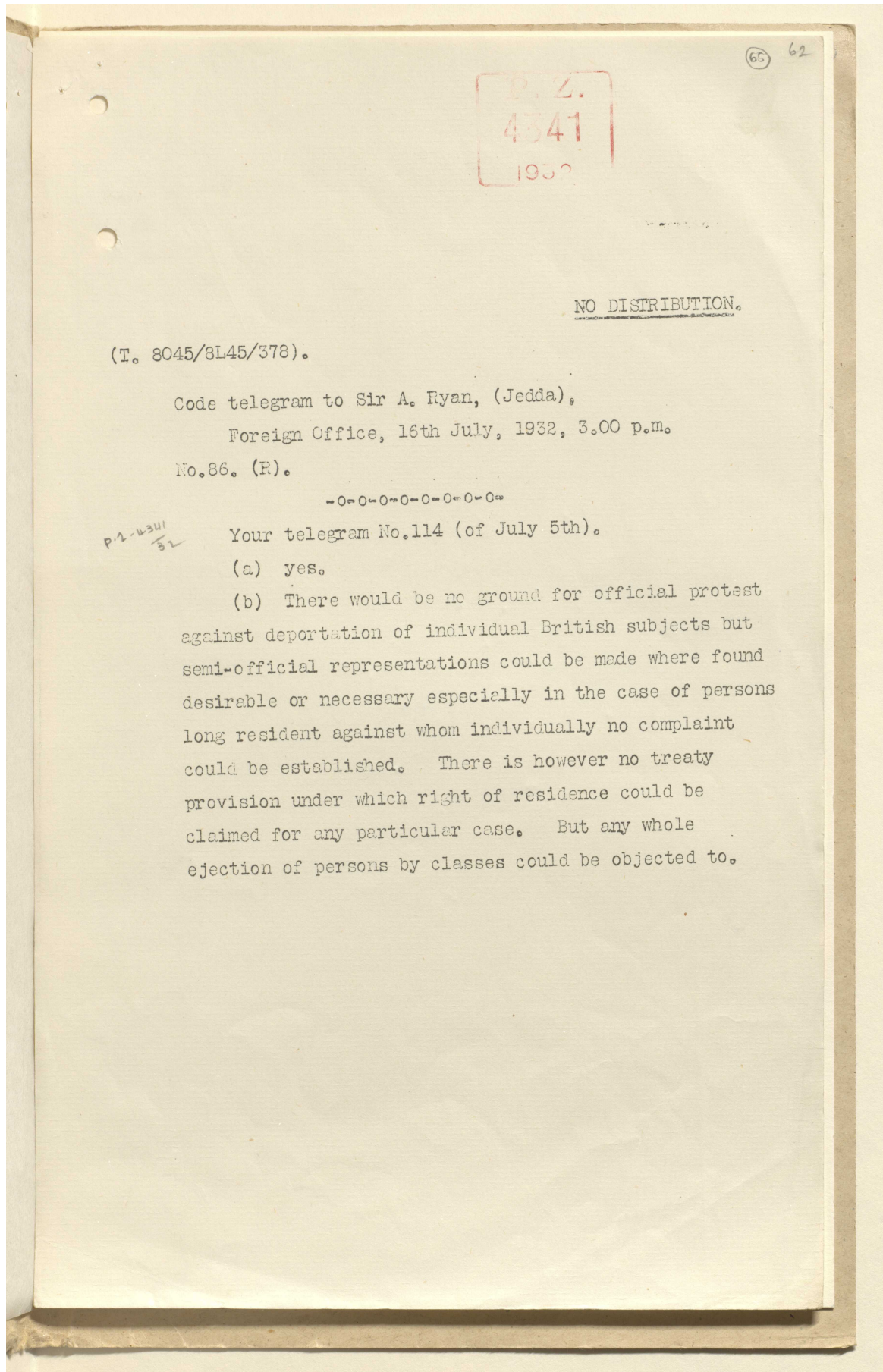
(a) Should I ask that forms to be filled up by persons employed in legation may be sent through me?

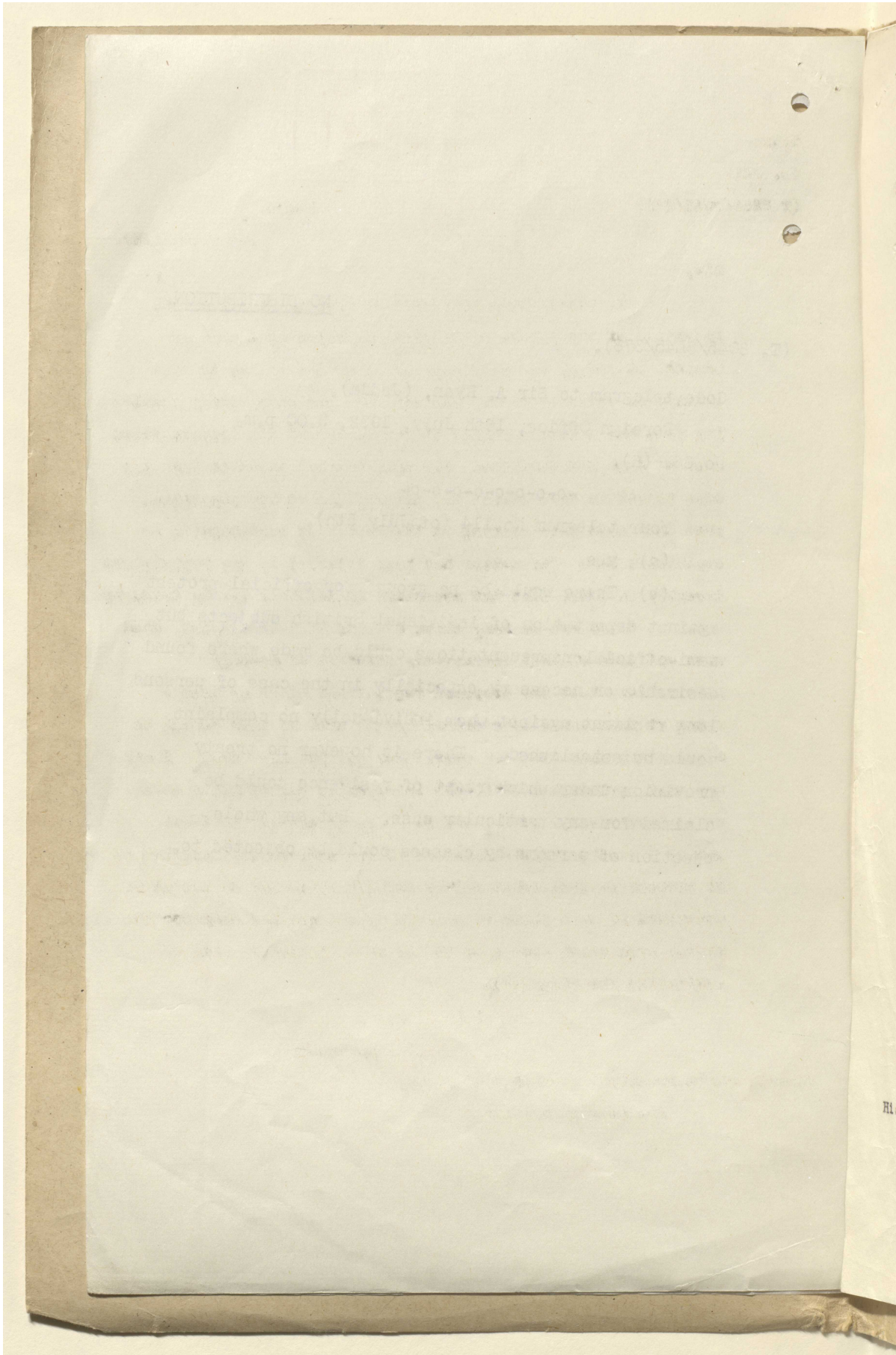
(b) If as is possible measure is prelude to attempts to eject certain categories of foreigners, can we claim right of residence for British subjects and protected persons (e.g. British protected Hadhramis)?

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [64v] (128/174)

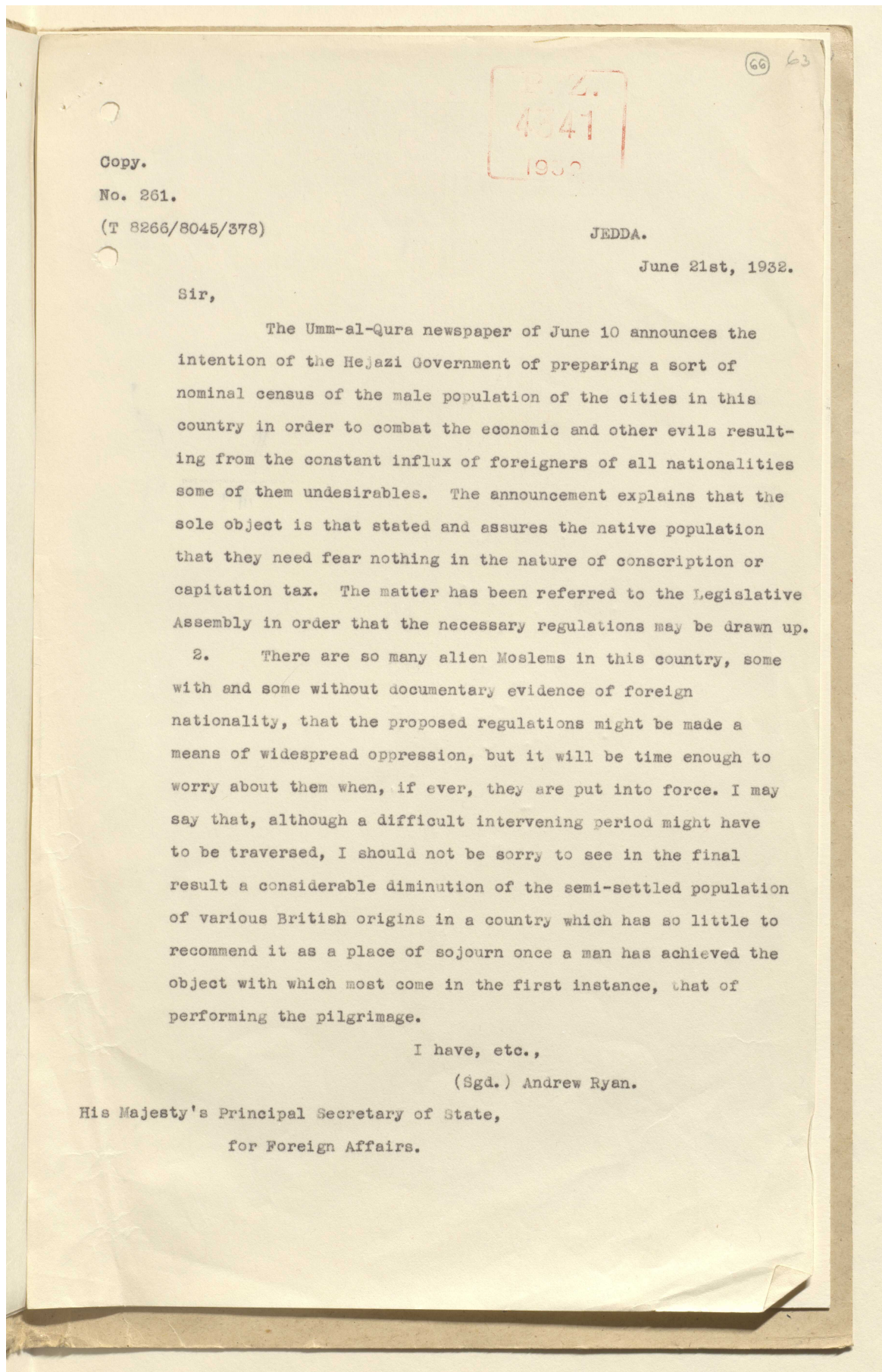


Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [65r] (129/174)

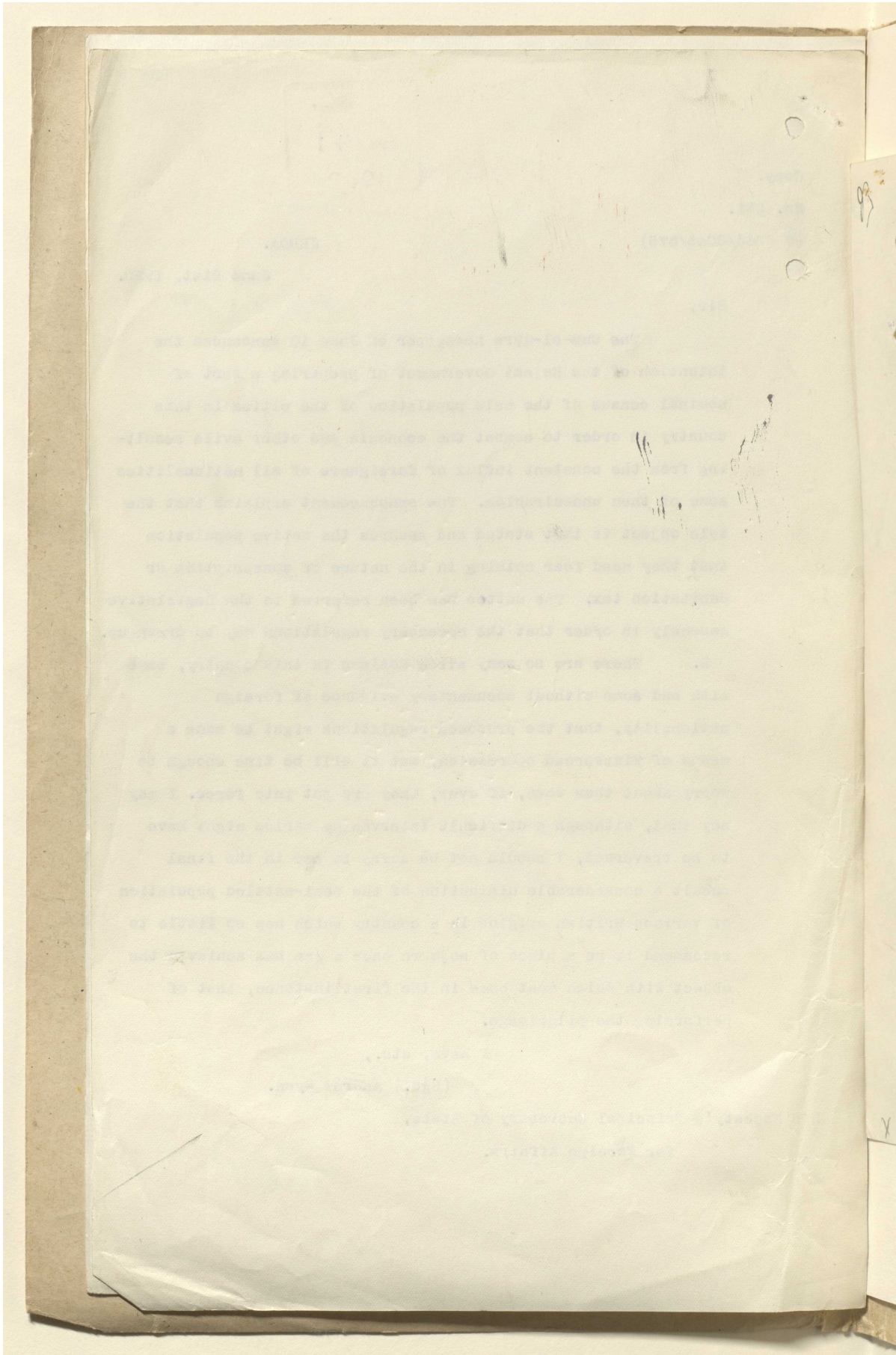




Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [66r] (131/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [66v] (132/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [67r] (133/174)

INDEXED

In any further communication on this subject, please quote
No. *63534/1884/25*
and address—not to any person by name, but to—
"The Under-Secretary of State," Foreign Office, London, S.W. 1.

P.Z.
4556
1931

64
67
17.11
Partly after 2/17

THE Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to *the Under-Secretary of State for India* and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copy of the under-mentioned paper.

Foreign Office,
14th July, 1931. *pp 2361*

Reference to previous correspondence:
Foreign Office letter no. E.1884/1884/25
of 14th April, 1931.

