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Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikdoms of the Persian Gulf.'

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	IOR/L/PS/12/3880
Date(s)	7 Dec 1936-28 Apr 1937 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 file (22 folios)
Copyright for document	Public Domain



About this record

The file concerns the emigration of thousands of people from Iran to the Arab coast of the Persian Gulf after they had become dissatisfied with administrative measures imposed by the Iranian Government, particularly the forced unveiling of women.

The papers include: the despatch of two agents by the Iranian Government to the Trucial Coast to induce emigrants to return; correspondence between the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf (Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Trenchard Craven William Fowle) and HM Minister, Tehran (Sir Horace James Seymour) concerning the diplomatic consequences of refusing entry to the agents; and further reports of the actions of the Iranian Government and its agents that resulted in emigration to the Arab coast.

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.

Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [front] (1/48)

①

Previous File :
Next File :

IOR:L/PS/12/3880

No. 30
File 145

**POLITICAL (EXTERNAL) DEPARTMENT
COLLECTION**

GENERAL HEADING { Persian Gulf.

SUB-HEAD { Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab
Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.

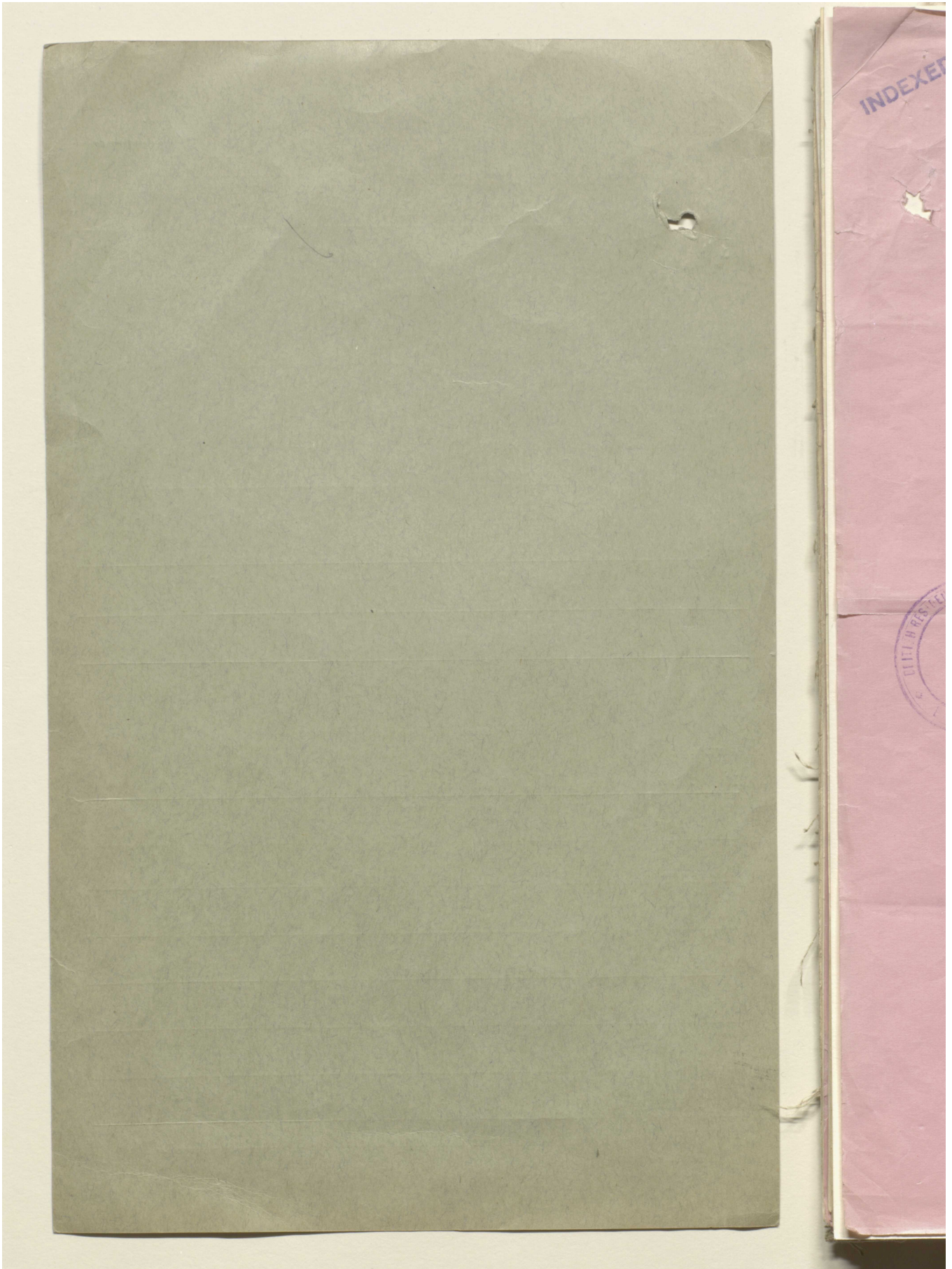
Notes : Coll 30/93. Position of Bahrain subjects in Persia
and of Persian subjects in Bahrain.

This File contains the following papers :—

YEAR.																		
1937 . P.Z.	102	✓	706	✓	1198	✓	1273	✓	1274	✓	1314	✓	1763	✓	1818	✓	2611	✓
19 . P.Z.																		
19 . P.Z.																		
19 . P.Z.																		
19 . P.Z.																		
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19 . P.Z.																		

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

4204B 500 11.35



Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [2r] (3/48)

INDEXED

CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 2611 1937

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2611
1937
23 APR 1937
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2.
②

The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf presents his compliments to

1. H.M's Secretary of State for India, London. No. 309-S. ✓
2. H.M's Minister, Tehran. No. 11-B
3. The Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, New Delhi. No. 309-S.

and has the honour to transmit to him a copy of the undermentioned documents (s).

*1) Mr. Symon
This seems to have been
a false alarm.
2) Put by
28/4/37
1/5/1937 - 30/4/37*

British Consulate-General, BUSHIRE. Dated....~~27th~~ March 1937.

Reference to previous correspondence:

Residency Express Letter No. 7-B/234-S, dated 19th February, 1937.

BRITISH RESIDENCY & CONSULATE GENERAL BUSHIRE

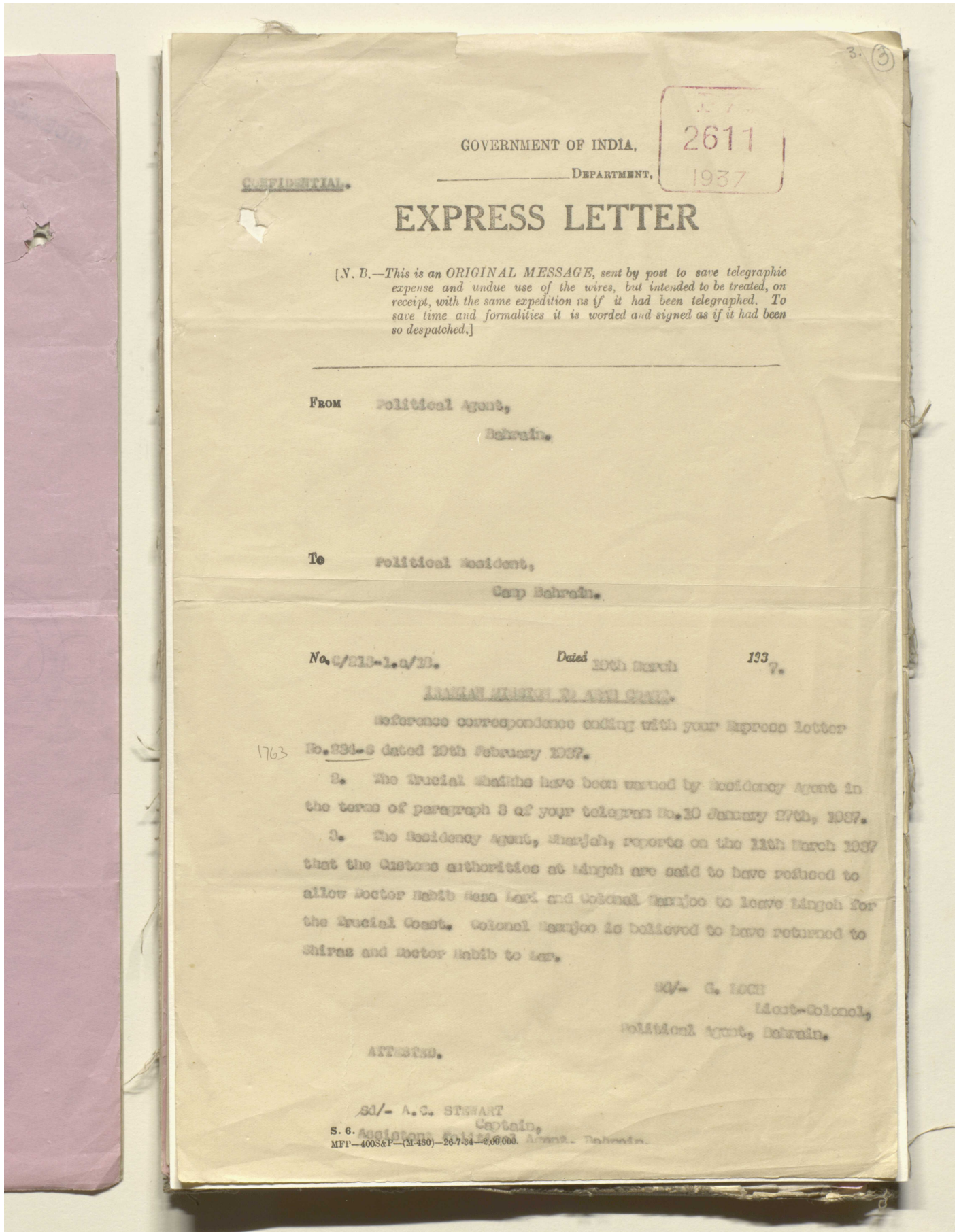
Description of Enclosure.

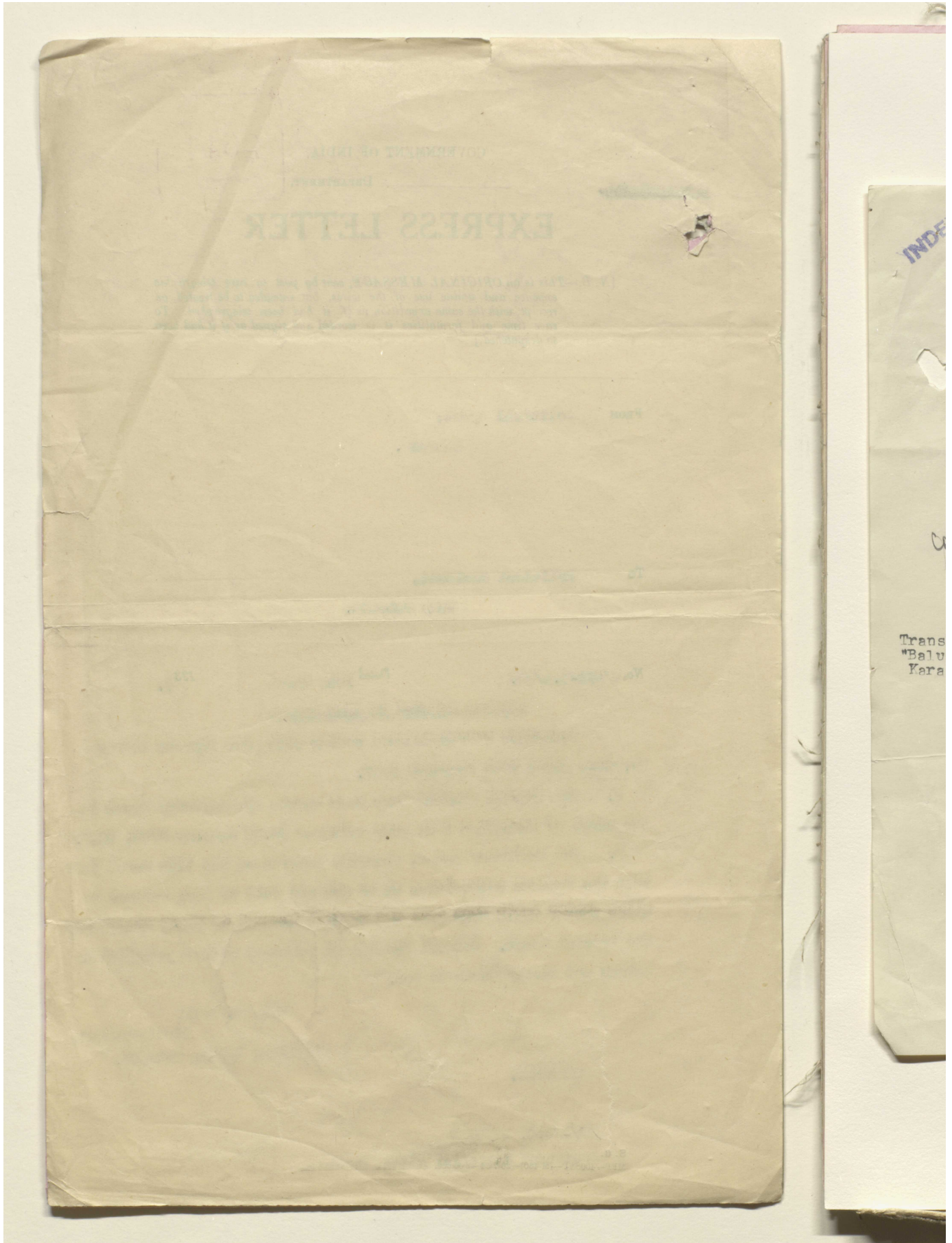
Name and Date.	Subject.
Bahrain Express Letter No. C/213-1.s/18, dated 19th March 1937.	IRANIAN MISSION TO ARAB COAST.

RECD. POL. DEPT.
19 APR 1937
INDIA OFFICE

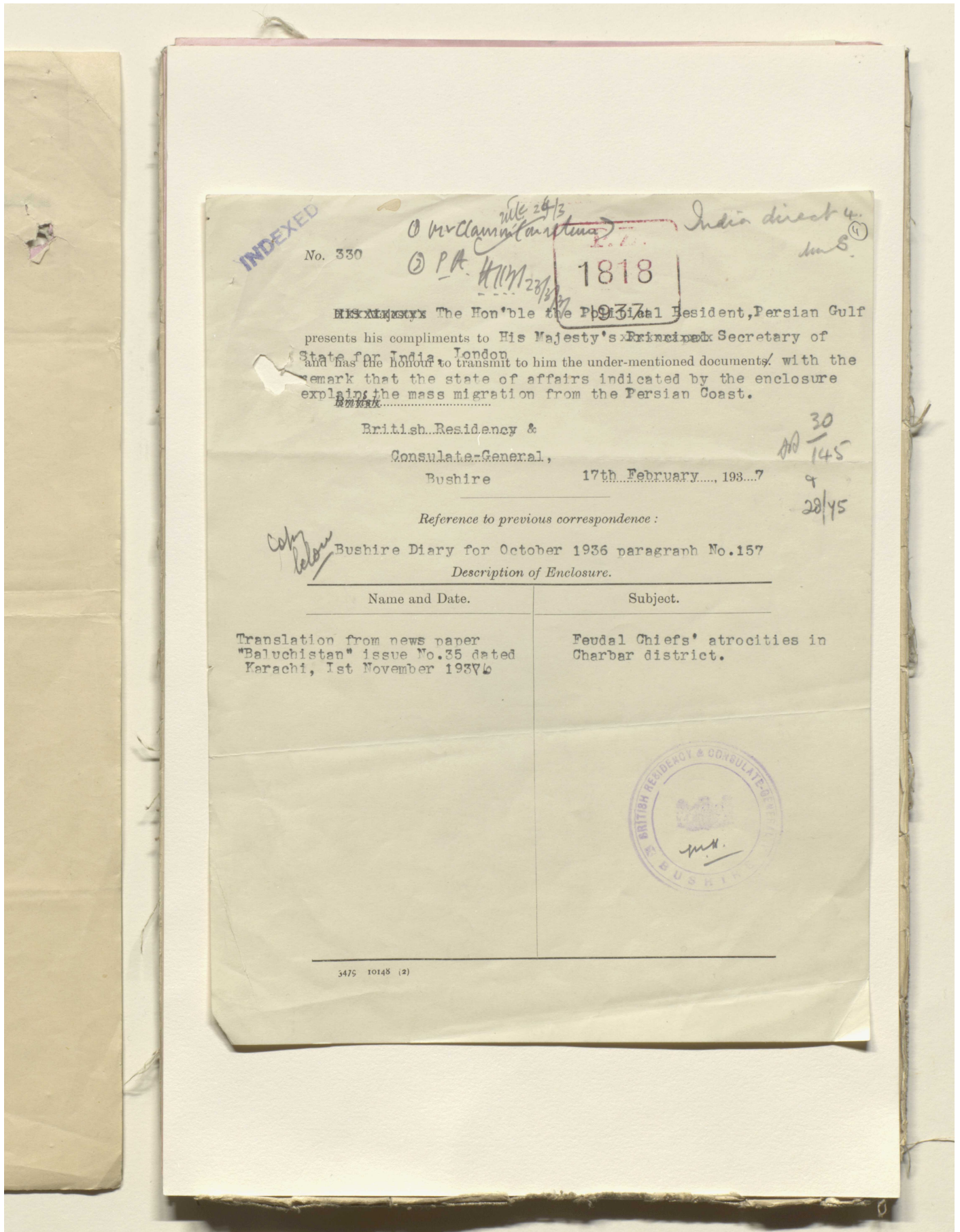
Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [2v] (4/48)







Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [4r] (7/48)



INDEXED

No. 330

rule 24/13
McClain
P.A. H.M. 28/2/37
1818
1937

India direct 4
Am S.

