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Coll 29/81 'Tehran Legation: supply of wireless set'

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	IOR/L/PS/12/3657
Date(s)	1 Oct 1936-30 Nov 1938 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 file (44 folios)
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About this record

The file concerns the supply of a new wireless receiving set for the British Legation at Tehran, and the Foreign Office's request that Indian Revenues share the expenses.

The file is composed of correspondence between the British Legation at Tehran, the Foreign Office, the India Office, and the Office of Works.

Previous File :
Next File :

10R:L/PS/12/3657

No. **29**
File **81**

**POLITICAL (EXTERNAL) DEPARTMENT
COLLECTION**

GENERAL HEADING { Persia & Persian Gulf.

SUB-HEAD { H.M. Legation & Consulates.
Wireless set for Tehran Legation.

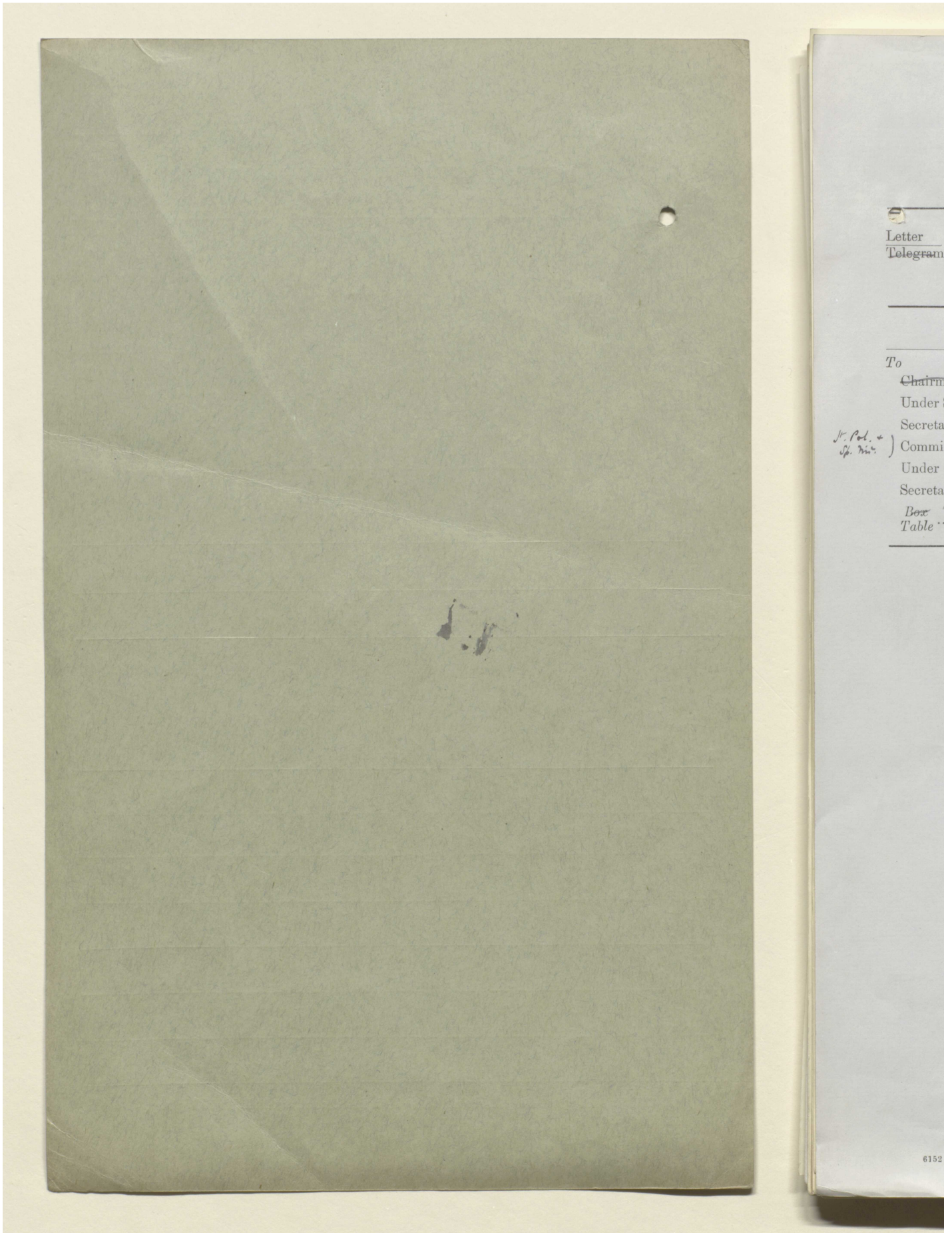
Notes : see Coll 29/30. Wireless set for Bushire Residency.
Coll 29/46. ditto Meshed & Sistan
Consulates.

This File contains the following papers :—

YEAR.	P.Z.
1936	P.Z. 8944 ✓
1937	P.Z. 3634. 3673 ✓ ✓
1938	P.Z. 119. 7680 ✓ ✓
19	P.Z.
19	P.Z.
19	P.Z.
19	P.Z.
19	P.Z.

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

4204B 500 11.35



Coll 29/81 'Tehran Legation: supply of wireless set' [2r] (3/90)

(2)

Jy

Register No.
P.Z.
7680/38

Political Department.

Letter from *Foreign Office*
Telegram

Dated *16th Nov* 1938.
Rec.

Formally acknowledged

	Date.	Initials.	SUBJECT.
To			
Chairman			<i>Tehran Legation.</i>
Under Secretary	<i>22. 11</i>	<i>Ret.</i>	
Secretary of State ...			
<i>Jr. Pol. +</i> <i>Sp. Fin.</i>) Committee	<i>23. 11</i>	<i>...</i>	
Under Secretary			
Secretary of State....			<i>Replacement of wireless set. Proposal not to pursue <i>Jr. India's</i> suggestion for sale of old set.</i>
<i>Board</i> Table	<i>25. 11</i>	<i>Ret.</i>	

Copy of _____ to _____

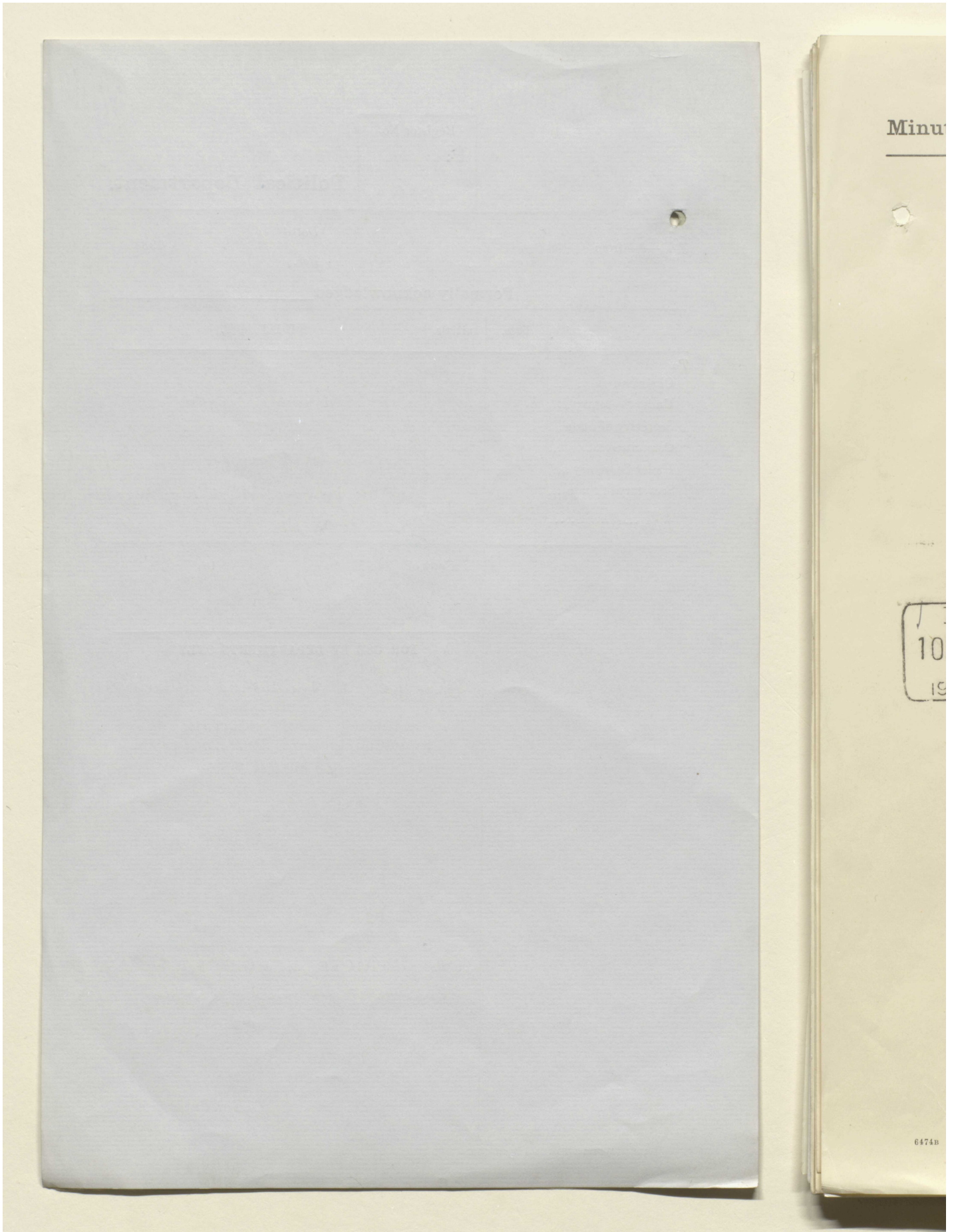
FOR USE BY DEPARTMENTS ONLY.

Draft letter to foreign Office, agreeing.

APPROVED JOINT POLITICAL
& SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE.
25 NOV 1938

THE ADVISERS CONCUR
30 NOV 1938

30 November 1938. Ltr received to. N.E. Nash Secy. F.O.
30 November 1938 Ltr received to G/India



Minute Paper.

P.2. 7680/38

Department.

Secy. Financial Dept.

Do you concur with the proposed action as indicated by the attached drafts? I see no reason for objecting to the F.O. proposal, and I think we might agree to it without consulting Mr. Gollubukin (who made the suggestion for the sale of the old wireless set). Do you see any objection?

[Signature]
18/11

F
10232
1938

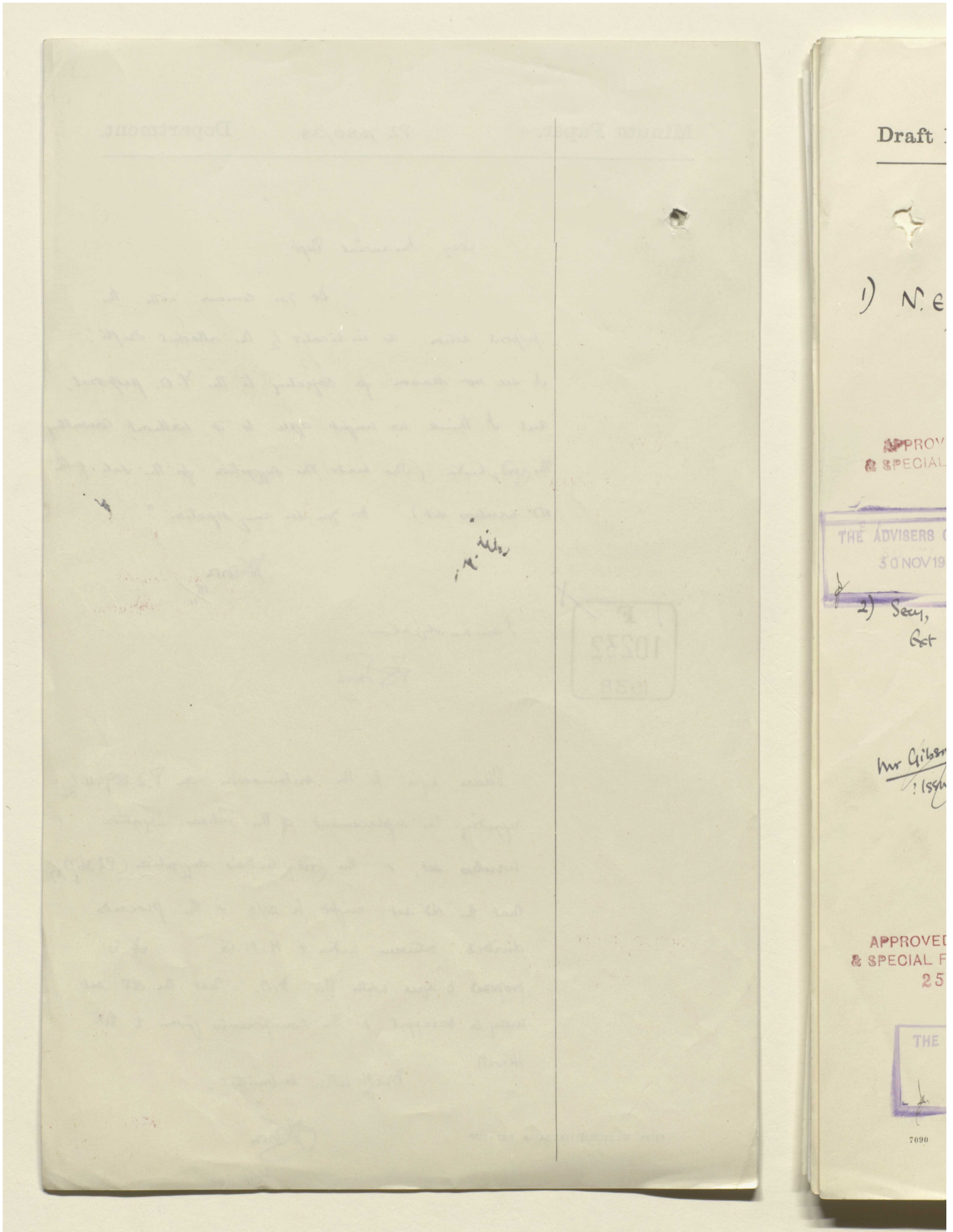
I see no objection.

[Signature]
21/11

Please refer to the submission on P.2. 8944/86 regarding the replacement of the Tehran Legation wireless set, & Mr. Gollubukin's suggestion (P.2. 3673/87) that the old set might be sold & the proceeds divided between India & H.M.G. It is proposed to agree with the F.O. that the old set may be scrapped & the components given to Mr. Hewitt.

Draft letters submitted.

[Signature]
21/11



Draft Paper.

PZ 7680/38

Department.

30 November 1938

Dear Nash

Your letter d. 16th Nov, P 2932/117/150. In view of what you say about the ~~13 years~~ old wireless set at H.M. Legation at Teheran, we agree that it should be scrapped & its components given to Mr Hewitt.

Yours sincerely

(Sgd.) J. P. GIBSON

30 November 1938

Sir

With reference to para 2 of your letter d. 18th May 1937 No F. 270 - N/37 regarding the supply of a new wireless set to ^{H.M.} the Legation at Teheran, I am directed by the S/S to forward ^{for information} copies of F.O. letter d. 16th Nov last No P2932/117/150, & of this Office letter in reply d. ~~Nov~~ ~~No PZ 7680/38~~.

a copy of demi-official correspondence with The Foreign Office regarding the disposal of the superseded wireless set.

(Sgd.) J. P. GIBSON

1) N. E. Nash Esq
F.O.

APPROVED JOINT POLITICAL
& SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE
25 Nov/1938

THE ADVISERS CONCUR
30 NOV 1938

2) Secy, Got 1
Got Atto Dept

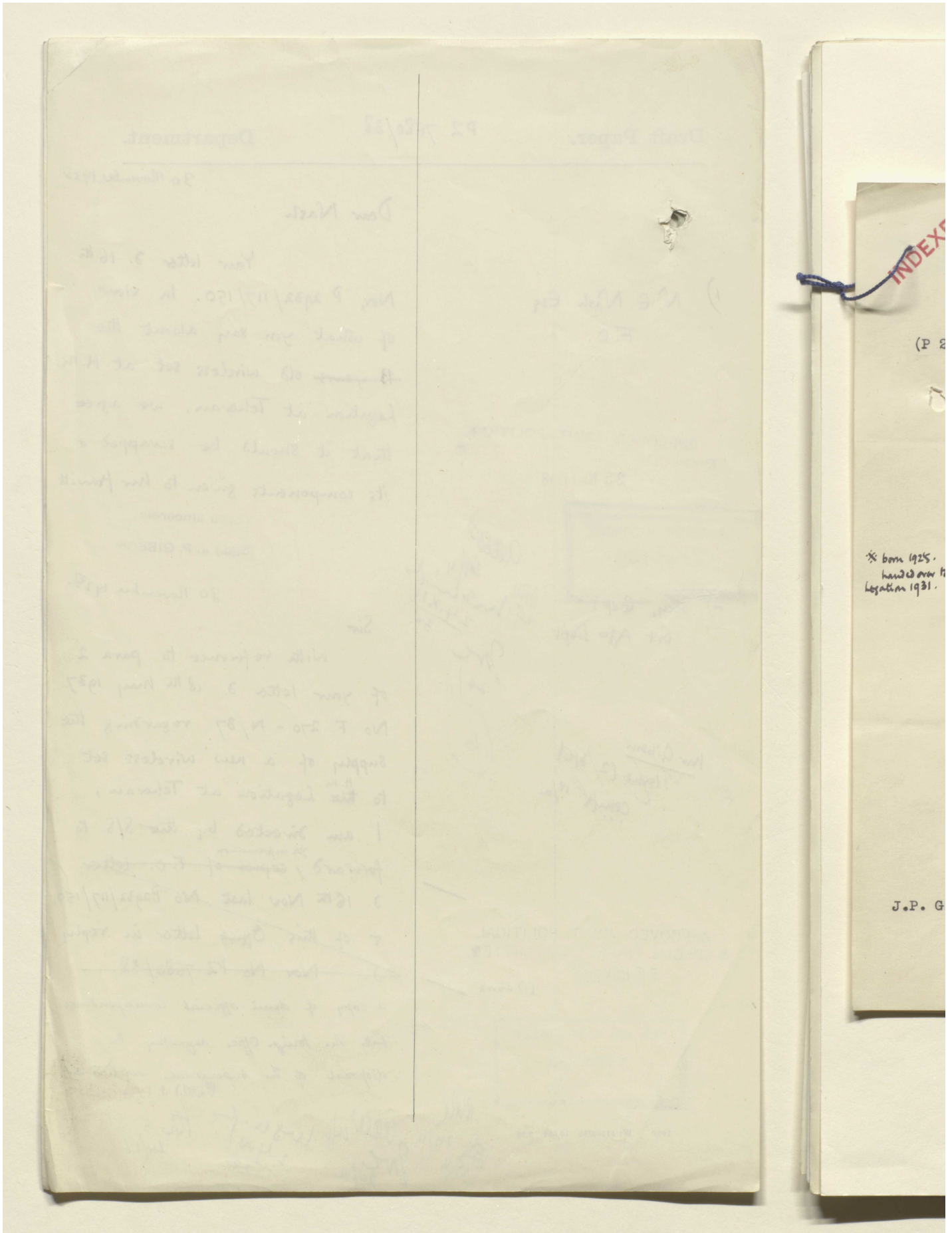
Mr Gibson
Issue (2) 18/11

APPROVED JOINT POLITICAL
& SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE
25 NOV 1938

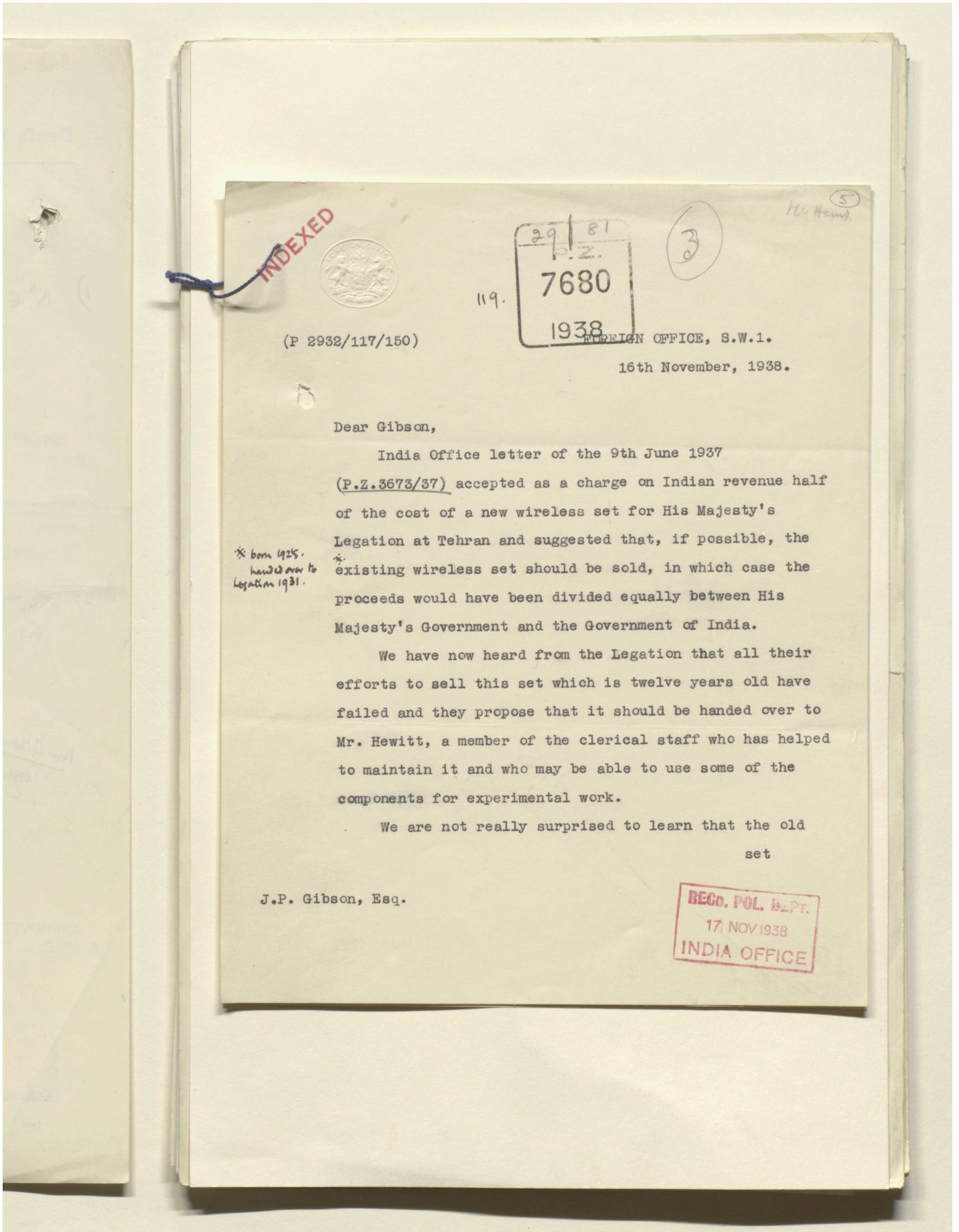
(1) above

THE ADVISERS CONCUR
30 NOV 1938

7090 Wt 41703/86 10,000 3.38



Coll 29/81 'Tehran Legation: supply of wireless set' [5r] (9/90)



INDEXED



29/81
P.Z.
7680
1938

3

W. Hewitt (5)

119.

(P 2932/117/150)

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

16th November, 1938.

Dear Gibson,

India Office letter of the 9th June 1937

(P.Z.3673/37) accepted as a charge on Indian revenue half of the cost of a new wireless set for His Majesty's Legation at Tehran and suggested that, if possible, the existing wireless set should be sold, in which case the proceeds would have been divided equally between His Majesty's Government and the Government of India.

* born 1925.
* handed over to Legation 1931.

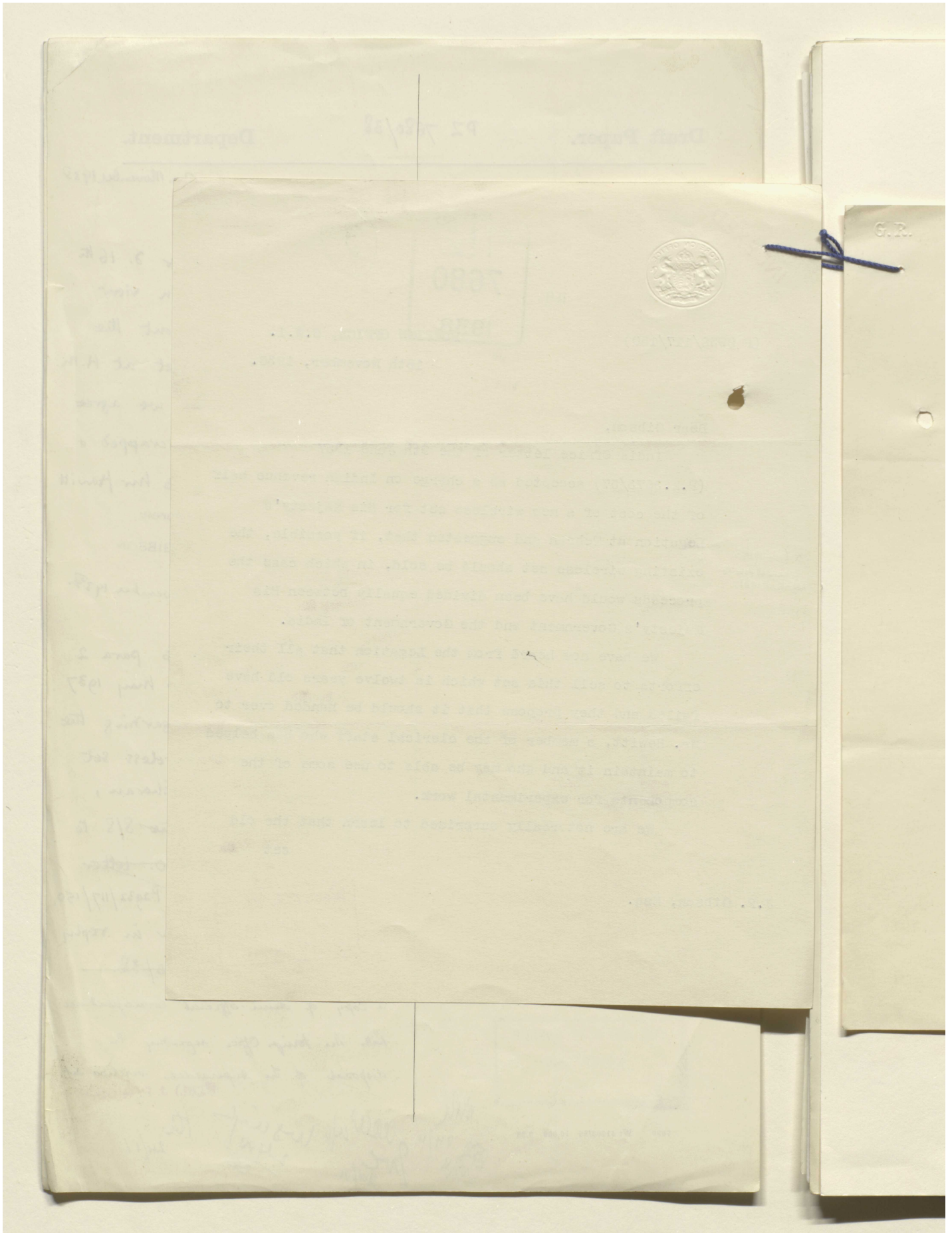
We have now heard from the Legation that all their efforts to sell this set which is twelve years old have failed and they propose that it should be handed over to Mr. Hewitt, a member of the clerical staff who has helped to maintain it and who may be able to use some of the components for experimental work.