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
<i>Am. Minister Jedda no. 224 of 14th June.</i>	<i>Treatment of foreign chauffeurs in the beyaz.</i>

ENCLOSURE IN WEEKLY LETTER
No. 730 23 JUL 1931
FROM SECRETARY, POLITICAL AND
SECRET DEPT. INDIA OFFICE

MAILED BRANCH
18 JUL 1931
INDIA OFFICE

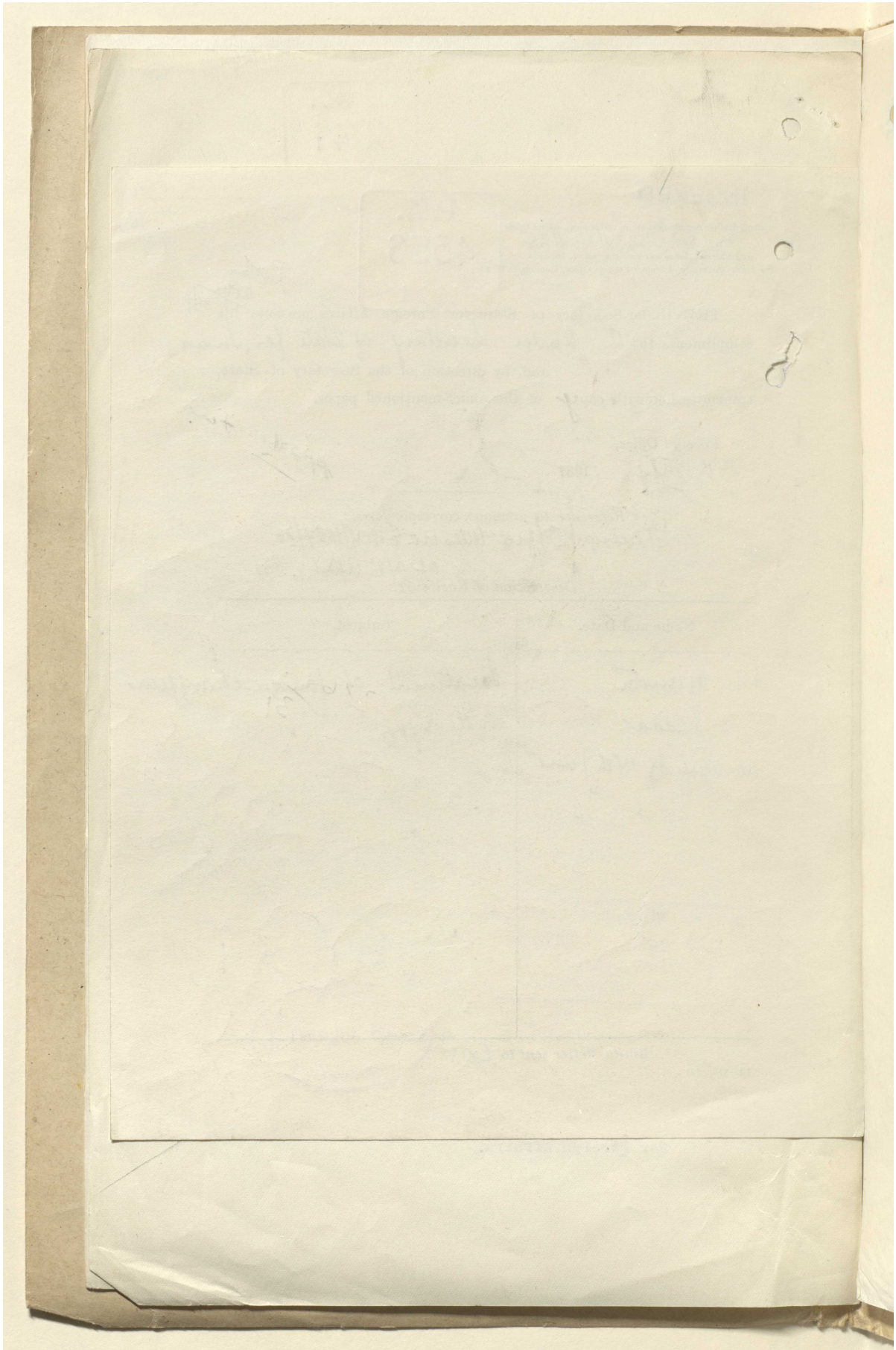
RECEIVED IN
18 JUL 1931
POLITICAL DEPARTMENT

Similar letter sent to *Co.*

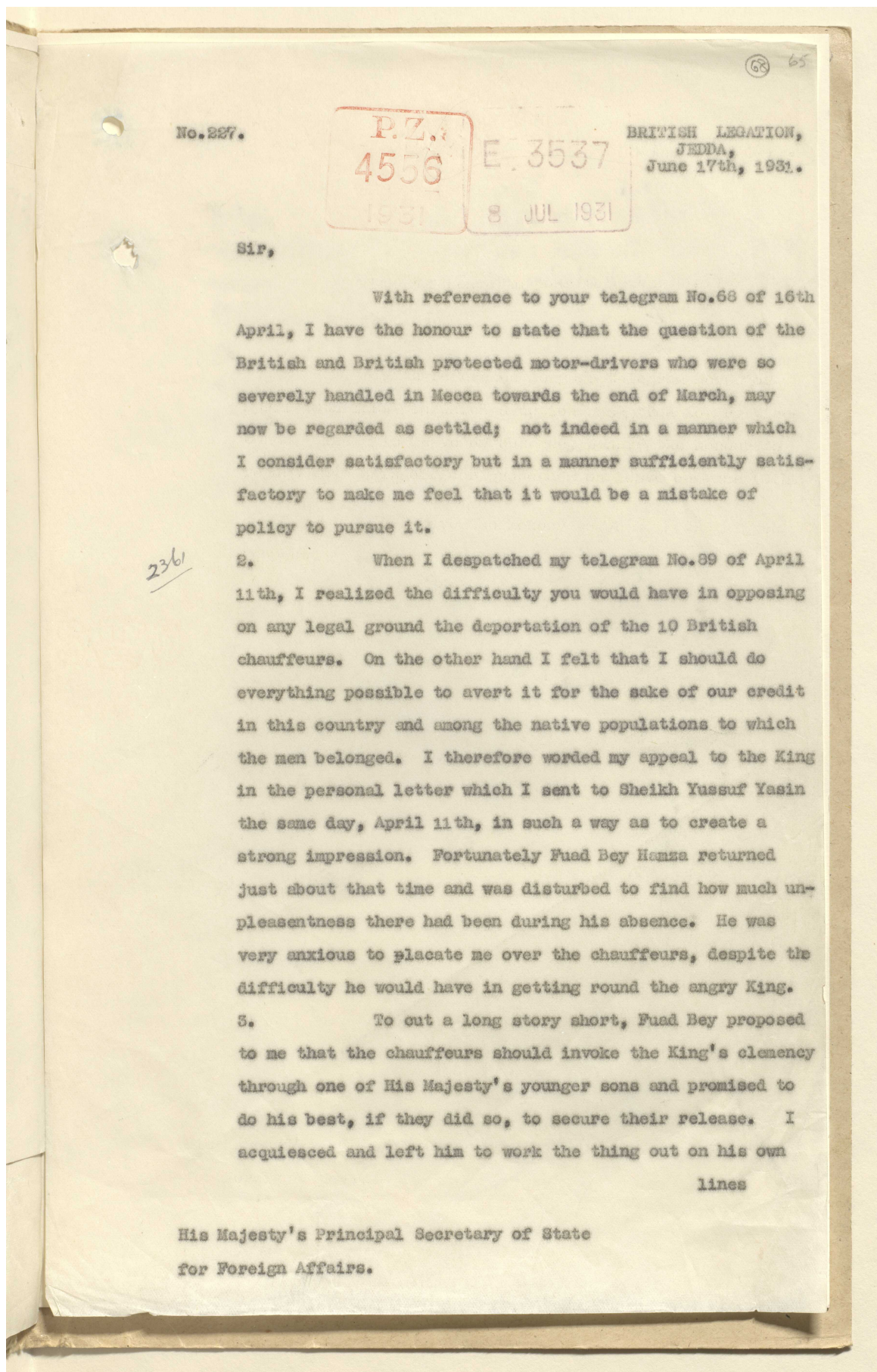
14-5180 (2)

X

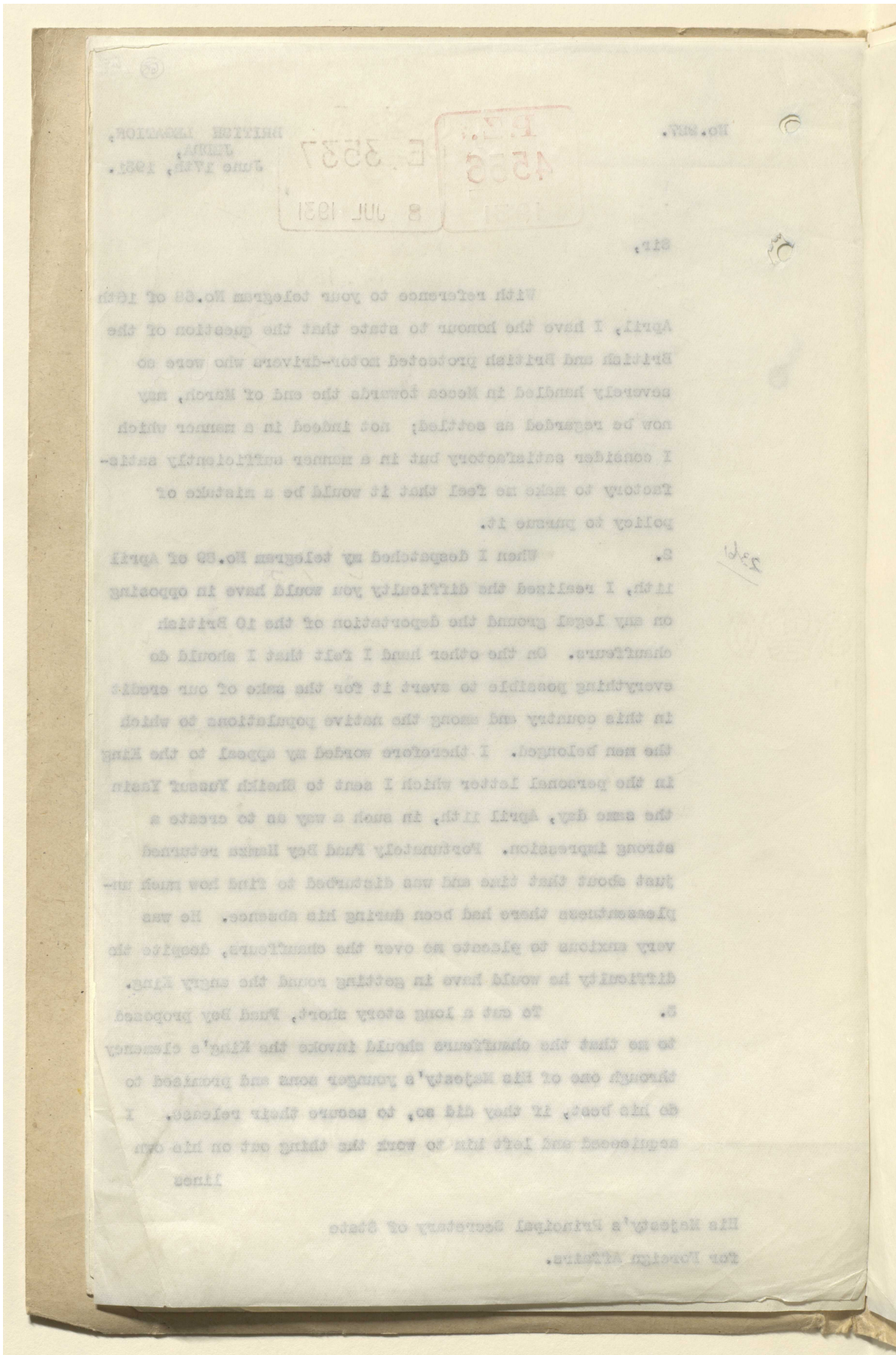
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [67v] (134/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [68r] (135/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [68v] (136/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [69r] (137/174)

69 46

lines. I stated that on my side, if the men were set at liberty without being deported, I should like nothing better than to see as many as possible of them leave the country of their own accord, after all that had happened.

4. Fuad Bey kept his word and the ten men were released in Mecca on May 11th, each being given a sum of money. I doubt very much whether they received or ever will receive the total amounts due to them but I have throughout refrained from meddling in their accounts with the Government, as it would merely have started a fresh quarrel in which I should have been at a disadvantage owing to the difficulty of determining the terms of their engagement and the extent to which the Government had failed to fulfil them.

5. In due course six of the ten men applied to this Legation for travelling papers. In two cases they had returned to them papers already in their possession which had been impounded and had been sent to me by the Governor of Jedda, when it was still intended to deport them. In four other cases emergency certificates were issued. All of these men have left the country. There remain four, who may still be in Mecca.

I have the honour to be with the highest respect,

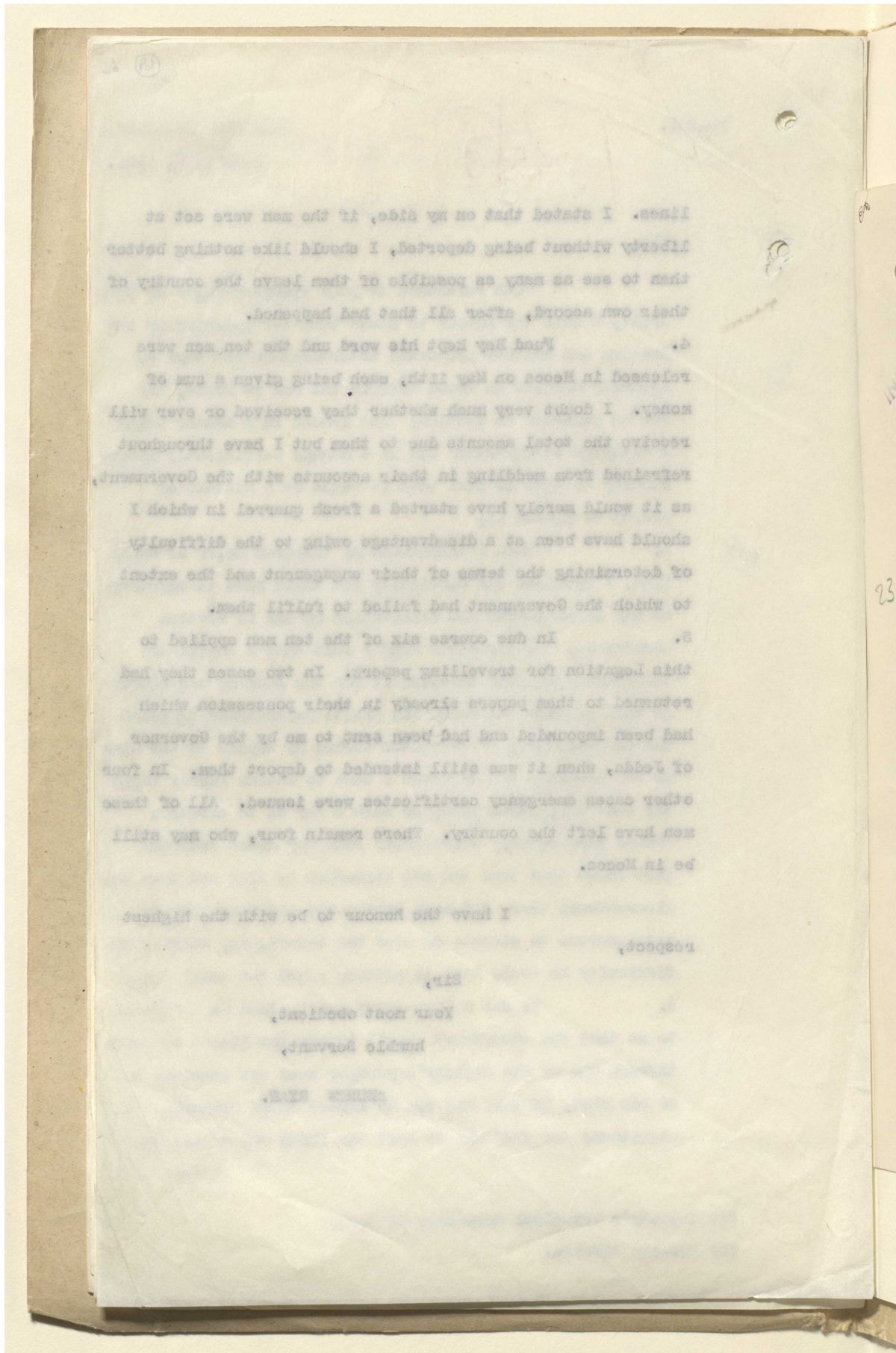
Sir,

Your most obedient,

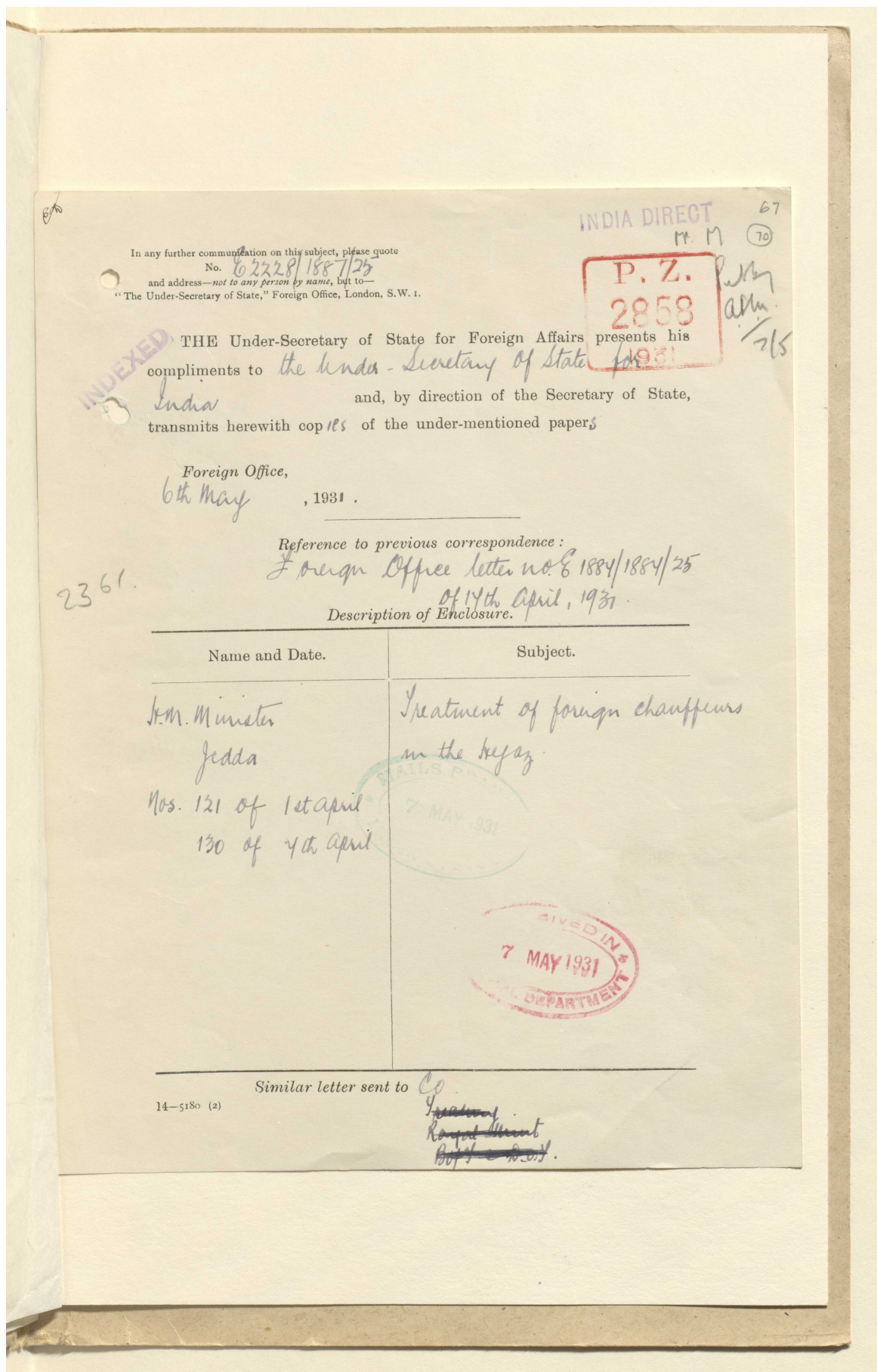
humble Servant,

ANDREW RYAN.