~~His Majesty~~ The Hon'ble the Political Resident, Persian Gulf
presents his compliments to His Majesty's ~~Principal~~ Secretary of
State for India, London
and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned documents, with the
remark that the state of affairs indicated by the enclosure
explains the mass migration from the Persian Coast.

British Residency &
Consulate-General,
Bushire

17th February, 1937

30
145
9
28/45

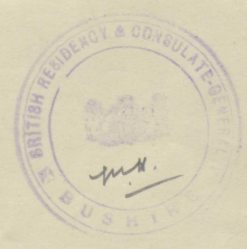
Reference to previous correspondence :

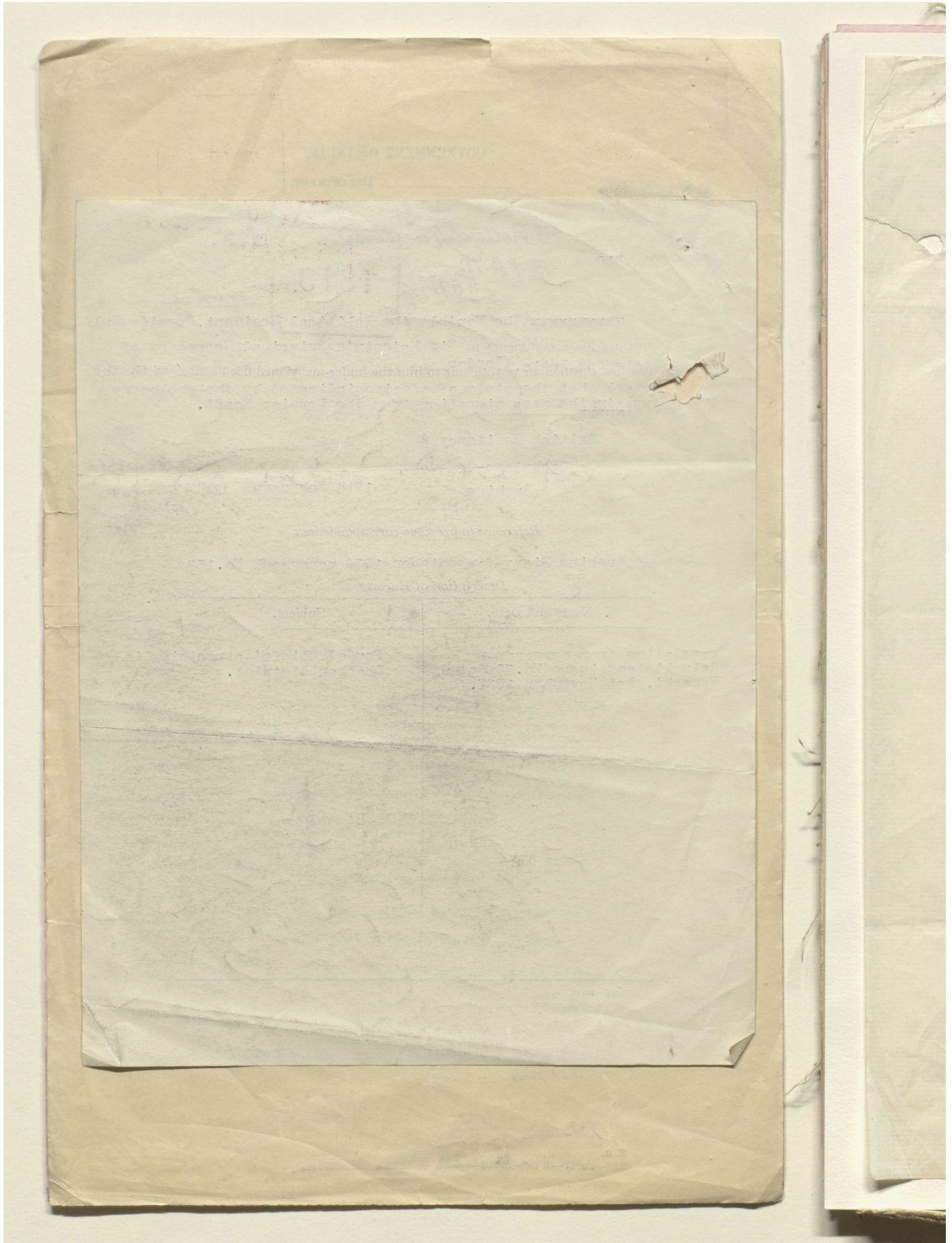
copy below

Bushire Diary for October 1936 paragraph No.157

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Translation from news paper "Baluchistan" issue No.35 dated Karachi, 1st November 1937	Feudal Chiefs' atrocities in Charbar district.





Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [5r] (9/48)

1818

1937

Translation of article "FEUDAL CHIEFS' ATROCITIES IN CHARBAR DISTRICT" published in the weekly the "Baluchistan" issue No.35, dated Karachi 1st November 1936:-

(Page 12 Columns 3 & 4).

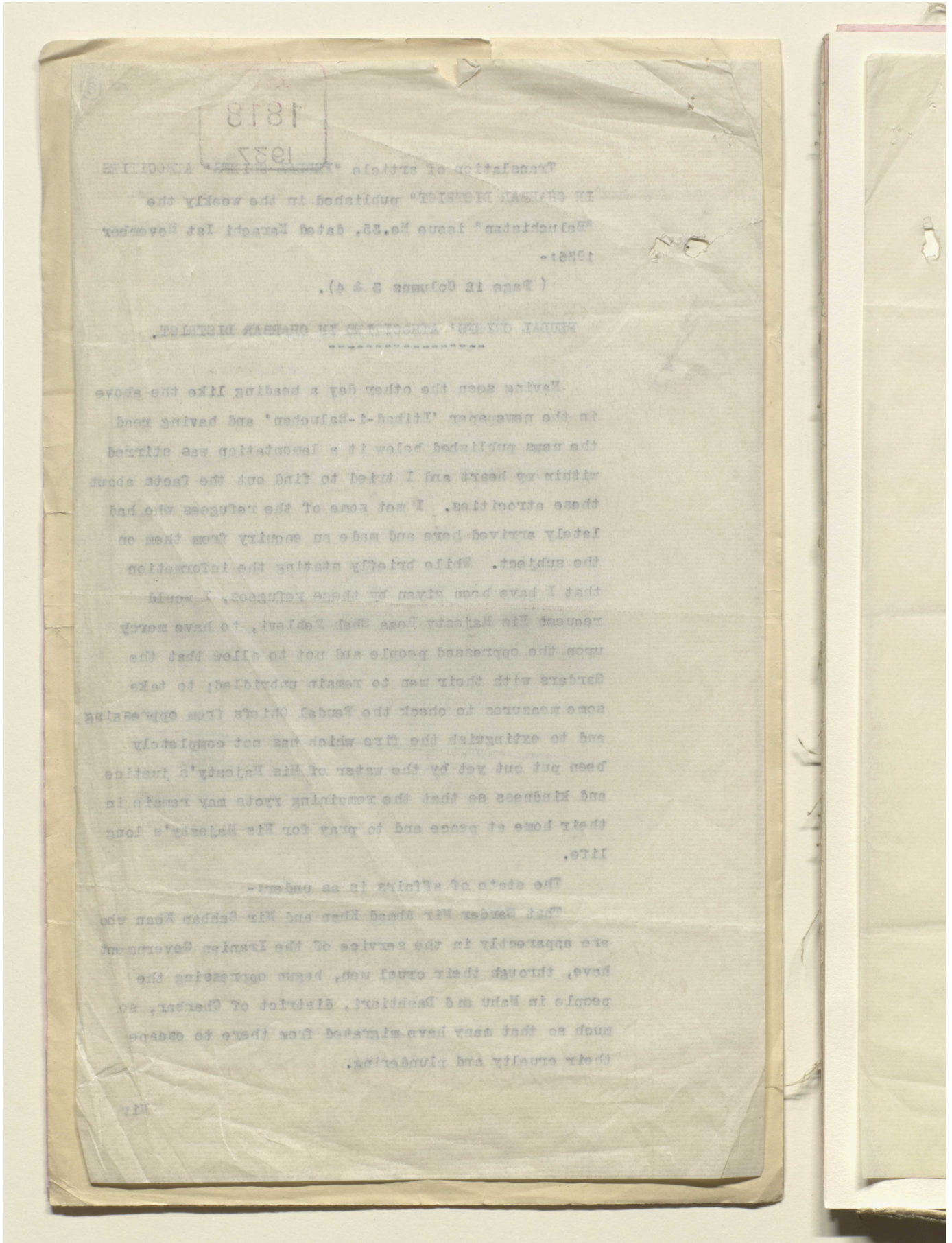
FEUDAL CHIEFS' ATROCITIES IN CHARBAR DISTRICT.

Having seen the other day a heading like the above in the newspaper 'Itihad-i-Baluchan' and having read the news published below it a lamentation was stirred within my heart and I tried to find out the facts about these atrocities. I met some of the refugees who had lately arrived here and made an enquiry from them on the subject. While briefly stating the information that I have been given by these refugees, I would request His Majesty Reza Shah Pehlevi, to have mercy upon the oppressed people and not to allow that the Sardars with their men to remain unbridled; to take some measures to check the Feudal Chiefs from oppressing and to extinguish the fire which has not completely been put out yet by the water of His Majesty's justice and kindness so that the remaining ryots may remain in their home at peace and to pray for His Majesty's long life.

The state of affairs is as under:-

That Sardar Mir Ahmad Khan and Mir Sahban Khan who are apparently in the service of the Iranian Government have, through their cruel men, begun oppressing the people in Mahu and Dashtlari, district of Charbar, so much so that many have migrated from there to escape their cruelty and plundering.

Mir

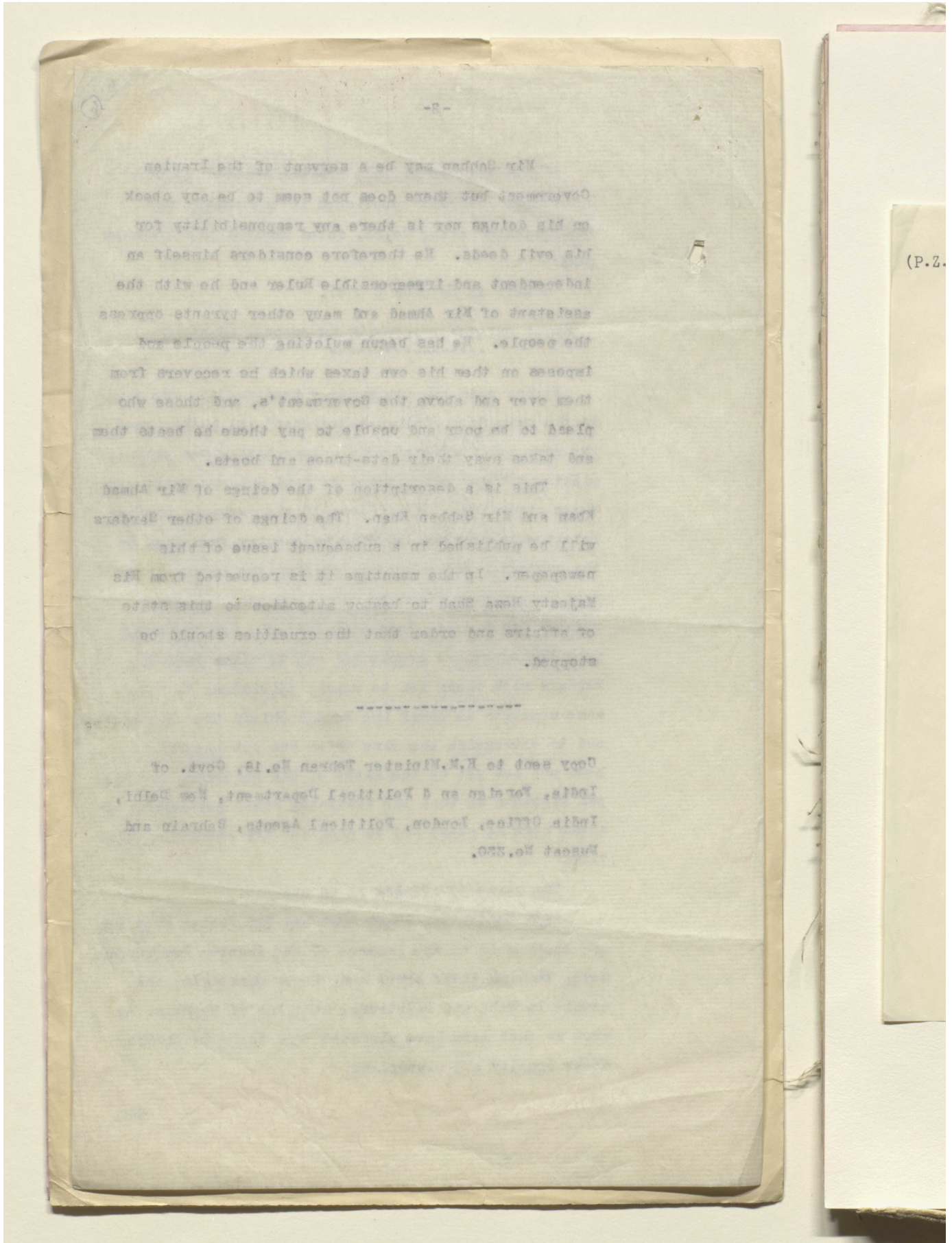


- 2 -

Mir Sahban may be a servant of the Iranian Government but there does not seem to be any check on his doings nor is there any responsibility for his evil deeds. He therefore considers himself an independent and irresponsible Ruler and he with the assistant of Mir Ahmad and many other tyrants oppress the people. He has begun mulcting the people and imposes on them his own taxes which he recovers from them over and above the Government's, and those who plead to be poor and unable to pay these he beats them and takes away their date-trees and boats.

This is a description of the doings of Mir Ahmad Khan and Mir Sahban Khan. The doings of other Sardars will be published in a subsequent issue of this newspaper. In the meantime it is requested from His Majesty Reza Shah to bestow attention to this state of affairs and order that the cruelties should be stopped.

Copy sent to H.M. Minister Tehran No. 18, Govt. of India, Foreign and Political Department, New Delhi, India Office, London, Political Agents, Bahrain and Muscat No. 330.



(P. 2.)

(P.Z. 9070/36)

Extract from Bushire Residency Diary for the month of
October, 1936.