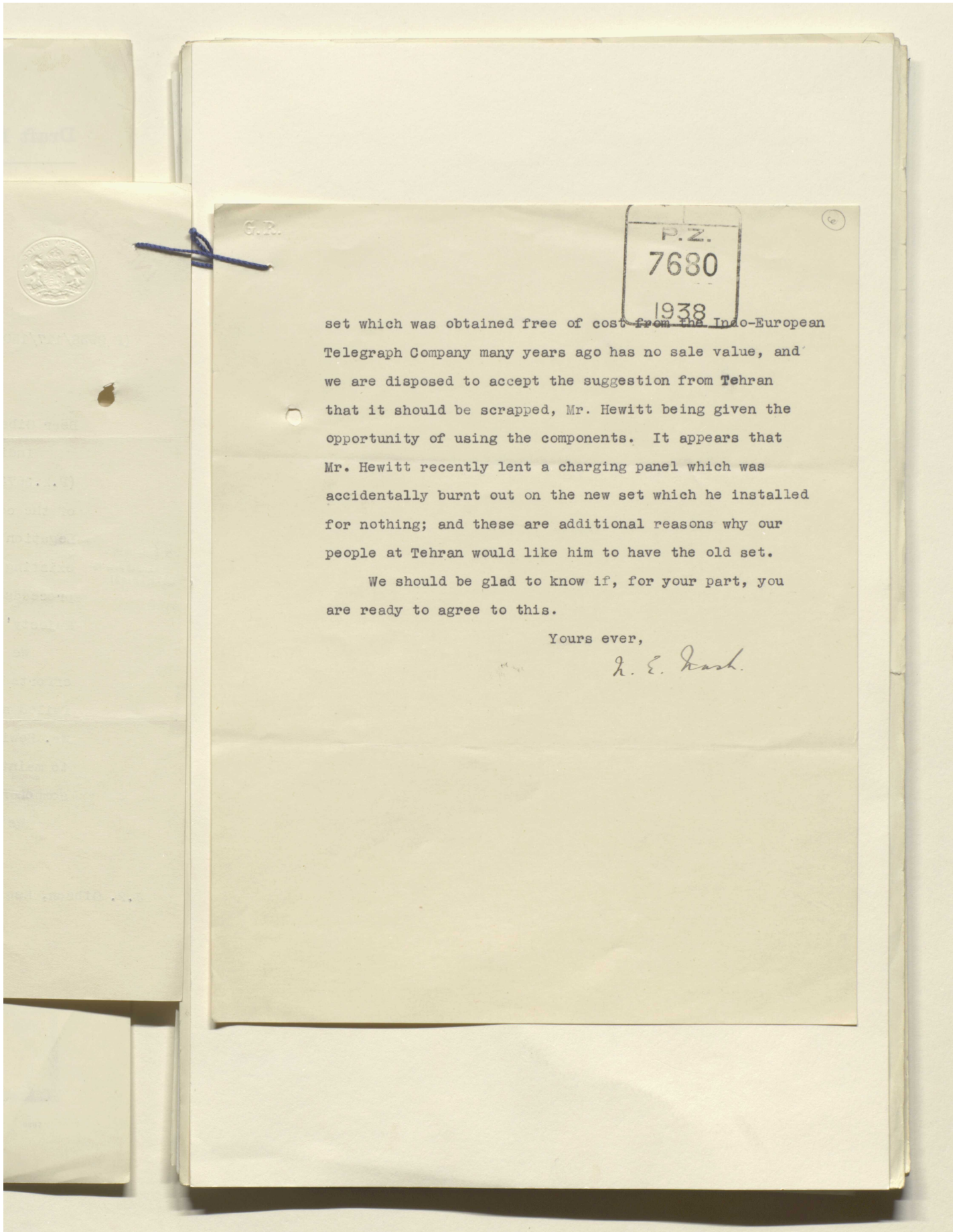
We are not really surprised to learn that the old set

J.P. Gibson, Esq.

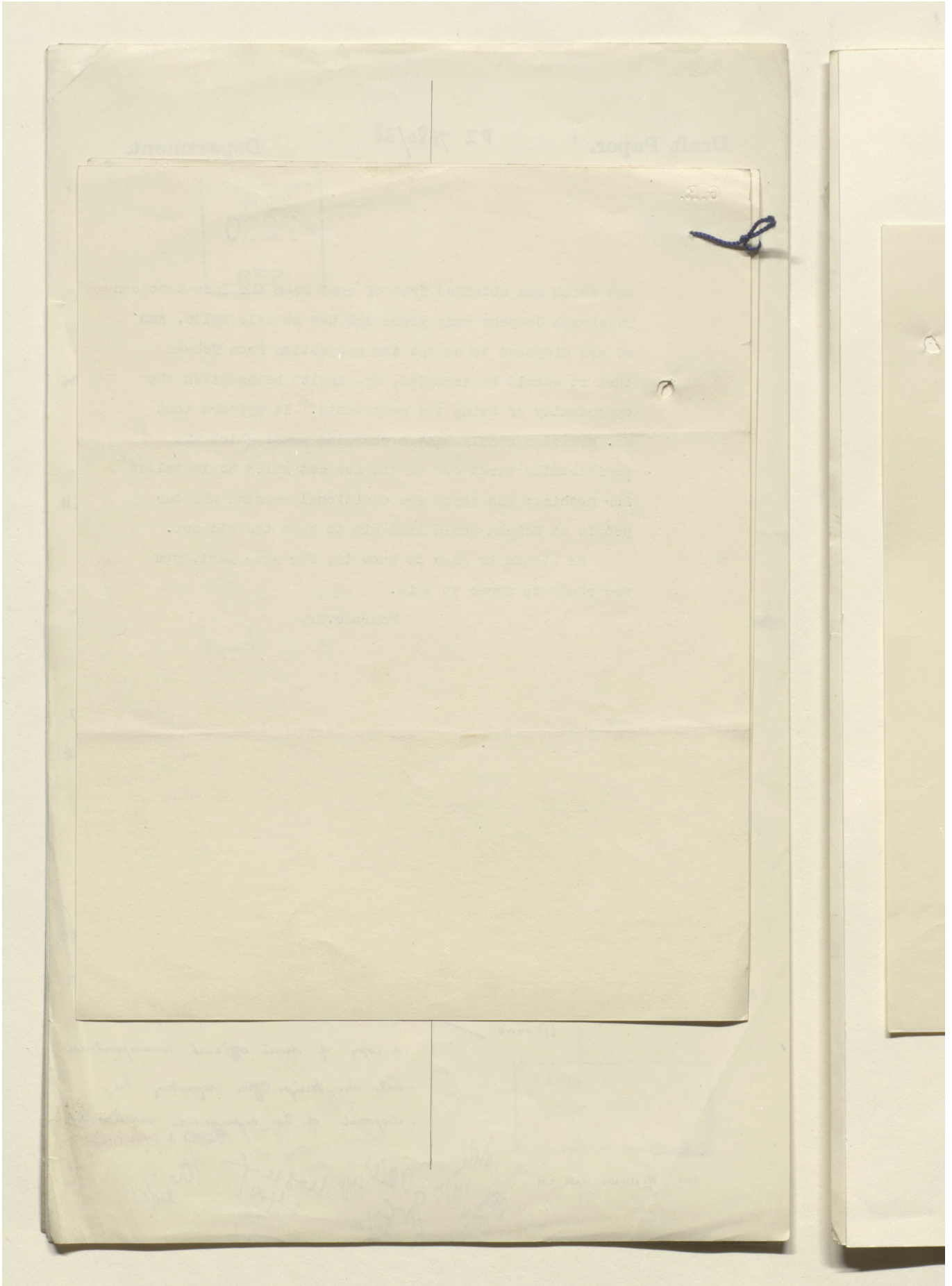
REC'D. POL. DEPT.
17 NOV 1938
INDIA OFFICE

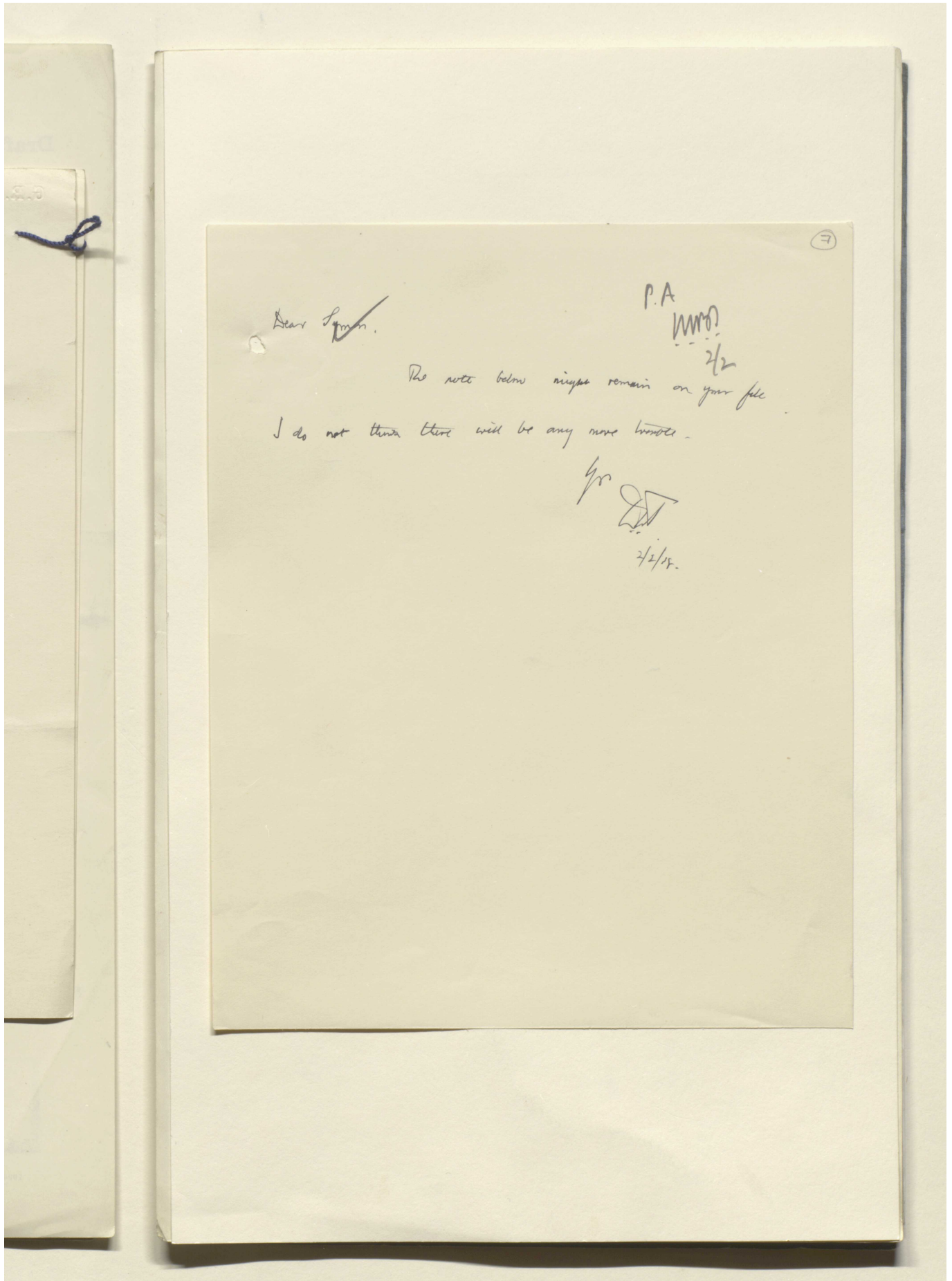
Coll 29/81 'Tehran Legation: supply of wireless set' [5v] (10/90)





Coll 29/81 'Tehran Legation: supply of wireless set' [6v] (12/90)





Dear Sirs.

P.A.
W.M.
2/2

The note below notes remain on your file

I do not think there will be any more notes.

J.P.
2/2/15.

(7)



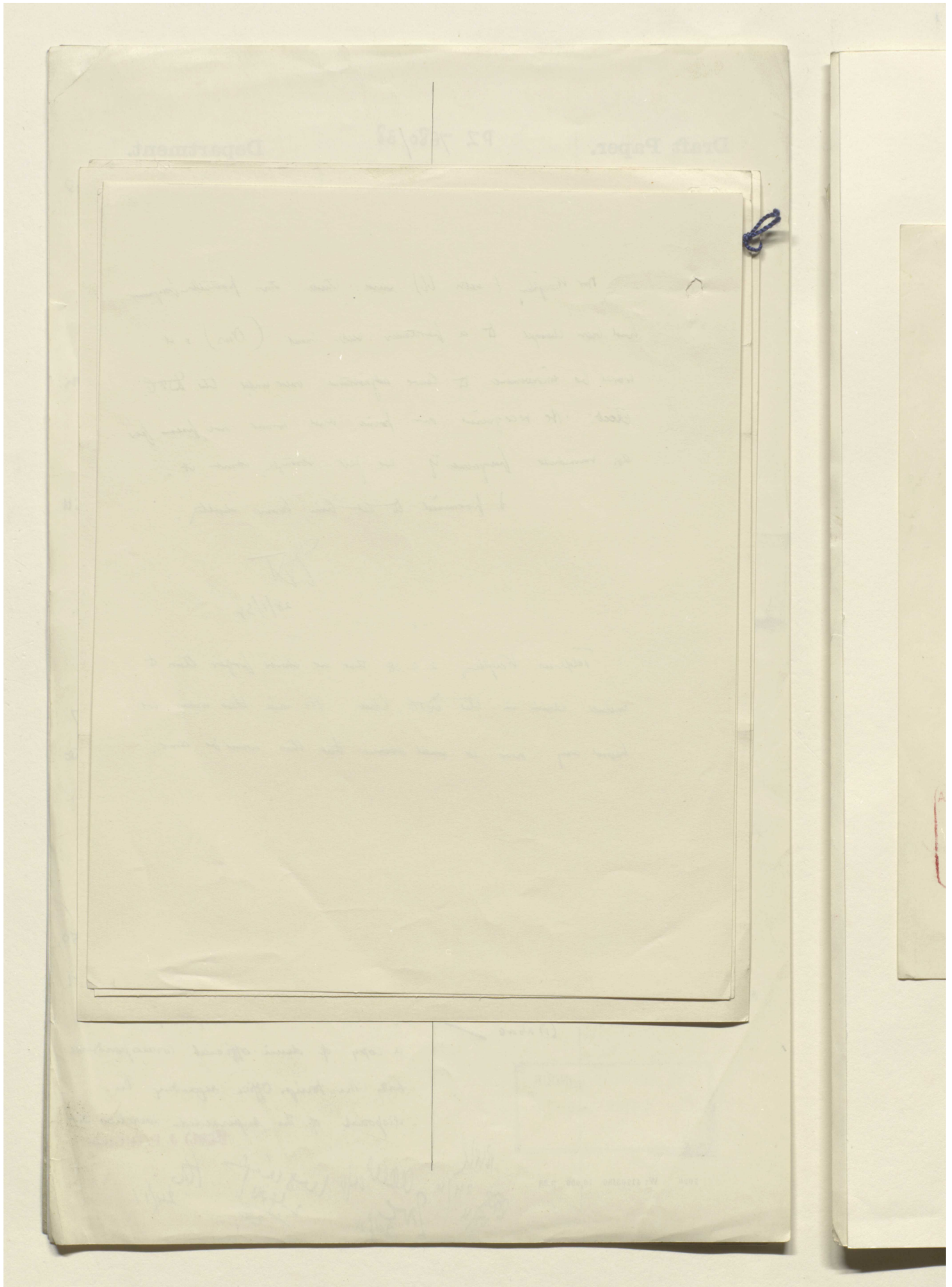
8

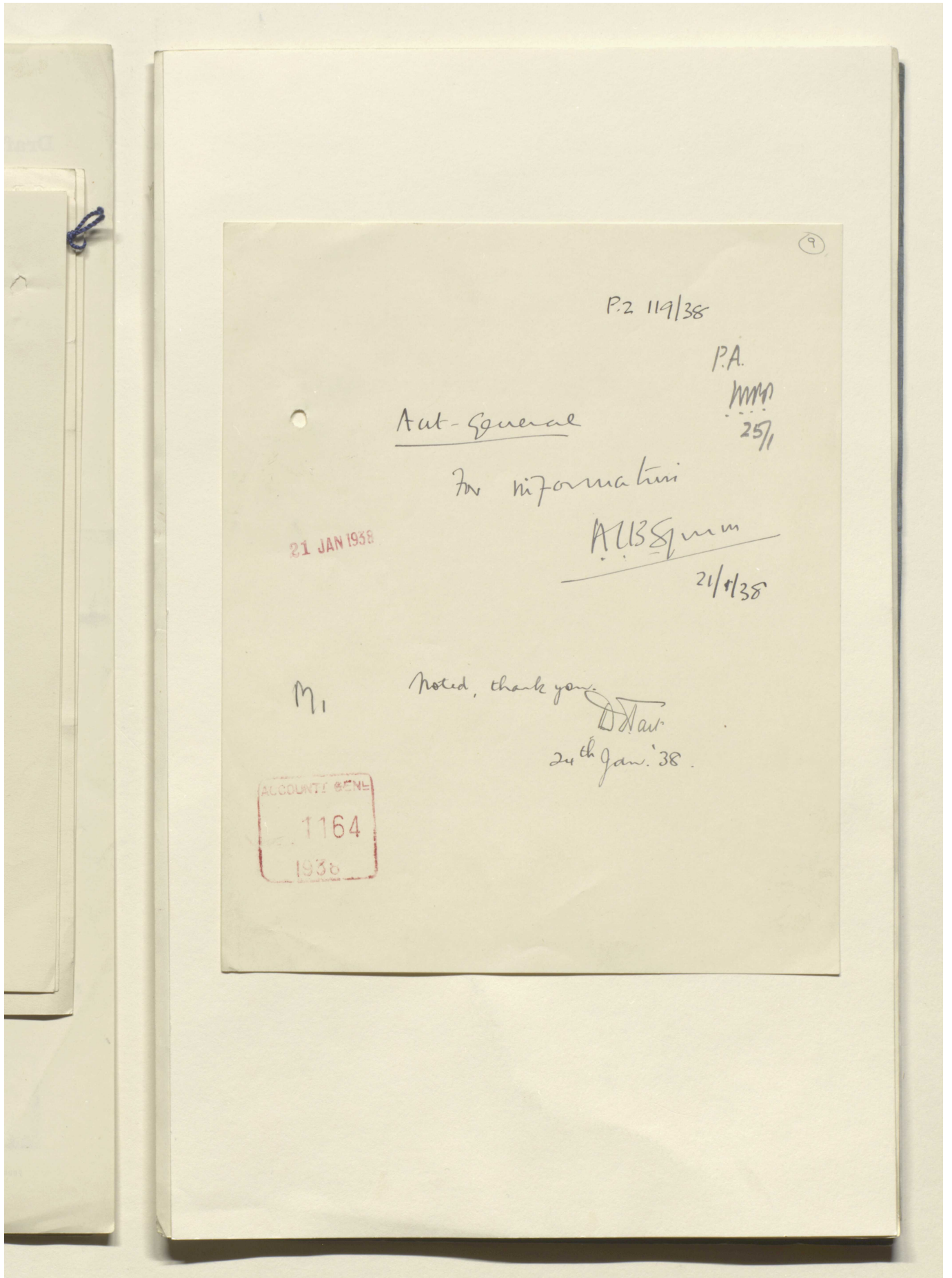
Mr Keyfitz (instr 66) said that this particular programme
had been changed to a particular sub-band (Mus) & it
would be inconvenient to leave adjustment over until the DTC.
Dec. He recognised our point and would not press for
an immediate response if we felt strongly about it.
I promised to let him know shortly.

[Signature]

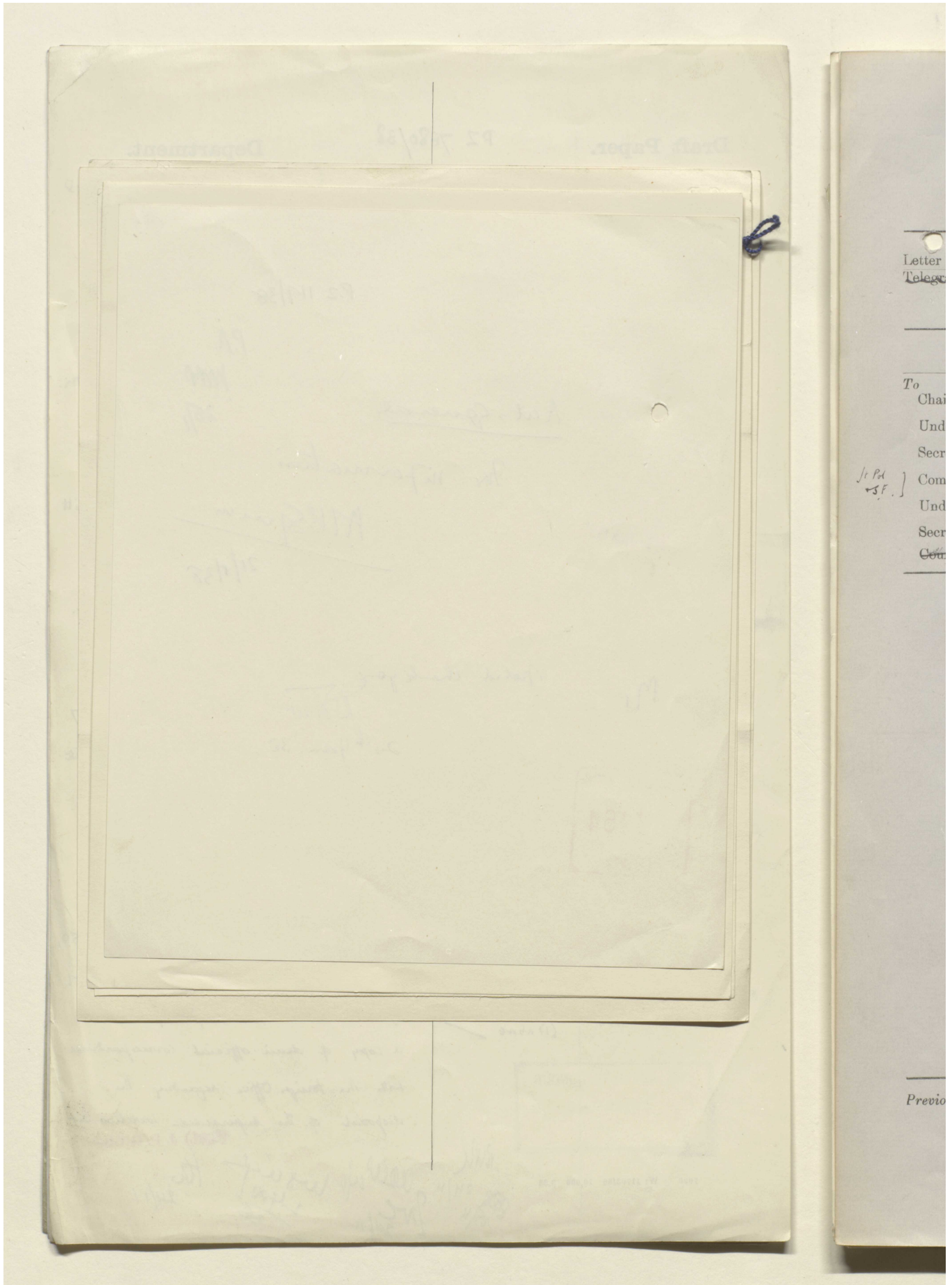
28/1/38

Telegram Keyfitz 2.2.38 that we should prefer them to
include claim in the DTC. Dec. He said that unless we
heard any more we must assume that this would be done.





Coll 29/81 'Tehran Legation: supply of wireless set' [9v] (18/90)



10

Register No.
P.
P.Z. 119/38

Political Department.

Letter from **Foreign Office**
Telegram

Dated 5th
Rec. 6th January 1938.

Formally acknowledged

	Date.	Initials.	SUBJECT.
To			
Chairman.....			<p><u>Tehran Legation</u></p> <p>Provision of wireless set : enhancement of total cost from £ 308:13:3 to £ 363 : 11:9.</p>
Under Secretary			
Secretary of State...			
Committee.....	12. 1.	...	
Under Secretary.....			
Secretary of State...			
Council ^{Prop} Table	15. 1.	...	

Jt Pd
S.F.

Copy of _____ to _____

FOR USE BY DEPARTMENTS ONLY.

Submission that a moiety of the increase
may be accepted as an Indian charge (as
has been agreed in case of original estimate).

Draft letter to Foreign Office accepting
change.

APPROVED JOINT POLITICAL
& SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE.

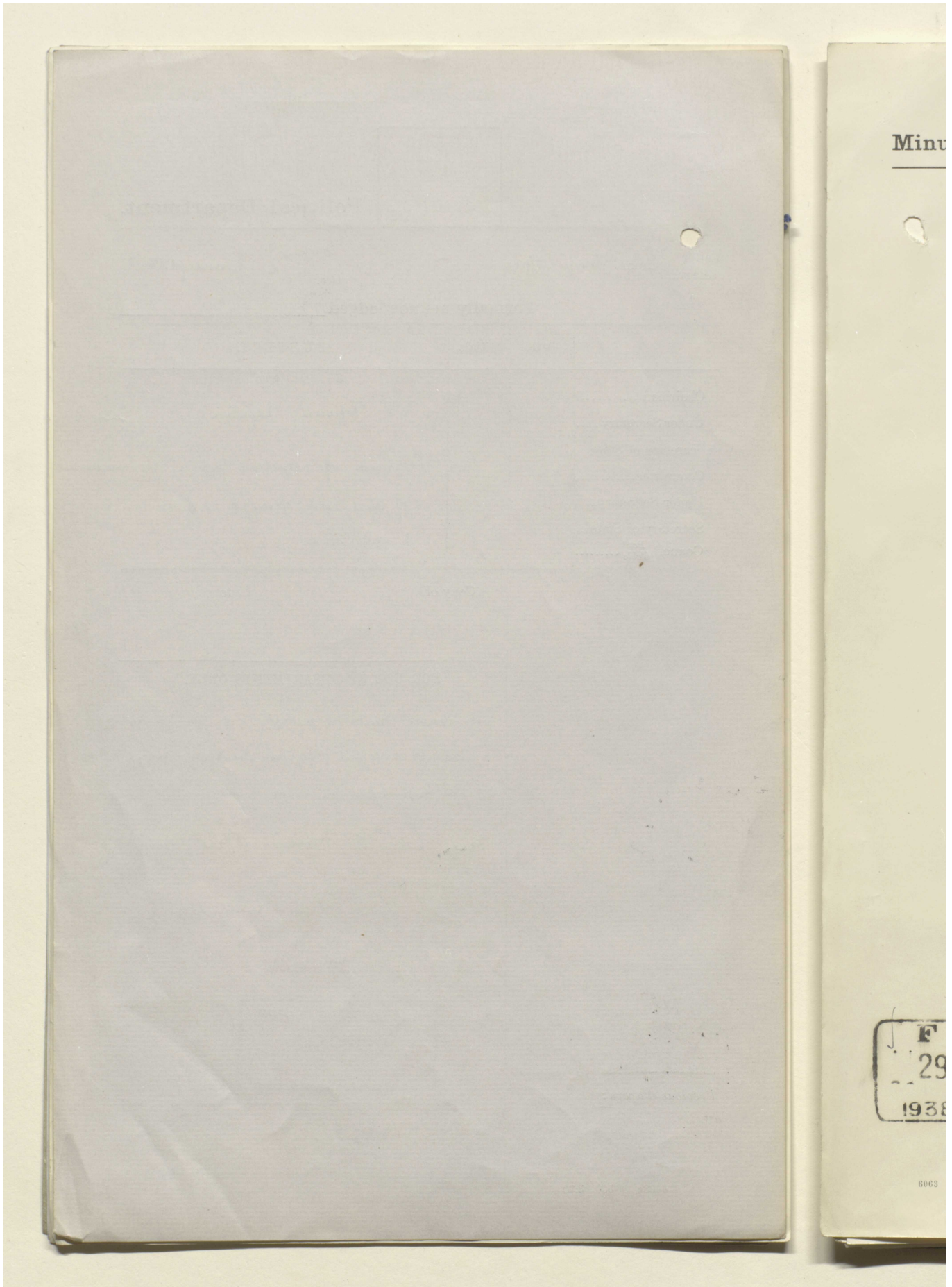
14 JAN 1938

THE ADVISERS CONCUR
20 JAN 1938

Previous Papers :—

20th Jan, 1938.
Letter issued to Foreign Office.