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [69v] (138/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [70r] (139/174)



In any further communication on this subject, please quote
No. *62228/1887/25*
and address—not to any person by name, but to—
"The Under-Secretary of State," Foreign Office, London, S.W. 1.

INDIA DIRECT
M. M. (70) 67

P. Z.
2858
1931

INDEXED

THE Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his
compliments to *the Under-Secretary of State for India*
and, by direction of the Secretary of State,
transmits herewith copies of the under-mentioned papers

Foreign Office,
6th May, 1931.

2361.

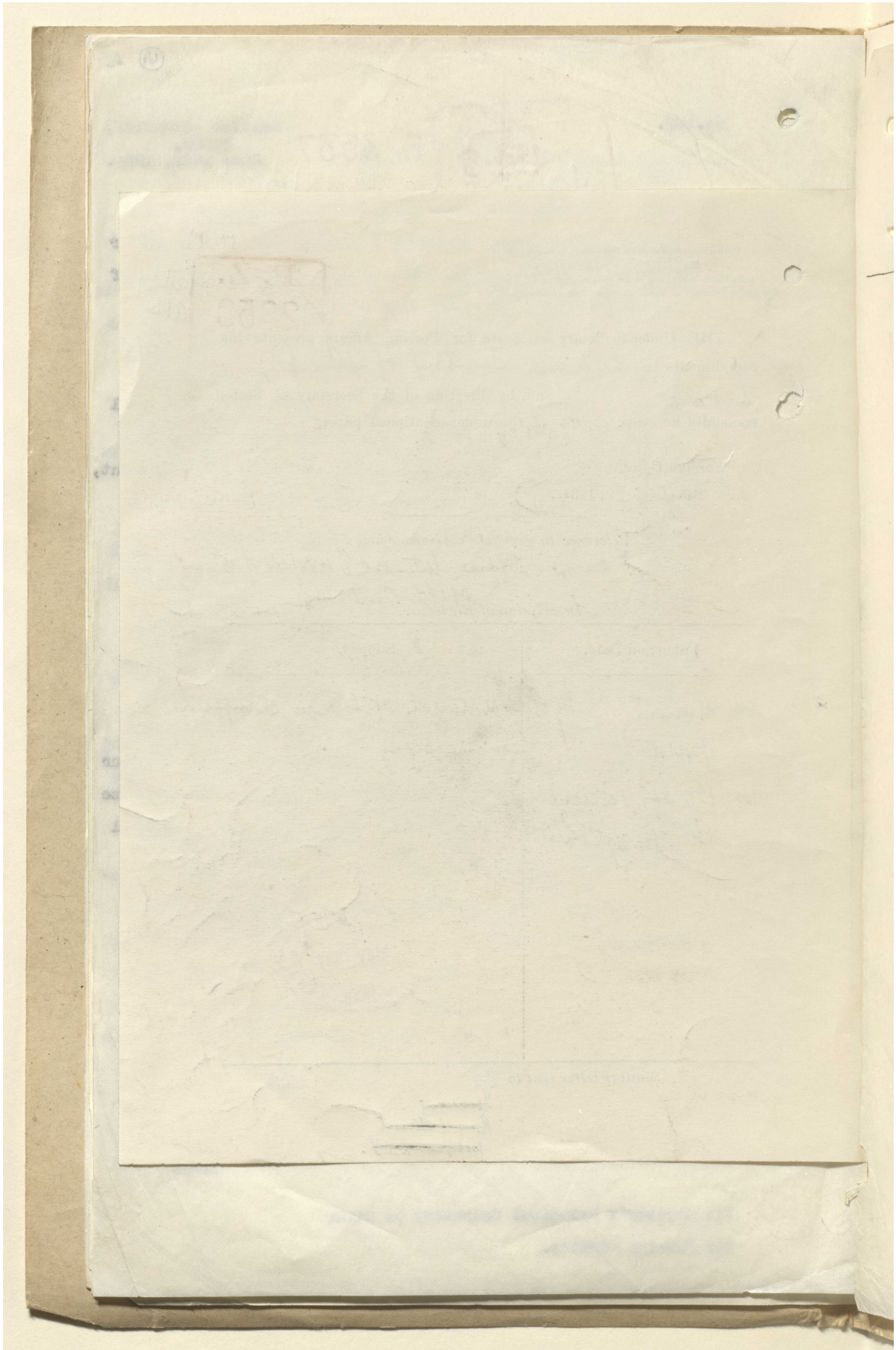
Reference to previous correspondence:
Foreign Office letter no. 8 1884/1884/25
of 14th April, 1931.

Description of Enclosure.

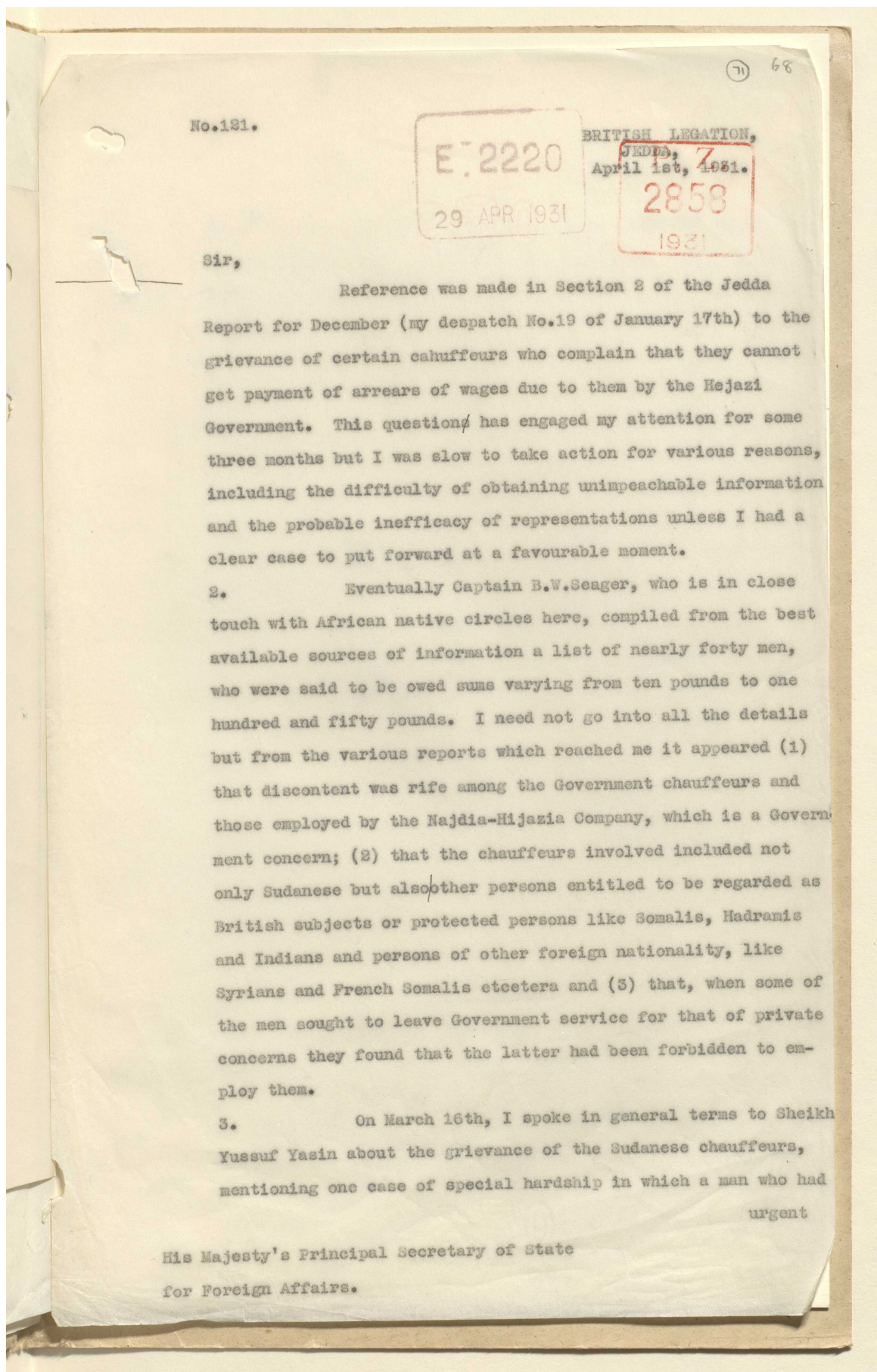
Name and Date.	Subject.
<i>H.M. Minister Jeddah Nos. 121 of 1st April 130 of 4th April</i>	<i>Treatment of foreign chauffeurs in the Hejaz.</i>

RECEIVED IN THE
7 MAY 1931
POSTAL DEPARTMENT

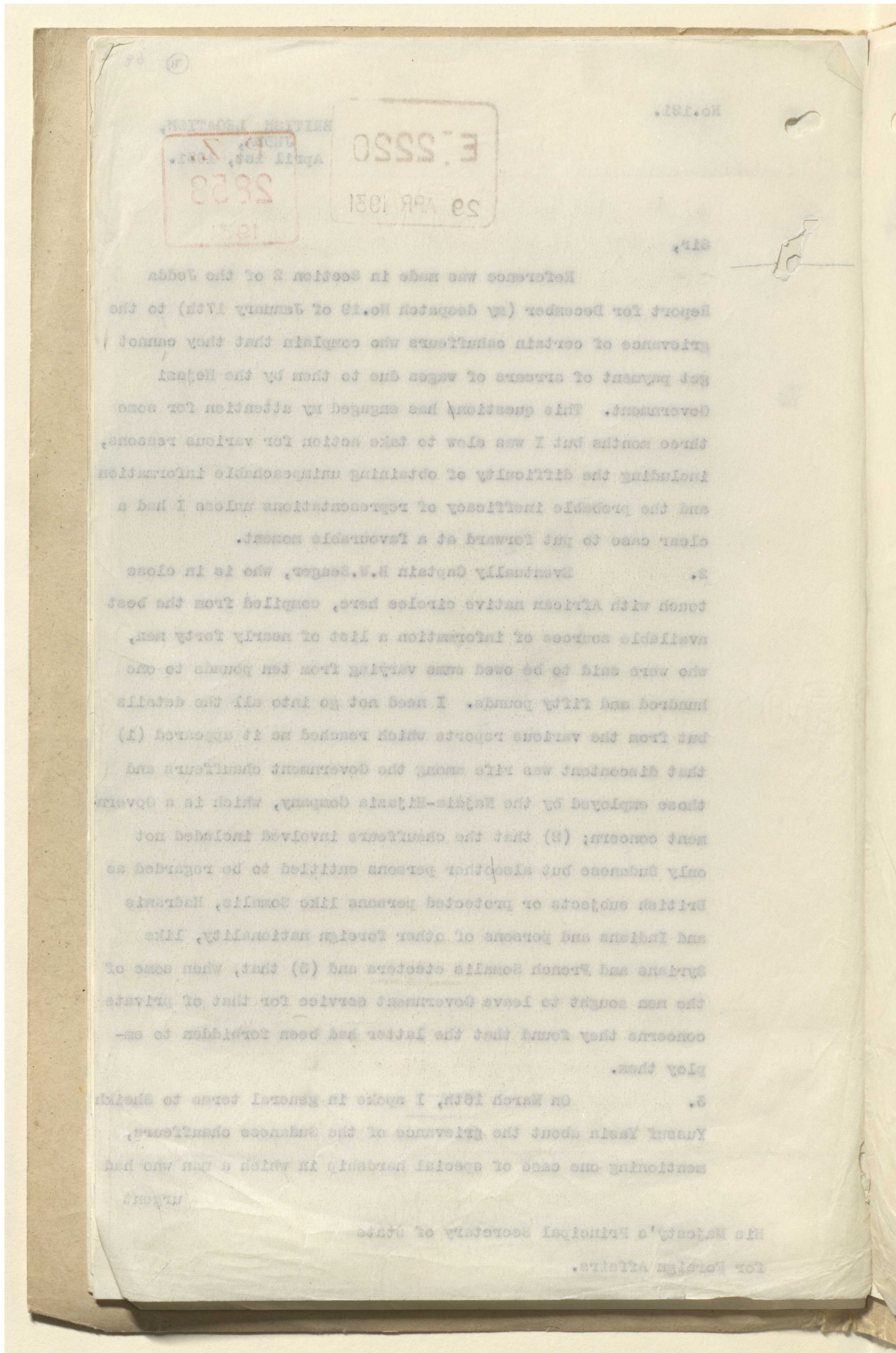
Similar letter sent to *Co.*
14-5180 (2)
*Resident
Riyadh
10.5.31.*

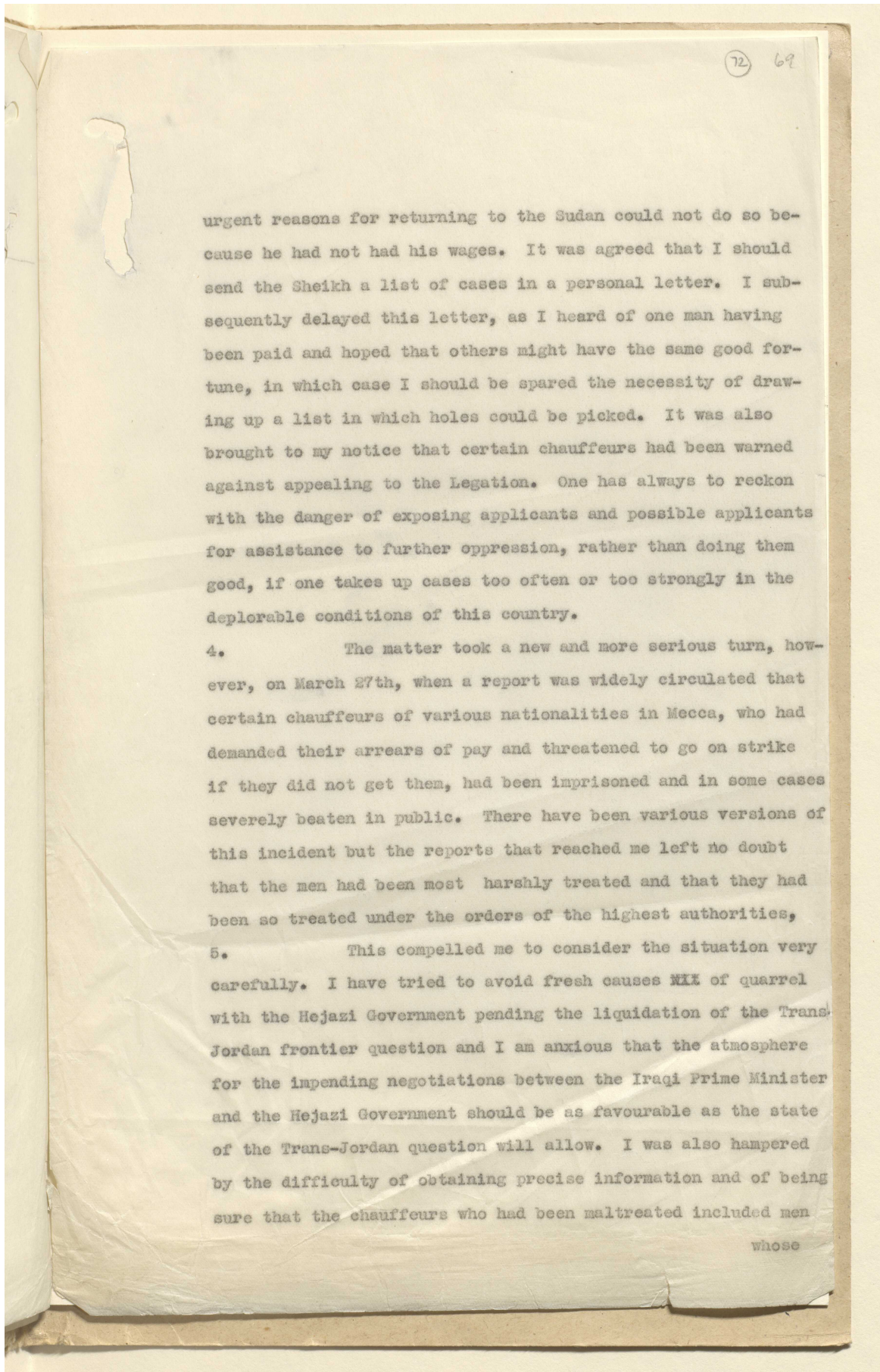


Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [71r] (141/174)