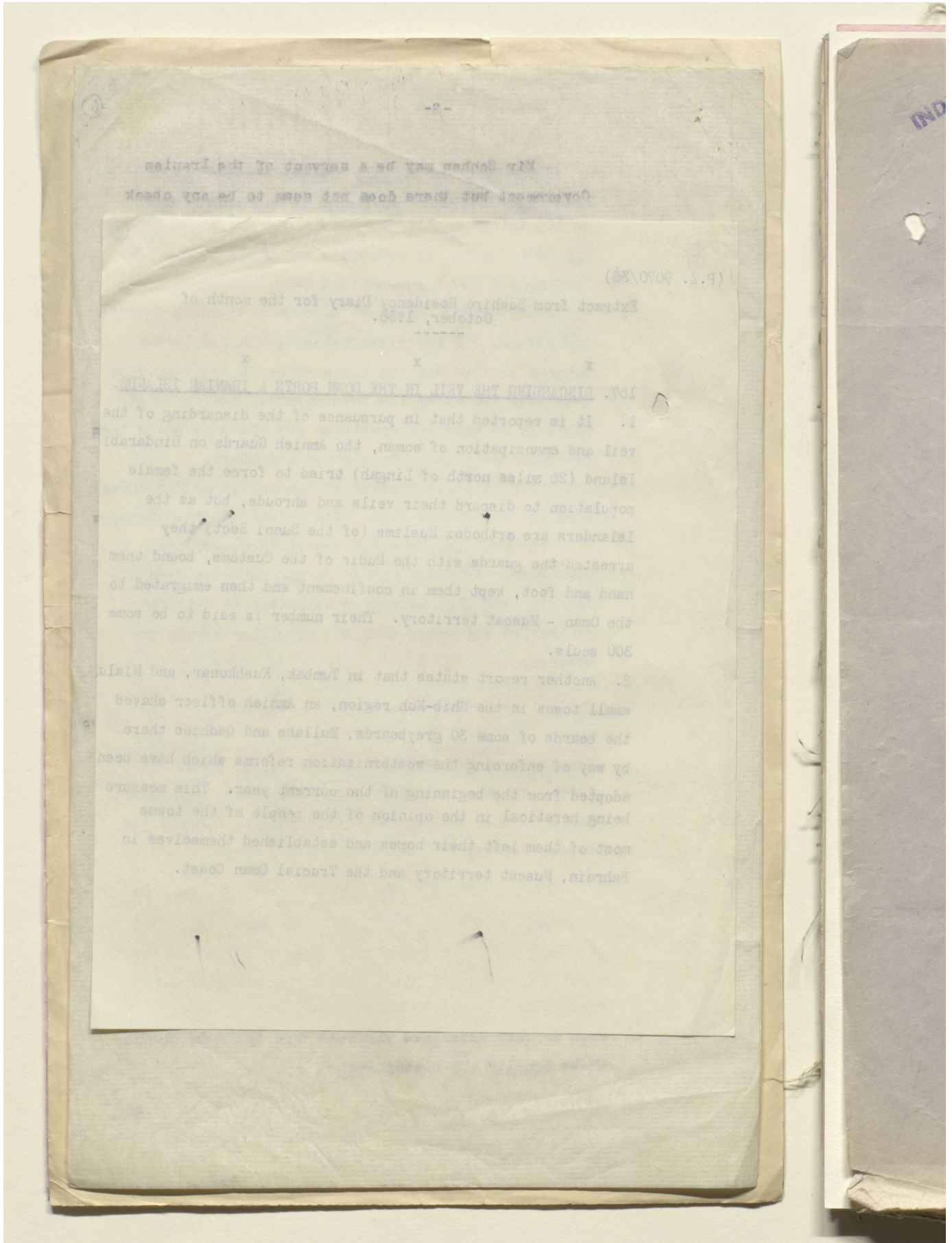
x x x

157. DISCARDING THE VEIL IN THE DOWN PORTS & IRANIAN ISLANDS.

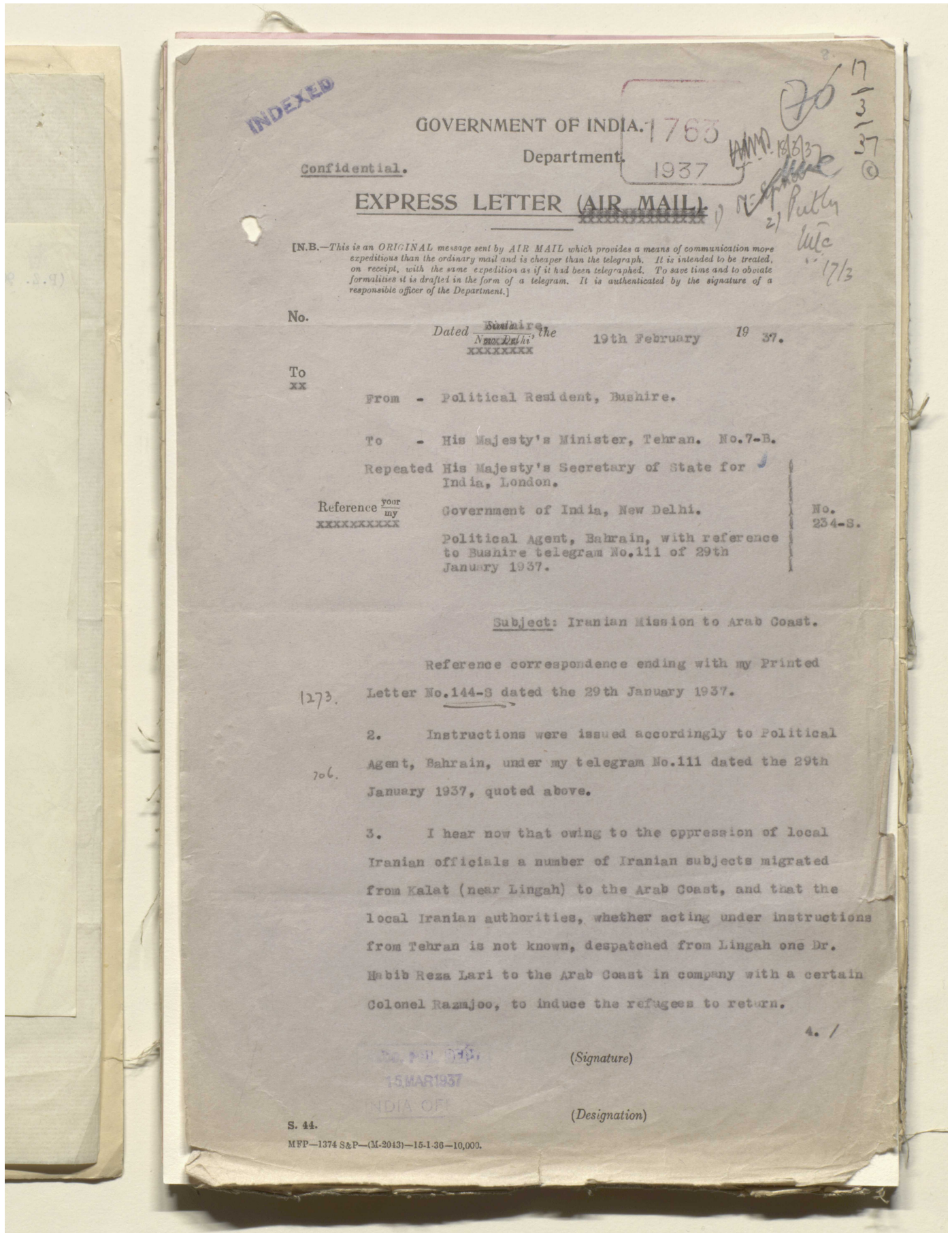
1. It is reported that in pursuance of the discarding of the veil and emancipation of woman, the Ammieh Guards on Hindarabi Island (25 miles north of Lingah) tried to force the female population to discard their veils and shrouds, but as the Islanders are orthodox Muslims (of the Sunni Sect) they arrested the guards with the Mudir of the Customs, bound them hand and foot, kept them in confinement and then emigrated to the Oman - Muscat territory. Their number is said to be some 300 souls.

2. Another report states that in Tumbak, Kushkonar, and Miala, small towns in the Shib-Kuh region, an Ammieh officer shaved the beards of some 30 greybeards, Mullahs and Qadhies there by way of enforcing the westernization reforms which have been adopted from the beginning of the current year. This measure being heretical in the opinion of the people of the towns most of them left their homes and established themselves in Bahrain, Muscat territory and the Trucial Oman Coast.

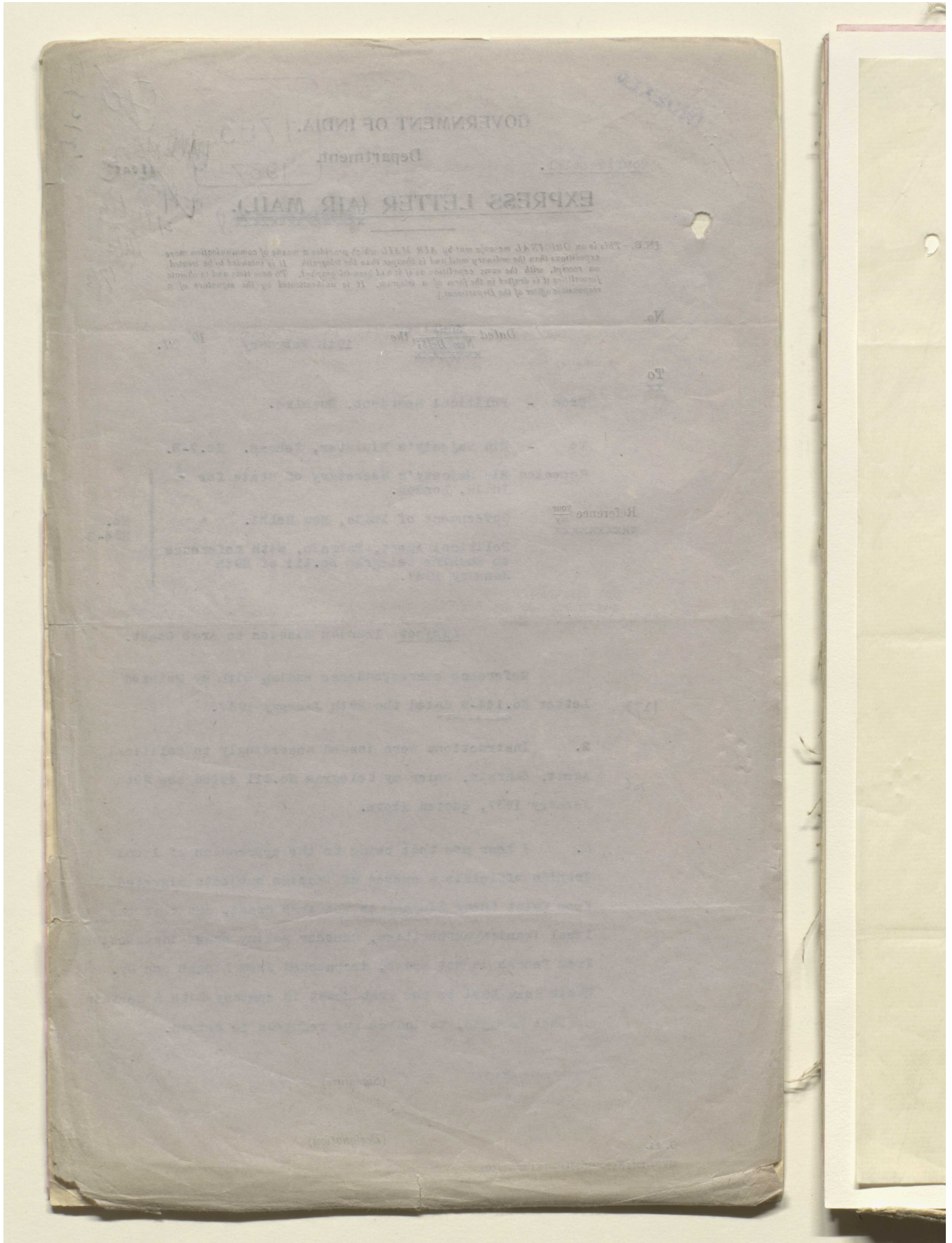
Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [7v] (14/48)



Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [8r] (15/48)



Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [8v] (16/48)



Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [9r] (17/48)

-2-

4. Habib Reza Lari is evidently the individual mentioned in my telegram 8 of 23rd January but instead of holding an exalted position of a "Persian doctor in the Diplomatic Service" is an Iranian medical doctor of doubtful qualifications.

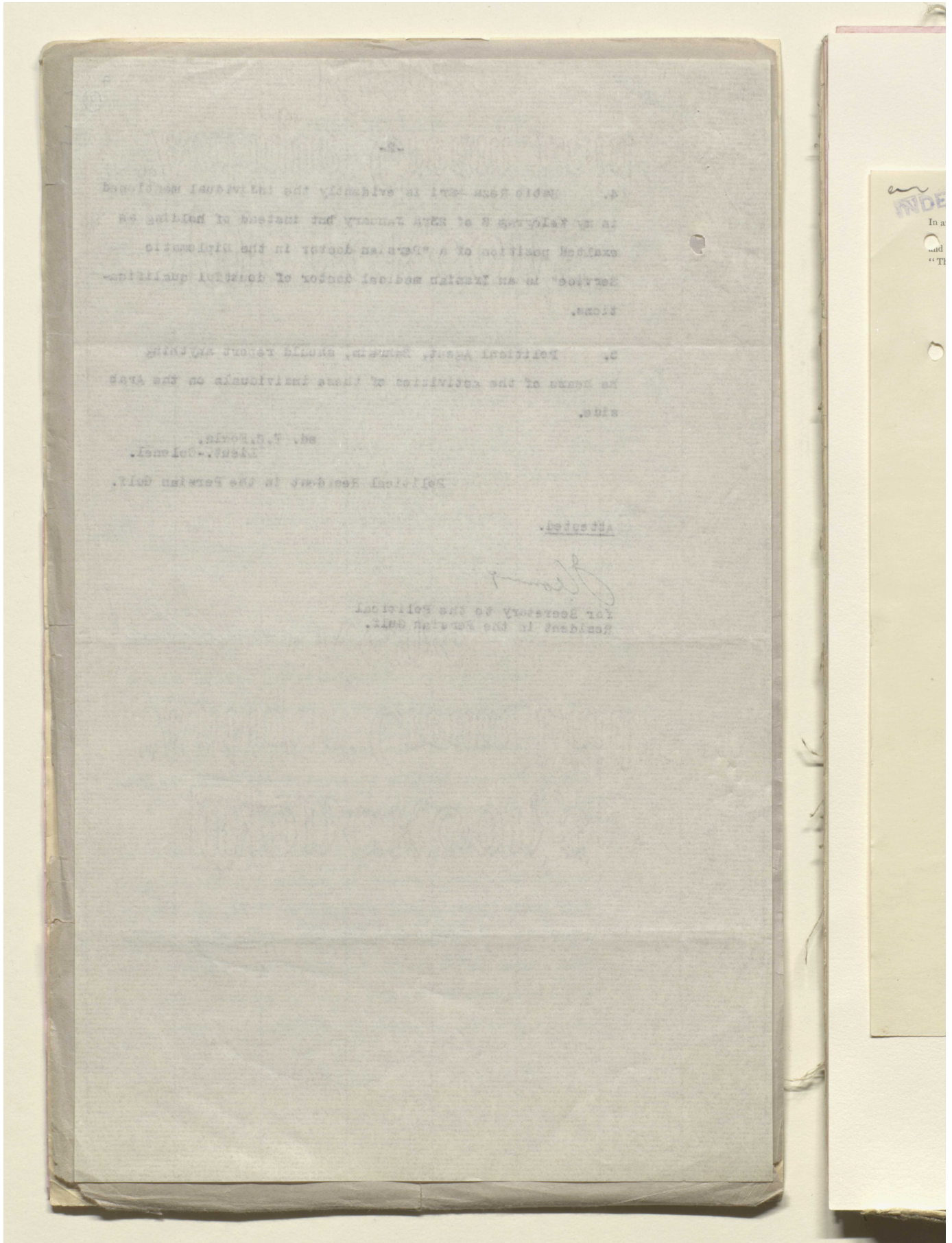
5. Political Agent, Bahrain, should report anything he hears of the activities of these individuals on the Arab side.

sd. T.C.Fowle,
Lieut.-Colonel.

Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

Attested.

J. Brown
for Secretary to the Political
Resident in the Persian Gulf.



Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [10r] (19/48)

INDEXED

In any further communication on this subject, please quote
No. *E 1126/185/91*
and address—not to any person by name, but to—
"The Under-Secretary of State," Foreign Office, London, S.W. 1.

INDIA DIRECT 10.
AMM M. S. Suman (10)
27/2/37
Putra
W.C.
27/2

P.Z.
1314
1937

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,
Feb 24, 1937.

MAILS BRANCH
25 FEB 1937
INDIA OFFICE

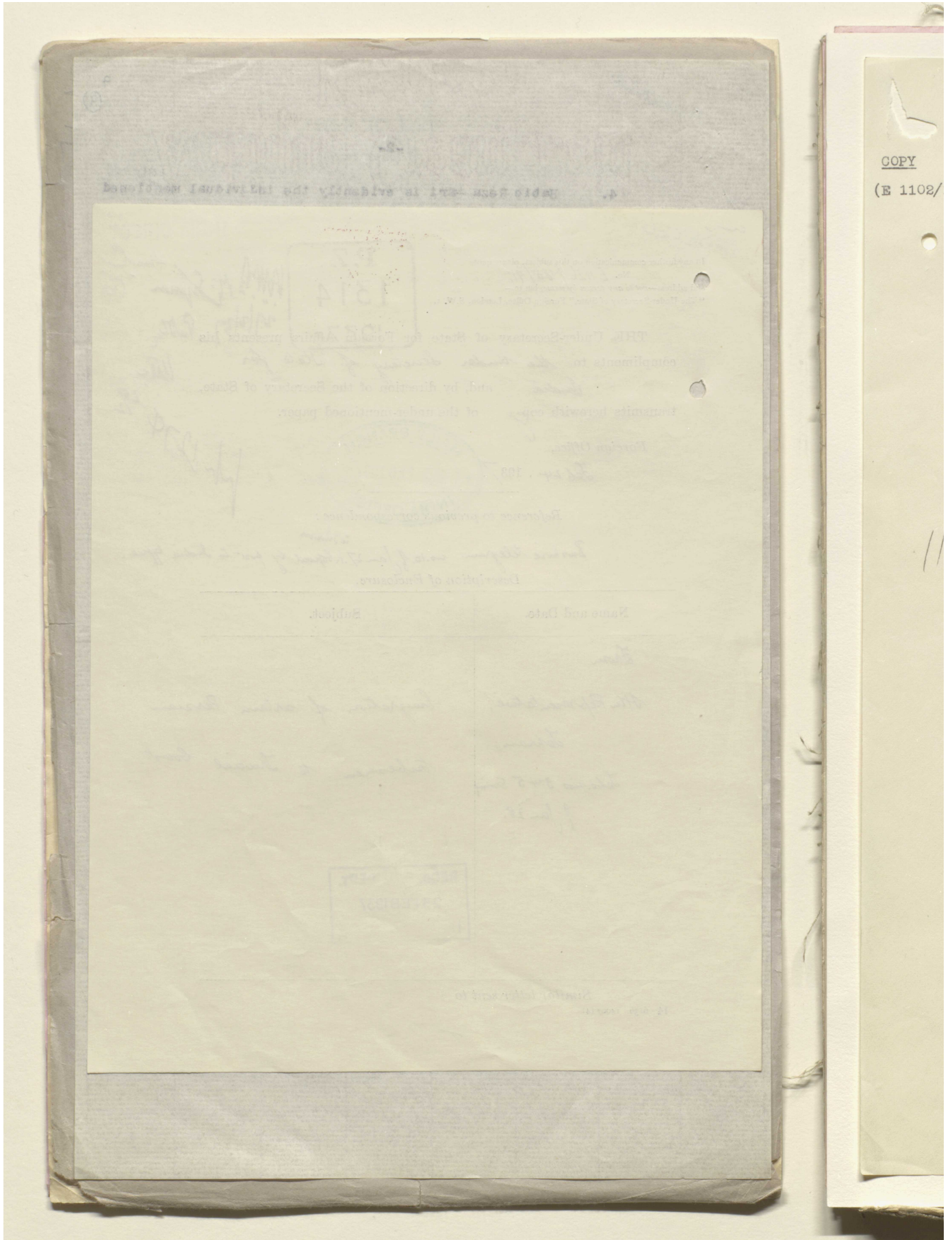
Reference to previous correspondence:
to Tehran
Bushire telegram no. 10. of Jan 27. Reported by post to India Office.