Coll 29/81 'Tehran Legation: supply of wireless set' [10v] (20/90)



Minute Paper.

P.Z.119/38.

POLITICAL Department.

In connection with the letter below from the Foreign Office please see the submission at P.Z.8944/36 (Flag A) and the Government of India's letter of the 18th May 1937 at P.Z.3673/37 (Flag B).

The original quotation for the wireless set in parts was for £306:13:3, but by the time the order was placed with Marconi's the price had been advanced by £20. To this must be added the charges in respect of transport and insurance, making a total of £363:11:9. Thus India's liability becomes £181:15:10, instead of the sum of £153:6:7 which was actually accepted by the Government of India, and in order to regularise the position authority is now sought for the payment of the increased amount.

The Foreign Office ask for payment forthwith, but after consultation with the Accountant-General's Department it is proposed to ask that adjustment should be made in the normal manner through the Accounts for diplomatic and consular expenditure in Iran.

A draft letter to the Foreign Office is submitted accordingly.

ACB G m m
15/1

Financial Secretary,

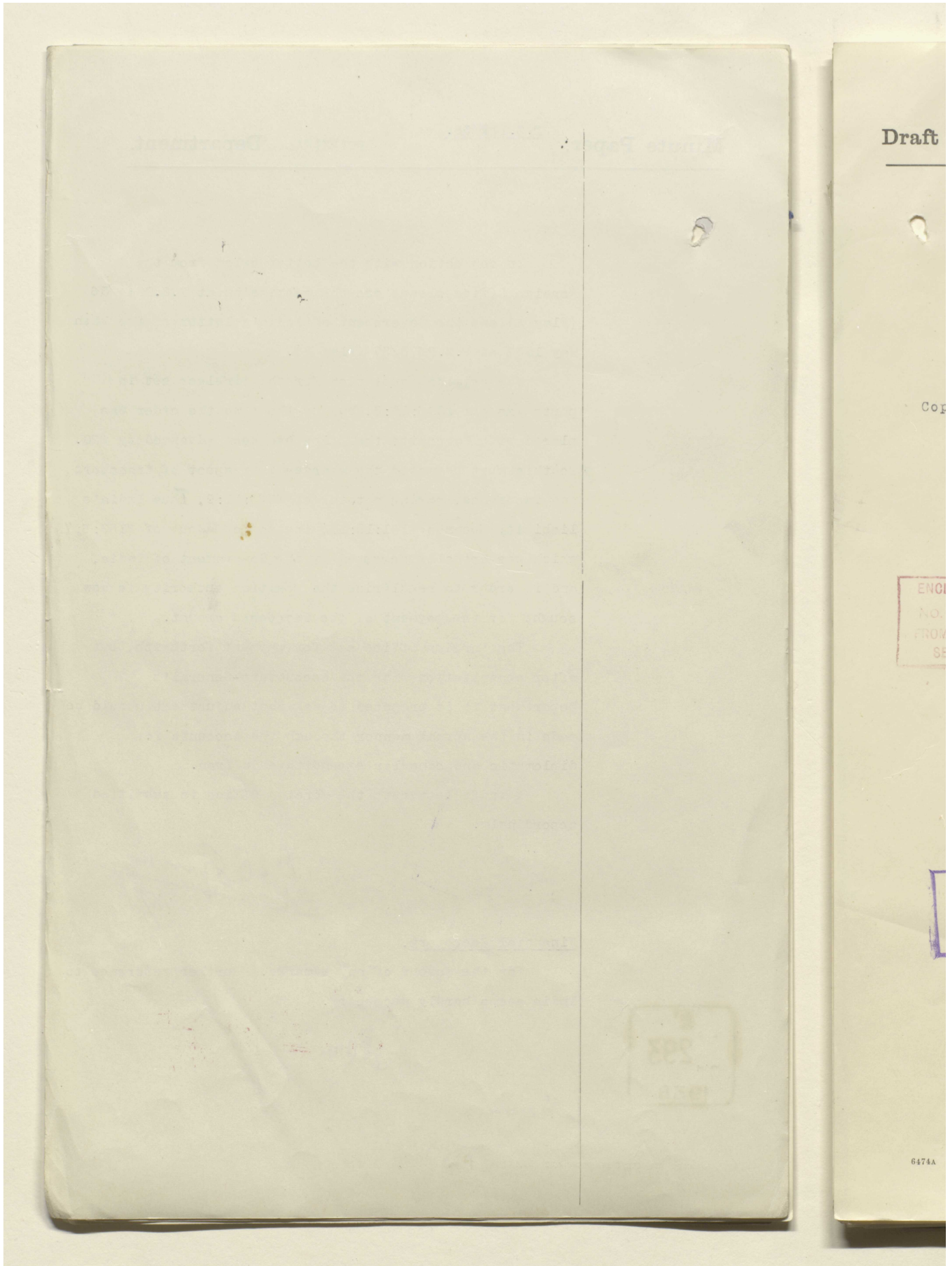
for the favour of any remarks. Further reference to India seems hardly necessary.

F
293
1938

J. B. m.
15/1

No remarks.
J. B. m.
15/1

Coll 29/81 'Tehran Legation: supply of wireless set' [11v] (22/90)



Draft Paper.

P.2.119/38

7

12

POLITICAL Department.

DRAFT LETTER.

20th Jan, 1938

U.S. of S.,
F.O.

Sir,

In reply to your letter No.X 9495/1006/501 of the 5th January, regarding the provision of a new wireless set for H.M.Legation at Tehran, I am directed by the Secretary of State for India to state for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs that he is prepared to accept as a charge against Indian Revenues the sum of £181:15:10 representing one-half of the total expenditure incurred.

Copy to India - with copy of letter from F.O.

ENCLOSURE IN WEEKLY LETTER
NO. -4 27 JAN 1938
FROM SECRETARY, POLITICAL AND
SECRET DEPT. INDIA OFFICE

2. I am, however, to suggest with reference to para.2 of your letter that the charge should be adjusted in the normal way through the Accounts for Diplomatic and Consular Expenditure in Iran.

(Sgd.) J. P. GIBSON

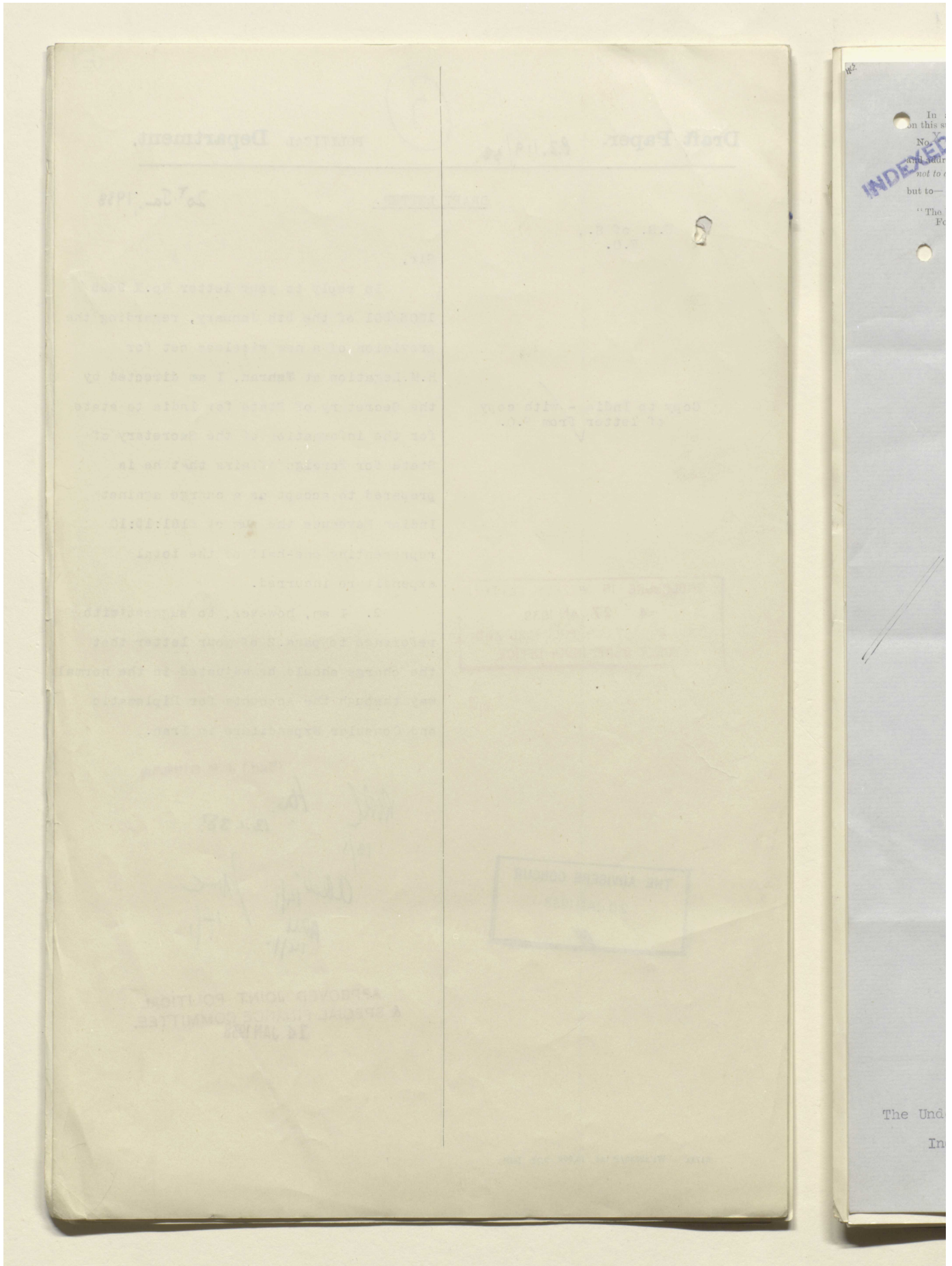
RRL
13/1
13.1.38

THE ADVISERS CONCUR
20 JAN 1938

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14/1
ARU
14/1

APPROVED JOINT POLITICAL
& SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE.
14 JAN 1938

Coll 29/81 'Tehran Legation: supply of wireless set' [12v] (24/90)



Coll 29/81 'Tehran Legation: supply of wireless set' [13r] (25/90)

In any further communication
on this subject, please quote
No. Y 9495/1006/501

and address—
not to any person by name
but to—

"The Under-Secretary of State,"
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

INDEXED

P. Z.
119
1938

FOREIGN OFFICE, S. W. 1.

5th January, 1938.

ENCLOSURE IN WEEKLY LETTER
NO. -4 27 JAN 1938
FROM SECRETARY, POLITICAL AND
SECRET DEPT. INDIA OFFICE

29/1/38
-pp.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. P. Z. 3673/37 of

the 9th June last, regarding the provision of a new wireless set for His Majesty's Legation at Tehran, I am directed by Mr. Neville Chamberlain to request you to inform the Secretary of State for India that Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Company Limited intimated to this department on the 28th May that owing to the increase in the prices of materials which had taken place since their quotation for the wireless equipment was given in September, 1936, the original estimate of £250 for a Marconi Receiver, Type R.G. 25, complete with working valves and headphones, £55 for a Marconi short wave adaptor, type 627, and £1.13.3 for a spare set of valves, making a total of £306.13.3, was subject to an additional charge of £20. The Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury having agreed that the share of the cost payable from Imperial Funds should be increased by £10, the order for the wireless equipment was placed in July last, and the set was despatched to Tehran on the 17th November.

2. I am to enclose the duplicate copy of the Company's invoice for £326.13.3 for the cost of the equipment, together with the duplicate copy of an invoice for £56.18.6 in respect of transport and insurance, and to request that, if there is no objection, instructions may be issued to His Majesty's Paymaster-General to transfer to the Vote for Diplomatic and Consular Services the sum of £181.15.10, representing one-half

of/

The Under Secretary of State,
India Office.

REGD. POL. DEPT.
8 JAN
INDIA OFFICE



Coll 29/81 'Tehran Legation: supply of wireless set' [14r] (27/90)

E.R.

(14)

of the total expenditure incurred.

3. With regard to the second paragraph of your letter under reference, I am to state that His Majesty's Minister at Tehran has been instructed to endeavour, when the new set is in working order, to dispose of the old set at the best price obtainable, but it is feared that there will be little, if any, demand for an eleven years' old wireless set of this kind.

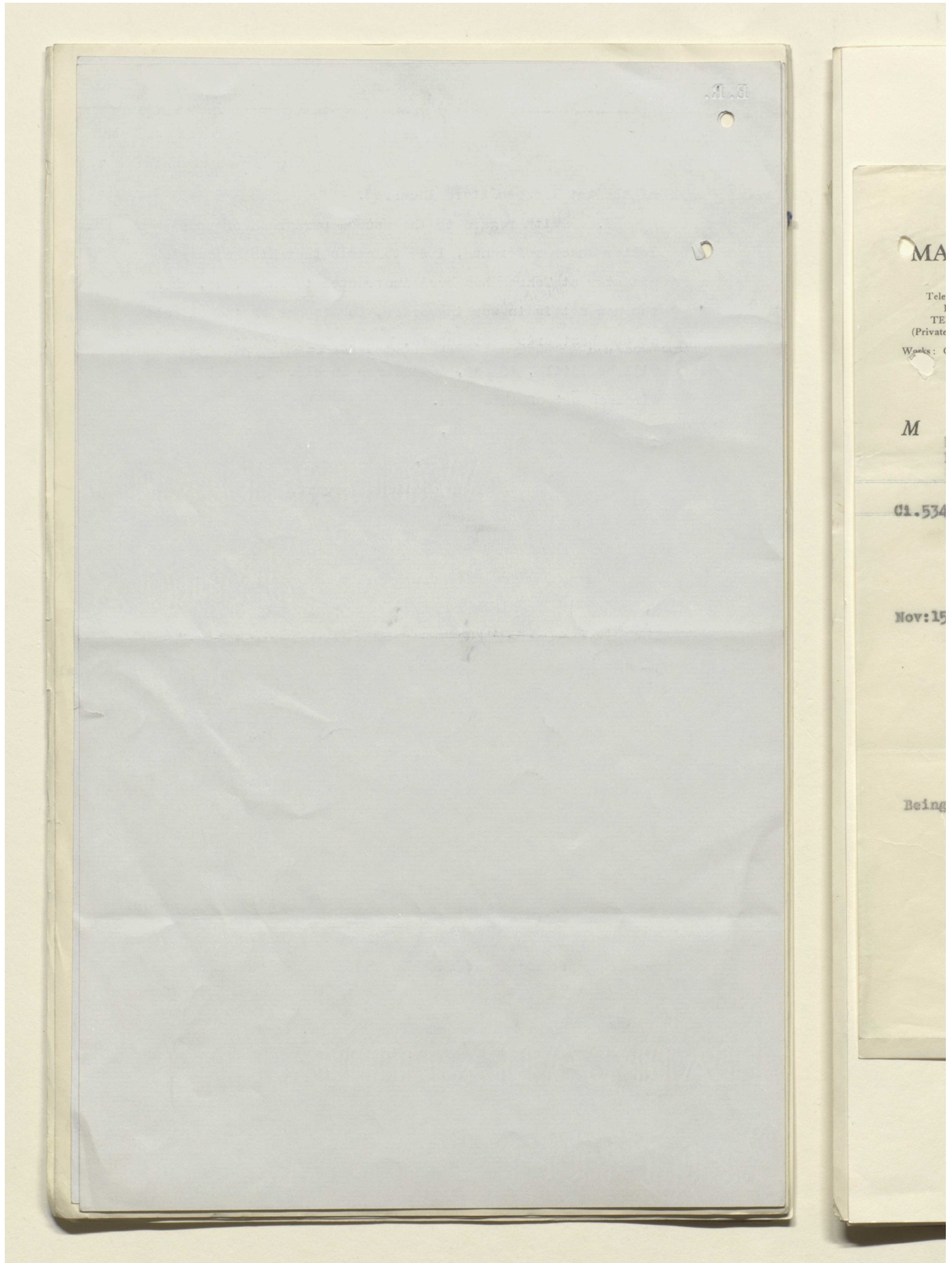
I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

C. Howard Smith

Coll 29/81 'Tehran Legation: supply of wireless set' [14v] (28/90)



3
15
MARCONI'S WIRELESS TELEGRAPH CO., LTD.

Telephone Numbers:
Head Office:
TEMPLE BAR 4321.
(Private Branch Exchange)
Works: CHELMSFORD 3141.

**MARCONI OFFICES, ELECTRA HOUSE,
VICTORIA EMBANKMENT,
LONDON, W.C.2.**

Date **17th November, 1937.**

Telegraphic Addresses:
Inland Telegrams:
"EXPANSE ESTRAND LONDON"
Cablegrams:
"EXPANSE LONDON"
Works:
"EXPANSE CHELMSFORD"
Codes Used:
Marconi International
A B C (4th and 5th Editions)
Western Union
Bentley's
Works: CHELMSFORD, ESSEX.

M
Finance Officer,
H.M. Foreign Office.
S.W.1.

Cl. 5344.Sk.

REF. RO. 78758/7808.

ORDER P. 2478/103/150.

Nov: 15th. To 1 L/W Receiver type RG.25. (battery operated) complete with working valves & headphones.
1 S.W. Adaptor type 627 complete with working valves.
1 Set of Spare Valves.

F.O.B. £326.13. 3

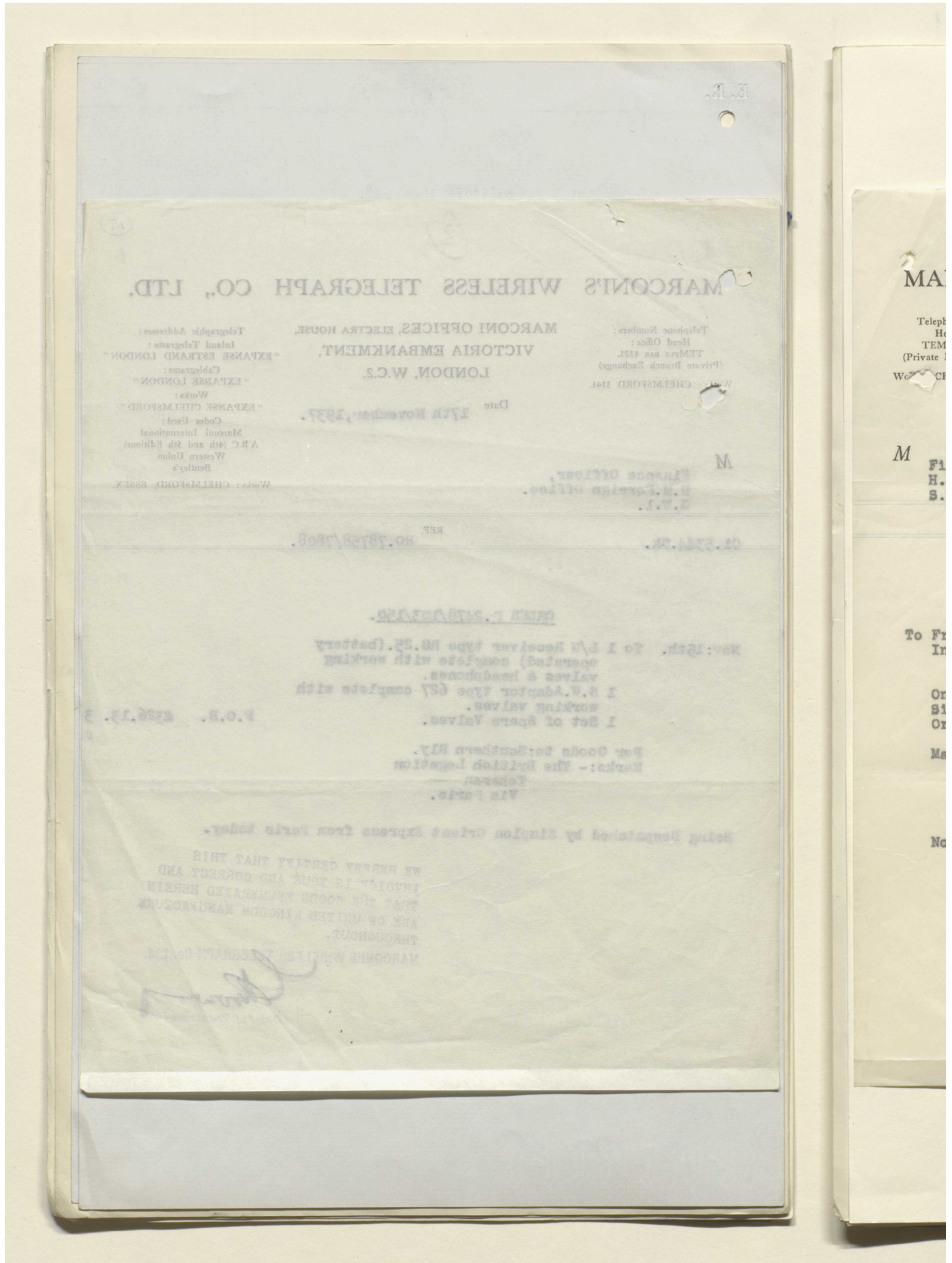
Per Goods to: Southern Rly.
Marks:- The British Legation
Teheran
Via Paris.

Being Despatched by Simplon Orient Express from Paris today.

WE HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS
INVOICE IS TRUE AND CORRECT AND
THAT THE GOODS ENUMERATED HEREIN
ARE OF UNITED KINGDOM MANUFACTURE
THROUGHOUT.

MARCONI'S WIRELESS TELEGRAPH Co. Ltd.

Chow
Chief of Transport Dept.



MARCONI'S WIRELESS TELEGRAPH CO., LTD.

MARCONI OFFICES, ELECTRA HOUSE,
VICTORIA EMBANKMENT,
LONDON, W.C.2.

Telegraphic Addresses:
Londan Telegrams:
"EXPANSE ESTAND LONDON"
Cablegrams:
"EXPANSE LONDON"
Works:
"EXPANSE CHELMSFORD"
Codes Used:
Marconi International
A.B.C. (4th and 5th Editions)
Western Union
Baudot's
Works: CHELMSFORD, ESSEX

Telephone Numbers:
Head Office:
TELEGRAMS: MAR 4121.
(Private Branch Exchange)
Works: CHELMSFORD 144.

Date: 17th November, 1937.

Finance Officer,
British Legation,
Tehran.

REF. NO. 7878/1908

Nov: 1937. To I/A Receiver type No. 52 (battery operated) complete with working valves & headphones.
I B.W. Adaptor type (S2) complete with working valves.
I Set of Spare Valves.

Per Goods for: Southern Rly.
London - The British Legation
Tehran
Via Paris.

Being transported by special express from Paris today.

WE HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS INVOICE IS TRUE AND CORRECT AND THAT THE GOODS DESCRIBED HEREIN ARE OF BRITISH MANUFACTURE THROUGHOUT.

MARCONI'S WIRELESS TELEGRAPH CO., LTD.

AM

Teleph
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M

F1
H.
S.

To Fr
In

Or
S1
Or

Ma

No

3

16

MARCONI'S WIRELESS TELEGRAPH CO., LTD.

Telephone Numbers:
Head Office:
TEMPLE BAR 4321.
(Private Branch Exchange)
Works: CHELMSFORD 3141.

MARCONI OFFICES, ELECTRA HOUSE,
VICTORIA EMBANKMENT,
LONDON, W.C.2.

Date 21st December, 1937.

Telegraphic Addresses:
Inland Telegrams:
"EXPANSE ESTRAND LONDON"
Cablegrams:
"EXPANSE LONDON"
Works:
"EXPANSE CHELMSFORD"
Codes Used:
Marconi International
A B C (4th and 5th Editions)
Western Union
Bentley's
Works: CHELMSFORD, ESSEX.

M
Finance Officer,
H.M. Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

3066.

REF.

01.683.Gr.

To Freight and Shipping Charges.
Insurance.