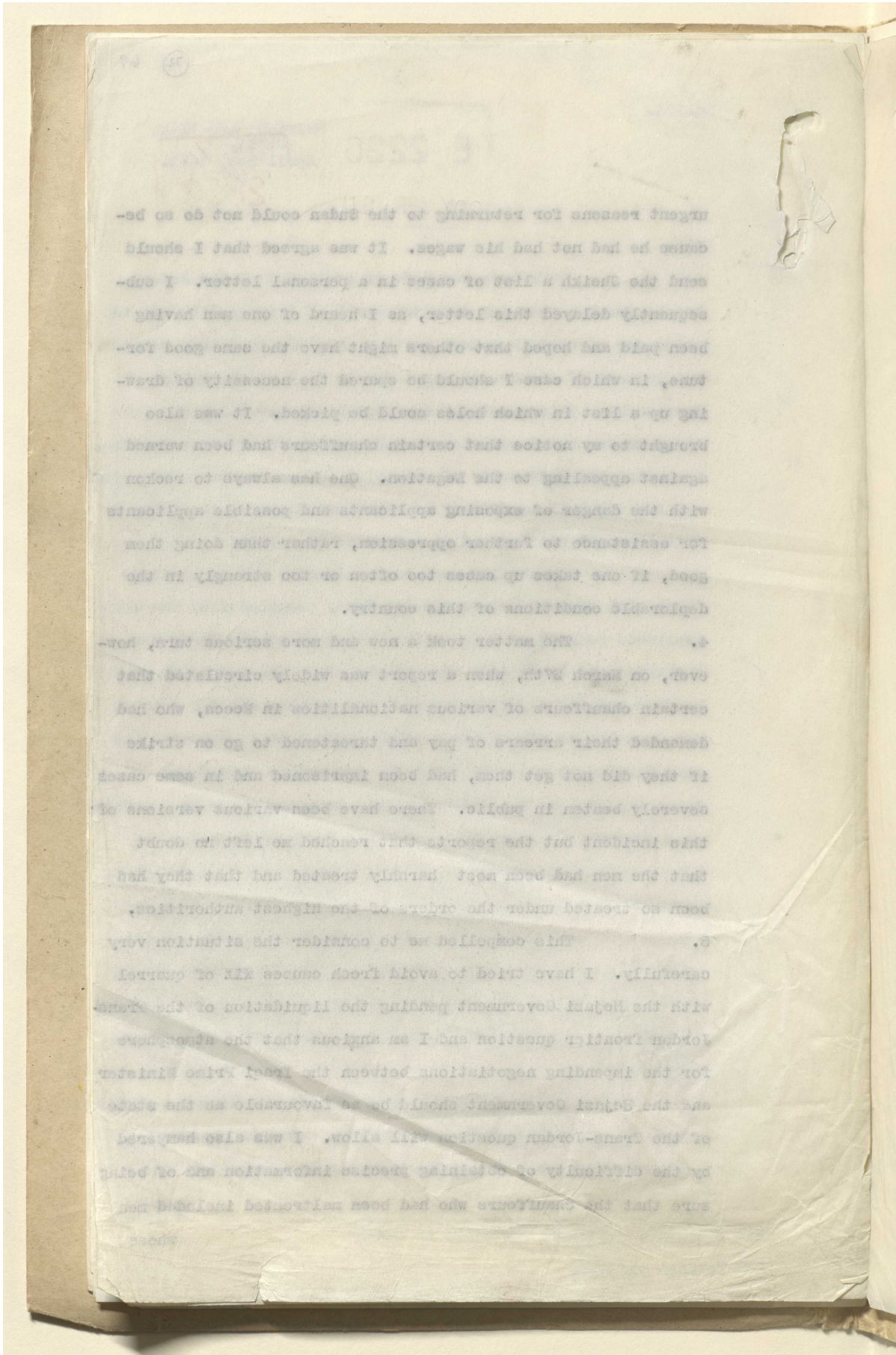


Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [71v] (142/174)





Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [72v] (144/174)



(73) 70

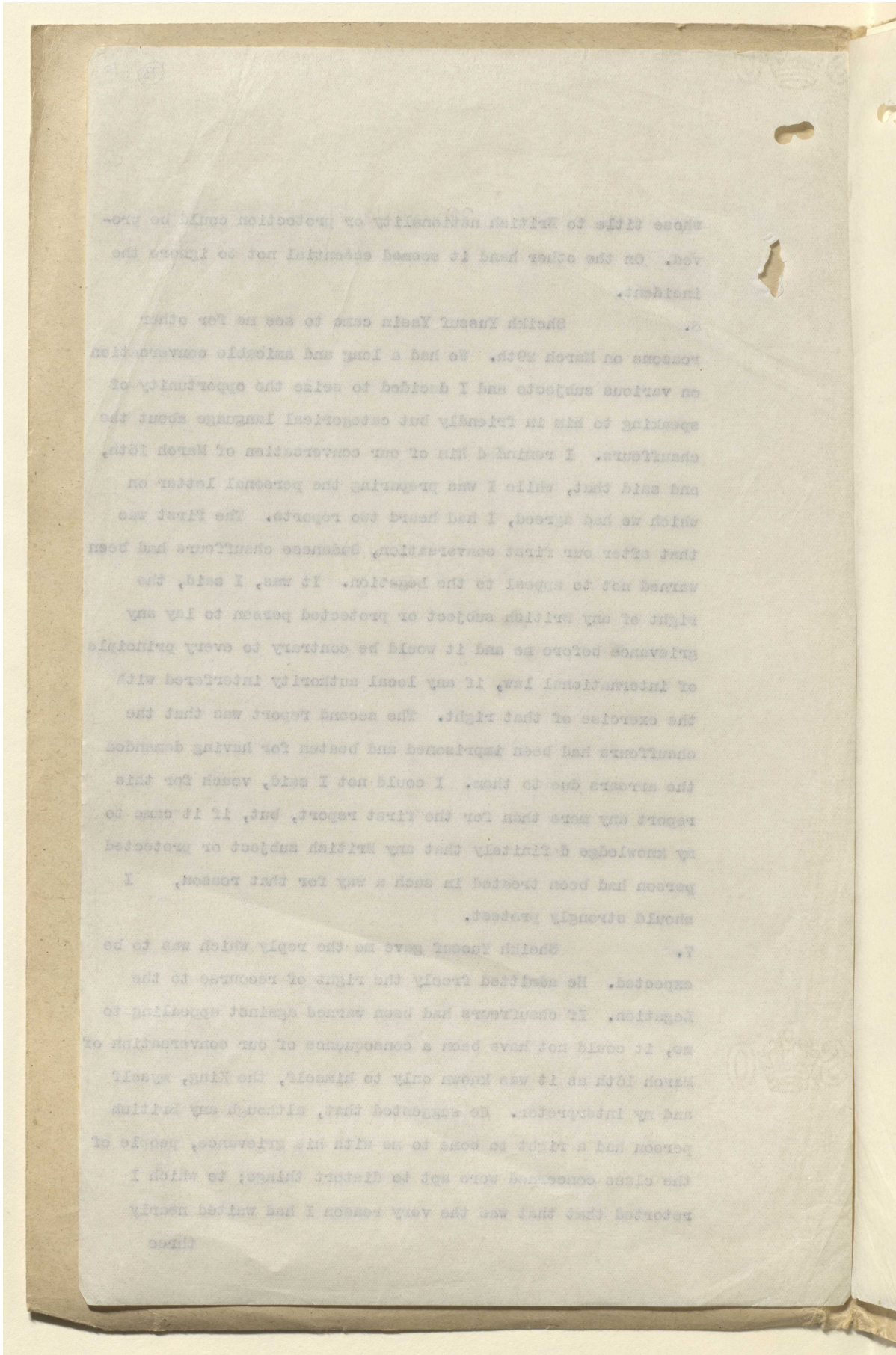
whose title to British nationality or protection could be proved. On the other hand it seemed essential not to ignore the incident.

6. Sheikh Yussuf Yasin came to see me for other reasons on March 29th. We had a long and amicable conversation on various subjects and I decided to seize the opportunity of speaking to him in friendly but categorical language about the chauffeurs. I reminded him of our conversation of March 16th, and said that, while I was preparing the personal letter on which we had agreed, I had heard two reports. The first was that after our first conversation, Sudanese chauffeurs had been warned not to appeal to the Legation. It was, I said, the right of any British subject or protected person to lay any grievance before me and it would be contrary to every principle of international law, if any local authority interfered with the exercise of that right. The second report was that the chauffeurs had been imprisoned and beaten for having demanded the arrears due to them. I could not I said, vouch for this report any more than for the first report, but, if it came to my knowledge definitely that any British subject or protected person had been treated in such a way for that reason, I should strongly protest.

7. Sheikh Yussuf gave me the reply which was to be expected. He admitted freely the right of recourse to the Legation. If chauffeurs had been warned against appealing to me, it could not have been a consequence of our conversation of March 16th as it was known only to himself, the King, myself and my interpreter. He suggested that, although any British person had a right to come to me with his grievance, people of the class concerned were apt to distort things; to which I retorted that that was the very reason I had waited nearly

three

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [73v] (146/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [74r] (147/174)

three months before taking action. He dismissed the second report as incredible and expatiated on the King's special solicitude for the weak and humble. I am afraid that, in the interest of the cause, I echoed some of this humbug (though it is perhaps not wholly humbug, for the King is often generous to the lowly) even on Palm Sunday.

8. I enclose a further account of the Mecca incident, which I received on March 30th. It has been prepared by Captain Seager from information supplied by an African. It is not necessarily accurate on all points but it bears out generally in a coherent form, my earlier information. The affair has been so bruited and has created such emotion that two of my household servants related it spontaneously and with much indignation to my wife. I hope to hear more from the Indian Vice-Consul who went to Mecca on March 31st. In the meantime I have had a conversation with my French colleague. As I expected he is not very keen. He had heard the same story and he promised to make independent enquiries. He gave me another account of the origin of the trouble which he heard some weeks ago. The chauffeurs, according to this version, were discontented because the Government had introduced stringent regulations to control petrol supplies etc., thereby depriving them of opportunities for speculation. This is quite possibly true but the temptation to steal must be increased by irregularity in the payment of wages.

9. I hope that my conversation with Sheikh Yussuf Yasin may produce some effect. I propose to take no further action for the moment. I have, however, reported on the whole subject fully for more than one reason. I consider, and I trust you will agree, that, if the trouble continues, no political consideration should restrain me from making strong representations

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [74v] (148/174)

three months before taking action. He discussed the second report as incredible and expected on the King's special committee for the work and humble. I am afraid that in the interest of the cause, I asked some of this number (though it is perhaps not wholly number, for the King is often generous to the lowly) even on this Sunday.

3. I enclose a further account of the Meccan hold-out, which I received on March 30th. It has been prepared by Captain Rogers from information supplied by an African. It is not necessarily accurate on all points and it seems out of place in a coherent form, by earlier information. The article has been so printed and has created such emotion that two of my non-embroidered servants related it spontaneously and with much indignation to my wife. I hope to hear more from the Indian Vice-Consul who went to Mecca on March 24th. In the meantime I have had a conversation with my French colleague. As I expected he is not very keen. He had heard the same story and he proposed to make independent enquiries. He gave me another account of the origin of the trouble which he heard some weeks ago. The character, according to this version, were discussed because the Government had introduced stringent regulations to control petrol supplies etc., thereby depriving them of opportunities for speculation. This is quite possibly true but the temptation to steal must be increased by irregularity in the payment of wages.

4. I hope that my conversation with Sheikh Yusuf Yusuf may produce some effect. I propose to take no further action for the moment. I have, however, reported on the whole subject fairly for more than one reason. I consider, and I trust you will agree, that if the trouble continues, no political consideration should restrain me from making strong representations.

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [75r] (149/174)

75 72

representations, provided they seem likely to have a good effect as regards any British subjects or protected persons concerned. Ibn Sa'ud and his underlings are far too ready to think that they can do as they please, especially in the case of Moslems of small account. Secondly, I consider that the British authorities in the Sudan and British Somaliland would do well to discourage natives of these countries from coming to this country to seek employment. The case of Hadramis may be rather different and I hope to discuss it this month with the Protectorate Secretary at Aden, who is visiting me here. Thirdly I consider that, in spite of the difficulty of keeping any general register of British and British protected persons of African and Asiatic origin settled in the Hejaz owing to their number and the vagueness in many cases of their national status, something should be done to encourage a larger proportion of them to provide themselves with proper papers. I will study this difficult question further.

10. I am sending copies of this despatch and enclosure to the Government of India (Foreign and Political Department), The Governor General of the Sudan, the Governors of British Somaliland and Nigeria and the Political Resident at Aden.

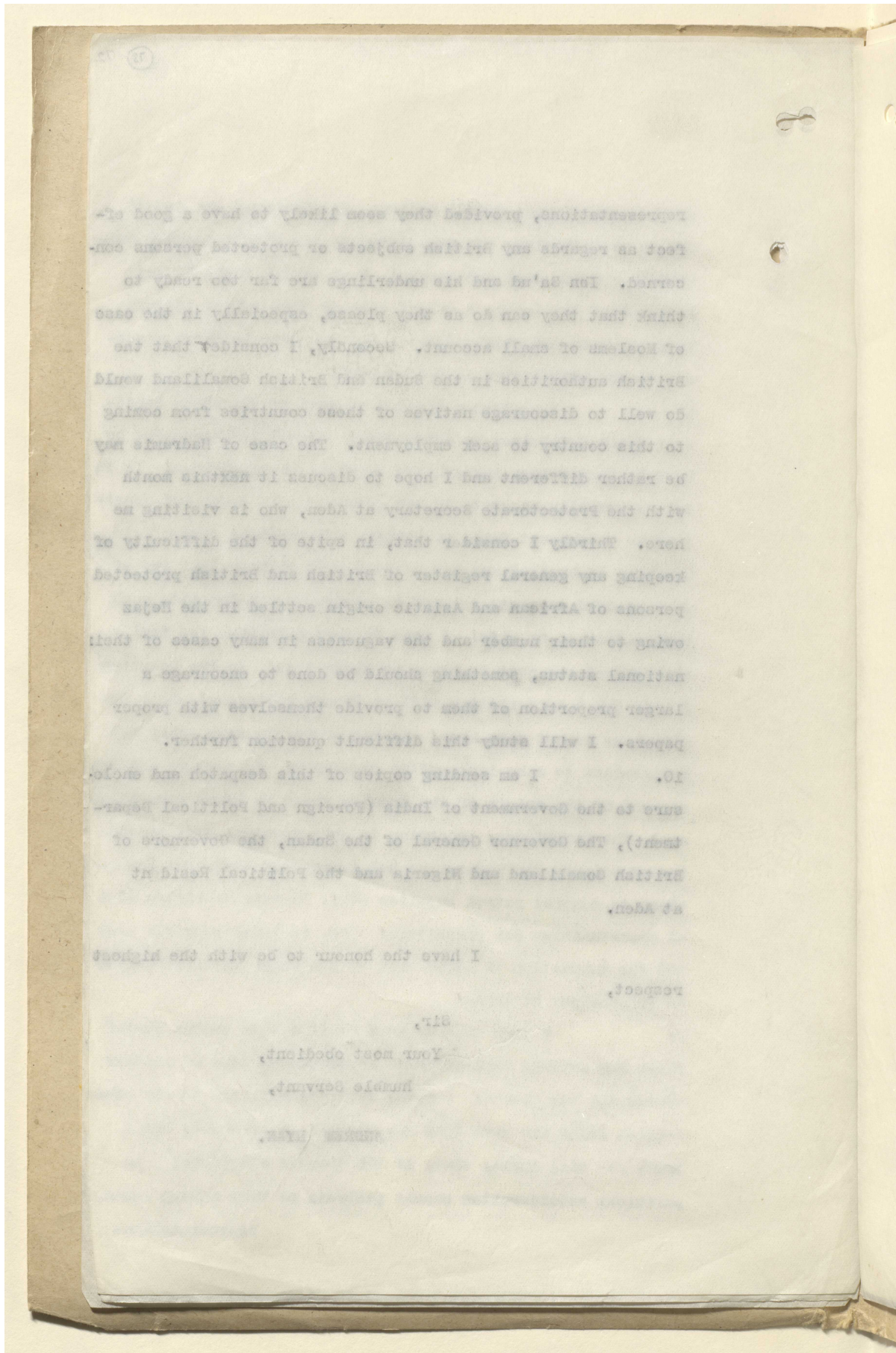
I have the honour to be with the highest respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient,
humble servant,

ANDREW RYAN.