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
<i>From</i> <i>His Representative,</i> <i>Tehran.</i> <i>Lets. nos 3 & 5 Samey</i> <i>of Jan 28.</i>	<i>Immigration of certain Persian</i> <i>tribesmen to Trucial Coast.</i>

REC'D. IND. DEPT.
25 FEB 1937
IND. DEPT.

Similar letter sent to
14-6130 14007 (4)



Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [11r] (21/48)

COPY
(E 1102/185/91)

P.Z.
1314
1937

11. (11)

NO DISTRIBUTION

Telegram (en clair) from Mr. Seymour (Tehran).

	28th January, 1937.
D. By Bag.	28th January, 1937.
R.	22nd February, 1937.
No. 3. Saving.	

Following telegram has been sent to Bushire, No. 4 of 26th January, 1937.

Begins:

"Important.

Your telegram No. 8.

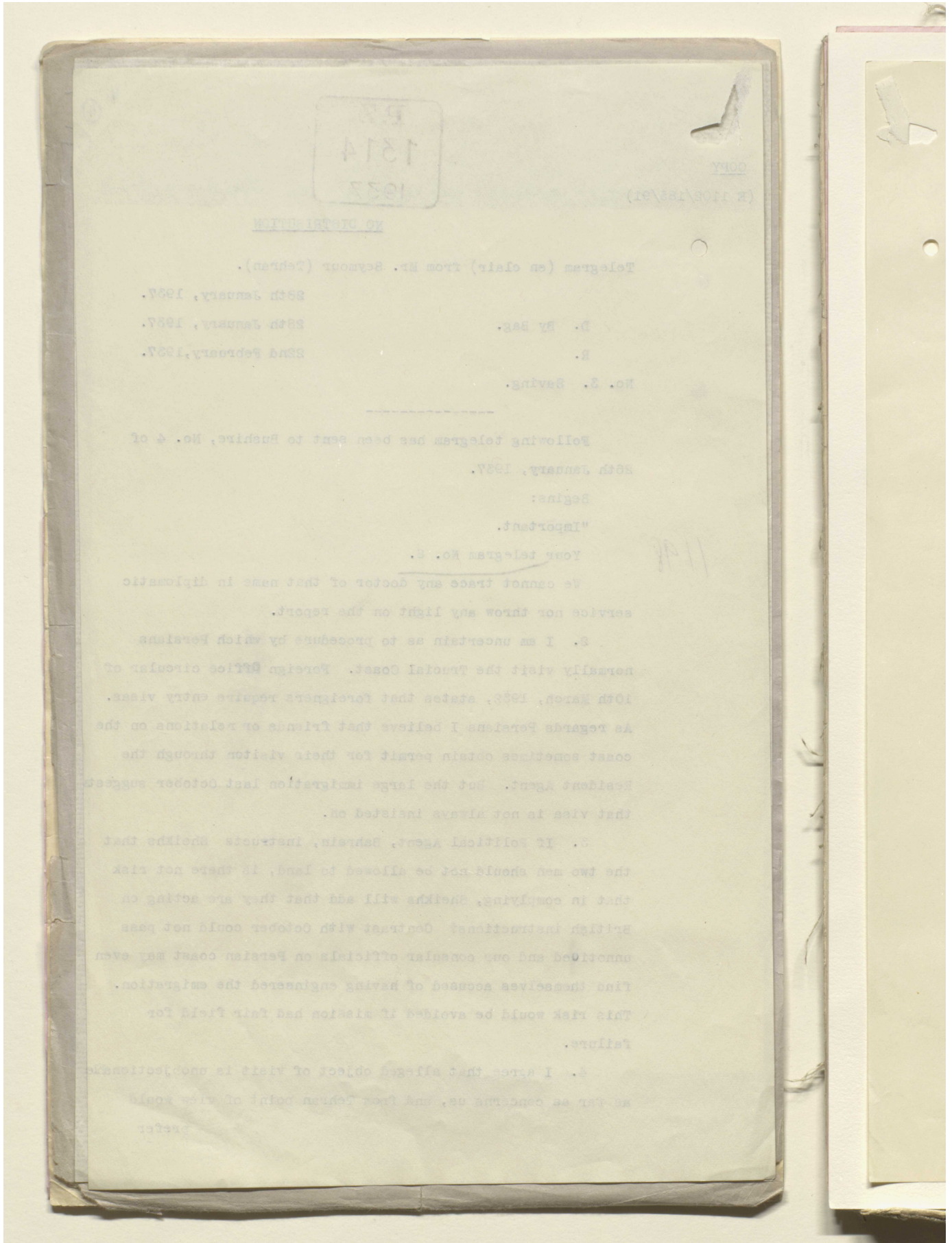
1198
We cannot trace any doctor of that name in diplomatic service nor throw any light on the report.

2. I am uncertain as to procedure by which Persians normally visit the Trucial Coast. Foreign Office circular of 10th March, 1932, states that foreigners require entry visas. As regards Persians I believe that friends or relations on the coast sometimes obtain permit for their visitor through the Resident Agent. But the large immigration last October suggests that visa is not always insisted on.

3. If Political Agent, Bahrain, instructs Sheikhs that the two men should not be allowed to land, is there not risk that in complying, Sheikhs will add that they are acting on British instructions? Contrast with October could not pass unnoticed and our consular officials on Persian coast may even find themselves accused of having engineered the emigration. This risk would be avoided if mission had fair field for failure.

4. I agree that alleged object of visit is unobjectionable as far as concerns us, and from Tehran point of view would prefer

Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [11v] (22/48)



Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [12r] (23/48)

12.

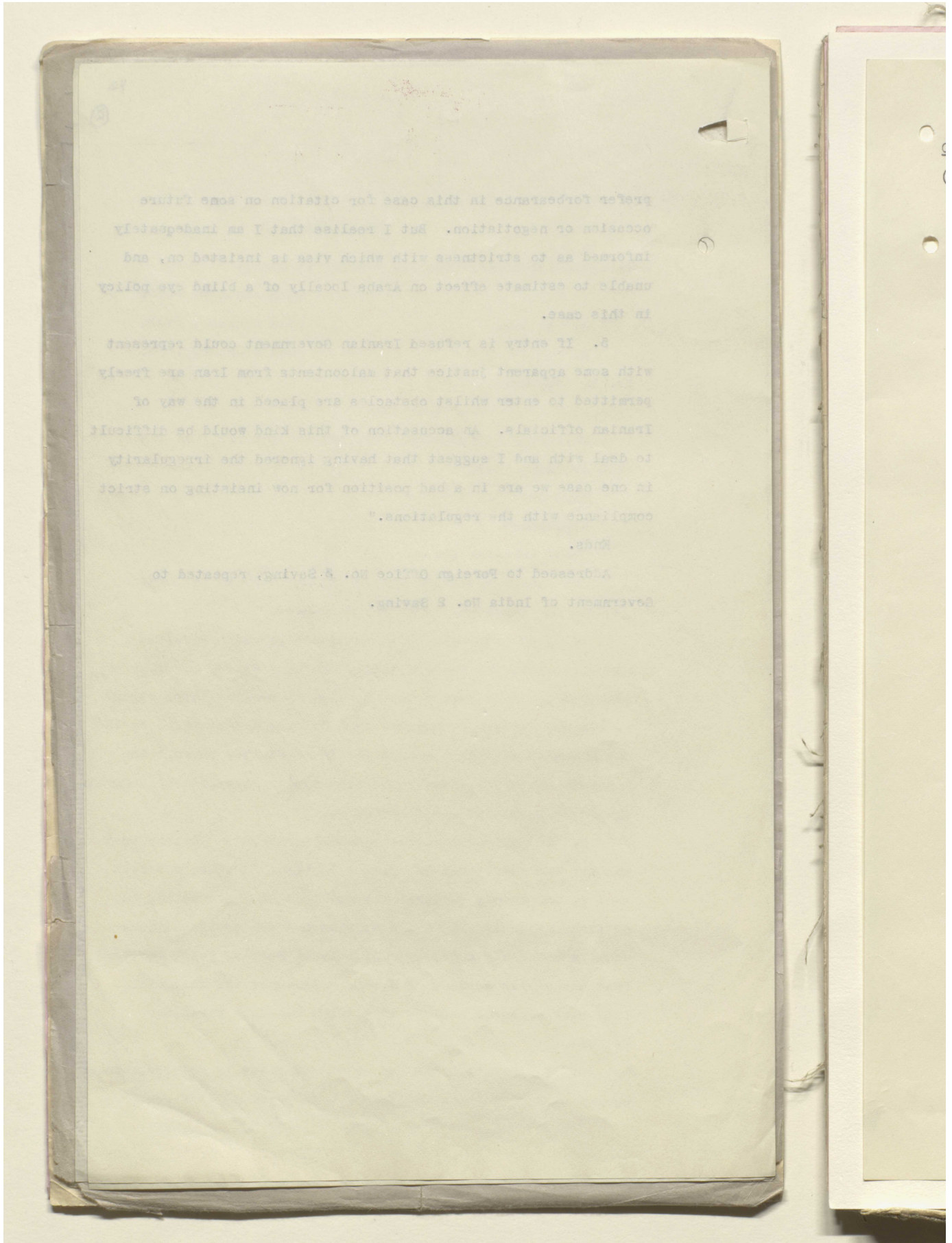
(12)

prefer forbearance in this case for citation on some future occasion or negotiation. But I realise that I am inadequately informed as to strictness with which visa is insisted on, and unable to estimate effect on Arabs locally of a blind eye policy in this case.

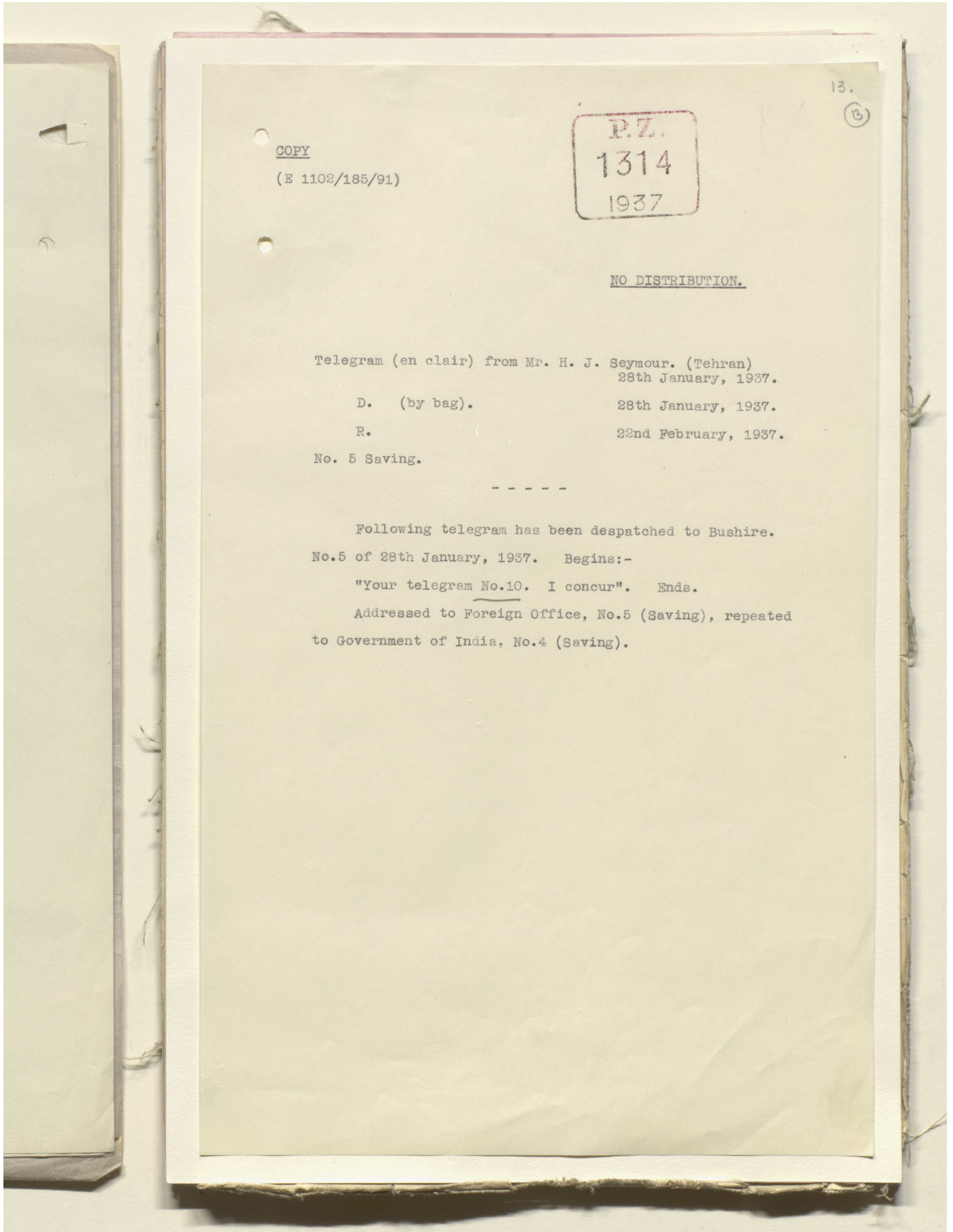
5. If entry is refused Iranian Government could represent with some apparent justice that malcontents from Iran are freely permitted to enter whilst obstacles are placed in the way of Iranian officials. An accusation of this kind would be difficult to deal with and I suggest that having ignored the irregularity in one case we are in a bad position for now insisting on strict compliance with the regulations."

Ends.

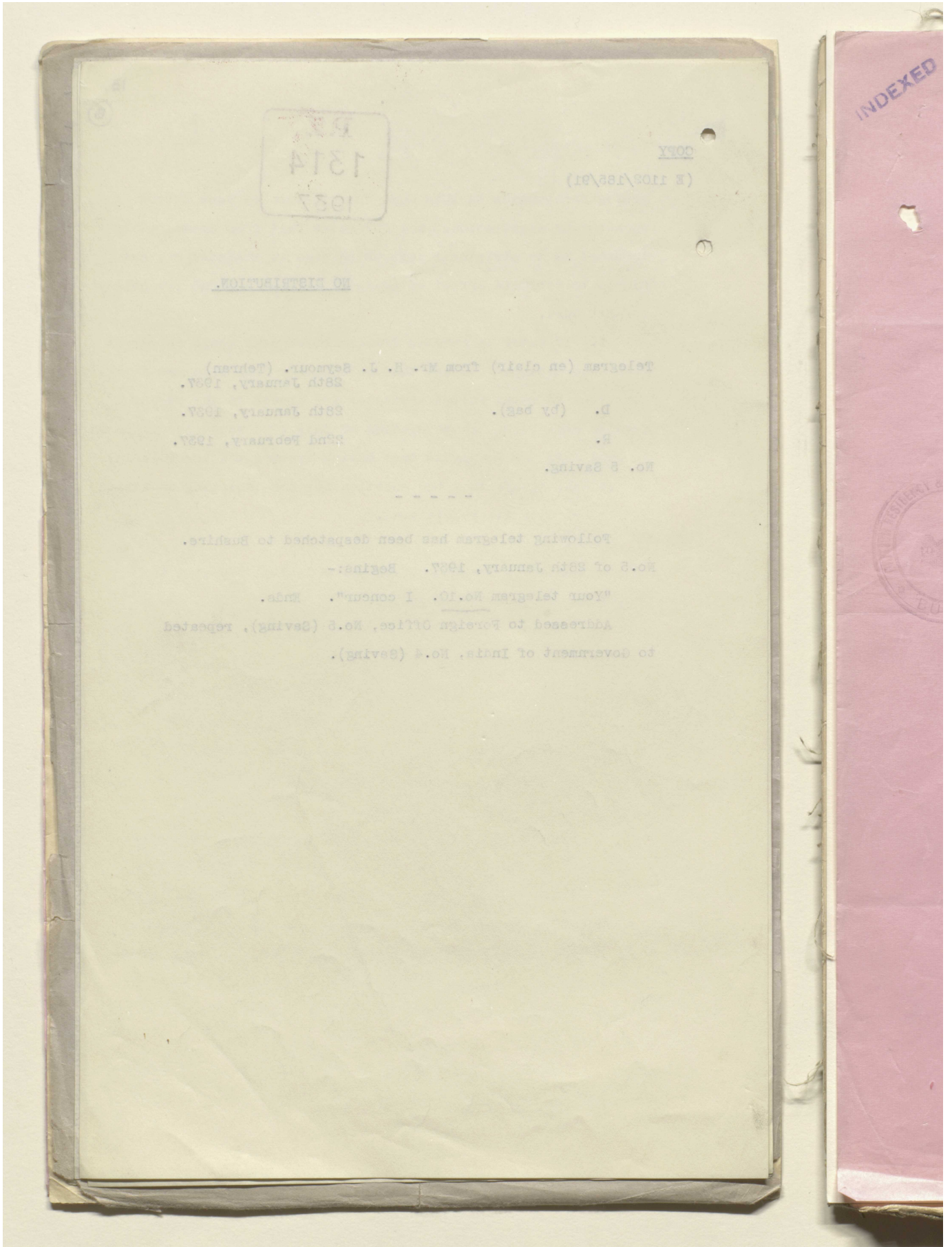
Addressed to Foreign Office No. 3 Saving, repeated to Government of India No. 2 Saving.