£34.17. 0
2. 1. 6

£36.18. 6

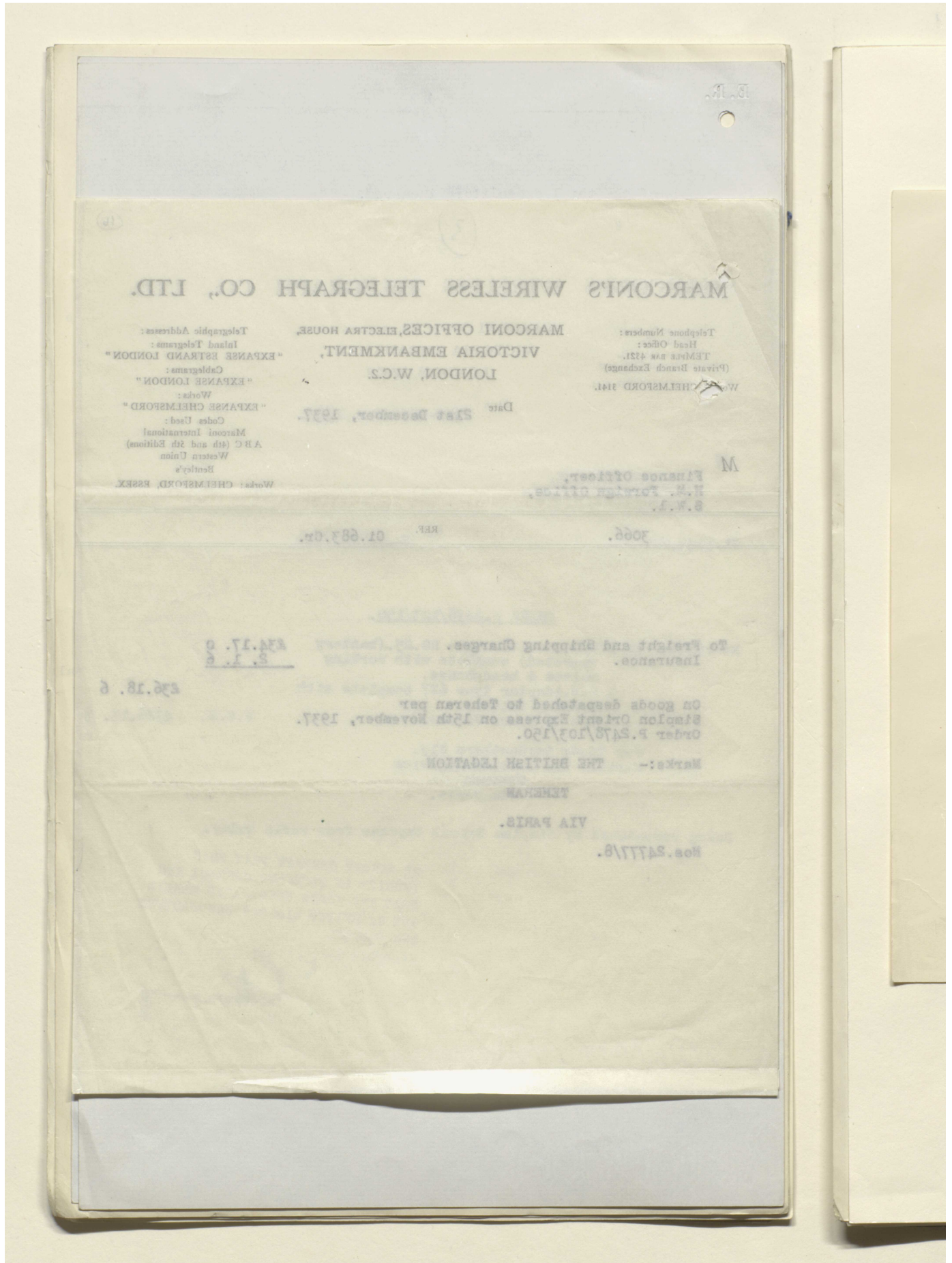
On goods despatched to Teheran per
Simplon Orient Express on 15th November, 1937.
Order P.2478/103/150.

Marks:- THE BRITISH LEGATION

TEHERAN

VIA PARIS.

Nos. 24777/8.



MARCONI'S WIRELESS TELEGRAPH CO., LTD.

MARCONI OFFICES, ELECTRA HOUSE,
VICTORIA EMBANKMENT,
LONDON, W.C.S.

Telephone Numbers:
Head Office: TEMPLES ROW 4321.
(Private Branch Exchange)
W. HEIMSFORD 3111.

Telegraphic Addresses:
Inland Telegrams: "EXPANSE ESTERLAND LONDON"
Cablegrams: "EXPANSE LONDON"
Works: "EXPANSE CHELMSFORD"
Codes Used: Marconi International A.R.C. (4th and 5th Editions) Western Union
Bentley's Works: CHELMSFORD, ESSEX.

Date: 1st December, 1937.

M
Finance Officer,
H.M. Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

01.687.00

To Freight and Shipping Charges, etc. etc. (London)
Insurance.
On goods despatched to Tehran per
London Orient Express on 15th November, 1937.
Order P. 2478/103/150.

Marks:-- THE BRITISH LEGATION

TEHRAN
VIA PARIS.

No. 2477/18.

(17)

Dear Gibson

In Tait's absence this has come to me. I think in view of India's specific acceptance of a sum of $\text{£} 306.13.3$ it would be as well to obtain formal sanction for the total increased charge.

As regards your P.S. we do not admit the validity of a piecemeal arrangement as at A. If a duly authorised charge is exceeded only the authority originally sanctioning it can condone the excess. As for the remark at B I would not care to hazard a guess whether silence on the point meant anything or not!

I might remark that it is usually wise in seeking sanction either by S/S or the Govt. India not to quote a figure of cost in such a way as to tie oneself when it is a matter of estimate only. The present is not a particularly good illustration as the Govt. stated the cost in detail but ^{for example} it had been reported to us estimated to amount to $\text{£} 306.13.3$ in our letter to India we should have preserved some latitude.

Yours Bf 10/1/38. P.S.

P.S. I see the D. want us to pay forthwith & they
should be reminded that there is the D. or
account for Iran expenditure. I do not see why
we should add to the amount by which Sedra is
always out of pocket by reason of the excess of
her expenditure ~~of~~ over that of the D. and the
settlement two years in arrears.

(18)

Dear Tait,

P.2. 3673/37

"

Can you advise me what covering authority is needed in order to pay the 70. bill?
All that I see on the file is (1) the Govt. of India's agreement to pay half of £ 306:13:3, and (2) a letter authorised by an officiating H.D. saying that the S. of S. is prepared to pay "a moiety of the expenditure incurred in this connection". There is no higher office authority on the file, since the submission on P.2. 8944/36 only authorises an enquiry of the Govt. of India. Is our letter on P.2. 3673/37 sufficient authority to pay the whole bill now presented, or should we have seek authority now for the increase on the original estimate, or should we now get formal cover for the acceptance by the S/S of half of the whole bill (not more of the increase)?

Yours

J.S.

P.S. yet another question! The increase over the original estimate.

Draft

is about £57, India's share being £28 odd.
If our letter no P2. 3673/37 was in order, could
we regard it as (1) authorising payment of half of
£306 odd, in virtue of the G.P.'s agreement, & (2) authorising
payment of half of the increase of £20 in the cost of the
set, in virtue of an H.D.'s power of sanction, thereby
leaving only about £18 uncovered, which could be
sanctioned by Mr. Walton as Asst. Under Secy (his power
extending to £25) ?

Perhaps my doubts of the validity of
our letter of 9/6/37 are misplaced, as I see it was
passed by you & the Auditor without comment !

acct. G.
auditor
PSH
15/10.

A
6
10

Mr. Gausson
The
for a week
I u
now cost o
accepted a
must accep
cost. The o
H.D.'s power

ENCLURE
NO. 2
FROM 8
SECRET

6030

Draft Paper.

I.Z. 3673/37

6

RECEIVED IN
14 JUN 1937
A.I.D.I.

Copy to India (19)

Put by

Department.

Immediate.

9th June 1937

The U.S. att.,
Foreign Office.

Send copy to Mr. Nash (F.O.)

10 JUN 1937

acc. General 11 JUN 1937
Noted [Signature] 12.6.37
PSH [Signature] To note.
15/6.

A.G.
6636
1937

[Signature]
sign
M.J.C. 9/6

Mr. Clauson

The F.O. are pressing again
for a reply.

I understand that the set will
now cost another £20. The G. of I. have
accepted a specified amount, but we
must accept, I think, half the actual
cost. The cost £10 will be within
H.M.'s power to authorize.

ENCLOSURE IN WEEKLY LETTER
NO. 24 17 JUN 1937
FROM SECRETARY, POLITICAL AND
SECRET DEPT. INDIA OFFICE

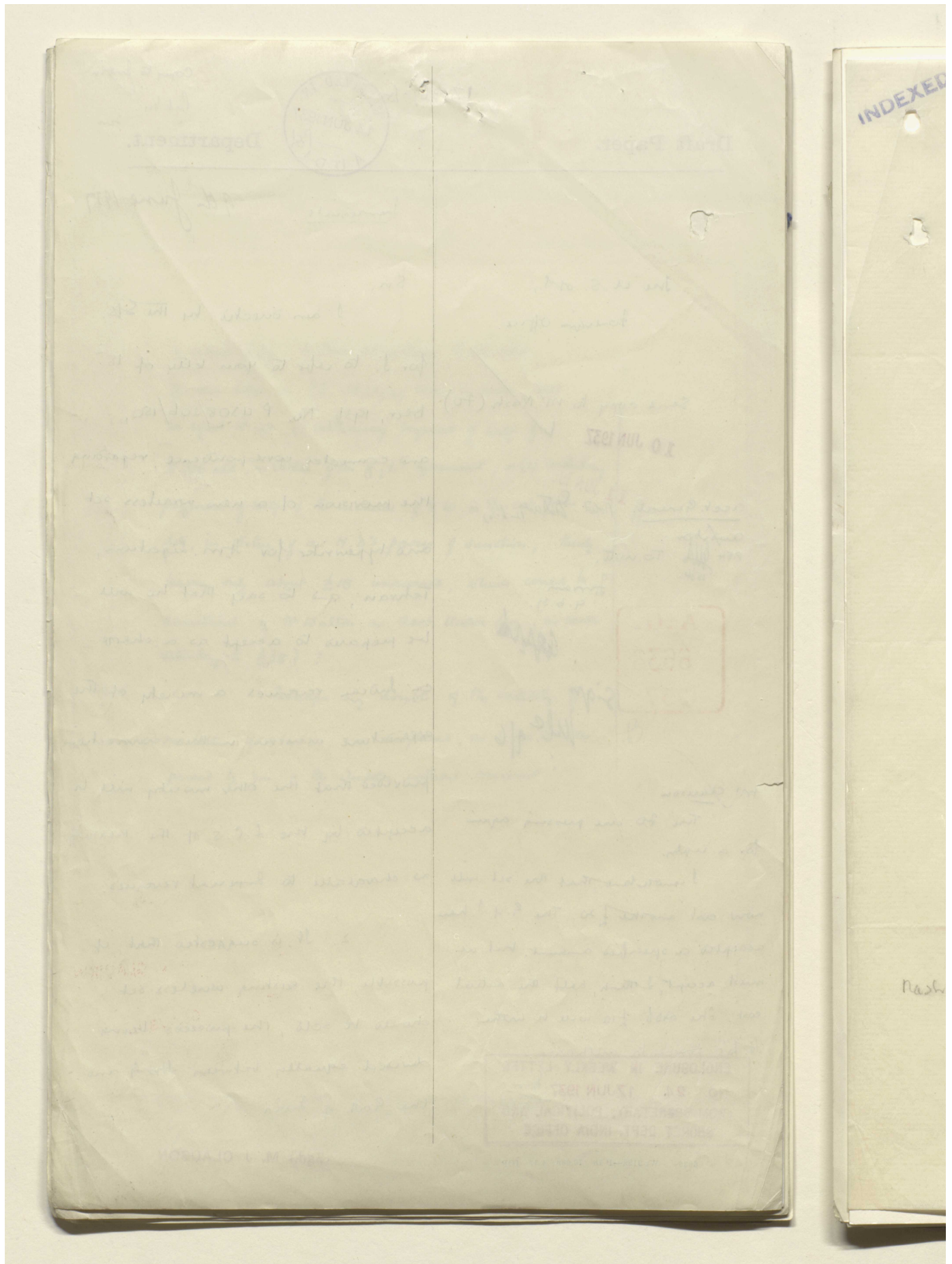
6030 Wt 9128-P 18 10,000 4.37 IOP

Sr.

I am directed by the S.P.s.
for I. to refer to your letter of 15th
Decr, 1936, No. P 4308/206/150,
and connected correspondence, regarding
the provision of a new wireless set
and typewriter for H.M. Legation,
Tehran, and to say that he will
be prepared to accept as a charge
on Indian revenues a moiety of the
expenditure incurred in this connection,
provided that the other moiety will be
accepted by the L.C.'s of the Treasury
as chargeable to Imperial revenues.

2. It is suggested that, if
possible, the existing wireless set
should be sold, the proceeds being
divided equally between H.M. and
the Govt. of India.

(Sgd.) M. J. CLAUSON



Coll 29/81 'Tehran Legation: supply of wireless set' [20r] (39/90)

INDEXED

No.F.270-N/37.

3673

1937

Ms 20

From

The Deputy Secretary to the Government of India
in the External Affairs Department,

To

The Under Secretary of State for India,
Political Department, India Office,
London.

Dated Simla, the 18th May 1937.

Subject:- Supply of a new wireless receiving set
to the Tehran Legation.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No.P.Z. 8944/36,
dated the 14th January 1937, I am directed to say that the
Government of India agree to accept as a charge on Indian
Revenues a moiety of the sum of £306-13-3 to be expended
on the purchase of a new wireless receiving set for the
Tehran Legation.

2. I am to suggest that the existing wireless set
be sold if possible and the sale proceeds divided between
His Majesty's Government and the Government of India in
equal proportions.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

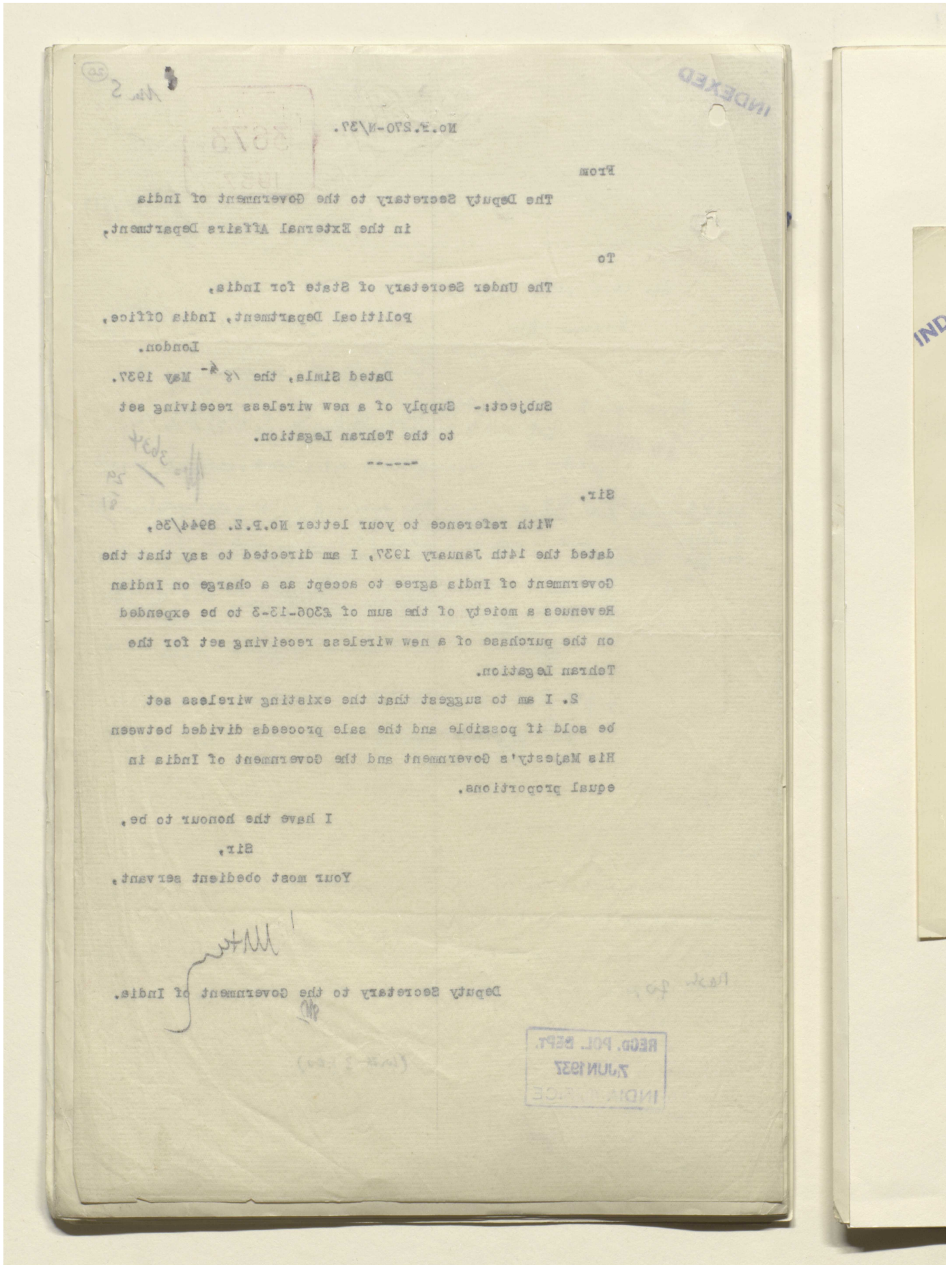
Your most obedient servant,

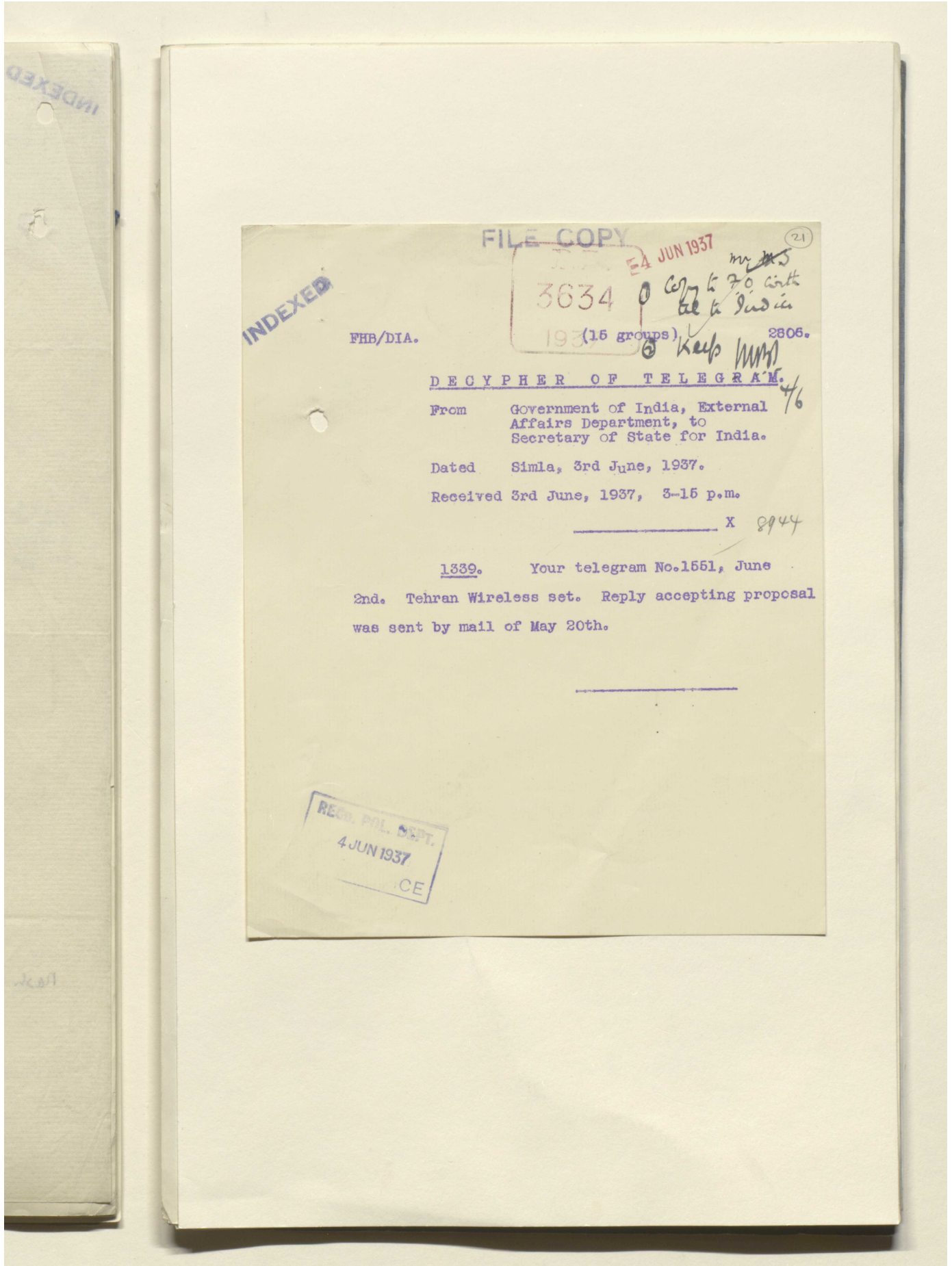
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.

REC'D. POL. DEPT.
7 JUN 1937
INDIA OFFICE

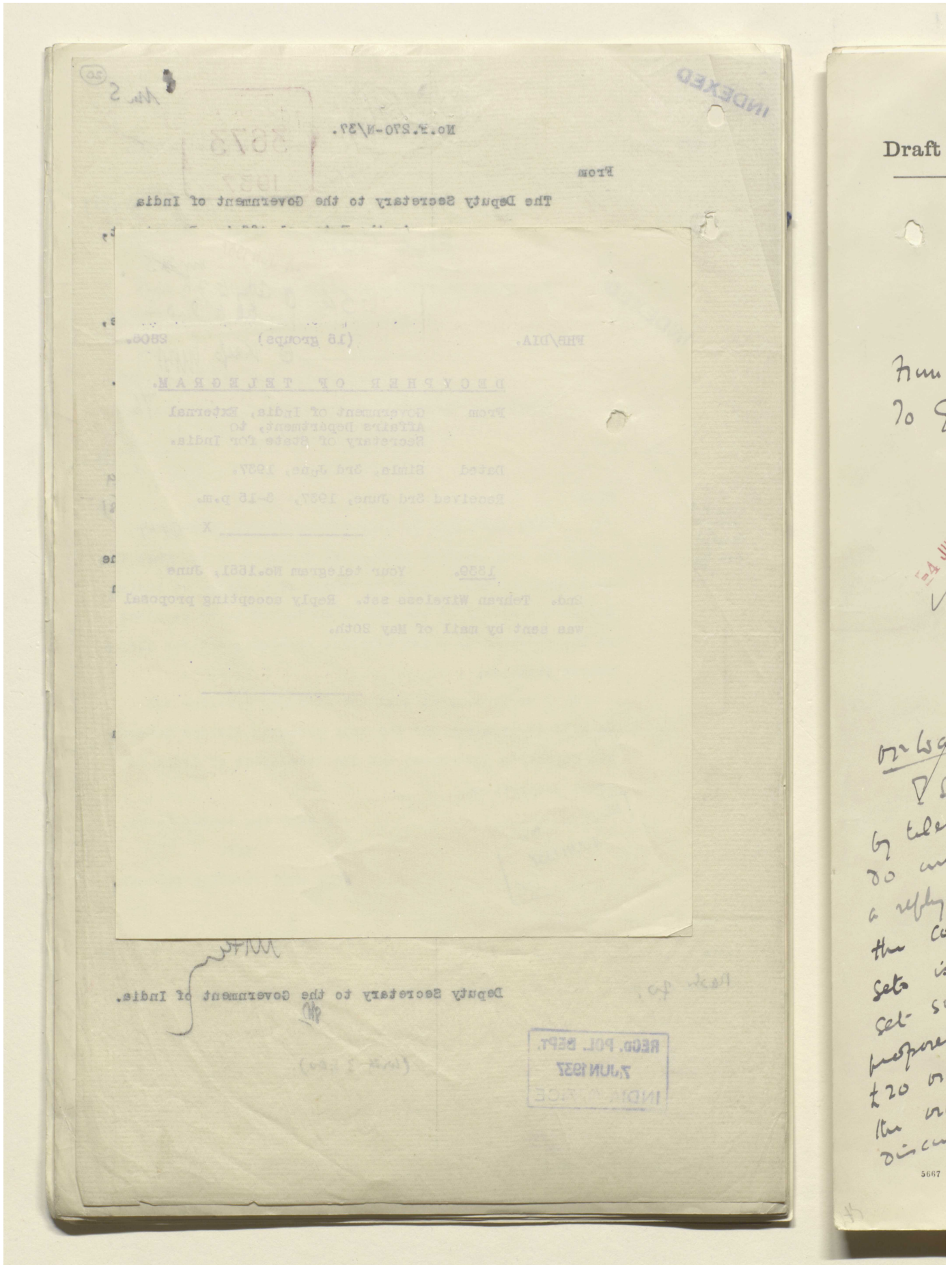
(with 3 Recs.)

Coll 29/81 'Tehran Legation: supply of wireless set' [20v] (40/90)





Coll 29/81 'Tehran Legation: supply of wireless set' [21v] (42/90)



(22)

P.2.8944/36

Draft Paper.

Political

Department.

10 keep
HAM
2/6/37

Draft-Telegram

From S/S to S.
To S. of S., Dept. of
Ext. Affairs

1551
India Office Letter No.
P.2.8944/36 8/1-14th January.
Tehran Wireless Set.
When may I expect a
reply?

14 JUN 1937

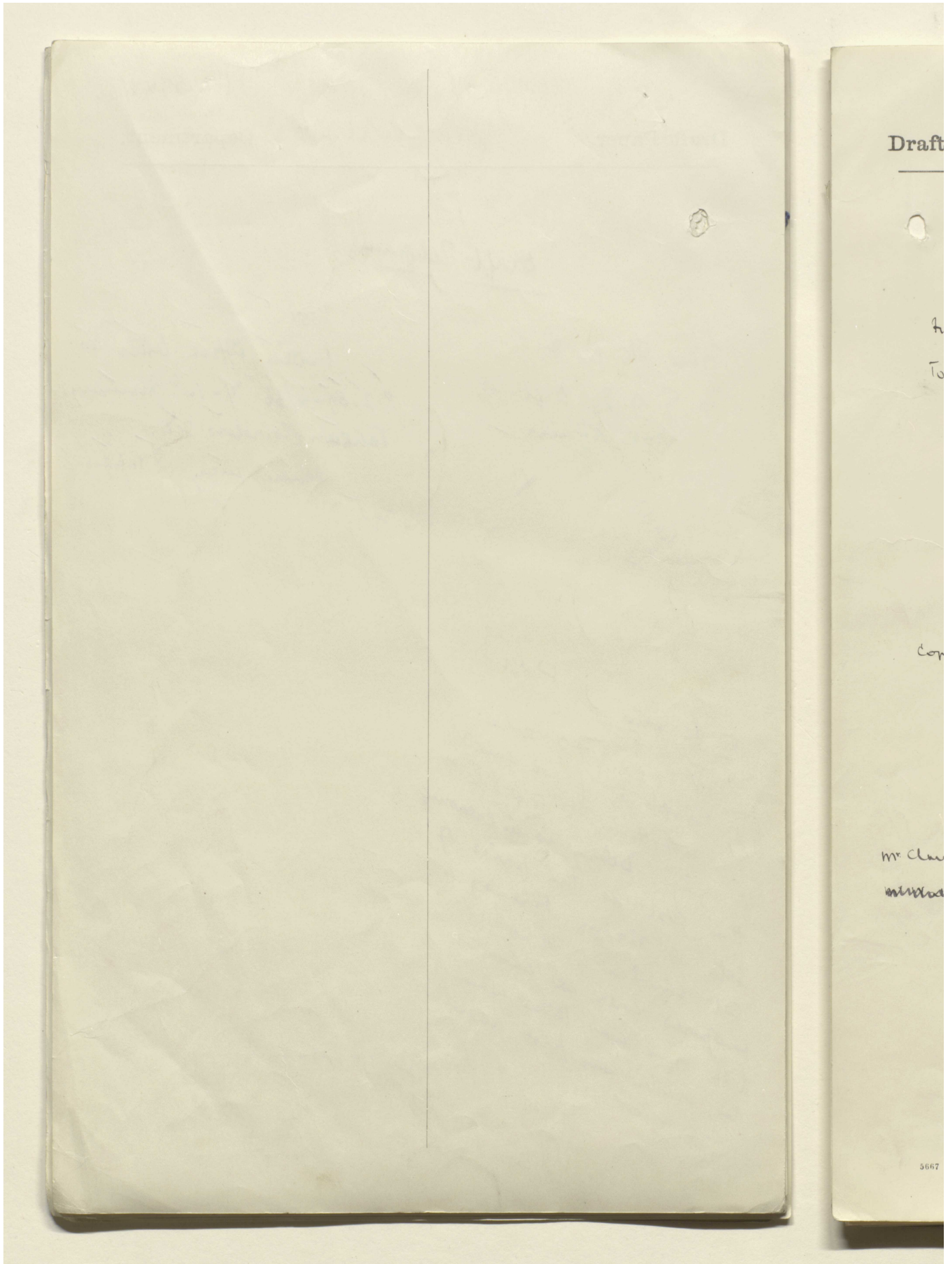
Mr. Legation
I send. F.O. asked
by telephone if we could
do anything to expedite
a reply. Delay is increasing
the cost as the price of
sets is rising. Already a
set similar to that
proposed costs about
£20 more now than when
the matter was first under
discussion.