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [75v] (150/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [76r] (151/174)

76 75
COPY.

MINUTE SHEET.

Mr. Wikeley.

I have just hear a comprehensive story of the chauffeurs incident in Mecca.

2. It would appear that a few days ago the chauffeurs of all nationalities appointed a delegation of twelve amongst them to take up the question of their arrears of pay with the Government. Their representations met with little success so they decided to go on strike. At an appointed time orders were given to take out the cars for some duty, whereupon the chauffeurs refused to comply.

3. Amir Mohammed who was seen passing by at this juncture was appealed to by the officials in charge of the garages, to settle the trouble. He apparently took the matter up immediately with the King. Orders were then given to arrest the twelve and they were brought outside the "Hamidieh" (apparently the barracks opposite one of the exits of the Haram) and beaten by four slaves armed with long cudgels, and so timed as to coincide with the exodus of hundreds of pilgrims and local inhabitants from the Haram. Each chauffeur was beaten by the four men--eighty strokes each--on all parts of the body. (According to my informant orders had been given by the King that they were to be all but beaten to death.) A clerk is said to have been present beside the slaves jotting down the number of strokes made to ensure that each man received the same number. Two of the Somalis are said to be in a dying condition and medical aid is said to be wanted for them.

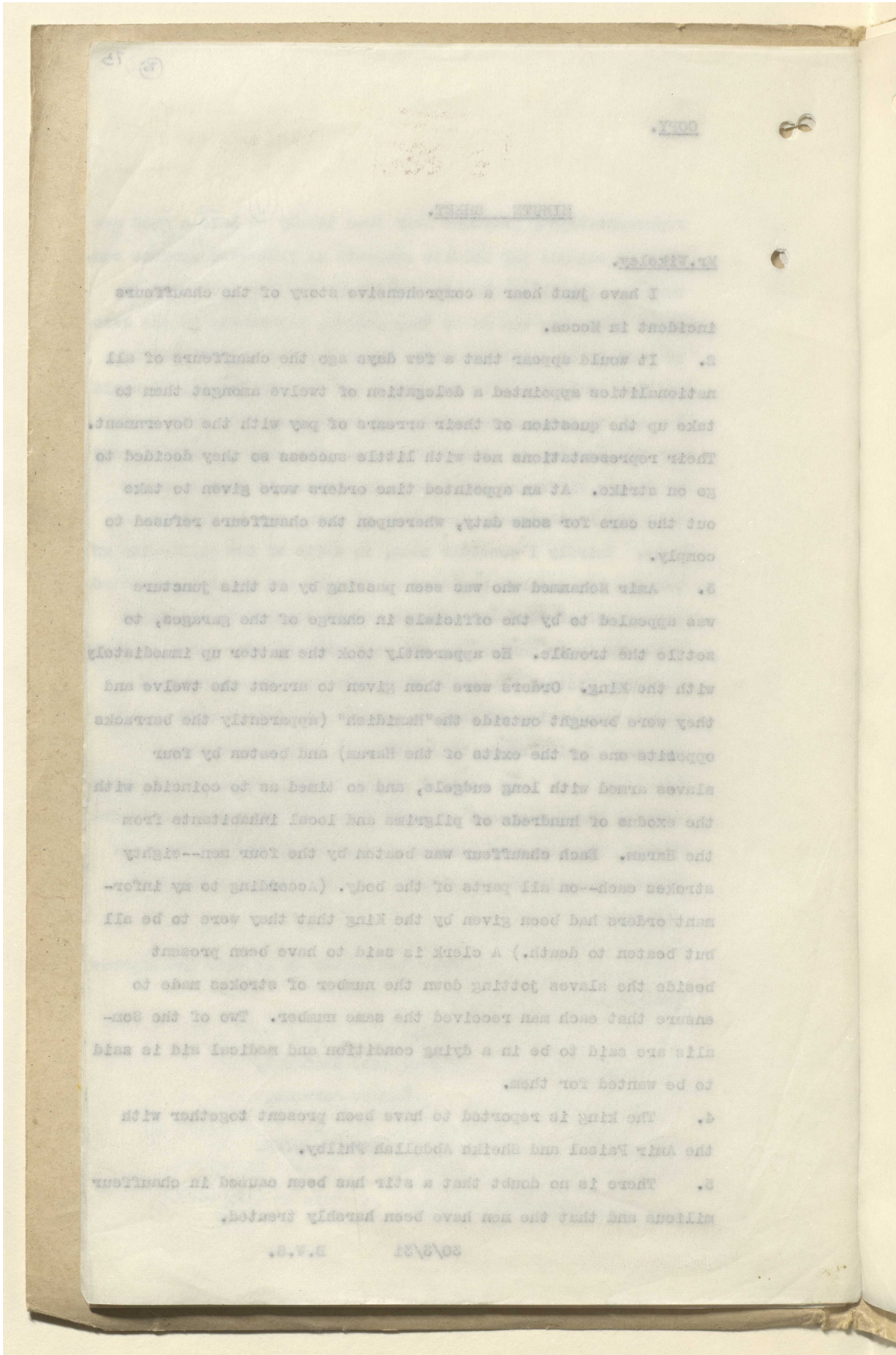
4. The king is reported to have been present together with the Amir Faisal and Sheikh Abdullah Philby.

5. There is no doubt that a stir has been caused in chauffeur milieus and that the men have been harshly treated.

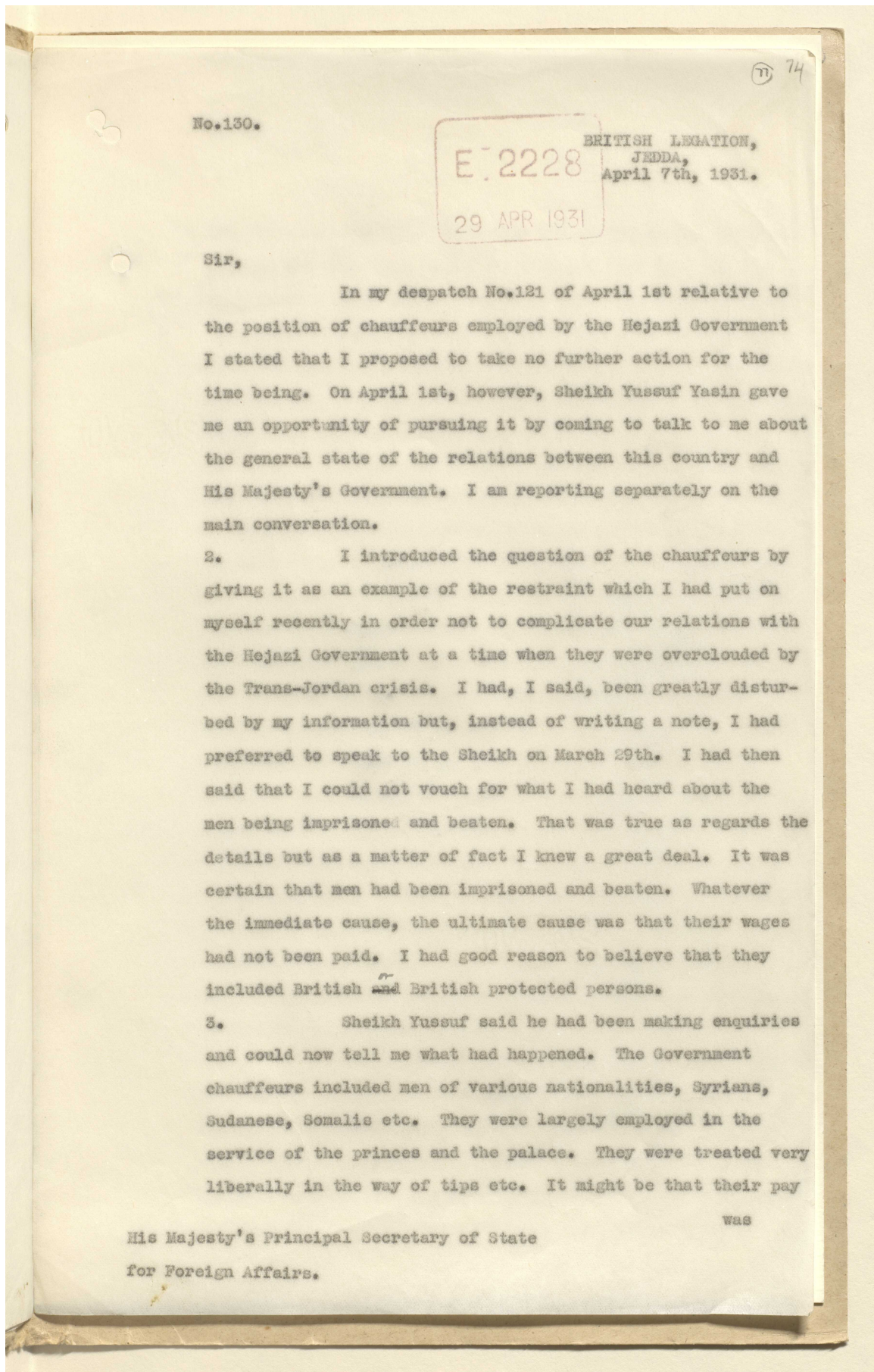
30/3/31

B.W.S.

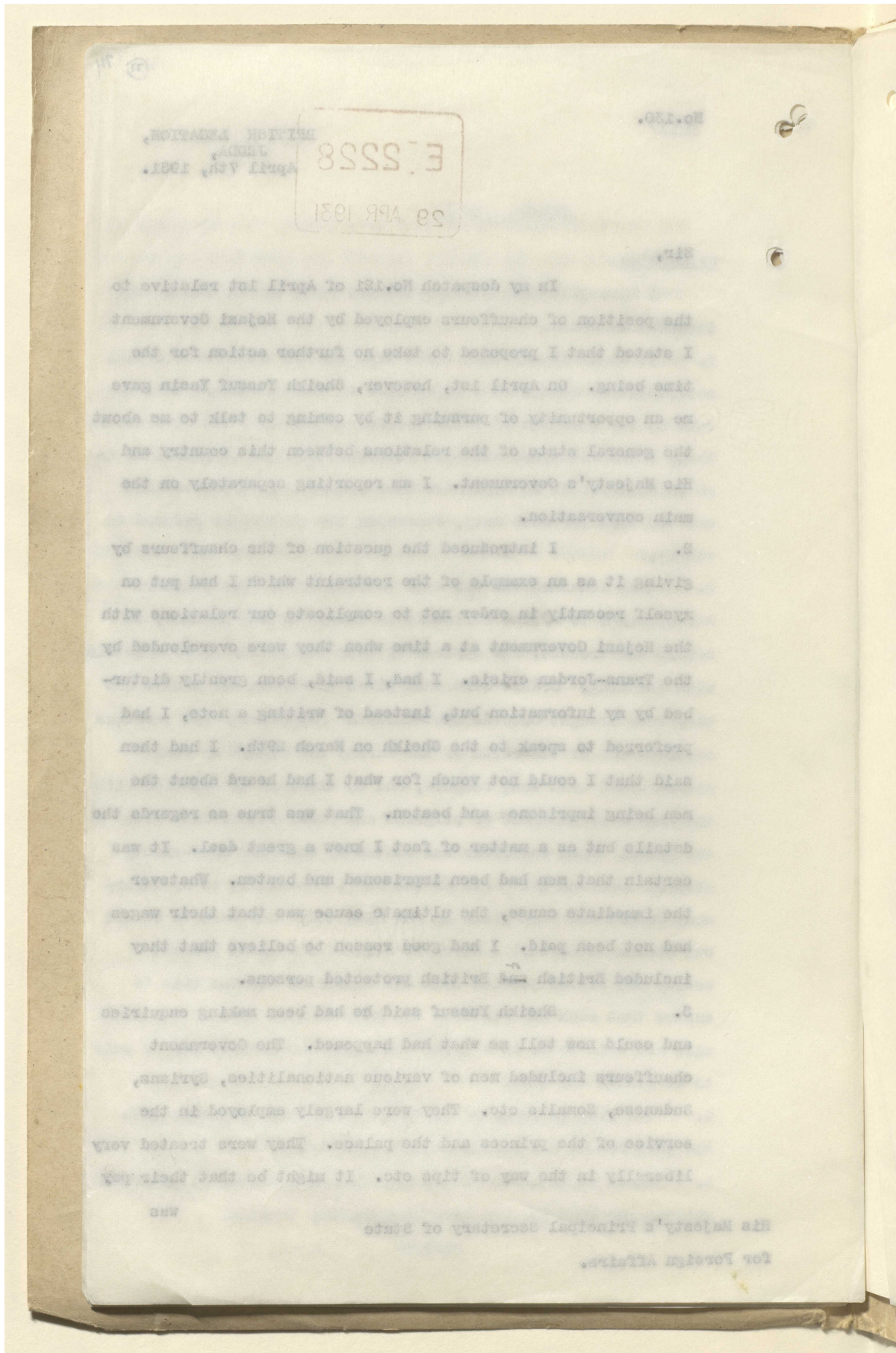
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [76v] (152/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [77r] (153/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [77v] (154/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [78r] (155/174)

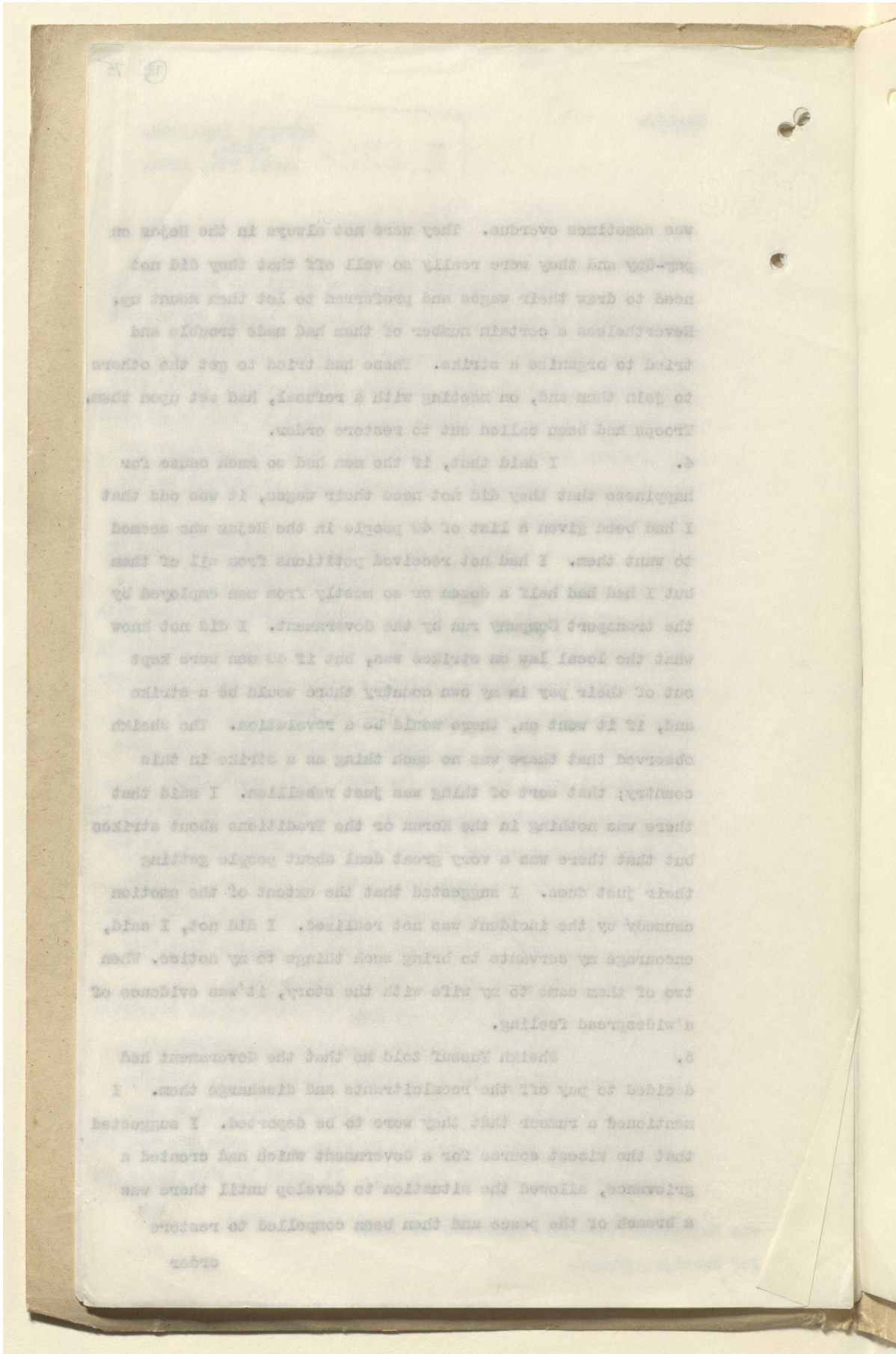
78 75

was sometimes overdue. They were not always in the Hejaz on pay-day and they were really so well off that they did not need to draw their wages and preferred to let them mount up. Nevertheless a certain number of them had made trouble and tried to organize a strike. These had tried to get the others to join them and, on meeting with a refusal, had set upon them. Troops had been called out to restore order.