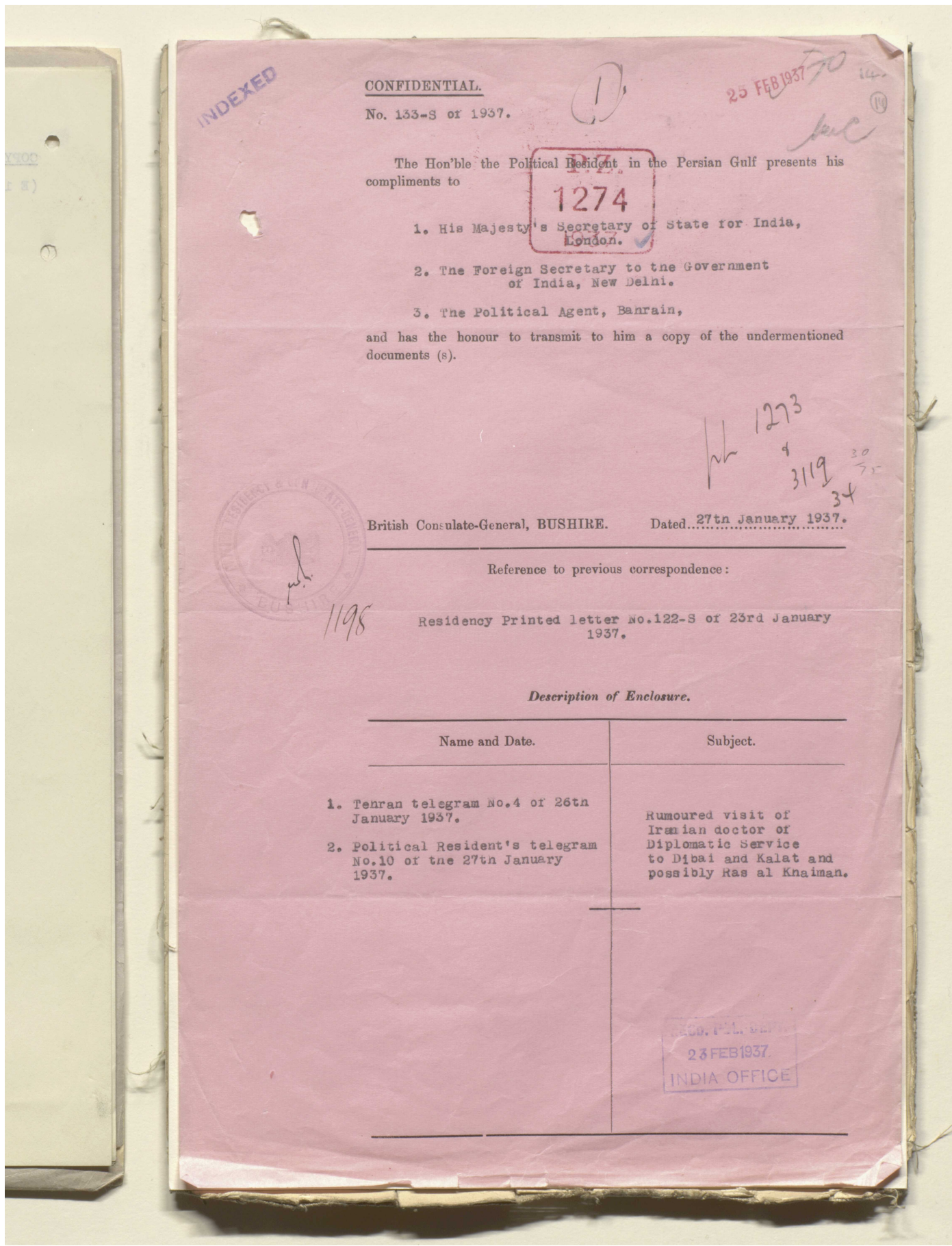
Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [13r] (25/48)



Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [13v] (26/48)



Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [14r] (27/48)



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CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 133-S or 1937.

25 FEB 1937
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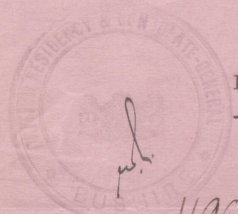
The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf presents his compliments to

1274

1. His Majesty's Secretary of State for India, London.
2. The Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, New Delhi.
3. The Political Agent, Bahrain,

and has the honour to transmit to him a copy of the undermentioned documents (s).

1273
3119
30
34



British Consulate-General, BUSHIRE.

Dated...27th January 1937.

Reference to previous correspondence:

1198

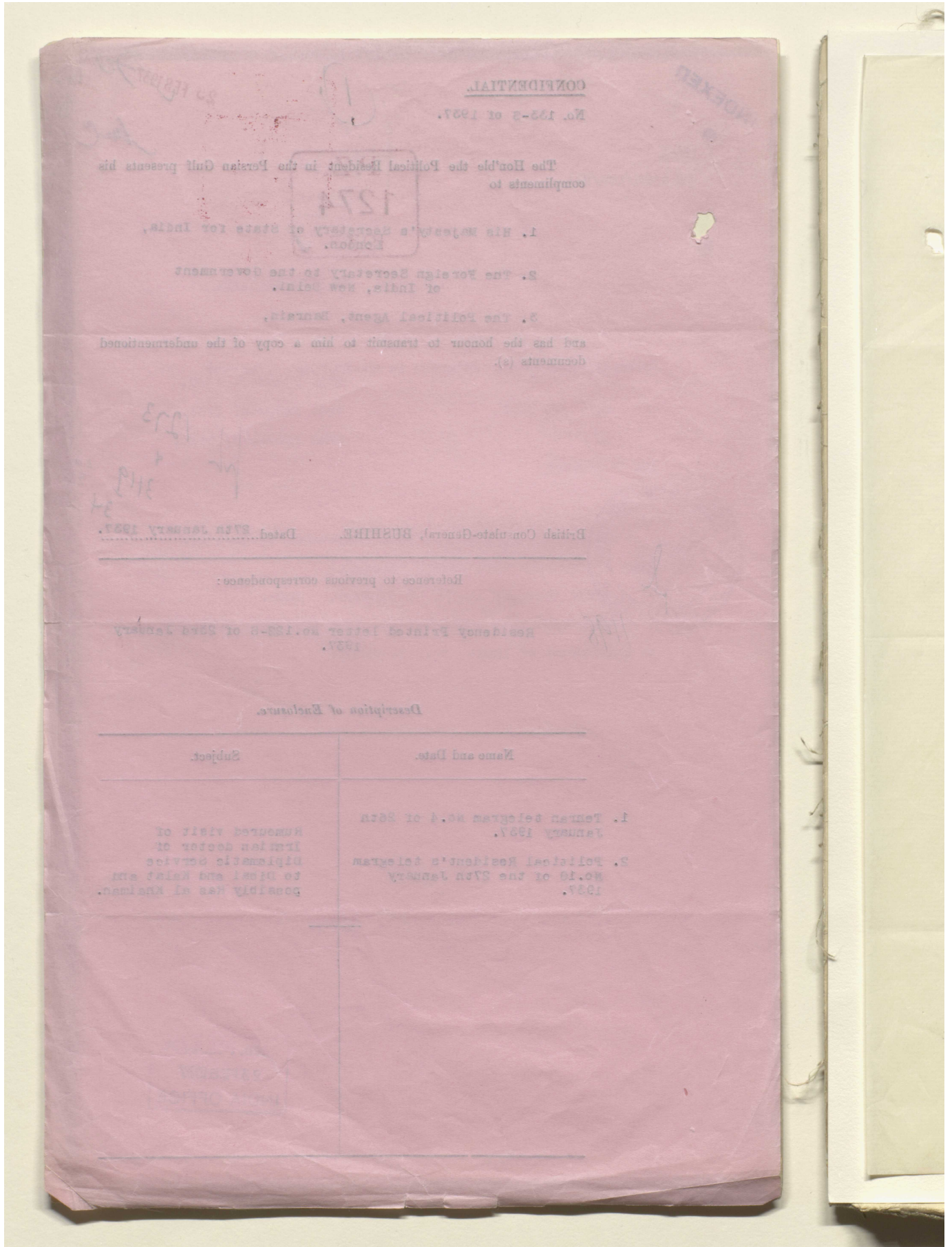
Residency Printed letter No.122-S or 23rd January 1937.

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
1. Penran telegram No.4 of 26th January 1937.	Rumoured visit of Iranian doctor of Diplomatic Service to Dibal and Kalat and possibly Ras al Knaiman.
2. Political Resident's telegram No.10 of the 27th January 1937.	

23 FEB 1937
INDIA OFFICE

Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [14v] (28/48)



Telegram S.
From H.M. Minister, Tehran.
To Political Resident, Bushire.
No. 4.
Dated and received the 26th January 1937.

P.Z.
1274
1937

15.
(15)

IMPORTANT.

Your telegram No.8.

We cannot trace any doctor's name in the Diplomatic Service nor throw any light on the report.

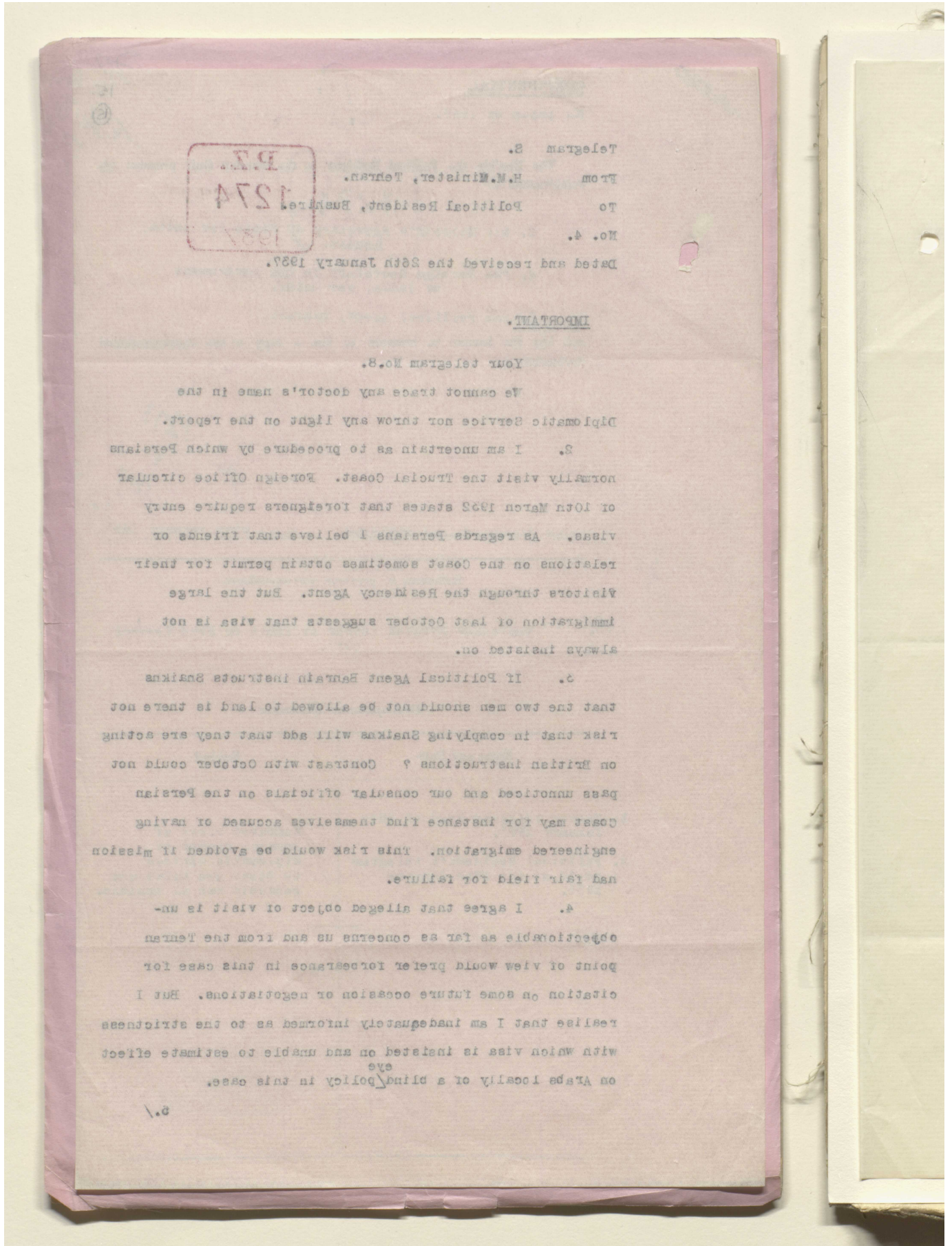
2. I am uncertain as to procedure by which Persians normally visit the Trucial Coast. Foreign Office circular of 10th March 1932 states that foreigners require entry visas. As regards Persians I believe that friends or relations on the Coast sometimes obtain permit for their visitors through the Residency Agent. But the large immigration of last October suggests that visa is not always insisted on.

3. If Political Agent Banrain instructs Snaikns that the two men should not be allowed to land is there not risk that in complying Snaikns will add that they are acting on British instructions? Contrast with October could not pass unnoticed and our consular officials on the Persian Coast may for instance find themselves accused of having engineered emigration. This risk would be avoided if mission had fair field for failure.

4. I agree that alleged object of visit is unobjectionable as far as concerns us and from the Tehran point of view would prefer forbearance in this case for citation on some future occasion or negotiations. But I realise that I am inadequately informed as to the strictness with which visa is insisted on and unable to estimate effect on Arabs locally of a blind^{eye}/policy in this case.

5./

Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [15v] (30/48)



1274
1937

Telegram No. 8.
From H.M. Minister, Tehran.
To Political Resident, Bushra.
No. 4.
Dated and received the 28th January 1937.

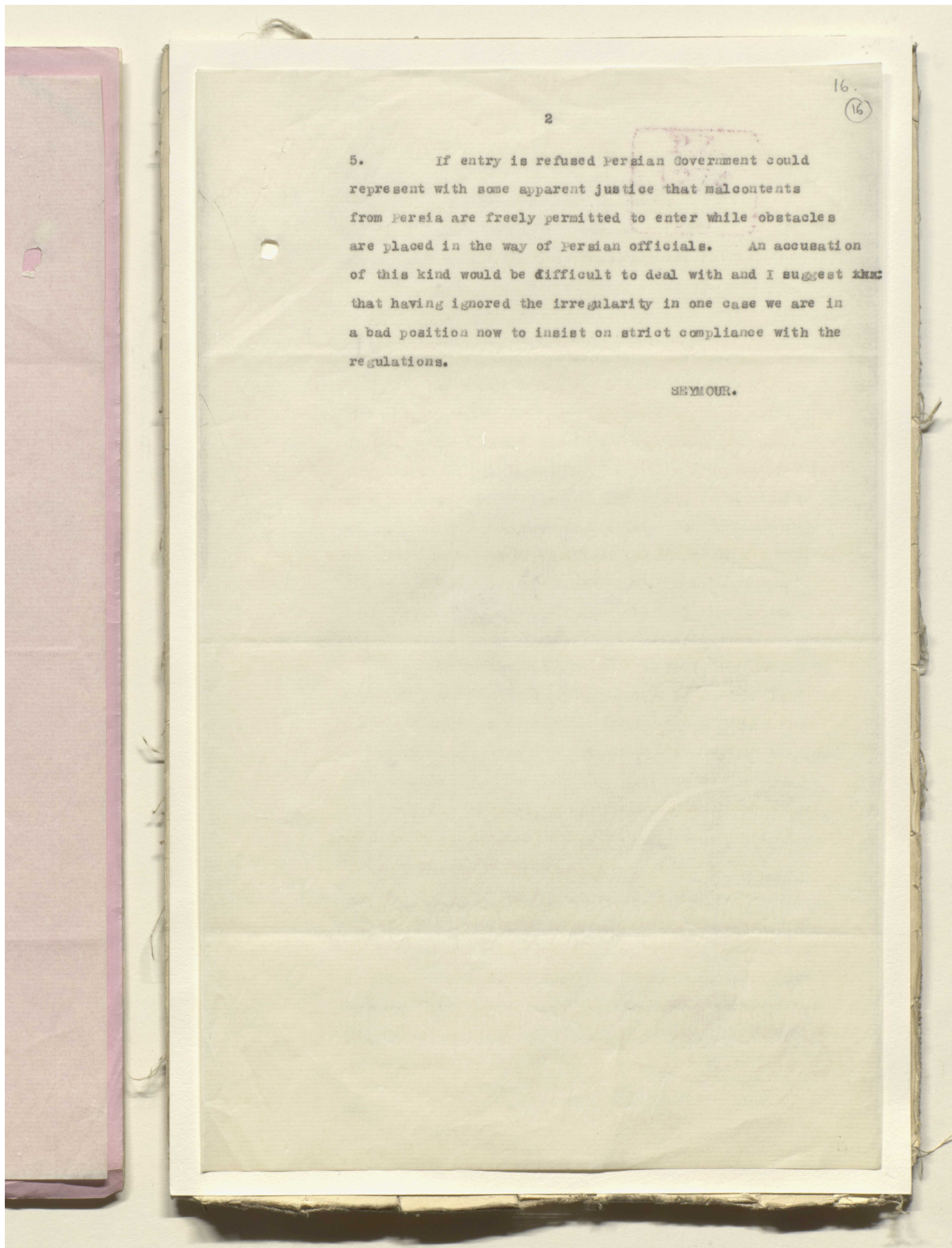
IMPORTANT.