SEEN BY	DATE	TIME
REC'D IN TEL. BOH	2/6	12.15 PM
CODE X or XX		X
DESPATCHED	2/6	12.42 PM
NO. OF WORDS		15
SENDER'S INITIALS		

5667 5000 237

ALBS
(163)

Coll 29/81 'Tehran Legation: supply of wireless set' [22v] (44/90)



P.Z. 8944/36

Pub. by
Jan
5/37
23

Draft Paper.

Pol. Department.

7

Draft Express (Air Mail) letter

5 MAY 1937

from S/S. for I.

To Secy. to G. of I.
Dept. of Ext. Affairs.
Sunder.

Please refer to India Office

letter of 14th Jan., No. P.Z. 8944/36.

New wireless receiving set for
Tehran Legation.

2. I shall be glad to
receive an early reply. ~~amusement~~
~~of your attention in carrying out this~~

5 MAY 1937

Copy to F.O. (Mr. Nash).

Send
litt. 3/5

The issue of the above has
been duly authorized.

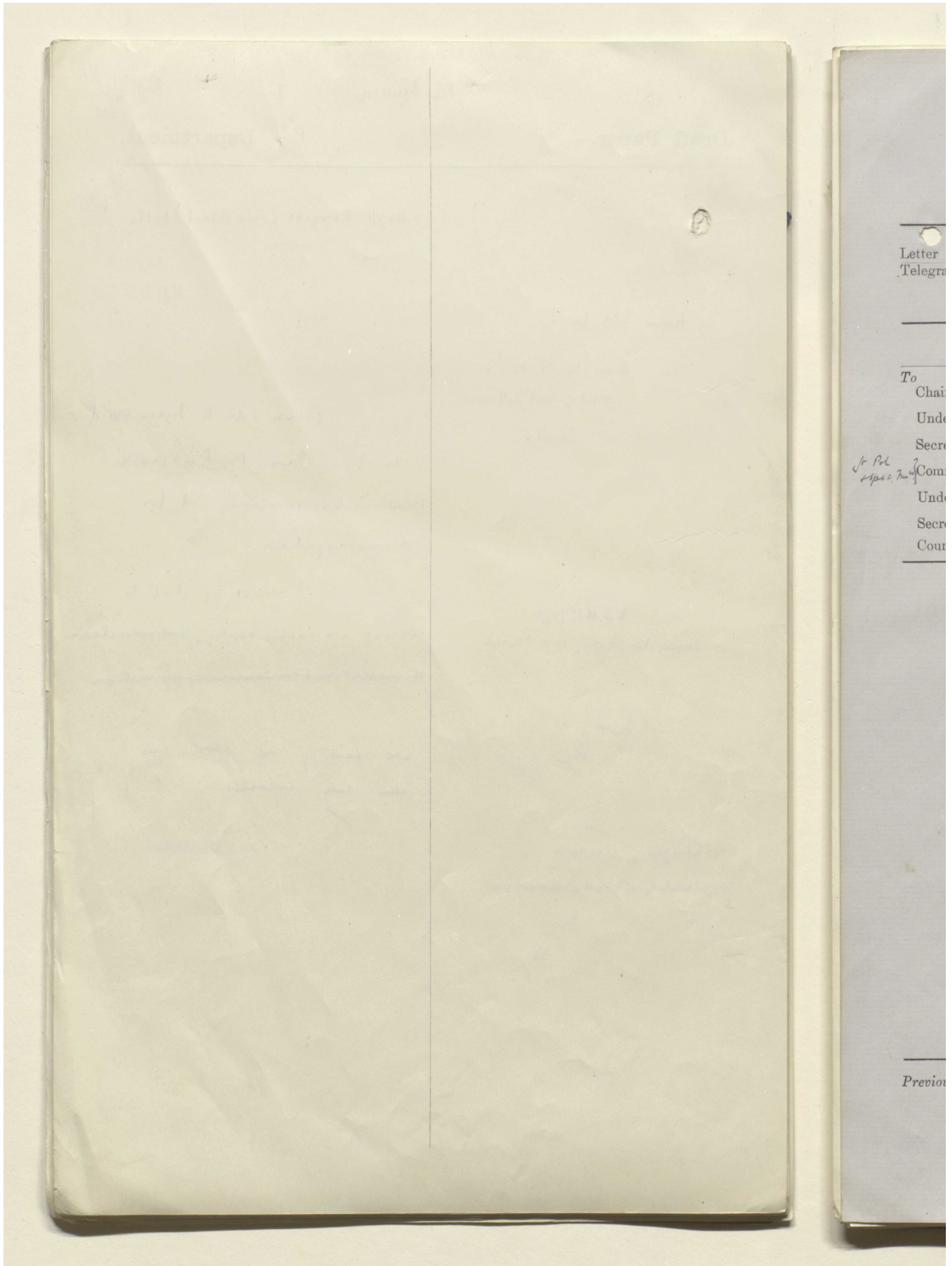
(sd.) M. J. CLAUSON.

Mr. Clauson Authorise

~~initials to be authorized~~

Jan.
3/5

Coll 29/81 'Tehran Legation: supply of wireless set' [23v] (46/90)



Coll 29/81 'Tehran Legation: supply of wireless set' [24r] (47/90)

24

Put by
Jm.
12/1

Register No.

P. 2.

8944/36

Political Department.

Letter from
Telegram

Dated

192

Rec.

Formally acknowledged

	Date.	Initials.	SUBJECT.
To Chairman.....			<u>Persia</u> Proposal to provide Tehran legation with new wireless receiving set. F.O. ask whether Indian Revenue will show expenditure
Under Secretary.....			
Secretary of State...			
Committee.....	28.12	Jm.	
Under Secretary.....			
Secretary of State...			
Council ^{Boor} Table.....	4.1.	Jm.	

Copy to

FOR USE BY DEPARTMENTS ONLY.

Draft letter to Govt of India consulting.

APPROVED JOINT POLITICAL
& SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE

4 JAN 1937

APPROVED COUNCIL

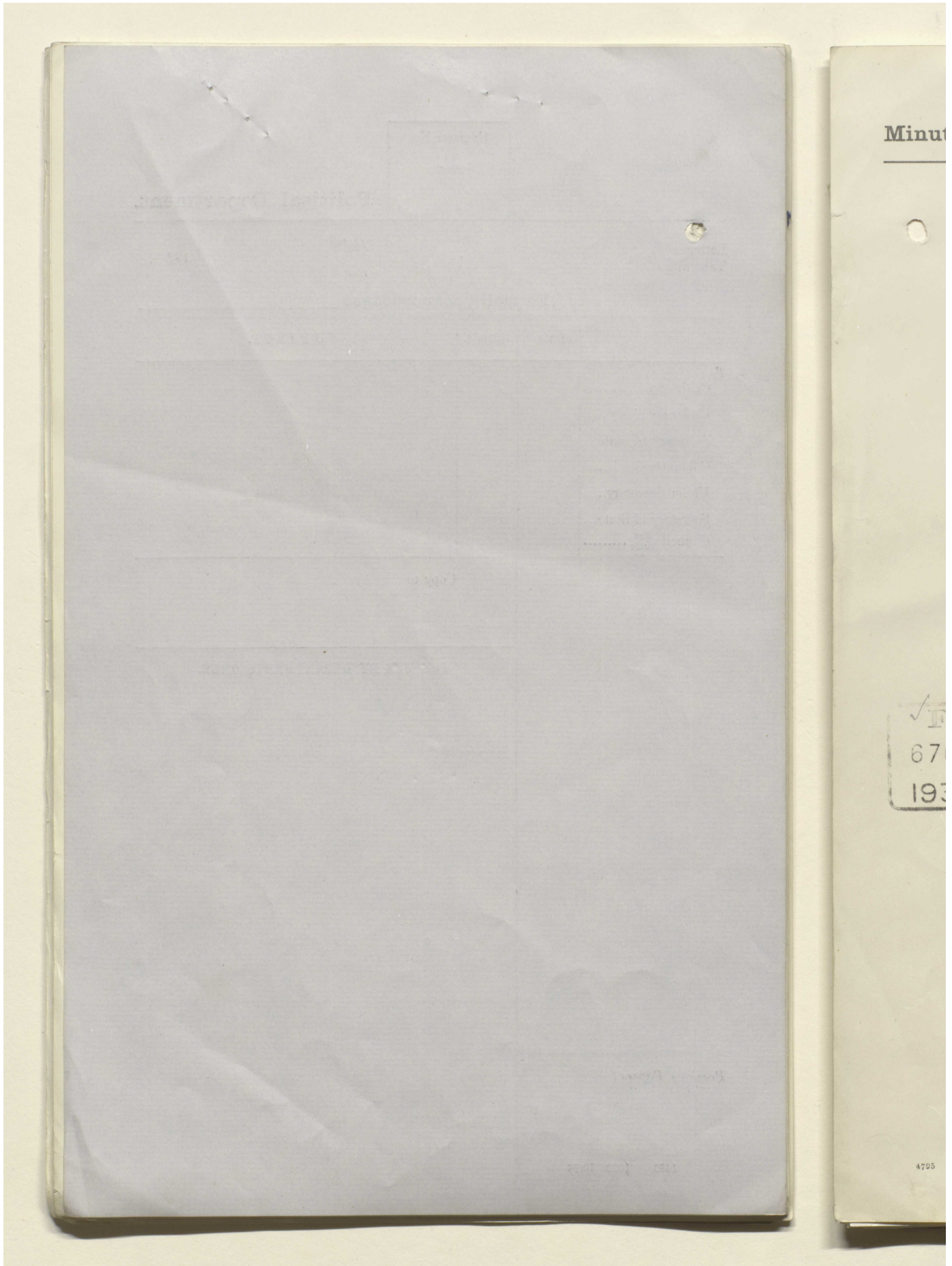
11 JAN 1937

Letter to G. of I. issued on
14.1.37.

Previous Papers :—

1480 1000 10.26

Coll 29/81 'Tehran Legation: supply of wireless set' [24v] (48/90)



25

P.Z. 8944/36

Minute Paper.

POLITICAL Department.

The letter from the Foreign Office dated 15th December deals with a proposal that the present wireless receiving set at the Tehran Legation should be replaced by a new set at a cost of about £300, which appears to be regarded by the experts as a reasonable charge in the circumstances.

It is open to no doubt that a new set is required as the existing set was apparently taken over from the I.E.T.D. and has been in commission for a very long period. The question is whether, if the Treasury accept half the expenditure, the other half should be accepted as a charge upon Indian Revenues.

It appears to be clear that this kind of expenditure is not capital expenditure, and the arrangement of course is that all recurring diplomatic and consular expenditure in Persia is divided. Moreover there are actual precedents for the division of expenditure on new wireless sets, e.g. at Meshed (see P.Z. 2371/28) and Bushire (see P.Z. 4822/32).

Draft letter to the Government of India consulting them is submitted.

✓ F. ✗
6700
1936

Secretary,
Financial Department,

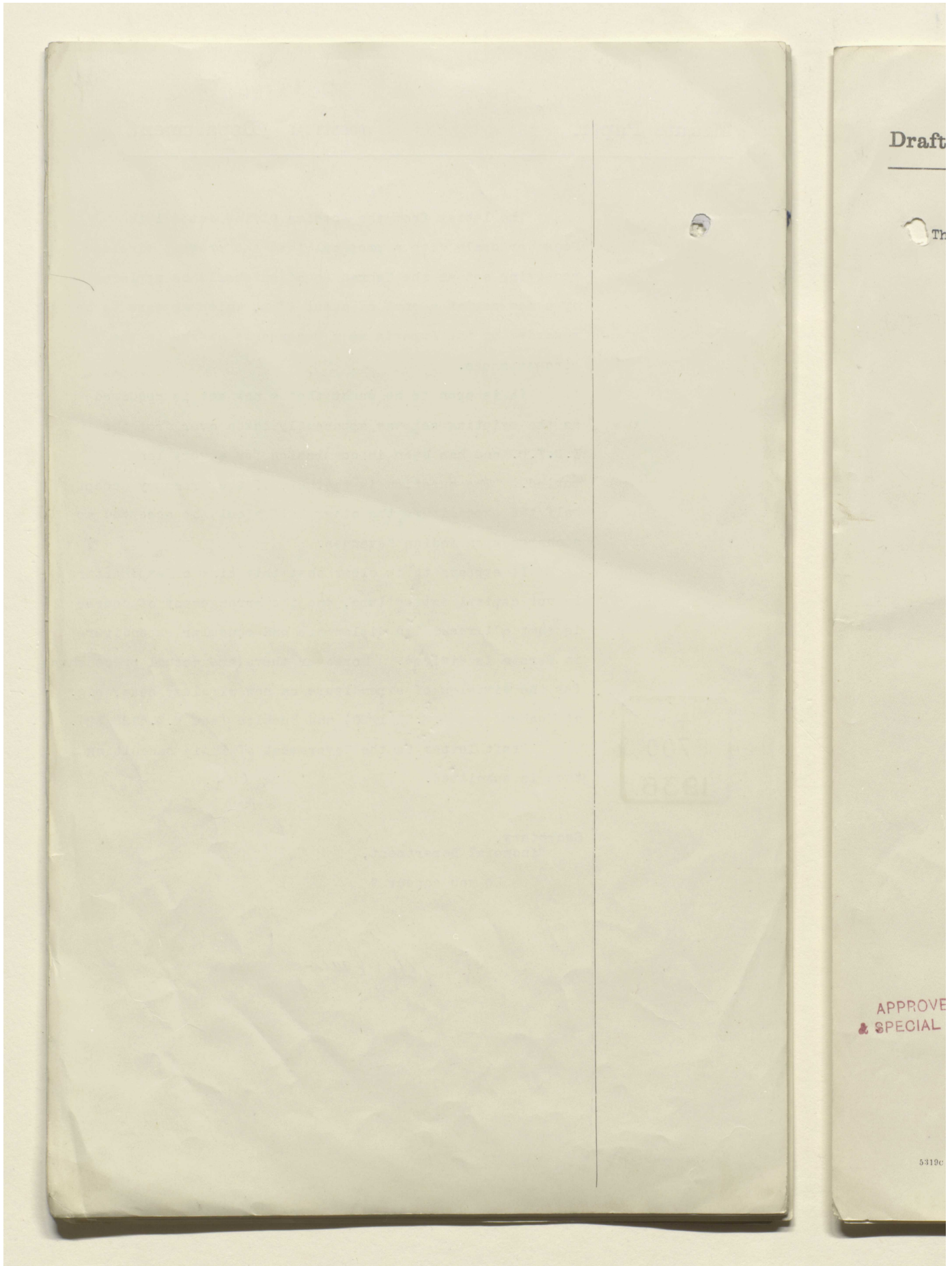
Do you concur ?

W. Clouston
23/12

I concur.

J. Smith
24/12

Coll 29/81 'Tehran Legation: supply of wireless set' [25v] (50/90)



7

26

P.Z.8944/36.

Draft Paper.

POLITICAL Department.

DRAFT LETTER.

14 JAN 1937

From
The Secretary to the
Government of India,
F. & P. Department.

Sir,

Dated 15th
December with
enclosures.

I am directed by the Secretary of State to forward for the information of the Government of India a copy of a letter from Foreign Office regarding a proposal to supply the Tehran Legation with a new wireless receiving set at a total cost of £306:13:3. I am to enquire whether in the event of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury accepting as a charge upon Imperial Revenues half the expenditure incurred the Government of India ^{agree that the} ~~will be prepared~~ ^{should be accepted as a charge on (Indian revenues)} to accept the other half. The Government of India will recollect that similar charges have been divided between Imperial and Indian Revenues, for instance in the case of the wireless set for the Consulate-General at Meshed, for which approval was given in India Office letter of the 7th June 1928, No. P.2371/28, and in the case of the Bushire set, ~~in regard to which reference is invited to the Government of India's~~ express letter of the 28th July 1932, No. F.232-N/32, *referred.*

Comd FO
Pranin
12 JAN 1937

APPROVED JOINT POLITICAL
& SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE.

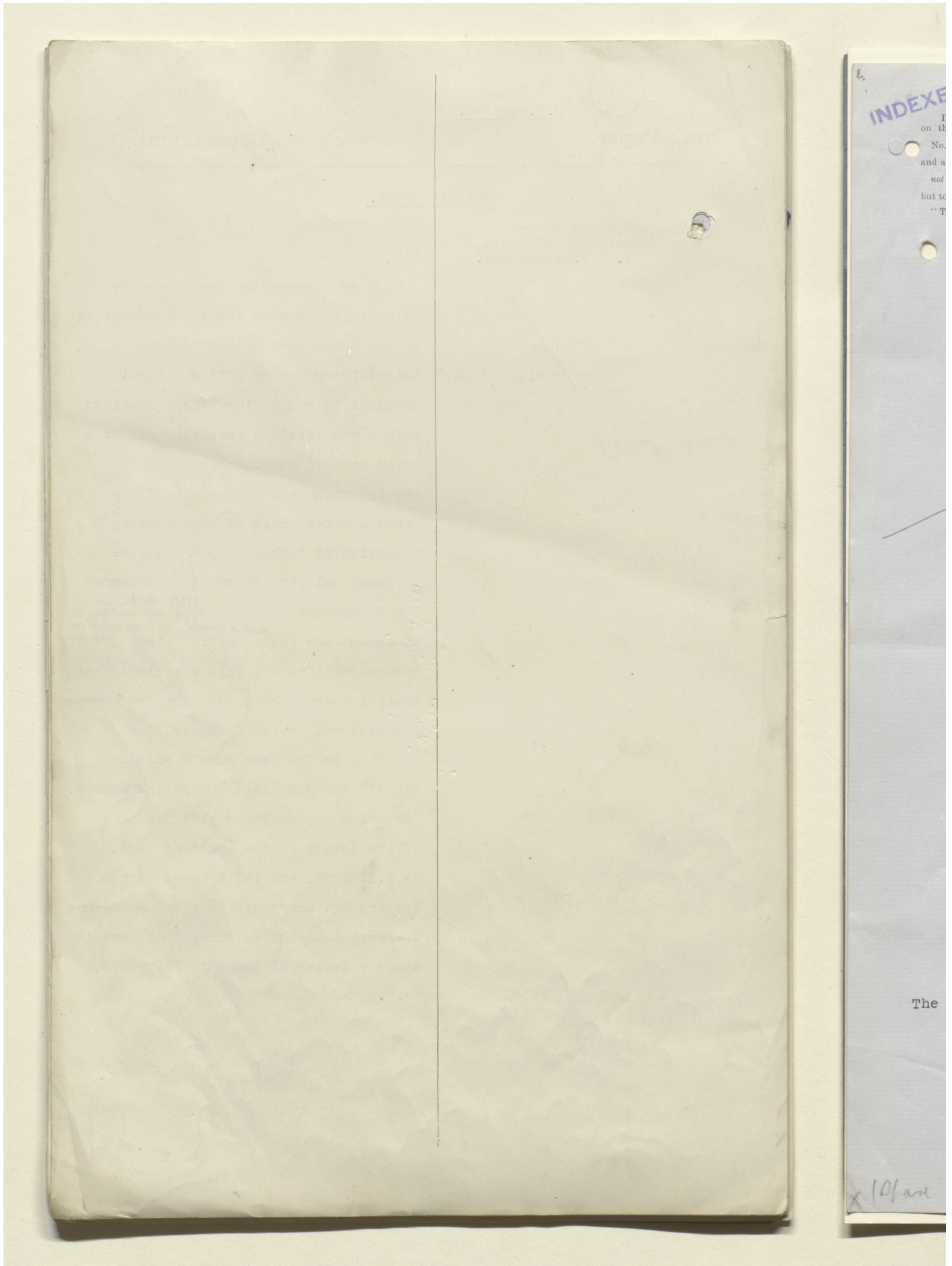
4 JAN 1937

APPROVED COUNCIL
11 JAN 1937

5319c 5000 30.86

(Sd.) J. C. WALTON

Walt
29/12
29/12
Walt
30/12
4/1



Coll 29/81 'Tehran Legation: supply of wireless set' [27r] (53/90)

INDEXED

In any further communication on this subject, please quote

No. P 4308/206/150

and address—

not to any person by name.

but to—

"The Under-Secretary of State,"
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

FOREIGN OFFICE.

S.W.1.

15th December, 1936.

P. Z.
8944
1936

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Eden to request you to lay before the Secretary of State for India the accompanying copy of a letter, with its enclosures, which has been addressed to the Treasury, regarding the reproduction and distribution of "British News" in Iran.

2. I am to enquire whether the Marquess of Zetland is agreeable to the proposal that a moiety of the expenditure referred to in paragraph 6 of the letter should be chargeable to Indian Revenues.

I am,

Sir,

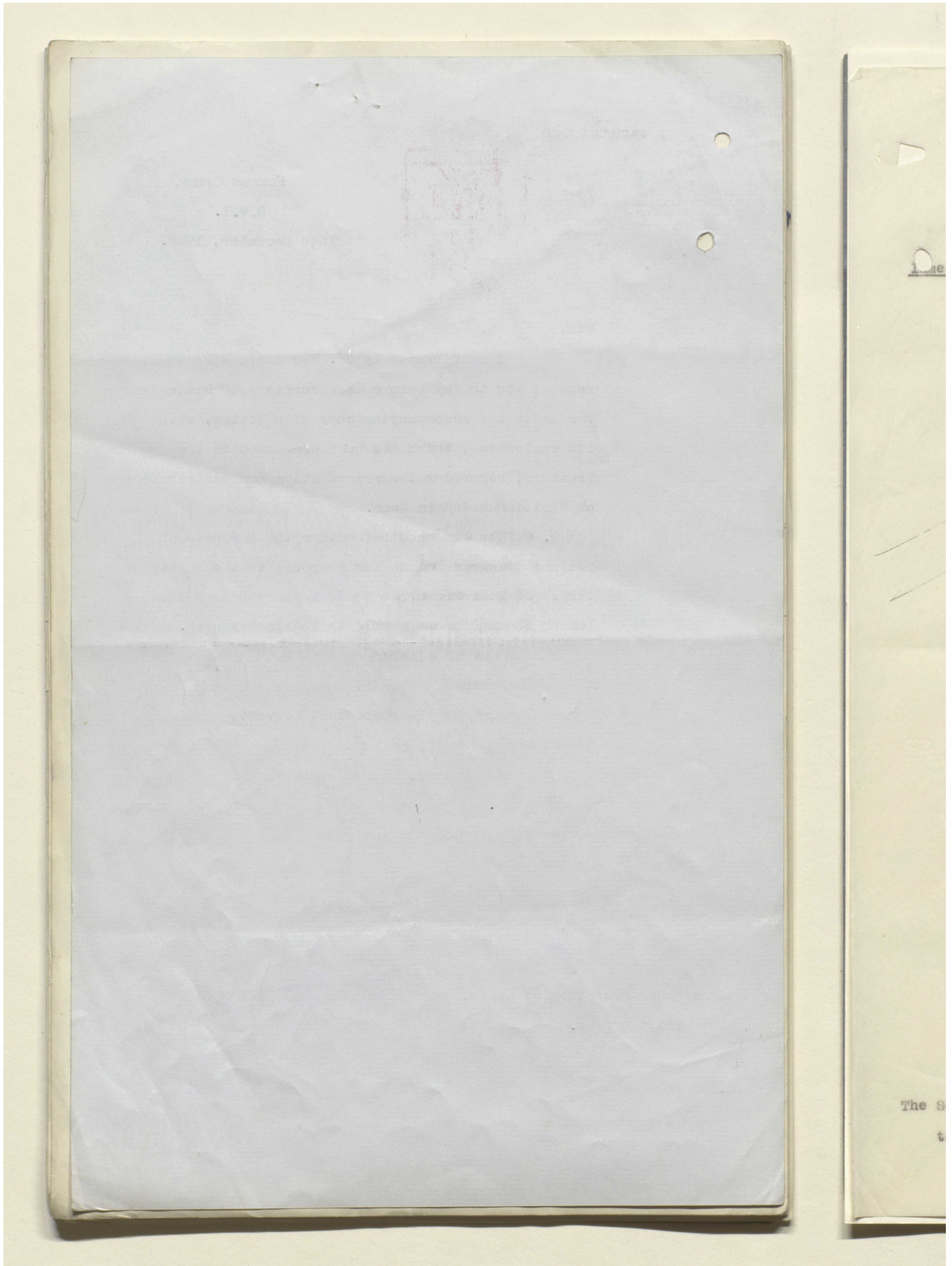
Your obedient Servant,

R. Z. Eden

The Under-Secretary of State,
India Office.

REC'D. POL. SECY
16 DEC 1936
INDIA OFFICE

X (10/12/36) (15-12-36)



28

E 4308/206/150

P. Z.
8944
1936

FOREIGN OFFICE,
S.W.1.
15th December, 1936.

Immediate.