4. I said that, if the men had so much cause for happiness that they did not need their wages, it was odd that I had been given a list of 40 people in the Hejaz who seemed to want them. I had not received petitions from all of them but I had had half a dozen or so mostly from men employed by the transport Company run by the Government. I did not know what the local law on strikes was, but if 40 men were kept out of their pay in my own country there would be a strike and, if it went on, there would be a revolution. The Sheikh observed that there was no such thing as a strike in this country; that sort of thing was just rebellion. I said that there was nothing in the Koran or the Traditions about strikes but that there was a very great deal about people getting their just dues. I suggested that the extent of the emotion caused by the incident was not realized. I did not, I said, encourage my servants to bring such things to my notice. When two of them came to my wife with the story, it was evidence of a widespread feeling.

5. Sheikh Yussuf told me that the Government had decided to pay off the recalcitrants and discharge them. I mentioned a rumour that they were to be deported. I suggested that the wisest course for a Government which had created a grievance, allowed the situation to develop until there was a breach of the peace and then been compelled to restore
order

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [78v] (156/174)



order was, as soon as that necessary step had been taken, to remove the grievance and refrain from any further extreme measures.

6. The conversation, which was entirely friendly, has served my purpose of once more emphasizing the hardship imposed on the chauffeurs by non-payment of wages and impressing on the Sheikh more definitely than I had previously done the gravity of the ensuing incident. As I pointed out to him, the information he gave me differed from my own in only one important particular, namely that I had heard nothing of any quarrel attended by violence among the chauffeurs themselves. I do not think that I can usefully pursue the matter further, unless there is fresh trouble but in view of the possibility of further developments, it may be well to place on record such fresh information as has reached me since my conversation with Sheikh Yussuf Yasin on April 1st.

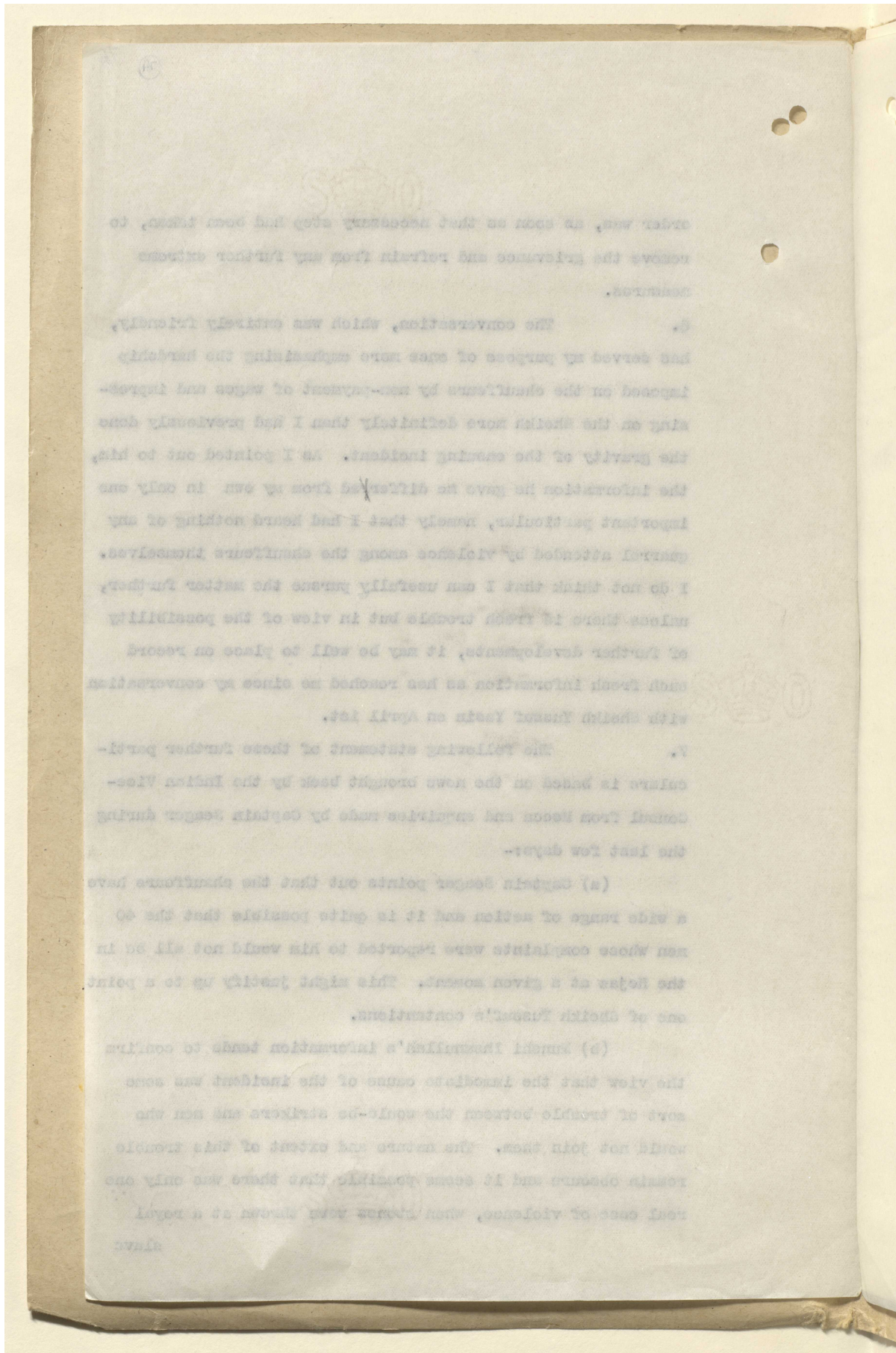
7. The following statement of these further particulars is based on the news brought back by the Indian Vice-Consul from Mecca and enquiries made by Captain Seager during the last few days:-

(a) Captain Seager points out that the chauffeurs have a wide range of action and it is quite possible that the 40 men whose complaints were reported to him would not all be in the Hejaz at a given moment. This might justify up to a point one of Sheikh Yussuf's contentions.

(b) Munshi Ihsanullah's information tends to confirm the view that the immediate cause of the incident was some sort of trouble between the would-be strikers and men who would not join them. The nature and extent of this trouble remain obscure and it seems possible that there was only one real case of violence, when stones were thrown at a royal

slave

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [79v] (158/174)



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3

60 77

slave who had come for a car or at cars then passing or at both. A leading Nejdî is said to have been hurt and to have complained to the higher authorities.

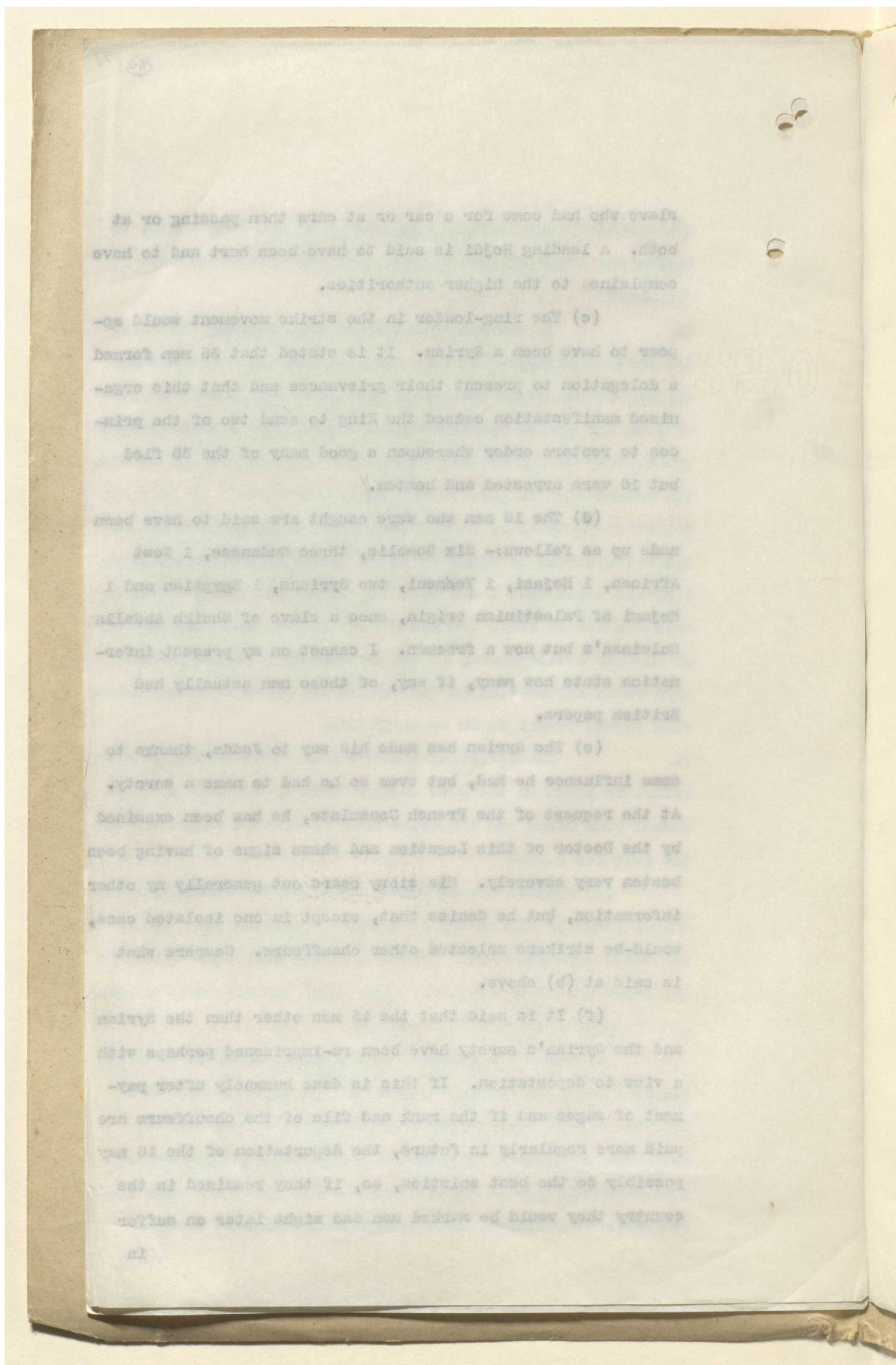
(c) The ring-leader in the strike movement would appear to have been a Syrian. It is stated that 35 men formed a delegation to present their grievances and that this organized manifestation caused the King to send two of the princes to restore order whereupon a good many of the 35 fled but 16 were arrested and beaten.

(d) The 16 men who were caught are said to have been made up as follows:- Six Somalis, three Sudanese, 1 West African, 1 Hejazi, 1 Yegmeni, two Syrians, 1 Egyptian and 1 Hejazi of Palestinian origin, once a slave of Sheikh Abdulla Suleiman's but now a freeman. I cannot on my present information state how many, if any, of these men actually had British papers.

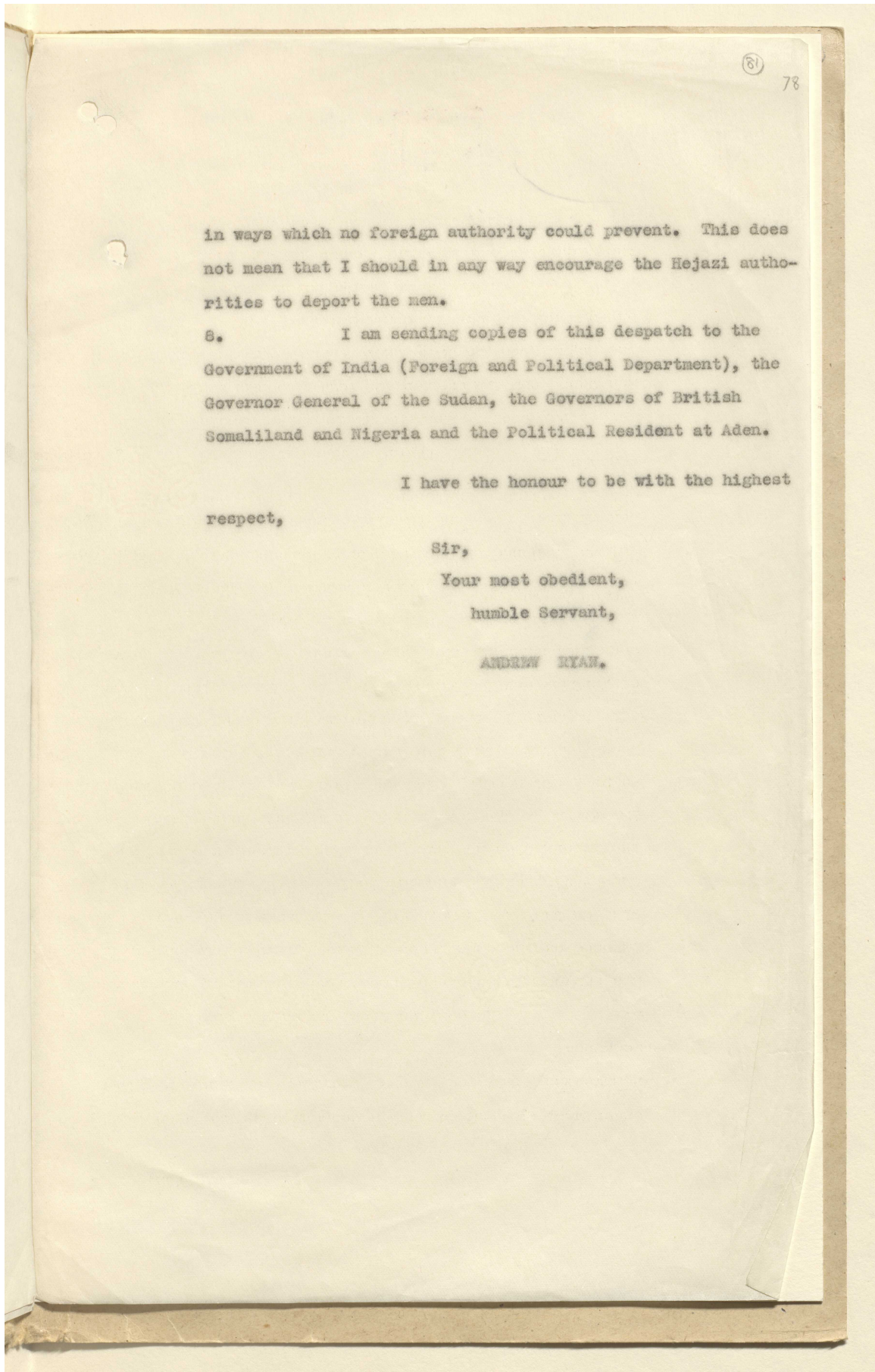
(e) The Syrian has made his way to Jedda, thanks to some influence he had, but even so he had to name a surety. At the request of the French Consulate, he has been examined by the Doctor of this Legation and shews signs of having been beaten very severely. His story bears out generally my other information, but he denies that, except in one isolated case, would-be strikers molested other chauffeurs. Compare what is said at (b) above.

(f) It is said that the 15 men other than the Syrian and the Syrian's surety have been re-imprisoned perhaps with a view to deportation. If this is done humanely after payment of wages and if the rank and file of the chauffeurs are paid more regularly in future, the deportation of the 16 may possibly be the best solution, as, if they remained in the country they would be marked men and might later on suffer
in

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [80v] (160/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [81r] (161/174)



in ways which no foreign authority could prevent. This does not mean that I should in any way encourage the Hejazi authorities to deport the men.

8. I am sending copies of this despatch to the Government of India (Foreign and Political Department), the Governor General of the Sudan, the Governors of British Somaliland and Nigeria and the Political Resident at Aden.

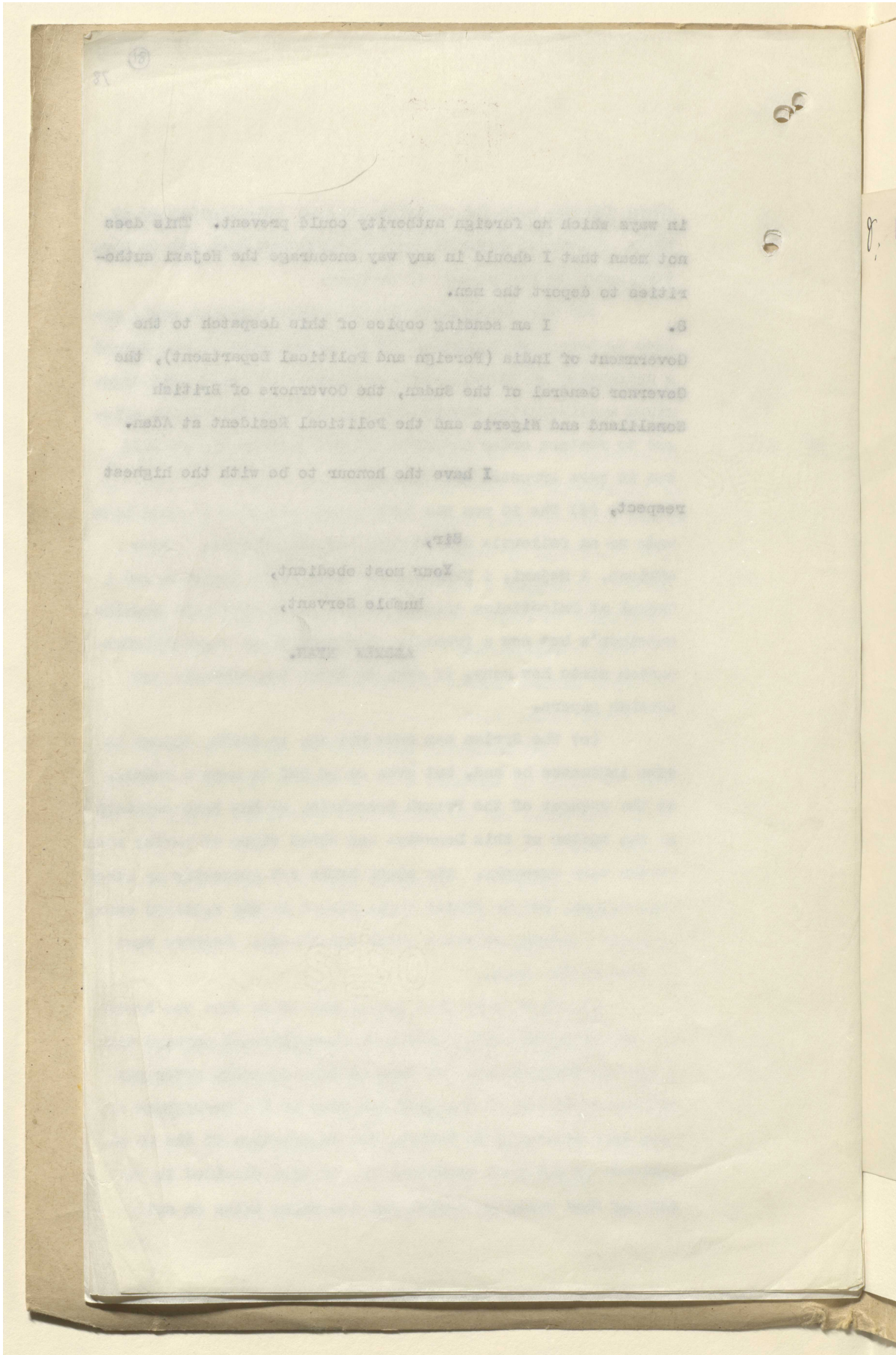
I have the honour to be with the highest respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient,
humble servant,

ANDREW RYAN.