Your telegram No. 8.

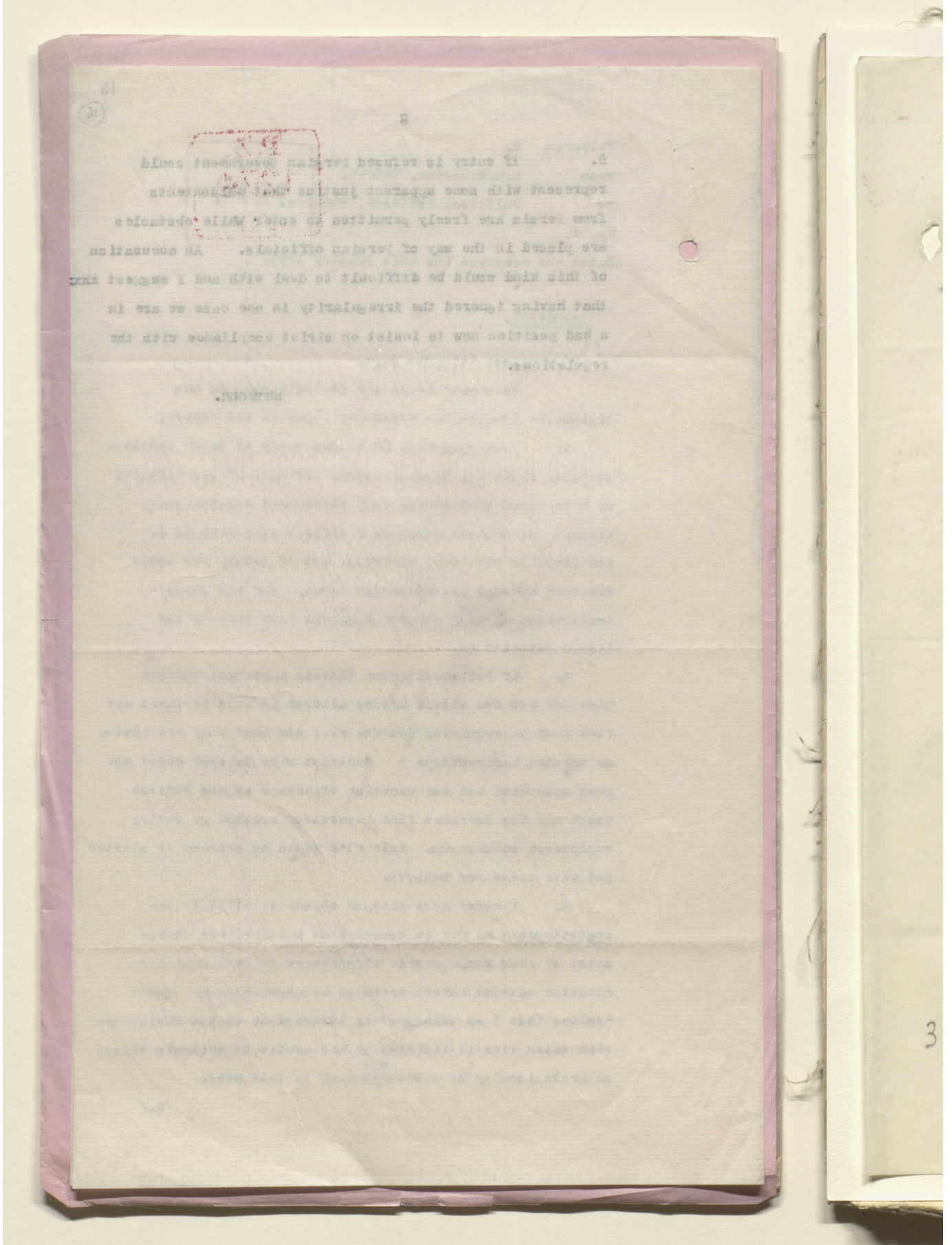
We cannot trace any doctor's name in the Diplomatic Service nor know any light on the report. I am uncertain as to procedure by which Persians normally visit the Trucial Coast. Foreign Office circular of 10th March 1932 states that foreigners require entry visas. As regards Persians I believe that friends or relations on the Coast sometimes obtain permit for their visitors through the Residency Agent. But the large immigration of last October suggests that visa is not always insisted on.

3. If Political Agent Bahrain instructs Saikias that the two men should not be allowed to land is there not risk that in complying Saikias will add that they are acting on British instructions? Contact with October could not pass unnoticed and our consular officials on the Persian Coast may for instance find themselves accused of having engineered emigration. This risk would be avoided if Mission had their field for failure.

4. I agree that alleged object of visit is unobjectionable as far as concerns us and from the Tehran point of view would prefer to decrease in this case for citation on some future occasion or negotiations. But I realise that I am inadequately informed as to the circumstances with which visa is insisted on and unable to estimate effect on Arab locally or a blind policy in this case.



Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [16v] (32/48)



Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [17r] (33/48)

17.

(17)

Telegram S.

From Political Resident, Bushire.

To H.M.'s Minister, Tehran.

Copy by post to Secretary of State for India, London.

" " " " Government of India, New Delhi.

" " " " Political Agent, Bahrain.

No. 10.

Dated the 27th January 1937.

P.Z.
1274
1937

Your telegram 4.

While object of mission is unobjectionable in itself Shaikhs by their treaties with us are precluded from having any relations with Foreign Powers such as direct dealings with this mission would involve. Moreover such dealings would form an undesirable precedent.

2. On the other hand I quite appreciate arguments you adduce against instructing Shaikhs not to allow the mission to land for lack of visa.

3. I propose therefore to instruct Political Agent Bahrain to inform Shaikhs that should mission materialise (it may after all be a mere rumour) they should be allowed to land. But that if mission approach Shaikhs on behalf of Iranian Government Shaikhs should reply that they are precluded by their treaties with us from having any dealings with the Agents of Foreign Powers.

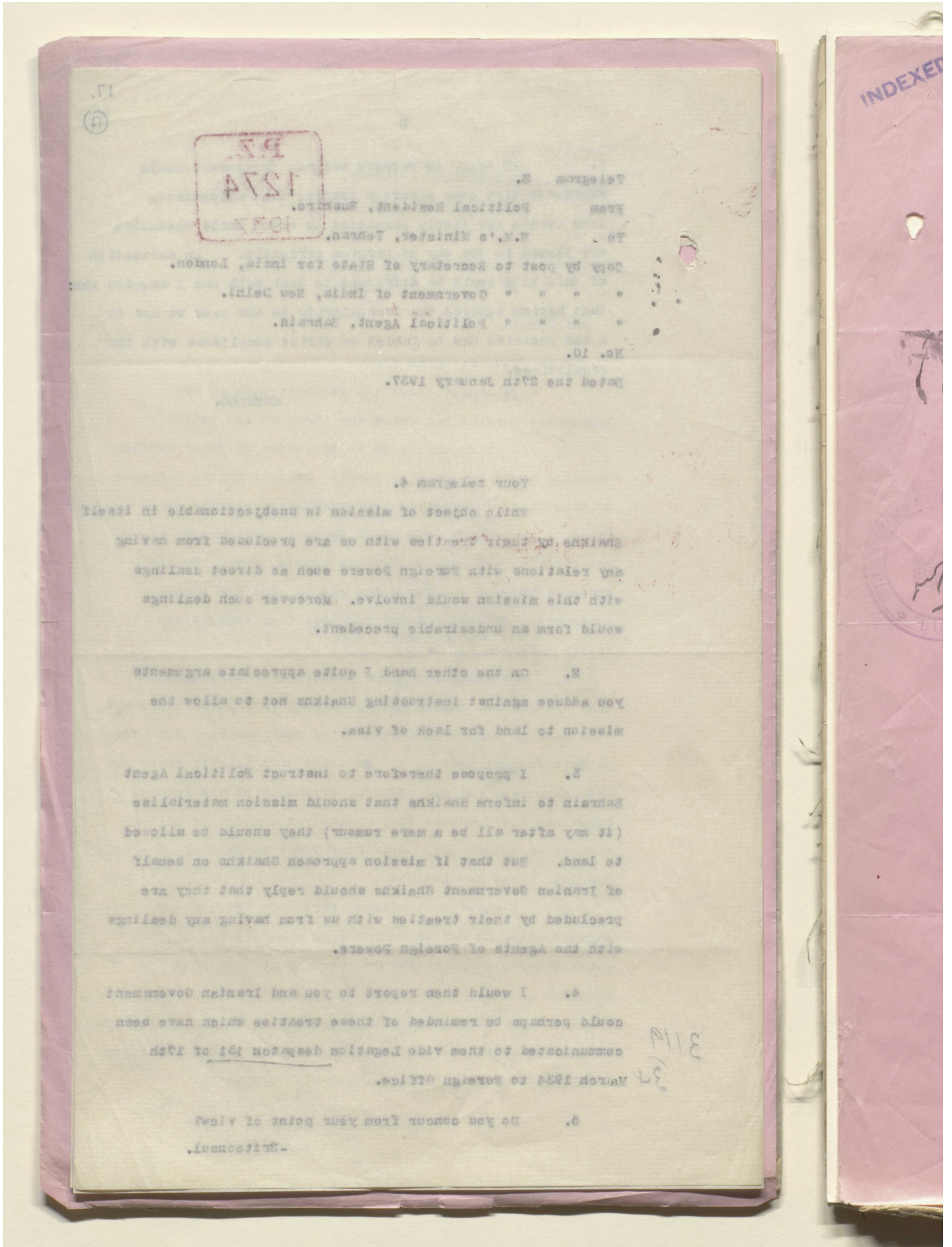
4. I would then report to you and Iranian Government could perhaps be reminded of these treaties which have been communicated to them vide Legation despatch 131 of 17th March 1934 to Foreign Office.

5. Do you concur from your point of view?

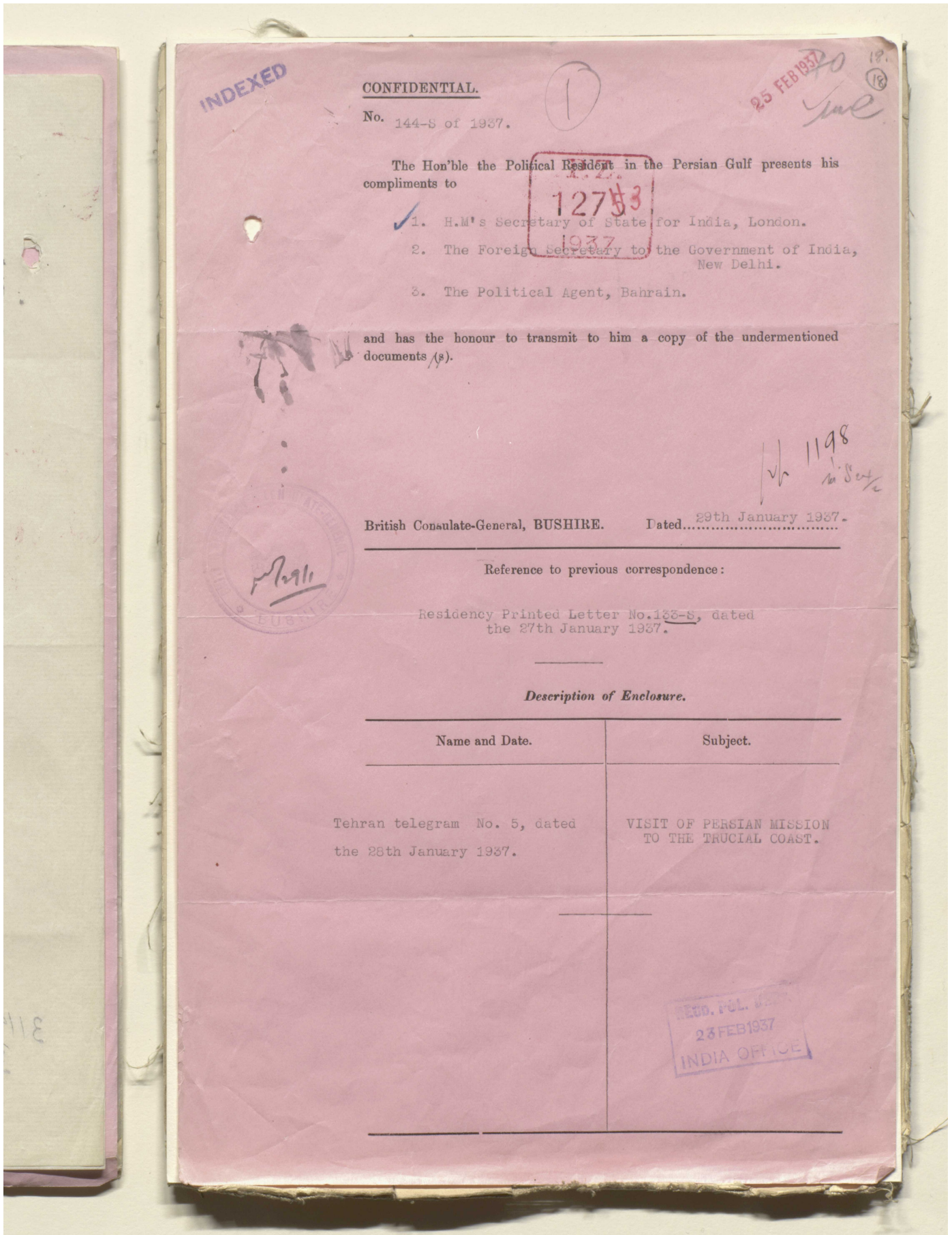
-Britconsul.