Sir,

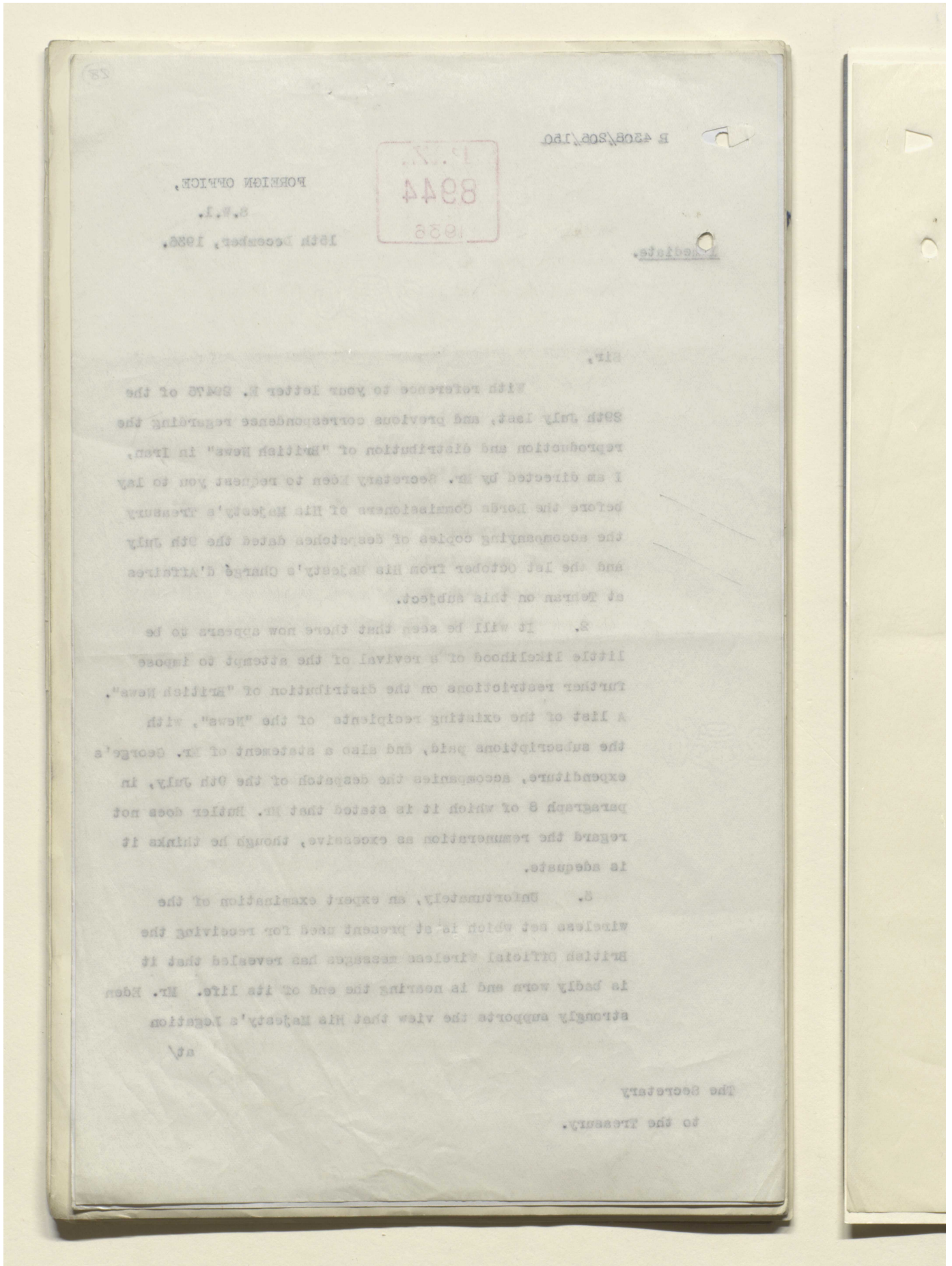
With reference to your letter E. 29476 of the 29th July last, and previous correspondence regarding the reproduction and distribution of "British News" in Iran, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Eden to request you to lay before the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury the accompanying copies of despatches dated the 9th July and the 1st October from His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Tehran on this subject.

2. It will be seen that there now appears to be little likelihood of a revival of the attempt to impose further restrictions on the distribution of "British News". A list of the existing recipients of the "News", with the subscriptions paid, and also a statement of Mr. George's expenditure, accompanies the despatch of the 9th July, in paragraph 8 of which it is stated that Mr. Butler does not regard the remuneration as excessive, though he thinks it is adequate.

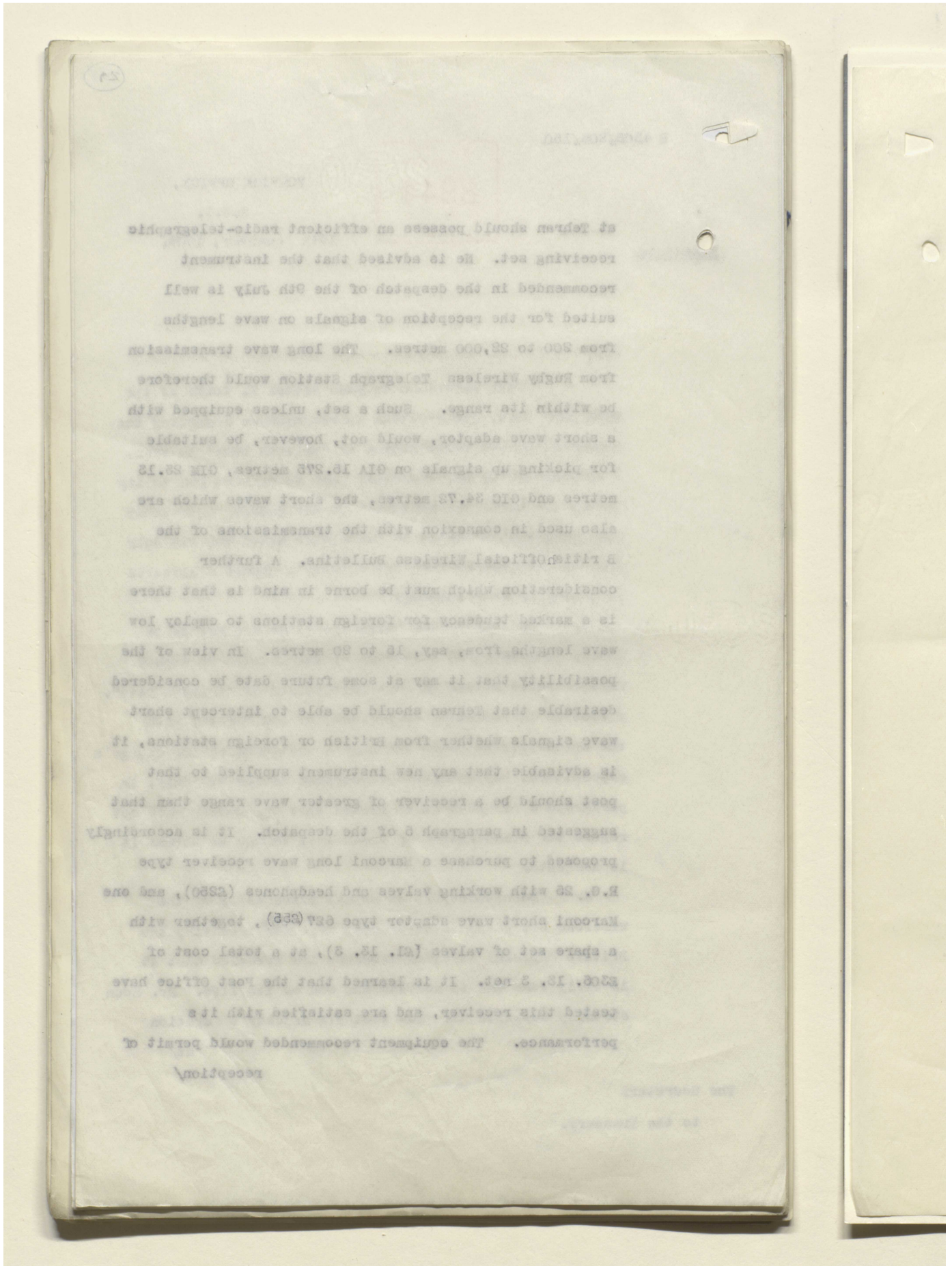
3. Unfortunately, an expert examination of the wireless set which is at present used for receiving the British Official Wireless messages has revealed that it is badly worn and is nearing the end of its life. Mr. Eden strongly supports the view that His Majesty's Legation

at/

The Secretary
to the Treasury.



at Tehran should possess an efficient radio-telegraphic receiving set. He is advised that the instrument recommended in the despatch of the 9th July is well suited for the reception of signals on wave lengths from 200 to 22,000 metres. The long wave transmission from Rugby Wireless Telegraph Station would therefore be within its range. Such a set, unless equipped with a short wave adaptor, would not, however, be suitable for picking up signals on G1A 15.275 metres, G1M 23.13 metres and G1C 34.72 metres, the short waves which are also used in connexion with the transmissions of the British Official Wireless Bulletins. A further consideration which must be borne in mind is that there is a marked tendency for foreign stations to employ low wave lengths from, say, 15 to 20 metres. In view of the possibility that it may at some future date be considered desirable that Tehran should be able to intercept short wave signals whether from British or foreign stations, it is advisable that any new instrument supplied to that post should be a receiver of greater wave range than that suggested in paragraph 5 of the despatch. It is accordingly proposed to purchase a Marconi long wave receiver type R.G. 25 with working valves and headphones (£250), and one Marconi short wave adaptor type 627 (£55), together with a spare set of valves (£1. 15. 3), at a total cost of £306. 15. 3 net. It is learned that the Post Office have tested this receiver, and are satisfied with its performance. The equipment recommended would permit of reception/



reception on all wave lengths from 15 metres to 22,000 metres, and is the cheapest obtainable to meet the requirements adequately.

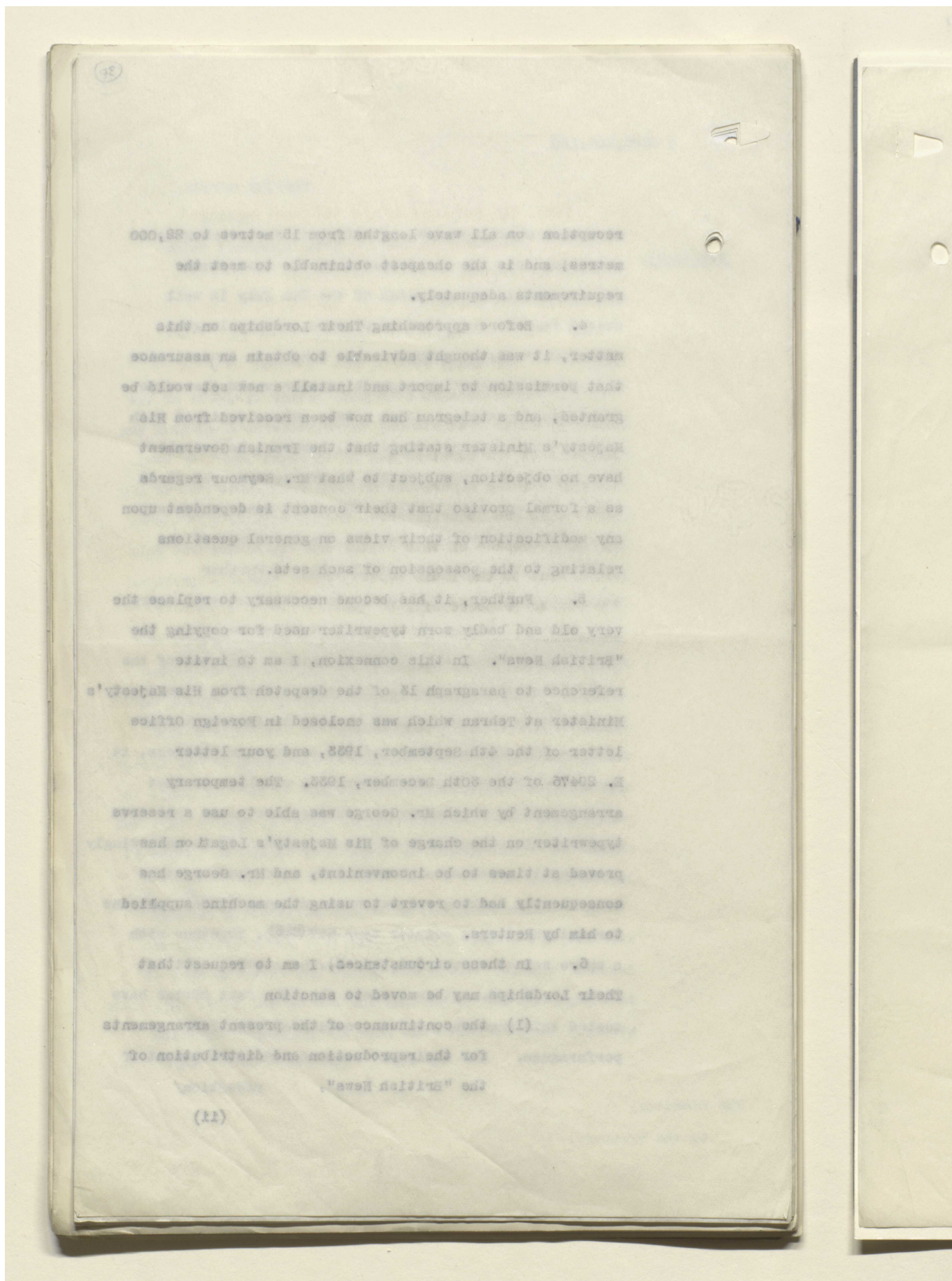
4. Before approaching Their Lordships on this matter, it was thought advisable to obtain an assurance that permission to import and install a new set would be granted, and a telegram has now been received from His Majesty's Minister stating that the Iranian Government have no objection, subject to what Mr. Seymour regards as a formal proviso that their consent is dependent upon any modification of their views on general questions relating to the possession of such sets.

5. Further, it has become necessary to replace the very old and badly worn typewriter used for copying the "British News". In this connexion, I am to invite reference to paragraph 13 of the despatch from His Majesty's Minister at Tehran which was enclosed in Foreign Office letter of the 4th September, 1933, and your letter E. 29476 of the 30th December, 1933. The temporary arrangement by which Mr. George was able to use a reserve typewriter on the charge of His Majesty's Legation has proved at times to be inconvenient, and Mr. George has consequently had to revert to using the machine supplied to him by Reuters.

6. In these circumstances, I am to request that Their Lordships may be moved to sanction

- (1) the continuance of the present arrangements for the reproduction and distribution of the "British News",

(ii)



31

- (ii) the purchase of the wireless equipment proposed in the third paragraph of this letter, and
- (iii) the supply of a new typewriter to His Majesty's Legation on the understanding that one-half of the total expenditure involved will be recoverable from Indian Revenues.

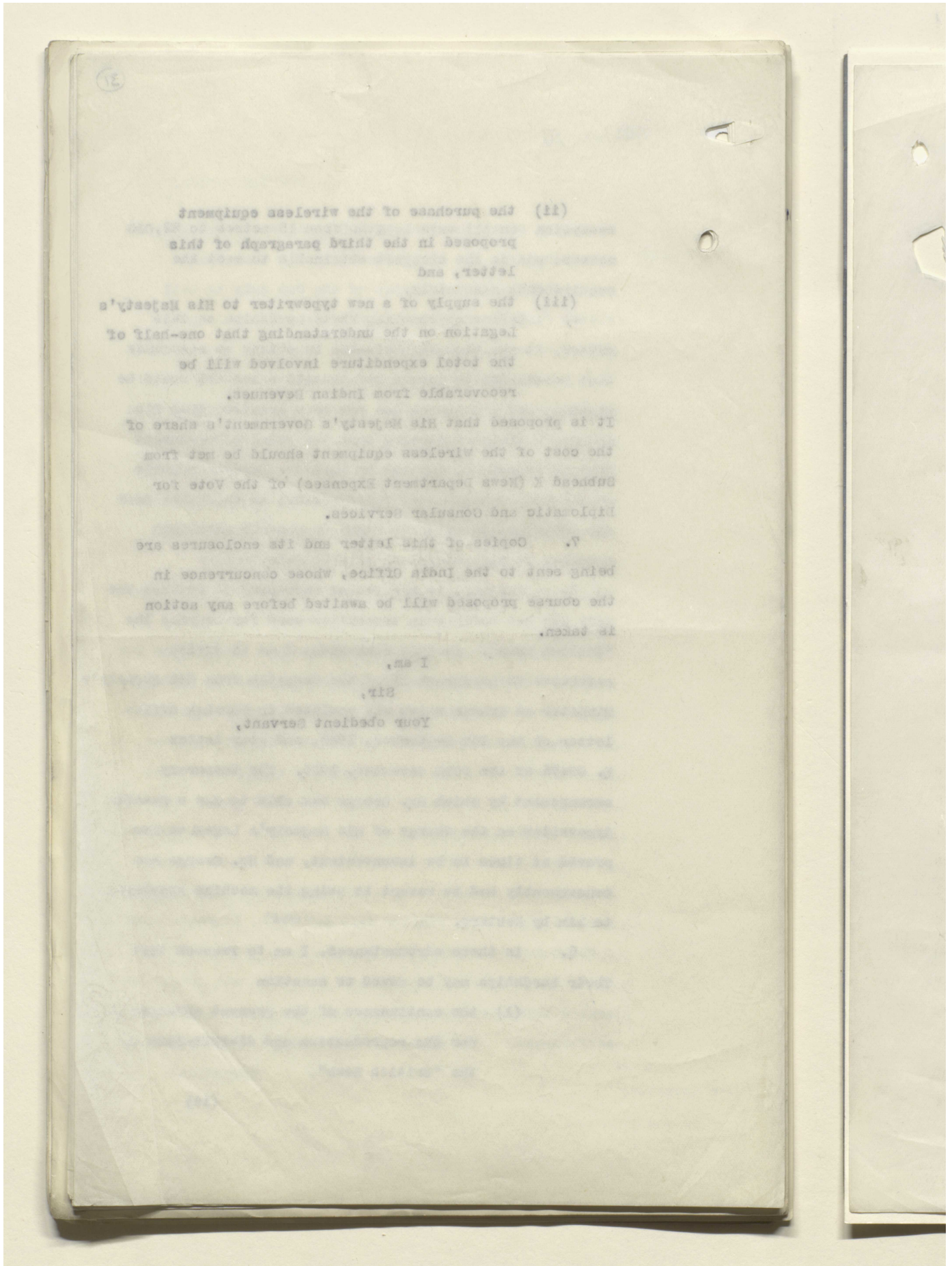
It is proposed that His Majesty's Government's share of the cost of the wireless equipment should be met from Subhead K (News Department Expenses) of the Vote for Diplomatic and Consular Services.

7. Copies of this letter and its enclosures are being sent to the India Office, whose concurrence in the course proposed will be awaited before any action is taken.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



No.343
(166/77/36)

9th July, 1936.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No.270 (P 1406/206/150) of June the 24th last, and to inform you that no further attempts have been made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to induce the Legation to cease distributing the British News to outside subscribers. On the contrary they have shown some desire to receive extracts from the News giving the speeches of British Cabinet Ministers on important international issues and a recent incident, described below, has even led to a request that the text of such speeches should regularly be furnished by the Legation in future to the Pars Agency.

2. As stated in the fourth paragraph of my letter to Mr. Nash of May 16th last, the practice of the Legation since 1934 has been, not to send the news regularly to the Pars Agency, but to communicate occasional extracts unofficially to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Ministry has when usually caused these extracts to be translated and reproduced in the Persian press. A few weeks ago the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, in replying to a letter from me sending an account of a speech which you, Sir, had recently delivered, even expressed his warm thanks for my letter and requested that I should always send him such reports in future.

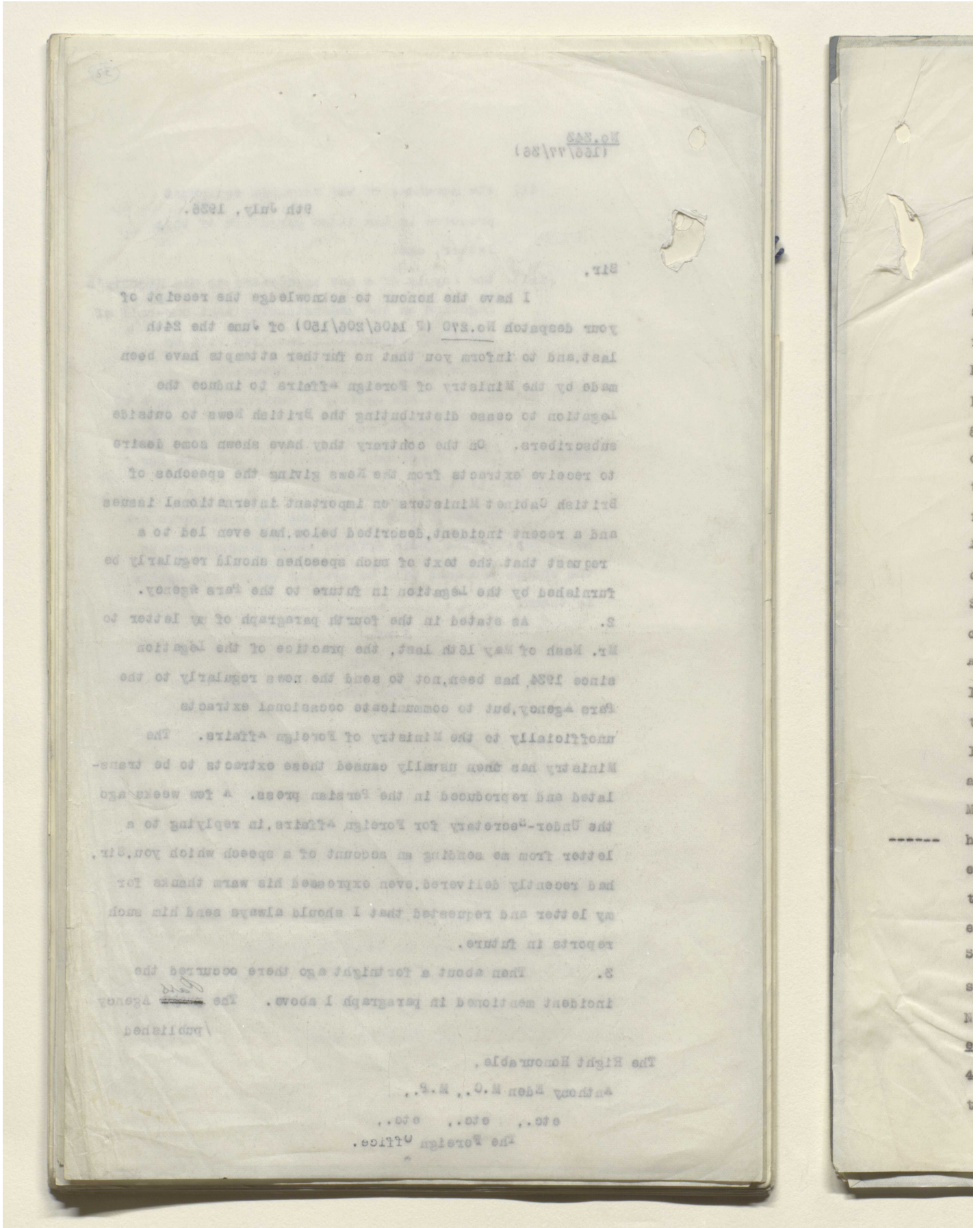
3. Then about a fortnight ago there occurred the incident mentioned in paragraph 1 above. The ^{Pars} ~~news~~ Agency /published

The Right Honourable,

Anthony Eden M.C., M.P.,

etc., etc., etc.,

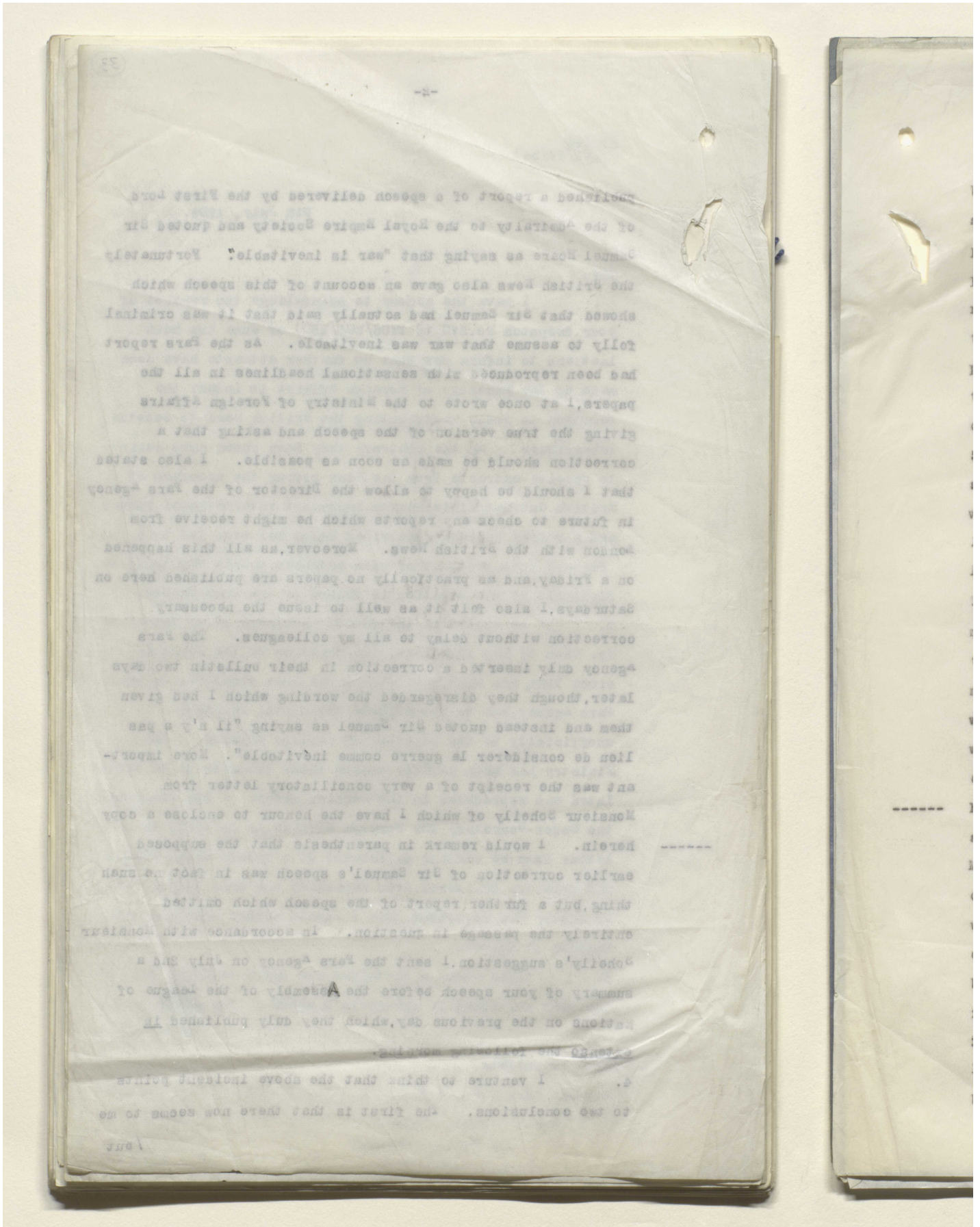
The Foreign Office.



published a report of a speech delivered by the First Lord of the Admiralty to the Royal Empire Society and quoted Sir Samuel Hoare as saying that "war is inevitable." Fortunately the British News also gave an account of this speech which showed that Sir Samuel had actually said that it was criminal folly to assume that war was inevitable. As the Pars report had been reproduced with sensational headlines in all the papers, I at once wrote to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs giving the true version of the speech and asking that a correction should be made as soon as possible. I also stated that I should be happy to allow the Director of the Pars Agency in future to check any reports which he might receive from London with the British News. Moreover, as all this happened on a Friday, and as practically no papers are published here on Saturdays, I also felt it as well to issue the necessary correction without delay to all my colleagues. The Pars Agency duly inserted a correction in their bulletin two days later, though they disregarded the wording which I had given them and instead quoted Sir Samuel as saying "il n'y a pas lieu de considérer la guerre comme inévitable". More important was the receipt of a very conciliatory letter from Monsieur Scheilly of which I have the honour to enclose a copy ----- herein. I would remark in parenthesis that the supposed earlier correction of Sir Samuel's speech was in fact no such thing, but a further report of the speech which omitted entirely the passage in question. In accordance with Monsieur Scheilly's suggestion, I sent the Pars Agency on July 2nd a summary of your speech before the Assembly of the League of Nations on the previous day, which they duly published in extenso the following morning.