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [81v] (162/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [82r] (163/174)

INDEXED

In any further communication on this subject, please quote
No. *C1884/1884/26*
and address—not to any person by name, but to—
"The Under-Secretary of State," Foreign Office, London, S.W. 1.

h/ta 79
MA (82)
P.A.
20/4

P.Z.
2351

THE Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to *the Under-Secretary of State for India* and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copies of the under-mentioned papers:

Foreign Office,
14th April, 1931.

Reference to previous correspondence: ✓

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
<i>From</i> <i>Hon. Minister,</i> <i>Jeddah</i> <i>telegram no. 89</i> <i>11th April</i>	<i>Desire of Hajazi Government to deport certain British chauffeurs.</i>
<i>To</i> <i>do.</i> <i>telegram no. 68</i> <i>16th April</i>	

Similar letter sent to Co.

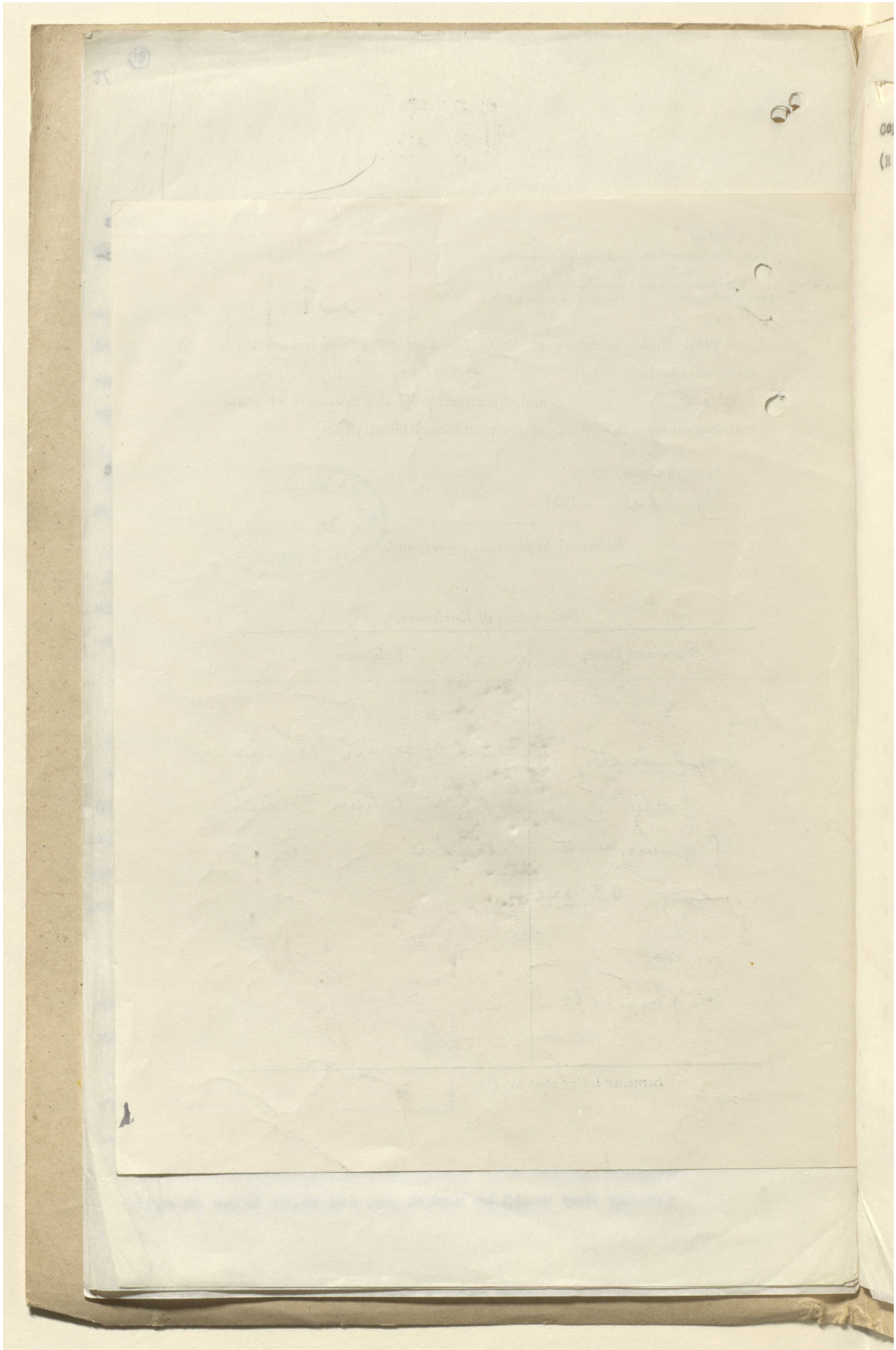
14-5180 (2)

MAILS BRANCH
18 APR. 1931
INDIA OFFICE

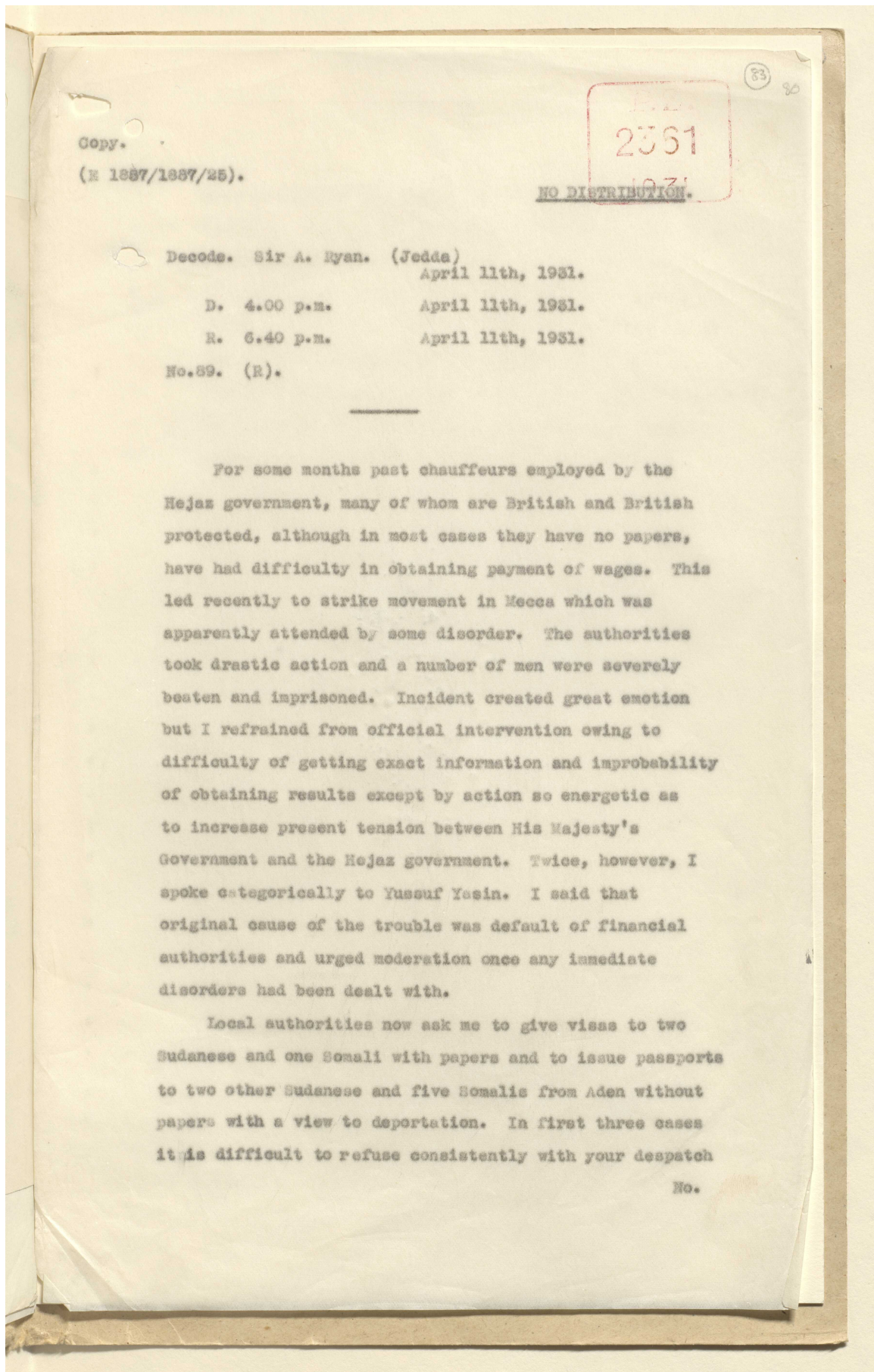
RECEIVED
18 APR 1931
POLITICAL DEPARTMENT

ENCLOSURE IN WEEKLY LETTER
No 217 23 APR. 1931
FROM SECRETARY, POLITICAL AND
SECRET DEPT. INDIA OFFICE

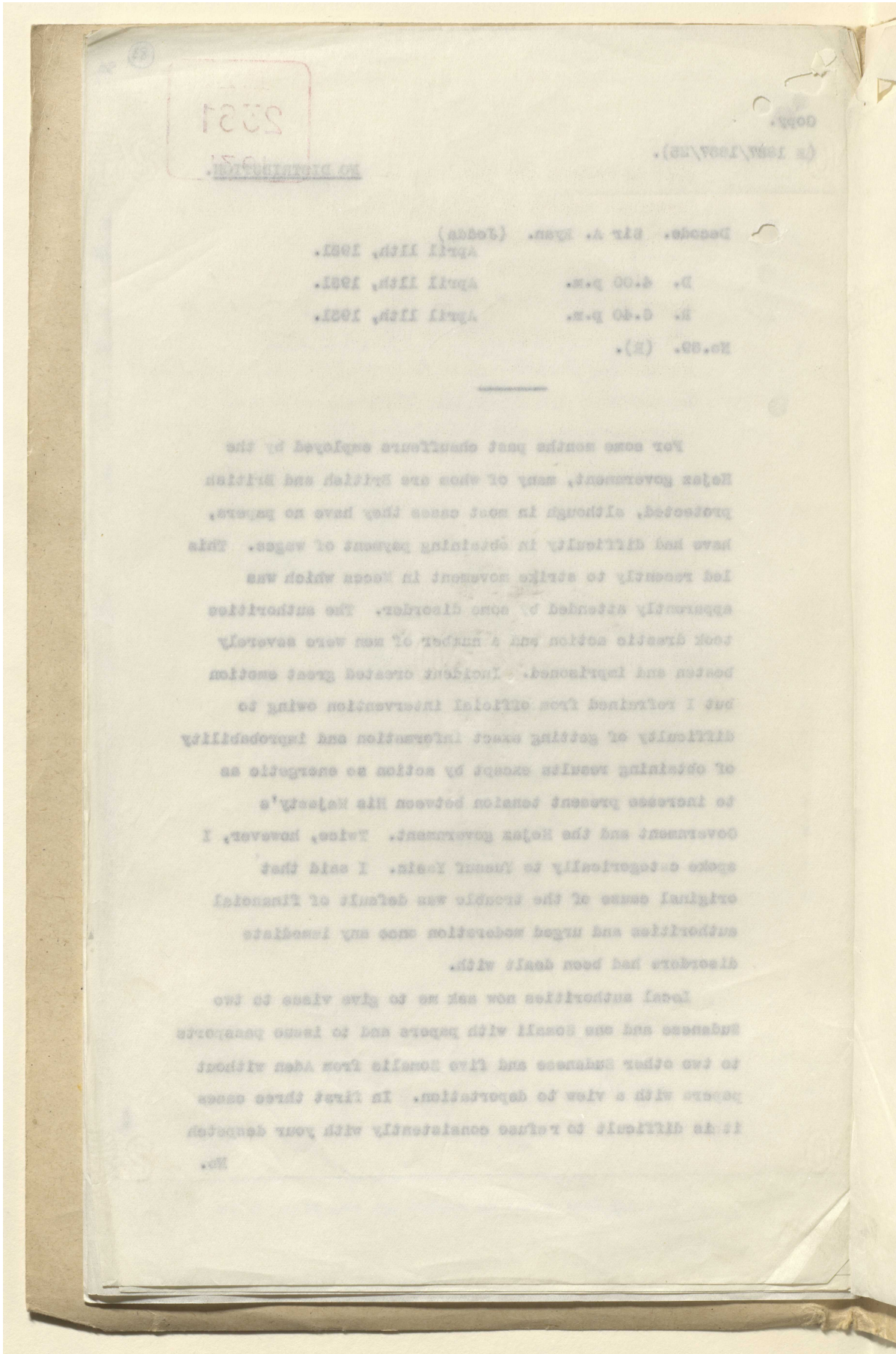
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [82v] (164/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [83r] (165/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [83v] (166/174)



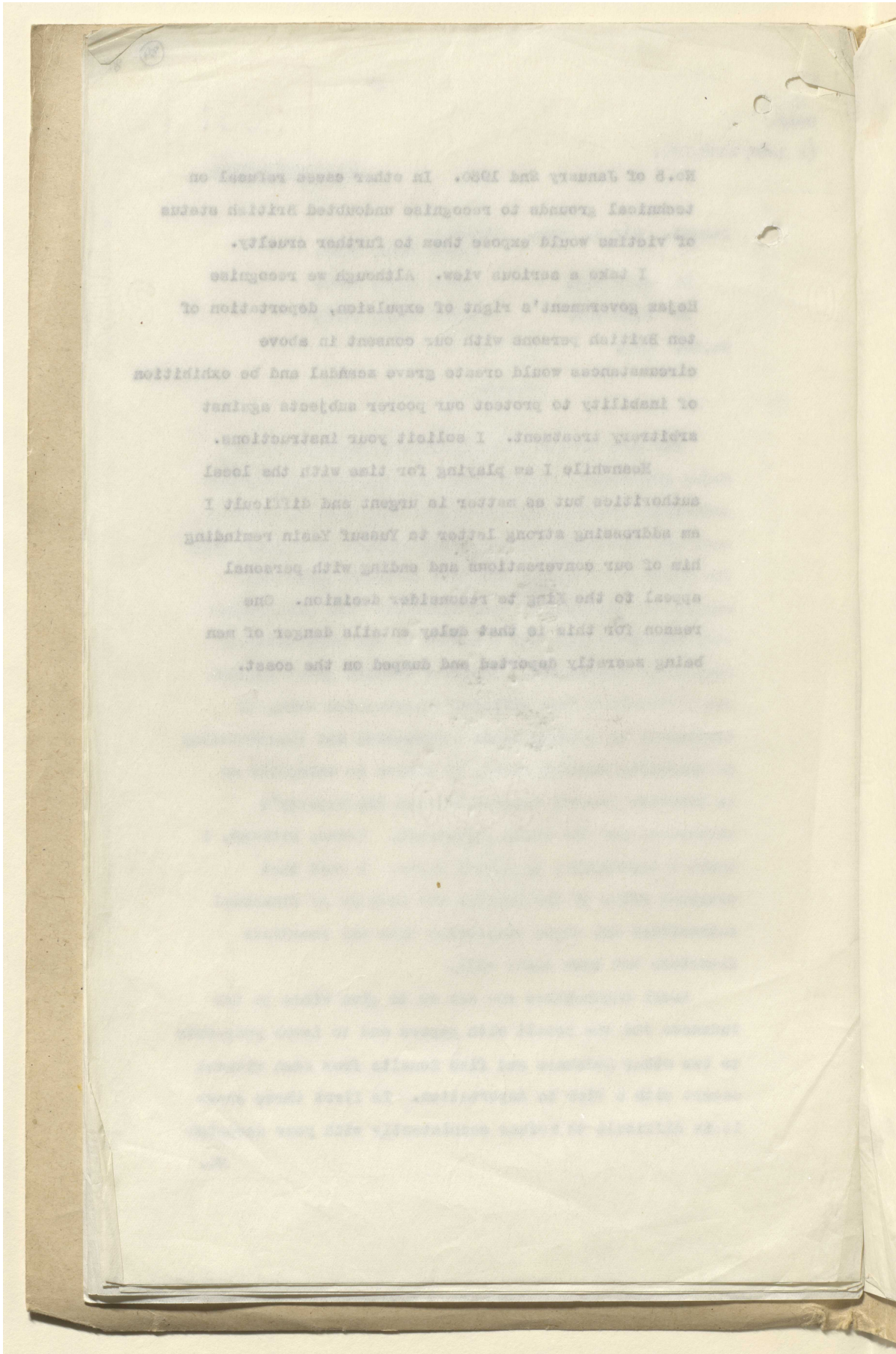
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [84r] (167/174)

No. 5 of January 2nd 1930. In other cases refusal on technical grounds to recognise undoubted British status of victims would expose them to further cruelty.