3119
34

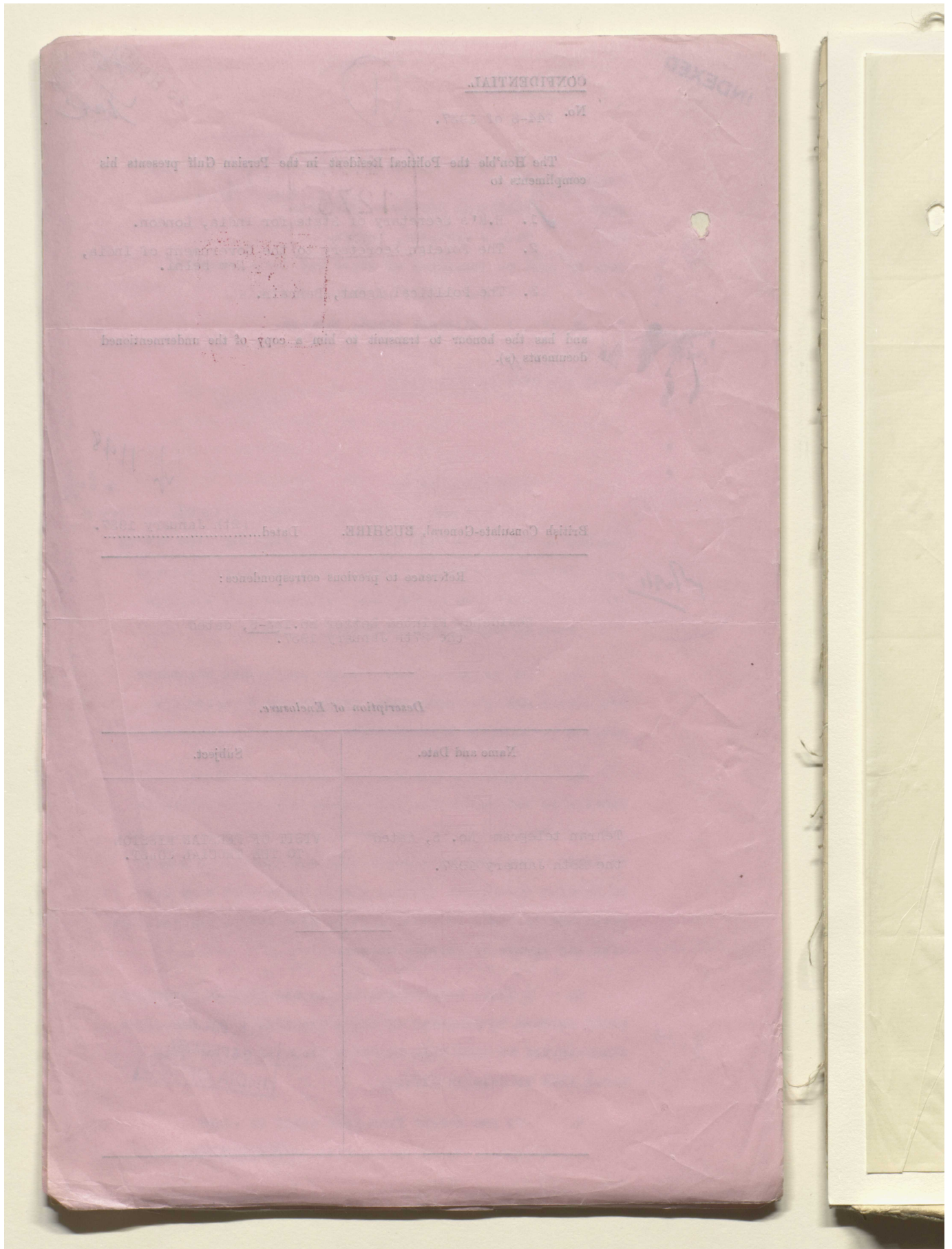
Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [17v] (34/48)



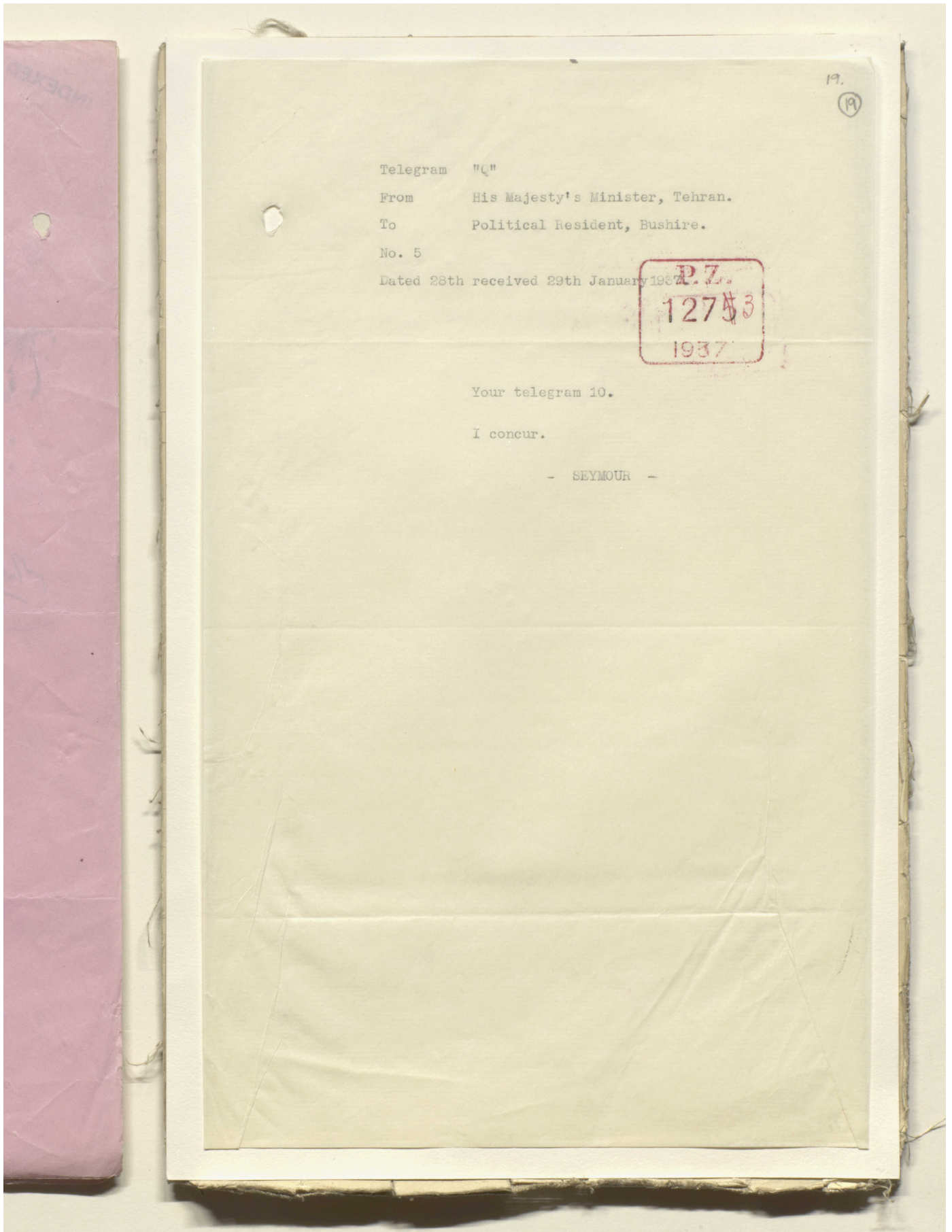
Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [18r] (35/48)



Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [18v] (36/48)



Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [19r] (37/48)



Telegram "C"
From His Majesty's Minister, Tehran.
To Political Resident, Bushire.
No. 5
Dated 28th received 29th January 1937

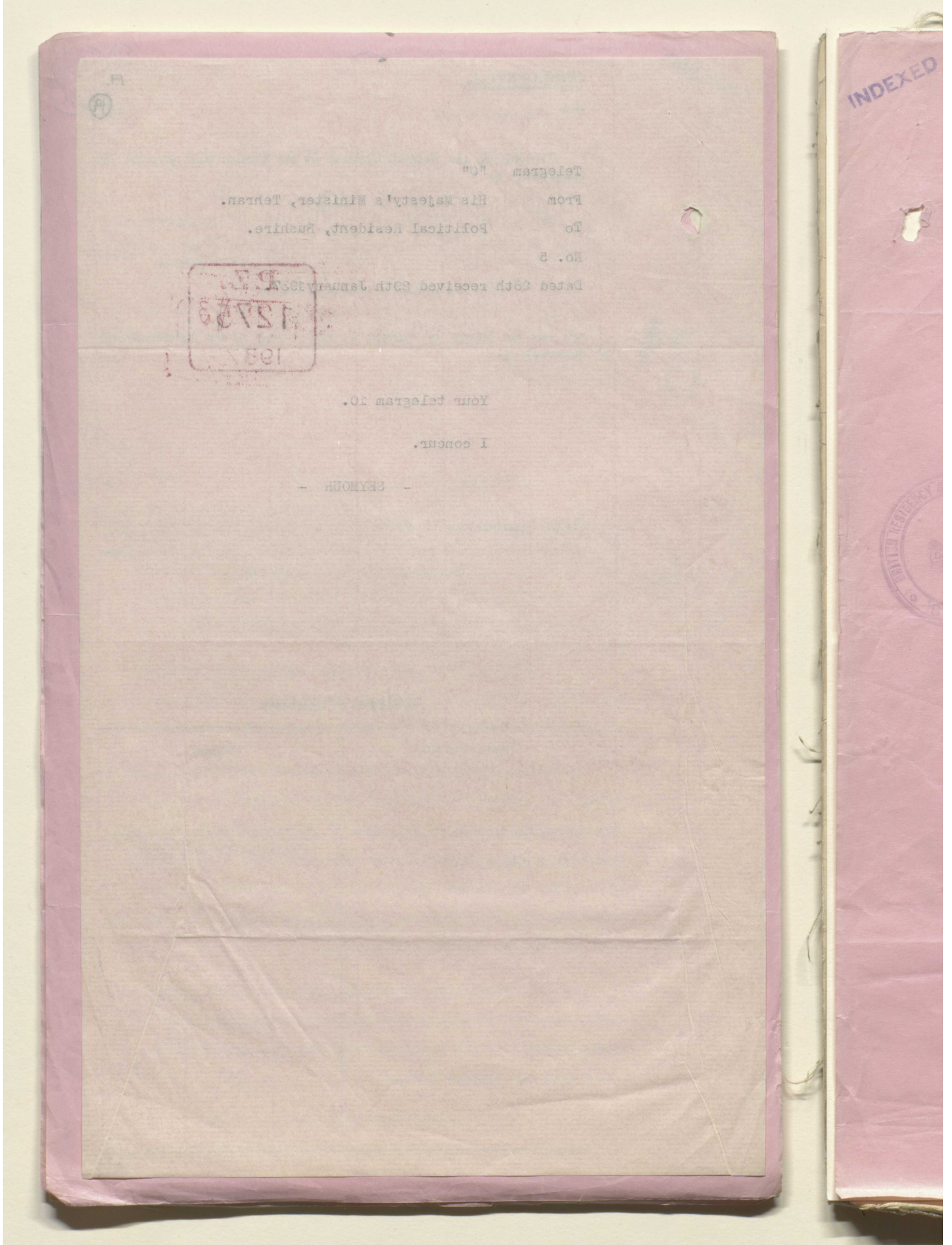
P.Z.
12753
1937

Your telegram 10.

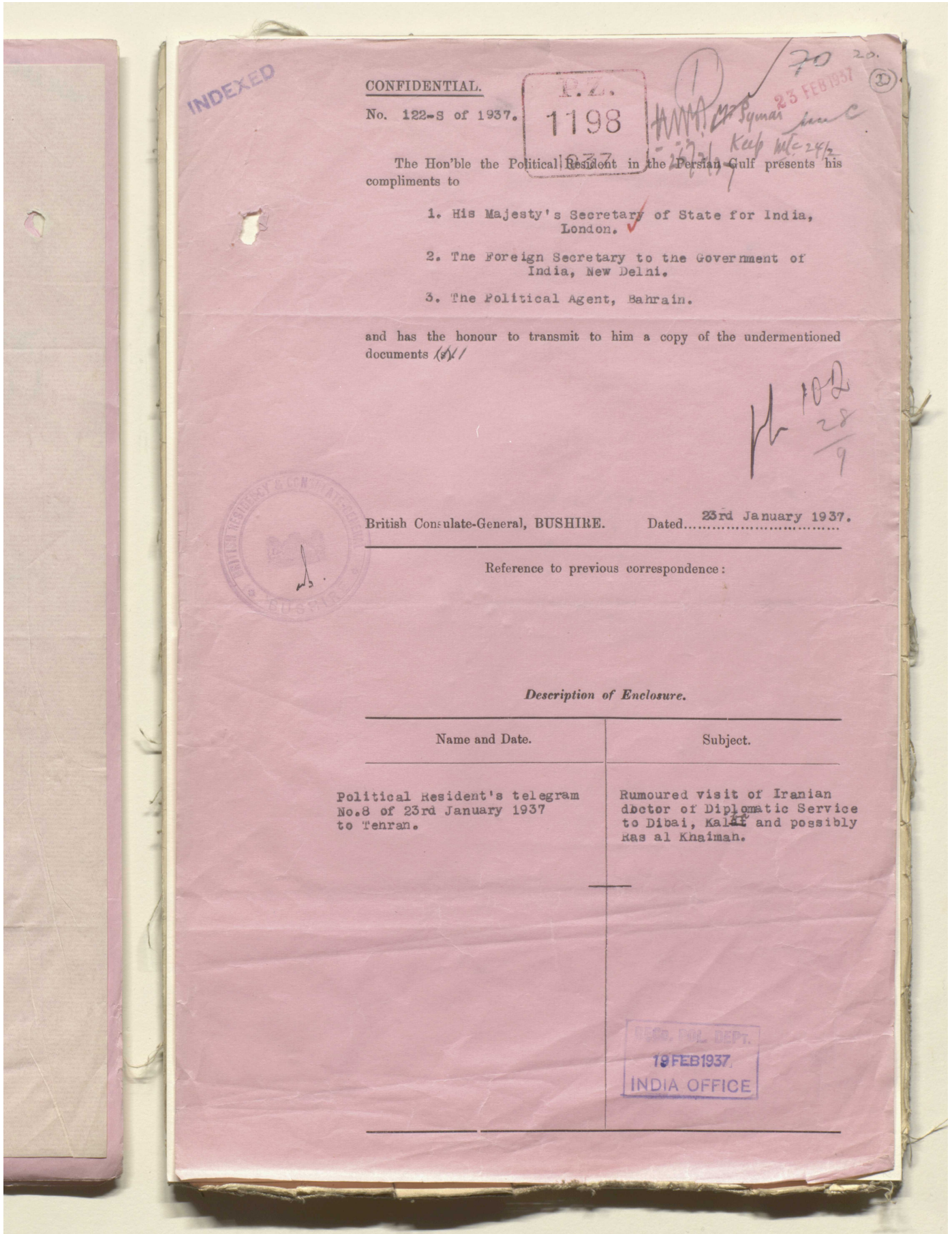
I concur.

- SEYMOUR -

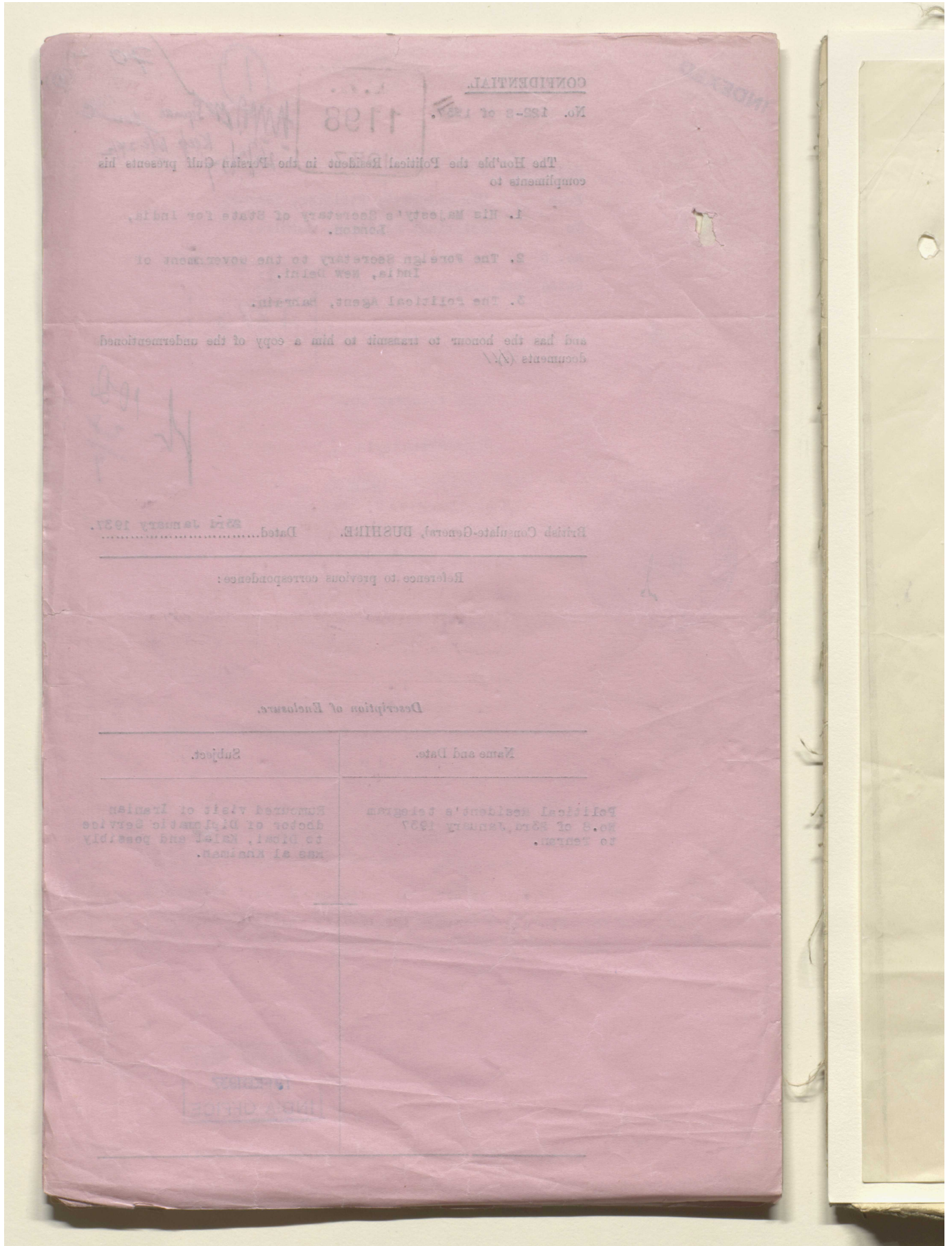
Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [19v] (38/48)



Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [20r] (39/48)



Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [20v] (40/48)



Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [21r] (41/48)

21. (21)

Telegram Q.
From Political Resident, Bushire.
To H.M.'s Minister, Tehran.
Copy by post H.M.'s Secretary of State for India,
London.
Government of India, Foreign and
Political Department, New Delhi.
Political Agent, Bahrain.