4. I venture to think that the above incident points to two conclusions. The first is that there now seems to me

/ but

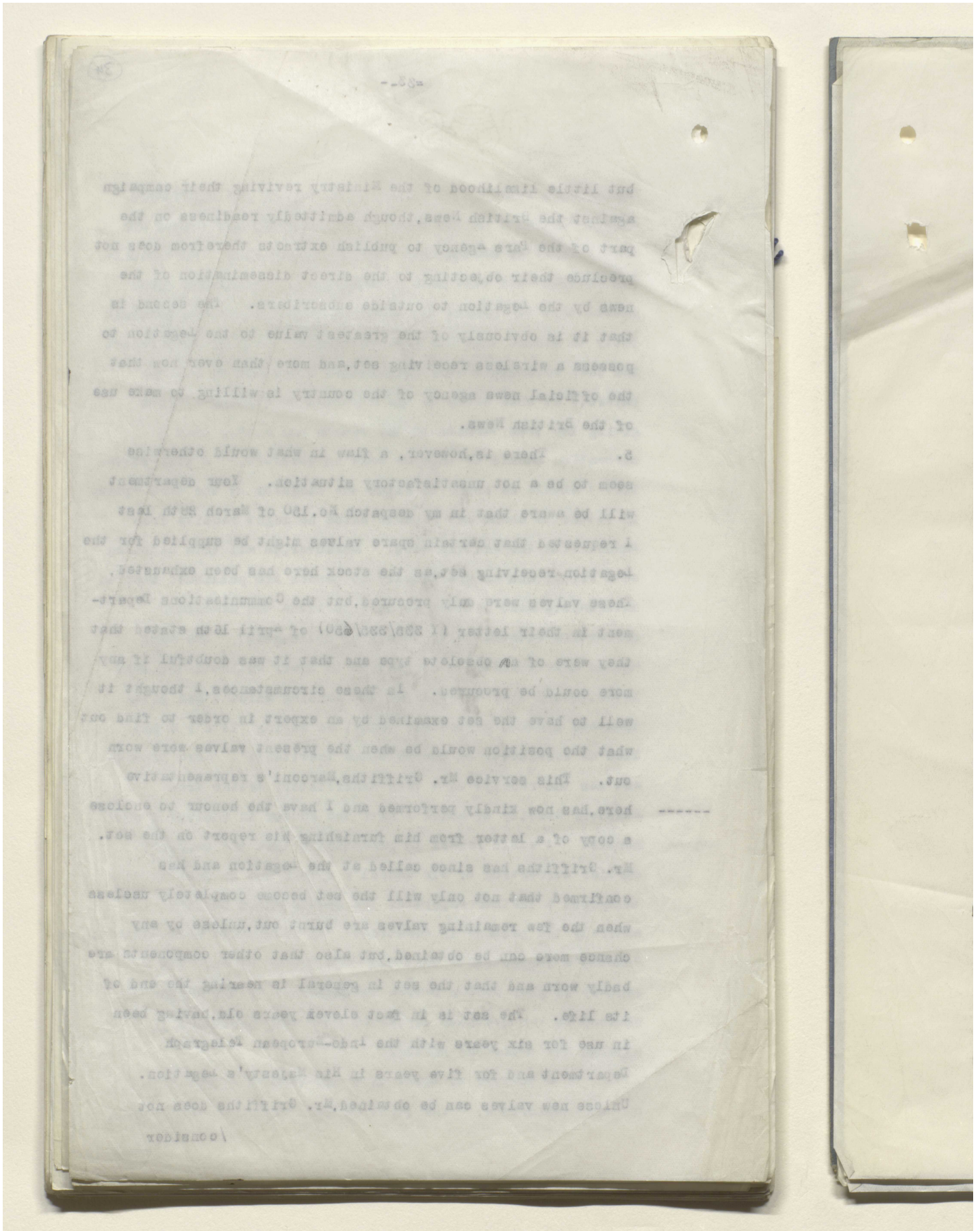


-33--

34

but little likelihood of the Ministry reviving their campaign against the British News, though admittedly readiness on the part of the Pars Agency to publish extracts therefrom does not preclude their objecting to the direct dissemination of the news by the Legation to outside subscribers. The second is that it is obviously of the greatest value to the Legation to possess a wireless receiving set, and more than ever now that the official news agency of the country is willing to make use of the British News.

5. There is, however, a flaw in what would otherwise seem to be a not unsatisfactory situation. Your department will be aware that in my despatch No. 150 of March 28th last I requested that certain spare valves might be supplied for the Legation receiving set, as the stock here has been exhausted. These valves were duly procured, but the Communications Department in their letter (Y 335/335/650) of April 16th stated that they were of an obsolete type and that it was doubtful if any more could be procured. In these circumstances, I thought it well to have the set examined by an expert in order to find out what the position would be when the present valves were worn out. This service Mr. Griffiths, Marconi's representative ----- here, has now kindly performed and I have the honour to enclose a copy of a letter from him furnishing his report on the set. Mr. Griffiths has since called at the Legation and has confirmed that not only will the set become completely useless when the few remaining valves are burnt out, unless by any chance more can be obtained, but also that other components are badly worn and that the set in general is nearing the end of its life. The set is in fact eleven years old, having been in use for six years with the Indo-European Telegraph Department and for five years in His Majesty's Legation. Unless new valves can be obtained, Mr. Griffiths does not
/consider



- 4 -

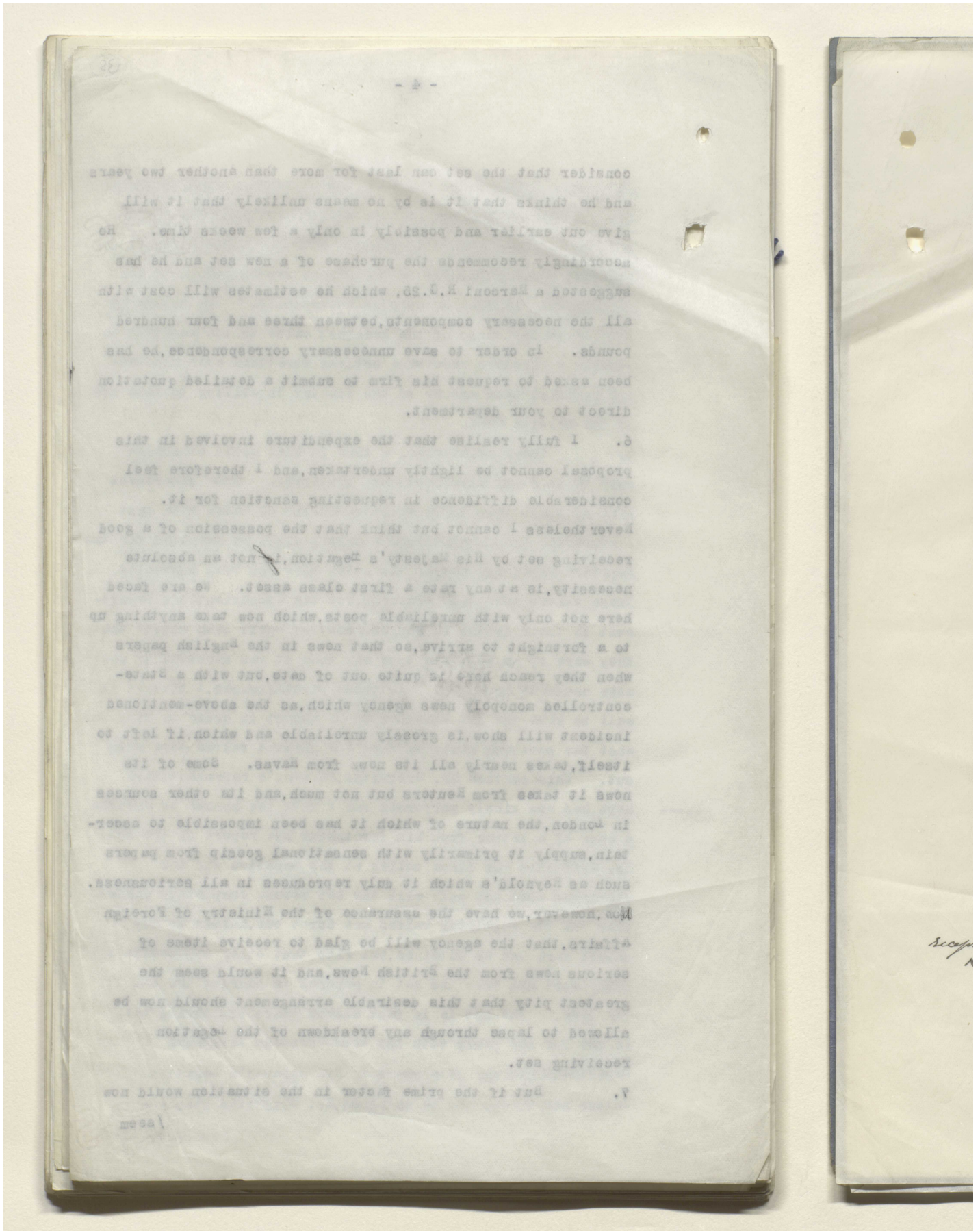
35

consider that the set can last for more than another two years and he thinks that it is by no means unlikely that it will give out earlier and possibly in only a few weeks time. He accordingly recommends the purchase of a new set and he has suggested a Marconi R.G.25, which he estimates will cost with all the necessary components, between three and four hundred pounds. In order to save unnecessary correspondence, he has been asked to request his firm to submit a detailed quotation direct to your department.

6. I fully realise that the expenditure involved in this proposal cannot be lightly undertaken, and I therefore feel considerable diffidence in requesting sanction for it. Nevertheless I cannot but think that the possession of a good receiving set by His Majesty's Legation, is not an absolute necessity, is at any rate a first class asset. We are faced here not only with unreliable posts, which now take anything up to a fortnight to arrive, so that news in the English papers when they reach here is quite out of date, but with a State-controlled monopoly news agency which, as the above-mentioned incident will show, is grossly unreliable and which, if left to itself, takes nearly all its news from Havas. Some of its news it takes from Reuters but not much, and its other sources in London, the nature of which it has been impossible to ascertain, supply it primarily with sensational gossip from papers such as Reynolds's which it duly reproduces in all seriousness. Now, however, we have the assurance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, that the agency will be glad to receive items of serious news from the British News, and it would seem the greatest pity that this desirable arrangement should now be allowed to lapse through any breakdown of the Legation receiving set.

7. But if the prime factor in the situation would now

/seen

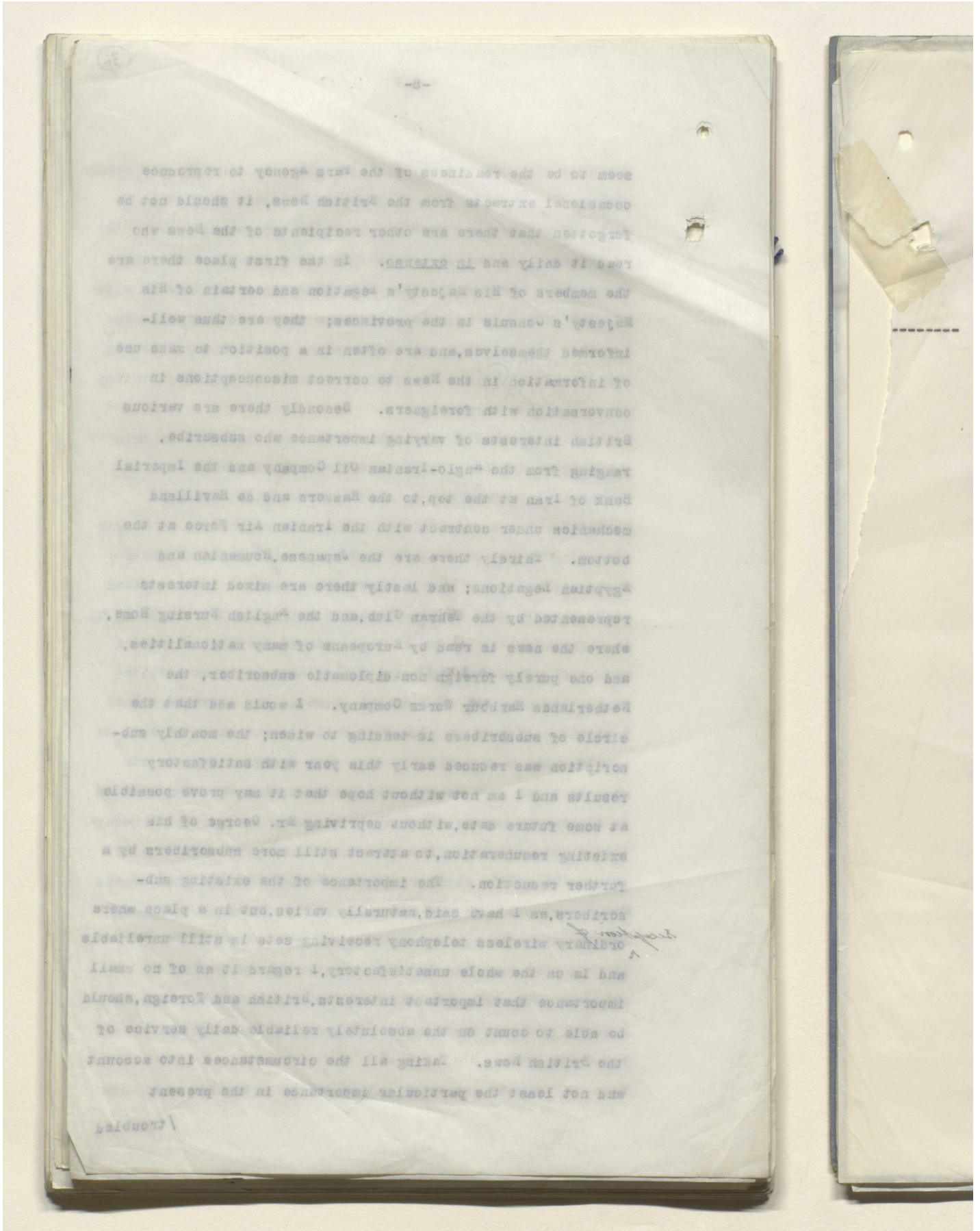


-5-

36

seen to be the readiness of the Fars Agency to reproduce occasional extracts from the British News, it should not be forgotten that there are other recipients of the News who read it daily and in extent. In the first place there are the members of His Majesty's Legation and certain of His Majesty's Consuls in the provinces; they are thus well-informed themselves, and are often in a position to make use of information in the News to correct misconceptions in conversation with foreigners. Secondly there are various British interests of varying importance who subscribe, ranging from the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company and the Imperial Bank of Iran at the top, to the Hawks and de Havilland mechanics under contract with the Iranian Air Force at the bottom. Thirdly there are the Japanese, Roumanian and Egyptian Legations; and lastly there are mixed interests represented by the Tehran Club, and the English Nursing Home, where the news is read by Europeans of many nationalities, and one purely foreign non-diplomatic subscriber, the Netherlands Harbour Works Company. I would add that the circle of subscribers is tending to widen; the monthly subscription was reduced early this year with satisfactory results and I am not without hope that it may prove possible at some future date, without depriving Mr. George of his existing remuneration, to attract still more subscribers by a further reduction. The importance of the existing subscribers, as I have said, naturally varies, but in a place where ^{reception of} ordinary wireless telephony receiving sets is still unreliable and is on the whole unsatisfactory, I regard it as of no small importance that important interests, British and Foreign, should be able to count on the absolutely reliable daily service of the British News. Taking all the circumstances into account and not least the particular importance in the present

/troubled

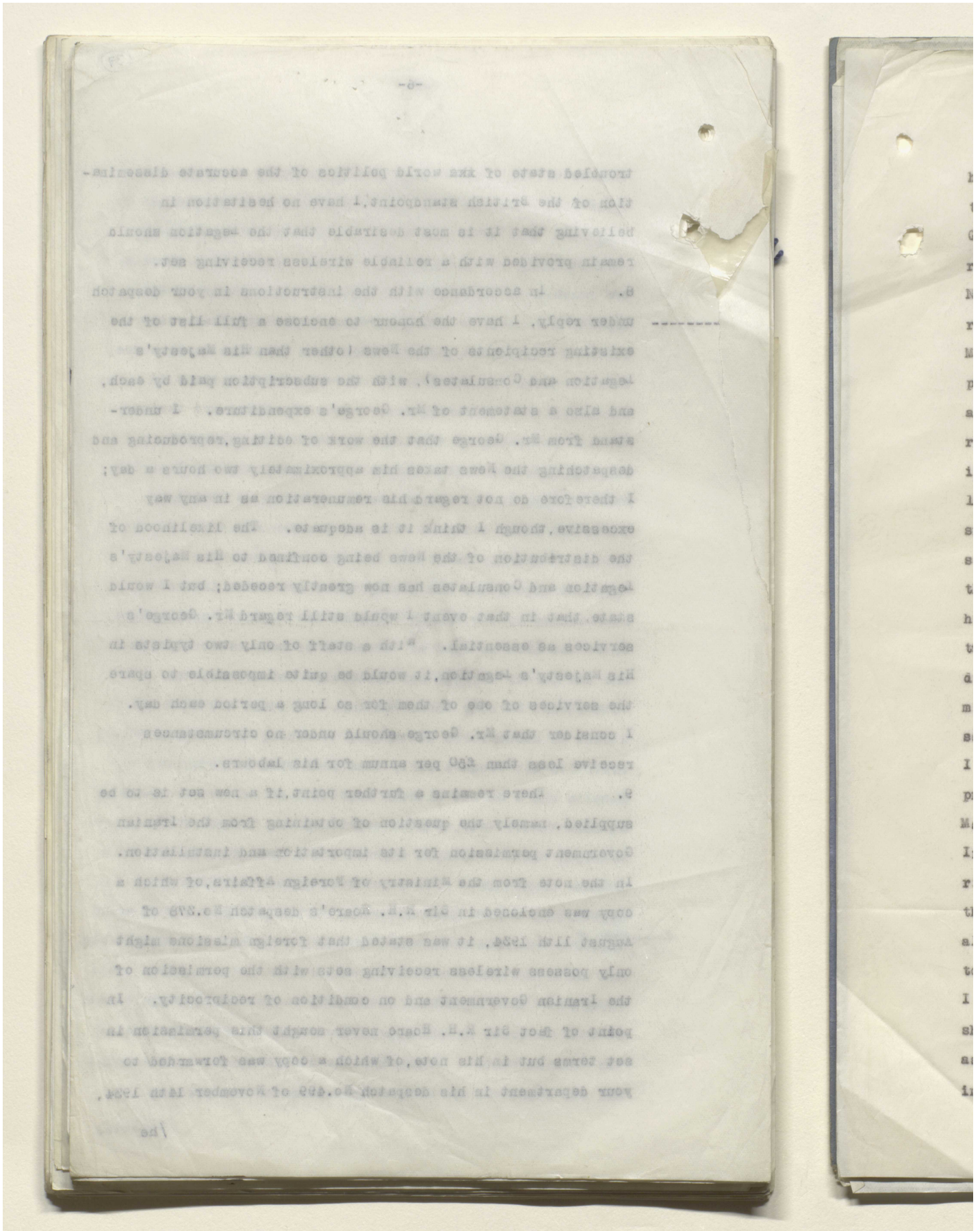


troubled state of the world politics of the accurate dissemination of the British standpoint, I have no hesitation in believing that it is most desirable that the Legation should remain provided with a reliable wireless receiving set.

8. In accordance with the instructions in your despatch under reply, I have the honour to enclose a full list of the existing recipients of the News (other than His Majesty's Legation and Consulates), with the subscription paid by each, and also a statement of Mr. George's expenditure. I understand from Mr. George that the work of editing, reproducing and despatching the News takes him approximately two hours a day; I therefore do not regard his remuneration as in any way excessive, though I think it is adequate. The likelihood of the distribution of the News being confined to His Majesty's Legation and Consulates has now greatly receded; but I would state that in that event I would still regard Mr. George's services as essential. With a staff of only two typists in His Majesty's Legation, it would be quite impossible to spare the services of one of them for so long a period each day. I consider that Mr. George should under no circumstances receive less than £50 per annum for his labours.

9. There remains a further point, if a new set is to be supplied, namely the question of obtaining from the Iranian Government permission for its importation and installation. In the note from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, of which a copy was enclosed in Sir R.H. Hoare's despatch No. 378 of August 11th 1934, it was stated that foreign missions might only possess wireless receiving sets with the permission of the Iranian Government and on condition of reciprocity. In point of fact Sir R.H. Hoare never sought this permission in set terms but in his note, of which a copy was forwarded to your department in his despatch No. 499 of November 14th 1934,

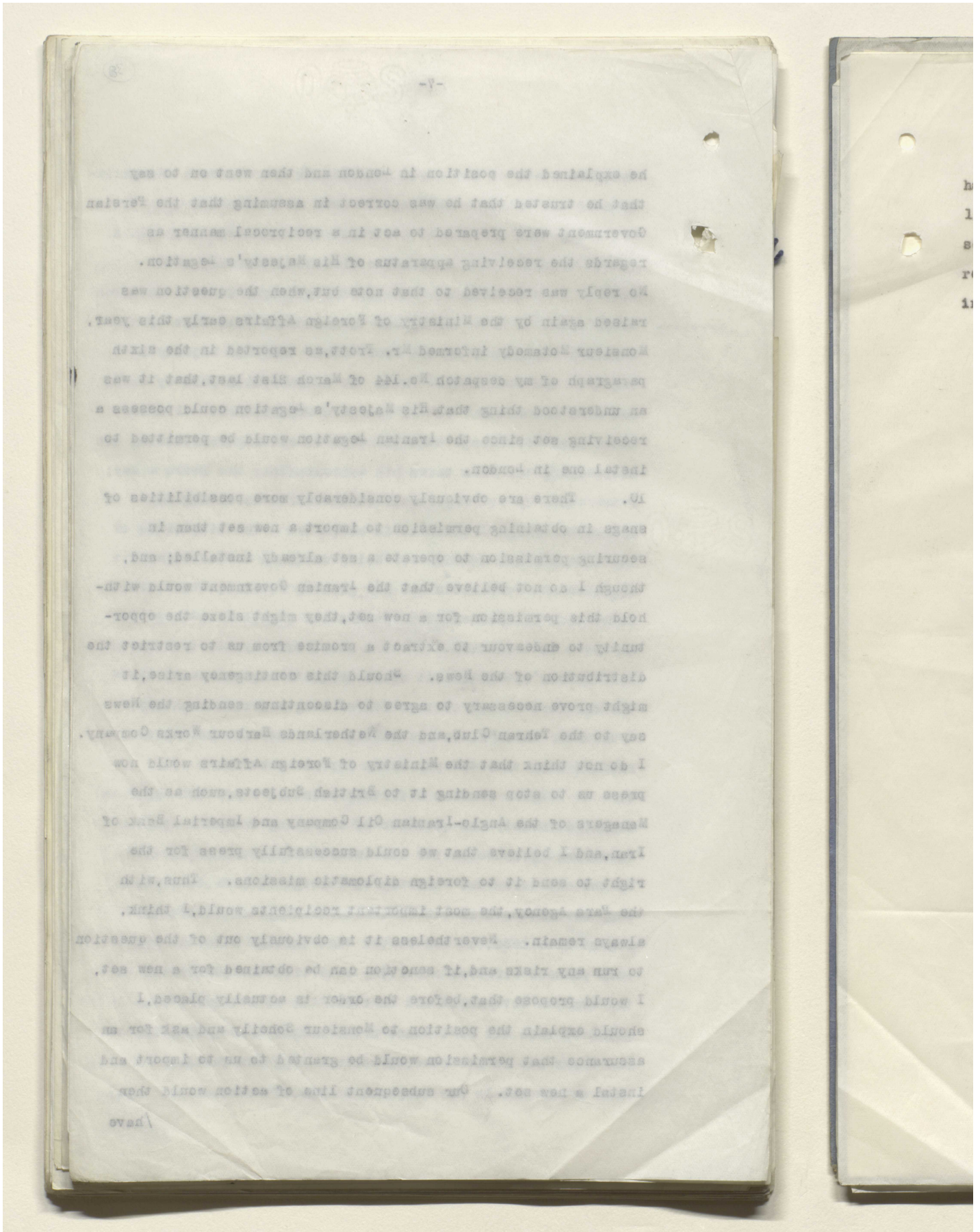
/he



he explained the position in London and then went on to say that he trusted that he was correct in assuming that the Persian Government were prepared to act in a reciprocal manner as regards the receiving apparatus of His Majesty's Legation. No reply was received to that note but, when the question was raised again by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs early this year, Monsieur Motamedy informed Mr. Trott, as reported in the sixth paragraph of my despatch No. 144 of March 21st last, that it was an understood thing that His Majesty's Legation could possess a receiving set since the Iranian Legation would be permitted to instal one in London.

10. There are obviously considerably more possibilities of snags in obtaining permission to import a new set than in securing permission to operate a set already installed; and, though I do not believe that the Iranian Government would withhold this permission for a new set, they might seize the opportunity to endeavour to extract a promise from us to restrict the distribution of the News. Should this contingency arise, it might prove necessary to agree to discontinue sending the News say to the Tehran Club, and the Netherlands Harbour Works Company. I do not think that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs would now press us to stop sending it to British Subjects, such as the Managers of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company and Imperial Bank of Iran, and I believe that we could successfully press for the right to send it to foreign diplomatic missions. Thus, with the Pars Agency, the most important recipients would, I think, always remain. Nevertheless it is obviously out of the question to run any risks and, if sanction can be obtained for a new set, I would propose that, before the order is actually placed, I should explain the position to Monsieur Scheilly and ask for an assurance that permission would be granted to us to import and instal a new set. Our subsequent line of action would then

/have



have to depend on his reply.

11. I should be grateful, if I might be informed as soon as possible whether sanction can be obtained for a new receiving set and, if so, whether you approve the course suggested in the preceding paragraph.