I take a serious view. Although we recognise Hejaz government's right of expulsion, deportation of ten British persons with our consent in above circumstances would create grave scandal and be exhibition of inability to protect our poorer subjects against arbitrary treatment. I solicit your instructions.

Meanwhile I am playing for time with the local authorities but as matter is urgent and difficult I am addressing strong letter to Yussuf Yasin reminding him of our conversations and ending with personal appeal to the King to reconsider decision. One reason for this is that delay entails danger of men being secretly deported and dumped on the coast.

Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [84v] (168/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [85r] (169/174)

Copy.

(E 1887/1887/25)

2351
NO DISTRIBUTION 031

Code telegram to Sir A. Ryan, (Jedda).

Foreign Office, 16th April 1931. 6.45 p.m.

No. 68. (R).

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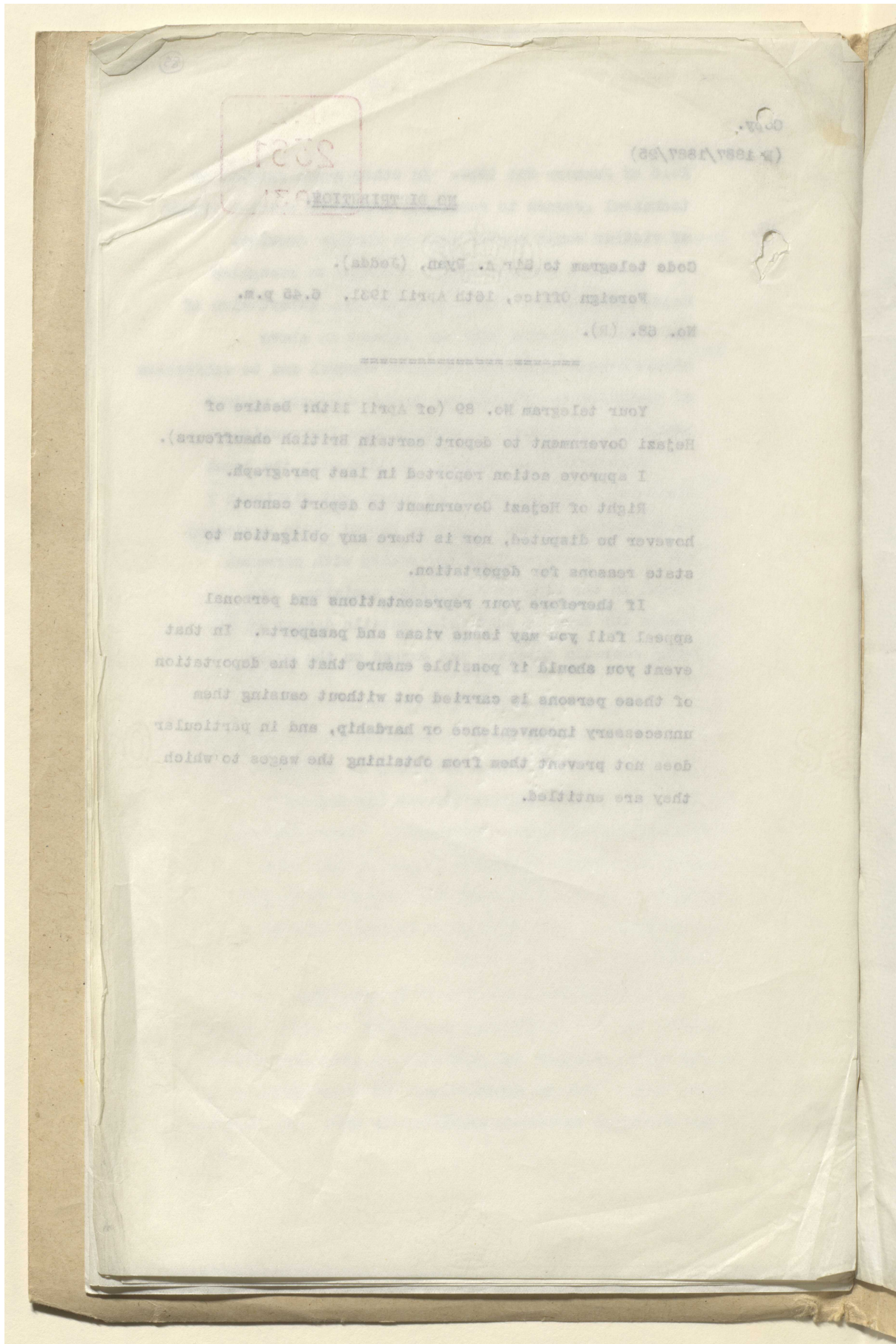
Your telegram No. 89 (of April 11th: Desire of Hejazi Government to deport certain British chauffeurs).

I approve action reported in last paragraph.

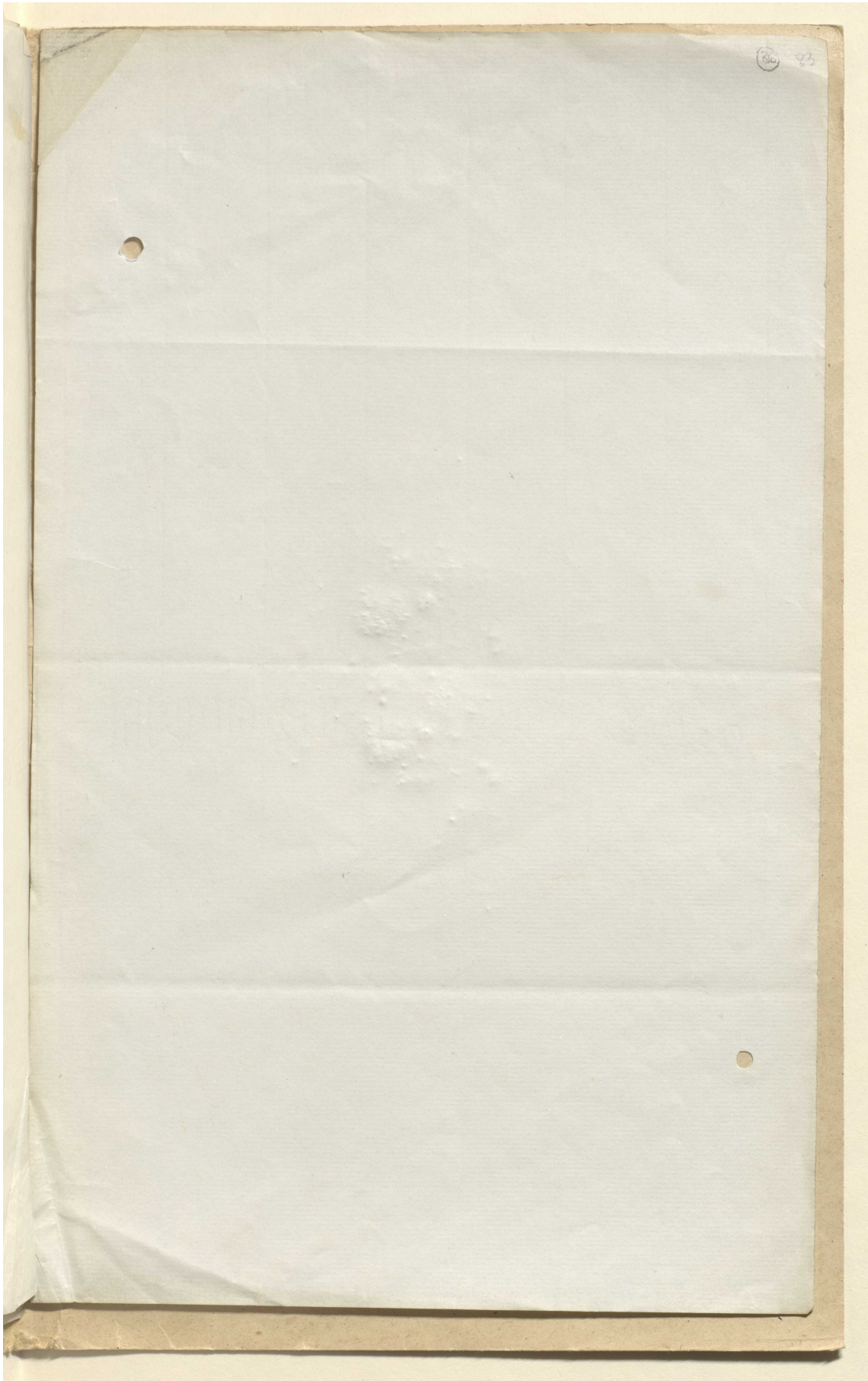
Right of Hejazi Government to deport cannot however be disputed, nor is there any obligation to state reasons for deportation.

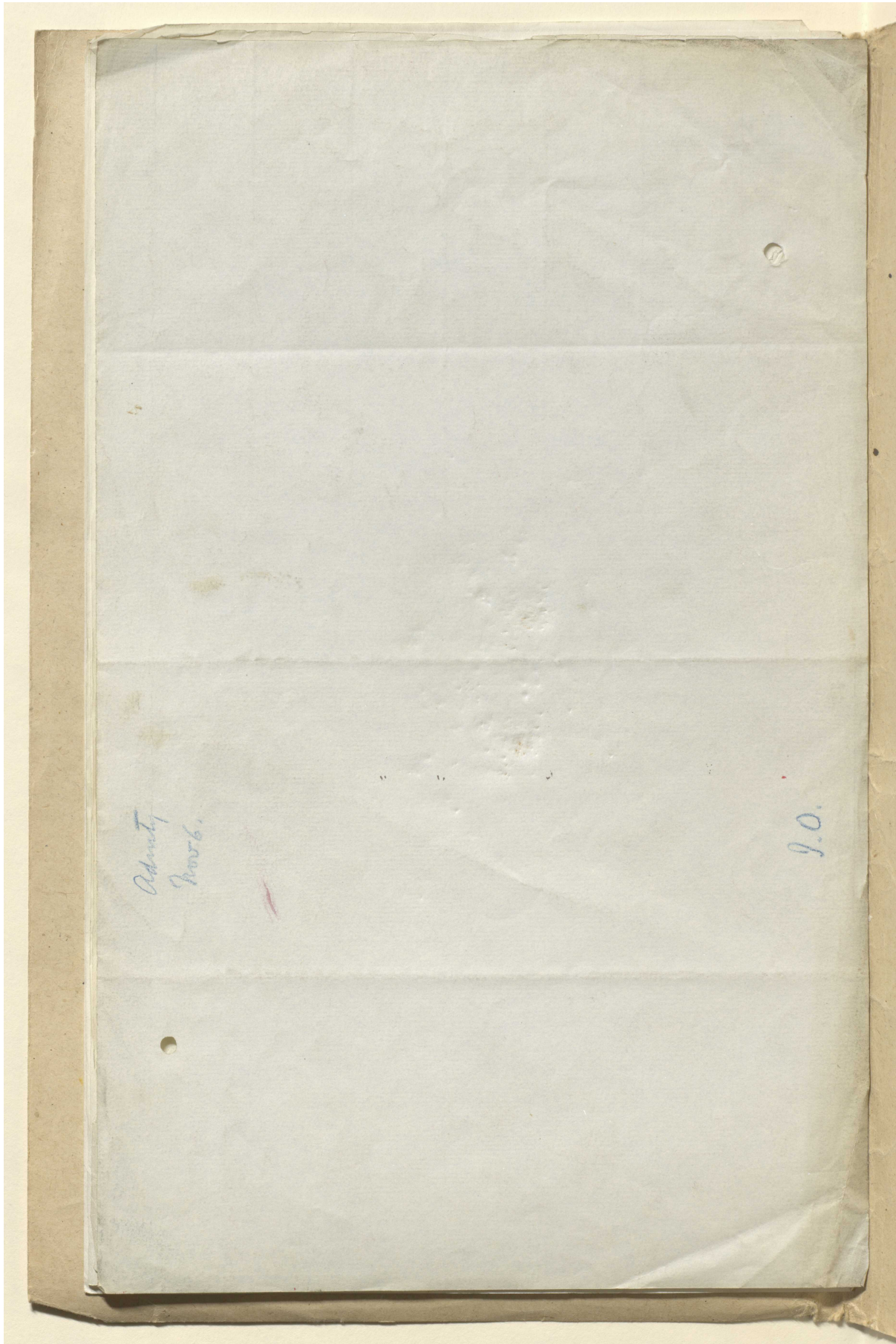
If therefore your representations and personal appeal fail you may issue visas and passports. In that event you should if possible ensure that the deportation of these persons is carried out without causing them unnecessary inconvenience or hardship, and in particular does not prevent them from obtaining the wages to which they are entitled.

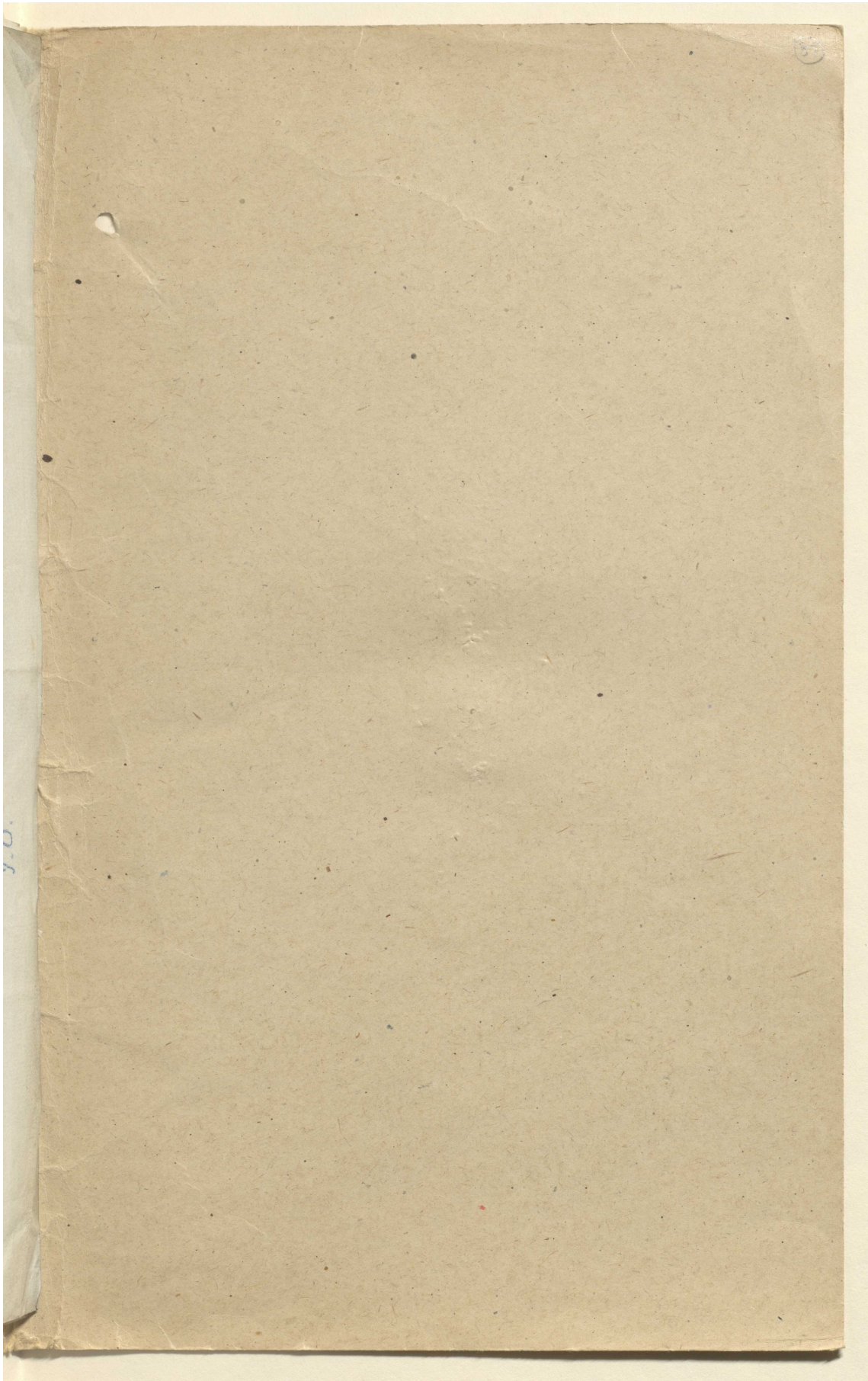
Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [85v] (170/174)



Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and protected persons.' [86r] (171/174)







Coll 6/38 'Saudi-Arabia: Position and National Status of British subjects and
protected persons.' [back] (174/174)