No. 8

Dated 23rd January 1937.

Following from Political Agent,
Bahrain begins:-

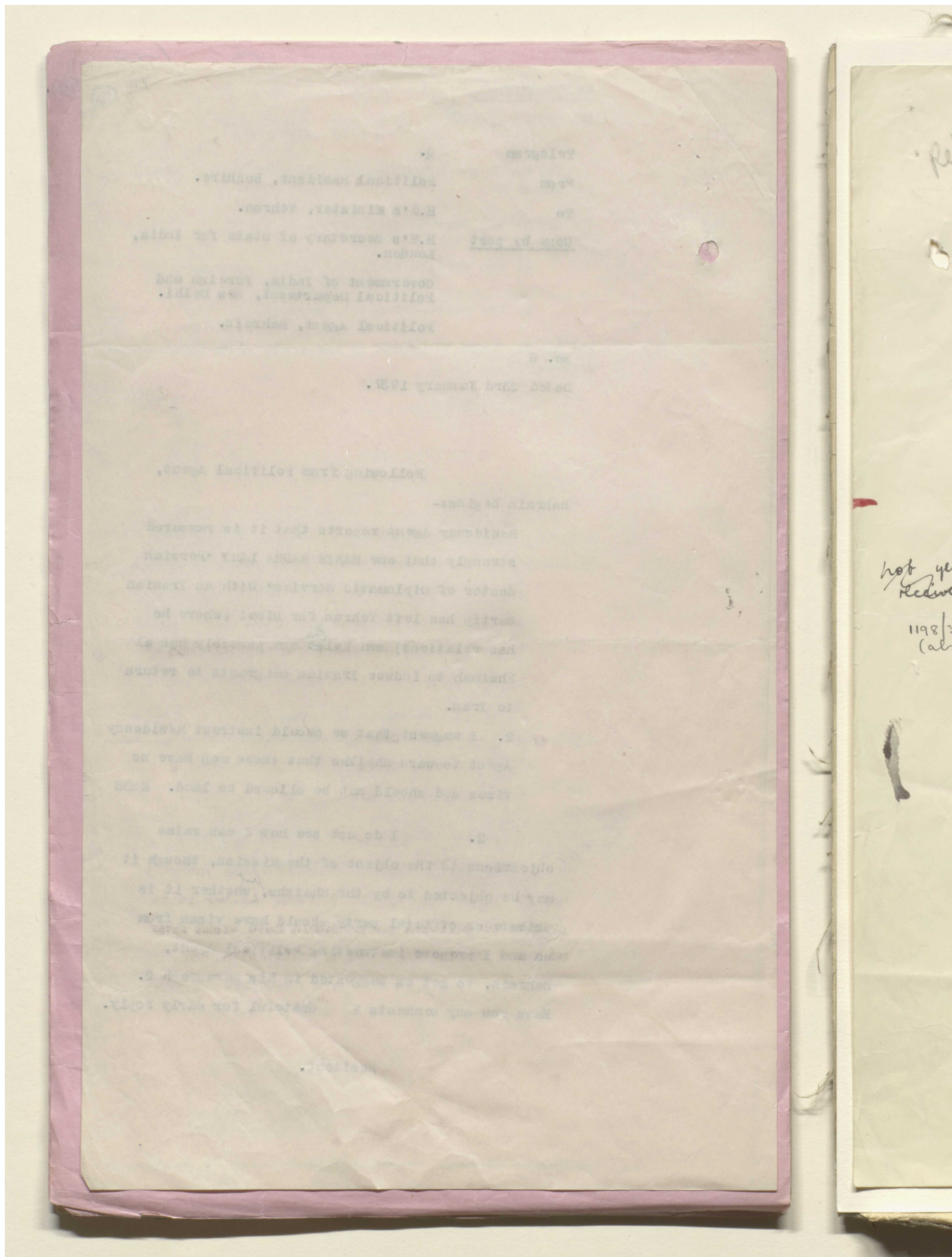
Residency Agent reports that it is rumoured strongly that one HABIB RADHA LARI "Persian doctor of Diplomatic Service" with an Iranian Sartip has left Tehran for Dibai (where he has relations) and ^{Ba} Kala and possibly has al Khaimah to induce Iranian emigrants to return to Iran.

2. I suggest that we should instruct Residency Agent to warn Shaikhs that these men have no visas and should not be allowed to land. ENDS

2. I do not see how I can raise objections to the object of the Mission, though it may be objected to by the Shaikhs, ^{but} whether it is private or official party should have visas from us and I propose instructing Political Agent, Bahrain, to act as suggested in his paragraph 2. Have you any comments? Grateful for early reply.

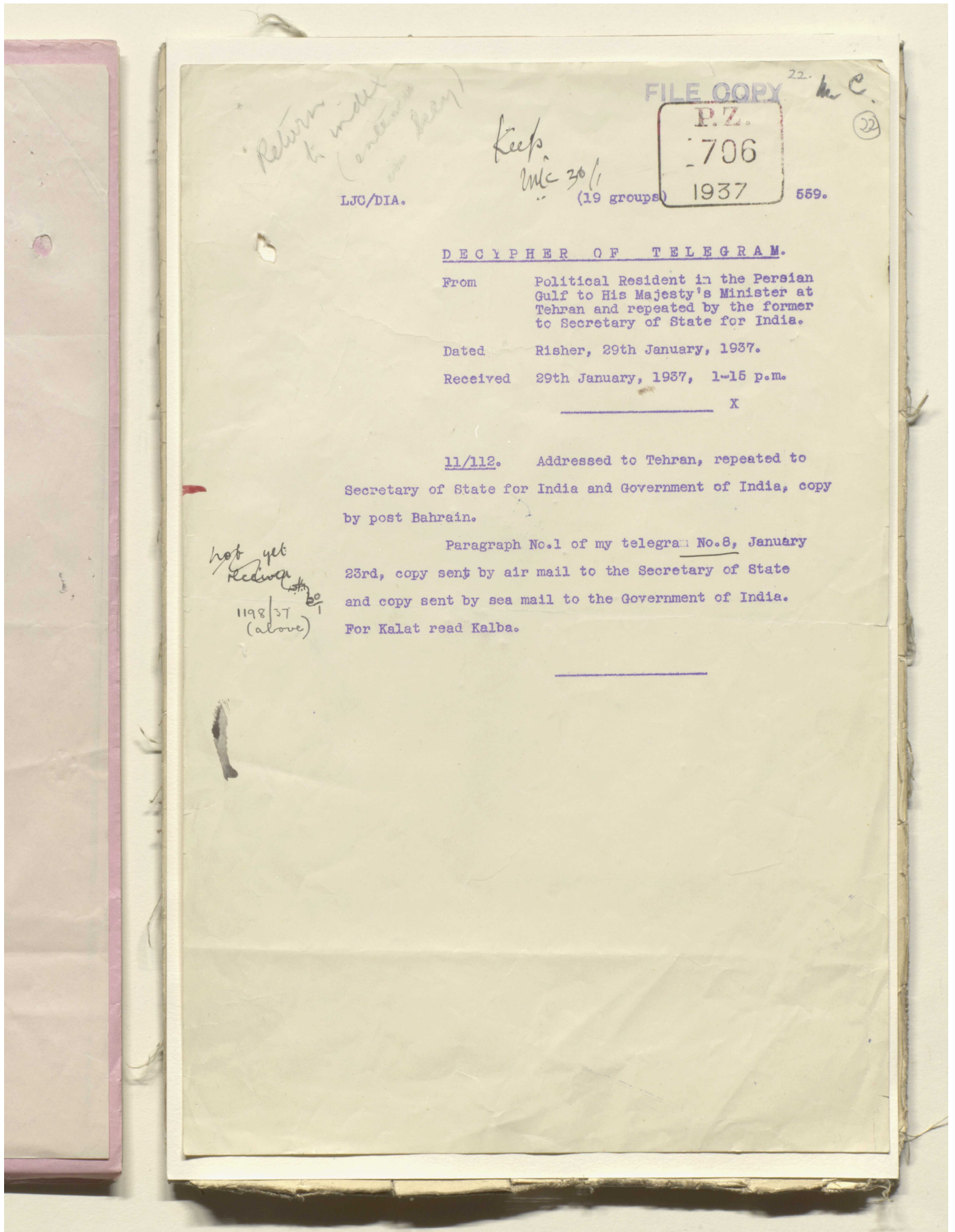
Resident.

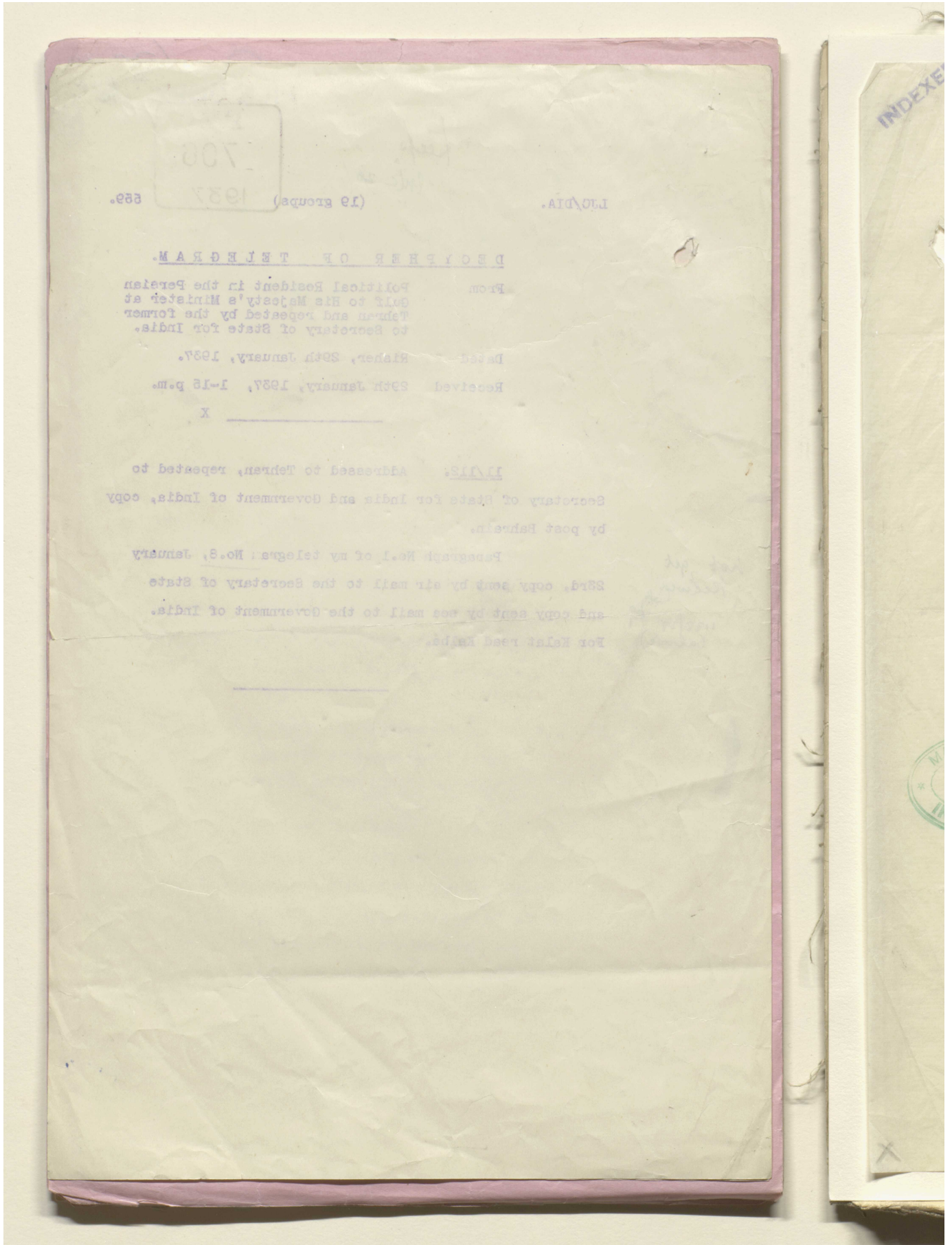
Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [21v] (42/48)



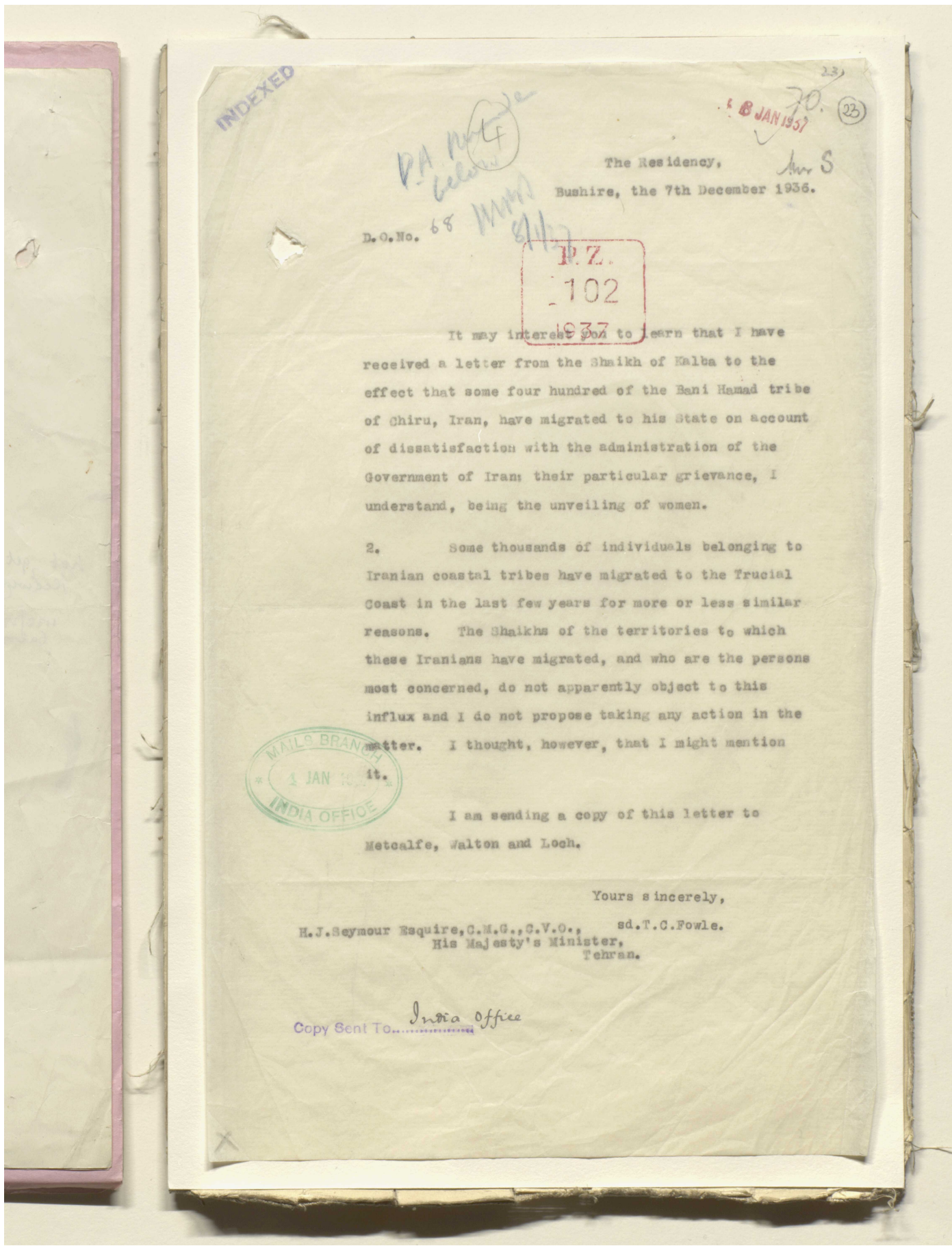
not up
Redwood
1198/3
(alt)

Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [22r] (43/48)





Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [23r] (45/48)



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8 JAN 1937

The Residency,
Bushire, the 7th December 1936.

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It may interest you to learn that I have received a letter from the Shaikh of Kalba to the effect that some four hundred of the Beni Hamad tribe of Chiru, Iran, have migrated to his State on account of dissatisfaction with the administration of the Government of Iran; their particular grievance, I understand, being the unveiling of women.

2. Some thousands of individuals belonging to Iranian coastal tribes have migrated to the Trucial Coast in the last few years for more or less similar reasons. The Shaikhs of the territories to which these Iranians have migrated, and who are the persons most concerned, do not apparently object to this influx and I do not propose taking any action in the matter. I thought, however, that I might mention

MAILS BRANCH
1 JAN 1937
INDIA OFFICE

I am sending a copy of this letter to Metcalfe, Walton and Loch,

Yours sincerely,
H.J. Seymour Esquire, C.M.G., C.V.O., sd. T.C. Fowle.
His Majesty's Minister, Tehran.

Copy Sent To... India office

Coll 30/145 'Entry of Persian subjects into the Arab Sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf.' [23v] (46/48)