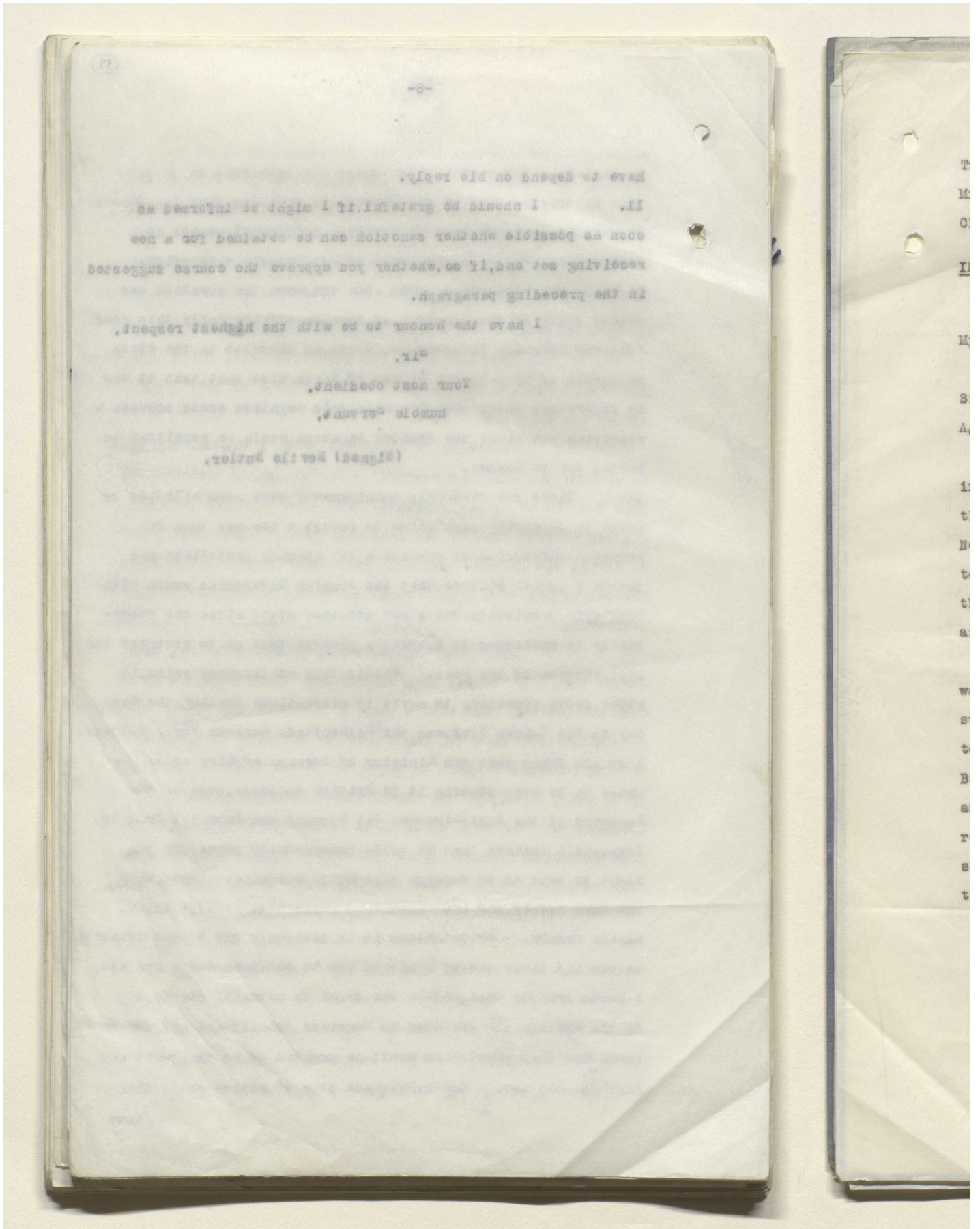
I have the honour to be with the highest respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

(Signed) Neville Butler.



Translation of a Letter from the Director-General of the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Pars Agency) to His Majesty's
Chargé d'Affaires. 7th Tir, 1315 (28th June, 1936). No. 69.

IMMEDIATE

My dear Friend,

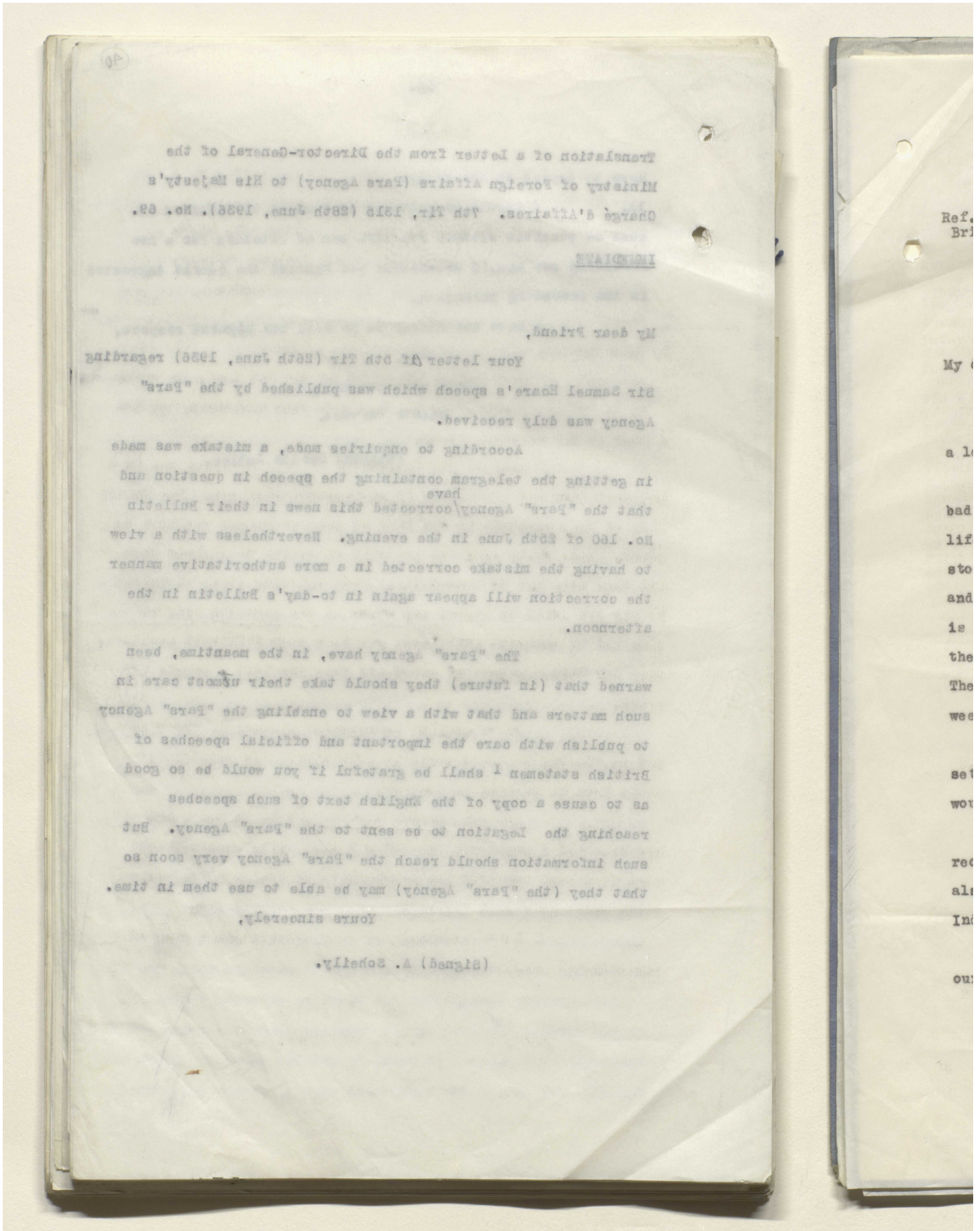
Your letter of 5th Tir (26th June, 1936) regarding
Sir Samuel Hoare's speech which was published by the "Pars"
Agency was duly received.

According to enquiries made, a mistake was made
in getting the telegram containing the speech in question and
that the "Pars" Agency ^{have} corrected this news in their Bulletin
No. 160 of 25th June in the evening. Nevertheless with a view
to having the mistake corrected in a more authoritative manner
the correction will appear again in to-day's Bulletin in the
afternoon.

The "Pars" Agency have, in the meantime, been
warned that (in future) they should take their utmost care in
such matters and that with a view to enabling the "Pars" Agency
to publish with care the important and official speeches of
British statesmen I shall be grateful if you would be so good
as to cause a copy of the English text of such speeches
reaching the Legation to be sent to the "Pars" Agency. But
such information should reach the "Pars" Agency very soon so
that they (the "Pars" Agency) may be able to use them in time.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) A. Scheilly.



C O P Y

Ref.
British Legation,
Amplifier AG.2 (PS 444/Q), etc.

July 6th, 1936.

c/o Pension Ecbatan,
Khiaban Shah, No. 5,
Teheran.

My dear Loxley,

Your letter 166/57/36 of the 1st inst. to hand.

I called at the Legation this afternoon and had a look at the receiver there.

Some of the components of this receiver are in a bad condition and the valves it employs are obsolete. The future life of this receiver is the life of the few valves you have in stock. When these burn out you will be unable to replace them and then your set is unworkable. Your existing stock of valves is far too small to hazard any guess at the probable life of them and an accident will leave you in a very difficult position. They may last a couple of years and they may last a couple of weeks.

It is useless to consider reconditioning this set as firstly the cost would be prohibitive and secondly it would have to be done in England.

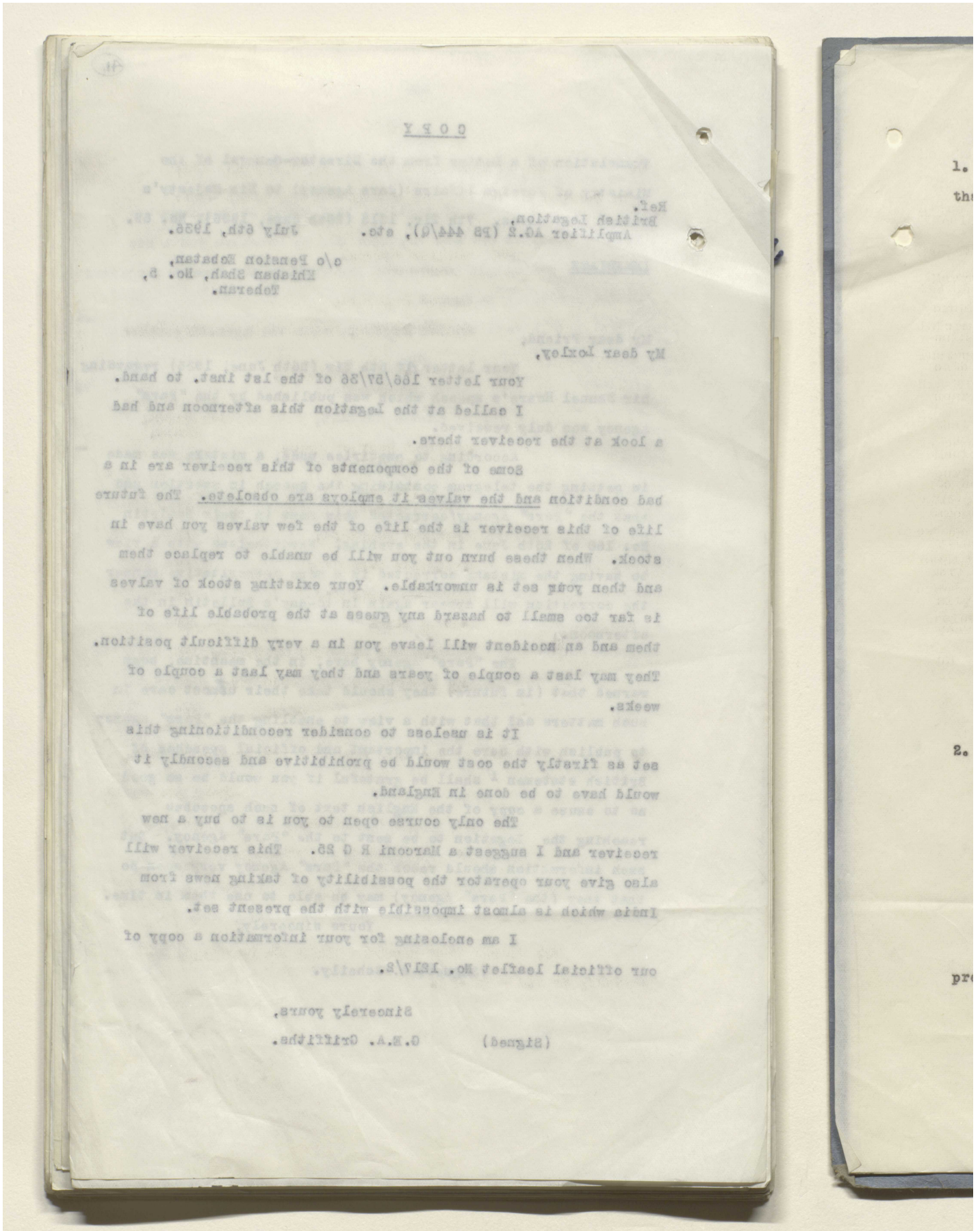
The only course open to you is to buy a new receiver and I suggest a Marconi R G 25. This receiver will also give your operator the possibility of taking news from India which is almost impossible with the present set.

I am enclosing for your information a copy of our official leaflet No. 1217/2.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed)

G.E.A. Griffiths.



COPY

Rel.
British Legation,
Amplifier AG.8 (PS 444(d)), etc.
July 6th, 1938.
c/o Persian Embassy,
Khayaban Shahr, No. 3,
Tehran.

My dear Mr. ...
Your letter of 27/38 of the 1st inst. to hand.
I called at the Legation this afternoon and had
a look at the receiver there.
Some of the components of this receiver are in a
bad condition and the valves if employed are obsolete. The future
life of this receiver is the life of the few valves you have in
stock. When these burn out you will be unable to replace them
and then your set is unworkable. Your existing stock of valves
is far too small to hazard any guess at the probable life of
them and an accident will leave you in a very difficult position.
They may last a couple of years and they may last a couple of
weeks.
It is useless to consider reconditioning this
set as firstly the cost would be prohibitive and secondly it
would have to be done in England.
The only course open to you is to buy a new
receiver and I suggest a Marconi K G 28. This receiver will
also give your operator the possibility of taking news from
India which is almost impossible with the present set.

I am enclosing for your information a copy of
our official letter No. 12151/S.

Sincerely yours,
G.E.A. Griffiths (Signed)

(42)

1. List of Recipients of the British News, other than members of His Majesty's Legation and Consulates.

(a) Without charge.

German Legation.

Tehran Nursing Association Nursing Home.

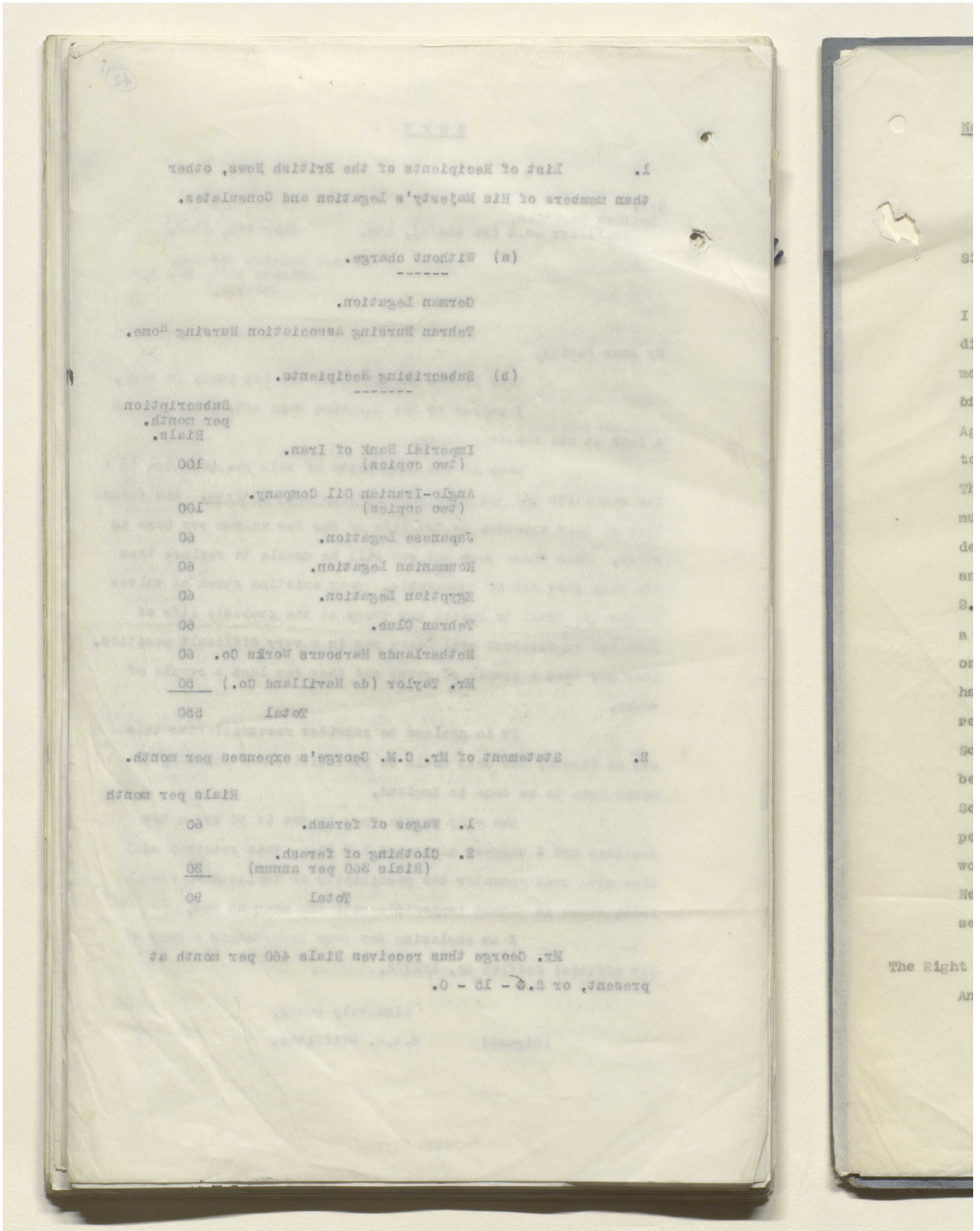
(b) Subscribing Recipients.

	Subscription per month. Rials.
Imperial Bank of Iran. (two copies)	100
Anglo-Iranian Oil Company. (two copies)	100
Japanese Legation.	60
Roumanian Legation.	60
Egyptian Legation.	60
Tehran Club.	60
Netherlands Harbours Works Co.	60
Mr. Taylor (de Havilland Co.)	<u>50</u>
Total	550

2. Statement of Mr. C.M. George's expenses per month.

	Rials per month
1. Wages of ferash.	60
2. Clothing of ferash. (Rials 360 per annum)	<u>30</u>
Total	90

Mr. George thus receives Rials 460 per month at present, or £.6 - 15 - 0.



43

No. 446
(219/4/36).

British Legation,
Culhek,
1st October, 1936.

Sir,

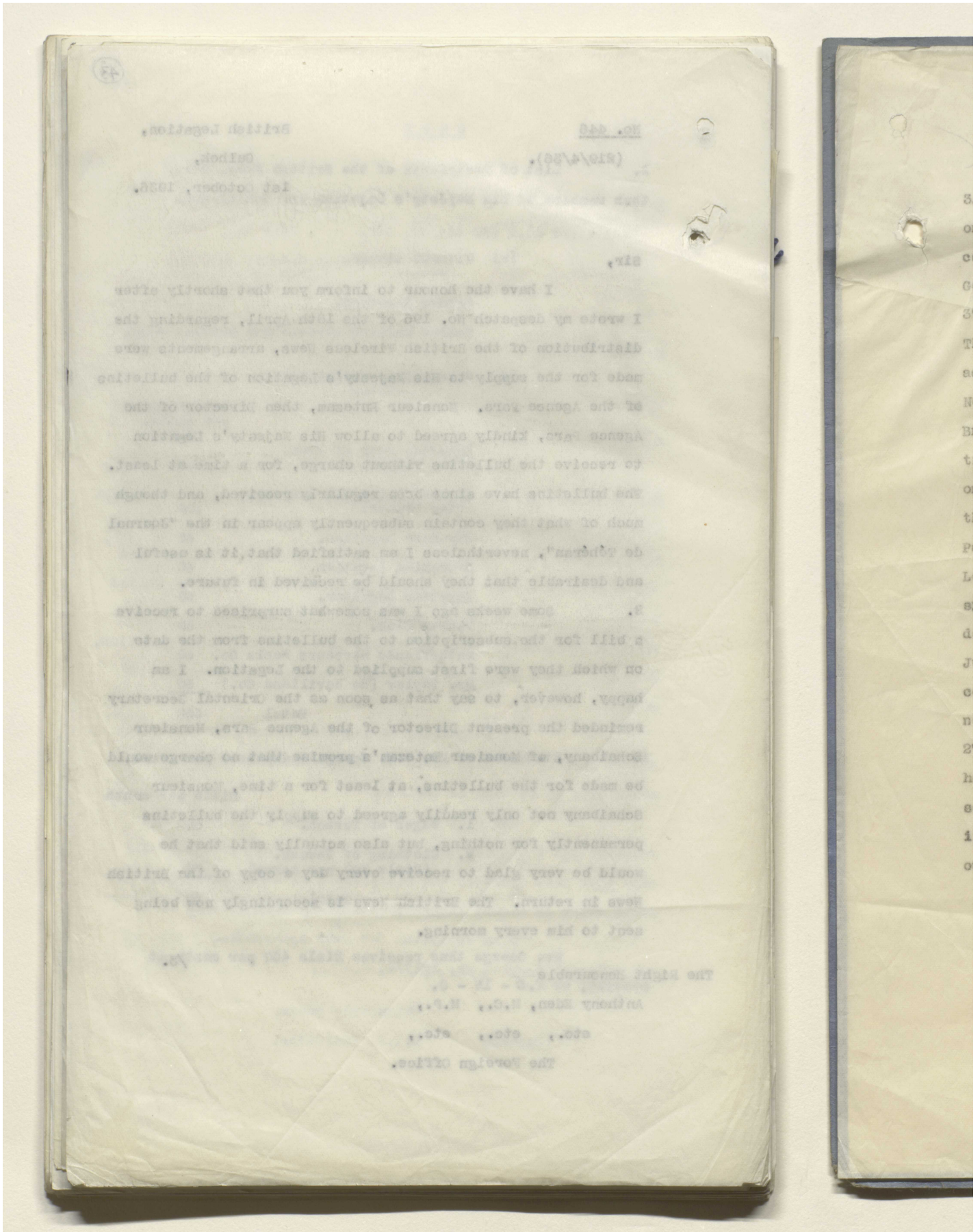
I have the honour to inform you that shortly after I wrote my despatch No. 196 of the 18th April, regarding the distribution of the British Wireless News, arrangements were made for the supply to His Majesty's Legation of the bulletins of the Agence Pars. Monsieur Entezam, then Director of the Agence Pars, kindly agreed to allow His Majesty's Legation to receive the bulletins without charge, for a time at least. The bulletins have since been regularly received, and though much of what they contain subsequently appear in the "Journal de Téhéran", nevertheless I am satisfied that it is useful and desirable that they should be received in future.

2. Some weeks ago I was somewhat surprised to receive a bill for the subscription to the bulletins from the date on which they were first supplied to the Legation. I am happy, however, to say that as soon as the Oriental Secretary reminded the present Director of the Agence Pars, Monsieur Schaibany, of Monsieur Entezam's promise that no charge would be made for the bulletins, at least for a time, Monsieur Schaibany not only readily agreed to supply the bulletins permanently for nothing, but also actually said that he would be very glad to receive every day a copy of the British News in return. The British News is accordingly now being sent to him every morning.

The Right Honourable

Anthony Eden, M.C., M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.,
The Foreign Office.

/S.



3. This happy dénouement, which reflects great credit on Mr. Trott's handling of the matter, of course involves a complete change from the attitude adopted by the Iranian Government in 1934 (see Sir Reginald Hoare's despatches Nos. 378 and 394 of the 11th and 22nd August, 1934 respectively). This change of attitude is much to be welcomed, and should add greatly to the value of the reception of the British News in Tehran. I will watch carefully to see how far the British News is used in preparation of the Agence Pars bulletins, and I will not fail to report further in due course on this subject. Meanwhile I would venture to suggest that the fact that the British News is now taken by the Agence Pars provides a further argument for the replacement of the Legation wireless set and the maintenance of the present system of reception and distribution, as recommended in my despatches Nos. 59 and 343 of the 6th February and the 7th July respectively. Nor is it irrelevant to mention in this connection that so irregular have posts from the United Kingdom now become that the original of your despatch No. 351 of the 27th August, posted in London on August 27th, did not arrive here till the 23rd September, a whole week after a copy of it sent by bag. I greatly hope that in all the circumstances it will be possible to secure approval of the proposals set out in my despatches under reference.

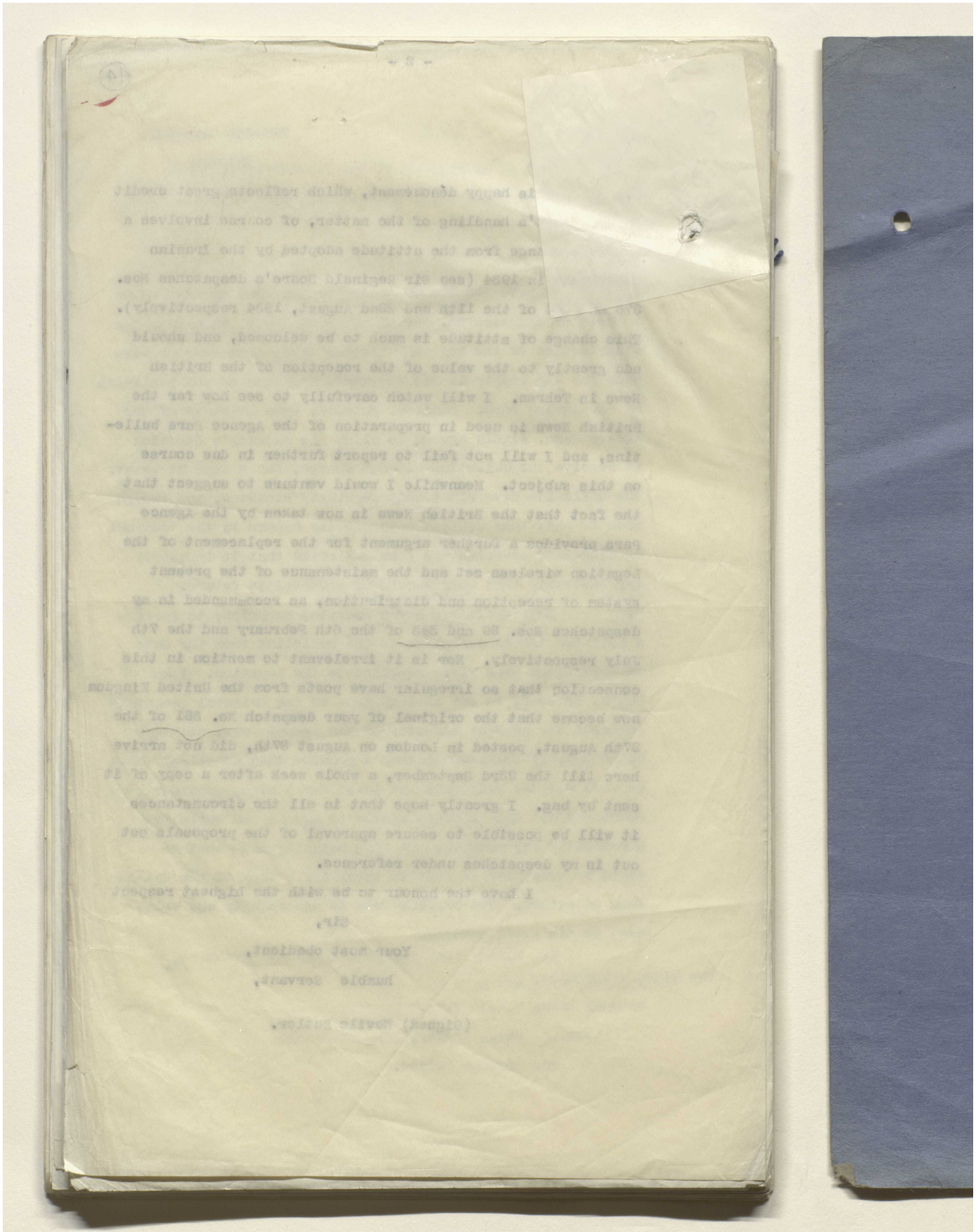
I have the honour to be with the highest respect

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

(signed) Neville Butler.



Coll 29/81 'Tehran Legation: supply of wireless set' [back-i] (89/90)

